

DRUG ABUSE AND SOCIAL MEDIA AS CORRELATES TO ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AMONG UNDERGRADUATES IN IGNATIUS AJURU UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION

By

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Abstract

This study investigated drug abuse and social media as correlates of anti-social behaviour among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education. Two research questions and its corresponding null hypotheses guided the study. The correlational research design was adopted in the study. The population of the study consisted of 5658 undergraduates in the university. The sample of the study comprised 400 undergraduates. The sample size was determined using Taro Yamene. The sampling technique was simple random sampling technique. Three self-structured questionnaires titled: "Drug Abuse Scale (DAS), Social Media Scale (SMS) and Anti Social Behaviour Scale (ABS) were used in gathering data for the study. The instrument was validated by three experts. The Drug Abuse Scale yielded a reliability coefficient of 0.72; the Social Media Scale yielded a reliability coefficient of 0.69 while the Anti Social Behaviour Scale yielded 0.74 indicating that the instruments are quite reliable. Pearson Product Moment Correlation was used in answering the research questions and testing the null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. The findings of the study showed that: There is significant relationship between drug abuse and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the University and there is also significant relationship between social media and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the University. Based on the findings of the study, it was recommended that: University management should regularly organize orientation programmes to acquaint undergraduates of the danger of drug abuse and right use of social media, undergraduates involved in drug abuse should be encouraged to go for counselling to seek help, there should be synergy between university management, parents and National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) in order to rehabilitate undergraduates involved in drug abuse.

Keywords: Drug abuse, social media, anti-social behaviour and undergraduates.

Introduction

Over the decades, it has been observed that drug abuse, social media usage and anti-social behaviours among undergraduates have been on an alarming increase. There are several variables responsible for this increase in social ills and deviant behaviour (Shanu, 2013). This however, has become a worrisome situation which has attracted the attention of psychologists, sociologists, philosophers, non-governmental agencies and even the federal government to look into the possible causes of these dastard acts (Oye, 2012). Drug abuse, social media and anti-social behaviours have an interrelated or interconnected string which collectively inter play in the lives of undergraduates or adolescents (Vorvic, 2010).

A common Nigerian does not need anybody to tell him/her about the likes in anti-social related matters in our society especially among our undergraduates who represent a large population of the youths/adolescents (Oshikoya &Alli, 2016). With the trends in anti-social events in our society today, it is obvious that the remote and immediate cause of the ills have not been actually discovered and this, the researcher is out to do in this research work, to fish out the undiscovered cause of our undergraduates involvement in drug abuse, social media and anti-social behaviours (Otieno, 2012).

This has however, made our tertiary institutions to be unlivable, uninhabitable and unsafe for learning activities (Okwuchukwu, 2014). There is high rate of rape, theft, bully, extortion, cultism, killing, disappears

of students, excessive drinking and mishandling of fellow students even lecturers, maiming etc. in our universities, tertiary institutions even in secondary schools (Odejide, 2010). This is an unwelcomed act which the parents, lecturers, the masses even the government will not fold their arms and watch our children and the acceptable behaviours the society has been known for melt into the thin air. Something urgent has to be done to curb these nefarious acts if not our society will be filled with hoodlums (Oberiri & Greg, 2017). What actually consist anti-social behavior is termed anti-social or wrong when it goes against the standards of laid down rules and principles of the society. Behavior is also referred to as anti-social when it affects the mental, economic and social progress of a person, when it badly affects his relationship which people around him/her and when he negatively affects the lives of other people (Roberts, 2011). This anti-social behavior manifest greatly in adolescent/undergraduates or youths. This adolescence is a very critical stage in a person's life and that is why anyone at this stage of life needs to apply extreme care on whatever he/she does to avoid mistakes (Nkyi, 2015). It is a phase in life whereby adolescents exhibit youthful exuberances, a period of storm and stress. Whereby undergraduates or adolescents embark on so many anti-social behaviours. At this stage, they want to try new things like the intake of drugs and drug abuse, have a difference from what he knows and the likes. However, anti-social behavior or life is the type of life that adds no value to a person but rather subtracts as it has the tendency of scaring people away from the victim thereby leaving the person in isolation (Maithya, 2012). Moreover, considering the too many damages caused by anti-social behavior, the federal government is fighting tooth and nail to curb this menace. No wonder, it came up anti-social behavior unit (ASBU) and anti-social social behavior act in 2013. A report by anti-social behavior unit in England, and whales reported about 66,000 victims of anti-social just in a day (Kayne, 2012).

Gana (2011), in his work, reported that some of the reasons why some students are anti-social is because they lack support from family/friends. In this backdrop, they result to social media and drug abuse as a way to escape from the realities of life to a state of euphoria and ecstasy. Drug abuse and social media

play a big role in facilitating and enhancing anti-social behavior. Drugs like alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, nicotine, hallucinogens, inhalant etc. are highly abused. Abused in the sense that they take them without prescription from medical practitioners or health workers (Fasae & Adegbilero-Iwari, 2016).

Social media is not left out in contributing to anti-social behaviour. Social media has been a major force in technology, its impact and use has exceeded the conventional purpose to the unimaginable future. Social media has indeed attracted so many ills to individuals and even corporate organizations. There is mounting belief that social media culminates immensely to anti-social behaviour (Awoyinfa, 2012). This is because adolescents learn by observation and imitation. Their peers post some pictures or videos that glorify drug abuse, sexual abuse and other anti-social related posts. On their platform in facebook, instagram, snapchart, whatsapp etc. this kind of message go viral through their interconnected charts. This has made social media to be like a demon terrorizing our youths or undergraduates (Asemah, Okpanachi & Edegoh, 2013). Now says international Business Times, too much time spent on these sites can cause teens to develop narcissistic tendencies and anti-social behaviour (Asemah & Edegoh, 2012). According to a study at California state university Larry Roben, a Psychology professor, conducted the study in order to examine social media's impact on interaction between preteens and teenagers. What he saw that it seemed to have negative effect on people in this age group. Roben linked social media to be a big factor that cultivates anti-social behaviour. Social media has infiltrated every aspect of the adolescent's daily life and could cause potential road blocks to normalcy in behaviour (Asdaque, Khan & Rizvi, 2010).

Conclusively, this research work, looked into the problems created by interrelationship between drug abuse and social media as correlate to anti social behaviour among undergraduates in our tertiary institution for where the loophole or gap lies, shade more light on it, proffer solutions in order to avoid the many damages caused by it for the enhancement of

peaceful co-existence in our society and tertiary institutions (Arthur & Kiss, 2010).

Aim and Objectives of the Study

The aim of the study was to investigate drug abuse and social media as correlates to anti-social behaviour among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education. The study specifically sought to:

1. Investigate the relationship between drug abuse and antisocial behavior among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education based on gender.
2. Examine the relationship between social media and antisocial behavior among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education based on gender.

Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study

1. To what extent is drug abuse related to antisocial behavior among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education based on gender?
2. To what extent is social media related to antisocial behavior among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education based on gender?

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated to guide the study:

1. There is no significant relationship between drug abuse and antisocial behavior among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education based on gender.
2. There is no significant relationship between social media and antisocial behavior among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education based on gender.

Method

The study adopted correlational research design. The correlational design is used when the researcher seeks to understand the kind of relationship naturally occurring between two variables (Nwankwo, 2013). The population of this study was 5658 undergraduates of both male and female in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education. The sample of this

study was 400 undergraduates drawn through simple random sampling technique. Three self structured questionnaires titled: Drug Abuse Scale (DAS), Social Media Scale (SMS) and Anti-Social Behaviour Scale (ABS) were used in gathering data for the study. The researcher administered and retrieved the filled questionnaires at the spot for analysis. The instruments were segmented into two sections A and B. Section A sought information on the personal data while the section B sought information on the substantive issue of the research such as Drug Abuse, Social Media and Anti-Social Behaviour. The section was patterned alongside the Likert scale. The responses and the weights included: Strongly Agree (SA) = 4, Agree (A) = 3, Disagree (D) = 2 and Strongly Disagree (SD) = 1. The Drug Abuse Scale (DAS), Social Media Scale (SMS), Anti-Social Behaviour Scale (ASBS) all have 15 items each.

The instruments were validated by three experts in Educational Psychology, and two experts in Measurement and Evaluation. The experts were from the Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni, Port Harcourt. The experts determined the suitability of each item of the instruments for the study. Their corrections were taken into consideration in designing the final draft of the instrument.

In this study, test-retest method is used. The instruments used in the study for data collection was administered twice to the same sample after a time lag. The scores generated from the two administration of the instruments were then correlated using Pearson Product Moment Correlation method. The Drug Abuse scale yielded a reliability coefficient of 0.72, the Social Media Scale yielded a reliability coefficient of 0.69 while Anti Social Behaviour scale yielded a reliability coefficient of 0.74 indication that the instrument is quite reliable.

The instruments for data collection (Drug Abuse Scale, Social Media Scale & Anti Social Behaviour Scale) were administered to the sample of the study with the assistance of three trained research assistants. The direct method was utilized in the distribution of the instruments. This is to avoid loss of the instruments.

And again, it afforded the researcher the opportunity to explain the purpose of the study to the respondents. Pearson Product Moment Correlation was used to answer the research questions and test the hypotheses at 0.05 level of probability. The data analysis was aided by the Statistical Package of Social Sciences (SPSS).

Results

Research Question One: To what extent is drug abuse related to anti-social behaviour among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt based on gender?

Hypothesis One: There is no significant relationship between drug abuse and anti-social behaviour among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt based on gender.

Table 1: Relationship between Drug Abuse and Anti-Social Behaviour among Undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port Harcourt based on Gender

Correlations			
		Drug Abuse	Anti-Social Behaviour
Drug Abuse	Pearson Correlation	1	0.59**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		0.003
	N	201	201
Anti-Social Behaviour	Pearson Correlation	0.59**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.003	
	N	201	201
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).			

Result presented in Table 1 reveals that the extent of relationship between drug abuse and anti-social behaviour among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education in Rivers State based on gender is 0.59. This result shows that there is a moderate positive relationship between drug abuse and anti-social behaviour among undergraduates in Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt, Rivers State based on gender. This result indicated that as scores on

drug abuse increases, there is corresponding increase in the scores on antisocial behaviour.

Result in Table 1 shows that the relationship between drug abuse and anti-social behaviour among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education in Rivers State based on gender is significant at 0.05 level of significance. This is because the p-value (0.003) was less than the 0.05 level of significance. This result means that the null hypothesis is rejected while the alternate hypothesis is not rejected. The result of this null hypothesis is that there is moderate positive significant relationship between drug abuse and anti-social behaviour among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt based on gender.

Research Question Two: To what extent is social media related to antisocial behaviour among undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port Harcourt, Rivers State based on gender?

Hypothesis Two: There is no significant relationship between social media and antisocial behaviour among male undergraduate in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port Harcourt, Rivers State based on gender.

Table 2: Relationship between Social Media and Anti-Social Behaviour among Undergraduates Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port Harcourt, Rivers State Based on Gender

Correlations			
		Social Media	Anti-Social Behaviour
Social Media	Pearson Correlation	1	0.49**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		0.002
	N	188	188
Anti-Social Behaviour	Pearson Correlation	0.49**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.002	
	N	188	188

** Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Result presented in Table 2 shows that the extent of relationship between social media and antisocial behaviour among undergraduates in Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt, Rivers State based on gender is 0.49. This result reveals that there is a moderate positive relationship between social media and antisocial behaviour among undergraduates in Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt, Rivers State based on gender. This result indicates that as scores on social media increases, there is corresponding increase in the scores on antisocial.

Result in Table 2 indicates that the relationship between social media and antisocial behaviour among undergraduates in Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt, Rivers State based on gender is significant at 0.05 level of significance. This is because the P-value (0.002) was less than the 0.05 level of significance. The result means that the null hypothesis is that there is low positive but significant relationship between social media and antisocial behaviour among undergraduates in Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

Discussion of Findings

The result of the study indicated that there is moderate positive relationship between drug abuse and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. The positive relationship between drug abuse and antisocial behaviour among undergraduates in the university means that as scores on drug abuse increases, there is a corresponding increase in the scores on antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the university. In other words, male and female undergraduates whose scores are high on drug abuse, also scored highly on antisocial behaviour in the university. Also, the result revealed significant relationship between drug abuse and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the university at 0.05 level of probability.

The degree of association between drug abuse and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the university was found to be 0.59.

The coefficient of alienation ($\sqrt{1 - r^2}$) was found to be 0.80. This represents the degree of lack of association between drug abuse and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the university. Thus, while the degree of relationship was 0.59, the degree of lack of relationship was found to be 0.80.

However, the percentage reduction in error of prediction (r^2) for drug abuse and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the university was found to be 0.3481. This means that knowledge of scores of drug abuse will reduce the error of predicting scores on antisocial behaviour by 34.81 percent and vice versa. On the other hand, the percentage of error of prediction ($1 - r^2$) of drug abuse from antisocial behaviour was found to be 65.19 percent. Therefore, in terms of predicting drug abuse from antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates, it means that only 34.81% of drug abuse scores could be accounted for or accurately predicted from knowledge of antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates and vice versa, while 65.19% could not be accounted for or explained by reference to scores on antisocial behaviour. In a nutshell, the result shows that although the relationship between drug abuse and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt, Rivers State was statistically significant, the percentage of prediction of one variable from another was low. This result is in disagreement with Oberiri and Greg (2017) that there is significant relationship between drug abuse and anti-social behaviour among female undergraduates.

The result of the study reveals that there is a moderate positive relationship between social media and antisocial between among male and female undergraduates in Ignatius Ajuru University of Education in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. The positive relationship between social media and antisocial behaviours among male and female undergraduates means that as scores on social media increases, there is a corresponding increase in the scores on antisocial behaviours in the university. In other words, male and female undergraduates who score high on social media also scored highly on antisocial behaviour in the

university. However, the result indicated that the relationship between social media and antisocial behaviour among the male and female undergraduates in the university is significant at 0.05 level of probability.

The degree of association between social media and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the university was found to be 0.49. The coefficient of alienation ($\sqrt{1-r^2}$) was found to be 0.87. This represents the degree of lack of association between social media and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the university. Thus, while the degree of relationship was 0.49, the degree of lack of relationship was found to be 0.87.

However, the percentage reduction in error of prediction (r^2) for social media and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the university was found to be 0.2401. This means that knowledge of scores of social media will reduce the error of predicting scores on antisocial behaviour by 24.01 percent and vice versa. On the other hand, the percentage of error of prediction ($1-r^2$) of social media from antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates was found to 75.99 percent. Therefore, in terms of predicting social media from antisocial behaviour, it means that only 24.01 & of social media scores could be accounted for from knowledge of antisocial behaviour and vice versa, while 75.99% could not be accounted for by reference to scores on anti-social behaviours. In a nutshell, the result reveals that although the relationship between social media and anti-social behaviour among male and female undergraduates in the university was statistically significant, the percentage of prediction of one variable from another was low. This result is in agreement with Aligwe (2017) that there is a significant relationship between social media and antisocial behaviour among male and female undergraduates in Anambra.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the study, the study concludes that there is significant relationship between drug abuse and antisocial behaviour among both female and male undergraduates. Also, that there is significant relationship between social media and anti-social

behaviour among both male and female undergraduates of the university.

Recommendations

Based on the results of the study, the following recommendations are made:

1. University management should regularly organize orientation programmes to acquaint undergraduates of the danger of drug abuse and right use of social media.
2. Undergraduates involved in drug abuse should be encouraged to go for counselling to seek help.
3. There should be synergy between university management, parents and National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) in order to rehabilitate undergraduates involved in drug abuse.

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