



A NEXUS BETWEEN EDUCATION AND SECURITY CHALLENGES IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The work seeks to define what education and insecurity is. It is to examine the missing link between secondary school education, security challenges, causes and effects of insecurity in Nigeria. The paper avers that secondary education is ceval to shaping attitudes and social interaction and both are critical to address an insecurity challenges. Education is an engine for development in which individuals, religious groups, communities and businesses ought to partake in providing Education that leverages development. Also Nigeria's Education is reformed in such a manner that will make youth self reliance, then the end of insecurity perpetrated by youth is not yet in sight. It advocates mass employment provision by government for unemployed youth as a measure to address Nigeria's problem of insecurity. An adage says that "owo to ba dile ni rore so" literally means an idle hand is devils workshop.

Introduction

Education is the socially organized and regulated process of continuous transference of socially significant experience from previous to following generations. The main way to receive an education is to take a course of training in the system of educational institutions. But about some years ago, suddenly it becomes clear that such interpretation of education has significant defects. A similar answer to the proposed questions was given here by panensts on research gate that Education is designed purposely to assist individuals, to

develop their skills and abilities so as to fulfill their potential and to lead productive satisfying lives. During the primitive periods, education focused on hunting, cooking, following stars and obeying the gods. The power to teach them rested with parents, elders or priests. Illiterate adults had learnt from folklore, folktales, ballads and difference sermons. Education at that time focuses on the transmission of essential skills and the orally preserved traditions of the tribe or community. Teaching was not a specialist function until the early civilizations in which teaching was accompanied with more complex and regulated social organization. In essence the purpose of education in this modern times is wider in scope than in primitive societies.

Literature Review

Several scholars has worked seriously on Education and insecurity in the nation, the transmission of what is worthwhile from generation to generations, and the various ways in which society transmits knowledge, including factual information and occupational skills, as well as cultural norms and values, to its members. Education also involves formal institution under the direction of specially trained teachers. Education is also seen as a process by which individuals are assisted formally through proper direction and guidance to develop their capacities not only for their own benefit but for the society at large.

By the way, the issue of insecurity, today we know that “security” means far more than absence of conflict. We know that lasting peace requires a broader vision encompassing areas such as education, health, democracy and human rights, protection against environmental degradation and the proliferation of deadly weapons. We know that we cannot be secure amidst starvation, that we cannot build freedom on the foundations of injustice. These pillars of what we now understand as the people cantered concept of human security are interrelated and mutually reinforcing. In Nigeria, students have been risking their lives for an education like in most parts of the world, schooling comes with its fair share of challenges but when students risk losing their freedom or lives at school, our tomorrow is under attack, where no school is tantamount to charging into table and a swarm of bullets, what chances do the average Nigerian child have for a better education. According to reports, about 800 eight

hundred secondary school and university students have been kidnapped in coordinated attacks by terrorists and bandits in the different states and in the nation as a whole. It has become frequent today almost everytime people are missing. Although these abductions did not being recently, it has become frequent today than it was in 2014 when 276 girls were abducted from Government Girl's Secondary School, Chibok, Borno State. For the then Jonathan administration but it is still worst during this regime, it is uncountable hearing here and there about the missing people. Consequently, the risk of schooling in Nigeria today is death, where going to school could be compared to charging into battle amid a swarm of bullets, what a better education? Several states are shutting down boarding schools in violence-prone areas. This will, no doubt, add to the over 13.5 million out-of-school children in Nigeria today. According to available data, about 80% Northern Nigeria with security systems destabilized schools closed due to insecurity and poverty ravaging the core north, these former students are ready targets for terrorist recruitment. This is no prediction, the privileges afforded to terrorists and kidnapers by the Buhari administration is one of the strongest motivators of the menace today. No matter how-well intentioned, these soft policies are prolonging the fight. The earlier the current administration understands this, the better for Nigerians. Enacting and enforcing free right laws is a step in the right direction but it is not enough. We must think and act more holistically by addressing the socio-economic factors that facilitate kidnapping. As far, as we concerned, most society issues are not always what they seem. As disturbing as kidnapping is, it is only a visible tip of a complex underground maze. We must address causal factors such as poverty, injustice, nepotism, marginalization, corruption amongst others if we must get to the root of the issue.

History of West Education in Nigeria

Western education dates as far back as many years ago. Nigerians has turned out to be one of the best sets of educated people in the world today. Western Education has helped to civilize a lot of Nigeria. Since the advent of colonial masters, they have made efforts that we Nigerians learn from their foreign ways. Actually the Yoruba elders/people have been used to teach their young one's

the norms and customs of their land. However, when the western system came many parents insisted that their children should learn from them.

Western education gain recognition around 20th century colonial masters, the British commence and the Christian mission were all involved in putting western education into place. In 1943, the nursery of infant church was established and located in Badagry and it was later changed to the St. Thomas Anglican Nursery and Primary School.

As time goes on, when the nation was developing, a host of other sprang up between the year 1859 to 1925. School's like first secondary school in Nigeria located in Lagos, the Methodist Boys High School, the Baptist Academy, the Abeokuta Grammar School and many others.

The first higher institution in Nigeria was the Hope Waddle Institute located in Calabar which was established in the year 1895 western education was able to spread fast in Nigeria, as at then no one will find favour in the eyes of the white then if none of them refuse to send their maids to school, it has helped to sharpen the students of the older generations and also the new ones. It made Nigerians be educationally accepted and also recognize all over the world. Western education in Nigeria if was a light brought into darkness and everyone of us embraced it.

Importance of Western Education in Nigeria

Western education serves as a good weapon in many aspects to us. First and foremost our culture, norms and values have changed. It has brought development to Nigeria, in the sense that we have been educated so as to know our rights and this enable us to pursue our independence. Also, we were being recognised internationally, beside this, there is risen far above in our standard of living than before. An example of this, is the reduction in the number of children, an average family has gone through various family planning methods as compared to the very large nuclear households in the past. In addition to this, there is improvement in science and technology. We have moved from the primitive way of life to a more sophisticated.

Education and Nigeria's National Insecurity

When children are old enough to understand the potential consequences of drug involvement, they must deal with the insecurity, a binary of possibly losing their parents. An educated person has broad view of issues as against narrow and

parochial outlook. Education makes people to be tolerant to other people's religion, belief, culture, limitations and promote social harmony and security. It is ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence.

A good number of conflicts often arise from ignorance and manipulation of ethnic and religious identity. In fact, education (not just passing through the four walls of the school) system produces tolerant and civil citizens who are able to understand and live with people from different ethnic, economic, religious and cultural country that bequeaths the right type of Education to its citizens maker if difficult for such citizens to turn against their father land. Infact, it is meaningfulness to talk of security in the absence of the right type of education. It is therefore, not a surprise that Radda opines that education when well imparted and utilized, has the potency of promoting national insecurity. This is because it is mostly uneducated jobless and educated jobless youths that are easily attracted to crimes, thereby, constituting insecurity in a country. While western education that is not geared towards self-reliance (education that makes youth job seeker) may be dangerous as far as developing countries are concerned, lack of western education or low education is even more dangerous. Low education often translates to absence of competitive skill adequate income, exclusion from participating in vital political, economic and social organizations and relations. Lack of access to adequate food and nutrition, housing, health care and efficient public emergency and safety services-all which are element on human security. Youths who are educated have hope of better future than youths who are not educated and failed to learn any craft. Children or youths with low education are easily recruited as thugs, insurgents and terrorists through indoctrination, suffice to say that lack of education itself is insecurity, inadequate or incomplete education also constitutes a problem to national security.

Suggestions and Recommendations

Conclusively, with all the explanation we have made, we should make sure that there is need for unrest of various shades working against the internal security of Nigeria as a result of faulty educational curriculum, to review the curriculum of Nigerian education at all levels in line with the prevailing situations.

Education system should be reviewed in such a way that it will make beneficiaries job creators rather than job seekers. In other words, there is need for proper synergy between education, vocational studies and entrepreneurship skills. Terrorism and kidnapping are intelligence driven. If we must tackle them head-on, we must raise our national intelligence as Nigerians to fight this menace on an individual level. Also, in schools, we must teach students how to respond to security emergencies.

They must be taught basic self-defence and evasive skills that makes it harder for kidnapper's to simply whisk students off without a run for their money. Schools must also arrange with law enforcement agencies for periodic patrols and inspections within and outside the school fence to ensure there are no ongoing breaches.

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