
COMBATING SECURITY CHALLENGES THROUGH EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL EDUCATION AND HUMAN KINETICS EDUCATION OBJECTIVES IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study examines the causes of security challenges and ways of combating them in Nigeria. It also discusses the main security challenges such as kidnapping, armed robbery, banditry, maiming and killing of innocent people by Herdsmen, cyber-crimes, terrorism and environmental challenges. The paper recommends that for effective eradication of security challenges, basic amenities should be provided in oil producing areas and other parts of the country, eradication of poverty, solving ethno-religious conflict, aiding abetting criminals to acquire weapons or to escape the long arm of the law should be avoided, teaching of morals through rules and regulations in sporting activities which serves as a carry-over value to the happenings in the society. The paper concludes that effective implementation of objectives of General Education cum Human Kinetics Education such as self-realization, human relationship, civic responsibility and economic efficiency would combat security challenges in Nigeria.

Keywords: Civic responsibilities, Economic efficiency, Human relationship, Environmental challenges, Security challenges, Self-realization.

Introduction

Nigeria economy is faced with many challenges as a result of political crises, economy degradation, unemployment, poverty, insecurity, corruption, wasteful culture and indiscipline. It is believed that the only way these challenges can be tackled is through proper security functioning in the country, which in turn can enhance national transformation, (Idoko, 2014; Okorie, 2011). Nwagboso (2016) defines security as the act of being safe from harm or danger, the defense, protection and preservation of values, and the absence of threats to acquired values. Security is about survival and the condition of human existence. Security also exists when people live together in a certain environment without disturbance or violence. To corroborate this (Adebakin, 2017 & Adejumo, 2011) submitted that security is the act of keeping peace with the governing territories, freedom from danger or threats, and the ability of a nation to protect and develop itself, promote and cherish values and legitimate interests and enhance the well-being of its people.

Nigeria society finds itself confronted by a myriad of security challenges such as kidnapping, armed robbery, banditry, maiming and killing of innocent people by Herdsmen, cyber-crime, terrorism and environmental challenges. Nwamanah (2018) identified 10 problems of security in Nigeria as: unemployment, ethnicism, poor control of borders, terrorism, inefficient government intervention, lack of faith in security agencies leading to jungle justice, corrupt government officials not to make provision for basic amenities, poverty, imbalance in development and loss of socio-cultural and communal value system. Lack of basic necessities by the people of Nigeria has created a pool of frustrated people who are ignited easily by any event to be violent, political and electioneering conflicts, socio-economic agitations, ethno-religious crises, ethnic militias, boundary disputes, cultism, criminality and organized crimes. To buttress this, Nwagboso (2016) submitted that national security of Nigeria which internal security is a sub-unit was weak to tackle violent security problems that confronted the country. This was partly because makers lacked requisite knowledge to formulate robust internal security

policies and effective strategies to mitigate insurgencies in the country.

Agaptus (2013) explained the precarious insecurity in Nigeria that insecurity is spreading like harmattan fire to all parts of Nigeria, that the country's nascent democracy is being tested by rampant crime and an unprecedented campaign of terror such that in the South, civil unrest threatens safety and stability, to the East; gangs who kidnap expatriates for ransom lie in wait on the roads, in bars, and cities, and to the North, the Islamic terrorist group called Boko Haram is growing both in number and brutality, hence the group has posed brazen challenges to the government and issued the ultimate "leave or die" to Christians living in the Northern Nigeria and confidence that the government can protect the people is at all-time low.

Most of the problems enumerated above are caused by lack of job, religious crisis and poverty on the part of the perpetrators of these crimes. In an attempt to cope with these many problems, society is now in a state of change. The school is one of society's most important institutions as it bears the responsibility of preparing young people to live successfully as individuals and as members of the group. In order to provide relevancy in a rapidly changing world, the school must keep abreast of contemporary needs.

Combating security challenges through General Education and Human Kinetics Education

The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English (internal student's edition, 2018) defines Education as a process of training, learning, acquire, receive, give to people in a class, lesson, lecture, seminar, workshop to improve knowledge and develop skills, carried out in primary, secondary and tertiary institutions to bring about change in behavior positively.

That part of Education which is needed by all members of a particular society may be called general education. It includes those skills, knowledge, and appreciations which will enable the individual to be a contributing member of the group. No matter what the individual present or future vocation may be, general education is concerned with his total personality – not merely with the intellect but

with emotions, attitudes, tastes, appreciations, as well as a number of basic abilities.

Charles (1983) stated the requirements usually considered necessary to one's general education as: Health, a minimum level of physical and motor fitness, communication skills, personal-social adjustment skills, an awareness of the values and responsibilities of citizenship, an understanding of the physical environment, appreciation of fine arts and development of a satisfactory philosophy of life. The specific courses which provide for attainment of these skills and knowledge are usually "required" at some level of education.

General education includes the fund of knowledge and beliefs and the habit of language and thought which characterize and give stability to a particular social group. It is the unifying element of a culture. General education seeks to instill attitudes and understandings which form the essence of good citizenship. These general characteristics of education can be achieved through the general objectives of education namely self-realization, human relationship, economic efficiency and civic responsibility.

Human kinetics as an integral part of Education, share general education objectives with every other part of education.

Combating security challenges in Nigeria through the general objectives of education which Human Kinetics Education shared with General Education

Teachers in all subject areas and grade levels are to achieve the following primary purposes of education, known as the general objectives of education. These objectives are self-realization, Human relationship, Economic efficiency and Civic responsibility. These objectives must be considered by Teachers in schools. The objectives of self-realization addresses the development of the inquiring mind; skill in fundamental processes such as speech, reading, writing and numbers, health knowledge, development of health habits, concern for public health, development of recreational, intellectual, and esthetic interests and development of good character.

This is achieved through knowledge of, and a certain skill level in, several sports will result in a wider choice of recreational activity for the individual. Human kinetics education provides this knowledge and skills through games, gymnastics, athletics and other sporting activities which keep the youths busy through participation in recreational activities, based on the skills they have been taught in human kinetics education classes. "An idle hand calls for doing bad things", with the skills acquired during the teaching of skills in sporting activities, serve as preventive measure for combating security challenges among the youths and adults in Nigeria.

Human Relationship objective deals with respect for man; friendship, cooperation, courtesy; homemaking and democracy in the home, this objective contributes to the development of good sportsmanship through cooperation among team members and fair competition between teams. Many friendships are formed with one's associates in sports, either when one is a competitor or when one is simply a spectator. The stress of physical activity may reveal more of an individual through character than most of his other daily activities. The spirit of good sportsmanship through cooperation among team members and fair competition between teams is achieved through the rules and regulations guiding sporting activities thereby preventing hooliganism in sports, which is one of the security challenges facing Nigeria today. Sports and games have rules, and officials whose responsibility it is to ensure that appropriate behavior is demonstrated by participants.

Civic Responsibility objective encourages social justice; understanding, tolerance, conservation; World citizenship; Observance of law and devotion to democracy. This objective helps in combating security challenges in sports in that youths are made to observe the rules (laws) of the game. Social understanding and tolerance results from participation with, or against, peoples of other tribes, sexes, and backgrounds. National sports competitions encourage the concept of world citizenship.

Human kinetics and sports education contributes to combating security challenges through intervention programme on the prevention of drug abuse, fighting during competitions. Other ways of combating security challenges are the provision of favourite physical activities, sports, team stars, or events such as the Olympic games or world championships. Provision of sports clubs within the community and keeping the youths busy by attending sporting events in support of their favourite athletes and teams.

Economic Efficiency objective stress respect for work; friendship, cooperation, courtesy; homemaking, and democracy in the home. This objective is aided through classes in consumer health which are designed to produce more intelligent consumers. Friendship is promoted through team sports. Human kinetics as an integral part of general education provides job opportunities for youths in the following areas, as physical educators, coaches, Administrators, Exercise physiologists and Health educators. These job opportunities will prevent the youths from participating in crimes. Human kinetics, as an integral part of Education, should be sensitive to the developmental needs of boys and girls, the needs are achieved through physical educators who are sensitive to and contribute to the achievement of the following developmental goals, which are called specific objectives of Human Kinetics. The objectives are: Development of organic power, Development of Neuromuscular skill, Development of desirable personal-social attitudes and Development of intellectual awareness.

The development of organic power stresses the promotion of the health and physical fitness necessary to meet the physiological demands made in the individual. Through vigorous muscular activity, the skeletal muscles increase in strength and endurance, enhance cardiovascular efficiency, thereby enabling the individual to work longer with a lower energy expenditure. Through this a sturdy students are produced that will enlist in security outfits thereby ensuring the security of the country.

The neuromuscular skill development objective promotes proficiency in a series of movements. Development of desirable Personal-Social attitudes encourages individual self-confidence, sociability, initiative, self-direction, and a feeling of belonging, adjustment to both self and others, through this objectives cooperation and coexistence is achieved thereby ensuring the security of the country. The properly presented programme of Human Kinetics education contributes towards the socio-emotional stability and effective total integration of the individual. Where there is no rancor, there will be peace and security within the society.

Interpretive or intellectual development objective is encouraged in Human Kinetics education through presentation of information on the origin, development, rules, techniques, and strategies appropriate to each sport or activity. This objective prevents hooliganism in sports on the part of players, coaches and officials, thereby promoting security through the effective implementation of this objective by the stakeholders.

Conclusion

Based on the objectives of General Education and Human kinetics Education it is concluded that Education is the bedrock of any society. A well-educated society enables the youths and adults to know the wrong and the right things and would not take part in criminal activities that can disorganize the peace of the society, therefore effective implementation of the objectives of General Education and Human Kinetics Education will help tremendously in combating security challenges in Nigeria.

Recommendations

1. Physical educators should sensitize the students on the need for good sportsmanship and observance of the rules and regulations in sporting activities.
2. Recreation centers should be provided for the students where they can be fully engaged, thereby preventing them from engaging in criminal activities.

3. Students should be provided job opportunities after graduation, this can be achieved by expanding the Human Kinetics education curriculum which allows them to specialize in different areas of Human Kinetics education for sustainability.
4. Sports officials should attend refresher courses regularly, so as to be abridged of the current rules and regulations guiding sporting activities thereby preventing hooliganism in sports.
5. Human Kinetics education curriculum should be reviewed to make provision for the training and re-training of youths in physical exercises in order to produce sturdy youths that can curb the security challenges in the country when enlisted into the security forces.

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