



RESEARCH ARTICLE

INDISCIPLINE AMONG SECONDARY STUDENTS IN AGBOR

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this research project is to enlighten the students, parents, teachers, and the society as a whole the possible causes of indiscipline in schools citing agbor in delta state Nigeria.

Indiscipline has become a cankerous disease that is eating deeply into the moral fabrics of the society. The need of this study is therefore to enable the society have students who are well disciplined because they are the future leaders.

In carrying out this study, the causes of indiscipline was noted and discussed. Hypothesis was also formulated and data analysis was carried out to find out the authenticity of the hypothesis formulated.

This study will no doubt contribute its quota as to the inherent causes of indiscipline amongst students and therefore enlightens parents, teachers and principals on the ways of cubing such act of indiscipline.

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INTRODUCTION

Indiscipline is a negative form of discipline, Zubaidia (2009) citing Dare, Hashim, Sweinan and Ofie (2004) defined discipline in schools as respect for school laws and regulations and the maintenance of an established standard of behaviour and implies self-control, restraint, respect for oneself and others. A behaviour that contradicts the above becomes indiscipline. According to Tunor (2002), if students cultivate the habit of discipline in schools, there will be a smooth running in the school system but reverse will be the case if students are not disciplined.

Zubaida (2009) identifies various forms of indiscipline among the secondary school students such as truancy, lateness to school, cultism, drug abuse, insulting/assaulting, stealing, rioting, and many other anti-social vices. According to Zubaida (2009) and Eyinade (1999), a number of these acts of indiscipline were directed against constituted authorities and established rules. An example of this is disobedient to teachers and sometimes refusal to carry out their assignment or home work. This problem has turned to a national issue.

One of the main objectives of Education as explained in the National Policy on Education (2004) revised, is to establish good moral values and attitudes among schools which extends

to the country at large. Onyije and Ojedapo (2010) identify some factors that cause indiscipline among students such as government nonchalant attitudes to education, parental factors and teachers' attitude.

Therefore there is need to dig deep as to the major cause of indiscipline in school students with a view to finding a solution.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

People contacted

In the research methodology, the people contacted are students in secondary schools, teachers, lecturers, principals of schools and elders.

The Population

The population used for this research is about 1,000 boys and girls from four selected secondary schools in Agbor. Of these figure about 200 students are from each school.

The Type of Sampling

The type of sampling used is the sample random sampling. This is the sample in which all the members of the population have equal chances of being selected.

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Sampling Method

Fifty students were randomly selected from class one in IkaGrammar School; sixty from class two inOgbeomudien; Fifty from class three in Ime-obi; These students were selected based on the ballot system.

Data Collection & Analysis

After the students have answered the questionnaire, they were collected and analyzed. The analysis will show whether the response to the questionnaire were in consonance with the stated hypothesis.

Response to hypothesis I

Hypothesis I: Indiscipline could be caused from home background.

| Name of School | No of Questionnaire | No of Yes | No of No | % of Yes | % of No |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Ika Grammar School | 50 | 35 | 15 | 70 | 36 |
| Mary Mount College | 60 | 40 | 20 | 67 | 33 |
| Ogbeomudien Secondary Sch. | 40 | 36 | 4 | 90 | 10 |
| Ime-obi Grammar School | 50 | 30 | 20 | 60 | 40 |

From the response of the students in the various schools, it could be seen that the average percentage of those who responded negatively. This shows that hypothesis 1 is correct. Most of the present day parents are chasing the naira to the extent of not keeping an eye over their children. Consequently, most of these children have no fear of being reprimanded by their parents as they commit various acts of indiscipline. How can a father who usually comes back late in the night and heavily drunk expect his sons to refrain from drinking? One sometimes finds children smoking the fitter of cigarettes left on the ash-tray by their fathers, thereby acquiring smoking habit. Some mothers also provide their daughters with bad examples. How can a mother who brings paramours into their matrimonial homes during their husband’s absence expect their daughters to practice fidelity?

| Name of School | No of Questionnaire | No of Yes | No of No | % of Yes | % of No |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Ika Grammar School | 50 | 50 | - | 100 | - |
| Mary Mount College | 60 | 55 | 5 | 92 | 8 |
| Ogbemudien Secondary Sch. | 40 | 36 | 2 | 95 | 5 |
| Ime-obi Grammar School | 50 | 35 | 15 | 70 | 30 |

Response to hypothesis II

Hypothesis 2 indiscipline could be caused by peer groups. In hypothesis II, it could be seen that 89% of the respondents answered positively. This shows that hypothesis two is correct. Infect children tend to imitate their play mates and thereby copy bad behaviors. For example a child who does not steal or smoke is likely to indulge in stealing and addicted to smoking if his friends do steal or smoke.

Response to hypothesis III

Hypothesis iii indiscipline could be caused by environmental influences

| Name of School | No of Questionnaire | No of Yes | No of No | % of Yes | % of No |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Ika Grammar School | 50 | 46 | 4 | 96 | 2 |
| Mary Mount College | 60 | 60 | - | 100 | - |
| Ogbemudien Secondary Sch. | 40 | 34 | 6 | 85 | 15 |
| Ime-obi Grammar School | 50 | 49 | 1 | 98 | 1 |

From the response of the students, it could be seen that the average percentage of those who responded positively was 95%. This shows that hypothesis iii is correct.

The environment in which students are brought up plays a part in the indiscipline of the students. Indiscipline seems to be more common in the urban than the rural centre. Furthermore, the urban students are more exposed to all sorts of vices. There are a lot cinema houses where corruptive films could be watched. There are a lot of brothers where “Free women could be visited and there are lots of drinking and smoking spots where the students learn and acquire the habits of drinking and smoking.

Quite unlike the urban centre, rural people see themselves as their “brotherkeeper”. This is due to the homogenous nature of the community. Thus a neighbor can correct a child even in his parent’s absence.

Response to hypothesis IV

Hypothesis IV: Indiscipline could be caused by the teachers.

| Name of School | No of Questionnaire | No of Yes | No of No | % of Yes | % of No |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Ika Grammar School | 50 | 40 | 10 | 80 | 20 |
| Mary Mount College | 60 | 52 | 8 | 87 | 13 |
| Ogbemudien Secondary Sch. | 40 | 36 | 4 | 90 | 10 |
| Ime-obi Grammar School | 50 | 45 | 5 | 90 | 10 |

In answer to hypothesis IV, it could be seen that on average of 87% of the students were of the opinion that indiscipline could be caused by the teachers. This confirm hypothesis IV.

There is no doubt that some teachers cause indiscipline among students either by their behaviours or by their utterances.

There are some teachers who are habitual late comers to school and some even take delight in refusing to teach some smoke in the presence of students and others may dress either very carelessly or very casually. Students tend to copy these behaviours because they think that once they are teachers they should be imitated. Some teachers may condescend so low as to have the female students as girlfriends. They engage in all sorts of leaking examination questions and sometimes inflate marks. All these could result to indiscipline among students.

Response to hypothesis V.

Hypothesis V, Indiscipline could be caused by poor school administration.

| Name of School | No of Questionnaire | No of Yes | No of No | % of Yes | % of No |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|
| Ika Grammar School | 50 | 40 | 10 | 80 | 20 |
| Mary Mount College | 60 | 52 | 8 | 87 | 13 |
| Ogbemudien Secondary Sch. | 40 | 36 | 4 | 90 | 10 |
| Ime-obi Grammar School | 50 | 45 | 5 | 90 | 10 |

From the responses of students in the various schools, about 87% of the total population responded positively that is indiscipline could be caused by poor school administration.

Poor school administration can causes indiscipline. High handedness on the part of school principals and teachers could make students to rebel against them. Complies with high handedness is strict school rules and regulations. Rigidity of school rules can lead to student demonstrations and riots.

Indecision on the part of school administrator could also lead to Indiscipline. Alongside with indecision is an unfulfilled promise.

In addition to the above causes of indiscipline are the roles of policy makers and heredity. The policy makers also play a subtle part in bringing about indiscipline in schools. This is as a result of their delay implemental the right polices at the right time.

Apart from the environment influences mentioned earlier, heredity is also a cause of indiscipline in some students. Some of them take after their parents or even grandparents. For instance there are father who are fiery tampered and their children also possess this fiery nature.

Such children have little or no control over their anger instinct. They easily flare up at the slightest provocation. These are the type of children who turn the classroom or school into a boxing arena.

CONCLUSION

Indiscipline is the ant-social forms of behavior which run counter to the norms of the society. Some of the indiscipline acts are drug addiction, fighting, vandalism, stealing, telling lies, truancy, smoking, cheating, academic dishonesty etc.

Most of the blame for student's indiscipline lies on the parents or teachers. Most often the students' indiscipline is imported from home into the school.

Analysis of the data collected confirmed my earlier hypothesis which include among others:

1. That indiscipline could result from home-background i.e parents;
2. That indiscipline could be caused by peer groups.
3. That indiscipline could be caused by environmental influences.
4. That indiscipline can be caused by teachers.
5. That indiscipline could result from poor administration in the school.
6. That indiscipline could be hereditary.

Children tend to imitate their playmates and thereby copy bad behaviours. A child who does not smoke is likely to engage in smoking if his friends are smokers.

Husband and wife who fight in presence of their children are not showing good examples.

In addition to other causes of indiscipline, the rules of policy makers and hereditary factors cannot be over looked for they have significant impact on the behaviour of students.

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