Effects of Drug Abuse on University Students’ Use of Library and Academic Performance

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Abstract

Drug Abuse is becoming an increasing problem in Nigeria. This study sought to determine the effects of drug abuse among University students’ use of library and academic performance in Abuja, Nigeria. Descriptive research design was adopted for the study. Four research questions and two hypotheses tested at 0.05 level of significance guided the study. Using sample size determination formula, 386 respondents were sampled from the total population of 30,000 students of University of Abuja purposively selected. Instrument for data collection was a researcher’s structured questionnaire titled “Drugs Abuse and Preventive Measure Questionnaire” (DAPMQ). The instrument was validated by three experts from faculty of education in university of Abuja. This instrument was trial tested and Cronbach Alpha reliability statistics was used to determine the reliability coefficient value of; 0.77, 0.61, 0.78 and 0.82 respectively. While the overall reliability co-efficient value of 0.75 was obtained. Research questions were analyzed using simple mean (x) and standard deviation (SD). While t-tests statistics was used to test the null hypothesis. The major findings of the study indicated that the rate of drugs abuse habit among University students in Nigeria is alarming and worrisome and this has caused devastated effect on their use of library and academic performance. For prevention, there was a clarion call on all education stakeholders such as; parents, lecturers, government, Ministry of Education and National University Commission (NUC) to add to their curriculum “Drug Education” in tertiary institutions in Nigeria and they should often organize lectures, seminars, rallies, film show, etc for the Nigerian youths on the effects of drug abuse. Based on the findings of this study, some recommendations and suggestions were made.

Keywords: Drugs abuse, university students, use of library and academic performance.

Introduction

Educators throughout Nigeria have remained relentless in their continuous strive to find ways and means of improving the Nigerian child in character as well as in learning; in body and in spirit so as to become more useful to himself and to the larger society. But drug abuse
continues to present a problem which learning institution must address. This is because there has been an overwhelming increase in the abuse of substances among students in higher institutions. Students in this context refers to male and female or boys and girls in institution of learning. Over 100,000 students were abusing substances out which 85,000 were girls in Nigeria (Akinyemi, 2008). A baseline survey on drug and substance abuse, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) commissioned by the Federal Government of Nigeria to campaign against drug abuse revealed that more than fifty percent (50%) of university students are drug addict in Nigeria, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA, 2003).

Haladu (2003) in South – South and North West geo – political zone, that more than 22.7% of the primary school children are taking alcohol, a figure that rises to 57.9% in secondary schools and to 68% among university students. A large number of students across all age groups have been exposed to alcohol, tobacco, miraa (Khat), glue, bhang (Marijuana), and even hard substances such as heroin and cocaine. The practice has resulted to a number of negative effects in their academic performance and other mal-adjustive behaviour such as truancy, theft of library materials, rudeness, dropouts, injuries, loss of lives, destruction of properties, draining away of morals, misallocation of resources, indiscipline, examination malpractice, cultism and compromised academic standards amongst others. The effect of this drug abuse among Nigerian students has also been associated with the loss memory, loss of our societal values and ideals (Adewuya, 2005). Drugs alter the normal biological and psychological functioning of the body, especially the central nervous system (Alan, 2003). Majority of the Nigerian youths ignorantly depend on one form of drug or the other which has bastardized their interest in effective use of library thereby affecting their academic performance.

Academic library as we all know is an integral part of the university. And as stated in the national policy on education, one of the goals of university education is to acquire both physical and intellectual skills which will enable individuals to become self-reliant and useful members of the society, Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN, 2004). But, behind the mission and vision of the university education is the university library, which is the academic library serving the university community. Academic library, as Chikere and Mayowa (2011) put it, is the nerve centre or the hub around which scholarship revolves. It is an indispensable instrument for intellectual development, being a store house of information to which user (students as well as lecturers) may turn to for accessing information.

The library has a unique position as a potential educational force in the university community of students of different levels especially in this era of information communication technology which facilitate academic performance of the students, although students are the major reason for set up of academic institutions being the maximum users of academic library facilities. In view of this, Egbuchukwu and Akerele (2007) maintained that the quality performance of students and strength of any educational program depends on the library; not the library as a magnificent building but the use of it. Therefore, students under drug will misconceptualized this role of library to their academic excellence. Buddy (2009) put it that when students are under drug, they can refuse to go to the library to do their assignment, some may attempt stealing textbooks from the library or tearing the pages of the book where the assignment are found and host of other negative attitudes to the use of library.
To this effects, experts have identified major causes of drug abuse as; peer pressure, weak parental control, child abuse, imitation, emotional stress, the availability of the drugs and the ineffectiveness of the laws on drug trafficking. On imitation, it is a sad pity that Nollywood artistes have not set good example to Nigerian youths seen the way and manner some of our actors and musicians unnecessarily abuse drugs in their films and in reality. Alli (2006) and Ojikutu (2010), revealed that the common reasons for drug abuse amongst university students in Nigeria are mostly out of curiosity and acceptance by friends (peer pressure). A study by Abdulahi (2009) showed that peer pressure was responsible for youths’ consumption of drugs for the purpose of stimulating appetite for food. Abdur-Raheem (2013) argued that the very high rate of alcohol use and abuse among students in tertiary institutions in Nigeria began from their childhood or early adolescence. At this times youth, including students, who hawk for their parents, are themselves exposed to substance abuse. Some youths will experiment and stop, or continue to use occasionally without significant problems. Others will develop addiction, moving on to more dangerous drugs and causing significant harm to themselves and the society at large. So, drug abuse has far reaching effects on the progress and aspiration of the students. It determines how far the Students can benefit from available opportunities provided by the school, the government and the community. The most unfortunate victims of these drugs are student whose age is usually between the ages of 15 years and 18 years old (WHO Report, 2009).

Regrettably, research works have shown that most poor academic performance of university students are caused by drugs abuse not because the lecturers are bad or are not teaching but because many students are drugs addict and lack effective use of library. Abdur-Raheem (2013) in a study conducted titled Sociological Factors to drug abuse and the effects on students’ academic performance in Ekiti and Ondo states, Nigeria. The study examined the influence of drug abuse on students in relation to their family background, family cohesion, peer group influence, and students’ academic performance. Four hypotheses were formulated to guide the study. The population comprised all secondary school students in Ekiti and Ondo states, while the sample consisted of 460 students. Descriptive survey design was used. The instruments used for data collection was a self – designed questionnaire called Drug Abuse Questionnaire (DAQ). The data collected were analyzed using Pearson Moment Correlation Analysis. The study found out that there was significant relationship between family background, peer influence, family cohesion, and drug abuse. It was also discovered that drug abuse negatively affects students’ academic performance in Ekiti and Ondo states. In another study conducted by Olley (2008), titled Drug Abuse in Nigerian Schools in Bayelsa state, south-south, Nigeria. The study aims to explore the perception of public institutions’ students around drugs and substance abuse and how these perceptions influence their behaviours. It was conducted in three institutions in Bayelsa State, descriptive survey research design was adopted. Three research questions and three null hypotheses guided the study. The population of the study was 27800 and samples of 1390 students were used. A validated questionnaire was used to collect relevant data. The data obtained was analyzed using Measures of central tendency and t-test statistics. The findings of this study revealed that the perceptions of the students with regards to drugs and substance abuse contributed negatively to their behavior in schools.

Therefore, the war against drug abuse, to save the nations battered image must therefore be fought from homes to all corners of the federation not minding whose ox is gored or who might be exposed in the process. Social workers in particular, have been working relentlessly to provide solutions to the problems posed by drug abuse. To this end, several explanations
on the causes, effects, as well as recommendations are made by different scholars to see that drug abuse could at least be reduced in the society. But since the aim has not been fully accomplished, the need for more research work on the problem becomes more imperative coupled with the facts that the Social, Economic, Political, and academic lives of drug users in both rural and urban areas are at risk. Based on this, drug abuse amongst young people should be a matter of concern to all Nigerians especially the government, school heads, the leaders of various religious groups and the NGOs. This study therefore aimed at investigating the effect of drug abuse amongst students in university of Abuja.

**Statement of Problem**

The high rate of drug abuse among students in recent time has become a serious problems to the nation of which if not properly addressed will lead to catastrophe in our educational setting as drug intake by university students today has gone beyond normal for reasons best known to them. University students are the most susceptible to drug use amongst different youth groups in Nigeria because most of them live outside the watch of their parents or guardian. The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), School Counselors among others are of great concern because the number of university students affected by drug abuse is on the high side which if not addressed is capable of destroying the future of our noble nation Nigeria. There are also cases of Students found in bushes beside their schools taking hard drugs. Some students come to school with blood shot eyes, some hallucinate in school, and some students were seen with deadly weapons fighting with other students both inside and outside the school compound, been rude to librarians and some students stagger during school hours. Sex abuse, lawlessness, traffic offences, failure in examination and other social vices usually occur under the influence of drugs. Therefore, it is against this lacuna that the researcher is provoked to carry out study on effects of Drug Abuse on University students’ use of Library and Academic Performance

**Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of this research is to find out the effect of drug abuse amongst university students use of library and academic performance in Abuja.

Specifically, the study seeks to:

1. Find out the effect of drug abuse on students use of library and academic performance
2. Identify types of drugs that are commonly abused by University Students
3. Identify the factors responsible for drug abuse among University students.
4. Identify preventive measures of drug abuse amongst university students.

**Research Questions**

The following research questions guided the study.

(1) To what extent does drug abuse affect students’ use of library and academic performance?
(2) What are the types of drugs that are commonly abused by university students?
(3) What are the major factors responsible for drug abuse among university students?
(4) What are the preventive measures of drug abuse?
Hypotheses
One null hypothesis was formulated to guide the study and will be tested at 0.05 level of significance.

H₀₁: There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of male and female students on drug abuse among university students.

Ethical Considerations
Permission for the study was obtained from the ethics committee and authorities of the university of Abuja. A written informed consent was also gotten from the participants after clear education on the need for the study and their rights to give or refuse consent. All data were handled with strict confidentiality.

Methodology
Research design: the study used Survey research. Nworgu (2006) defined survey research as one in which a group of people or items is studied by collecting and analyzing data from only a few people to be representative of the entire group. In this design, only a part of the population is studied and findings from this are expected to be generalized to the entire population. This design seemed to be very appropriate for the study since the study sought to gather data on students’ abuse of drug and its aftermath effects on their use of library and academic performance. The study was carried out in University of Abuja, Federal Capital Territory of Nigeria. Federal Capital Territory is located in the North central geo political zone of Nigeria. It shares boundaries with four states – Kaduna, Niger, Kogi, as well as Nassarawa. Federal Capital Territory has it’s headquarter situated in Abuja – Garki. The university has a population of about 50,000 students comprising of part time, full time and post graduate students. The target population for this study was male and female of all level from undergraduate to postgraduates. This consists of a total population of 5000 students.

The sample size for this study was 386 students made up of undergraduate, part-time students and postgraduate students.

The sample size was computed using Yamane (1967) sample size determination formula.

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

Where
- \( n \) = sample size
- \( N \) = Total population
- \( e \) = sample error (usually 5% or 0.05)

Questionnaire titled “Drug Abuse and Preventive Measures Questionnaire” (DAPMQ) was used to elicit data from the students. The researcher designed this questionnaire following the specific objectives of this study. The questionnaire has two sections, Section A and B. Section A was for demographic data of the respondents while section B was used to generate information on effect of drug abuse and preventive measures among university students. Section B has 32 items divided into five clusters. Cluster A contained four (4) items, Cluster B contained ten (10) items, cluster C contained eight (8) items, cluster (D) contained seven (7) items and cluster E contain three (3) items respectively. A four point rating scale was provided for the respondents to indicate the weight of the response modes. Response for cluster A was Very High Extent (VHE) 4 points, High Extent (HE) 3 points, Low
Extent (LE) 2 points, and Very Low Extent (VLE) 1 point, while response for cluster B-E was
Strongly Agree (SA) 4 points, Agree (A) 3 points, Disagree (D) 2 points, and Strongly
Disagree (SD) 1 point. Justification: the research work is descriptive in nature and the item
was not dichotomously score.

To determine the reliability of the instrument a trial testing was done using twenty students in
Baze University Abuja outside the study area. The instrument was duly administered and the
data collected was analyzed using Cronbach’s Alpha Statistic. The reliability coefficients
obtained are 0.77, 0.61, 0.78, and 0.82 for clusters A, B, C, and D respectively. While overall
reliability coefficient was 0.75. The result shown that the instruments was reliable. Eight (8)
Research assistants were recruited from the researcher’s department. Data was analyzed with
mean (x) and standard deviation (SD) while t-test statistics was used to test the null
hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance.

Results
The result from table 1 indicated that two levels; undergraduate and postgraduate students
participated in the study on the effect of drug abuse among students’ use of library in
university of Abuja survey, the two groups did not have equal number of respondents. The
information is presented graphically in table 1 below:

Table 1. Frequency distribution of sampled students in each level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Students Group</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>% (Percentage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Undergraduate Students</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>77.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Postgraduate Students</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>22.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>386</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table shows that three hundred (300) undergraduate students at 77.72% was used while
eighty-six (86) postgraduate students at 22.28% was used for the study given a total of 386 at
100%.

Table 2. Frequency distribution of gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>% (percentage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table 2 above shows gender distribution of the respondents, the researcher use equal
figure for both genders, one hundred and ninety-three (193) at 50% for male and also one
hundred and ninety-three (193) at 50% for female given the total sampled size of 386 at
100%.

Research Question 1: To what extent does drug abuse affect students’ use of library and
academic performance?

To answer this question, students were asked to identify effect of drug abuse on their use of
library and academic performance. The result is presented in table three (3) below:
Table 3: Summary of item mean and standard deviation scores on effect of drug abuse among university students’ use of library and academic performance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>REMARK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lower Grade</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>.820</td>
<td>High Extent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Doing poorly in test and exams</td>
<td>3.78</td>
<td>.742</td>
<td>High Extent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Some students stagger in the library</td>
<td>2.74</td>
<td>.477</td>
<td>Low Extent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Some students come to the library with blood shot eye</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>.600</td>
<td>High Extent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Missing classes and misbehaving in the library</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>.62</td>
<td>High Extent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GRAND MEAN</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>.66</td>
<td>High Extent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: accepted = 2.55 and above, Not accepted = below 2.55

Data in table three (3) depicts a fairly mean and standard deviation analysis of effect of drug abuse on university students’ use of library and academic performance. Item one which showcased lower grades has mean score of 3.29. This implies that students low grades is high and cause by drug abuse. Item two, doing poorly in test and exams has mean score of 3.78 and high extent remarks. Item 3, has mean score of 2.74 with low extent as a remark, this mean that the rate at which students stagger in the library is very noticeable. Item 4 and 5 has mean scores of 3.00 and 3.30, accepting that some students come to the library with blood shot eye, missing classes and misbehaving because they are under drugs. The grand mean of 3.45 with high extent remarks shows that all the items are relevant to the study.

Research Question 2: What are the types of drugs that are commonly abused by university students?

Table 4: Summary of item mean and standard deviation scores on the types of drugs commonly abused by University students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>REMARK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cocaine is abused by students</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>.782</td>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Solution is abused by students</td>
<td>3.17</td>
<td>.549</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>dry excreta is abused by students</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>.586</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Odor from toilet and fuel are abused by students</td>
<td>1.88</td>
<td>.493</td>
<td>Strongly Disagree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gutter water is abused by students</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>.513</td>
<td>Disagree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lizard excreta is abused by students</td>
<td>2.72</td>
<td>.529</td>
<td>Disagree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Students abuse Tramol</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>.628</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Students abuse marijuana</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>.861</td>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Students abuse alcohol</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>.828</td>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Students abuse contraceptives</td>
<td>3.28</td>
<td>.756</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GRAND MEAN</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>0.694</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: accepted Mean = 2.55 and above, Not accepted Mean = 2.55 below. (benchmark)
Table 4, shows the perceived types of drugs mostly abused by University students in Abuja, item 5, 12, 13 and 14 strongly agreed that students abuse Cocaine, marijuana and alcohol with the mean score of 4.00, 4.00 and 4.00 respectively. While item 6, 7, 11 and 14 with the mean scores of 3.17, 3.16, 3.39 and 3.28 respectively agreed that students abuse Solution, dry excreta, Tramol and contraceptives. Meanwhile, item 8 with the mean score of 1.88 strongly disagreed that students abuse odor from toilet and fuel. While item 9 and 10 with the mean score of 2.94 and 2.72 completely disagreed that students abuse gutter water and lizard excreta. Above all, the grand mean of 3.26 indicated that all the items are relevant to the study except item 8, 9 and 10.

Research Question 3: What are the major factors responsible for drug abuse among university students?

Table 5: Summary of item mean and standard deviation scores on the major factors responsible for drug abuse among University students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>REMARK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Some students abuse drugs because their parents abuse drugs</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>.703</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Some students abuse drugs just to be happy</td>
<td>3.41</td>
<td>.709</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Some students take drugs to be bold among their peer</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>.829</td>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>The pressure from peers lead to abuse of drugs</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>.892</td>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Some students abuse drugs to be able to read</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>.751</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>To terminate unwanted pregnancy by female students</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>.770</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Some students abuse drugs to induce sleep</td>
<td>3.46</td>
<td>.725</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>To cure headache, fever and other effected diseases</td>
<td>3.37</td>
<td>.753</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grand Mean</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>0.749</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: accepted Mean = 2.55 and above, Not accepted Mean = 2.55 below. (benchmark)

Table 5 above showed the summary of mean and standard deviation scores on the major causes of drugs abuse by university students. Item 17 and 18 with the mean scores of 4.00 and 4.00 strongly agreed that Some students take drugs to feel bold among their peer while others is as a result of pressure from peers. Item 15, 16, 19, 20, 21 and 22 with the mean score of 3.42, 3.41, 3.26, 3.60, 3.46 and 3.37 respectively agreed that students abuse drugs because of the following: learnt from parent, just to be happy, because they don’t want sleep, to terminate unwanted pregnancy, to induce sleep and to cure headache/ fever and other effected diseases respectively. Conclusively, with the grand mean of 3.57 and standard deviation of 0.749 which is above the benchmark of 2.50, it implies that the items are relevant to the study.
Research Question 4: What can be the preventive measures of drug abuse?

Table 6: Summary of item mean (x) and standard deviation (SD) scores on the preventive measures for drug abuse among university students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>REMARK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Use of Library information stocks on drug abuse (ie library outreach program on danger of drug abuse)</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>.788</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Health Experts to organize talks on health implications of drugs abuse</td>
<td>3.41</td>
<td>.798</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>School Counselors to organize workshop on regular bases on the dangers of drugs abuse.</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>.834</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Use of law enforcement Agency like NDLEA</td>
<td>3.32</td>
<td>.650</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Use of spiritual leaders like pastors, priest, imam etc.</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>.857</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grand Mean</td>
<td>3.35</td>
<td>0.807</td>
<td>Agree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: accepted Mean = 2.55 and above, Not accepted Mean = 2.55 below. (Benchmark)

Table 6 above showcase the mean (x) and standard deviation (SD) scores on the preventive measures for drug abuse among university students in Abuja. Item 30 – 34 under this instrument has the mean scores of the following: 3.26, 3.41, 3.39, 3.32 and 3.45 respectively. All the items has mean score above the benchmark of 2.50. This implies that the items are relevant and significant to the study.

Testing of the Hypothesis

The null hypotheses that guided the study was tested using T-test at 0.05 probability level to establish whether significant difference existed between male and female students and age bracket on the effect of drugs abuse among university students in Abuja.

Hypothesis one

H_{01}: there is no significant difference between the mean scores of male and female students on drug abuse among university students in Abuja.

Table 6: Summary of t-test analysis of male and female students on drug abuse among university students in Abuja.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>MEAN</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>Df.</th>
<th>F_{cal}</th>
<th>T_{cal}</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MALE</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>74.93</td>
<td>13.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEMALE</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>77.19</td>
<td>11.599</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>3.503</td>
<td>1.535</td>
<td>0.004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the above table, the null hypothesis that; there is no significant difference between the mean scores of male and female students on drug abuse among university students was rejected due the fact that the hypothesis is significant at 0.004. From the table the mean of male and female students are 74.93 and 77.19 with the standard deviation of 13.00 and 11.599 at 384 degree of freedom, significant at 0.004. Therefore, this indicated that there was statistical significant difference between male and female students with respect to drugs abuse. By implication, it means that male students with standard deviation of 13.00 abuse...
drugs more than their female counterparts with standard deviation of 11.599 in universities in Abuja.

**Major Findings:**
The major findings of this study are:
1. Drug abuse has devastating effect on students’ use of library and academic performance.
2. Students abuse almost all types of hard drugs mentioned in the item except gutter water and lizard excreta.
3. There exist gender differences on drug abuse among students.

**Discussion of Major Findings:**
It was evidence from the findings that many students are lacking behind in the effective use of the library as a result of drug. The finding showcased that some students stagger in the library, others come to the library with red shot eye misbehaving because they are under drugs.

This is in agreement with the report by National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA, 2003) that more than fifty (50%) of university students are drug addict in Nigeria. The aftermath effect of this drug abuse is the alarming rate of poor academic performance of universities students. That is why Abdu-Raheem (2013) stated that, most poor academic performance of university students are caused by drugs abuse not because the lecturers are bad or are not teaching but because many students are drugs addict and lack effective use of library.

On the types of drug university students abuse, the findings shown that almost all types of hard drugs are abused by students except gutter water and lizard excreta. This findings is in line with Haladu (2003), that a large number of students across all age groups have been exposed to alcohol, tobacco, miraa (Khat), glue, bhang (Marijuana), and even hard substances such as heroin, cocaine etc. The practice has resulted to a number of negative effects in their academic performance and other mal-adjustive behaviour such as truancy, theft of library materials, rudeness, dropouts, injuries, loss of lives, destruction of school properties, indiscipline, examination malpractice, cultism and compromised academic standards amongst others.

Conclusively, it was evident from the findings that gender has statistical significant on effects of drug abuse on university students’ use of library and academic performance. Male students abuse drug more than their female counterparts as revealed by the findings.

**Conclusion**
Medically, drug is a substance that affects the function of a living cell, which is used to cure and prevent the occurrence of illness. A drug becomes a “medicine” when it is used to save life, it becomes “poison” when it causes death, it becomes “mis-use” when people indulge in self medication to cure illness and it becomes “abuse” when it is used indiscriminately. Due to the habitual use of drugs, drug addicts especially youths cannot do without it and it has been a problem to our country Nigeria and the world in general. The impact of drug abuse among the Nigerian youths especially at the Universities, which is the focus of this study has been a stigma to the society. The effects of drug abuse especially among our youths and society are so devastating. Many of the Nigerian youths depend on one form of drug or the other. The rate at which youths abuse drugs is so alarming and worrisome. Many youths have tried one drug or the other and many of them are drug abusers today. The family, churches,
communities, schools, institutions, Nigerian government have role to play in controlling drug abuse in Nigeria,

Haladu (2003:14) had this to say:

>Certification or no certification, Nigeria must continue the drug war. In this hide and seek game, our primary objective is to salvage the nation from the scourge of hard drug.

The Holy Bible (AMP), Proverbs 14:12-13 says; *there is a way which seems right to a man and appears straight before him, but at the end of it is the way of death. Even in laughter the heart is sorrowful, and the end of mirth is heaviness and grief.*

For preventive measure, is a call to help by both national and international organizations like UNICEF, WHO, IFLA, NDLEA, NUC, etc to organize workshops and seminars in schools especially universities on the danger of drugs abuse on health and academic performance of students if not the future of our noble nation is in trouble. Finally the researcher is pleading that all hands should be on desk to make sure that drug abuse is eradicated or curbed in our country Nigeria so that our youths should be useful to themselves, their individual families and our country Nigeria as a whole.

**Recommendations**

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

National University Commission in collaboration with the Ministry of Education (Federal and State) should add to their curricula “Drug Education” for all tertiary institutions in Nigeria. They should always organize lectures, seminars, rallies, film show etc for the Nigerian youths on the effects of drug abuse. National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), National Agency for Food and Drug Abuse Control (NAFDC) and other control groups should not relent in carrying out their responsibilities on drug abuse in order to make Nigeria a drug abuse free society with a special focus on the Nigerian youths in the universities because they are the future leaders of this great country, Nigeria.

Religion Organizations should wake-up to their duties on the right type of behaviour that will prepare somebody to enjoy on earth and have eternity with God. Parents are advised to be an example and model to their children, for there is a saying that says; “charity begins at home” Lost of parental responsibility is dangerous to children growth and development.

Finally, youth are advice to take instructions from parents and those in authorities both males and females and to be careful of bad friends. Proverbs 1: 8-9 (NKV) “My son, hears the instruction of thy father, and forsakes not the law of thy mother: For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head and chains about thy neck.
References


