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## THE IMPACT OF PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS ON EXAMINATION MALPRACTICES IN NIGERIA

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**ABSTRACT:** *This paper examines the impact of private secondary school on examination malpractices in Nigeria. It also explain the impact of the school management, teachers, parents, government agents and students on examination malpractices in Nigeria. However, it also discussed the causes and effects of Examination Malpractices on the academic achievement of the private secondary schools students. Yet, it emphasis the factors that influence the students on examination malpractice in private secondary schools. Similarly, it states the outcomes of examination malpractices on the academic performance of the secondary schools students in Nigeria. Thus, the implications of examination malpractice on the student's academic achievement were thoroughly discussed.*

**KEYWORDS;** private, secondary schools, examination, malpractices, teacher, parents, academic, performance, implication, achievement.

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## INTRODUCTION

Indeed, Private Secondary school is owned by an individual or groups of people who have the same interest which Talcott Parson in functionalism theory refers to value consensus. However, there are many private secondary schools in Nigeria which were approved by ministry of education and they are still supervised by the state and federal ministries of education. Lauglo (2010) defines private schools are owned and organized by individual or groups of people to make profit and also assist public secondary schools. Lee, (2006) states that private school also known as independent schools, non- government privately funded or non- state schools. Lubienski, (2006) explains that private schools return the right to select their students and are funded in whole or in part by charging their students for tuitions rather their relying on mandatory taxation through public government funding. Thomas (2003) emphasis that some private schools are associated with a particular religion such as Judaism, Roman, Catholic, or Lutheranism

Sastry, N. (2010). States that private schools have not in any way contribute to the academic performance of secondary school students lamented that private schools in attempt to remain comparatives and in business sometime invest resources ( money ) in buying questions papers by buying examinations and invigilators during external examination. vander.S. (2008) explains that private schools encourage examination malpractices. He further stated that private schools is only pivot by which quantitative education. Parcel (2001 states that private schools do not pronounce

or inculcate low or high performance of students at school largely depends on the child's enthusiasm type of pair groups he has teaching / learning instructional materials.

### **Agents of Examination Malpractices in Nigeria**

**School management;** ironically, many private secondary schools Nigeria are involved in examination malpractices, because they believe that the excellent performance of the students will emulate the other students to enroll in their schools. Therefore, Principals and proprietress or proprietors are always guilty of examination malpractices in private secondary schools in Nigeria . For instance, many private secondary schools were closed down few years ago because many students were caught by WAEC Agents in examination Hall in respect secondary schools while teachers were not left behind supplied the students answers for Examination Questions .

**Parents;** However, parents also encourage their children to involve in examination malpractices especially external Examinations . For instance, many parents spend huge amount of money to purchase Examination Questions just to make sure that their children succeed in Examination, so that they can choose career for them in future. Moreover, many students could not successful in their careers which their choose for them.

**Teacher ;** However, many teachers are agents of Examination Malpractices in respectful private secondary schools in Nigeria . Yet, thousands of teachers involve, so that they will not loose their job, because if the students failed their subjects such teacher may loose his/ her job by the management of the school that is the reason while they always involve in Examination Malpractices at all cost . Although, federal government promulgated the law which against the Examination Malpractices but it does not proper implemented in our country.

**Government Agents ;** thousands of invigilators are involved in Examination malpractices in Nigeria, because they are always seeking money from school where they have posted for the invigilation , even their Boss still expect return from them . Yet, the invigilators always provide them the questions before Examinations commence, so that the teachers will prepare the solutions available for the students especially WAEC, and NECO Examinations in Nigeria.

**Students ;** obviously, students always eager to pass Examination at all cost, they always ready to pay any amount for Examination Malpractices , even many of the students leaves public secondary schools and register in private secondary, so that there is assurance for them that they will have good results. Therefore, Examination Malpractices popular among the secondary school students especially private secondary schools in Nigeria.

### **Factors that influence private secondary schools on examination malpractices in Nigeria**

Basically, there are numerous factors contribute to Examination Malpractices in secondary schools in Nigeria such as following;

**Demand for large number of students for enrollment ;** Obviously, the aims and objectives of proprietress and proprietors of all private secondary schools in Nigeria state is to register many students in their schools , so that they can have huge profits . Therefore, they believed that more the students perform excellent particular in public examinations such as WAEC, NECO and other

Examinations will encourage the parents to enroll their children in their schools. Moreover, this will emulate thousands of the students to register in their private secondary schools .

**Laziness of students ;** apparently, thousands of students in private secondary schools are lazy , therefore they believed that their parents will pay for their examinations questions and this makes thousands of students in public secondary schools in Nigeria Re-enroll their Examinations in private secondary schools , because they have known there is optimistic they will perform well through the illegal contributions of teachers who are involved in examination malpractices. Yet, this affects the reading culture of the private secondary school students in Nigeria

**Prestige of best results ;** undoubtedly, many private secondary schools owners are involved in Examination malpractices, so that their students will have best results especially in Public Examinations such as WAEC, and NECO e.t.c in Nigeria. Yet, many private secondary schools have special centre for Examination malpractices. For instance, the students will charge to certain amount of money for their Examinations questions and solutions, so that they will make Excellent results without stress or reading their books . Thus, many invigilators who suppose to invigilate the students in Examination Hall are also involved in Examination malpractices . Even, thousands of proprietress and proprietors are also involved in Examination Malpractices in Examinations malpractices in Nigeria .

**Government agents for examination monitoring ;** in fact, it is difficult to curb Examination Malpractice in Nigeria, because the government Agents who represent the government to make Examinations go on perfectly are also involved in Examination Malpractices . Even, I had seen a centre where the invigilators asked the school management to organize special centre for students, so that students who are writing Examination will pay for special centres. Although, the amount may varies from one secondary school to another based on their negotiation by invigilators and school managements. Similarly, invigilators always eager to go to private secondary school especially during the period of public Examination such WAEC, NECO and it also does not happen during internal Examinations .However, thousands of students completed their education in private schools are not deserved the certificate they have, while many get admission get accidentally to university but many could not able cope with their course of studies and expel just a semester . Later, many of those students joined cult members and disturb brilliant students on campus in Lagos state university few years ago before authorities of university introduced armed security on campus.

### **Outcome of Examination Malpractices in Secondary Schools**

Indeed, there many problems associated with Examination Malpractices in Nigeria such as ;

**Killing the intelligent of students;** Examination Malpractice affect many secondary school students and this contributed their challenges before they can get admission to tertiary institutions in Nigeria thousands of students are involved in Examination Malpractice during neither internal and external examination Examinations . For instance, many parents lure to pay for Examination

papers Examination questions for their children while others are using machinery to carry out the assignment for their children. However, these are the challenges confronting standard falling education in Nigeria in general.

**Encourage laziness of the students** ; Many students do not have culture of reading because of participation of parents and teachers in Examinations have destroyed the interest of the students on reading culture in Nigeria and constituted to inability of students to defend their Certificates. For instance, in 1960s Nigeria graduates were well respected and got good employment because they performed on their studies that particular time in which they did not involved in Examination Malpractices which is rampant in Nigeria .

**High rate of number of students are inability to cope their courses in Tertiary institutions;** thousands of the students expelled in tertiary institutions in Nigeria few because of inability to cope with their studies , even many students admitted to tertiary institutions in Nigeria passed through examination malpractices that the reason many students expel from high institution yearly.

### **Implication of Examination Malpractices on Academic Achievement of Private Secondary School in Nigeria**

Basically, private secondary schools contribute to the inability of the students to read . However, many students spend many times on social media instead to study because they believe that teachers will provide them the answers once they have paid any amount they asked them to pay. Similarly, many secondary students spend their time to associate with bad friends, because to pay for automatic certificate which they can defend . for instance, I have seen a student who did not attend mathematics class got Ai in west examination council because he provided the solutions to the questions he only cope and submitted while many students that are good failed honourable while other very brilliant got C6, but nonentity passed all the subjects registered excellent through the helped of the teachers. However, many could not defend their results. Similarly, many students passed their examinations through examination malpractices may choose wrong careers that is the reason many students could not defend the results expel after 1<sup>st</sup> semester in higher institutions over the country because of their inability to defend their results. For instance, three students committed suicide in different universities in Nigeria ( university of Ibadan a medicinal student 2level who killed himself, another a female student Obafemi Awolowo University ile – ife Osun State, while 3<sup>rd</sup> person killed himself at University of Benin. Definitely, they created sorrow for their families.

### **CONCLUSION**

Obviously, private secondary schools need to restructure by the federal ministry of education and state ministry of education in Nigeria . However, federal government needs make law which will reduce the Examination Malpractices in private secondary schools in Nigeria . Moreover, the law which state the penalty for students or teacher even the owners of private secondary who involve in Examination Malpractices . Similarly, the federal government needs to make against invigilators

who engage in Examination Malpractices in school , if they caught involve in Examination Malpractices .Definitely, if government punish those people caught involve in Examination Malpractices will drastically reduce the habit among the students who are lured to involve in Examination Malpractices in Nigeria.

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