

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



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SURVEY OF CULTISM

*Examination Malpractices and Drug Abuse for Learners
in Institutions From Counselling Perspective*



ROSEMARY OCHANYA OGBODO ADOGA (Ph.D)

Survey of Cultism

**Examination malpractices and Drug Abuse
For Learners in Educational Institutions
from Counselling perspective**

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Rosemary OchanyaOgbodoAdoga [Ph.D]

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1. Around the legend: Life and times of late chief OgbodoWilliams Ede, a biography of her late father.
2. Basic career information for senior secondary schools
3. My future career for nursery and primary 1-2 pupils
4. A guide to my future career for upper primary 3-6 and junior secondary schools.
5. Practical guides in 1-100 mathematics and Roman figures for pupils in lower primary school
6. Recognition of capital and small letters for Nursery Schools
7. Hints on effective study reading habits and Examination guide to students
8. The fundamental compass for time management, for successful students.
9. Survey of cultism, examination malpractice and drug abuse.
10. Moral characters guidance for junior secondary school (JSS) UBE programme with Assessment questions.
11. Introduction to guidance and counselling practice in the schools.
12. Guidance and counselling poem for 7 point agenda for nursery and lower primary schools, Age 3-7 years.
13. Guidance and counselling poems for 7 point Agenda for upper primary school, Age 8 - 11 years.
14. Nigerian cry for leadership Guidance and counselling

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Foreword

This writer has discussed some of the deviant behaviours like cultism, examination malpractice and drug abuse, that are rearing their ugly heads in our educational system today, that need serious attention by the school authorities and all the stakeholders.

The three topics as discussed by the writer, Dr. Rosemary Ochanya Ogbodo-Adoga, are cases of birds of the same feather, flock together' as exemplified in cultism where the members are in a gang, just like the two others.

Cultism should not be allowed to flourish in our schools as some of the members are always ignorant of the dangers, until they go in and then get trapped. The writer has made concerted effort to educate those who are involved and those who are contemplating to join on the dangers.

Going through the booklet I discovered that the topics are contained in our scheme of work on Guidance and Counselling for Secondary Schools in the FCT, Abuja and it will be useful to the University and other Higher Institutions, Students and their lecturers as well. This booklet will be of great use to our school counsellors as it will assist them in their discussions with the students. Parents and others stand to benefit from the wealth of knowledge of the writer.

This book is a very scholarly attempt to address the fundamental issues of our students and possible solution; It is a Guidance & Counseling book.

I do not hesitate to recommend this book to university students, and other higher institutions of learning,

researchers, School Counselors, parents, clergy and administrators of education with an avid quest for knowledge.

Dr. Oranika, Uche J. (Mrs)

HOD (Guidance & Counselling Service RTD)

E.R.C

Wuse, Abuja.

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First and foremost, I thank God Almighty for the inspiration and success of this work.

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Finally, I am grateful to Mr Festus Owoicho Omale who edited this work, and Dr (Mrs) Oranika, Uche J. who read through and wrote the forward.

My heartfelt gratitude to my family members, particularly; my beloved grand motherMrs. Onyebu Oganyi. Others include: Mrs OmeyiElaigwu. Madam Rose Oganyi and

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I am equally indebted to my late brother, Major Oganyi Abubakar, Prof. J. I Elaigwu, he influences in my academic life. Ochotukpo, Mrs. Esther AbejeAugi, Mrs. Alice Ene Isaac, Late Elameyi Helen, Mrs

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To my spiritual fathers: Bishop David Oyedepo, David Abioye, Pastor Jeremiah Abraham, Pastor Handsome of Living Faith church (Winners Chapel) Lagos and Abuja respectively. I say remain blessed to this generation. May the God Almighty reward your Labour of love in Jesus name, Amen.

Rosemary OchanyaOgbodo-Adogo Ph.D.

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Preface

There is a contemporary consensus in favour of continuous appraisal of our educational system in a bid to redeem it from self-destruction. Reasons advanced for this view include the unprecedented emergence of cultism, examination malpractices and drug abuse which the author has painstakingly addressed, focusing on mainly the students' component of the problem. This book is written to properly guide and put on the students on the right path to provide and disseminate information to students on campus to know what to do when each challenge arises; know whom to avoid, friends to keep and places to go.

This is accomplished in three ways: firstly, the author highlights the various components of these vices and its attendant effects on the lives of the victims. Secondly, it offers students certain character moulding principles, which if diligently adopted, produce outstanding qualities in students, academic work and in his or her relevance in the larger society. Thirdly, it is useful information for parents, who normally dump their first year students in the tertiary institutions without considering the safety of their wards.

This book promises to be indispensable to diverse spectrum of the society, notably/university students, lecturers, school administrators, parents and above all, practitioners in the Guidance and Counselling from Tertiary down to primary schools in Nigeria and other parts of the world.

The need to write the text book was necessitated by the paucity of standard indigenous textbooks required to meet the needs of scholars at the Tertiary Institutions, its subject

matter will be found useful to lecturers, students, practicing Guidance Counseling in schools and non-school setting. The book will also be useful to Secondary and Primary School Counselors and their Head Teachers and Professional Teachers too will benefit a lot from this book.

Considering the fact that this book addresses the areas that is affecting our students mostly in the school. The breakdown of this book include; Part A, is on cultism that is what students, lecturers, role models, parents, teachers, administrators e.t.c should know about secret cult and how to prepare their wards; Part B, deals with examination as mostly key and bedrock on which human activities revolve and the Part C discusses about drug abuse and how to help our students live to their expectations with a lot of counseling tips for a solid foundation which is the key to success.

The book contains much information that will contribute to all our students, lecturers, teachers, parents, guardians and the general public need to know and pass the information to the new generations.

Dr. Rosemary OchanyaOgbodo - Adoga

Secret Cult

What Is ‘Secret?’

Defining Cultism

Cults generally have been defined in one of two ways: theologically and sociologically. Whereas theological definitions focus on the group’s belief system, specifically its deviation from orthodoxy, sociological definitions focus on behavioural characteristics of the group.

Theologically, a cult can be defined as a religious movement that grows out of and deviates doctrinally from a previously established faith: that is, a group claiming to be members of a faith but which neglects or distorts the messages of that faith. Any religious movement, which holds on to a set of doctrinal beliefs that deviate from the generally accepted belief, qualifies as a cult.

In sociological definitions, the focus is on the practices that fall outside the norms of the society in which the group is found. Thus, sociologically, a cult can be defined as a group that breaks away from the conventional consensus to express very different views; real or imagined; possible or impossible; moral or immoral etc.

To the theologians, the line of distinction between cults and secret societies is so thin that distinguishing one from the other is always elusive. However, non-religious cultists in the attempt to separate their association from religious cults, refer to theirs as fraternities (societies of people with brotherly feelings and common interests). This is in order to remove the negative aspect usually associated with secret societies and religious cults. The ‘Ogboni’ secret society is

known as the 'Ogboni' fraternity and was founded in 1914. 'ARMOC' is also known as a fraternity and is considered one of the world's oldest fraternities. The definitional confusion notwithstanding, a cult is a secret association of people with common beliefs, set values and goals.(Adamderuin, 1995).

Whichever definition one uses, the word 'cult' carries a negative social connotation in many people's minds. This is because cult activities, especially in Nigerian campuses are clandestine in nature and campus cultism helps in the destabilization of campus life. The unsavory connotations associated with the word cultism evokes the image of people wearing hoods and performing secret rituals or violent megalomaniacs.

By "Secret" is meant to something hidden or not exposed to the knowledge of the general public. Something known only to the person or persons involved.

What is "Cult"?

The word "Cult" is derived from the Latin word "Cultus" meaning worship. Perhaps a specific system of religious worship especially with reference to its rites and deity. A sect devoted to the belief of a religion or other cult. Cult could also be sociologically defined as a group having an executive ideology and ritual practices centred on sacred symbol.

Cult by the definition of the Oxford Advanced Learners' Dictionary is a system of religious belief and practices" while the oxford English Dictionary views cult as "an organization formed to promote some cause by secret methods, its members being sworn to observe secrecy".

However, in contemporary setting, cultism is traditionally associated with groups that tow the path of a living leader who promotes new and unconventional doctrines and practices: usually strange and mysterious in nature. Rev. Jim Jones of people Temple (Guyana tragedy) maintaining among others typical example of the phenomenon.

By and large, secret Cults members are members' of an association operating within the framework of a given establishment. Cultism is also largely viewed as a form of worship that places high premium on ritual devotion to a person.

Cultism, though seen as an act of worship but very different from known religions, as their activities are shrouded in secrecy in accordance with rules governing the groups, the Longman Dictionary of contemporary English (1990) in Ogbodo (2010), defines "Cult" as

Group of people that follow a system of worship, especially, one that is different from the usual and established forms of religion in a particular society.

If this definition above is any guide, then one will consent to Ikeotuonye (1990) in Maisamari (1999) that the appropriate name for most of what exists in our educational institution is "gang". This again consolidates the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English's definition of "gang" as "a group of criminals". In any case, the characteristics of most cult groups in our educational institutions are gang-like. This informs the belief that is this appropriate names had been used long before now, possible solutions would have probably been achieved, as no one would want to identify with fraternity. It is further argued that if these groups have been operating within the ambit of law, and their activities

socially acceptable they would have been achieved, as no one would want to identify with fraternity. It is further argued that if these groups have been operating within the ambit of law, and their activities existence, properly register with the authorities like other religious groups with mission statements openly articulated.

The society on its own part has a duty to equate secret cults to armed robbery, drug syndicate, fraud syndicate and the like, just as its effect have taken the centre stage of most workshop/seminars in recent times. The society also has a responsibility to safeguard (through enlightenment) the interest of the tender ones who are likely to succumb to the wooing of the secret cults, owing to their ignorant of their devices as the search for membership has gone down to nursery and primary levels.

The teachers and students from tertiary institutions who engage in such acts as agents of cults to children in primary schools use various means to initiate the unsuspecting children, especially those that are not covered with the supreme blood of prayers by their parents or loved ones in the name that is far above every other name (Jesus) Denga and Denga (1998)

In most cases, the initiators use items like sweets, candy cracker and gifts as baits. Other times, through a deceptively planned birthday party where unsuspecting parents and school children would be initiated through drinks and food.

Late Justice A.P. Anyebe (1989) further views secret cult as:

An association that uses secret signs, oaths, symbols, Whose members are under oaths, obligation or other Threats to promote interest of its members or to aid one Another under all circumstance, without regard to merit, Fair play or justice to the detriment

of the legitimate Expectation of those who are not members.

From this view, one can perceive that secret cult is essentially a team action, with programme and activities well-articulated for possible meticulous execution. Evils are mostly done in secret. This explains why secret cults operate under the cover of darkness. Investigation has shown that cults which members operate between 1.am and 5.00am . cf. A.P.Anyebe(1987) to carry out an interrupted operation, they may induce the security guards financially or with alcoholism. Unfortunately, these security men already battered by prevailing poverty and poor working conditions always offer themselves as readily available conspirators.

Evil is motivated by inordinate greed for power, self-interest and lack of contentment. These short comings are detrimental to the society and need to be curtailed. In the opinion of Thomas Hobbes, (1990) in Maisamari (1999) such people must be controlled by the society and the state to prevent them from harming others of fulfilling their own interests. According to Sigmund Freud (1928) in Ogbodo (2010) such people must acquire a conscience through socializing, which controls them from within.

Historically, secret cults o cults are not alien to our societies. Among the Yoruba's of southwest Nigeria, there has been the Ogboni; among the Efik of south Eastern Nigeria, there has been the Ekpe society; among the mende of Liberia, the poro; in the Taroh culture, the Orim; and, also, the Ekine cult of Eastern Delta state.

The list is unending but wherever they existed, they serve seemingly identical purposes.

Frist, membership of such cults are status boosting; therefore, an achievement. Secondly, cults provide security for members in political, economic and even religious spheres.

Although there is a general misgiving about cults, especially the modern dimensions in our campuses, not all cults are violent or warlike. Some are peace-loving, instrument of stability, vehicles to future advancement, etc. it will therefore be naïve to conclude, without the facts. That all cults are injurious to the social fabric. Rather, efforts should be made to assess cults on their individuality.

However, the phenomenon of secret cults in our campuses cannot be likened to the traditional ones enumerated earlier because the circumstance – social, political, economic, e.t.c. are, and cannot be the same. One that note, the analysis of campus cults should be within the context of their socio-political hemisphere. But, whatever the case may be, one thing that is uniquely common to them in spite of history is secrecy, or properly put, protectiveness of self, withholding information from non-members and abhorring interference in the internal affairs of the group. It follows, therefore, that cults, whether traditional or campus, are societies consisting of individuals who are organized in a cooperative manner. Better put, cults are groups of individuals who have common interact, common identity, norms, needs and who act together in common effort to satisfy common needs. These organizations are not haphazard; they possess structuralised order, functions and roles. Their members interact for

mutual benefit, to the extent that the cults have their norms, values, symbols, language, store of information and socialization mechanisms, they therefore constitute social systems in the sociological sense. But whether cults constitute a social problems or threat is another matter and this varies according to the cultural environment the purpose of organization and the political climate of its operation. What we know of cults in its development is that it is now becoming fashionable on our institutions of learning. New cults are springing up daily; thousands of new members are initiated annually or sessionally. Unproved threat to lives of non-members permeates everywhere. Foreign students live in agonizing fear; teachers' discretion has vamoosed into thin air; student's integrity is in jeopardy while educational standard is either seriously eroded or impugned. (Adelola, 1997).

A Cultism in Schools

Cultism or Secret Society is as old as history itself, spanning over diverse societies and world cultures. For instance, Western and Eastern Europe, the Americas, the Middle East and most African countries have had practices of cultism in one form or the other. Such practices were revolutionary in nature and for human development. The members engaged in humanitarian services and provided aid to their members during illness, old age, and unemployment. They also catered for orphans, the handicapped and donated blood to the needy; thus meaning that cultism then contributed positively to the development of the society.

Recently, cultism, especially in Nigeria, has assumed a different dimension where members use diabolical powers aimed at oppressing innocent and law abiding citizens of the society. Their meetings and activities have become increasingly complex and shrouded in mystery. Such meetings are held in obscure places at odd times particularly at night. The initiation rites have become more and more barbaric and bizarre, and the oath members are compelled to take pose a serious threat to life in a normal society, perhaps because of the involvement of youths and adolescents rather than the aged alone. The Federal Government of Nigeria (1977), the 1989 Constitution, Section 329 (1) and the 1999 Constitution Section, 318 (1) maintain that Secret Society includes any society, association, group or body of persons, whether registered or not,

That uses secret signs, oaths, rites or symbols and which is formed to promote a cause, the purpose or part of the purpose of which is to foster the interest of its members and to aid one another under any circumstances without due regard to merit, fair play or justice, to the detriment of the legitimate interest of those who are not members; the membership of which is incompatible with the function or dignity of any public office under this Constitution and whose members are sworn to observe oaths of secrecy; the activities of which are known to the public at large, the names of whose members are kept secret and whose meetings and activities are held in secret.

The above definition according to Rimfat (1999) brings out more clearly the characteristics of secret societies or cults earlier highlighted, namely, secrecy, rituals, oath-taking, use of signs or symbols, exclusiveness, parochial interest, doubtful purpose and so on. There is no doubt that secret cults are undesirable elements in a society. Bulus, (2003)

Origin of Cultism in Schools

Cultism is a recent phenomenon in the Nigerian school system. Rimfat (1999), Lar (1995), Denga and Denga (1998) and Ojiako (2002) traced the origin to the 1950s when the Pyrates Confraternity was founded by Wole Soyinka in the University of Ibadan in line with what obtained in American and European Universities and Colleges. It was then aimed at catering for the social and recreational life of its members, and to fight backward looking conventional trends and complacency on the campus.

Oba (1998) quoted Soyinka in their motto as saying ‘One thing we all agreed was that there wouldn’t be any room for colonial mentality in the Club. We are going to be a counter-revolution against colonialism’. In the same vein, Onugha (1996) confirms that the College Confraternity was noble and idealistic for it set standards which members strove to attain. Rimfat (1999:3) identifies six purposes of the Confraternity to buttress the above assertion:

Recognition and respect for God; encouragement of moral living; discouragement of gambling and the use of liquor; making much of friendship; emphasis on honesty and integrity; and the promotion of charity.

The above ideals pursued by any well meaning organization must have been benevolent and was likely to be encouraged by the authorities of the institution in which it was located.

Current Trend of Cultism in Nigerian Schools

What is currently happening in our Universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of Education and secondary schools seems to be reversing the trend of events. Cult activities are highly dreadful. According to the ‘National Concord’

(March 19, 1991), such cults are rising daily and they bear names like Black Cat, Seadogs, Black Mamba, Eiye, the Vikings, Buccaneers, Daughters of Jezebel etc. Included in the instruments they sue to terrorize innocent members of the society are, bottles, machetes, axes, guns, grenades etc. The groups are associated with arson, ritual practices, hooliganism and damage to public and private property. The most worrisome aspect of it now is the involvement of post-primary school students. The media reports in this country have it that several secondary school students have been caught carrying out cult activities under the supervision of older persons. The outcome of this can be devastating, considering the extremes to which our youths can go, because of their youthful exuberance. Due to their limited experience, they are bound to engage in activities without realizing their adverse effects. Olaoye (1996) states that this is capable of producing a breed of people whose values are completely at variance with the norms of an orderly, serene and civilized society.

Membership in Schools

To join any cult on the campus is voluntary. However, a member could be influenced by close friends who are members. They do this by using gifts to include: cosmetics, toilet soap, sweets, underwears, books, money etc.

Lar (1995) further explains that most of the students who join cults at school are the children of the rich who now use their money to lure innocent and poor boys and girls to join them. Some of these parents may have very good reasons for ensuring that their children do not lack the basic necessities of life while at school, but this privilege could be abused.

Membership of cults in schools cuts across religion, sex, tribe and socio-economics status of the students. It is strictly

by initiation which usually takes place in secluded areas at midnight. Olatunji (1995) states that it is carried out by leaders called 'Presidents' or 'Chiefs', during which kolanut is broken, venerated wine is sipped, weird songs are sung, ritual dances are performed, incantations are chanted and libations are poured. Members take a strong vow with their blood to keep secret all activities that are undertaken, and to be other members' keepers and respect the laws of the cult.

Usually, members billed for initiation pass through a lot of difficulties. They are normally blindfolded and questions thrown to them to answer. Potential members are usually invited to a falsified party and subsequently lured to an initiation ground, usually a cemetery or a thick swamp or the outskirts of the campus or school. In absolute blindness, the initiate could be compelled to jump from a tall tree down the ground. At the peak of the task, a select group of cultists, normally the immediate seniors would beat the initiates mercilessly, stab them, make incisions, dab cigarette stubs on their bodies, and so on. The initiation process may differ from cult to cult but the goal is similar. The initiation starts with mental and physical torture which are said to surpass that of the military and the prisoners of war. This explains why some initiates sometimes die in the process of initiation. Despite these, the practice has not died out. It has been argued that some lecturers and teachers are also members, and thus encourage the easy initiation of new members among students.

Olaoy (1996) states that cult activities in a secondary schools are more rampant in Lagos, Oyo, Ogun, Edo, Anambra, Rivers, Cross River, Kwara, Ondo and Delta states. Withdrawal of membership is not easy. For instance Enugu, a student of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka was almost

shot dead after he signified his intention to withdraw his membership.

More information of the Origin and spread of campus confraternities

Campus cult groups also called confraternities have their roots in the establishment of the Pyrates Confraternity now National Association of Sea Dogs in 1952 by Wole Soyinka, RaphOkpara, Muiyiwa Awe, AigOf the University of Ibadan and known as the “Magnificent. They encouraged humanitarian activities and fought tribalism and The Pyrates Confraternity was patterned after the fraternitiesorities of Western Universities Bulus, (2003) et al

However the “black spotting” (excommunication) of Bolaji Carew birth to the Buccaneer confraternity now called the Buccaneeration of Nigeria. They believed that the Pyrates confraternity epped its line of duty and intimidated innocent people. The Vikings was formed in 1983 at the University of Port Harcourt and it is now has the largest membership in Nigeria. The Klansmen fraternity (KK) also known as the Eternal Fraternal Order of the Konsortium (EFOLK) started at the University of Calabar in 1984 five un-jaw jawed men. The Neo-Black Movement of Africa (I) also called the Black Axe or the “Ayes” was established at the university of Benin ostensibly to fight against white oppression and raise consciousness. The family fraternity (the Mafia Confraternity) was in 1978 at Ilorin but started at the Obafemi Awolowo University, 1980. This cult is styled after the Chicago and Italian Mafia and their activities were partying, gambling, womanizing and carrying out the Brotherhood of the Black Brigade has its other names as the (Beret, the Twins or Two-Two was formed at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

More cult groups have emerged as the years went by and some of groups include the Eiyé confraternity, the Trojan Horse, Mgba Mgba, Black Cat, Black Cross, Burkina Faso, the Jurists, and oas. The cults also exist in our Institutions of higher learning. Cult groups multiplied in more than 300 institutions of higher learning in Nigeria: 2002) and it is unfortunate to add that they exist even in the Nigerian Defence Academy and our Police Colleges. Lately, cult groups spread to the streets and creeks. Campus based confraternities created street and creek wings (Wellington: 2007).

Causes of Cultism

Religious groups will simply argue that cultists are driven by demonic forces to behave the way they do and that they need deliverance in order to be freed.

Sociologists have advanced three theories on the causes of cultism in the society, they include: - political economy theory, the opportunist theory and the subculture theory.

The political economy theory explains that any society that is unequal has a number of problems inherent in it, including vices like robbery, corruption, drug abuse, examination malpractice, sexual abuse, cultism etc. the opportunist theory, state that when certain conditions are created within a society, it predisposes the people therein to various types of behaviour. Therefore, in an institution where are overstretched facilities, poor academic culture, little regard for rules and regulations etc, the opportunity has been inadvertently created for cults and cultists to thrive. Under the subculture theory, sociologist argues that whenever a subculture is allowed to develop, eradicating cultism become extremely difficult because it gains ground with each new generation. Looking at these theories, one could argue that

the landscape of our institutions of learning as certain conditions that encourage cultism have been created within the Nigeria society.

Causes why students join cults in schools

The introduction of Islam and Christianity put to rest the occultic and violent practices of the pre-colonial days, for the practices are retrogressive in nature. What might have been the reason for the renewed vigour in these traditionally fetish, barbaric and uncivilized practices among students in schools? Below are the possible causes as identified by Olu-Aderonmu (2002:4).

- To intimidate lecturers with a view to cowing them down;
- To befriend girls;
- Some academically weak students join to make up for their deficiencies;
- To be seen as power brokers and kingmakers in campus politics;
- To establish supremacy amongst the clubs on campus and be able to influence the decision making machinery of the student union;
- Societal decadence;
- Proliferation of secret cults which eventually decimated the discipline with which those clubs were initially identified in the 1950s.
- Collapse of family institutions, and;
- Problems with the universities and foreign influence.

Rimfat (1999:10) also lists similar reasons to include: heritage from parents; security; control over student union executives; low self-concept; peer group pressure; student unrest; promise of a job(s); alien cultures; harsh economic conditions etc. The reasons advanced above are numerous, but for the purpose of this paper the following will be examined closely:

- Peer group influence
- Heritage from parents
- Collapse of family institutions and
- Hard economic conditions

Peer Group Pressure/Harsh Economic Conditions

Most parents are preoccupied with the quest for food and other family needs such that they do not have time at all for child upbringing. Some do not have time to think of providing for their children's school materials. These children can easily fall prey to their peers who could tempt them with fits. Knowingly or unknowingly these children can become victims of cultism. Some parents lack self-discipline in themselves and could use the harsh economic condition as a license for stealing. With this home background, a child could take to stealing in a more serious dimension in school and out of school.

Collapse of Family Institutions

The family is an age old institution primarily responsible for procreation and child upbringing. It usually consists of parents and children. It is expected that both parents should live together and bring up their children in a most disciplined manner – showing them love, giving them security, a sense of belonging, and teaching them respect,

etc. They are expected to correct a child in love when he goes wrong. The child internalizes this and does same to other siblings in the family, peers and teachers. However, with this seemingly collapsing family institution, things seem to fall apart resulting in broken homes, single parenthood, separation of husbands and wives etc. Some parents are separated by virtue of the nature of their work. For instance, if mother works in Lagos while father works in Abuja, they are separated and the children are bound to feel the absence of one or both of them. Such children are susceptible to cultism especially when they get back to school.

Heritage From Parents

According to Iliya (2002:7) parents are the first teachers of moral codes to their children and the first five or six years are crucial foundation years of the child who is usually deeply influenced by the behavior and attitudes of his parents. Some of these parents are cult members; hence they initiate their children consciously or unconsciously. Iliya (2002) states that a drama was performed on the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA). In this drama, a teacher reprimanded his class pupil. It did not go down well with the pupil. Hence, he remarked 'you common teacher, my father will deal with you!' He quickly left the teacher and soon came back with his father. The father started raining abuses on the teacher and in utter anger threw some fetish things on her table. This teacher ran away and reported to the Principal. Out of sheer boldness, she took the fetish things away and instantly, her hand became paralyzed. This was followed by a stroke and she eventually died. What should be the expectation of this child? Join cult? He would

have a high taste for this act and consequently join any cult of his choice in secondary school or university.

This position notwithstanding, one could also argue that cultism in our institutions is also traceable to:

- Emotional and psychological factors associated with family poor upbringing and personality crisis.
- Laissez faire (I don't care) attitude and the presence of some non-students and professional students (ghost students) in the hostel
- Intellectual factors: - admissions of some students who barely make their SSCE into higher institutions. The resultant effect is that these students find it difficult to cope with academics and they resort to different tactics including assistance from cult groups to intimidate hard working lecturers and students.
- Lack of adequate facilities, which permits overcrowding in classes, lecture halls or hostel.
- General poverty and unemployment
- The high level of moral decay in our society
- The strong influence of senior cultists who hold strategic positions in governance which they use to entice the younger generation on the campuses to join cults. It is claimed that it is easy to gain employment after graduation if one is a cultist.
- Some institutional administrators intentionally use some of the cults against the other, some use them to fight perceived enemies on campus or counter the influence of other interest including difficult student Union Governments on Campus.

- The collapse of good parental training: some parents belong to one secret cult or the other and many have abandoned their moral responsibilities.
- Peer groups who terrorize innocent members, organize demonstration against the authorities and create unnecessary tensions in the campus.
- Outside secret societies are more cults to campus cults. The occult world, other secretes groups and forces outside the campuses activity support campus cults with funds and arm with fake promises.
- Some host campus communities employ the services of cultists to make their institutions ungovernable in order to remove an uncooperative leadership.
- General frustration and the feeling of deprivation, injustice hopelessness, focuslessness, lack of commitment etc brought about by factors beyond the control of an individual such as instability in the system, nepotism, brutality, corruption, domination, favouritism and other vices.

Other reasons for membership include:

- ✓ Poverty
- ✓ Guide against examination failure
- ✓ Sexual satisfaction
- ✓ To avoid harassment and intimidation
- ✓ Privilege to be unruly and so on

More reasons why students join secret cults

Rimfat (1999) lists the following reasons:

- ✓ Heritage from parents
- ✓ To have control over students union executives
- ✓ Low self – concept

- ✓ Peer group pressure
- ✓ Students unrest
- ✓ Promises of jobs
- ✓ Harsh economic condition
- ✓ Security purpose etc
- ✓ Obtain privileges which otherwise would not be attained
- ✓ To gain employment
- ✓ Have a sense of power, influence and prestige among certain social classes
- ✓ Command authority and respect from members of the society
- ✓ Have a feeling of belonging and worthiness in the scheme of things among certain groupings
- ✓ Fight perceived injustice and inequity in society or a certain behaviour
- ✓ Terrorize people by exhibiting capability to inflict violence on perceived adversaries
- ✓ Force and intimidate people to grant unjustified requests for their devilish design
- ✓ Command
- ✓ Garner for their members, rights and privileges associated with the higher echelons of the society
- ✓ Membership provides avenue for financial assistance
- ✓ Membership provides an avenue for securing girlfriends
- ✓ Offending campus cult member are usually protected against sanctions from colleagues, lectures, heads of institutions and government.
- ✓ Students from troubled and broken homes who lack proper parental care and those who are shy and lack confidence use cult membership to acquire boldness to engage in certain activities and

✓ Inquisitiveness

Apart from campus enlistment, cultism is also a product of the society. The fact that some students inherit or are being initiated without their knowledge into cultism by parents who had been members supports this view. This boils down to the fact that cultism has tentacles transcending the four walls of our campuses. As a matter of fact, researches have revealed that some of these campus cult groups are mere human representatives of certain deities traversing the world in quest of plotting evils, Denga and Denga (1998)

It is equally noteworthy to know that students from well-to-do families are always viable in recruitment strategy. Their so-called generosity in providing accommodation, feeding, clothing and for general up-keep of the less privilege fresh students are the deceptive baits.

Similarly, investigation has shown that a good number of cult members caught in the night by the police or students surveillance groups were children of influential people in the society, ranging from top civil servants to business tycoons. This explains the availability of sophisticated arms at their disposal.

It is also argued that some of these cult members are sponsored by some lecturers who sue them to settle scores, and in some cases are used against the female students who decline love advances.

Characteristics of secrete cults

How to identify cult members

Marks and scars: Most cult members have marks and scars on their bodies as a result of hits, initiation rites or juju. People who have fresh juju marks may be cult members.

Colours: Cult colours may be seen in their berets, ribbons and scarves during their “sailing” or displays. Examples are

- Pirates - Red beret, white shirt, black trousers
- Buccaneer - Yellow beret, yellow shirt, black trousers yellow wristbands
- Vikings - Black beret with red scarf, white or red shirts, red
- Black Axe - Black beret with yellow scarf, yellow socks, black and yellow wristband.(Kehinde), (2003)

Makes: Any unusual handshake may be a cult handshake. Each cult has a distinct handshake and it is done very quickly to avoid

Cult members may have stickers and emblems on their doors, on which ships, axes, or skulls are drawn.

Mpany: It is very difficult to stay out of cultism when one keeps whose characters are questionable.

Broke: Due to the heavy dues, war dues, semester dues, settlement and purchase of alcoholic drinks and cigarettes, cult members run out of money even when their parents give them huge amounts

The following are associated with secrete cults.

- ✓ Their operational activities are hidden from non-members.
- ✓ Their meetings are nocturnal and held in forest, bush or dark places distant from living quarters.
- ✓ Their initiation ceremonies involve taking of an oath of blood brotherhood.

- ✓ They share common objectives, values and norms
- ✓ They use an established signs, languages, symbols and passwords.
- ✓ They are mostly alcoholic and drug addict.

More other according to Jiako (2002). The characteristics of a typical member of any campus cult include: -

- ✓ Lacking discipline in everything
- ✓ Cheating in examinations
- ✓ Being disrespectful to elders
- ✓ Keeping to himself at home
- ✓ Living above his means
- ✓ Being unreachable to others
- ✓ Being uncommunicative
- ✓ Being prone to sudden violence
- ✓ Not committed to whatever he is doing
- ✓ He lack appreciation
- ✓ Always sad and frustrated
- ✓ Always not being serious
- ✓ Lack cognitive or mental work
- ✓ Always dirty
- ✓ Not intelligent or interested in reading habit
- ✓ Always like good things

Warning signs of cultism in Rimfat (1999: 18) in Ogbodo (2010) identified more warning signs characteristics of cultism in school as:

- ✓ Students suspended, rusticated, expelled or withdrawn because of their anti-social behaviour like examination mal-practice stealing, fighting, cheating, lying, abusing etc but who refused to go home
- ✓ Students asked to repeat or withdraw because of poor performance in the sectional exams but refuses to go home because of shame.

- ✓ Candidate offered provisional admission but fail to meet the requirements for registration and insist on continuing classes,
- ✓ Students who are self-sponsored or from broken homes or well to do families or irresponsible families.
- ✓ Drop-outs from sister institutions who go on visits to their friends and decide to stay on the campus
- ✓ Some attend part-time courses illegally in universities, polytechnics or colleges of education etc.
- ✓ The spill-over students having carry-over courses in the tertiary institutions. (Rinfat 1999 in Ogbodo) (2010)

Image of a typical Cult Member

The warning signs of a student suspected to be a potential cult member easily lead one to the characteristics of a typical member of any campus cult. According to Ojiako (2002), they include:

- Lacking discipline in everything,
- Cheating in examinations,
- Being disrespectful to elders,
- Keeping to himself at home,
- Being prone to sudden violence,
- Living above his means,
- Being outlandish in his style of dressing,
- Being unreachable or uncommunicative etc.

The Origin of Secret Cults in Nigeria

To understand the intricacies and trend of cultism in the contemporary time, it becomes important to locate its root in the Nigeria society though it must be noted that the destructive dimension that this menace has assumed was not pronounced at its initial stage.

Historians trace the origin of cultism in Nigeria back to the era of leadership struggles in Yoruba kingdom, where the influences of secret cults were employed to fill any chieftaincy vacuum. According to Ademola (1988) one year for instance,

Whoever, fill the vacancy was already known and called "Omoil" means the son of the house while those denied filling the vacancy, merely because they did not belong to secret cults were called "Aguntan", that is sheep.

It was this phenomenon that crept into the political system of Nigeria in the course of time, however, for the sole purpose of power acquisition.

The Origin of Secret Cults In Nigerian Universities

The emergence of secrete cults in Nigerian Universities could be traced to the advent of pyrates confraternity at the University of Ibadan in the early 1952. The founder professor Wole Soyinka has always dissociated the pyrates from cultism; rather he maintained that the pyrates was meant to be anti-cultism organization formed.

Its objectives also includes, shaking off the yoke of colonial mentality, asserting and to initiating members into university culture. The pyrates confraternity therefore, had no motive to oppress fellow students, though to employ cult-like

approach in realizing their set objectives in some cases “some secretly and some loudly”, Soyinka reaffirmed this by the following declaration.

We believe that a university education should be fun without the viciousness, which was prevalent on campus. We also thought students should map out a character of their own than follow sheepishly the norms and traits of our largely European staff. One day, seven of us got together in somebody’s room (whose name I can’t remember) because some of us lived next door to me and said “lets attar something” everybody was enthusiastic and full of ideas. One person suggested the name; another thought of the satire and another of initiation ceremony one thing we all agreed on was that there won’t be any room for colonial mentality in the club.

Source (students Tonic Vol. 1 No 1(2002) page 20) in Ogbodo (2014) one can deduce from the statement above that the motive of the founding father was not harmful but a radical approach to check the existing social order.

Unfortunately, evil intension in the course of time overrode this noble ideal and the implication today is the source of national burden, as diabolic activities of cultism have swept across all levels of education. In Nigerian tertiary institutions today, notable cult groups operating mostly under surreptitious and clandestine circumstances are:

Alphabetical List of the Name of Secretes Cult Groups in Nigerian Institutions:

- Agbaye
- AirLords
- Amazon
- Barracuda

- Bats
- Bees International
- Black Beret Neo-Black Movement
- Black Beret Fraternity
- Black Brassiere
- Black Brothers
- Black Cats
- Black Ladies Club
- Black Ofals
- Black Scorpions
- Black Sword
- Blanchers
- Big 20
- Blood Suckers
- Brotherhood blood
- Buccaneers (sea Lords) (BAN)
- Burkinafaso, Revolution fraternity
- Canary
- CappaVendetto
- Daughter of Jezebel
- Dragons
- Dreaded friends of friends
- Eagle club
- Eiye or Air Lords fraternity
- Egbe or Airt Lords Fraternity
- Executioners
- Famil
- Fangs
- Fillers
- Frigates
- FF
- Gentlemen's club
- Green Beret fraternity

- GHard Candies
- Hepos
- HGells angels
- Himalayas
- Walrus
- Jaggare Confederation
- Kings Cobra
- Klan Konfraternity Klansman
- Kukiux (kkk) Klan Confraternity
- Knight Cadet
- KKK Boys
- Mafia Lords
- Malcolm X
- Maphites or Maphalates
- Mgba-Mgna Brothers
- Musketeers Fraternity
- Neo-Black Movement
- N association of Advventures
- Nite Hawk
- Nite Rovers
- Panama Pyrate
- Phoenix
- Predators
- Pirate Seadogs Confraternity
- Red Devils
- Red Fishes Red Sea Horse
- Royal Queen
- Scavengers
- Scorpions
- Soko
- Sons of Night
- Sumen
- Temple of Eden Fraternity

- The scorpion Fraternity
- The mafiso fraternity
- The scorpion fraternity
- The Soiree fraternity
- The odu Confraternity
- Third eye confraternity
- Trojan House Fraternity
- Truth seekers
- The Viking
- Vipers
- White Angels

Source Abdul, (2003) campus cultism in Nigeria's tertiary institution.

They have a tripartite mission statement of destruction, terror and violence in addition to vengeance against their abiding colleagues and the authorities. These groups have constituted themselves into serious threats to social life and security on campuses and they employ lethal weapons like axes, daggers, knives, short guns, and grenades in executing their diabolic assignments.

It is equally frightening to note what emerged a radical social youth movement in about four decades ago has taken a demonic dimension pushing the future of our youths and educational section to a bleak comer. The security implication is also threatening. According to Ede: (1988).

The activities of secrete cults across the campuses such as from Port-Harcourt to Calabar, Nsukka, Ondo-Ileife-Ibadan-Ilorin-Jos Zaria, the story of cult activities on our campuses are the same.

He further gave statistics of cases that drew special reactions from authorities of various institutions as follows: 1992,

about ten students were placed on suspension at the federal college of Education Asaba; 1993 marked a scandalous suspension of one hundred and seventy-three students of the Auchu polytechnic. It was the turn of Rivers state University also in 1993 to arrest over nine students for forcing some students into initiation ceremonies.

The same year (1993) a student was reported shot dead at the students' village, University of Jos, and the perpetrators were suspected to belong to rival group. Two students of the same university were also arrested in 1994 at a police check point in Jos for being in possession of shotguns and pistols.

In 2000, the winds of occultism blew towards the direction of Benue State University Makurdi, where it notorious activities were reported and consequent expulsion of some students. 2001 also witnessed the expulsion of some students of University of Calabar, previously arrested by the police.

Following the murder of two students, the students union of University of Lagos instituted vigilantism in 1995 in order to contain the menace of the cult groups.

It is revealed that the expulsion of students' leaders from university of Benin in 1996 and 1987 respectively, provoked the growth of secret cult in the institution. It is also believed that the university has the highest record of cults among Nigeria Universities, while Anambra state university is notorious for housing the most deadly groups. Recently university of Abuja witnessed the large number of cultists been arrested by the police in April, 2009 and expired immediately.

By and large, the menace of cult activities on campuses has brought a lot of uncertainties to both academic and social life on campus. It is on this background that, then

honourable minister of Education, Prof. Tuned Adeniran on 19th July, 1999 addressing all the heads of tertiary institutions in Nigeria stated:

As chief executive of our witnesses to the extent to which secret cults have become a hundra.Headed monster. These cults have contributed immensely to the subversion of the principles and procedures basic to higher learning. They have turned higher institutions into the dens of iniquity, no longer safe for our children to visit, not to talk of staying in. as I have indicated before, the administration considers that war against cultism on our campuses as one that must be won.

He went further “we cannot continue to stand by and watch while our university campuses are fast retrogressing into war theatres of contending secret cult groups. We cannot continue to merely verbally condemn atrocities and violence of unimaginable proportion unleashed on university communities and other institutions of higher learning across the country by bands of marauding outlaws in the garn of students. We cannot continue to treat this dangerous phenomenon with kid gloves while casualties, death tolls and properties lost as a result of cult activities are alarmingly on the increase. We must act firmly and decisively to stamp out cultism from our institutions of learning. We either act immediately or face the risk of having our campuses completely over run by hooliganism and organized terrorism by these outlaws in the midst of innocent students “he continued “enough of the arson, robberies and dastardly maiming and killing and the awesome harassment and intimidation. Our schools are supposed to, and must be citadels of learning and havens for the dissemination of knowledge. The opportunities must be provided and the

environment made conducive for the acquisition of the finest humanness and moral character.

He ended the warning with the following statement

“For those of you who consider yourselves worthy and willing to work with this administration as a team, I warn that the evidence must be overwhelming within the shortest possible time that cultism has been completely, wiped out in your institutions. The federal government attaches great priority to this all-important task and we expect you to prosecute the war with all sincerity consequently , we are giving you a maximum of three (3) months within which to eradicate cultism in your various institution for the avoidance of doubt, every management and governing council of federal institutions of the higher learning throughout the country must submit a report in the next three months to the effect aht cultism and its menace have been completely obliterated in the various institutions”

The same acknowledged the commitment of those administrators whose efforts in curbing the menace had been consisted and pledged it continues support and assistance.

More information of the Origin and spread of campus confraternities

Campus cult groups also called confraternities have their roots in the establishment of the Pyrates Confraternity now National Association of Sea Dogs in 1952 by Wole Soyinka, Raph Okpara, Muyiwa Awe, Aigof the University of Ibadan and known as the “Magnificent. They encouraged humanitarian activities and fought tribalism and Pyrates Confraternity was patterned after the fraternitiesorities of Western Universities. (Wellington, 2007)

However the “black spotting” (excommunication) of Bolaji Carew birth to the Buccaneer confraternity now called the Buccaneeration of Nigeria. They believed that the Pyrates confraternity epped its line of dut and intimidated innocent people. The Vikings confraternity was formed in 1983 at the University of Port Harcourt and it is now has the largest membership in Nigeria. The Klansmen confraternity (KK) also known as the Eternal Fraternal Order of the Konsortium (EFOLK) started at the University of Calabar in 1984 five un-jaw jawed men. The Neo-Black Movement of Africa (I) also called the Black Axe or the “Ayes” was established at the University of Benin ostensibly to fight against white oppression and raise consciousness. The family fraternity (the Mafia Confraternity) was in 1978 at Ilorin but started at the Obafemi Awolow University, 1980. This cult is styled after the Chicago and Italian Mafia and their activities were partying, gambling, womanizing and carrying out .the Brotherhood of the Black Brigade has its other names as the (Beret, the Twins or Two-Two was formed at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

More cult groups have emerged as the years went by and some of groups include the Eiye confraternity, the Trojan Horse, Mgba Mgba, Black Cat, Black Cross, Burkina Faso, the Jurists, and ots. The cults also exist in our Institutions of higher learning. Cult groups multiplied in more than 300 institutions of higher learning in Nigeria: 2002) and it is unfortunate to add that they exist even in the Nigerian Defence Academy and our Police Colleges. Lately, cult groups spread to the streets and creeks. Campus based confraternities created street and creek wings (Wellington: 2007).

Cult groups of the Niger Delta include, the Icelanders, the German, the cemakers, the Vikings, the KK, the Outlaws. Other militant groups include Niger Delta Vigilante, the Niger Delta People's Volunteer Force and the vement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND). The have thewave of militancy in

Female cultism

Most of the cult wars on our campuses are caused by the girls and many of these girls are cult members (Okengwu, 2002). The activities of these female cult groups are clandestine and violent. Examples of these female cults are:

- The Jezebels
- The Pink Ladies
- Black Brazzers (Black Bra)
- Cosmic queens
- Daughters of doom
- The Viqueens
- The Amazons
- The Orange girls
- The Damsels

Female cult groups employ the use of violence in a bid to serve as pressure groups ostensibly against female oppression. Fadaka (2007) observes that it is an anomaly for females to form secret. A female cult group that harms, destroys and kills, does not help in the advancement of peace, harmony and wellbeing.

Armed robbery and hits: Initiations into female cults are rough and repulsive. Intending members may be required to go on armed robbery or kidnapping operations or they may be asked to carry out a hit on a lecturer or student to prove their “ruggedity”

Gang rape: Often, the initiation rites involve forcing the women to undergo up to six rounds of rough sexual intercourse or fight with a group of males or stronger women (Rotimi, 2005). Gang rape is a common occurrence in female cultism. The female cult leaders contact the male cults or crime syndicates to gang rape new initiates or erring members.

Blackmail: Recent female cult groups like the Damsels or the Cosmic Queens have more stringent requirements. They may be given a list of influential men, politicians, lecturers to lure into sex and get their nude photographs to be used in blackmailing them.

Prostitution: Female cults run prostitution rings. They encourage one

Hotels, drop their photographs, and phone numbers so the onist can call them when a customer needs their services. It is not to see them knocking on hotel doors at random. Others wear clothes and stand outside at night to be picked up by the many men into campuses at night looking for a fling.

Female cult members serve as spies and alert their make parts of any Police raid on the locations of rival cult members ban, (Umudhe and Ajaja 2008). They hide guns or drugs for their iends as they are not easily suspected by security agents. Most of weapons recovered during the renunciation exercises in Nigerian universities were recovered from the female hostels (Okengwu, 2002).

As in all cult groups, female cult groups take part in blood and ritual murder, some also set up their fellow girls for ritual and the sale of human parts. Female cultism involves deep. It is not uncommon for them to engage in the abduction and of innocent children for spiritual protection and power. Beneath...and flashy clothes are hearts so darkened by evil that they do not have sensitivity and compassion of womanhood.

Members' Girl friends:

Who are not members of female cults but whose boyfriends are also under the blood oaths of the cults. They share in the guilt of the cults.

When there are cult wars, a cult member's girlfriend is a target. Girls whose boyfriends were cultists member have been victims. It is common for the cult member's girlfriend to be set up for rape. She will be gang raped when her boyfriend falls short of the cult ments. They are often implicated in murder and robbery cases. They very heavily on their boyfriends who even rob them. Girls whose boyfriend are cultists could contract diseases. Cult members engage in oath which may be a mode of transmission of diseases.

In Delta State University, Abraka, a cult member hewed his and into pieces because she wanted to pull out of the relationship to her marry (Kpangban, Umudhe and Ajaja, 2008).

More information on MEMBERSHIP OF CULT'S IN SCHOOLS

To join any cult on the campus is voluntary. However, a member could be influenced by close friends who are members. They do this by using gifts to lure new members.

Such gifts include: sweets, books, money, cosmetics, underwears, toilet soap, dresses etc.

Lar (1995) further explains that most of the students who join cults at school are the children of the rich who now use their money to lure innocent and poor boys and girls to join them. Some of these parents may have very good reasons for ensuring that their children do not lack the basic necessities of life while at school, this privilege could be abused.

Membership of cults in schools cut across religion, sex, tribe and socio economic status of the students. It is strictly initiation which usually take place in secluded areas at midnight. Olatunji (1995) states that it is carried out by leaders called “**presidents**” or “**chiefs**” during which kola nut is broken, venerable wine is sipped, wired songs are sung, ritual dances are performed incantations are chanted and libations are poured.

Members take a strong vow with their blood to keep secret all activities that are undertaken, and to be other member’s keepers and respect the laws of the cult.

Usually, members billed for initiation pass through a lot of difficulties. They are normally blindfolded and questions thrown to them to answer. Potential members are usually invited to a falsified party and subsequently lured to an initiation ground, usually a cemetery or a thick swamp or the outskirts of the campus or school. In absolute blindness, the initiate could be compelled to jump from a tall tree down to the ground. At the peak of the task, a select group of cultists, normally the immediate seniors would beat the initiates mercilessly, stab them, make incisions, dab cigarette stubs on their bodies and on the initiation process may differ from cult to cult but the goal is similar. The initiation starts with mental and physical torture which are said to surpass that of

the military and the prisoners of war. This explains why some initiates sometimes die in the process of initiation.

Despite these, the practice has not died out. It has been argued that some lecturers, teachers, parents, civil servants are also members and thus encourage the easy initiation of new members among students.

Olaoye (1996) states that cult activities in secondary schools are more rampant in Lagos, Oyo, Ogun, Edo, Rivers, Kwara, Anambra, Cross Rivers, Ondo and Delta state. In our primary schools now, so many pupils are involved, FCT primary schools, we have cases of children initiating their friends through giving and taking. Withdrawal of membership is not easy. For instance, a student of the University of Nigeria Nsukka was almost shot dead after he signified his intention to withdraw his membership of a cult (Quality Magazine, March 29, 1994). Some group of secondary school leavers are even practicing it and killing themselves mercilessly without understanding what cult is about in some states now.

Recruitment and initiation into cults

In modern times, initiation into cults has become a departure from the old times when it was carried out in dark places in the were hours of the night. It has been revealed that initiation into cults has undergone improvement and recruitments are now carried out in big hotels or during the parties of big shots and societies.

On campuses, where security is beefed up, recruitments and initiations are done in town at times, in social gatherings.

It is important to note that whenever initiation into cults is carried out, it involves oath taking followed by the drinking of blood and other concoctions and the display of dangerous

weapons, charms and voodoo to confuse and intimidate new recruits to cult authority and power.

Initiation:

The climax of the initiation is the blood which every member takes. Included in the words of the oath are

I enter alive and will only come out when I am dead.
If I divulge the secrets of this confraternity, may my head roll, may my blood cloth in my veins, anything done by any member of this confraternity anywhere in the world, may it be upon my head and upon the heads of my children and grandchildren.

(Okengwu, 2002).

Cultists engage in armed robbery operations according to crime reports, some bank robberies in cities in Nigeria have been traced to university undergraduates (Ifedi, 2005). Deadly cult wars often lead to closure of the universities and this disrupts academic activities. Females are often raped by cult members thereby exposing them to HIV infection. Cult members who are not ready to take semester examinations cause riots and engineer student unrests where they loot, vandalize or burn university property (Kpangban, Umudhe and Ajaja, 2008). Members of cult gups are often used as thugs and assassins by politicians and killers by their political god-fathers.

Initiation; Demon Worship and Cult Leadership

Joining a cult is conversion to another religion. You are required to give your life and covenant your soul to the small god being served by the cult group. Any one initiated into Eiyé confraternity is no longer a worshipper of the living God, as he has substituted God and transformed to a worshipper of Eiyé's god called lord Jako-Jako. According

to kareen (2008), the processing of initiation include the following:

A. Initiation Processes

Initiation is the spiritual processes of entering into covenant with the Cult demon and other worshippers it involves taking diabolical oaths with concoctions and physical process of sever torture which intending members must be subjected to before they are conferred with membership title.

Cult covenant is most important part in initiation. The covenant is usually sealed with oath and affirmed with incantation and curses which are capable of invoking disastrous consequences on members when he or she defaults. In the covenant, the person will sear to an oath to be loyal to the cult demon and to keep entire secret of the cult to the point of death.

The following procedural events always take place in most cult initiation.

- (a) Warnings with words of threat
- (b) Oath Taking
- (c) Curses
- (d) Introduction to violence with serious beating and inflicting injuries with dangerous weapons
- (e) Incision of initiation mark (not in all cults)

The initiation processes in most cults are similar in practice either Eiye; Vikings; Marphite; Black Axe;

Daughters of Jezebel and others. Because of these similarities I will dwell on general applications.

Stages of Initiation

1st state:-The initiation is usually at night, starting from 12:00 mid-night. Some new members may not be informed of the venue of initiation but they will be attached to old members who will be designated to take them to the initiation ground. A prospective member is not usually given a prior notice of the venue of initiation due to the fear that the new member might divulge the secret of the meeting venue to the security agents.

The initiation process is characterized with words of intimidation. The Capon issues death threat to instill fear in new members. He will threaten that the cult will kill any of the new members who may attempt to withdraw or disobey the leadership of the cult, also anyone who reveals the group's secrets or fails to carry out any assigned mission. During the exercise, new members are cajoled with unrealistic promises in the areas of physical and spiritual protection; graduating with the best result and having connection with people that matter inside and outside the institution.

2nd stage:- Blood Donation-All the members, both old and new, will now perform the rite of donating their blood. In this process, individuals thumb will be cut deep for his blood to flow out for donation into a single cup that contains concoction. Oath is then taken among all the members. In administering this oath, everyone would swear and chant incantations after the Priest. Deep-rooted curses are rained on any member that would rebel against the cult or betray other members or the entire cult.

3rd stage:-Oath- This is the stage where the oath is finally sealed with drinking of the concoction mixed with donated blood, alcohol and other fetish substances. Each member will take a sip of the concoction. In these days of prevalent HIVs care, this kind of practice is dangerous. In some cults, members use their blood to thumb print the cult membership register. The concoction is separately drunk with other things. Anyone who passes through this process must feel strange sensation in their body at this particular state. Osaro (a cultist converted to Christianity) said “Sir at this stage it was as if seven men entered into my stomach”. “This is the time the demon of the cult enters into the new member He is now a devil incarnate.

4th stage:-Each of the new members would have to adopt an operational name. once this is done he would henceforth be called and referred to as such in the cult. Remember here that this is like baptismal name given to a new Christian or Qur’an name given to a new Muslim. You will now agree with me that joining a cult is a conversion from your religion to demon worship.

5th stage:-This stage is ‘survival of the fittest’ new member that are strong enough to absorb severe beating will survive this stage of initiation. At this stage every new member will be naked; squat and choose his lucky number. In cults like Marphite, larger numbers are never lucky numbers; because the number he or she chooses is the number of people that will give him/her severe beating. The lives of new members that cross the beating huddle do not always remain the same again. Most members are unable to move or stand after the beating. If the new member gets into a state of comma he will be carried from the bush and dropped at his doorstep between the hour of 3.00 am and 3.30 am in the night. If he

faints, he will be abandoned in the bush. If he dies, they would bury him in the bush and no one will tell it out. This is one of the reasons some students suddenly disappear on campus.

It is worthy to note here that ad-hoc initiation can take place in hotels. Parties could be organized in hotels, houses, in scheduled area that is lonely. Initiation could take as long as 3 hours. A shorter initiation of about 10 minutes could be conducted in which new members will be made to take oath coupled with short but serious beating. The length of imitation always depends on time, place and chance.

In Eiye confraternity, the drilling above is applicable, the little variance is that new members are usually blindfolded and served with concoction, in calabash, to drink; this concoction usually prepared by herbalists. The content of the concoction is never revealed to new members. Eiye member must choose the name of a bird he will bear in the group or criminal operations.

Cult-Related – Activities – in – the - Higher Institutions

It is difficult to speak accurately about the activities of each cult because their activities, meetings etc, are known to be not only nocturnal but also life threatening to non-members. Even when their activities are brought to the open during strikes or clashes between the groups, they last but for a short time with the non-members around preoccupying themselves with how to escape from the dangerous weapons flying right, left and centre rather than attempting to find out who or what group was involved in the skirmishes.

This dearth of information reinforces the toga of secret with which the groups are described.

Another reason for the continued oath of secrecy around the groups is that those who are arrested do not divulge information about their activities. It is even believed that repentant cultists are usually too afraid to divulge useful information for fear of the covenant that they had entered into. Worst of all, even victims of cultist violent attacks that are often suspected to be members of rival cult groups are usually tight-lipped, squealing neither their own group nor even the group that attacked them. According to Abdul (2003), the related activities include:

- ✓ Clashes between rival groups in broad daylight occur frequently with dangerous weapons like axes, knives, cudgels, guns, jujus etc. in use. This would have been a veritable means of identifying cultists, but the questions are who would wait to face possible stray bullets.
- ✓ Cult members can hardly do without being armed at any point in time, day or night even while going to a place like the lecture hall or just strolling
- ✓ Cult members usually strike at their victims (members of rival groups) at night, sometimes in the victim's residence especially those living off campus.
- ✓ Cult members are known to have dressing code in terms of mode and colours. This varies according to groups
- ✓ New members are taxed to contribute either in kind or cash to the group. These contributions can be in form of arms and ammunition to the groups' cause. These are usually stolen from homes of those with military and para-military backgrounds.
- ✓ Some of the cult members who come from affluent homes use their money to purchase weapons for the group.

Categorization of Cult Groups in Campuses

Unit recently, there was very little literature about cultism to generate discussion or bring it to the fore.

Table 1 is a list of as many as eighty-five cult groups operating in our higher institutions of learning. However, prominent cult groups could be classified into **five** categories:

- Classical confraternities,
- God-father secret cults,
- Female cults,
- Mafia cults,
- Terrorist cults.

The violent nature of cultism on our campuses became prominent in the early 1980s, at the time when corruption, mismanagement, nepotism etc were at their highest ebb. Their violent activities are either during initiation ceremonies or recruitment or during examinations. All cults view themselves as being independent and identify themselves as opposition to other bodies; they expend considerable energy denouncing other groups. In fact, the multiplicity of campus cults could be argued to have emerged from the rivalry and conflict amongst the major cult groups, resulting into the formation of splinter groups under different names.

Each cult group has what might be called its own identity or belief system. However, it can be generally deduced that the identity and belief system of cults are characterized by the following:

- Close mindedness –as a result of brain washing or mind control; consequently, cult members are not interested in a cognitive and rational evaluation of facts.
- Genuine antagonism-they are always identifying their dislike of those holding opposing views; this could be due to indoctrination with a new set of values, goals and beliefs.
- A pronounced intolerance of any position but their own. Sometimes such intolerance results in physical violence.
- Black Axe – Two Two, Sons of Darkness (SOD) Twins
- Blaxe Axe- Aye, Axemen, Amigo, NBM
- Buccaneer-BAN, BDB Sea Lords, IOI, Alora, Bucket
- Eiye-Airlords, HarberKrier, Birds
- KK-Efolk, Klansmen, Ave
- Vikings-SVC, Aroe, Norsemen,
- They exist solely to foster the interest of the members and to aid one another in wickedness.
- They take blood oaths during initiations
- Most of their activities are secret, the names of members, meetings and plans are kept secret (Okengwu 2002).
- **The Western media and role models:** In the words of Col. David Grossman, an American

military instructor, “few researchers bother any longer to dispute that bloodshed on TV and in the movies has any effect on kids who witness it” (Grossman, 1998)

- **These Gangster Groups Are Called Cults**

- 318 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria a ‘secret society’ as any association, group or body of persons registered or not).

- That uses secret signs, oaths, rites or symbols and which is formed to promote a cause, the purpose or part of which is to foster the interest of its member and to aid one another under any regard without due regard to merit, fairness or justice;

- Whose members are sworn to observe oaths of secrecy and, the names and activities are held in secret. Additionally, the New Webster’s dictionary and thesaurus of the English Language define a cult as devotion to a person or practice and ritual.

- Each campus gang worships a deity which controls the actions of the member even against their will. Also sacrifices of human or animal blood are offered to these deities

Black Axe - Korofo

Vikings - Odin

KK - Ogor

Eiye - JaguJagu

ii. All of these groups use secret signs and symbols

- iii. The members of these gangster cults have common and individual code names

Examples of the common names are

Black Axe – Two Two, Sons of Darkness (SOD)
Twins

Blaxe Axe- Aye, Axemen, Amigo, NBM

Buccaneer-BAN, BDB Sea Lords, IOI, Alora, Bucket
Eiye-Airlords, Harber Krier, Birds

KK-Efolk, Klansmen, Ave

Vikings-SVC, Aroe, Norsemen,

- iv. They exist solely to foster the interest of the members and to aid one another in wickedness.
- v. They take blood oaths during initiations
- vi. Most of their activities are secret, the names of members, meetings and plans are kept secret (Okengwu 2002).

Join Confraternities

- Some students join cult groups for protection against and victimization by other students and lecturers. They always and resort to using guns, axes and charms.
- **Entity:** The excessive crave for recognition is also a reason we join cults. The ideology is that by doing negatively bizarre will be seen as being popular.
- The majority of young people in the cults were lured into be false but magnified stories they were

told. They may have been told that all their lecturers were cultists and that being a member will make them get jobs easily.

- **Family:** Professor Armandi Nicholi of the Havard Medical College points out that there exists a strong relationship between unstable families and the rise in violent crime (Nicholi, 1991)
- **The Western media and role models:** In the words of Col. David Grossman, an American military instructor, “few researchers bother any longer to dispute that bloodshed on TV and in the movies has any effect on kids who witness it” (Grossman, 1998)

More Causes of Cultism

View held from different scholars such as Abdul (2003), Bulus (2003), Denga (2004), Et al

Religious groups will simply argue that cultists are driven by demonic forces to behave the way they do and that they need deliverance in order to be freed. But sociologists have advanced three theories on the causes of cultism in the society; the political economy theory, the opportunist theory and the subculture theory. The **political economy theory** explains that any society that is unequal has a number of problems inherent in it, including vices like corruption, robbery, cultism etc. **The opportunist theory**, states that when certain conditions are created within a society, it predisposes the people therein to various types of behavior. Therefore, in a university where there are overstretched facilities, poor academic culture, little regard for rules and regulations etc, the opportunity has been inadvertently

created for cults and cultists to thrive. In the **subculture theory**, sociologists argue that whenever a subculture (in this case cultism) is allowed to develop, eradicating it becomes extremely difficult because it gains ground with each new generation.

Going by these theories, one could argue that the phenomenon of cultism has become a 'permanent' feature on the landscape of our institutions of learning as certain conditions that encourage cultism have been created within the Nigerian society. This position notwithstanding, one could also argue that cultism in tertiary institutions is also traceable to:

- General frustration and the feeling of deprivation, hopelessness, injustice etc brought about by factors beyond the control of an individual such as instability in the system, nepotism, favoritism, brutality, corruption, domination and other vices.
- The long years of military rule, which were followed by a climate of jungle law and the routine brutalization of the civil populace, characterized by military and security operatives.
- Emotional and psychological factors associated with family upbringing and personality crisis.

Expected to enable the individual develop independent thought and a well-rounded personality, but cult membership is not likely to allow development to take place as it should be.

He will develop a distorted sense of values which will make him believe that the end justifies the means.

He is likely to develop a generally negative attitude to life and the society. Based on the premise that he has been associated with criminals, the society will now hold him with some amount of disdain, and he will tend to be defensive most of the time.

Looking at reasons that inform secret cults' membership presents two scenarios. First is the historical period of the 1950s when the activities of secret cults were socially accepted, though nocturnal, and to an extent shrouded in secrecy to non-members, but harmless with respect for the laws of the land and fundamental human rights membership was motivated by a common goal for protection against oppression and injustice on campuses.

However, the tide swayed in the mid-eighties. Following the decline in the economy and the widening socio-economic disparity between the social classes. Unemployment skyrocketed with simultaneous greed for quick wealth. Certificate acquisition at all costs became almost norm, hence a need for a concerted conspiracy to actualize this ill. The formation of secret cults therefore became the necessary devil's option, which was primarily, a mechanism for instilling fear and terror into the target persons.

Portrait of Cult Members

It must first and foremost be established that cultism by and large has demonic undertones. Its activities to all intents and purposes are designed to advance anti-social behaviour little wonder that it is often associated with people of low intellect and moral.

Cultism is by and large made up of people with identical disposition. Traditionally, voluntary enlistment is not

permitted, though this rule could be reversed to accommodate an intended member with previous recorded of hooliganism.

The leader is fascist in nature and employs every available instrument of sadism in prosecuting his duties. Each group is made up of a small size members who share identical character and command trends, ranging from age, physique, and emotion, and in some cases, social background.

In addition, most members are victims of broken homes or failed marriages, poverty, social deprivation, lack of confidence, inferiority complex, greed, and so on, they are mostly uncoordinated, and rarely subscribe to decent or moral behaviour. Most of them are noted for undue aggression and had experienced some kinds of deprivation and rejection. This explains why it is uncommon to find an intelligent child from an organized background in cultism. Some of them have overstayed their duration but refused to graduate as campus environment provides favourable background for prosecuting their nefarious activities in drug transaction, among others, rather, they keep changing departments.

These gangs (secret cults) have over the years developed passwords signs and coded languages understood only by the members of their speech communities. This, among others, could be informs of body marks for easy identification, wearing of similar hair cult and so on. They mostly hold nocturnal meetings in specified places and in some cases wearing uniforms with established signs. Their weapons of operation include: pistols, short guns, axes, knives, charm and masks, drugs and alcohol are also used lavishly in operation.

They are known for doubly standards, naturally they exhibit some degree of bravery and threats in speeches and behaviour, through, such mostly border on bravado.

At individual level, they could be best described as cowards, but as a group, they are very vicious.

Initiation is always an excruciating experience which sometimes leads to death. It involves a large consumption of drugs and alcohol; meaningless symbols and signs are displayed. Those who are initiated are likely to be marked on their bodies. Initiation is carried out in the depth of the night in an isolated place.

They (secret cultists) indulge in so many criminal acts. These include armed robbery, murder, rape, arson, vandalism, and so on. They are also vulnerable to HIV through rape. They occupy the center stage in examination malpractices. They also feature prominently in campus disturbances. Constant migration to other institutions for furtherance of their nefarious activities is part of their strategy. Harm done to law-abiding citizens and to the academic system in the recent times by these gangs is increasingly becoming a national burden, especially in the disruption of academic calendar.

Leadership in cultism emerges through irrational and unconventional criteria. The worst nonentity, vandal, fascist and sadist does not have rivals as a consensus choice, so long he has a physical built, added to these qualities. One of the contemporary phenomena noticed in campus cultism is the protection fees syndrome. This involves the payment of prescribed fees to cult groups and any attempt to default this payment could spell security doom for the target person, as he or she has to vacate the hostel for the fear of being terrorized.

The activities of these gangs have become so inimical to the educational system to an extent that one assumes that the founders of pyrates must have been shocked by the devastation, trailing the loose cannon of their project, which started as a harmless club.

More Notable Characteristics of Secret Cult Members

- ✓ Terror
- ✓ Armed robbery
- ✓ Truancy, absenteeism and lateness to lecture
- ✓ Consumption of drugs, alcohol and smoking
- ✓ Intimidation of students and staff
- ✓ Group demonstration and destruction of individual and public property
- ✓ Raping of female student
- ✓ Certificates forgery
- ✓ Interest in pornography
- ✓ Unique patterns of greetings
- ✓ Examination malpractices
- ✓ Possession of harmful weapons

Source: Ogbodo (2014)

Indices of Secret Cults (GANG)

Certain signs could detect the existence of secret cults in our higher institutions of learning. The following provide a guide in this regard.

- ✓ One of the conspicuous pointers to the existence of secret cults (gang) in our institutions of higher learning is occasional screaming, sprouting from isolated places or bushes at deadly hours of the night. This could be component of rituals or pains emanating from initiation or punishment.

- ✓ Blood stains in or within the proximity of the campus preceding fresh initiation, punishment, attack among and between gang members or victims
- ✓ Occasional clashes between two groups of students with hidden identities could point to the existence of secret cults. such clashes are mostly geared, towards establishing superiority, or sometimes tussle over girls.
- ✓ Sporadic gunshots in or within the proximity of an institution is a strong indicator as to the existence of secrete cults, some cult groups usually commence their activities with gun shorts in order to create a buffer zone for uninterrupted activities (Ede, 1995)
- ✓ Special or unusual modes of greetings, haircuts, body marks or tattoos may be indications that unsophisticated secrete cults (gangs) are forming. Whether sophisticated or not, gangs are phenomenon that must be nipped in the bud. The so-called unsophisticated gangs later mature in to notorious set ups (Maisamair, 1999) in Ogbodo, (2010)
- ✓ Invasion of target hostels and places of relaxation with a motive to rape or destroy property could connote an exitence of secrete cults.
- ✓ A threat against lecturers with moral tendencies is also a trait of secrete cults. Mostly, lecturers with high moral standards are sometimes susceptible to threats by cult groups that may perceive disposition as antagonistic to their interest. Such lecturers are however, advice to forward such cases to authorities who are in turn obliged to forestall every form of insecurity to life and property on campuses.
- ✓ Undue antagonism against the authorities on part for lecturers could be an evidence of the existence of

secrete cults. Traditionally, these mercenaries are very swift in response to the distress call of their paid masters when the need for confrontation arises.

- ✓ Massive examination leakage and related fraud are crime associated with cultism in some cases. This explains the low intelligent level of an average cult member, thus they take solace in examination malpractices as a way out. Their poor performances are usually attributed to poor attention to their studies. In any case, examination to them is frustrating, unnecessary hurdle.

Effect of Cultism on Its Members

Harmful effect on its members are numerous. These include:

- ✓ Unimpressive academics performance mostly due to misplaced priority, resulting in frequent change of department or outright withdrawal. Their poor academic performance are mostly attributed to lack of concentration on their academics duties as their time is mostly used for plotting evils
- ✓ They are easily prone to stealing which could generate into armed robbery. They usually device a lot of strategies in course of revenue drive in order to meet up with their financial obligations to their leaders to whom they earlier taken oath of loyalty and total allegiance. Levies are imposed on them intermittently. This leads them of stealing of item like cloths belonging to fellow students and consequent graduation into armed robbery, this explains why members of one secret cult group or their other commit large percentage of armed robbery cases among undergraduates.

- ✓ Cultism propel the victim into the state of perpetual addiction. This becomes natural after taking series of drugs, motivating crimes like brutalizing fellow student among others. Drugs like Indian hemp, cocaine, heroin, and so on are used to sustain their viciousness during operation, like damage to organs, high tension, loss of sensibilities and so on.
- ✓ Cult members suffers dehumanization in the hands of security agents when caught in any case it's a social menace that requires commensurate punishment
- ✓ A cult member is liable to psychological problems after withdrawal from school. He becomes a nuisance to his society. The effect of turning to being a lunatic is to grave to contemplate as he has no role in the society, rather he is a burden.
- ✓ The chance of losing one's life, especially during initiation is very high. The initiation rite have replica of murder-like attempts. A member can lose his life in the process of being tortured, flogged, touched by a hot object to ascertain in his resilience and obstinacy
- ✓ A secret cult member when caught, stand the risk of being expelled, and by extension losing the opportunity of achieving quality life and contributing to the society. Many who refused to heed to this wise counsel have towed the tragic path. That is why we summon courage to say "*Say no to Cultism*" for we may not have another chance.
- ✓ A secret cult member mortgages his future and potential to affect his generation, because of his involvement in anti-social activities, he becomes morally, spiritually and psychological incapacities to realize his divine will and ability to make his

contribution to the society. Bulus, (1995), Abdul, (2003), Et al

A cult member is enveloped with fear known and unknown. He is always on alert by the feelings of surveillance on him from the student, teacher, guardians and parents the fear of being hunted by rivalry could be more damaging to his psychological state, on the whole his freedom and peace are mortgaged.

This attests to the section of the scriptures that says “there is no peace for the wicked man”

There is high risk of contracting sexually transmitted disease like herpes, syphilis, gonorrhoea and HIV by cult members through sexual promiscuity.

General Consequence of cultism in Schools

The system of education currently in practice is education for the Hand the Head and the Heart Education for all. This, therefore, portrays that education is indeed powerful and a facilitator for a notations development of economic, political, social, technological, philosophical and natural potential. To realize the goal for this system means efforts have to be made to stem the tide of cultism in schools.

This is because the media reports about the effects of cultism in schools seem to indicate 70% involvement of Universities, 60-% Polytechnics, 10% Colleges of Education and the shocking position of secondary schools involvement (Rimfat 1999). Between the 1980s and 2003 to 2010 there have been cases of death, police detention, rustication, expulsion, damage to public property, closure of schools etc as a result of the activities of cults in Nigerian schools. Any government that has concern of its citizens cannot afford to keep mute over issues like this. Perhaps, this explains why

the Federal Government had to make a strong pronouncement in 1999, 2009 that universities and other tertiary institution had been given three month within which to eradicate this monster (cultism).

Oftentimes, some student commit themselves more to the activities of their cult than to school work. They spend most of their time cults to activities than to school work. They spend most of their time attending cult meetings conventions and mapping out ways for further activities. In some cases should have used in carrying out their academic work. As a result, the individual and the society according to Bulus (2003).

Effect on the Individual

The cultist will lose his personal identity, which is now submerged under group identity. Education is expected to enable the individual develop independent thought and a well-rounded personality, but cult membership is not likely to allow development to take place as it should be.

He will develop a distorted sense of values which will make him believe that the end justified the means.

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His is likely to develop a generally negative attitude to life and the society. Based on the premise that he has been associate with crime, the society will now hold him with some amount of disdain and he will tend to be defensive most of the time.

He lacks self-confidence.

On the Society

Cult activities lower the productivity of the individual and consequently, retard national development. The huge investment made by parents, government and the communities in manpower development appear to go down the drain when the direct beneficiaries of the investment turn from positive and constructive interest.

Some of the effects of secret cults on schools and society are insincerity, lawlessness, moral decadence, drug abuse, indiscipline, destruction of family values etc.

The youths are naturally depicted to fill the leadership vacuum created by the aging and the dying. Schools are supposed to be reservoirs for leadership succession, but if such youths are not living up to expectation as a result of involvement in cult activities, a crisis of leadership succession could be imminent.

Curbing Cultism in Schools

The dilemma of cultism in Nigerian schools can best be tackled through multi-dimensional approaches. The reason students give for joining cults are at variance with the ones that obtained in the 1950. Thus, eradicating it need the cooperation of the institutions, the parents, the communities and the government.

The schools

The role of counseling should be emphasized in schools. This means that more counselors should be employed both from post primary and tertiary institutions. During orientation of new students, emphasis needs to be laid on the dangers of joining cults. Trusted students could be used to lure cult members to the counselor for appropriate therapy.

- All schools in the country should form vigilante group to deal with cult cases using both student and staff as members.
- School authorities should find time to time embark on surprise checks in rooms of suspected cult member for weapons, cult uniforms and insignia to fully ascertain their membership.
- Head teachers, principals, Rectors, provosts or Vice Chancellors who usually approve the formation of clubs in their schools should beware of what clubs they endorse to function.
- The teacher or lecturer is an educator, a counselor, a guide and a friend, a model who students respect and would want to emulate. Thus, the power of the teacher can change the world and affect eternity. They should avoid membership of secret cults.
- Students should be gainfully engaged during school sessions to prevent any opportunity of thinking about cultism.
- Students aspiring to be prefect or union leaders should be counseled against cultism.

Curbing Cultism through the Parents

- Parents should take good care of their children or ward in schools to avoid the temptation to joining cult for materials gains. Over pampering them should, however, be avoided.
- Parents should live by example by not joining cults themselves, and should ensure that their children avoid late nights, drunkenness or attending ceremonies related to cultism.
- Parents should take their religion seriously

- Parents should agree on punishments to be meted out to children when they go wrong. Any disagreement between them on this issue can create room for rebellion. A rebellious child is an easy prey for cultists. Hence, parents should speak with one voice on disciplinary matters. They should neither be too harsh nor too lenient.
- Parent should provide children with food, clothes and sufficient basic school materials. This is to avoid a child becoming a beggar, hence becoming a prey to cultists.
- Parent should help children in the home to develop healthy relationships based on love, care and trust.

Curbing the Cultism through the Community

Members of the community with whom these cult members lives should assist and cooperate with the management of the schools by reporting promptly the anti-social behavior of the students to the authorities or to the police for further investigation and appropriate disciplinary action.

Curbing the Cultism through the Government

Decree 47 of 1989 and the 1999 Constitutions all condemn cultism. Hence government should use the law to punish culprits where there abound proven cases.

The police and the law courts have been criticized for being complacent and using legal loopholes to free cult members unnecessarily. Government could certify this to establish its authenticity, and if true, address it squarely.

Summary

The society, the school community members and young ambitious boys and girls have suffered untold hardship,

losses and insecurity in the hands of young boys and girls who call themselves cultists. In spite of their sad end, the practice has remained unabated. In spite of the tireless efforts of the government to make it a thing of the past, elements of it are still experienced in some schools today. This paper maintains that government is disposed to, and capable of nipping it in the bud. It is just a matter of time. So much money is spent on educating the youths year in year out. It is expected that these students should reciprocate this gesture, by working hard, not just to excel but also to be good. Everybody should team up to wipe out this dreaded problem in the society. (Bulu, 2003)

Adolescent against Cultism

Moving with questionable characters. Good people can be bad people when they hang around them. According to Kareen, (2008), Young people can join cultism by not having people with questionable characters. When people hang out with known cult members, people assume that they are already members of the confraternities and as such, more so, the members of these confraternities may put and even coerce them into joining because it is a security risk them to continue hanging out with them without passing through on as they know too much about their operations, only a blood will make them not reveal the dark secret of the cult.

Wild parties and shows: Wild parties and shows should be avoided usually turn into inter cult wars and there is the very high risk of being hit by stray bullets. These parties and shows also serve rent centres for cultists prospective members may be asked to fill and sign with his blood at gunpoint. Females may be raped in.

Avoid known cult hangouts: Places where cult people are known should be avoided as merely being seen in those

places may be called as an indication of interest in cult membership. Beer joints, Gambling areas and Game joints which are known hangouts should be avoided. There is the need to be careful for food or drinks especially by not so familiar people; it out to be a bait. The recruiters for these confraternities may buy food and drinks for the prospective member unit they wish to recruit as a member of their confraternity.

To avoid being approached by the cults, young people have to be conscious of their dressing. Inappropriate dressing by males and females well as other bizarre forms of dressing attracts negative.

Of sudden Acquaintances: When sudden acquaintances send for food and drinks or unusual favours, they should be to in all carefulness. Some girls have been raped or robbed

Unhealthy crave for popularity: An excessive desire for popularity may lead to notoriety as there may be the lure to do some negative and unethical things to be popular. The people who want to be hard or popular on campus are easy targets for cult recruiters. Womanizers, smokers, bar boys and gamblers are already advertising themselves as potential members of confraternities.

Unhealthy media influences: Young people should be discouraged from too much media influences that glorify sex, drugs, gangs and violence. The types of movies they see, music they listen to and books they read have a way of shaping thought patterns that eventually lead to habitual actions. It is not a bad idea to ensure that their Ipads, phones and computers are free from pornography and violence since the behavior of the youth is classically conditioned by the many hours spent browsing on the internet. It is important for people to be taught coping strategies to deal with hard

times and to think independently to avoid depending on the wrong people to run their lives.

Commitment to leave: For people already in the cults and gangs, there must be a strong desire on their part to leave the cults and a total commitment to the process of withdrawal. Most times members of these confraternities feel used and stupid when they are sober but deceive themselves by thinking that a man has to be rough to survive. But for them to successfully leave the cults, they should be thoroughly tired of this nonsense. The person should admit he has done wrong, fully understand the consequences of his actions and be ready to make amends.

It is of utmost importance that he convinces himself that it is possible to leave the cult. The death threats made during the initiation oat taking and the hits on people who wanted to leave weakens the belief that it is possible to leave. That is why it is necessary to have a conviction that it is possible to leave. When people leave the cults, it takes discipline from them to alter the lifestyle they are already used to but it is important that they stop hanging out in “joints” where other members of the group may hang out.

The most effective way of cutting ties with cultism is to openly renounce membership to the group and to submit to counseling and rehabilitation. Due to the deep occultic and evil rituals involved in ritual help; The blood oath is spiritual issue, therefore it must be spiritually.

Tattoos, stickers and other cult identification marks must be all the regalia and paraphernalia of confraternities must be of. Also to be disposed of are weapons like guns, axes and charms. There must be another helpful approach is to create a new minds and alternative support system replace gang activities with activities like sports, the arts, employment or

volunteering. Join a or religious group and be accountable to someone who can progress made.

Oves and advances by cult groups either to threaten or to lure the member back to the group must be reported to parents, trusted religious authorities or the law enforcement agents. It is unhealthy to handle it alone. Parents and the society should take an active the lives of our young people. It is not a matter of using the jail. If the society watches out for all the children and raised them they will not be inclined to join cult groups for acceptance.

Guidance and counselling tips for Students on Campus And Hints for Parents:- To be knowledgeable about cultism, these tips will help you to avoid trouble and have a peaceful and successful campus life. From scholar such as Denga, (2004), kareem, (2008), Ogbodo (2014) et al has the following view

I. Accommodation While in School

First Night in School: Where do I sleep? This is a serious problem for new students coming from far away. You must be extremely careful when you are looking for accommodation as a newcomer on campus. Sleeping in the wrong place on the first day on campus has caused many new students to accept accommodation offers from head of killer squads; such as ‘Butcher of Black Axe’, or the Capon of Buccaneer confraternity where they were forcibly initiated in the night.

These are the cheapest ways by which cult groups recruit members into their fold. When the school resume for new session, different cults send their members to strategic locations like the school gates, admission offices, and registration venues. These strategic locations are the hot

spots where they scout for new students that need one form of help or the other. They may help you bribe your way in if you have a deficiency in your certificates. In this case school authority will later discover the certificate swindle and you will be expelled from school. Some cultists could also help you beat long registration queues. This is just a deceptive ploy to draw you close for initiation into their folds. They could as well provide a place for you to pass the night. Initiation to the cult becomes easier when a cult syndicate offers you free accommodations.

The great price you have to pay for accepting such offer may start that very night. In the dead of the night you may be taken unaware when you are woken up and initiated by force into their cult group.

This book dwells more on the meaning of initiation and how it is performed in subsequent chapters.

II. Locating Your Genuine Neighbor for Help

There are good people in the campus community and they are ready to help you; whether you come alone or with your parents. Amongst these people are students of different religious faiths including your religion.

There are academic and non-academic staff, as well as the local indigence's of different religions. These set of brethren's are always ready to help you. It is noteworthy for you to know that there are also Mosques, Churches and God-fearing people on campus; they are all there for you and waiting to receive and help you.

The ways to locate good student in the campus:

According to Kareem (2008)

- (1) Go to the hostel and ask of the leader of any one of these Christian bodies: The Redeemed Christian Fellowship (RCF), Nigeria Fellowship of Evangelical Students (NIFESCF), Catholic Charismatic, or Anglican Youth Fellowship (AYF), Deeper Life CF, Winners CF, Baptist Student Fellowship. There is a multitude of other legitimate ones not mentioned here. These fellowship leaders will assist you or get one of their members to accommodate you there by ensuring your safety.

There are also Muslim leaders on Campus. You can enquire for the room of Amirul or Imam of the Muslim organizations such as the Ansar-ud-Deen, Ahmadiya movement in Islam and Anwar-Islam. Most students know the religious leader in their hostels and these leaders are well respected among students. On meeting this imam, he will provide assistance for you.

There is, at least, one official pastor and one official Imam in every campus. Their utmost duty is to counsel you in a kind manner and take care of your immediate needs. In fact, they owe you a duty of physical and spiritual welfare. The Chapel pays the salaries or allowances of these religious leaders. They are tasked with the responsibilities of handling students affairs especially those that are religious and humanitarian in nature. Amongst their charity work is the provision of temporary accommodation for new students. They could hand you over to one of the brethren's who will accommodate you. They could pair you up with other believers to rent a house if you can't afford a room. Religious Leaders could also assist you to secure accommodations in a peaceful hostel or house that is not vulnerable to cult attacks.

There are several genuine men of God on campus that can be of tremendous assistance during your initial hours on campus when you feel overwhelmed with needs and lack of information or persons to turn to. I have met several of them. Two examples of the people I was so fortunate to meet are Reverend Oladosu, the then Chaplain of Delta State University, Abraka and Reverend Jolly Oyekpen, the then Chaplain of AAU Ekpoma in Nigeria. As far back as 1999 when I visited their schools on campus outreach, I found out that they were among the men of God that have the good habit of providing accommodation assistance for students. On various visits I met many students in their houses who they shelter until they can get their own accommodations while some actually remained with these men of God throughout the academic session.

The Joint Campus Christian Fellowship (JCCF)

This is the umbrella body of Christian Associations on campus. All Christian fellowship Pastors on campus are in this organization. Any of the executives or members of this Christian body will be able to provide some assistance or tell you what to do in times of need.

Join one fellowship on campus; This will give the brethren's the opportunity to keep you in 'Holy Company' and you will be guided and assisted.

The Muslim Students Society (MSS)

This is the umbrella body of Muslim students in various secondary and tertiary institutions. This religious body renders humanitarian services to Muslim students. Members of the society are always willing to guide, direct and assist any Muslim student who approaches them for help.

Christian League International (CLI)

The CLI is a Christian Library and charity ministry whose membership is drawn from various Christian fellowships on campus. This organization can be found in various campuses. CLI provides accommodation for some new needy students and old needy students on campus. The accommodation apartment, known as BETHEL, is located in many campuses; and is used as a transit camp to accommodate new students that are in serious need of accommodation. This temporary accommodation is usually for a period of 30 days for such student to secure a good and safe accommodation.

The CLI is still erecting BETHEL BUILDINGS in various campuses and the allocation of land by relevant school authorities will go a long way in achieving more of this charitable dream. CLI campus charity ministry is doing wonderfully well in the area of providing humanitarian services to students in Nigerian tertiary institutions. They could be contacted for help by any student or parent through their email christianwordscoll@yahoo.com.

Other Codes of Conduct on Campus

The following are other things you must do to stay out of trouble while on campus: According to Ajaja, (2008)

You must be very selective in your choice of friends. Don't attend any party unless you are sure of the organizers and the reason for which it is organized. Some so-called birth day parties could be cult initiation.

Never participate in night parties where you can't vouch for the host/hostess (on or off campus) as your security is not guaranteed.

1. Note that dark night outings are several times more dangerous than daylight outings under any circumstances.
2. Night outings should be avoided at all cost. If you must be somewhere till very late, it should be a place safe enough for you to pass the night, otherwise make sure you are not alone. Ensure you walk in a group or with partners.
3. Avoid appointments scheduled with people in uncompleted buildings or lonely corners. You could be initiated into a cult.
4. Girls should beware of appointments in apartments solely occupied by boys as they could fall victim of rape.
5. If there are school hostels, it is better to live on campus. School authorities will not be responsible for your security off campus. There are dangers in everyday movement and distance from school.
6. Social amenities such as libraries, water and power generator provided by Schools are not accessible off campus.
7. Avoid friendship with anyone you often see with suspicious persons, or lives above his means.
8. Identify with children of God always, this will discourage cultist from inviting you.

9. Always share your problems with your senior brethren who will give you appropriate assistance and direction.
10. Be free to approach the Patron of your fellowship who is usually a member of the senior staff of the institution as you can be sure that they will accord priority to issues that border on your welfare. Confide in him before or when things get tough, he will assist you in solving the problems.
11. Be very mindful of what you wear and the manner you present yourself, indecent dress that expose your body will expose you to sexual harassment.
12. Morally corrupt lecturers and wayward students often respect genuinely born again Christians and puritanical Muslims. These very religious sets of students are to a great extent, free from harassments, oppression and depression.

Don't join religious fanatic sects that pose threats to other students lives, properties and any sect that kills human beings are cultist.

More Counseling tips from professionals against cultism such as Chibuko, (2016), Ogbodo (2014) et al.

The pieces of advice given below will go a long way towards helping you to keep away from cultism. However, knowing them and doing them are two different things. Every human being needs divine assistance to help him or her do the right things always. Sometimes you do many right things without much struggles but very often, you struggle to

avoid the wrong things even when you are fully aware of the consequences. For instance, people read the inscription that is always on cigarette packs that “*Smokers Are Liable to Die Young*” yet countless number of people are addicted to smoking and they die daily of lung cancer and various other diseases. If you are already a cultist or would not want to join any cult group, you need to ask God to help you to use the pieces of advice below. God will willingly do it for you by the saving grace that comes through Jesus Christ His dear son.

- Be assertive. Learn to say No to invitations or discussions that you are not comfortable with.
- Be guided by godly values and principles.
- Avoid bad company at all cost. Evil communication corrupts good manners.
- Listen to and obey your parents and teachers if they are not cultists themselves.
- Be selective of the gatherings you attend, the movies you watch, and the sites you browse on the internet.
- Let your religious position be clear and evident to all. Don't be passive in your religious activities
- Obey school rules and regulations.
- Learn to channel your exuberance to good and productive causes.
- Don't ever join in any violent acts in school or community. Problems are mostly resolved through dialogue rather than violence.

- Dress decently and not in ways suggestive of wanting evil company. A popular adage says that you are addressed the way you are dressed.
- Know that cultism has no good effect despite all their promises.
- Be careful the gifts you accept from people.
- Be busy positively; face your studies and other useful activities. An idle mind is the devil's workshop

PART B

What is Examinations?

“Examination can be defined as a formal test of somebody’s knowledge, skills, or ability in a particular subject especially by means of written questions or practical exercises, Ojerinde D. (1996).

On the other hand, examination can be defined as “an assessment of students to ascertain to that extent they have benefited from the teachings of their theaters in a given subject”.

Liman M. T. (2006) emphasized on the importance of examinations as follows: -

“Examination in broad perspective is an instrument for testing, assessment, evaluation and accreditation. It is used for the purpose of selection, placement, certification and promotion. Thus in schools, factor and industries and in every human endeavor examination is a potent instrument for judgment of knowledge or competence. For any examination to be credible, it must possess key elements which are validity and reliability. These key elements can only be present if the examination is free and fair, devoid of partiality, cheating and all sorts of malpractices.

Examinations can be internal or external. Internal examinations involve teachers assessing their students. The continuous assessment programme constitutes an important component of internal examinations. It has become a key element in determining the overall performance of students.

External examinations which are referred to as public examinations are conducted by examination Boards or councils, They include:-

- National common Entrance Examination conducted by National Board for Educational measurement
- Junior secondary certificate (JSCIII) Examination by state ministries of Education
- General Certificate of Education (GCE) and senior Secondary Certificate (SSCIII) Examinations for universities, polytechnics and colleges of education conducted by Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB).
- Professional Examinations by various professional bodies like Institute of Chartered Accountants in Nigerian (ICAN)
 - Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria (CIBN) and
 - Nigeria Institute of Public Relation (NIPR)
 - Under graduate/post Graduate in the university and other higher institution

6. Various certificate examinations conducted by National Business and Technical Examinations Board (NABTEB), others are:-

- Advance National Technical Certificate (ANTC)
- National business certificate (NBC)
- Advanced National Business certificate (ANBC)
- Entrance Examinations into Federal Technical Colleges
- Entrance Examinations into Federal Technical College (EEFTC)
- and National Technical Teachers Certificate (NTTC)

Ogbodo (2010)

Concept of Examination

Examination is an integral part of the formal school system. It serves not only as tool for providing accountability of the educational programmes but also for career guidance and for maintenance of publicly recognized standards.

Examination has been generally accepted as the best means of assessment. It is a formal test of knowledge or ability. In fact, in a school setting, examination is a means of evaluating the quantity of knowledge a student has acquired within a specific period of time. Teaching and learning become more effective when the students are subjected to an examination process to determine the extent to which the students have assimilated the content of the instruction given and the teacher can also assess himself from the performance of the students. (Denga, 1988).

Unfortunately, this all important means of assessing students has become ineffective as all forms of malpractice have been introduced into the system. In the submission of (Ammani, 2009) cited in Agbo (2015) all societies require education to enable new members not only fit into their work roles in the world of work, but also to satisfy the labour needs of the economy. The development of human resources, national and economic development is two sides of the coin. Therefore, human capital is recognized as an agent of national development in all countries of the world Isola & Alani (2013). However, the latter is dependent on the viability of the available human resources which its determinant is sound and standardized educational system. examination is the process of assessing learning outcomes. Through this means, teachers evaluate the extent to which the students have followed and understood learning experiences to which they have been exposed.

The hyperarcrionary (2009) define examination as the act of giving student's a rest (as by questions) or determine what they know or have learned. They citing kpangban, Abuja Umeche (2008), cited in zaka a pdf defined examination as an assessment interlude to measure knowledge, skill, attitude, physical fitness or classification in Many other topics such as beliefs. Examination could also be seen as one of the most objective techniques usual in the measurement of learning outcomes of all levels of education in Nigeria.

Nigeria and the world over in another vein, examination was defined in the website www.worroells.net.au/content/? retch as the process of an external administrator formally examining various parties, stoutens or cannot diates. Examination many be administered orally, on paper, on computer or in a confined area that requires an examines to physically perform a set of skills.

Measurement of ability has always been an important part of the school system such that even the habitual absentees normally turn up to school and present themselves for testing on examination days Emaikwu, (2011). The essence of testing is to reveal the latent ability of an examinee. The term ability connotes the characteristics of the examinees that the test is intended to measure. It includes factual knowledge, specific skills and general skills. For an examinee's ability to be measured, the examinee has to respond to a sample of questions. A test score based on this sample of questions would be an approximate indicator of examinee's ability.

This is because; the more advanced nations of the world, with their superlative and result-oriented qualitative

education have become the unassailable parameters for social transformation, innovation and social change. Apart from being issues of social concern, education provides an economy with healthy trained human resources required for economic growth and development (Emaikwu 2012).

Examination is a yardstick against which students or candidates competence and progress are formally measured and appraised in the education sector (Nnam&Inah2015).

Examination as part of evaluation in education is aimed at determining a learner's level of skill acquisition or intellectual competence and understanding after a given training. Evaluation usually enables the teacher to be effectively ready for further teaching as this forms a feedback (Emaikwu2012).

Examination is the most common tool around which the entire system of education revolves, it is the instrument used to decide who is permitted to move to the next academic level (George &Ukpong2013).

Education is programmed to develop the mind of its recipient for an effective outcome. (Denga1991) cited in (Sule 2014) argues that, education is fulcrum on which all other spheres of development revolves and that investment in education means investment in manpower development, political sanity and survival, health and healthy living, economic progress, socio-cultural development and industrialization. It equips the individual with the information necessary for high level of human functioning (Emaikwu, 2012). To be regarded as an educated person, an individual is expected to pass through the whole process of examination conducted by a competent and recognized body knowledge and skills in school subjects and disciplines of

study is invariably a function of quality and sound education.

One of the objectives of education in Nigeria is to prepare the young ones to face future challenges and develops them to meet the nation's manpower requirements. Schools need to conduct examinations as yardstick for assessment.

It is the most practical way of assessment in education.

Examination is defined as a way to ascertain how much of a subject matter in a particular field of study the candidate has mastered (Maduka 2014).

Examination is the most common tool around which the entire system of education revolves. There is hardly any educational system which does not include one form or another of assessment as an indicator of the said system of education. It is the instrument used to decide who is permitted to go to the next academic level. In fact, it is the results of examinations and teachers' judgments which form the grading system in which all to students are classified annually or more frequently (Siddiqui and Bukhari, 1991 quoted by Iqbal Khan et. Al 2011). This is why many learners would do everything possible to pass an examination even when their abilities are questionable. Examination therefore, is a tool used to facilitate decision making on the performance, educational advancement and job opportunity for an individual. Examination is an official test of a learner's ability in a given discipline or subject through written activity.

Examination is a means of assessing the learning outcome of students (Kalgo, 2014). This means that examinations are used to measure the extent of academic knowledge, skills

and competences which students must have acquired as a result of exposure to learning experiences.

Examination plays several important roles in the teaching-learning process. It is a necessary incentive to study, a means of getting feedback and a yard-stick for evaluating the effectiveness of instructional delivery, selection, placement, and for employment. Nowadays, it is widely used as a medium for promotion in many parastatals. But when the proper use of examination is abused by both the examinees, the examiners and the entire populace, a question may then arise as to what is the relationship between examination malpractice and pupils' academic performance in primary school? (Malik & Shah 1998) cited in (Akaranga & Ongong2013) observed that examination is not only a process of assessing the progress of students but, it also motivates and helps them to know their academic strengths and weaknesses apart from providing teachers with opportunities to try new methods of teaching. But when examination is not properly conducted, the expected feedback may not result. Hence, the result of such evaluation leads to wrong decision and judgment which affect the teacher, the learner, the entire education industry, as well as the society.

Counselling Tips for Examination Practice

- Believe that honesty is the best policy and that it is better to fail a question that you do not know than to pass at all cost. The end does not justify the means in examination
- Have a personal zero tolerance policy for examination malpractices. Do not grant or receive assistance of any kind in the examination hall

- Identify and work on problem subjects and attempt to gain mastery over them before examination day.
- Good preparation for an examination is the best antidote to failure.
- After you have put in your best at preparing for examination, hope for the best. (Edo-Olotu, 2006, Ogbodo, 2009).

Education!

The purpose of Education is to be a BETTER PERSON: The new lexiconwebsters Dictionary of the English language defines education as:

Instruction or training by which people (generally young) learn to develop and use their mental moral and physical powers.

Education is one of the most powerful instruments for the development of individuals and the transformation of human society. It is an instruments for excellence; it liberates people from poverty and ignorance and pays untold dividends to the society. It is meant to adequately eqp the individual and society in all ramifications to face the global challenges. When that investment is not made or is made inadequately, the society suffers a loss. Education has, therefore, become a top priority of every society, whether developed or developing, and that explains why Nigeria, like other countries of the world, recognizes education as the major instrument for effecting national development. Education is the fundamental tool used in developing the individuals, so that they can be useful to their family and the society at large and that explains why it is said to be the asset to the nations (Motala, 2000). The development of any nation or society solely depends on the nature of education it has acquired. For life to be meaningful, purposeful, goal-oriented, happy and

prosperous, as well as live in peace and tranquillity and achieve societal concord, education is necessary.

However according to Oladele, (2004), education can generally be regarded as, “ an aggregate of all the processes by means of which a person develops abilities, attitudes and other forms of behaviour of positive or sometimes of negative value in the society in which he lives”. In other words, education helps a person to develop his talents full, prepares him to be a responsible citizen and gives him the stimulus and opportunity for the cultural enrichment of his life. in view of this, education can be said to be totality of experience which an individual had acquired. In the case of the disabled children, i.e children with sensory, mental, physical and emotional handicaps much special help and assistance is required. If this goal is to be made possible of attainment.

What then is education? Education is seen as the process of teaching, and learning, especially in schools or colleges, to improve knowledge and develop skills. It is form of learning in which the knowledge, skills, and habits of a group of people are transferred through teaching, training, or research. Education is the vehicle for socialization, where young ones are prepared for adult roles that will enable them to function effectively towards the development of self, immediate and global society at large. (Alhassan, 2011).

Mental, Moral and Physical powers of Human Being

- When you abandon the rigors of study and depend, instead, on fraudulent methods to pass examinations, you are not developing your mental powers.
- Listed 25 types of examination malpractices. When you depend on any or a combination of these malpractices to pass examinations.

You are building the foundation for a life of immorality and crime. According to (Amakiri1996) during the National principals' conference on examination ethics held at ota in May 1996, he stated:

“within the last 30 years in Nigeria, many people have been made to go to school and pretend to be educated but within the last 30 years we have stuffed our children's minds with the foreign facts but neglected to teach them how to live. Nay system of education that fails to discipline the will also fails to train the character. Such a teaching may succeed in turning men into walking encyclopaedia but does not turn them into responsible criticizes.

Education cannot make a man better unless it teaches him the true purpose of man and the difficulties he must overcome to realize that purpose. No ethics is more than appreciating the purpose for man's life on earth. The main aim of education is to make things possible”.

Education is not about the acquisition of certificates. Forging your way to a glittering certificate does not mean you are educated. Ugwu C. E. lamented;

It is better not to have any certificate and than to brinish one obtained fraudulently through exam malpractice.

Much as studying hard and passing your examinations in flying colours are desirable, the truth remains that good certificates do not automatically translate into success in life. The Nigeria foot baller super eagles who earn fees in Millions of naira had no university degree, even most of our Nigerian musician are not university graduates too, but earn in millions of naira. They pursued their talents in football and music. They trained hard, and in so doing developed their physical powers. These people are experts in their chosen profession just like another academician in their field.

In short, one is not educated when you obtain your qualification based on examination malpractice.

You are not educated when you lack the discipline and sustained effort to develop your mental, moral and physical powers. Examination malpractice is one of the greatest manifestations of indiscipline and laziness. It leads to confusion, a wasted life full of frustration in future and lack direction of what to do or where to be.

Examination Malpractices: It' Background

Examination, universally acknowledged as a yardstick for determining career and academic selection has unfortunately, been marred by various crises, particularly malpractices.

Research has shown that this phenomenon could be attributed to the race for certificate acquisition, quest for

social identity, societal pressure, intellectual deficiency and apprehension over non-completion of syllabus.

Examination malpractice is the cheating or collaborating in cheating during a test or proctored examination. An examination is meant to ascertain the following: assess your knowledge of the subject; determine if you are prepared to move on the next level in your quest to acquire knowledge; to reward your long hours of study with appropriate honour and certification; to rank your ability among your long hours of study with appropriate honour and certification; to rank your ability among your peers and to determine your future career or suitability for a particular job. Examination, it dresses you in borrowed robes (Edo-Olotu, 2006)

The incident of examination malpractices in Nigeria is not an isolated case. From the period China first introduced the concept of examination for her civil servants, it was apparently obvious that the tendency to cheat manifested and that explained why they took the security measure of searching candidates thoroughly before they entered the examination hall. Since then examinations have, for several decades, serve as an instrument of selection for interclass promotion, admission into educational institutions, jobs, scholarship opportunities, and so on.

Examination also serves the pedagogical functions of providing useful information on the strength and shortcomings of particular learning programmes, and the efficacy of the teaching techniques employed. Despite this important role played by examinations, the whole exercise is barebellied by the sophisticated method of malpractices and cheating. (Barnet and Dalton 1981) attribute this crisis to the

following lapses: rote learning, questions spotting and predisposition of students to psychological stress and anxiety.

The menace of examination malpractices cuts across all levels of education, and has proved resilient despite the stiff penalty imposed on offenders by Decree 20 of 1984, which proscribes a twenty-one – year jail term. This shows how injurious is this menace to national interest.

The first serious episode according to (Denga and Denga1998) was recorded in the West African Examination Council (WAEC) of 1977 through the leakage of its question papers. The Federal Government swiftly responded by instituting a tribunal which terms of reference was to investigate the causes of the mas leakage and suggest measures to forestall its future occurrence.

Consequence efforts leading to promulgation of Decree 20 of 1984, in collaboration with recommendations of committees, are yet to deter the perpetrators of this heinous intellectual crime.

This trend has become so common among Nigerian students to the extent that a good number of them now see it as an acceptable process of passing examinations.

Concept of Examination Malpractice

Examination Malpractice Act (1999) explains examination malpractice as any act of omission or commission by a person who in anticipation of, before, during or after any examination fraudulently secure any unfair advantage for himself or any other person in such a manner that contravenes the rules and regulations to the extent of undermining the validity, reliability, authenticity of the examination malpractice is commonly defined as a

deliberate wrong doing contrary to official examination rules designed to place a candidate at an unfair advantage or disadvantage, (Wilayat, 2009 quoted in Akaranga&Ongong, 2013).

Examination malpractice involves a deliberate act of wrong doing, contrary to official examination rules, and is designed to place a candidate at any unfair advantage or disadvantage. The World Bank Group (2001).

Examination malpractice is any irregular behavior exhibited by a candidate or anybody charged with conduct of examination in and outside the examination hall, before, during or after such examination (WAEC, 2014).

Examination malpractice may be understood as a misconduct or improper practice, before, during or after any examination by examinees or others with a view to obtaining good results by fraudulent means (Fasasi 2006).

Examination malpractice is defined as any dishonest or unauthorized action or deed committed by a student on his own or in collaboration with others like fellow students, guardians, parents, teachers, head teacher, examination officials, supervisors, invigilators, security officers and anybody or group of people before, during or after examination in order to obtain undeserved marks or grades (Onuka & Durowoju 2013).

In his candid opinion, a private school proprietor summarized all with the following:

... The schools and colleges are not absolutely under the control of the Ministry.... They have gone Plc.... Some school heads (public and private) use this to cover up their ineptitudes. The PTA is all in all in some schools. Some parents dictate what they want

for their children in every respect... Guardian and Counseling are not working in schools, children do what they like and the schools follow suit ... It is historical. If they are not allowed to cheat the school management is in trouble

Invigilators have been bought; and meanwhile they are out to have money not to serve. The Ministry is not helping the matter.... Believe it or not, no genuine certificates again and the international communities are aware of these in most cases and in many schools, school management, teachers, parents and guardians and the so called security agents are involved. Undoubtedly, we cannot continue like this Machineries need to be set in motion to identify all culprits and get them sanctioned.

Examination malpractice is defined as any illegal act committed by a student single-handedly or in collaboration with others like fellow students, parents, teachers, supervisors, invigilators, printers and anybody or group of people before, during or after examination in order to obtain undeserved marks or grades (Waliyat, 2014).

Examination malpractice is anything done by the examination candidate that is likely to render the assessment useless (Onah, 2012). Examination malpractice as any act of omission or commission by a person who in anticipation of, before, during or after any examination fraudulently secure any unfair advantage for himself or any other person in such a manner that contravenes the rules and regulations to the extent of undermining the validity, reliability,

authenticity of the examination and ultimately the integrity of the certificate issued (http://ozelacademy.com/EJESVIN3_1pdf_br).

Examination malpractice as any irregular behavior exhibited by a candidate or anybody charged with the conduct of examination before, during or after the examination that contravenes the rules and regulations governing the conduct of such examination. Generally speaking, examination malpractice is a demonstration of irregular behavior by candidates or agents charged with conduct of examination within or outside the examination hall prior to the commencement, or during or after the test or examination with the intention of gaining undue advantage in such test or examination (Nwankwo2012).

Segun Olatunji (2010) quoting Guardian Education (2010) in the Punch of 18th June has this to say:

This is the season of teen cheating. Oh Sure, you might imagine that little Jack and Lizzy, clever Arun and Irele are diligently enduring SATs, GCSEs, A-levels- but this is their summary induction into a subculture of widespread answers, sidelong glances at others' papers and general academic fraud.

A former minister of education, Mrs. Oby Ezekwesili pointed out that examination malpractice is a major problem in both internal and external examinations. She remarked that each year, post-primary exit examination bodies in Nigeria cancel hundreds of thousands of result on account of examination malpractice and billions of Naira are wasted (Vanguard, 2008).

The cries about examination misconduct which takes place at all level of the Nigerian educational system is nothing but a reflection of the society. As education institutions in Nigeria are not in vacuum but in the same corrupt society, the sector is as corrupt as the public and private sector. The glaring fact of the existence of corruption makes (Yushua2012) regrets that:

When people talk about corruption usually they refer to public fund siphoned or misappropriate by civil servants, contractors, politicians, etc. hardly do they think of the type of corruption that destroy the minds of our children and siphons the moral values of our society-the monumental corruption that is taking place in our educational system. these types of corruption are more dangerous and more serious threat to the future of Nigeria. Educational institution has deteriorated to the extent that in place of being an agent of purifying the minds of our children to become useful members of our society, it is now diverting the mind of the children away from what education is all about.

On examination anxiety as a predictor of students' attitude towards examination malpractices found that students engaged in various forms of examinational malpractices as a result of high examination anxiety. These students become anxious for a myriad of reasons. Key among them is thinking of the many adversaries of life to the neglect of the studies were more predisposed towards cheating in examinations. They therefore find a way to compensate the investments their parents have made by presenting them with excellent results through malpractice3s (Ossai 2011).

Graduates can no longer defend their certificates. Such candidates might have psychological problems arising from the way they got their certificates as well as being unable to

meet the expectations of employers. That scenario renders the goals of education invalid and point to the likelihood of collapse in the educational system (Kayode2012).

Examination malpractice has three dimensional angles to it. It can take place before such an examination is written, during the writing of the examination and or after such an examination is written. This practice according to Nigerian Tribune (2012) can make the candidate involved to easily or cheaply attain success thereby putting the candidate sometimes ahead of his/her mates.

According to Mr. Charles Eguridu “The incidence of examination malpractice must be checked at all cost if we expect our educational sector to regain not only its past glory, but also improve and compete with those of the other nations” (Ogunmole 2013).

Factors Responsible for Examination Malpractices

There are certain forces that prompt students into examination malpractices at all levels of education. Most noticeable among these factors are:

- An inordinate quest for certificate acquisition. Inordinate scrambling for certificates as mark of intellectual recognition has been motivating force behind the perpetuation of examination malpractices. Because of the undue emphasis placed on paper certificates, students are ready to go to any level in a bid to acquire it.
- Intellectual deficiency. This explains why the perpetrators of examination malpractices are, most often than not, below average but fervently crave for intellectual equilibrium with the talented students.

- Anxiety over level of preparedness. Students most times become apprehensive over the nature of examination, and when this shortcoming is worsened by ill preparation, the tendency is for the affected students to resort to “foreign aids” he or she has smuggled into the examination hall.
- The factor of non-completion of syllabus. Due to lukewarm attitude towards their work, resulting in their inability to cover their syllabuses and hazard belated to make up via rush, the chances are for the affected students to lose self-confidence and take recourse to examination malpractices.
- Satisfying the expectations of their parents, guardians, teachers, peer group, loved ones and the society.

The consciousness of students as having to do with certain expectations on their parts could be very overbearing, and if not properly handled, overrides every sense of moral consideration. This is most pronounced in situations where enormous sum of money has been invested in the students involved.

An average teacher expects good results from students who in turn would feel obliged to satisfy such expectation by fear or foul means. The factor of peer group also plays an important role in examination malpractices. Scare of being ridiculed and possible stigmatized as intellectually invalid by more intelligent peer group members, a student may choose to cheat instead.

- Undue advantage placed on examinations as a yardstick for measuring accomplishment.
This constitutes a very strong motive behind examination malpractices. Students mostly tend to

get jittery when examination approaches, as against their steady composure during test. (Ipaye1982) observes that “students tend to perceive test to be less anxiety provoking and less tension packed than exemptions...” Unfortunately, the introduction of continuous assessment has not addressed this crisis especially among the less intelligent students. Worst still, some teachers threaten them with failure. All these combined are enough to lure the feeble minded into examination malpractices.

- To avoid the embarrassment of failure. A student would rather cheat in an examination in order to succeed, because success in an examination is a prerequisite to other successes in life, as failure according to an adage is an orphan.
- Crisis of moral degeneration. Society over the years has experienced moral degeneration and dwindling values as preprinted by corrupt practices and the perpetrators are not seen getting punished for their misdeeds. Since the students’ community is not an isolated unit of the larger society, the chances are for the students to be influenced. In other words, what is good for the goose is equally good for the gander. This points to the fact that much anti-social behavior is not inborn but the product of environmental influences (Chanchan 1981).

Anatomy of Examination malpractice:-

“Examination malpractices is any act of wrong doing or neglect that contravenes the rules of acceptable practice before, during and after and examination by anybody in any way is tantamount to malpractice” (Ahmed 2005).

According to (Afigbo 1989) Examination Malpractice is any action done or omitted which makes it impossible to use an examination in determining the level of competence of a candidate in absorbing, reproducing and where appropriate, applying knowledge”. (Shonekan, 1999) stated:-

“The procedure for administering public examination involves test development, test administration and collation of the data for processing of the results... Testing has been identified by psychologists as a complex social relationship involving emotional interactions between the examiner and the testees and any imbalance in that relationship can distort the testing process, data collected and the result obtained. Any acts of omission or commission which contravenes those (WAEC) rules and regulations to the extent of undermining the validity and reliability of the tests and ultimately the integrity of the certificates issued by WAEC are considered Examination irregularities. Irregularities which are premeditated and perpetuated by the candidates or their agents with the intention of gaining undue advantage into examination are classified as examination mal-practice”. According Ahmed (2005), Ogbodo (2014), et al

Anatomy of Examination Malpractices

Here, we are looking at the dimension pattern which examination malpractices have assumed. According to research, examination malpractices are usually restricted to examination halls, and to the category of students who are intellectually incapacitated.

Worthily of mention here is the conscious involvement of examination officers and those in charge of examination matters, these include; typists, printers, clerks, custodians of examination mantillas, and so on.

However, the teachers/lecturers' aspect is most pronounced. Already beaten by the harsh economic climate, they directly aid and abet students during examination for meagre amounts. Others on the other hand looking the other way, while examination is in session to permit students to cheat for other reasons, like fulfilling their contract with their girlfriends, among others. Some against rules of professional ethics alter marks in students' records or dossiers. Parents also play their roles in this anti-social act. Some parents are known co-travellers of this illegitimate voyage.

The following x-ray the common modes of examination malpractices. Denga, (1995), Ahmed, (2005) et al

- *Leakage* of examination questions (Expo). This occurs when students/candidates have prior knowledge of examination questions before the date on which these papers are to be written; it places them in certain advantageous positions over their colleagues as they can read the expected areas in advance. Some go further to see assistance from experts in given topics or subjects. Similarly, some school authorities that are desperate to stamp their names on academic records can choose the dubious option of leaking some questions to subject teachers who may be instructed on how to execute the malpractices. The concern in this context is to the academic future of the students, but the recommendation that the authorities would accrue from the "performance" of the students.
- *Impersonation*: This is of two categories: the first one is the mercenary who is hired to write

examination in place of another candidate, impersonating the identity of the real candidate via false declaration and presentation of passport photograph. In some cases, invigilators and supervisors are privy to the crime.

- *Cheating in an examination.*

This occurs at three levels

A. In examination hall

B. At the marking stage

C. And at the collation stage

In the examination hall; students smuggle some sections of lesson notes or similar materials to use. Other areas of cheating in the examination hall that are found prominently are: copying from colleagues, exchange of answer sheets or scripts, giving and receiving answers through syndicates, Pass formulas; sitting with more intelligent students in order to copy from them; writing complex formula or notes on parts of their bodies, especially hands and laps that are not quickly visible, copying of point on handkerchiefs and toilet papers which command some degree of privacy.

At the marking stage. This is done by deliberately inflating marks earned by some students or candidates. At the collation stage. Some examiners at this stage alter the scores of some candidate after benefitting from the candidates financially or inducement.

- *Collusion*

This is an agreement between the candidates and some people, prior to the commencement of examination. Sometimes, two candidates are involved. This could be candidates and a syndicate and invigilators; between supervisors and the school which is desperate to record a high percentage in certificate examinations, and between parents of candidates and invigilators.

Types of Examination Malpractice

There are many types of examination malpractice in practice today in various tertiary institutions. (Onyechere, 1996) identified the following types of examination malpractice which include:

- **Bringing foreign Materials into Examination Hall:** Some students neatly prepare and arrange for related materials for the examinations which they bring to the hall secretly. Head of National Office of WAEC identified such foreign materials as “cribs, textbooks, notebooks, pages of textbooks, notebooks, pages of text books, past question papers, blank pieces of papers, etc. Exhibits like currency. Note with copious notes and photocopies of prepared answers. Candidates have been caught with notes on their palms and thighs.” (Shonekan, 1996).
- **Collusion between candidates and officials:** This is a situation where there is a pre-arrangement between the lecturers and students with a view to cheat in the hall after these officials would have been handsomely paid.

- **Impersonation:** This is a situation where another candidate writes the examination for the actual candidate who registered for the examination.
- **Assault and Intimidation:** This is a situation where candidates in a bid to create avenue for their nefarious activities, causes confusion and commotion in order to create the conducive atmosphere for their crimes. Others arrive at the examination halls armed with dangerous weapons such as cutlasses, long knives and even guns.
- **Mass Cheating:** This is a situation where prepared answers are circulated to students. This sometimes, could be with the active connivance of invigilators, supervisors, lecturers or heads of department.
- **Leakages:** Examination papers are known to have been leaked by printers, examiners, typists, transporters, etc. There are cases when wrong papers were distributed to wrong students at the wrong date or time, making public knowledge a paper that is yet to come up in a couple of days.
- **Lecturer-Student Affairs:** Lurking behind any lecturer – student affair, especially those between male lecturers and female students, is the monster of examination malpractice. There was an occasion in one of the universities in Nigeria where a lecturer was retired “for being found guilty of moral turpitude”. The lecturer engaged the female student in his house during a weekend prior to a re-sit examination where he sexually exploited the female student just to help her”.

- **Bribery:** This is where students purchase gift-items for the lecturers or invigilators who become “well disposed”, turn blind eyes or look the other way while cheating goes on in the hall.
- **Substitution of answer sheets:** These are occasions whereby answer sheets completed outside the examination hall by “touts” and contractors are used to substitute the answer sheets earlier submitted by candidates in the hall. This is done with the connivance of invigilators and supervisors particularly in this era of politics where money writes exams for the political office holders.
- **Examination Funds Malpractices:** This is a situation where students are required to contribute to a pool of “Examination funds”. Those candidates who are willing and able to contribute are allowed to take their exams in special rooms created in the centre. Sometimes, such candidates are officially assisted by the invigilators or their lecturers. Some time, those who refuse to pay either because of their faith or religion are isolated or taken to another hall to write the examinations.
- **Hi-Tech Malpractice:** In this case, students use codes log lecture points in digital diaries which supervisors and invigilators mistake for ordinary calculators. There are reports of officials of examination bodies who abuse their access to computer information by altering the marks of students on payment of gratification.
- **Sorting:** The most recent and recurring thorn on the flesh of Nigerian education is the abnormality tagged

“sorting”. This cankerworm is so glaring and pronounced in almost all levels of education. It is also very rampant in higher institutions where parents pay or give their children money to gain marks which is commonly known as sorting, resulting in the worst students acquiring the best grades in schools.”

- Examination malpractices include leaking out questions to students, girraffing and smuggling of material into examination hall. Others are deliberate extension of time by supervisors and invigilators change of scores, buying and selling of examination grades, question papers and prepared answers and trading sex for question papers, marks and grades (Adesina, 2005),
- Impersonation, collusion between candidates, collusion between candidates and officials, assault and intimidation, mass cheating, teacher-student affair, bribery, spying, submission of multiple scripts, use of coded or sign language, multiple entry for the same examination among others, as different forms of malpractices in Nigeria. other forms of malpractice includes spying, passing papers in the hall, whispering answers, submission of multiple scripts, coded or sign language malpractice, sale of “Live” question papers or expo, sale of Blank answer sheets, snatching of question papers or answer sheets, Malpractice involving passport photographs, Marking malpractice, Admission Racketeering malpractice, etc (Magaji, 2006), cited in Ogbodo (2014)
- Discussing and asking for answers from your peers in the examination hall when you ought to be silent.

Throwing “answer missiles” (answers rolled into paper balls) in the examination hall.

- Advance knowledge of questions through purchase of question papers from fraudulent examination body workers.
- Spying or copying another person’s answers sheet.
- Getting someone to write the examination in your place.
- Bribing the supervisor with a sum of money so that he/she permits cheating unhindered.
- Taking your text book or notebook of the examination subject clandestinely into the examination hall for the purpose of cheating.
- Copying. Answers or formulae on your palms or in sheets of papers hidden in different parts of the body.
- Choosing to write the examination in a centre notorious for cheating (Such centre have been euphemistically called “Miracle Centre”).
- Asking for permission to use the toilet while in the examination hall for purpose of going to check your text book or notebook for answers.
- Choosing to form alliances with your mates for the purpose of examination hall for the purpose of examination malpractice.

Marks of Examination Malpractices

Careful analyses of some behaviour prior to examination provides an insight to the likelihood of examination malpractices. For instance, a candidate who is ill-prepared is likely to be caught in a web of examination fever as manifested in his or her instability, anxiety and high tension.

Sudden movement of unknown persons, parents and guardians within the proximity of examination venue may be a strong sign of examination malpractices.

Sudden Siamese twins-like-relation between candidates before commencement examination should be suspected.

Unusual financial demands from parents or sponsors may be intended to bribe invigilators, dresses may be a plot to hide material.

Ladies use short skirts for similar purpose.

Denga and Denga (1988) make reference to two case studies.

Case study one lesson

This involves a University graduate who impersonated a secondary school student in the West African School Certificate Examination for ten thousand naira. The fraud was however, detected in the course of marking the script as the top up put was well below the standard of a secondary school student. It was discovered on investigation that the picture and handwriting of the real candidate were quite distinct from that of the impersonator. Both of them took to their heels before arrest was made.

Case study two Lesson

This occurred during a medical examination in one of the Nigerian Universities between a medical student and an already qualified medical doctor, with a laboratory attendant acting as a middle man in the syndicate. While the medical student was in the examination hall giving the impression that he was writing, his hired agent was at the same time working out the answers in a nearby office to the examination hall, while the go-between, (the laboratory

attendant) made sure that scripts and questions were transferred to the appropriate person. The invigilator however, became suspicious when he sighted the laboratory attendant in tete 'atete with an unknown person. They were consequently apprehended and handed over to the police for prosecution.

The writer has had similar experience, especially among undergraduates and postgraduates in pursuance of their projects and theses. Her refusal to subscribe to this kind of intellectual conspiracy occasioned by her professional background has not gone down well with some, while others were satisfied with her counsel on integrity of hard work and self-reliance.

Causes of Examination Malpractice

Any society that wants to avoid or prevent the harmful effects of examination malpractice must also take some time to examine its causes because you cannot successfully prevent the effects without identifying the cause (Atta Chegbe, 2013). A number of factors are responsible for examination malpractice in our tertiary institutions. These include the following:

1. Undue Emphasis on Paper Qualifications:

In a country like Nigeria, people are given appointments based on paper qualifications. Even if as a result of your experience and training you can perform the duties attached to the post efficiently, you will not be considered for appointment just because you cannot produce a certificate. It became clear to everybody that for the purpose of obtaining appointment, the possession of certificate is more

important than ability to perform the duties attached to the post.

2. The Rush to Acquire Wealth in the Society.

This rush has been encouraged by the attitude of the society. The society does not care how you acquire your wealth. Once a wealthy individual is identified within a community, whether he acquired his/her wealth by hook or crook, the society regards such a fellow as a successful person.

Hence such persons are given special awards and chieftaincy titles by the society. As a result of this societal attitude, there is no standard of public morality in the society; where it exists, it is the type that acclaims and hails those who acquire wealth or success by corrupt practices. Hence, most of our youths therefore see nothing wrong in 'passing' their examination through cheating and dishonest practices after all they see adults who live in affluence on account of the wealth they have acquired through cheating and other dishonest means who are accepted by the society.

3. Poor Attitude of the Students towards their Studies:

A good number of students do not devote enough time, and energy to their studies. Most of them who are ill-prepared for their exams only rush to the examination halls to help themselves by engaging in all forms of examination malpractice just to pass the exams. On the other hand, a student with average intelligence who has been working hard at his studies

does not need any 'expo' to pass examinations. It is the lazy, idle and the dull students who want to possess certificates they do not merit that engages in examination malpractices.

4. Lack of Commitment of Lecturers:

Teachers are not committed to their teaching profession. "if teaching is right and the students are well prepared, they will not go to the exam hall to cheat, if the teachers show commitment and do their jobs well, the students will have confidence in themselves and face examination without seeking all kinds of assistance". According to him, "the worst situation is that, rather than teaching the students and ensuring that they pass exams, the teachers, and even principals assist them to cheat and collect money for such shameful act." Therefore, lack of commitment to handle their courses also accounts for the students' poor preparations for their examinations (Muoboghare, 2012).

5. Malpractice Caused by Parents:

There are some parents who want their children to pass at all cost. Such parents would go to any length to make sure that their children would never fail any course. Some parents induce lecturers with financial gratification, especially those that are highly placed in the society.

6. Bandwagon Effect/Peer Group Influence:

Often times, some people allow influence of others to shape their behavior whether or not the attitude of such crowd is worthy of emulation. This has affected the thinking of many especially the illiterate parents.

While asking questions why people aid and abet examination malpractice, Ogunsanya state that, “I have decided that I will not sit at home and watch my son cry all day while his mate are in school, whatever others do to gain admission, I will do for him” (Eme, 2008).

7. Lack of Punishment to the Culprits:

Some years ago, the Federal Government made a law that any person caught in examination malpractice would face a 21-year imprisonment but this has not been implemented and as such, the society sees nothing wrong with any form of malpractice. “The only reason the situation has persisted for long is due to lack of will on the governments to prosecute those involved in the fraud as long as the authorities continue to handle the issue lightly, it will continue to remain a problem in the society (Otuechere & Emen. 2008).

Furthermore, a number of factors responsible for examination malpractices in the Nigerian school system have been identified by such scholars as (Olasehinde1993): (Oladunni 1995); and (Adeghoye1998). These factors could be regarded as immediate and remote causes of examination malpractices, taking source from the society; the home and the school. Among others, these causes are:

- i. Moral decadence:
- ii. Undue emphasis on examination results and certificates;
- iii. Quest for material wealth:

- iv. Poor teaching/learning habits;
- v. Poor conditions under which examinations are conducted;
- vi. Maladministration of school heads and examiners;
- vii. Poor logistics for examinations
- viii. The desire to satisfy parents' ambition;
- ix. Unpreparedness of students for examinations;
- x. Students' lack of self-confidence;
- xi. Peer/group influence;
- xii. Benefits derived by vendors of examination papers;
- xiii. Injustice in the punishment of culprit/insincerity in tackling the problem;
- xiv. Incessant staff strikes that often interrupt the school program; and
- xv. Teacher's threat to fail students.

A. Psychological Factor: This include all the stress, which is often, induced by parents, the peer groups, and students, thus they experience enormous stress and anxiety in trying to meet the various demands of subjects. That stress and anxiety experienced by students during examination are conspicuous; students tend to develop undesirable habits, as a result of stress which normally lead them to poor preparation for examination and consequently expose them to

engaging in examination malpractice and misconduct. It should also be noted that psychological fear of failure or scoring low grades prompt their involvement in examination malpractice and misconduct. These psychological factors also bring to bear Maslow's motivational theories; which emphasize the basic needs, that is, physiological needs of man. He argued that these needs motivate and enhance learning, that if students' physiological needs are not physically met, it will affect their concentration in a teaching and learning situation, thereby preparing the students' cognition at a very low level and encourage students to engage in all sorts of misconducts and malpractice during examination.

- B. Environmental Factors:** This is another factor stated by (Denga 1983) that basically lead students to examination malpractice and misconduct. The environmental factors include the crowded nature of our classrooms, theatres as well as examination halls with few invigilator during examination. Teachers' or lecturers' inability to cover up the stipulated syllabus, for the period before an internal or external examination, like promotional examination, obsolete instructional materials which are inadequate in schools; may force some students to cheat even if they do not want to during an examination.

- C. Intelligence Factor:** (Ajibola2006) states that the concept of individual difference must be borne in mind when comparing academic competence, ability and comprehension between one student and another. The failure of students to recognize the fact that IQ (intelligent quotient) differs and cannot be compared is another factor; thus, academically weak students will at a time try to compare themselves with naturally gifted students who are brilliant. When the weak-academic students are not able to cope with the challenges, they opt for the missing links with crisps or external help to pass their examination. These missing links are associated with misconceptions and malpractices. Again on the psychological point; that being intelligent and smart is two different concepts from being academically gifted. Being smart means sly, ability to be able to handle situations with what is physically available within the limited time while intelligence involves your cognition and reaction to stimulus. A smart student may not be intelligent but can easily pass his or her examination than an intelligent student.

Irregularities in examination

The following are typical examples of irregularities in examination. According to scholar such as Denga, (1998), Ekeruo, (1993), Ogbodo, (2014), et al

- Exchanging answers with other candidates

- Candidates pretending to go to the toilet in response to running stomach, for instance only to get their pocket stuffed with answers.
- A hired person working-out the answers outside the examination hall with the knowledge of either the invigilator or supervisor
- A candidate submitting two scripts
- Smuggling into examination hall already prepared answered scripts
- Parents/guardians inducing invigilators financially in order to permit their children to cheat
- Candidates enclose money or attach notes to the scripts pleading for help and leniency from the unknown marker
- Candidates swallow papers when caught
- Invigilators/supervisors pretending to read newspapers, while examination is in session in order to permit copying or team work, especially between the intelligent and weak students
- Two candidates having similar examination number, an indication that a weak student has copied from an intelligent student
- A script with two different handwritings
- Some candidates who are absent during the examination session for no reason have their scripts submitted
- Abnormal movement of parents, guardians and unknown people within the proximity of the examination venue.

Consequences of Examination malpractices

The menace of examination malpractice has dealt a devastating blow to the educational prospect of our nation. It

has unfortunately assumed an epidemic proportion to the extent that the quality of our certificates is being contested at the international level.

Examination malpractices have been identified as a serious national threat especially in our national quest to attain a vibrant nationhood through professionalism and sound academic standards. In practical terms, where many have ridden in the winds of examination malpractices to the heights of medicine, engineering, pharmacy, architecture, teaching and so on hardly justify these certificates by their output in their chosen careers. This is manifested for instance, in some doctors' inability to execute minor surgical operations. The same goes to some engineers, pharmacists, teachers and so on.

It is same reason that also informs the withdrawal of students from institutions of higher learning when it becomes difficult to defend their credits in certificate examinations via their performance. A nemesis sort of.

It is noted that the nature or method of examination malpractices is increasingly becoming more sophisticated and organized. Hence, students being assured of the likelihood of their success, abandon their books. This has resulted in serious depreciation in the intellectual qualities of school leavers and graduates.

It is also remarkable to note that examination malpractices has propelled the ambition and dream of massive cancellation of examinations conducted by WAEC or JAMB.

Some, out of this frustration and missed opportunities, take to stealing, violent crime, smuggling, drug peddling, drug addiction, thuggery and so on.

Enduring success

Many people who get involved in examination malpractice do so in order to “Succeed” or in order to secure “Success” for their relations or friends. The truth, however, is that whoever seeks success through the route of examination malpractice has a wrong notion of what success in life is all about. That success secured through examination fraud is ephemeral is illustrated by two cases presented by Collins Edomarus, the Education Editor of THIS DAY NEWSPAPER some years ago are cited in Ede, (1988) et al

An officer who served in one of the security agencies believed in “absolutism” i.e tapping all available opportunities associated with any position while in office to improve his acquisitions even though he was employed as junior staff because he did not possess good educational qualification, before long he acquired a string of certificates mostly through fraudulent means. The secondary school results of his children were duly “arranged” His children also entered choice Universities on “special arrangement” even in the Universities, he made sure his children came out in flying colours. By the time the man retired, he had acquired strings of vehicles and built mansions. Five of his children were –university Graduates. Two were lawyers. One a journalist. The other two graduated in humanities. Then he decided to go into politics that was when the bubble burst. His opponent released a devastating dossier with facts and dates on how he acquired his “success” collapsed like a pack of cards. He and his children became fugitives on the run.

Secondly, a middle-aged well-educated man set up a private secondary school which he registered as a Limited Liability

Company. In reality the school was a front for all manners of examination malpractice and certificate racketeering.

Before long, fraudulent staff of examination bodies, debased parents and Lazy students started making use of their services. Wealthy parents contracted him to get admission into higher institutions or to arrange for better results for their children. In time, the man became rich, “successful” and was the toast of all Launching ceremonies. One bright morning, his world exploded and collapsed. Some of the students he helped secure admission were expelled for forged certificates and examination malpractices. In the course of interrogation by the police, the students identified the man as their source. The man is still in jail.

The lessons of these stories are that only successes built on sound moral foundation can endure. Successes built on fraud are bound to collapse, sooner or later. Always bear in mind the saying of Wu Ming Fu. *The effects of our actions may be postponed but they are never lost.* There is an inevitable reward for good deeds and an inescapable punishment for bad. Meditate upon this truth and seek always to earn good wages from destiny”. (Edomaruse 1996).

Dangers of Examination Malpractice

- It makes you a fraud because you are not who you claim to be. If you have an A in a subject through cheating and you are given an academic exercise with other students who got A on merit, your performance will be below par and it will reveal that you are in reality not an A candidate in that subject.
- It is criminal offence that can send you to jail if you are caught.

- A cheat may be duped and sold a fake question paper. An eagle-eyed incorruptible proctor might supervise the examination and so frustrate the cheating plans of the student. The student will then be beaten hands down.
- A cheat will forever feel inferior in the presence of those who knew of his cheating habits.
- A person who puts his hopes on cheating will not put in enough efforts to pass the examination.
- An examination cheat may have to cheat all through his/her academic life because he/she has no confidence in his/her academic abilities.
- An examination cheat will also cheat in other areas of life especially in financial matters and in marriage.
- An examination cheat will not be able to stand up for what is right in other spheres of life.
- A female cheat will readily exchange sexual favours for examination marks and so is at the mercy of male teachers. Such female stand a high risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases such as Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection.

PART C

What Is Drug?

Drug, generally, is anything created by God that can be used to treat, prevent and cure diseases that affect man, plants and animals. The Advance Oxford Dictionary cited in Rimfat, (199) defined Drug as: “anything which when taken into the body has the effect of changing the body’s function. In essence, it suggests that drugs can help the body as well as damage the body function. Drugs have been discovered to be made from substance present in plants. Here, DRUG is any chemical substance, which when used affects the body and mind either positively or negatively. Drug can heal or destroy the life of our children, youths and adults in our society, all these depend on how one uses it. Drug can produce both good and bad effects in human life.

Concept of Drugs

Drugs are also defined, by (Cheto1987) in Ikeotuonya and Babtimir, (1986), as any chemical substance which exert pharmacological property in the body. The (World Health Organization 1989), defined Drug, as any substance of “biological or chemical origin which when taken into the living organism may modify one or more of it functions”. (Sambo2009), refers to Drug as “any substance, natural or synthesized which has the capacity to alter the structure and functions of human organism.

Drugs are substances other than food which when taken, affect body struggles or functions positive or negative. They are substances which are either used as medicine to prevent and treat disease or as stimulants to make the body more active. Drugs should be taken only when people are sick in or to prevent diseases. Drugs are very important because

they can make people healthy if they use it appropriate has prescribed by the doctors.

The drug could be eaten, swallowed, injected, ingested, inhaled, or taken orally to induce human action or behavior. There are two types of drug which are:

1. Traditional or Natural drugs: These are obtained from nature, they are natural products, based on tradition from locally products. For examples, they are includes fruit like lemon, lime, pawpaw leave, etc. vegetables are tea, coffee, Kola nuts, garlic, pure honey, salt etc. These can be referred to as traditional medicine. They are equally used for the prevention and treatment of various ailments.
2. Synthetic drugs:- They are products of interaction between chemicals. These drugs that made by human beings, the scientists professionals to prevent and treat diseases. Synthetic drugs are made in solid form as tablet or in liquid a syrup. Examples of synthetic drugs are aspirin, confflin, paracetamol, chloroquine etc.

Drug Abuse

The subject “Drug Abuse” is traditionally a medical concern, but it also has educational and social relevance as it has gained enormous attention over the years within and outside students’ community. Evidence collated from the angle of secret out members, and reports from mass media in connection with those caught in drug offences show a high increase in the number of users.

“Drug” And “Drug Users”

‘Drug’ according to (Ikeotuonye and Bashmir1986) is a substances that can affect body functioning and is used for various purposes such as:-

- Medical, for example, Librium, valium, penicillin, paracetamol and so on.
- Inducing sleep, example, mogado
- Altering body functions like perception, example, Mari Juana
- Producing stupor or insensitivity, example, cocaine
- As stimulants, examples, coffee, alcohol, nicotine and the like.

While “drug users” is a term used to qualify people who use hard drugs under compulsion or forces of habit. This include the following: using a drug without a doctor’s prescription, using a drug without a prior consultation with a doctor and taking a drug without due respect to a doctor’s prescription. In such a situation the persons is likely to abuse certain rules that govern its intake.

Students constitute large percentage of this drugs crisis. The victims are mostly influenced by backgrounds and acquaintances. Many reasons are however advanced for embracing this harmful habit. These include: to enable them stay awake, to be energized, to help cushion fatigue, and concentration on their studies.

Below is the list of commonly used drugs for reasons other than medical and their side effects.

- **Cocaine:-** Cocaine is a stimulant, designed to assist in alertness and concentration. Overdose leads to excitement with mental disorder and some degree of brain damage. It can cause damage to the nasal passage, if used through the nose
- **Barbiturates:-** These are designed to induce sedation in the users. Most users of barbiturates are prone to addiction. Its mild side effects include: restless sleep, irritability, drowsiness and poor psychomotor co-ordination. Excessive consumption can cause death and its equally very risky, to drive after its consumption.
- **Alcohol:** Consumption of alcohol poses a lot of health hazards to the system of the consumers. The affected parts are usually: liver, the blood stream, intestines, the brain, the nervous system, the heart and the muscles. Similarly, cancer of tongue, mouth, pharynx and esophagus are caused by alcohol. Deformity in birth is also caused by alcohol consumed during pregnancy.
- **Coffee:-** Coffee is equally dangerous to health, especially when excessively consumed. It has been proved through researches that one who drinks six to twelve or more cups of coffee daily risks the attack of coronary heart disease than those taking less or not at all. Excessive consumption is capable of causing nervous irritability and increase stomach acid production that can enhance the development up gastritis and ulcers.

- **Amphetamines:-** Experts have rated amphetamines as one of the commons among the ranks of drugs consumed by students. It is primarily used to check sleep. Some students refer to it as sleepless tablet because of its potency in restraining sleep. The motive here is to sustain alertness and concentration during reading. This has proved to be a viable alternative to kola nuts and coffee.
- **Opiates:-** These include: opium, morphine and heroine. They are produced from opium seed, and are consumed either by eating, smoking or injection, primarily to cushion pain and motivate contentment. Their side effects include feeling of euphoria, drowsiness and sometimes vomiting. Excessive consumption may result in death. Generally, the life expectancy of an addict is limited.
- **Solvents:-** These are: glue, petrol, mentholated spirit, paints, nail polish remover and the like, inhaled but has adverse effects on health. These effects include: feeling of euphoria, though accompanied by confusion and dizziness, perversion of perception and damage of psychomotor functions.
- **Marijuana** (Indian Hemp); other names given to marijuana are: Indian hemp, Dope, cannabis, Grass and Hash. This is the most common used illegal drug. Its patronage cuts across various categories of people including students.

It could be consumed in different ways like: eating, smoking or taking with beverages and soft drinks.

It is used in drinks by unscrupulous boys, given to their girl friends in order to induce deep sleep for love making. It's primarily used to enhance exuberance. The effects of marijuana are equally grave. These include: the manipulation of reality, sense of bravado, anxiety, depression, distortion of logical thinking and psychomotor coordination. There is also the risk of lung cancer, bronchitis, and other smoking related diseases where marijuana is consumed by smoking.

- **Tobacco:-** This is strictly consumed by smoking through the nose. Like any other hard drug, a consumer of tobacco is prone to certain disease, especially lungs cancer, damaged liver, kidney and brain. The devastating effects of tobacco consumption cannot be overemphasized; hence the Federal Ministry of Health has been in the forefront in campaigning against smoking.

Reason for Drug Abuse

Drugs are often taken for experimental purposes, according to (Tor-Anyiim 2015), the trial and error of drug leads victim to deviant behaviours. There is the desire to satisfy certain curiosity instincts in some youths and adult who also take to drug through peer and friends influence in order not to be called "ju-guys". The desire to belong therefore takes them to other deviant behaviours. Others are lured into drug abuse because they are informed that with such drugs, their inferiority complex, shyness and fear to talk to others will be cured. Others are deceived to believe that taking, injecting or

inhaling of such drugs will make them very assertive (Tor-Anyiin, 2015).

The following questions come to mind according into (Sambo, 2009), I am why do people abuse drugs?

- (ii) Which category of people in the society are mostly involved in this deadly habit?
- (iii) What influences them into the habit of drinking?
- (iv) Which ways by which people abuse drug etc?

In order to answer these questions above, (Bangudu1988) in (Sambo2009), I of the view that: Virtually all sections of the community are quite quality of drug abuse, the illiterates, semi-illiterates, academics undergraduate, motor-park touts, political thug, administrators, top executive directors, professional divers, military personnel, actors, actresses, the jobless, the poor, the rich, the young, the elderly etc.

The researcher added: boys and girls, pastors and Iman, lecturers, teachers, farmers and non-farmers, husband wivesetc white and black colour race are all quality of drug abuse.

(Bangudu1988) in (Sambo2009), and the researcher observed that all the categories of people mentioned above take drugs in order to feel better in the course of discharging their day to day activities and also due to the situations they might have found themselves.

Furthermore, the observation by (Bangudu, 1988) in (Sambo, 2009), seems to be in line with (Ahmed's 1987) who found out that, drug-taking syndrome spans several fields, from pharmacology to sociology, and that it is increasingly clear that each drug dependence syndrome is

the end point of a complex of interrelated causal mechanisms.

In essence, Ahmed agreed that genetic and constitutional factors are known to predispose one to drug addiction, though he pointed out that how it does is ill-understood.

Meanwhile, (Ahmed 1987) is of the view that environment is known to contribute a great deal to the development of drug addiction, specifying that in homes where parents ingest alcohol freely, there is a higher incidence of alcoholism among the off springs of such homes. To these children, he emphasized that taking of alcohol is the rule and the norm. Other reasons he further pointed out, were physical illness, peer group influence, psychiatric illness and existential problems. He pointed out further that some of the people he saw who were addicted to drugs in the Ahmed Bello university, Department of psychiatry, Kaduna state were mainly medical personnel, doctors, pharmacists, nurses etc (Sambo, 2009).

He concluded that drug abuse and dependence now cut across all social classes and found out that young people, secondary school students, are increasingly involved and constitute a significant and frightening majority of victims. That these youths abuse both licit and illicit psychoactive drugs, he added that the social implications of this in view of Nigeria's youthful population is a catastrophe for the future.

The United Nations Report (1987), stated that:

Perhaps the worst aspect of the drug trade is that it makes its deepest impression on those who are most vulnerable-youth. The use of drugs has strong appeal to those who are beginning their struggle for underdependence as they search for self-identity. Because of their innate curiosity and thirst

for new experience, the young are particularly susceptible to the drug experience.

From the various findings highlighted above, it could be seen that the reasons people are turning to narcotics and other illicit drugs are as varied as the types of people who abuse them. But one should borne in be abused.

And that when drugs are abused, the effects are detrimental to the individual abusing them, and to the society in general because it can create large scale social and public health problems.

Drug abuse is the improper or wrong use of drugs without the prescriptions or direction and guidance from of a medical doctor or pharmacist. In essence, according (Sambo2009), means that wrong use of drugs excessive are inadequate use and of course inappropriate use could only occur as a result of one, or all of the three necessary conditions, i.e existence, distribution and availability. Infact the above four (improper or wrong, excessive inadequate and inappropriate uses) can each or collectively constitute or lead to drug abuse.

(Sambo, 2009) went on to talk about factors like free access to drugs at home, streets and in the drug stores, lack of love at home, which could lead to dejection, frustration which could be borne out of poor performance at school, blind imitation of one's peers, ignorance about possible side effects of certain drugs and curiosity have all been attributed towards leading young adults into drug abuse. Of all the factors discussed above, peer group influence is known to be the most determining factor influencing young adults into drug abuse. Similarly, (Akinboye 1987), described the peer group as "the various ways in which people of similar age sometimes similar height, class, (if in school) and status, adults in society related and adjusted to each other". Other

factors are the unpleasant effects of withdrawal as those who are hooked on drugs find it psychologically difficult to stop. The presence of drugs in the environment also encourage usage.

A Drug is Abused When

1. The drug you take is not medically necessary: for example: some youths and students like to take drugs for the FUN of it. They want to belong to the group of BIG GUYS in the school and the community. The foolish act of experimenting on drugs anyhow is not good. Both youths and adults must learn to say NO to drug abuse at the right time.
2. The drug you take is not given or recommended by Health Workers, eg. Doctors, Pharmacists, Nurses etc. Hence self-medication is like someone attempting to commit suicide.
3. The drug you take is SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE in your community but is taken in excess. Examples include the alcohol (beer, palm wine, drug gin etc), TOBACCO (cigarettes) and the kolanuts. The police and NDLEA officers may not arrest a person for drinking palm wine. But when the palm wine or beer is taken in excess, it becomes DRUG ABUSE. And it has the potential to impair one's normal elopement.
4. The drug you take is not allowed by the law, example the Indian hemp, cocian, Heroin etc. it is an offence against International Law and the laws of Nigerian for any person to sell, sue and abuse Indian Hemp, Cocain and Heroin. Therefore, the students and teachers should report anybody to NDLEA for using their school compound to sell drugs in the evening

and at night or any other time. Godwin, (2001), Ige, (2000), Ogbodo, (2014) et al

C. What Are the Stages In Drug Use and Abuse?

According to the NDLEA (1998) manual and constitution for Drug free clubs in Nigeria there are four (4) stages in Drug Abuse namely:-

1. **Experimentation:-** Experimentation with drugs starts because of the need to satisfy ones curiosum or yield to pressure from ones friends or close persons. The first experience with the drug may be unpleasant to the user and he or she may stop and never try it again. Some may be encouraged by habitual users that the first unpleasant experiences will pass away and more frequent use will bring pleasurable effects. This leads to the next stage which is occasional use.
2. **Occasional (social) use:-** The occasional drug user rarely seek out for the drug on his or her own. He/she accepts and uses the drug only when offered by friends. The drug of choice is used irregularly or its mild pleasure. This practice eventually leads him to regular use.
Regular use:- At this stage the regular user seeks out and uses the drug of choice more frequently. He/she derives satisfaction from an uncontrolled desire for the drug. Consequently a regular drug user becomes a drug dependent person.
 - **Dependence:-** This is the last stage in Drug use. The drug of choice become part of life of the drug user. He or she craves for it and finds it very difficult to part with.

Signs of Drug Abuse

The three (3) common signs that can be used to identify a drug user and addict are: according to scholar such as Denga (1995), Akuto (2004), Idiege (2009) et al

- Appearance
- Character
- Thinking power

Usually, the first thing that talks about any person is the dressing and movement. For example, it is easy to identify a man who drinks too much by the way he dresses and move carelessly along the road. The second thing about the addict is the behavior. Most of them are violent, wicked, unfriendly, rebellious impulsive, irresponsible, have low self-esteem and low academics aspirations. They can cause harm to anyone at home and in the society. Nobody can predict a drug addict very correctly. Finally, drug addicts have problems in the brain. They cannot think fast but many easily forget very important things or information. Let us look at the following signs, namely:-

- Hygiene:-**a drug addict is dirty in appearance. He or she has smelling clothes and body odour, long and hasrp nails, red, eyeballs, black palms and lips and injuries on the body. Sometimes, a drug addict seems to appear like a monster, mad man or ghost on the street. Getting too close to him/her may cause you to vomit.
- Character:-** An addict generally appears ticklish, he is dishonest and wicked. Most addicts use the perfume and trebor (Tom-Tom) to cover up the bad odour from the cigarettes, palm wine, Indian hemp

etc. They also carry the knife, razor and other dangerous tools in their pockets. They are fearless and disrespectful to parents, teachers and elderly people in the community. They also steal money and rape innocent children. They run away from home and engage in premarital sex, stealing and raping of innocents children.

- C. **Thinking Power:-** The addict cannot think correctly like other students in class, he or she can easily forget very important lessons being taught in the class. Drug addicts can never do well in their studies and examinations. When the brain cells of any student is seriously damaged by dangerous drugs, the final result is to dropout of school, enter the psychiatric hospital or go into the street and market as a mad person. They have mental health problems. Wise students be warned!

Usually, most young people that abuse drugs are living the life of this popular African bird known as the VULTURE. Such youths are seen in cinema houses, disco parties, night clubs, uncompleted buildings and other dark places at home and in school. To get more money to buy drugs and because the BIG GUYS (or fools) may steal some money at home or snatch bags form children and women on the street. The bad girls may turn to dogs by sleeping around with useless and irresponsible men. If they are being arrested by the Police or contract HIV/AIDS, then they become prisoners or die prematurely.

Other Signs to Watch Out in Drug Users According to the NDLEA Are; (1998)

- School tardiness, truancy
- Decling motivation, energy or self-discipline
- Long/short term forgetfulness
- Loss/short term forgetfulness
- Loss of interest in activities and hobbies
- Short attention span
- Irrational anger, hostility or irritability
- Sullen behavior
- Disappearance of money/valuables
- Changes in or evasiveness about friends
- Unhealthy appearance, blood shot eyes
- Changes in dress or grooming
- Trouble with authorities
- Usually large appetite
- Use of room deodorants or air refresher
- Use of drug related magazines or slogans
- Peculiar odours or butts or seeds or leaves in ash trays or in pockets of clothing
- Display of drug paraphernalia.

Causes of Drug Abuse

Drugs are usually abused by adolescents because of the inability to stand the body reactions if the drug is stopped,

hence the avoidance of withdrawal syndrome (Ige, 2000). Drugs are also abused because of the happiness and pleasure at the first instance, which lures one to continue. The curiosity or trial period produces adequate pleasure, happiness and excitement and makes the individual reluctant to stop.

Drugs are also taken and subsequently abused because they temporarily enable one to escape from any tension, problem or frustration (Ige, 2000). The poverty level has made many parents and spouses to ignore their responsibilities, as such, family stability is threatened as love and affection are waived. The increasing responsibilities are a burden to anyone who wants to be responsible; thus rejection has become the order of the day. With family frustration, many youths take drugs to help them forget about any social or economic need and responsibility. In essence, poverty and the inability to meet desired needs lures many into drug abuse.

One can also maintain that family frustration creates unstable emotional disposition. Low self-concept and poor self-identity also contribute to one's indulgence in drug abuse. This is because the trial period had proved successful. That poor self-identity contributes to drug abuse stems from the fact that most indulge in it to acquire the strength to do what they have no political will to do without the influence of the drug. (Lafinahan and Arowolo2005) summarized the causes or reasons for drug abuse to include, rebellion against social values, to demonstrate their independence, peer pressure, media advertisement, the desire to be stimulated to excel, relax and feel good or acquire the drug's special powers to prevent diseases and increase sexual activity.

Meanwhile, (Idiege, Ube, and Bisong2009) quoted Adegoke (2003) as identifying the causes of drug abuse to include biological, psychological, social, environmental, personal factors, effects of the drug abuse, aggressiveness, physical or mental effect, intellectual development and the risk of being caught and penalized.

Biologically, it has been observed that substance abuse run in families (hereditary). Thus according to (Godwin 2001), children from alcoholic parents develop many more alcoholic problems than those adopted whose natural parents were non-alcoholic.

Another social factor that causes drug abuse is reinforcement by peers, who bestow attention and status on the youths who talk about their experiences with various types of drugs (Adegoke, 2003).

(Idiege, Ube, and Bisong2009) mention personal factors as another cause of drug abuse. According to them, inability to cope with developmental challenges forces many to adapt to taking of drugs. They maintain that most youths merely experiment with drugs while others use drugs as a legitimate means to alleviate both internal and external problems. The internal problems or psychological problems include: frustration, stress, depression, feelings of low self-worth and assertiveness, while the external (social) problems: include poor performance, family problems, violence and aggression among others.

Very many factors have been given on why the students and youths abuse drugs. The most important of such factors are listed below:

- Availability of drugs, eg. Inian hemp, alcohol, cigarettes, coffee

- Curiosity desire to experiment on drugs
- Peer group pressure, bad friends
- Parents and teachers influence at home and school
- Family neglect-no good care by parents etc.
- Advertisement on radio, television, internet, on cigarettes etc.
- To excel in studies and sports during examinations and school competitions.
- For boldness to challenge parents, teachers etc.
- Government Policy License for tobacco companies to produce cigarettes etc.
- Ignorance low level of Education/understanding
- Broken homes or single parent homes

Drugs like the India hemp, palm wine and cigarettes are planted and produced here in Nigeria. Also, their prices are cheap. That is why many students, youths and adults because such drugs. The desire to try or taste certain drugs and the influence by bad friends, parents and teachers also push some young people into drug abuse.

In child psychology, the children and youths do practice what the parents and adults are doing. Too much of advice to children without showing a good example may not solve the drug abuse problems. Some parents pursue business and money to the point of leaving their children with the housemaid, television and internet. Other students wrongly take drugs to help them in their studies and sports because they are ignorant of the dangers of drug abuse. The drug

abusers are sowing a seed that they will reap in tears in the future.

The Effects/Consequences of Drugs Abuse on the Users

Effects/Consequences of Drug Abuse

Drug abuse has psychological, social, economic and physical effects on both the victim and the society. Psychologically, drug abuse causes personal withdrawal syndrome. The withdrawal resulting to loneliness is an indication of poor social adjustment as it also creates feelings of guilt. It can also be said that drug abuse affects one's level of understanding and proper decision. It is also likely to cause anger leading to poor social interaction. Drug addicts can therefore easily express their frustration leading to aggression. This indicates that drug abuse is a social evil which all hands must be on deck to eradicate.

Socially, the outcome of drug abuse is that one can easily take to anti-social behaviours under the influence of drug abuse, such anti-social behaviours include assassination, arson, kidnapping, fighting, rudeness, getting into trouble with the constituted authorities by reckless riding or driving, disrespect, accident or destruction, assault, promiscuity and disobedience. Another aspect of social effect of drug abuse is the exhibition of aggression. Youths and of course many drug abusers are hypersensitive to and impulsive to many issues with the influence of the drugs. Drug abuse also affects social relations as abusers lack social skills to sustain relationship of whatever kind.

Drugs can equally make others to steal to possess the lacked material or satisfy an urge. In some cases, some youths can be lured into suicidal ideation with the influence of drugs.

Others have even attempted murder, arson or manslaughter among other delinquent acts under the influence of drugs. (Effionet al 2005) quote the United Nations Secretary as saying drug abuse is tearing apart our societies, spawning crime, spreading diseases such as AIDs and killing our youths and our future. Families usually go with the stigma of having drug addicts. This stigma can cause family instability among parents and siblings.

Physically, drug abusers are very likely to have poor appearance, some due to accidents could have injuries with body scars and others seriously disfigured. Drug abusers are very likely to suffer from diseases like chronic bronchitis, lung cancer, pulmonary, emphysema as well as cardiovascular diseases such as arteriosclerosis and peripheral blood vessel diseases (Sani, 2011). It equally affects their way of dressing.

Mental effects of drug abuse on victims include impairment, occurrence of poor judgments and performance leading to school drop-out. A drug abuse victim is usually a nuisance to his family, school and immediate community. This is because he loses the sense of social skills and the energy which could be used for god social interaction and production of goods and services.

The economy is therefore affected by non-production of the drug abuse victims in the society. This explains why the Federal Government in 1990 put in place the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), (1998) to help in curbing the production and consumption of illegal drug.

Generally, (McDowell and Hosttler1996) identify effects of drug abuse under the following headings: anguish, confusion and disorientation, locus of control, depression, low self concept, personality distortion, depression, arrested maturity,

guilt and shame, remorse alienation and isolation, and despair. All these point to the fact that drug abuse has serious psycho-social effects and so has to be handled from that perspective.

Blackmail: Recent female cult groups like the Damsels or the Cosmic Queens have more stringent requirements. They may be given a list of influential men, politicians, lecturers to lure into sex and get their nude photographs to be used in blackmailing them.

Prostitution: Female cults run prostitution rings. They encourage one

Hotels, drop their photographs, and phone numbers so the onist can call them when a customer needs their services. It is not to see them knocking on hotel doors at random. Others wear clothes and stand outside at night to be picked up by the many men me into campuses at night looking for a fling.

Female cult members serve as spies and alert their make parts of any Police riad on the locations of rival cult members ban, Umudhe and Ajaja 2008). They hide guns or drugs for their iends as they are not easily suspected by security agents. Most of weapons recovered during the renunciation exercises in Nigerian universities were recovered from the female hostels (Okengwu, 2002).

As in all cult groups, female cult groups take part in blood and ritual murder, some also set up their fellow girls for ritual and the sale of human parts. Female cultism involves deep.... It is not uncommon for them to engage in the abduction and of innocent children for spiritual protection and power. Beneathand flashy clothes are hearts so darkened

by evil that they have sensitivity and compassion of womanhood.

Members' Girl friends:

Who are not members of female cults but whose boyfriends are also under the blood oaths of the cults. They share in the guilt of the cults.

When there are cult wars, a cult member's girlfriend is a target. Girls whose boyfriends were cultists member have been victims. It is common for the cult member's girls friend to be set up for rape. She be gang raped when her boyfriend falls short of the cultments. They are often implicated in murder and robbery cases. They very heavily on their boyfriends who even rob them. Girls whose are cultists could contract diseases. Cult members engage in oath which may be a mode of transmission of diseases.

In Delta State University, Abraka, a cult member hewed his and into pieces because she wanted to pull out of the relationship to her marries (Idiege, et-el, 2009).

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The manner in which drugs are consumed and their side effect has been extensively discussed. The graver dimensions to it however, is the direct consequences on the vic-time nervous system.

Drugs as chemical substances first distort the functioning of the body and by extension, a systematic distortion of the nervous system, depending on whether the chemical used belong to any of the categories below:

- a. Illusion stimulants
- b. Pain killers
- c. Sedatives
- d. Stimulants

The above listed substances have proved quite devastating to the body system and potent in stimulating premature aging, especially if consumed excessively or over dosage. And if the consumption is not completely put to a halt, the user is likely to lose his or her life through gradual degeneration of his or her health.

It is also worthwhile to identify the habit of self-medication as equally harmful. The impersonates of proper diagnose and treatment by qualified medical doctors/ person must not be taken for granted.

Among the index of illegal drugs are some substances like: cocaine, heroin, marijuana and so on, classified as more dangerous, hence attracts the venom of prohibitory laws. Their consumption either in small or large quantities attracts stiff penalties. These substances have devastating consequences on users' mental state, especially in distortion of perception, and feeling of euphoria, resulting in bravado, recklessness and lawlessness.

Drug abuser is one menace that has ruined the lives of many who ordinarily would have lived quality lives. One notable force in drug abuse is the urge for greater consumption that accompanies every intake. The tendency is for a gradual metamorphosis into addiction.

Addiction could be described as a state of Drugs Induced-Incarceration. In other words, to bail out becomes a hilltop task; instead, the victim embarks on a spending spree in order to sustain the urge. This has reduced many victims in both students and civil communities to poverty, depriving them the ability to manage their pocket money and domestic responsibilities. This can ultimately result in withdrawal from school and loss of jobs through lack of commitment to

studies and duties, inordinate behavior, fraud, cultism and social deviationism.

Drug addiction has an adverse effect on intellectual efficiency by incapacitating the users' ability to showcase consecutive thinking. As a student, he loses ability to concentrate and his performance dwindles to the point would be forced to withdraw. It also affects the users' social consciousness. As his unhealthy state of mind tends to degenerate into untidy physical appearance. He loses every sense of social awareness and decency to a point that his character and value system can hardly portray any significant disparity between him and an insane person. In the final analysis, he becomes anathema not only to himself, but also to his family, relations and the entire society.

Owing to international awareness on the devastating effects of illegitimate use of these drugs, most governments around the world have promulgate laws against their indiscriminate use, illegal possession, consumption, cultivation, selling, storing and buying. The stiffness of penalties of these laws is justified, if this menace must be subdued.

A reminder in this regards to the entire addicts and potential ones of the Biblical that injection that speaks of our "body as temples of the Holy Spirit" (God). We are therefore admonished not to indulge in anything that defiles the body. This includes harddrugs and alcohol.

More Consequences of Drug Abuse

There are many disadvantages that the students and youths suffer when they abuse drugs. Such disadvantages are:-

- Damage to body organs such as brain, lungs, liver etc
- Damage to unborn babies, i.e. pregnant women who abuse drugs
- Accidents at home, highways i.e. Drunken drivers
- Poor performance at school especially during examinations
- Cheating, fighting, cultism, rioting etc.
- Withdrawal or dismissal from school
- Armed robbery, rape, killings, suicide etc
- Problems with the Police and NDLEA
- Prostitution, HIV/AIDS
- Anxiety, sickness, premature death

Cancer, lungs and liver disease come out from so many dangerous chemicals that have been stored up in the body for a long time. Some of the chemical substances are the results of drug abuse. Some people suffer the effect of drug abuse in the distant future. Others suffer the effect immediately. For example, some babies are born blind or lame as a result of the result of the drugs that were abused by their mother during pregnancy.

Apart from the adults, some students and young people have mental problems today because of their habit of taking the Indian hemp and other dangerous drugs. A driver that is drunk can cause an accident on the highways that would injure or kill many innocent people. Students, can you mention other consequences of DRUG ABUSE that you know?

Check up the chart below:

Chart Consequences of Drug Abuse [Ikeotuonye, A. I.Bashmir1989]

| | Physical | Psychological | Social |
|---|--|--|--|
| 1 | Damage to important organs like; Brain, Liver, Pancreas | Sleeplessness | Loss of job |
| 2 | Hypertension | Anxiety | Family problems for example divorce |
| 3 | Nose bleeding | Craving for the drug of choice | Dropping out of school/low grades |
| 4 | Damage to the unborn child (for pregnant women) | Dementia (loss of memory) | Criminal offences like stealing, armed |
| 5 | Chronic cough | Hallucination (hearing or seeing an Image when this is not real) | Robbery, murder and rape |
| 6 | Accidents | Depression (a state of being in low spirit) | Suicide |
| 7 | The spread of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) | Personality disintegration | Cultism |

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| 8 | Premature death | | Prostitution |
| 9 | | | Delinquent acts |

Types of Drugs Abused

Drugs mostly abused are grouped into; depressants, stimulants, hallucinogens, narcotics and cannabis. The depressants include alcohol, aspirin, tranquilizer, barbiturates, cocaine, methaqualine, morphine and opium among others. These drugs depress the nervous system and so affect actions, speech and movement.

The stimulants include caffeine, amphetamine, Benzedrine and nicotine. These drugs increase the metabolic rate of the body and result to high activity without self-control. Hallucinogen includes phencyclidine, lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD). These cause changes in perception and consciousness [Ede, 1988].

Narcotics include opium, codeine, meperidine and methadone, morphine, and heroine. Narcotics lower perception and pains. Cannabis are also drugs and substances that stimulate. They include marijuana and other locally identified herbs and leaves or tree barks that affect one's brain and influence actions, which without the intake of the drug would not have taken place. Such illegal substances taken by youths to induce actions or behavior include tobacco, alcohol, Indian hemp and heroine, glue, cocaine and other various locally identified substances that can stimulate behavior.

Solutions to Drug Problems

Here are good answers to the drug problems in our schools. It is important that you consider the following solutions:-

- Drug free Clubs in Schools
- Selective friendship and association
- Social activities sport, music, debates, religious programmes etc
- FOCUS: Seriousness with studies
- Determination Say “NO” to drug and cultism
- Early detection and treatment of drug addicts
- Monitoring schools to drive away drug dealers
- Positive influence by parents and teachers
- Radio and Television programmes on drug abuse
- Report drug problems to NDLEA Officials through your school Principal

The Drug Free Club is the channel by which the students can discuss freely with other students about the drug abuse problems and hear possible solutions. The friends you keep, the places you go and what you do in such places will present you as a good or bad student, sports, music, debates, religious programmes can keep a good student off dangerous drugs. Have a FOCUS or ambition in life. Be serious with your studies; say NO to drugs and cultism. Follow the good examples of your parents and teachers.

Dear students, can you now ponder over your fate? If you refuse to desist, count the losses; withdrawal from school, depression, poverty, bad health, social stigma, imprisonment and death. Dear students do not join the bad boys and girls today so that you may be happy in life tomorrow. The choice

is yours. Drug abuse is harmful and inappropriate. Equally do not allow them force you into their group. Do not be involved with those who abuse drugs. Do not conform to their ideas. Say no to drugs and face your studies seriously. You must realize that a student without a study is like a priest without an altar.

Join good clubs and societies in your school. Keep yourself busy. You must realize that laziness is a heavy load. Do good work and allow God in your life. Always pray and put prayers first in all you do. No wonder father Flanagan said that “without God at the beginning there can only be confusion at the end”.

Counseling Intervention/other solution

Drugs may be a way of adjusting to the environment to some individuals. Being a negative coping strategy, it is expected that counseling can step in to help the individuals adjust more properly. Strategies in school to help curb drug abuse include school counseling and home interaction. Here, counselors can visit homes to check and know whether certain homes are breeding homes for drug abuse.

Apart from visits, parents and students could be exposed to the dangers of drug abuse through lecturers during the Parents-Teachers Association (PTA) meeting of the school.

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA, 1998) could be invited to schools periodically to discuss drug abuse and its effects on the abusers and society at large. Apart from this, the school can organize seminars, public lectures and workshops or debates and essay competition in the school or in general community halls on drug abuse.

In view of the above, one recommends formation of drug enforcement clubs in schools and communities. Their role

should be advisory and to help advocate a drug free society. Education stakeholders must properly enlighten their respective communities on drugs and their negative effects. Good relationship should exist between parents and their offspring, between teachers and students as well as among the students. This will reduce cases of drug abuse and its consistence on students' behavior.

Drug abuse is a serious juvenile act which government, through the use of counseling and psychologists needs to give adequate attention to as it has many negative effects on both the victims and society – **(Tor-Anyiin2015)**.

Attentions Students!!!

A highly reverend man of God once said that the greatest tragedy in life is not death but life that fails to fulfill its purpose

Would you subscribe to the wisdom of this counsel? Life can only be meaningful, if it has a purpose, focus and direction. You must be able to identify your purpose and strive to accomplish it.

Embrace the dignity of self-determination, which itself, is a weapon to overcome every obstacle and threat to realization of your purpose. A bright future certainly awaits you, but you must crave for self-determination which will provide the need inducement in the triumphant march to fulfillment. But this must be accompanied by transparent goodness if you must reap the full benefit of your determination.

It is significant to emphasis that your attitude, disposition, and behavior on campus today determine the shape of your tomorrow. Today therefore is not an end in itself, but just a channel to your future.

Succinctly put, if you must lie on the cushion bed, you have to design it properly to give the desired output. Of course nobody reaps dividends without investing or harvests without planting. Every successful man and woman today whether a doctor, lawyer, lecturer, pharmacist, pilot, engineer, security agent and so on must have embraced the same principles of time management, hard work, self-determination and dedication in his or her time on campus. Yours cannot be different. Above all, you must show a deep appreciation of God's lordship over your life through deadlines and total obedience to his ordinances as to attract divine favour.

Finally, a promising future awaits you, but first, you must answer the clarion call to denounce cultism, examination malpractices and drug abuse. Count on my prayer and service.

There is no circumstance in life that is irreparable, if the proper knowledge is applied. Knowledge in this context is quite indispensable and vital and its potency has far-reaching effects. It is on this premise that the following tips promise to provide succor against cultism.

Students are first and foremost advised to place high premium on their studies, and indeed, above every other consideration. As a student, allow the commitment to your academic responsibility take the centre stage in your thought, action and decision. Let the desire to achieve the best out of your academic pursuance condition your entire life pattern, and ensure that no form of digression is accommodated.

Determination and focus must not be taken for granted. This will assist among others to strengthen you above the present hurdle so as to actualize your destiny. Fortunately, there is

light, hope and redemption the end of this gloomy tunnel of cultism.

A student must strive to appreciate the virtue and integrity of hardwork, which is the bedrock for every good accomplishment. Never accept short cut or easy way to great heights.

A student must be conscious of the fact that the present status is a foundation or a launching pad to his future. He must take the right decisions so as not to jeopardize his tomorrow but to actualize his goal, hence cultism as a ruinous element must be rooted out.

A student must be meticulous in choice of friends he or she keeps as this can make or mar the destiny of an individual. Ensure that your friends are people with appreciable moral disposition who will not only share your vision but also help to actualize it.

A student is enjoying being purposeful in time management. A programmed life that takes into account every need and challenge always produces good result Loitering, squander mania of time and participation in recreation of little or no significance is harmful.

Embrace a character trait that will spice your public image, and be conscious of the fact that you own the society some measure of obligations and commitment, taking cognizance of the fact that no responsible member of the society appreciates the companionship of a cult member.

Above all, cultivate the interest of developing a personal relationship with God, your creator, whose invisible power shields you from satanic powers. He only can guarantee your safety though obedience to his ordinances, and not cultism. It is the duty of every person to acknowledge his lordship.

Although, there is abundance in mercy but does not tarry in blessing the righteous and judging the wicked (secret cult members). Ogbodo (2014)

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