

**SELF-CONCEPT AND ITS INFLUENCE ON ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR-  
PERSONALITY OF NIGERIAN SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENCE CORPS (NSCDC)  
PERSONNEL IN AWKA, ANAMBRA STATE, NIGERIA**

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**ABSTRACT:** *The study examined “self-concept and its influence on antisocial behaviour/personality of Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel in Awka, Anambra State”, with 327 participants sampled through cluster and incidental methods. Valid/reliable Self-Concept and Psychopathic Deviant Scales measured self-concept and antisocial behaviours respectively, adopting cross-sectional design and ANCOVA statistics. Findings: Self-concept significantly contributed to NSCDC personnel’s antisocial personality ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $N = 327$ ;  $F_s = 3.057, 3.551, 4.198, \& 12.950$ ). Self-concept did not significantly influence the personnel’s psychopathic personality ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $F = .934$ ;  $N = 327$ ). Self-concept significantly influenced the personnel’s antisocial personality ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $F = 5.691$ ;  $N = 327$ ), criminal behaviour ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $F = 6.797$ ;  $N = 327$ ), fraudulent behaviour ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $F = 10.559$ ;  $N = 327$ ), and delinquency ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $F = 5.610$ ;  $N = 327$ ). Recommendation: NSCDC should inculcate healthy/ethnics-oriented self-concepts in the personnel.*

**KEYWORDS:** self-concept, antisocial behavior, personality, NSCDC, Civil Defence, Anambra State, Nigeria

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## INTRODUCTION

No known empirical investigations have been carried out on the recurring behavioural aberrations of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel. This is despite the bold admission by the Abdullahi Gana, Commandant-General of the NSCDC, that there is desperate need to ascertain the psychological state and other behavioural qualities of the NSCDC personnel (Gana, 2019). Frequently, the behavioural qualities of security personnel in Nigeria, including the NSCDC, depict what Abdalla-Filho and Völlm (2020) observed as antisocial behaviours that fall very short of integrity and praiseworthy from the society. Behavioural qualities are attributes of self-concept, which is the perception an individual has of himself as a physical, social, and spiritual or moral being. Self-concept influences psychological well-being (Flurry, 2020). Behavioural qualities of the NSCDC personnel are not given priority nor objectively evaluated before employing them. Individuals with antisocial personality can be injected into the Nigerian security agencies based on quota system and psychosocial affiliation, instead of objective recruitment procedures. Individuals with antisocial personality exhibits unimpressive professional performance (Safai, 2020). Antisocial personality is a systemic problem which seems to have affected the performance quality of the NSCDC personnel, as one of the security establishments in the country. Yet, no known concrete action, apart from political and administrative rhetoric, have been taken to investigate the seemingly perennial behavioural aberrations among the NSCDC personnel. This research is therefore a professional approach aimed at assisting the NSCDC organization have insight into the cause of their personnel's behavioural challenges.

### Statement of the Problem

Abdullahi Gana, the Commandant-General, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) has ordered psychological test and security profiling of its personnel. The directive followed the Gombe State, Nigeria, incident where NSCDC personnel drove his car into a procession of Christian Boys' Brigade members, killed nine and wounded many others (Gana, 2019). The personnel in question was not on official duty as the vehicle involved was his personal car (Gana, 2019). The incident was akin to religious motivated violent extremism and terrorism (Nwankwo, Peter, Officha, Ezekwueme, & Fasugbe, 2020). The objective of the psychological test and security profiling was to check future antisocial behaviours by the NSCDC personnel. Apart from testing to re-examine the psychological state and physical stability of personnel, the NSCDC will embark on massive training and retraining programmes for all the personnel, irrespective of cadre (Gana, 2019). Basically, behaviour has substantial link with self-concept. A person's self-concept develops from several sources, which can either facilitate or mar the individual's personality and performance characteristics. Self-concept can be the influencer of antisocial behaviours. It is plausible that some of the behavioural aberrations of the NSCDC personnel, like the incident in Gombe State above, could be issues of self-concept. The present study therefore aims at examining self-concept and its influence on the antisocial personality of Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps focusing at Awka, Anambra State, Nigeria.

### **Objective of the Study**

The study aims at finding out:

1. The extent to which self-concept will significantly influence antisocial personality among the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel.
2. Whether self-concept will significantly influence criminal behaviour among the members of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps.
3. The extent of significant influence that self-concept will have on the fraudulent behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel.
4. Whether self-concept will significantly influence delinquent behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel.
5. Whether self-concept will significantly influence psychopathic personality of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel.

### **Research Questions**

1. To what extent will self-concept significantly influence antisocial personality of members of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps?
2. In what ways will self-concept influence criminal behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel?
3. How will fraudulent behaviour of personnel Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps be significantly influenced by self-concept?
4. How will delinquent behaviour of members of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps be significantly influenced by self-concept?
5. In what ways will self-concept of member Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps be significantly influenced by psychopathic personality?

### **Significance of the Study**

This study is significant because of the following reasons:

1. This study will help the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps to understand the antisocial behaviour of their personnel.
2. It will also help the society understand how individuals' self-perception can influence their antisocial behaviour.
3. This study will as well be of great value to the nation at large because it shows that self-concept personality affects the personnel of the nation's defence organizations.

### **Operational Definition of Terms**

**Self-Concept:** This is the totality of an individual's thoughts and feelings which characterize the person as measured with Personal Self-Concept (PSC) by Goñi, Madariaga, Axpe, and Goñi (2011).

**Antisocial Personality:** It is a person's various forms of despised behaviour which put the individual against the society and other people, as measured with the Psychopathic Deviant Scale (PDS) by Hathaway and Mckinely (1967).

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Theoretical Review

#### On Self-Concept

**Psychoanalytic theory of self-concept by Freud (1856-1939):** Psychoanalysis is a set of theories and therapeutic techniques related to the study of the unconscious mind, which together form a method of treatment for mental-health disorders. The discipline was established in the early 1890s by Austrian neurologist Sigmund Freud. With reference to psychoanalytic theory, Freud proposed three levels of conscious awareness (the self) as the “id” (untamed personality), “ego” (rational personality), and “superego” (morality personality). These are crucial in the exploration of self which ultimately builds the self-concept of an individual, as well as personnel members of security organizations like the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC). Antisocial behaviour of the personnel of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps is predicated on the influence of the “id”. Personnel that act on the influence of the “id” do not consider the morality or consequences of their actions. Instead, they are impulsively uncontrollable, which is very detrimental to the individual himself and the NSCDC in general.

#### On Antisocial Personality

**Arousal theory of antisocial personality by Hare (1970):** Low-arousal theory (Hare, 1970) suggests that antisocial personality have a pathological low level of autonomic and cortical arousal (Carlisi, Moffitt, Knodt, Harrington, Ireland, Melzer, Poulton, Ramrakha, Caspi, Hariri, & Viding, 2020), as well as hyperactivity when compared to non-psychopathic individuals. Consequently, antisocial personality will be in a chronic state of stimulation and sensation seeking. This explains why antisocial personalities do not become automatically aroused to stimuli that would otherwise be stressful, exciting, or frightening to non-psychopaths. This results to the psychopaths need for a greater variety and intensity of sensory input to increase his or her arousal level to the optimum. The theory assumes that arousal level and sensory intake are dynamically related in such a way an optimal level of arousal is maintained. This is a common level presumed to be functionally desirable for all individuals. However, when that level of arousal falls below the optimum, stimulation and/or sensation-seeking behaviour and sensory intake increases dramatically to raise the arousal level to the desired optimum. When the arousal level rises above the optimum, the stimulation and sensation-seeking behaviour and sensory intake attenuates and the level of arousal drops to the required optimal level.

### Empirical Review

#### On Self-Concept

A study was conducted by Ahmad, Tansey, Busser, Gisselbrecht, Rusan, and Michelson (2012) on self-esteem, self-concept and competitive anxiety among different levels of soccer players, using 300 males (100 State, 100 inter-varsity & 100 all India inter-varsity level). The findings of the study revealed significant differences among State, inter-varsity and all India inter-varsity level soccer players on self-concept (total). It was further found that insignificant differences existed among the samples on some dimensions of self-concept. Kumari and Mangayarkarasi (2010) compared the self-concept between male and female hockey players of different age categories.

For purpose of the study, 300 hockey players were selected as subjects. Among them, 75 male hockey players and 75 female hockey players with age ranged from 15 to 17 years and 75 male hockey players and 75 female hockey players with age category 18 to 20 years were selected. They observed significant difference between male and female hockey players on different age categories. Awan and Noureen (2011) examined the academic achievement and its relationship with achievement motivation and self-concept. The subjects consisted of 336 students (146 males and 172 females) from four public schools and four private schools. The results revealed that achievement motivation and self-concept are significantly related to academic achievement. Significant gender differences were discovered in favor of the girls.

### **On Antisocial Personality**

A study was conducted by Raine, Venables, and Williams (1990) which centers on the relationship between experimental measures of arousal and criminality at two different age intervals. Arousal was measured at 15 years, using electro dermal, cardiovascular, and cortical responses; while criminality was measured at age 24 years. The findings of the study demonstrated that on all measures of arousal, future criminals showed lower levels of arousal in the experimental situation than did future non-criminals. Therefore, this does seem to provide some evidence that low arousal is associated with future criminality. However, criminality does not equate to psychopath (Babiak & Hare, 1999). Antisocial personalities are said to constitute approximately 20% of the prison population and 1% of the general population that are not incarcerated (Hare, 1993). A study was conducted by Carlisi, Moffitt, Knodt, Harrington, Ireland, Melzer, Poulton, Ramrakha, Caspi, Hariri, and Viding (2020). The study used structural MRI data collected at 45 years of age from participants in the Dunedin Study, a population-representative longitudinal birth cohort of 1037 individuals born between April 1, 1972, and March 31, 1973, in Dunedin, New Zealand, who were resident in the province and who participated in the first assessment at 3 years of age. Data from 672 participants were analyzed, and findings showed that 80 (12%) were classified as having life-course-persistent antisocial behaviour, 151 (23%) as having adolescence-limited antisocial behaviour, and 441 (66%) as having low antisocial behaviour. Individuals on the life-course-persistent trajectory had a smaller mean surface area (standardized  $\beta = -0.18$  [95% CI  $-0.24$  to  $-0.11$ ];  $p < 0.0001$ ) and lower mean cortical thickness (standardised  $\beta = -0.10$  [95% CI  $-0.19$  to  $-0.02$ ];  $p = 0.020$ ) than did those in the low group. Compared with the low group, the life-course-persistent group had reduced surface area in 282 of 360 anatomically defined parcels and thinner cortex in 11 of 360 parcels encompassing circumscribed frontal and temporal regions associated with executive function, affect regulation, and motivation. Widespread differences in brain surface morphometry were not observed for the adolescence-limited group compared with either non-antisocial behaviour or life-course-persistent groups.

### **HYPOTHESES**

1. Self-concept will not significantly influence antisocial personality of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel.
2. Self-concept will not significantly influence criminal behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel.
3. Self-concept will not significantly influence fraudulent behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel.

4. Self-concept will not significantly influence delinquent behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel.
5. Self-concept will not significantly influence psychopathic personality of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel.

## METHOD

**Participants:** The estimated number of participants to be used for the study was determined using Yamane Yaro formula. It is used to determine the minimum number of participants to be sampled for a study. The total number of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps at Awka Anambra State was 860 (NSCDC, 2018). A total of 400 participants were targeted for the study. However, 327 participants were used for the study as many of the questionnaires sampled were wrongly responded to, and had to be rejected as experimental mortality. The sampling techniques employed was the probability and non-probability sampling methods. The probability sampling technique was the cluster sample (Nwankwo, Ekebosi, Temidayo, Ike, & Alobele, 2020). This is a sampling method used when a researcher divides the samples into its natural clusters (groups) in which each cluster has the characteristics of the population. In this research, the clusters explored were the personnel's rank, gender, educational level and marital status. For the non-probability sampling, the incidental sampling technique was adopted. This is a method that is based on availability and willingness to participate in the study (Nwankwo, Ike, Officha, Temidayo, & Ekebosi, 2020).

Yaro formula

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

Where N = General population e = sampling error

$$n = 860/1 + 860(0.05)^2$$

$$n = 860/861 \times 0.0025$$

$$n = 860/2.1525$$

$$n = 399.5$$

$$n \sim 400$$

**Instruments:** The two instruments utilized were Personal Self-concept (PSC) questionnaire by Goñi et al (2011) and Psychopathic Deviant Scale by Hathaway and Mckinley (1967). Personal Self-Concept (PSC) was used to measure participants' self-concept, while Psychopathic Deviant Scale was used to measure their antisocial personality.

**Self-Concept Scale:** The definitive version of the *personal self-concept* (PSC) questionnaire consists of 17 items aimed at measuring personal perceptions regarding *self-fulfillment* (5 items), *Honesty* (3 items), *Autonomy* (4 items), and *Emotional self-concept* (5 Items). The author reported a retest reliability of .77. The author also reported a content validity of .71. For the present study, the present researchers found the Guttman split-half reliability of .74, and convergent validity of .94, .81, .99, and .99 for the self-fulfillment, Honesty, autonomy, and emotional self-concept dimensions respectively for Nigerian samples.

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**Psychopathic Deviant Scale:** This is a 69 item inventory. It is the scale 4 of the Minnesota Multiphasic personality inventory (MMPI). It has four sub scales, which are: *criminal behaviour* (10 items) *fraudulent behavior* (7 items), *delinquency* (20 items) and *psychopathic personality* (22 items). One-week interval test-retest reliability coefficient of .80 was reported by Hathway and Mckinley (1967) with a sample of 100 participants. For the present study, the present researchers found Guttman split-half reliability of .89, and convergent validity of .99, .99, .99, and .77 for the criminal behavior, fraudulent behavior, delinquency and psychopathic personality dimensions of Psychopathic Deviant Scale respectively for Nigerian samples.

**Procedure:** The researchers approached the participants (respondents) and explained the nature/essence of the study and sought their consents to participate in the study. The participants were assured them of the confidentiality of their responses. It is an ethical requirement in a psychological research to get consent and ensure confidentiality of participants. The participants were thereafter requested to fill (respond to) the questionnaire. In an effort to encourage honest answers, participants (respondents) were instructed not to include their names or other identification parameters in the activity. A total of 327 participants were used for the study. The questionnaire copies were collected after being responded to.

**Design/Statistics:** The study had cross-section design. This was because the study utilized an existing population. Participants for the study were therefore sampled from an already existing and natural population. Again, the participants were sampled across the various clusters of the population. Analyses of the collected data were also done across various factors of interests. Similarly, comparisons and interpretations were made across the various factors of the study. The statistics for the study were descriptive and inferential statistics. The descriptive statistics used were the measures of central tendency, measures of dispersion, and histograms to analyze the performance characteristics and distributions of samples. The inferential statistics used was the Analysis of Covariance (ANCOVA). The ANCOVA also incorporates the multivariate tests, tests of between-subjects effects, and Levene's test of equality of error variances. ANCOVA was used because some continuous variables of the independent variable (IV) needed to be checked and examined as well. They were initially not the interested IV. However, their inevitable presence would surely affect the analyses and interpretations of the effect of the IV on the dependent variables (DV). Therefore, it became necessary to use the ANCOVA to take care of the exigencies.

**RESULTS**

The data collected for the study were analyzed using the version 23 of the SPSS.

**TABLE 1:**

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std.		Kurtosis		
					Deviation	Skewness			
	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Std. Error	Statistic	Std. Error
Self-fulfilment	327	8	115	16.44	6.832	9.242	.135	132.673	.269
Honesty	327	3	113	11.28	8.479	10.476	.135	123.938	.269
Autonomy	327	5	22	12.35	2.956	.218	.135	-.279	.269
Emotional Self-concept	327	9	24	17.11	3.403	.311	.135	-.896	.269
SELF-CONCEPT	327	35	78	56.22	11.055	.208	.135	-.601	.269
Criminal Behaviour	327	14	40	27.50	5.123	.084	.135	-.640	.269
Fraudulent Behaviour	327	11	32	19.52	4.362	-.050	.135	-.484	.269
Delinquency	327	50	113	79.85	10.728	.134	.135	.030	.269
Psychopathic Personality	327	23	668	70.71	58.237	9.948	.135	100.234	.269
ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY	327	1	248	191.43	25.675	-1.220	.135	8.268	.269
Valid N (listwise)	327								

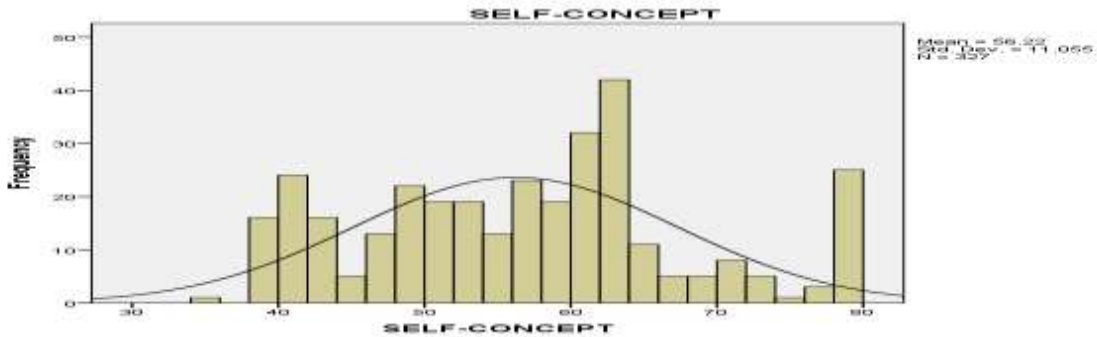
**Descriptive Statistics for Influence of Self-Concept on Antisocial Personality of NSCDC+ Personnel**

+ Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)

Source: Researchers collected primary data

The table 1 above showed the descriptive statistics of the participants. The large values in the standard deviations (SELF-CONCEPT = 11.055, ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY = 25.675) showed much variations in self-concept and antisocial personality of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel. The kurtosis (-.601) showed negative tailness with reference to “Excess Kurtosis of 3”, indicating generalnegative self-concept of NSCDC personnel. Antisocial personality of the NSCDC personnel was also negatively (-1.220) skewed. Reference to the mean showed that both the SELF-CONCEPT (56.22 of 78.00) and ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY (191.43 of 248) of the NSCDC personnel were really high.

**FIGURE 1:**



**Histogram for Influence of Self-Concept on Antisocial Personality of NSCDC+ Personnel**

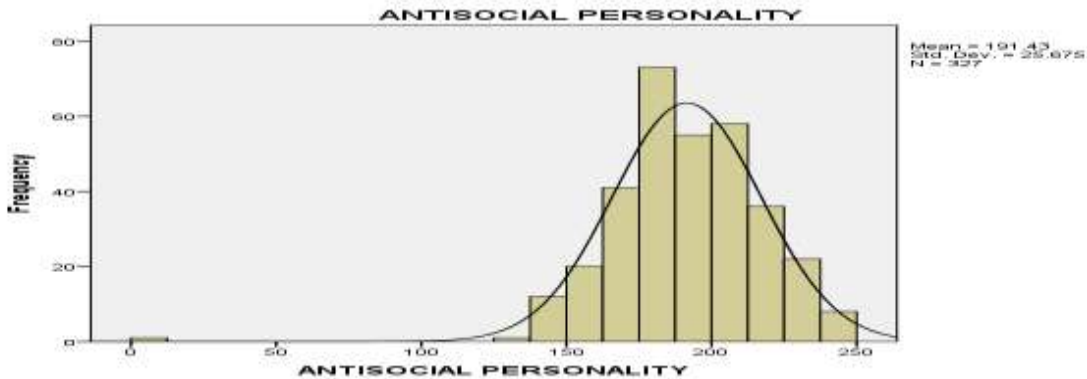
+ Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)

Source: Researchers collected primary data



The histogram graph of figure 1 showed the SELF-CONCEPT performance of the NSCDC’s personnel mean (56.22) and standard deviation (11.055) for N = 327. Again, the strength of the self-concept is on the below-average side. While the personnel had substantial proportion of their self-concept within the normal curve, they still had strong outlier self-concept.

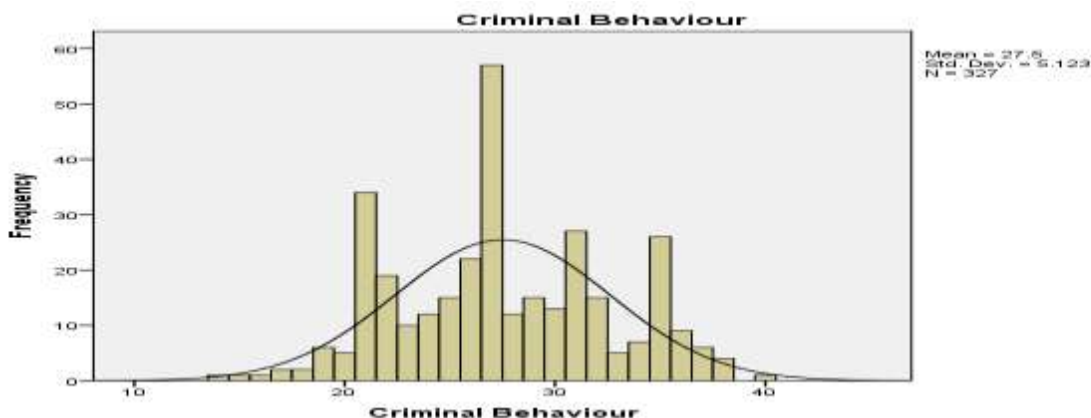
**FIGURE 2:**



**Histogram for Influence of Self-Concept on Antisocial Personality of NSCDC+ Personnel**  
 + Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)  
 Source: Researchers collected primary data

The histogram graph of figure 2 showed the ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY performance of the NSCDC’s personnel mean (191.43) and standard deviation (25.675) for N = 327. Most performance of the ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY is within the normal curve, which indicated an established norm that can be likened to performance culture existing among the personnel. The strength of the ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY is on the very high side of the histogram with very little outliers.

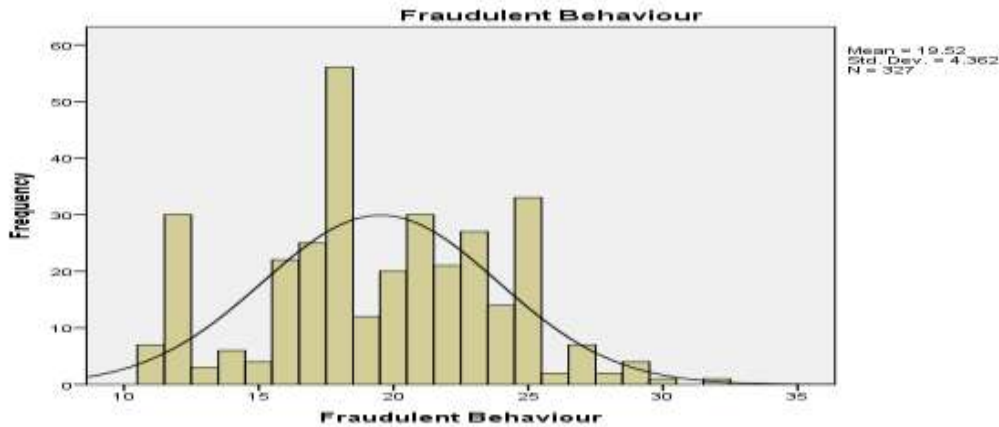
**FIGURE 3:**



**Histogram for Influence of Self-Concept on Criminal Behaviour of NSCDC+ Personnel**  
 + Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)  
 Source: Researchers collected primary data

The histogram graph of figure 3 showed the Criminal Behaviour performance of the NSCDC’s personnel mean (27.5) and standard deviation (5.123) for N = 327. There was concentrated symmetrical (equally high and low) criminal performance within the normal curve for the participants. It could indicate criminal behaviour as a common occurrence among the participants. There was also an occasional strong and sustained criminal behaviour on the outlier.

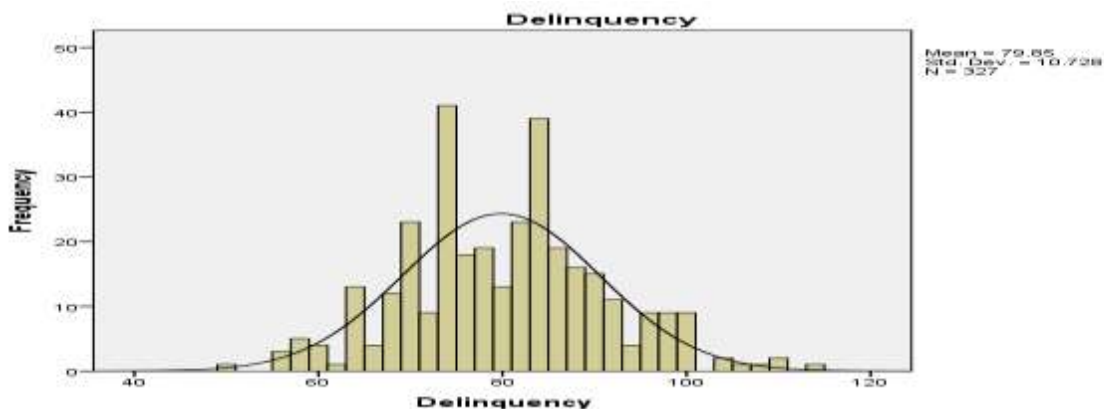
**FIGURE 4:**



**Histogram for Influence of Self-Concept on Fraudulent Behaviour of NSCDC+ Personnel  
+ Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)  
Source: Researchers collected primary data**

The histogram graph of figure 4 showed the Fraudulent Behaviour performance of the NSCDC’s personnel mean (19.52) and standard deviation (4.362) for N = 327. The performance was unstable and irregular below the average, but with occasional greater intensity above the average. Again, the outliers were also irregular.

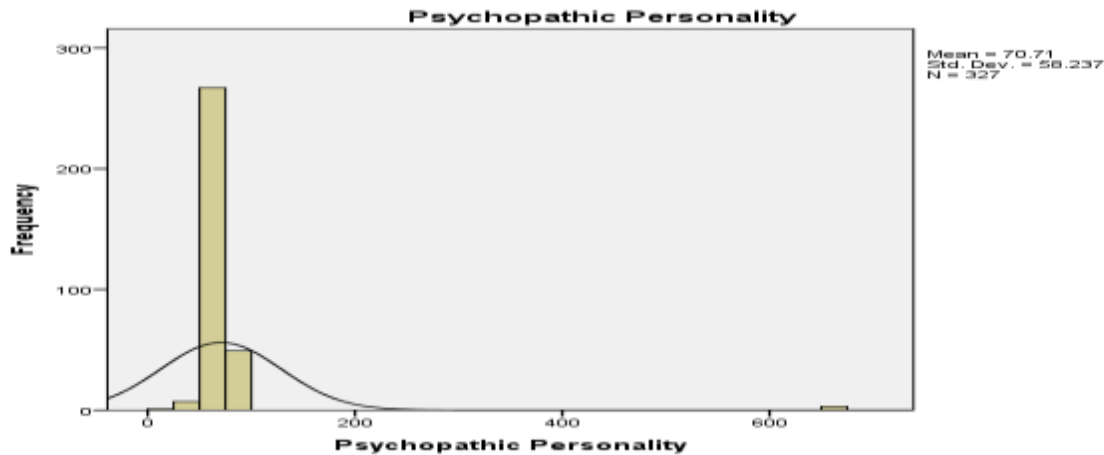
**FIGURE 5:**



**Histogram for Influence of Self-Concept on Delinquent of NSCDC+ Personnel  
+ Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)  
Source: Researchers collected primary data**

The histogram graph of figure 5 showed the Delinquency performance of the NSCDC's personnel mean (79.85) and standard deviation (10.728) for N = 327. There was concentrated symmetrical (equally high and low) delinquency performance for the participants. The performance could also indicate delinquency as a common occurrence among the participants. There was also strong and sustained criminal behaviour on the outlier.

**FIGURE 6:**



**Histogram for Influence of Self-Concept on Psychopathic Personality of NSCDC+ Personnel  
+ Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)  
Source: Researchers collected primary data**

The histogram graph of figure 6 showed the Psychopathic Personality performance of the NSCDC's personnel mean (70.71) and standard deviation (58.237) for N = 327. The performance is abnormally inconsistent. The strength of the outlier is very strong and sustained. Generally, the psychopathic personality was much below the average and not substantially overt, except for the unprecedented outlier. It could indicate that participants with psychopathic personality issues were brazenly high.

**TABLE 2:****Effects of IV and its Covariates**

		Value	F	Hypothesis df	Error df	Sig.
Intercept	Pillai's Trace	.326	26.944**	5.000	278.000	.000
	Wilks' Lambda	.674	26.944**	5.000	278.000	.000
	Hotelling's Trace	.485	26.944**	5.000	278.000	.000
	Roy's Largest Root	.485	26.944**	5.000	278.000	.000
Self-fulfilment	Pillai's Trace	.043	2.489*	5.000	278.000	.032
	Wilks' Lambda	.957	2.489*	5.000	278.000	.032
	Hotelling's Trace	.045	2.489*	5.000	278.000	.032
	Roy's Largest Root	.045	2.489*	5.000	278.000	.032
Honesty	Pillai's Trace	.029	1.686	5.000	278.000	.138
	Wilks' Lambda	.971	1.686	5.000	278.000	.138
	Hotelling's Trace	.030	1.686	5.000	278.000	.138
	Roy's Largest Root	.030	1.686	5.000	278.000	.138
Autonomy	Pillai's Trace	.067	4.020*	5.000	278.000	.002
	Wilks' Lambda	.933	4.020*	5.000	278.000	.002
	Hotelling's Trace	.072	4.020*	5.000	278.000	.002
	Roy's Largest Root	.072	4.020*	5.000	278.000	.002
Emotional Self-concept	Pillai's Trace	.036	2.076	5.000	278.000	.069
	Wilks' Lambda	.964	2.076	5.000	278.000	.069
	Hotelling's Trace	.037	2.076	5.000	278.000	.069
	Roy's Largest Root	.037	2.076	5.000	278.000	.069
SELF-CONCEPT	Pillai's Trace	1.512	3.057**	200.000	1410.000	.000
	Wilks' Lambda	.128	3.551**	200.000	1386.669	.000
	Hotelling's Trace	3.037	4.198**	200.000	1382.000	.000
	Roy's Largest Root	1.837	12.950**	40.000	282.000	.000

**Multivariate Tests<sup>a</sup> for Influence of Self-Concept on Antisocial Personality of NSCDC<sup>+</sup> Personnel**NOTE: Significant for \* $p \leq .05$ ; \*\* $p \leq .001$ ;  $N = 327$ ;  $df = 5, 200, 40$ .

IV = SELF-CONCEPT; DV = ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY

<sup>+</sup> Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)

Source: Researchers collected primary data

Results of table 2 above showed that Pillai's Trace, Wilks' Lambda, Hotelling's Trace, and Roy's Largest Root being significant for the Self-fulfilment and Autonomy covariates at  $p \leq .05$  respectively. These indicated that self-fulfillment and autonomy as covariates of SELF-CONCEPT, each significantly contributed towards the ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY of Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel. However, Honesty and Emotional Self-concept as covariates of SELF-CONCEPT were not significant contributors to NSCDC's personnel ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY. Further analysis at  $p \leq .001$  showed that SELF-CONCEPT generally was a significant contributor of the NSCDC's personnel ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $N = 327$ ;  $F_s = 3.057, 3.551, 4.198, \& 12.950$ ).

**Table 3:**

Source	Dependent Variable	Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
<b>IV and its Covariates</b>	ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY	32177.833	1	32177.833	84.253**	.000
	Criminal Behaviour	665.465	1	665.465	44.742**	.000
	Fraudulent Behaviour	617.055	1	617.055	81.860**	.000
	Delinquency	4061.399	1	4061.399	56.562**	.000
	Psychopathic Personality	20192.321	1	20192.321	5.970*	.015
Self-fulfilment	ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY	208.773	1	208.773	.547	.460
	Criminal Behaviour	95.249	1	95.249	6.404*	.012
	Fraudulent Behaviour	45.446	1	45.446	6.029*	.015
	Delinquency	15.214	1	15.214	.212	.646
	Psychopathic Personality	321.229	1	321.229	.095	.758
Honesty	ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY	41.830	1	41.830	.110	.741
	Criminal Behaviour	102.988	1	102.988	6.924*	.009
	Fraudulent Behaviour	13.219	1	13.219	1.754	.186
	Delinquency	2.243	1	2.243	.031	.860
	Psychopathic Personality	20.446	1	20.446	.006	.938
Autonomy	ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY	670.301	1	670.301	1.755	.186
	Criminal Behaviour	2.897	1	2.897	.195	.659
	Fraudulent Behaviour	79.770	1	79.770	10.583**	.001
	Delinquency	70.149	1	70.149	.977	.324
	Psychopathic Personality	179.728	1	179.728	.053	.818
Emotional Self-concept	ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY	2254.797	1	2254.797	5.904*	.016
	Criminal Behaviour	29.042	1	29.042	1.953	.163
	Fraudulent Behaviour	1.300	1	1.300	.172	.678
	Delinquency	392.622	1	392.622	5.468*	.020
	Psychopathic Personality	10719.326	1	10719.326	3.169	.076
SELF-CONCEPT	ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY	86934.778	40	2173.369	5.691**	.000
	Criminal Behaviour	4043.847	40	101.096	6.797**	.000
	Fraudulent Behaviour	3183.642	40	79.591	10.559**	.000
	Delinquency	16114.267	40	402.857	5.610**	.000
	Psychopathic Personality	126366.179	40	3159.154	.934	.588
Error	ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY	107701.152	282	381.919		
	Criminal Behaviour	4194.337	282	14.874		
	Fraudulent Behaviour	2125.688	282	7.538		
	Delinquency	20248.992	282	71.805		
	Psychopathic Personality	953788.721	282	3382.230		
Total	ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY	12198112.000	327			
	Criminal Behaviour	255932.000	327			
	Fraudulent Behaviour	130760.000	327			
	Delinquency	2122648.000	327			
	Psychopathic Personality	2740439.000	327			

NOTE: Significant for \* $p \leq .05$ ; \*\* $p \leq .001$ ; N = 327; df = 1, 40; 1, 282; 1, 327

IV = SELF-CONCEPT; DV = ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY

+ Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)

Source: Researchers collected primary data

From the table 3 above, the in-depth tests of between-subject effects showed that at  $p \leq .05$  Self-fulfilments as a covariant of SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced criminal behaviour and fraudulently behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel. Again, at  $p \leq .05$ , Honesty as another covariant significantly influenced criminal behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel. Furthermore, at  $p \leq .05$ , Emotional Self-concept as a covariant significantly influenced delinquency, as well as the general ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel. Autonomy as a covariant at  $p \leq .001$  significantly influenced fraudulent behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel. Finally, at  $p \leq .001$ , apart from Psychopathic personality ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $F = .934$ ;  $N = 327$ ), general SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $F = 5.691$ ;  $N = 327$ ), criminal behaviour ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $F = 6.797$ ;  $N = 327$ ), fraudulent behaviour ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $F = 10.559$ ;  $N = 327$ ), and delinquency ( $p < .001 \geq .000$ ;  $F = 5.610$ ;  $N = 327$ ) of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel.

**TABLE 4:**

	<b>F</b>	<b>df1</b>	<b>df2</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY	4.020**	40	286	.000
Criminal Behaviour	5.225**	40	286	.000
Fraudulent Behaviour	3.261**	40	286	.000
Delinquency	3.939**	40	286	.000
Psychopathic Personality	3.763**	40	286	.000

**Levene's Test of Equality of Error Variances<sup>a</sup> for Influence of Self-Concept on Antisocial Personality of NSCDC<sup>+</sup> Personnel**

**NOTE: Significant for \* $p \leq .05$ ; \*\* $p \leq .001$ ;  $N = 327$ ;  $df = 40, 286$**

**IV = SELF-CONCEPT; DV = ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY**

**<sup>+</sup> Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC)**

**Source: Researchers collected primary data**

**Tests the null hypothesis that the error variance of the dependent variable is equal across groups.**

**a. Covariant IVs: Self-fulfilment + Honesty + Autonomy + Emotional Self-concept**

Table 4 above showed that Criminal Behaviour, Fraudulent Behaviour, Delinquency, Psychopathic Personality and the general ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY all vary significantly at  $p \leq .001$  on how they were influenced by SELF-CONCEPT (IV). The IV's influence on fraudulent behaviour ( $F = 3.225$ ), delinquency ( $F = 3.939$ ), and psychopathic personality ( $F = 3.763$ ) was relatively consistent. Criminal behaviour ( $F = 5.225$ ) varied most on the influence the IV had for the Nigerian Security and Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel.

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

The following findings had been made from the results of the analyses of the collected data.

### **Descriptive findings**

1. Antisocial personality of the Nigerian Security and Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel was really high.

### **Covariates' contributions**

2. Self-fulfillment as a covariate of SELF-CONCEPT significantly contributed towards the ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY of Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel.
3. Autonomy as a covariate of SELF-CONCEPT significantly contributed towards the ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY of Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel.
4. Honesty as a covariate of SELF-CONCEPT was not significant contributors to NSCDC's personnel ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY.
5. Emotional Self-concept as a covariate of SELF-CONCEPT was not a significant contributor to the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps' (NSCDC's) personnel ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY.

### **Covariates' influences**

6. Self-fulfillment as a covariant of SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced criminal behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel.
7. Honesty as a covariant of SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced criminal behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel.
8. Emotional Self-concept as a covariant of SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced delinquency of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel.
9. Emotional Self-concept as a covariant of SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced the general ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel.
10. Autonomy as a covariant of SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced fraudulent behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel.

### **Error/Homogeneity variance**

11. Criminal Behaviour, Fraudulent Behaviour, Delinquency, Psychopathic Personality and the general ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY all vary significantly on how they were influenced by SELF-CONCEPT (IV).
12. SELF-CONCEPT's influence on fraudulent behaviour, delinquency, and psychopathic personality was relatively consistent.
13. Criminal behaviour varied most on the influence SELF-CONCEPT had on ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY of the Nigerian Security and Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel.

### **Hypotheses findings ( $p \leq .001$ )**

14. SELF-CONCEPT generally was a significant contributor to NSCDC's personnel ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY. Therefore, the first hypothesis which stated that self-concept will not significantly influence antisocial personality of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel is rejected.
15. SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced criminal behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel. Hence, the second hypothesis which stated that self-concept will not significantly influence criminal behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel is rejected.
16. SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced fraudulent behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel. As a result, the third hypothesis which stated that self-concept will not significantly influence fraudulent behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel is rejected.
17. SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced delinquency of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel. Consequently, the fourth hypothesis which stated that self-concept will not significantly influence delinquency of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel is rejected.
18. SELF-CONCEPT did not have a significant influence on psychopathic personality of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel. Therefore, the fifth hypothesis which stated that self-concept will not significantly influence psychopathic personality of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel is accepted.

### **DISCUSSION**

SELF-CONCEPT generally was a significant contributor to NSCDC's personnel ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY. Therefore, the first hypothesis which stated that self-concept will not significantly influence antisocial personality of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel is rejected. SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced criminal behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel. Hence, the second hypothesis which stated that self-concept will not significantly influence criminal behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel is rejected. SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced fraudulent behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel. As a result, the third hypothesis which stated that self-concept will not significantly influence fraudulent behaviour of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel is rejected. SELF-CONCEPT significantly influenced delinquency of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel. Consequently, the fourth hypothesis which stated that self-concept will not significantly influence delinquency of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel is rejected. SELF-CONCEPT did not have a significant influence on psychopathic personality of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps personnel. Therefore, the fifth hypothesis which stated that self-concept will not significantly influence psychopathic personality of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel is accepted.

It is plausible that the findings of the study support the observations of Carlisi, Moffitt, Knodt, Harrington, Ireland, Melzer, Poulton, Ramrakha, Caspi, Hariri, and Viding (2020) that the



antisocial behaviour (of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps, NSCDC, personnel) could be attributed to inability to develop social skill. This is with reference to professional skill of conscientiousness. Furthermore, Carlisi, Moffitt, Knodt, Harrington, Ireland, Melzer, Poulton, Ramrakha, Caspi, Hariri, and Viding (2020) noted that life-time or persistent antisocial behaviours are issues associated with small brain structures. Basically, neurological conditions of security personnel are not examined in Nigeria before recruiting them. This also applies to the NSCDC personnel. Instead, tribalism (particularly being a Northern Nigerian), religious affiliation (particularly being a Moslem), and other prejudiced or biased psychosocial consideration are used to inject individuals into various security organizations in Nigeria. Surprisingly, even captured terrorists (Boko Haram and Fulani murderers/Myetti Allah members) and other potential terrorists or violent extremists are injected into the various Nigerian security organizations, with complete disregard to their neurological and personality states. Such complete neglect of psychological state of security personnel could be the predisposing factors why the self-concept of the NSCDC personnel tends to significantly influence their antisocial behaviour.

### **Implication of the Study and its Findings**

1. The findings of the study will help in checking antisocial behaviour among the personnel of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC).
2. The study helps to bring into focus the importance of having security personnel with sound psychological state.
3. Other security organization like the military, police, and paramilitary organizations will benefit from the study and its findings, as reference for assess the mental health and other personality qualities of their personnel.

### **CONCLUSION**

The study examined “self-concept and its influence on antisocial personality of Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel in Awka, Anambra State”. The aim was to investigate the role the self-concept plays in the numerous behavioural aberrations exhibited by the NSCDC personnel. The findings of the study were self-concept significantly contributed to NSCDC personnel’s antisocial personality. Self-concept did not significantly influence the personnel’s psychopathic personality. Self-concept significantly influenced the personnel’s antisocial personality; criminal behaviour; fraudulent behaviour; and delinquency. It is recommended that NSCDC should inculcate healthy/ethnics-oriented self-concepts in their personnel.

### **Limitation of the Study**

1. The study limited its scope to the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) personnel, excluding other security organizations in Anambra State or Nigeria.
2. The study focused only on the NSCDC personnel in Awka, Anambra State, excluding other personnel in other States in Nigeria.
3. Consequently, generalizing the findings to other security agencies is discretionary.

**Recommendations**

1. The personnel of Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) should have organizational culture of frequently assessing the mental state and psychological states of their personnel.
2. Effective and ethical personnel training of members must be adopted by the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps in order to inculcate self-concept that is devoid of antisocial behaviour/personality.

**Suggestion for Future Studies**

1. Future researchers should be extended to other security agencies or organizations in Anambra State and Nigeria.

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**APPENDIX I**

**DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY,  
CHUKWUEMEKA ODUMEGWU OJUKWU UNIVERSITY, IGBARIAM, ANAMBRA  
STATE, NIGERIA.**

**SECTION A**

**Please provide your background information. The information provided in the course of this research will be confidential, thanks.**

1. **Gender:** Male: \_\_\_\_\_ , Female: \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Age:** 18 – 24: \_\_\_\_\_, 25 – 31: \_\_\_\_\_, 32 – 38: \_\_\_\_\_, 39 – 45: \_\_\_\_\_, 46 and above: \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Rank:** Rank & File: \_\_\_\_\_, Inspector Cadre: \_\_\_\_\_, Superintendent Cadre: \_\_\_\_\_
4. **Educational qualifications:** FSLC: \_\_\_\_\_, WAEC/NECO: \_\_\_\_\_, BSC/HND: \_\_\_\_\_, MSc/PGD: \_\_\_\_\_, PHD: \_\_\_\_\_, Others (Please Specify) \_\_\_\_\_
5. **Years of Experience:** \_\_\_\_\_
6. **Religion:** Roman Catholic: \_\_\_\_\_, Anglican: \_\_\_\_\_, Pentecostal: \_\_\_\_\_, Shiite Muslim: \_\_\_\_\_, Sunni Muslim: \_\_\_\_\_
7. **Marital Status:** Married: \_\_\_\_\_, Single: \_\_\_\_\_, Divorced: \_\_\_\_\_, Widowed: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION B****PERSONAL SELF-CONCEPT (PSC) QUESTIONNAIRE**

<b>A. Self-Fulfillment</b>						
	<b>INSTRUCTION: The following statement describes how people feel fulfilled in themselves. Rate each item as it applies to you.</b>	<b>1 Never</b>	<b>2 Rarely</b>	<b>3 Sometimes</b>	<b>4 Often</b>	<b>5 Always</b>
1	I am satisfied with what I am achieving in my life.					
2	So far, I have achieved every important goal I have set for myself.					
3	I have always overcome any difficulty I encountered in life.					
4	If I could start my life over again, I would not change very much.					
5	I feel proud of how I am managing my life.					
<b>B. Honesty</b>						
	<b>INSTRUCTION: The following statement describes people's level of honesty. Rate each item as it applies to you.</b>	<b>1 Never</b>	<b>2 Rarely</b>	<b>3 Sometimes</b>	<b>4 Often</b>	<b>5 Always</b>
6	I am a trust worthy person.					

7	I am a man/woman of my word.					
8	My promises are sacred.					
<b>C. Autonomy</b>						
	<b>INSTRUCTION: The following statement describes how self-reliant people could be. Rate each item as it applies to you.</b>	<b>1 Never</b>	<b>2 Rarely</b>	<b>3 Sometimes</b>	<b>4 Often</b>	<b>5 Always</b>
9	I don't need others in order to do anything.					
10	I can embark on anything without other people's support.					
11	When taking a decision, I don't depend too much on other people's opinions.					
12	I don't find it difficult to take decisions on my own.					
<b>D. Emotional Self-Concept</b>						
	<b>INSTRUCTION: The following statement describes how people deal with emotions. Rate each item as it applies to you.</b>	<b>1 Never</b>	<b>2 Rarely</b>	<b>3 Sometimes</b>	<b>4 Often</b>	<b>5 Always</b>
13	If I'm feeling down, I don't find it hard to snap out of it.					
14	I consider myself to be a very uptight and highly strong person.					
15	I am more sensitive than the majority of people.					
16	I am an emotionally strong person.					
17	I don't suffer too much when something goes wrong.					

**SECTION C****PSYCHOPATHIC DEVIANT SCALE (PDS)**

<b>A. Criminal Behaviour</b>						
	<b>INSTRUCTION: The following are statements people make about themselves. Read each statement carefully and answer accordingly to indicate how the statement describes a criminal.</b>	<b>1 Totally Disagree</b>	<b>2 Disagree</b>	<b>3 Undecided</b>	<b>4 Agree</b>	<b>5 Totally Agree</b>
1	I am sure I get unkind treatment from life.					
2	I have had very peculiar and strange experiences.					
3	I sometimes steal.					
4	I have not lived the right kind of life.					
5	These days, the thought of becoming an important person is always worrying me.					
6	I have used alcohol excessively.					
7	Someone is planning evil for me.					
8	What others think of me does not bother me.					
9	I have sometimes stayed away from another person because I feared doing or saying something that I might regret afterwards.					
10	I do not mind being made fun of.					
<b>B. Fraudulent Behavior</b>						
	<b>INSTRUCTION: The following are statements people make about themselves. Read each statement carefully and answer accordingly to indicate how the statement describes a Fraudulent Behavior.</b>	<b>1 Totally Disagree</b>	<b>2 Disagree</b>	<b>3 Undecided</b>	<b>4 Agree</b>	<b>5 Totally Agree</b>
11	At times, I feel like swearing.					
12	I think a great many people exaggerate their misfortunes in order to gain the sympathy and help of others.					
13	It takes a lot of argument to convince people of the truth.					

14	Most people would use somewhat unfair means to gain profit or an advantage rather than lose it.					
15	I am against giving money to beggars.					
16	I think anyone will tell a lie to keep out of trouble.					
17	I worry over money and business.					
<b>C. Delinquency</b>						
	<b>INSTRUCTION: The following are statements people make about themselves. Read each statement carefully and answer accordingly to indicate how the statement describes a delinquent person</b>	<b>1 Totally Disagree</b>	<b>2 Disagree</b>	<b>3 Undecided</b>	<b>4 Agree</b>	<b>5 Totally Agree</b>
18	I have very few quarrels with members of my family.					
19	My daily life is full of things that are interesting me.					
20	My sex life is satisfactory.					
21	At times I had very much wanted to leave home.					
22	I find it hard to keep my mind on a task or job.					
23	Criticism or scolding hurts me terribly.					
24	I certainly feel useless sometimes.					
25	My family does not like the work I have chosen ( or the work I intend to choose for my life work).					
26	I am easily defeated in an argument.					
27	I do many things which I regret afterwards ( I regret things more often than others seem).					
28	Most of the problems I have are with myself.					
29	Most of the time, I feel as if I have done something wrong or evil.					
30	In school, I was sometime send to the principal for cheating.					
31	I do most of the times what other people are doing.					

32	It makes me uncomfortable to put up a funny show at a party when others are doing the same sort of thing.					
33	I get mad easily but get over it soon.					
34	I have never felt better in my life than I do now.					
35	My parents have often objected to the kind of people I went round with.					
36	I like to talk about sex.					
37	I have been quite independent and free from family rule.					
38	I enjoy the excitement of a crowd.					
39	My parents and family find more fault with me than they should.					
40	I have been disappointed in love.					
41	I have very few fears compared to my friends.					
42	I have never been in trouble with the law.					
43	There are always quarrels in my family.					
44	I like parties and socials.					
45	I wish I could get over worrying about things I have said that may have injured other people's feelings.					
46	My way of doing things is apt to be misunderstood by others.					
47	I like school.					
<b>D. Psychopathic Personality</b>						
	<b>INSTRUCTION: The following are statements people make about themselves. Read each statement carefully and answer accordingly to indicate how the statement describes a Psychopathic Personality.</b>	<b>1 Totally Disagree</b>	<b>2 Disagree</b>	<b>3 Undecided</b>	<b>4 Agree</b>	<b>5 Totally Agree</b>
48	At times, I feel like smashing things.					
49	No one seems to understand me.					
50	I have never been in trouble because of my sex behaviour.					
51	Often I can't understand why I have been so cross and grouchy.					



52	At times, my thoughts have raced ahead faster than I could speak them.					
53	I wish I could be as happy as others seem to be.					
54	I wish I were not so shy.					
55	I am happy most of the time.					
56	I am happy that my home life is as pleasant as that of most people I know.					
57	I have never had a fit or convulsion.					
58	I frequently find myself worrying about something.					
59	I find it hard to talk first when I meet new people.					
60	It makes me impatient to have people ask my advise or otherwise interrupt me when I am working on something important.					
61	I have periods I feel unusually happy without any specific reason.					
62	My relatives all love me.					
63	If given a chance, I could do some things that could be of benefit to the world.					
64	When in a group of people, I have trouble thinking of the right things to say.					
65	Sometimes without any reason or even when things are going wrong I feel excitedly happy 'on top of the world'.					
66	I am sure I am being talked about.					
67	I am always unhappy when an armed robber is set free because of the arguments of a clever lawyer.					
68	A wind storm terrifies me.					
69	I shrink from facing a crises or difficulty.					