

CAUSES AND INFLUENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON STUDENTS' BEHAVIOURAL PATTERNS IN SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN IDAH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KOGI STATE, NIGERIA.

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Abstract

The study investigated the causes and influence of domestic violence on the students' behavioural patterns in senior secondary school in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. The study was guided with two objectives, two research questions and one null hypothesis. A survey was used as the research methodology. 2,870 pupils made up the study's total population, and 244 of them were chosen at random from seven nearby schools. The instrument used to collect the data was a self-structured questionnaire entitled: Causes and Influence of Domestic Violence Questionnaire (CIDVQ). The demographic data were analyzed using simple percentage while answers research questions were analyzed using mean scores and standard deviation. The hypothesis was tested using t-test. This hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance. The findings showed that, the causes of domestic violence are; intimidation, aggression, pride, disrespect and frustration. It was also revealed that; domestic violence influence students' behavioural patterns negatively. Results from the tested hypotheses revealed that, domestic violence has negative effect on the behavioural patterns of both male and female students. Therefore, it was recommended that, stake-holders like counsellors, social organization and religious bodies should use every available opportunity to educate the populace in general and family in particular to avoid violence of any form due to its effects on the students' negative behavioural patterns.

Introduction

Domestic violence is threatening many Nigerian families especially families in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. Many families in the world experiences one forms of domestic violence or the other. To this end, Michele (2018) asserted that, every school may likely have children affected by domestic violence either directly or indirectly. He emphasized further that domestic violence can have serious long-term and immediate effects on children's behavior patterns and developmental processes. It affect students' psychological disposition like aggression, anxiety and anger. Similarly, Almajali & Aisrehan (2019) believed that, many students who are victims or

witnesses domestic violence are always unmannerly, who talk without sense. Regardless of gender, domestic violence refers to any occurrence or series of incidents involving coercive or threatening behavior toward an intimate partner or member of the family. In the same vein, Adedotun and Adeniyi (2020) define violence as an extreme form of aggression such as physical assault, rape and murder. They added that, violence has many causes which include frustration, exposure to violence media, aggression, disrespect, and lack of trust among family members. He added that, there are certain situations that increase the risk of aggression such as drinking of alcohol, insults and other provocative statement. In the same vein, students' behavioural patterns may largely depend on their background which may be influence by other factors either positive or negative. Among the over bearing factors that affect students' behavioural pattern is the state of the home. The home as the first training ground and foundation for any students has a great impact on the students' psychological, emotional, and interpersonal relationship. Therefore, whatever happens in a home goes a long way in affecting the behaviour of any students either positive or negative (Meizer, 2009 in Apio, 2019). He stressed further that, victims or witnesses of domestic violence may develop psychological and emotional problems. This may affect their human relations in school and a good number of them may have behaviour problems like rudeness and disrespect. He added that, the short and long term of emotional trauma may result to students' disobedience to parents and school authority, street fight and restlessness. It may also result into a range of problems such as depression, suicidal tendencies, anxiety and inappropriate behaviour at school.

Generally, people believed that, family is a place where people expected intimacy and emotional support among husbands, wives and children but domestic violence present itself as a paradox. To this end, children from such families who witness violence between their parents may face psychological problems such as anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, disobedience and nightmare which may negatively impinge on their human relation (Muhammed, 2019). In addition, such students may suffer short- and long-term emotional imbalance which may not only affect their behaviour in school but may also adversely affect their social and interpersonal relationship. These students may end up being abusers themselves in what can be seen as continuity pattern. In view of the above assertion, Joe, Kpolovie, Osonwa and Aderima (2014) in Muhammed (2019) opined that, children who witness violence between their parents often time developed behavioural and psychological problems.

Importantly, the student's psychological, emotional, and social behavior is greatly influenced by their homes. This is due to the student's response. to life situation largely depends the types of homes, he/she comes from. Dutton (2012) in Apio (2021) define domestic violence or abuse as any behaviour that involves the intentional use of force against the body of another person that risks physical injury, harm and pain which includes pushing, hitting, slapping, choking, and use of weapon. Violence, he said, is defined as the use of physical force with the goal to harm, abuse, destroy, or otherwise negatively impact a person or a partner. These causes disruption in the lives of students especially male students.

However, domestic violence has resulted in the injuries, disabilities, and deaths of many people, particularly students. Unexpectedly, students who experience domestic abuse frequently experience feelings of fear, grief, and loneliness, as well as suicidal thoughts and attempts. They also exhibit behaviours like drunkenness, smoking, truancy, drug abuse and disrespect for elders which in turn resulted in negative behaviours especially among senior secondary school students in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. It is on the above background that, the researchers decided to carry

out this study couple with researchers' experience with his class mate who vow to kill his father and himself when he grew up due to violent, he witnesses against his mother.

Objective of the study

This study was guided by the following objectives which are to;

- i. find out the causes of domestic violence among parents in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State.
- ii. ascertain the influence of domestic violence on the students' behavioural pattern in senior secondary school in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State.

Research Questions

The researchers raised the following questions to guide the study.

- I. what are the causes of domestic violence among the parents in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State?
- ii. what are the influence of domestic violence on the students' behavioural pattern in senior secondary school in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State?

Hypotheses

The following null hypothesis was formulated for the study and it was tested at 0.05 level of significance.

H₀₁: There is no significant difference in the influence of domestic violence on the students' behavioural patterns in senior secondary school base on gender in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State.

Methodology

For this study, a survey research design was chosen. According to Imam (2019), a survey research design is one in which a group of people or items are studied by collecting and analyzing data from only a few people or items considered to be representative of the entire group.

All of the senior secondary school students in SS 11 in Kogi State's Idah Local Government Area made up the study's population. The population comprised of 2,870 from seven selected Senior Secondary School particularly SS II students. Thus, these 2,870 students became the respondents for the study.

The sample size for this study was 244 which comprised of students who were in senior secondary school particularly SS II from seven (7) selected senior secondary schools in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. In order to choose a representative sample from the population for this investigation, stratified random sampling was used. The researchers considered the formula of Krejcie and Morgan (1970) as appropriate. They asserted that the size of an appropriate sample is not fixed by the proportion or number of subjects. SS II students were chosen for this study because they fall into the category of students who could be able to understand some level of domestic violence.

The researchers' self-structured questionnaire, with the following title, served as the research tool for this study. Causes and Influence of Domestic Violence Questionnaire (CEDVQ). The Department of Measurement and Evaluation at the Faculty of Education, University of Abuja, employed experts to validate this instrument using face, construct, and content validity. The test-

retest method was used to assess the reliability of the instrument. The instrument was pilot tested within the interval of three weeks after administering the first test and it yielded an index of 0.67 which was considered high enough for this research.

The questionnaires were distributed to all respondents in the sample schools during class hours with assistance from two research assistants who had been trained on the topic. The completed questionnaires were then collected on the spot by the researchers.

For the demographic information, the information gathered from respondents was evaluated using basic percentages, while the research questions' replies were analyzed using mean scores and standard deviation. Using the t-test statistical approach, the hypothesis was evaluated at the 0.05 level of significance. A mean of 2.50 or more was required for acceptance, and any mean lower than 2.50 was rejected.

Presentation of Results

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents according to Gender

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	49	42.3
Female	67	57.7
Total	116	100.00

Table 1 showed that 49 respondents (42.3%) were male students while 67 (55.7%) respondents were female students. This implies that the female students were more than the male students in this study.

Research Question One: what are the causes of domestic violence among the parents in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State?

Table 2: The causes of domestic violence among parents in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State

N =116

S/N	Statements	\bar{X}	SD	Decision
1	Intimidation often led to violence among my parents	3.42	0.78	Agree
2	Trust usually causes fight between my parents	1.47	1.03	Disagree
3	My parents' occupation is the root cause of their problems	1.51	1.20	Disagree
4	I discovered pride as the root cause of violence between my parents	3.15	0.87	Agree
5	I discover that money always causes fight among my parent	1.47	0.77	Disagree
6	Differences in religion causes domestic violence	3.08	0.78	Agree
7	Disrespect is one of the causes of domestic violence	3.24	0.77	Agree
8	Aggression leads to violence in most homes	3.30	0.83	Agree
9	Frustrations among couples causes violence in a home	3.41	0.88	Agree
Sectional Mean		2.67	0.88	

Analysis in Table 2 was conducted to identify the factors that lead to parental domestic abuse in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. The mean scores showed disagreement with some of the items, meaning that the factors that may lead to domestic violence among parents does not play major role in Idah, however, differences in religion of couples, aggression, frustration and pride are the factors that contributed majorly to domestic violence. The sectional mean for the items on causes of domestic violence among parents in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State was 2.67. The median score exceeds 2.50. (midpoint on a 4-point Likert scale) with a standard deviation of 0.88, signifying those factors such as pride, intimidation, aggression and frustration pushed parents to domestic violence.

Research Question Two: what are the influence of domestic violence on the students' behavioural pattern in senior secondary school Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State?

Table 3: The influence of domestic violence on the students' behavioural pattern in senior secondary school Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State

N =116				
S/N	Statements	\bar{X}	SD	Decision
7	I behave well despite my parents fought always	2.84	0.77	Agree
8	I derive pleasure in fighting	3.39	0.70	Agree
9	I find it difficult to keep friends due to my character	3.49	0.84	Agree
10	My misbehaviour is due to my parents' disunity	1.35	1.18	Disagree
11	I hate marriage	1.51	1.15	Disagree
12	I regret having these types of people as my parents	3.38	1.04	Disagree
13	I have poor relationship with people	2.58	0.82	Agree
14	My parents' misbehaviour contributes to my unruly behaviour	2.33	0.86	Agree
15	I rain insult on people easily	3.25	0.76	Agree
16	I perform better academically despite my parents' disunity	1.93	1.18	Disagree
17	I am fun of keeping malice	3.36	0.67	Agree
18	I skip classes due to my parents' violence	3.31	0.76	Agree
19	I am unstable emotionally due to my parents consistent fighting	1.43	1.14	Disagree
20	Violence between my parents affect my behaviour negatively	2.18	1.22	Disagree
Sectional Mean		2.60	0.95	

Table 3 showed the mean responses on the influence of domestic violence on the students' behavioural pattern in senior secondary schools in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. The sectional mean for the items on effects of domestic violence on the students' behavioural pattern in senior secondary schools in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State was 2.60. The mean score is above 2.50 (midpoint on a 4-point Likert scale) with a standard deviation of 0.90, signifying that domestic violence affected the general behavioral patterns of senior secondary school students in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State.

H₀₁: There is no significant difference on the influence of domestic violence on the students' behavioural patterns in senior secondary school base on gender in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State.

Gender	N	\bar{X}	SD	t-val.	df	Sig(2 - tailed)	Decision
Male	48	1.72	.59	2.12	114	.037	Significant
Female	68	1.52	1.51				

Table 4 was analyzed to show the differences between male and female on the influence of domestic violence on their behavioural patterns in senior secondary schools in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. The significant value of .037 which is less than 0.05 level of significance, the hypothesis which says that there is significant difference on the influence of domestic violence on the students' behavioural patterns in senior secondary schools base on gender in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State, is thus, rejected and conclude that male and female students differ significantly in behavioural patterns in senior secondary schools in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. Therefore, male gender are more negatively influence in any domestic violence.

Discussion of Results

The answer to the first research question revealed that, intimidation, pride, difference religion, aggression and frustration are the main reasons of parental domestic violence in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. This finding is in line with the opinion of Adedotun and Adeniyi (2020) who are of the opinion that, frustration, exposure to violence media, aggression, disrespect, and lack of trust among family members often time lead to domestic violence among parents. Naturally, intimidation, pride, aggression and frustration lead to disunity and disagreement which often time metamorphoses to violence among individual. In addition, humility by other partner may not prevent violence in the face of frustration, intimidation, pride and disrespect.

The finding from answers to research question two revealed that, domestic violence affected the general behavioral patterns of seniors in secondary schools Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. This finding is in agreement with Meizer, 2009 in Apio, (2019). who believed that, victims or witnesses of domestic violence like students may develop psychological and emotional problems. This may affect their human relation in school and a good number of them may have behavioural problem like rudeness and disrespect. In the same vein, this finding is also in line with the opinion of Muhammed, (2019) who asserted that, children who witness violence between their parents may face psychological problems such as anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, disobedience and nightmare which may negatively impinge on their human relation. Such student may developed behavioural and psychological problems. There is no doubt, that home background play crucial role in the behaviour of an individual which tend to hider many from function effectively in a society. And consequently, may cause people to withdraw from such individual who have behavioural issues brought on by domestic abuse.

The claim that in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State, men and women did not significantly differ in how domestic violence affected their behavioral patterns. The hypothesis is thus, rejected and concluded that male and female students differ significantly, that male students are more influence negatively in their behavioural patterns as a result of domestic violence. The finding of this hypothesis is in line with the opinion of Apio (2021), who asserted that, domestic violence causes disruption in the lives of any student especially male students both psychological and emotional instability which lead to behavioural problems. This of course would make any male victims of domestic violence to have unsettle home when he is married.

Conclusion

This study concluded that, factors like intimidation, pride, differences in religion, aggression and disrespect are the major causes of domestic violence among parents in Idah Local Government Area of Kogi State. The study also discovered that, domestic violence influence students' behavioural pattern negatively. It was also discovered in this study that, male students are more disadvantage and mostly influence when compare to their female students.

Recommendation

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Parents must endeavour to read several materials especially the one that concerns causes of domestic violence which may enable them to avoid violence at all cost due to its effects on the behavioural patterns of their children or students. This may also enable parents to live in harmony.
2. Stake-holders like counsellors, social organization and religious bodies should use every available opportunity to educate the populace in general and family in particular to avoid violence of any form due to its effects on the students' psychological well-being. This programme should take place periodically to help eradicate or reduce domestic violence in our environment.
3. The victims of domestic abuse in particular the students must be encouraged to undergo behaviour modification therapy to enable them function well in the society.

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