

**FACTORS INFLUENCING YOUTHS INVOLVEMENT IN
SOCIAL VICES IN BENIN METROPOLIS, EDO STATE**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT
OF ADULT AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION, FACULTY OF
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APPROVAL

This research has supervised and approved and meeting the requirements of the Faculty of Education, University of Benin, Benin City.

MR. M.O. EGBADON
Project Supervisor

DATE_____

CERTIFICATION

We the undersigned certify that this research work was carried out by **AITSEBAOMO, Faustina Onoshiozere** of the Department of Adult and Non-formal Education, Faculty of Education, University of Benin. It is adequate in scope and quality for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Bachelor of Art (Education) English and Literature (Education).

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DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to God Almighty for His grace support upon my life all through the period of this research work and to my parents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The researcher want to sincerely appreciate God Almighty for bringing me thus far, without Him this degree would have been an impossible mission. Special thanks my amiable project supervisor, Mr. M.O. Egbadon for taking time putting me through and bring out best of her and also to all her lecturers in the Department of Adult and Non-formal Education for their moral and academic support.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE	I
APPROVAL	II
CERTIFICATION	III
DEDICATION	IV
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	V
TABLE OF CONTENTS	VI
ABSTRACT	IX
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
Background to the Study	1
Statement of the Problem	6
Research Questions	7
Purpose of the Study	8
Significance of the Study	9
Scope and Delimitation of the Study	11
Operational Definition of Terms	11
CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	12
The Concept of Youth	12

Youth as an Age Category	14
Youth as a Transitional Stage from Childhood to Adulthood	14
Youth as a Social Construct	15
The Concept of Social Vices	17
Causes of Youths Involvement in Social Vices	23
Effect of Youths Involvement in Social Vices	28
Summary of Reviewed Literature	33
CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY	36
Design of the Study	36
Population of the Study	37
Sample and Sampling Technique	37
Research Instrument	37
Validity of the Instrument	38
Reliability of the Instrument	38
Method of Data Collection	39
Method of Data Analysis	39

CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS	40
Presentation of Results	40
Discussion of Findings	45
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	49
Summary	49
Conclusion	50
Recommendations	51
Suggestion for Further Studies	51
REFERENCES	52
APPENDIX (Questionnaire)	55

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to examine the factors influencing youths' involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis, Edo State. Five research questions were raised to guide this study.

The study adopted descriptive survey research design, the total population of the study is the youths in Benin Metropolis while the sampled population is a total of one hundred and twenty youths in Benin Metropolis. The instrument used for data collection is an objective questionnaire, this instrument was validated by the project supervisor and other lecturers in the Department of Adult and Non Formal Education, Faculty of Education University of Benin. The data gathered was analysed using percentage and frequency count.

Findings from the study revealed that poverty influence youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis. Social Media influence youths' involvement in social vices because most times youths usually wants to carry out what they've learnt on the social media. Family also have a way of influencing youths involvement in social vices, families that are not morally upright will not be able to teach and correct their children when they see them misbehaving in the society. Peer pressure also contributes to youths involvement in social vices, most youths wants to feel among by engaging in all that their peers do either good or bad. Based on the findings that emerged from this study, it was concluded that the family, social media, poverty and peer pressure have significant impact on the youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis. In order to make our society better there is need for us to focus and invest more in the youths who are the future generations. Parents should train their children in the ways and manner acceptable in the society, there is should be restrictions on what the youth see on social media so as to prevent them from practising what they learn.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background to the Study

Social vices are unhealthy and unethical, they are negative behaviours which are against the morals of the society and are frowned at. An overview of activities in Nigeria reveals how social vices have become the order of the day among the youth. Internet fraud, cultism, prostitution and the likes have attained peak levels. It is believed that social vices are common among youths of all gender. Internet fraud, for instance, has become an almost acceptable and stable income system to youths. It is an illegal online business coined in a layman's language as "yahoo", "419" or even "G" (a term mostly used in tertiary institutions) as these fraudsters are commonly referred to as "scammers".

According to Igwe (2014) social vices are anti-social actions which breach societal norms, values and more and they range from obscene dressing to sexual harassment and promiscuity, cultism, kidnapping, examination malpractice, hooliganism, character assassination,

impersonation, financial fraud, and among others. According to Omonijo, Nnedum, Fadugba, Uche and Biereenu-Nnabugwu (2013), social vices are any actions exhibited either by omission or commission or negligence which contravenes cultural values and established codes of conduct of a particular community or in a given situation or location. Social vices arise from behaviors or maladjusted people in the society.

Social vices are deviant behaviours such as illicit sex, drug addiction, evil or immoral behavior such as murder, examination malpractice, thuggery and such other criminal tendencies. Social vices are fast becoming national and global trends, they cut across ethnic nationalities, races and even religious cleavages. Some of the social vices include but not limited to examination malpractice, indecent dressing and prostitution, political thuggery, cultism, drug addiction, targeted assassinations, armed robbery, pipe-line vandalism, vandalism of electricity installations and cyber crimes. These vices are at variance to social norms and values which include beliefs, attitudes, honesty, hard work, customs and traditions, ideals, skills and taboos which a society

cherishes and passes on from one generation to another via formal and non-formal education.

Several factors have been understood to be responsible for the increasing rate of social vices, one of which is poor parenting. Through proper planning, parents are to give birth to a certain number of children they would be able to cater for and nurture in terms of providing their basic needs and giving them quality education. However, when a family produces more offspring than they can cater for, such children go in search of means of livelihood most times on the streets. When parents shirk their responsibilities, training their children becomes difficult.

Peer pressure is another reason young people find themselves in illicit acts. For youths who grow up in urban areas where cultism, internet fraud and prostitution hold sway, they would certainly be negatively influenced. It's more like a competition among youths to prove who is better off in terms of who wears the latest clothes, shoes or who has the latest phones. For these vanities, most youths go to extreme levels.

Another factor that leads to social vices is broken homes, these are homes that is not structurally intact, as a result of divorce, separation, death of one's parent, and illegitimacy. Divorce breeds negative emotions in children which has a significant influence, and one of the effects is that children from these homes tend to engage in social vices. Also poverty make people to engage in social vices it is believe that poverty is a disease that can make people engage in activities that are not legal. It is the state of being extremely poor; the state of being inferior in quality or insufficient in amount.

Nigeria society is heavily charged with various social vices in our various institution such as secondary schools, the student hardly take time to reflect on the consequence of their action it is against this back ground that philosophical ethics tries to examine this is because it has the basic principle needed to include to inculcate in the minds of the youth. The moral qualities that are needed by every meaningful society. It is the only disciplines that can help the student reflect on the consequences and implication of their action. It can eradicate kidnapping, armed robbery,

prostitution to mention but a few, if philosophic would be embarrassed by all and sundry.

Social vices can ruin adolescent lives by leading them to be put in jail, by limiting their education and vocational training opportunities as well as putting their future at risk. In addition, these problems are costly to a society in economic terms. Many studies from various countries indicate that delinquency, such as smoking drug and alcohol use and sexual behaviours that can cause disease are strongly correlated with each other. All of these problems are also associated with academic failure and school dropout. Adolescents with more than one of these problems are particularly likely to experience many of the serious and costly consequences of vices, violence, drug and alcohol abuse and risky sexual behaviours.

The situation of social vices is alarming in Benin Metropolis; urgent attention is needed to tackle the rising social vices in the city. There are many incidents of social vices in Benin Metropolis which ranges from cultism, robbery, prostitution etc. Also, human trafficking,

irregular migration and drug abuse have over time taken a toll on Benin youths. While the former has seemingly taken a back seat because of the timely intervention from key stakeholders in the state who have been able to create awareness and orientate the youths on the need to wait for the right time before travelling abroad and the need for them to migrate in a legal way rather than trying to cut corners which has made human trafficking more possible by the perpetrators, this awareness has saved many from venturing through the dangerous paths to foreign countries and corrected the wrong perception earlier regarded by the global communities about Edo State, the latter is gradually pervading the younger generation.

Statement of the Problem

The increasing rate of social vices in Benin Metropolis is becoming worrisome and requires urgent attention. This is because very many youths in Benin City and its hence taken up these vices and are beginning to see them as away of life.

This negative way of life has made many youths lose focus and direction in life. More so, these youths that are involved in social vices are becoming a threat to the safety and security of indigenes and visitors to communities in Benin metropolis. To this extent therefore, there is need to provide an empirical based understanding of the cause of the increasing rate of social vices among youths in Benin metropolis. This is because to the best of the researcher's knowledge, there is a little or no empirical evidence on the factors influencing youth involvement in social vices in Benin metropolis. Hence, the problem of this study is to ascertain the various factors influencing youth involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis.

Research Question

The following research questions were raised to guide the study:

1. What are the factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis?
2. How does the family influence social vices among youths?

3. How do the social media influence social vices among youths?
4. How can peer pressure affect the youth involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis?
5. How can poverty influence youth involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis?

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study is to investigate the factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis, other purpose of the study are:

- To examine the factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis.
- To find out how the family influences social vices among youths.
- To examine the influence of social media among youths engage in social vices.
- To find out if peer pressure affect the youth involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis.

- To find out if poverty influences the youth involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis?

Significant of the Study

The study will be of great benefit to the ministry of education, school administrators, teachers, students and the society at large.

This study will help the ministry of education to know the causes of social vices in the society, the ministry of education will then put these factors into consideration when formulating educational policies. It will also help them to address different types of social vices that the youths engage in, the ministry of education will be able to create awareness in schools as regards the dangers of social vices and they may probably integrate some topics into the curriculum which will be of great benefit to the students.

The school administrators may use findings from the study to understand the prime factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis. Also, it will help teachers to identify the

factors influencing youths involvement in social vices and look at possible ways of preventing youths from engaging in social vices.

Teachers will also benefit from this study as it will serve as an eye opener for them to know how to help their students overcome any form of social vices they may be battling with, it will also help them to effectively teach them the dangers that social vices post to them and this will go a long way of curbing social vices in Benin Metropolis.

The findings of this study will be of great benefit to the students, it will help them to understand the danger, that social vices pose to them and the society and enable them to detest from all forms of social vices.

The society at large will also benefit from this study, the society will use the findings of this study to tackle the factors that cause social vices and the types of social vices the youths engage in Benin Metropolis. It will help the society to arise to her responsibility of teaching the youths the right values that will help the society to develop.

Scope and Delimitation of the Study

The scope of the study covers the factors influencing youth involvement in social vices, the effect of family, social media, peer pressure and poverty on youths involvement in social vices, The study is delimited to Ugbowo Metropolis in Benin City.

Operational Definition of Terms

Social vices: this is defined as an unacceptable attitude that is against the norms and culture of any society.

Social values: this is defined as accepted attitudes that is valuable and pot ray the norms and culture of any society.

Youth: these are adolescents that are between the age of 15 to 22 years of age among the society.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter deals with the review of related literature, on factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin metropolis. The review was done under the following headings:

- Concept of Youths
- Meaning of Social Vices
- Causes of Youths involvement in Social Vices
- Effects of Youths involvement in Social Vices
- Summary of Reviewed Literature

Concept of Youth

Youth is a time of search for meaning, for belonging and for achievement. It is a key stage of intense discovery of oneself and of one's qualities and capacities. It is point of decision making about one's career, one's partner, and one's direction in life. Youth is phase for accepting, rejecting or reshaping one's values and beliefs, and one's stance towards status and authority. Youth has a tremendous potential that can be

harnessed to bring about a creative transformation or enormous destruction.

According to the United Nations Organisation (UNO) (2008), youth is the period between 15 and 25 years which may differ from country to country e.g. 15 to 30 years, etc. Youth is vital transition period from childhood to adulthood, from dependence to interdependence, from being protected to being protective. It is also a time of curiosity, learning and experimenting, when special skills are acquired and mature habits are formed. Youth is also a stage of important physical and psychological changes as well as of the evolution of the being or the individual.

Youths has always been the major concern of every society, therefore, empowering the youth for the betterment of the society is one of the most vital challenges for any country. For this purpose, it would be appropriate to define youth in different forms i.e;

as an age category

as a transitional stage between childhood and adulthood,

as a social construct

Youth as an age category: Bhawana (2014) defined youth as an age category this is the most convenient, popular and common sense way in which youth has been defined. It is argued that this category defines youth more significantly than any other category. The experience common to all young leads them to defining themselves in certain ways as sharing the same fate.

Youth as a transitional stage from childhood to adulthood: Mitteraeur (2012) identifies four significant happenings that mark the transition from childhood to adulthood. He maintains that these transitional markets have remained fairly stable over time. They are, leaving home, finding employment, setting up home, marriage.

Mitterauer (2012), however, points out that these transitional markets have limitations in helping to define who youth are. The timing of these aspects of transition, their meaning, their order of occurrence differs for young men and young women, and from one region to another. For example, some transitional markets are traditionally applicable only to young men. Until recently, in many societies or cultures, recruitment

into the army was for males only. Also, the very concept of youth is embedded in the practices of patriarchy. The use of the term youth usually brings a mental image of a young man.

Youth as a social construct: Each and every society has its ways of seeing the youth. These social constructs are not necessarily true, nor do they always show youth the way they really are. One of the best ways of understanding the social construction of youth is to study how other societies construct views of them. These views differ from society to society. A comparison of different view can help to understand our own views Moore (2016).

Youth can be an astonishing brief period in some societies such as those where people live by hunting and gathering, because the skills required for survival are usually acquired in childhood itself. These skills are usually needed as early as possible in adult roles. In other societies, particularly late capitalist economies such as those of present-day Europe and the United States of America, the concept of youth, or at least young

people, is being stretched further and further. The reason for this can be found in structural adjustment (Gracious 2016).

As structural adjustment continues to create extended periods of unemployment, especially for school leavers, people tend to remain longer in the category of youth. Today, in many western countries, the category of youth even seems to include people in their early thirties.

Youth, in a very general definition, is a period of life in-between childhood and adulthood. It is described as a time of experimenting with roles and identities, still void of the burden of social norms and obligations, yet slowly preparing the youngsters for their lives as full members of the social collective. During this process of social integration young people find themselves in a complex social system, composed of such elements as tradition, history, social demands, hopes, and individual future prospects, all of which they have to incorporate into a coherent picture in order to build a proper foundation for their personal life. Step by step they have to obtain new social roles and extend their range of social performances. This passage into society is guided by various

socially defined norms and demands that serve the reproductional functions of society while conditions of economic and social integration set the framework for the political socialisation of the future citizens.

Concept of Social Vices

The term vice is a Latin word “vitium” meaning defect or failing. It is defined as a bad habit or immoral activities. Vices are common among young males and females, example include prostitution, indecent dressing, robbery, cultism, pocket picking, drug addiction, examination malpractice, hooliganism, thuggery, gambling, smoking, pre-marital sexual activities, rape, alcoholism, taking of illegal substances among others. Social vices are bad traits, unhealthy and frowned at by members of the society. Social vices simply put are behaviors which are at variance with societal expectations based on established moral codes.

According to Igwe (2014) social vices are anti-social actions which breach societal norms, values and they range from obscene dressing to sexual harassment and promiscuity, cultism, kidnapping, examination

malpractice, hooliganism, character assassination, impersonation, financial fraud, and among others.

Uche and Biereenu-Nnabugwu (2013) social vices are any actions exhibited either by omission or commission or negligence which contravenes cultural values and established codes of conduct of a particular community or in a given situation or location. Social vices arise from behaviors or maladjusted people in the society.

According to Ayodele (2015), social vices reflect the character of a people. It exposes their capacity to injure one another, to cover and destroy; their ability to control themselves, their cunning, insensitivity and want of love. Crime and society's violent reaction to it is the raw outcroppings of a people's hate, lust, greed, fear, vengefulness, selfishness and sickness. It has been observed in recent times that youths in Nigeria secondary schools are more vulnerable to social vices.

Many of them engage in vices that ordinarily they should not have engaged in and the gallows keep swallowing them up on daily basis and these are the future leaders of Nigeria. If the trend is allowed to continue

unabated, it is going to bring a serious damage to the country that is noted for honorable behaviors and high integrity. The increase in the number of youths involved in social vices in recent times calls for serious attention. If the youths of today are truly the leaders of tomorrow, it then becomes imperative to find a solution to the involvement of the youths in social vices so as not to produce a generation of vipers and corrupt society and for the further of our great nation to be sustained.

Social vices are fast becoming national and global trends. Social vices cut across ethnic nationalities, races and even religious cleavages. Some of the social vices include but not limited to examination malpractice, indecent dressing and prostitution, political thuggery, cultism, drug addiction, targeted assassinations, armed robbery, pipe-line vandalism, vandalism of electricity installations and cyber-crimes. These vices are at variance to social norms and values which include beliefs, attitudes, honesty, hard work, customs and traditions, ideals, skills and taboos which a society cherishes and passes on from one generation to another via formal and non-formal education. Some of the social vices are;

Examination malpractice: Tests and examinations are very important in the school system. Examinations are used as criteria for placement of citizens in society. Its natural tendency is to establish a meritocracy in which power, earnings and status depend (Umaru and Babuje, 2012). The quest to pass public examinations conducted by examining bodies like the West African Examinations Council (WAEC), National Examinations Council (NECO) and Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) by hook or crook emphasizes the importance of examinations to students.

Oyetunde (2014) stressed that examinations exert a very powerful influence on the educational system, on what is taught or how it is taught, and they determine how far students can go in their academic pursuits and job aspirations. Entire family lives can be influenced by a child's performance in an examination because that performance can constrain or expand future employment possibilities for the child.

Examinations therefore are very important to students as their future seems to hang on them. All manner of examination malpractices are therefore trending. Maduabum (2011) states that examination

malpractice is an improper practice carried out before, during or after any examination by an examinee or others with a view to obtaining good results. Examination malpractice could include leakages, impersonation, collusion, swapping of scripts, smuggling in already answered scripts and most recently downloading examination questions and answers from the internet of examining bodies' website.

The recent trend of downloading examination questions and answers and indeed all forms of malpractice is worrisome as it makes mockery of the examination process and its intended purpose. Stakeholders in educational planning including Ministry of Education, examining bodies, teachers and parents have the responsibility to ensure that examinations measure correctly the competences and capacity of students that sit for them.

Indecent dressing/prostitution: Social norms and values are part of the culture of a people. The people value decent dressing but abhor near nude dressing associated with prostitution. Nigerian youths have a penchant for any kind of dress even foreign dresses. They dress in British dresses,

gowns and suits, Chinese wears, American trousers and suits and German wears (Ogbonnaya, 2009). Social media and the internet have influenced the dressing of our youths negatively. It is common to see on the streets and campuses half-clad boys and girls or wears that show the contours of all vital statistics of their bodies.

Cultism: A cult is a belief system in a local god. The Oxford Concise Dictionary of Sociology as cited by Nwoke (2016) defines cult anthropologically as a set of practices and beliefs of a group in relation to a local god. These activities relating to the local god are highly secretive as members always swear oath of secrecy. Secret cults or societies are those organizations which completely conceal their rules, the names of their members, their signs, passwords from outsiders and the members take oath of secrecy and are often under the threat of severe punishment in the case of its violation (Ogbonnaya, 2012).

Youth restiveness is typified by political assassinations, ethnic militia, armed robbery, sexual assault or rape, kidnappings among other vices. Cultism is an extension of violence in the Nigerian society. Gimba

(2002) states that university students and graduates earn much money by taking part in crime-related services and contracts.

Thomas (2012) observed that campus cult groups enjoy subtle supports and patronage from both government and school authorities. To eliminate or reduce cult activities on campuses and Nigerian streets, educational planners and policy makers should consider in its planning Nigeria's philosophy of education which is based on:

- (a) The development of the individual into a sound and effective citizen;
- (b) The full integration of the individual into the community and
- (c) The provision of equal access to educational opportunities for all citizens of the country at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels both inside and outside the formal school system (Federal government of Nigeria, 2004).

Causes of Youths Involvement in Social Vices

It is rare to find a school or an institution void of social vices. This depicts that they are present in all educational centers – Primary, Secondary and Tertiary. Peer pressure is the major cause of youth

involvement in social vices. Students spend more time with their friends in school or at home. Due to their weak nature and tender age, they can easily be influenced. Children have a high level of curiosity to learn, to have fun and practice new things thus making them smoke, drink, have sexual intercourse and so on. A proverb that says “show me your friends, and I will tell you who you are” shows the significance of friends and how they influence lives. A child tends to behave like his or her friends so as not to be labeled as cowards, uncivilized or crude. For example being a virgin, which was once a thing of pride has now turned into an object of ridicule among students now. An innocent girl will want to experiment what her friends discuss always and may be pushed into sexual activities at a tender age.

Most children that engage themselves in vices are from broken homes. Lack of parental care, supervision and attention can make a child engage in social vices. Children from the permissive and uninvolved parenting styles fall mostly into these traps. They move with wrong people, their movements are not queried; their academic progress is not

being followed up. Freedom to do anything without been probe affect children negatively. Negligence of parents can make the wards turn to their friends for love, emotions, care, advice who can lure them into deadly acts. An abandoned girl can look up to an opposite sex for love and affection. Some maids, house helps, family members who are always around children in the absence of parents can introduce these vices to them. Some may even violate the children sexually, warn and threatened them not to tell anyone. Even if the bold ones are determined to confide in their parents, the parents may be too busy or occupied to listen and see through things Gracious (2016).

Social vices affect the society as a whole and the individual in particular. The mental, physical, academic, moral aspects of an individual are negatively affected. Students divert their time to these vices instead of being serious with academic works. There is wastage of time which leads to poor academic performance. Deadly diseases that can lead to the termination of lives and career can be contacted. A pregnant lady will face emotional, psychological trauma which will make her lose focus and

attention on her studies. She might eventually stop schooling, get expelled or quit for some period of time. If she is lucky, she may return to school but her mates will be far ahead of her (Ogah, 2014).

Dangerous acts like cultism are rampant in schools. A secret cult is an organization of people who engage in some activities that are secret. Some students are lured in while some are forced to join a cult. It is found out that most members of these secret associations are from rich homes. Much demand is expected from members. The cult is their priority while any other things including their studies are secondary. They forget their primary assignment in school by focusing on meeting the needs of other members, fighting, and initiation of innocent students. Being in a secret cult expose a child to other forms of illegal acts such as smoking, alcoholism, rape, taking of illegal substances, hooliganism, thuggery, and others. They may lose their lives in fights or when there is a clash with an opposing cult(s) and some may be rusticated from schools. They might even progress to higher crimes such as highway and bank robbery.

Sometimes university students engage in social vices because they want to change or alter the way they feel, “to feel happier or better, to avoid pains, stress or frustration”. Yusuf (2014) observes that they want to forget or to remember, to be accepted or be sociable sometimes to escape from burden or just to satisfy curiosity. However, in the long run, people who engage in one social vice or the other in the hope of solving one problem or the other run the risk of getting trapped in a spiral of increasing drug use that created new problems and finally leads to drugs dependence which worsens already worse situation. This particular factor is associated with relentless harshness of life, in this case, life itself is one big hell of hand ball to kick.

According to Ayobami (2011), academic frustration, rivalry, poverty, family problem, inherent physical deformities, widening gap between the rich and, the poor make life one long stretch of mental future. Hence, to summon up courage to face such situations and the task ahead, some secondary schools students find solace in smoking, drinking, and drug taking of all sorts on the firm conviction that these drugs provide

euphoria release, great spur and a monetary escape from reality because of this, taking drugs becomes a habit to face life.

Iyamu (2015) reports that children who sit to watch a lot of television programmes then transfer what they have learned from television to real life situations. Thus, if the stereotype was being presented and always watched by a child favors drugs taking the child will imbibe the culture of drug taking. Personality factor as another factor responsible for the social vices in Nigerian tertiary institutions is connected with distinctive personality.

Effects of Youths Involvement in Social Vices

Social vices affect the individual in particular and the society as a whole. The mental, physical, academic, moral aspect of an individual are negatively affected and so students divert their time to these vices instead of being serious with academic works. There is wastage of time which leads to poor academic performance. Deadly diseases that can lead to the termination of lives and career can be out short. A pregnant lady will face emotional, psychological trauma which will make her loose focus and

attention on her studies. She might eventually stop schooling, get expelled or quit for some period of time, if she is lucky, she may return to school but her mates will be far ahead of her.

Being in a secret cult expose a child to other forms of illegal acts such as smoking, alcoholism, rape, taking of illegal substances, hooliganism, thuggery and others. They may lose their lives in fights or when there is a clash with opposing cults and some may be rusticated from schools. They might even progress to higher crimes such as highway and bank robbery. Rapist and their victims are exposed to sexual diseases like AIDS and other related STD. Female students might stop education due to early pregnancy. High numbers of student who engage in evil acts in a school reduce the morality and standard of the school. Parents tend to withdraw their wards from schools and the change of institution might have negative effects on students.

Social vices divert attention of students from their studies thereby affecting their performance in both internal and external examinations, Ayobami (2011) notes that, when students' attention is diverted away

from normal lessons, they become unable to internalize the knowledge been imparted into them and consequently, they are unable to perform creditably in any examinations administered on them.

Social vices lead to self- destruction of youth because when they are apprehended by law enforcement agencies, it may lead to their imprisonment, killing and many youth may become disabled when any of their sensitive organs are hit by gun or cutlass when attack by a rival cult or gang. Igwe (2014) reported that a group of students that had indulged in the consumption of illicit drugs were found exhibiting severe mental complications and as such could not continue with their education. This will subsequently affect their performance in the labor market and the outside society.

Social vices may alter the psychological equilibrium of the students and may result to severe mental issues which force the victims to withdraw from regular school programmes. Oromareghake (2013) found out that students who engaged in social vices such as cultism, hooliganism and gangsterism ingested certain toxic substances that they

thought could make them bolder. The acidic radicals in such substances like drugs impact negatively on their brains and it result to loss of psychological control. In a situation like this, such students can no longer concentrate on their studies and invariably perform poorly both in internal and external examinations.

Social vices lead to vandalization of school properties thereby impacting negatively on their studies and subsequent performance in academic tasks. Oluwansanmi (2014) reports cases where students went on rampage and burnt down entire school buildings and other valuable school plants. The end result in a situation like this, is that when finally normalcy returns in such schools, there will be shortage of pertinent school facilities and equipment this will negatively impact on teaching and learning which will also affect the performance of the students' academic achievement as well as in examinations.

Social vices lead to societal unrest within and outside the campuses of tertiary institutions when innocent people, garages, market centers and immediate communities are destroyed thereby having a negative impact

on school plant. Obodoada, Nwachukwu and Egbezor (2015) reports that where students went on rampage as a result of their disagreement with the school authorities and took laws into their hands and went destroying properties in neighboring communities worth millions. At the end, school programmes are truncated, academic programmes poorly organized leading to poor quality of teaching and learning in the educational organization. Those at the receiving end are the students whose academic performance is adversely affected both in examinations and after school life.

Social vices lead to economic wastages and reduction in the nation's GDP and income which bring hardship to the educational system thereby affecting the quality of teaching and learning in secondary schools thus affecting the academic performance of students. Chukwuemeka and Aghara (2010) lament that social vices among tertiary institutions cause extra spending in the educational sector thereby impacting negatively on national economy as the funds which would have

been used in other areas of the economy may be used to replace damaged educational facilities.

The society suffers immensely from Kidnapping, political assassination, Herdsmen and Farmers confrontation and Political thuggery that have held our country hostage hence make it to be stagnant in the area of unproductiveness and unprogressedness for this long. All these are as a result of the youths involvement in social vices. Youths who are the vehicle of of any societal progress cum development and as well leaders of tomorrow have been turned to tools for perpetrating mayhem, heinous crime and rascality by the politicians, who use them to satisfy their inordinate desire for power and the building of their political dynasties.

Summary of Reviewed Literature

The review has shown the factors influencing youths involvements in social vices in Benin Metropolis, according to the review social vices have cause a lot of dangers to the society at large. According to the review there are numerous factors influencing youths involvement in

social vices in Benin Metropolis, the review also shows that social vices is a bane to the development of any society.

It is shown from the review of literature that youths involve in social vices due to numerous factors such as peer pressure, broken homes, negligence of parents etc. these social vices also affects the academic performance of students such as missing of classes by the students, low self-esteem, inability to focus in class, poor attitude to their studies etc. Therefore with this in mind the researcher seek to consider the factors that lead to youth involvement in social vices and the effects of social vices on the students' academic performance, their career, individual achievement, economy and the society at large.

The review has shown that parents have a lot of work to do in order to curb the rate of youths involvement in social vices, the care they gives to their children have great impact on their personality also government should come up with awareness and orientation programme for youths in order for them to know the dangers of social vices, likewise the schools should find a way to help curb social vices among youths which may

affect their academic performance in their various institutions, students who are not properly taken care of or neglected will not perform up to expectation and may resolve into cultism and other social vices.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the description of how this study was carried out. It gives details of method employed in carrying out this project work under the following sub headings:

- Design of the Study
- Population of the Study
- Sample and Sampling Technique
- Research Instrument
- Validity of Instrument
- Reliability of the Instrument
- Method of Data Collection
- Method of Data Analysis

Design of the Study

The research design adopted for this study is the descriptive survey. This design also involves seeking people's opinion about a phenomenon under study. It is considered the most appropriate since the interest of the

researcher is to elicit response from the respondents on the factors influencing youths involvement in social vices.

Population of the Study

The target population of the study comprises of the youths in Benin Metropolis.

Sample and Sampling Technique

The sample for this study consisted of One hundred and twenty (120) youths selected from Benin metropolis. The simple random technique was adopted to select a sample out of the target population.

Research Instrument

The instrument used for data collection in this study was the questionnaire titled Factors Influencing Youths Involvement in Social Vices in Benin Metropolis (FIYISUBM). The questionnaire is divided into two parts of "A and B". Section A dwells on the demographic data of the respondents such as gender, educational qualifications, marital status, age while section B includes statement that solicited information on issues raised in the research question of the study.

Validity of Instrument

The expert judgment approach was adopted to ensure the validity of Instrument. The project supervisor and other experts in the department of Adult and Non Formal Education validated the instrument. Their suggestions and comments were adequately incorporated in the production of the final copy of the instrument.

Reliability of the Instrument

The reliability of the research instrument was ascertained using test-retest reliability technique. This was done by administering the research to 20 youths that were not part of the selected sample size. The instrument was administered twice to each respondent within an interval of two weeks. Thereafter, the two set of administration were collated and correlated using the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Statistics. The reliability index of 0.69 was obtained indicated that instrument was reliable.

Method of Data Collection

The instruments was administered by the researcher and two research assistants before the administration of the instrument, the respondents were properly instructed on how best to go about their response.

Method of Data Analysis

The questionnaires were received for statistical analysis of the respondents. Those found with uncompleted test items were declared unusable, the usable questionnaires were employed for analysis and interpreting the data. Data were analyzed using frequency count and mean.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

This chapter entails the analysis of data collected in the course of this research. The results are presented in the table and followed by the interpretation there of. Data collected were analyzed using frequency count and percentage.

Presentation of Results

SECTION B

Research Question1: What are the factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis?

Table 1: Factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in BeninMetropolis

S/N	Items	Weighted Response	Mean	Remark
1	Most youths that engage in social vices comes from broken homes.	400	3.33	Accepted
2	Social vices are usually carried out by people from poor family.	430	3.53	Accepted
3	Youths involve in social vices because they want to get rich.	380	3.17	Accepted
4	Youths involve in social vices to live an extravagant life.	336	2.8	Accepted

Data in Table 1 shows that items 1, 2, 3 and 4 met the criterion mean of 2.50 and so were accepted. This means that factors influencing youth involvements in social vices are broken homes, poverty, greed and extravagant life.

Research Question 2: How does the family influence social vices among youths?

Table 2: The Family influence Social Vices among Youths

S/N	ITEMS	Weighted Response	Mean	Remark
1	Most youths involve in social vices because one of their family members engage in it.	284	2.37	Not accepted
2	Families don't teach morals and values again, thus making youths to engage social vices.	336	2.8	Accepted
3	Social vices the youths engage in are learned at home.	340	2.83	Accepted
4	Families frown at youths involvements in social vices.	256	2.13	Not accepted

Data in Table 2 shows that items 2 and 3 met the criterion mean of 2.50 and so were accepted, while items 1 and 4 were not accepted for failing to meet the criterion mean. This means that family influences social vices among youths by inability to teach morals and values, providing conducive environment for vices at home.

Research Question 3: How do the social media influence social vices among youths?

Table 3: Social Media influence social vices among youths

S/N	ITEMS	Weighted Response	Mean	Remark
1.	Youths engage in social vices because they want to practice what they learn.	404	3.37	Accepted
2.	Social media exposes youths to ills of the society	264	2.2	Not accepted
3.	Social media gives an impression that engaging in social vices is civilization.	348	2.9	Accepted
4.	Social media puts youths under pressure of belonging to anti-social group.	252	2.1	Not accepted

Data in Table 3 shows that items 1 and 3 met the criterion mean of 2.50 and so were accepted, while items 2 and 4 were not accepted for failing to meet the criterion mean. This means that social media influences youth by providing wrong information and giving wrong impression of civilization.

Research Question 4: How can peer pressure affect the youth involvement in social vices?

Table 4: Peer Pressure affect the youth involvement in social vices

S/N	ITEMS	Weighted Response	Mean	Remark
1	Youths involves in social vices because their friends encourage them to do it.	320	2.67	Accepted
2	Inferiority complex makes youths want to emulate their friends.	272	2.27	Not accepted
3	Fear of segregation by friends makes youths engage in social vices.	396	3.3	Accepted
4	The need to feel among has encourage youths to participate in vices.	300	2.5	Accepted

Data in Table 4 shows that Items 1, 3 and 4 met the criterion mean of 2.50 and so were accepted. While Item 2 was not accepted for failing to meet the criterion mean. This means that peer pressure affect the youth involvement in social vices through wrong group, fear of segregation among peers and satisfaction of validation among peer.

Research Question 5: How can poverty influence the youths involvement in social vices?

Table 5: Poverty influence youths involvement in Social Vices

S/N	ITEMS	Weighted Response	Mean	Remark
1	Poverty encourages youths to go into prostitution.	284	2.37	Not accepted
2	Poverty forces youths to go into armed robbery.	336	2.8	Accepted
3	Poverty influences youths to become fraudsters.	340	2.83	Accepted
4	Poverty instigates youths to become dishonest.	264	2.2	Not accepted

Data in Table 5 shows that Items 2 and 3 met the criterion mean of 2.50 and so were accepted. While Items 1 and 4 were not accepted for failing to meet the criterion mean. This means poverty influencing youth involvements in social vices by forcing them unto armed robbery and fraudulent acts.

Discussion of Findings

The outcome of this study has been able to give some insight view on the factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis.

In the first place, findings from the study revealed factors influencing youth involvement in social vices are poverty, broken homes and extravagant life. This finding corroborates that of Ayobami (2011) who reported that, academic frustration, rivalry, poverty, family problem, inherent physical deformities, widening gap between the rich and, the poor make life one long stretch of mental future.

Secondly, findings from the study revealed that family influences youth involvement in social vices by inability to teach morals and values,

providing conducive environment for vices at home. This finding is corroborated by Thomas (2016) who reported that negligence of parents can make the wards turn to their friends for love, emotions, care, advice who can lure them into deadly acts. An abandoned girl can look up to an opposite sex for love and affection. Some maids, house helps, family members who are always around children in the absence of parents can introduce these vices to them. Some may even violate the children sexually, warn and threatened them not to tell anyone. Even if the bold ones are determined to confide in their parents, the parents may be too busy or occupied to listen and see through things.

Again, findings from the study revealed that the social media influence youths involvement in social vices because youths are provided wrong information and giving wrong impression of civilization. The finding corroborates that of Iyamu (2015) who reported that children who sits to watch a lot of television programmes then transfer what they have learned from television to real life situations. This, if the stereotype was being presented and always watched by a child favors drugs taking the

child will imbibe the culture of drug taking. Personality factor as another factor responsible for the social vices in Nigerian tertiary institutions is connected with distinctive personality.

Furthermore, findings from the study revealed that peer pressure affects youths' involvement in social vices through wrong peer group, fear of segregation among peers and satisfaction of validation among peers. Sometimes university students engage in social vices because they want to change or alter the way they feel, to feel happier or better, to avoid pains, stress or frustration. Yusuf (2014) observes that they want to forget or to remember, to be accepted or be sociable sometimes to escape from burden or just to satisfy curiosity. However, in the long run, people who engage in one social vice or the other in the hope of solving one problem or the other run the risk of getting trapped in a spiral of increasing drug use that created new problems and finally leads to drugs dependence which worsens already worse situation. This particular factor is associated with relentless harshness of life, in this case, life itself is one big hell of hand ball to kick.

Finally, findings revealed that poverty influences youth involvements in social vices by forcing them into armed robbery and fraudulent acts. This is supported by that of Thomas (2012) who stated that lack of parental care, supervision and attention can make a child engage in social vices. Children from the permissive and uninvolved parenting styles fall mostly into these traps. They move with wrong people, their movements are not queried; their academic progress is not being followed up. Freedom to do anything without been probe affect children negatively. Children from such homes involve in armed robbery and fraudulent acts because they lack the needed parental care as a result of their parents inability to provide for them because of poverty.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

The purpose of this study was to examine the factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis, Edo state.

Five research questions were raised to guide this study. The study adopted descriptive survey research design, the total population of the study is the youths in Benin Metropolis while the sampled population is a total of one hundred and twenty youths in Benin Metropolis. The instrument used for data collection is a self-constructed questionnaire, this instrument was validated by the project supervisor and other lecturers in the Department of Adult and Non Formal Education, Faculty of Education University of Benin. The data gathered was analysed using percentage and frequency count, therefore the findings from the study is as follows:

1. Poverty influence youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis.

2. Social Media influence youths involvement in social vices because most times youths usually wants to carry out what they've learnt on the social media.
3. Family also have a way of influencing youths involvement in social vices, families that are not morally upright will not be able to teach and correct their children when they see them misbehaving in the society.
4. Peer pressure also contributes to youths involvement in social vices, most youths wants to feel among by engaging in all that their peers do either good or bad.

Conclusion

Based on the various findings that emerged from this study, it could be deduced that the family, social media, poverty and peer pressure have significant impact on the youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis.

Recommendations

In order to make our society better there is need for us to focus and invest more in the youths who are the future generations. Parents should train their children in the ways and manner acceptable in the society, there is should be restrictions on what the youths see on social media so as to prevent them from practising what they learn.

Suggestion for Further Studies

This study has not covered all the ground on the factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis. Therefore further research can be carried out on the following:

- Causes of youths involvement in cultism.
- Effect of social media on the academic performance of secondary school students.
- The Impact of broken homes on the behavioural pattern of secondary school students.

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APPENDIX

UNIVERSITY OF BENIN

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF ADULT AND NON FORMAL EDUCATION

BENIN CITY.

FACTORS INFLUENCING YOUTHS INVOLVEMENT IN SOCIAL VICES

Dear Respondent,

This questionnaire seeks your honest opinion regarding the factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis. Please kindly complete the questions as honest as you can. Note that your response will be used for the purpose of this research only and will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

Instructions: the questionnaire is divided into two sections A contains general information relating to the research questions made for the study. Please kindly answer all questions.

SECTION A

Age group: 15-18years (), 19-22years (), 23-26years () 27years and above ()

Sex: Male () Female ()

Religion: Christianity () Islam () African Traditional Religion ()

SECTION B

Instructions: using likert scale of SA (Strongly Agree); A (Agree); D (Disagree); SD (Strongly Disagree); please tick [] the option in the column that best fits your choice. Only one answer is required for each question.

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	D	SD
	What are the factors influencing youths involvement in social vices in Benin Metropolis?				
1.	Most youths that engage in social vices come from broken homes.				
2.	Social vices are usually carried out by people from poor family.				
3.	Youths involve in social vices because they want to get rich.				
4.	Youths involve in social vices to live an extravagant life.				
	How does the Family influence Social Vices among Youths?				
5.	Most youths involve in social vices because they have seen one of their family members engage in it.				

6.	Families don't teach morals and values again, thus making youths to engage in social vices.				
7.	Social vices the youths engage in are learned at home.				
8.	Families frown at youths involvement in social vices.				
	How do the Social Media influence social vices among Youths?				
9.	Youths engage in social vices because they want to practice what they learn on social media.				
10.	Social media exposes youths to ills of the society.				
11.	Social media gives impression that engaging in social vices is an act of civilization.				
12.	Social media puts youth under pressure of belonging to anti-social groups.				
	How can peer pressure affect the youth involvement in social vices?				
13.	Youths involve in social vices because their friends encourage them to do it.				
14.	Inferiority complex makes youths want to emulate bad friends.				

15.	Fear of segregation by friends make youths involve in vices.				
16.	The need to feel among has encouraged youths to participate in vices.				
	How can poverty influence youth in social vices in Benin Metropolis?				
17.	Poverty encourages youth to go into Prostitution.				
18.	Poverty forces youths to go into armed robbery.				
19.	Poverty influences youths to become fraudsters.				
20.	Poverty instigates youths to become dishonest.				