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MANAGING THE EFFECT OF PEER PRESSURE AMONG NEWLY ADMITTED UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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ABSTRACT

This study is on managing the effect of peer pressure on newly admitted undergraduate students in public universities. Peer pressure is under aged disturbance that prompts students to derail from the social order. Peer pressure is an emotional pressure to misbehave without recourse to the costs and effect of the behaviour.. Two questions are raised to guide this study. Those questions are: What are the effects of peer pressure on newly admitted undergraduate students? What are lecturer's responsibilities on students with peer pressure? The findings of this study revealed that the effects of peer pressure among students are: Violent attitudes, high affinity to get reach without effective plans, poor academic performance and easy sex drives. The findings of the study revealed that lecturers make use of close monitoring ensure that students influenced with peer pressure cope very well in the classroom. Lecturers make use of remedial lectures to ensure that newly admitted undergraduate students influenced with peer pressure braces up their challenges through lecturers close monitoring on those student's studies. It was recommended in this study that adequate care should be given to newly admitted undergraduate students, so that they would imbibe good conduct in their growth. It was also recommended in this study that educational managers of higher educational institutions should provide adequate entrepreneurship and counseling programmes to newly admitted undergraduate students so that they would acquire some skills and good character formation in the same wavelength of carrying out their academics in higher educational institutions.

Keywords: Concept of Peer Pressure, Effect of Peer Pressure among Students in Higher Educational Institutions, Managing Peer Pressured Students.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Peer pressure is a growth drive that affects understanding. It discourages obedience to rules and regulations. It affects children between the ages of 18 to 20 years as well as adults between 18 to 22 years. In higher educational institutions, students influenced with peer pressure are many. Vast majority of students that are into peer pressure disturbances do not know the law. They felt that everything is easy to achieve, because of it, they break rules, order, customs and traditions. Uncorrected growth drives can ruin children lives up to the adolescent ages (Allen & Loeb, 2023). During school resumption, peer pressured students, list out different kinds of prospectus, mandating their parents to buy them or else they won't go to school. They do not consider whether their parents have the financial capacity to get all their requirement to go back to school. Some of them aim to studying in high paid private universities without recourse to how funds will be procured for their studies on their private university education. They aim lucrative courses like law, medicine and engineering without good efforts of making better grades in senior school certificate and universities entrance examinations. They have flexible growth hormone. In the classroom, some of them do not pay attention. They prefer playing, and constituting noise making than paying absolute attention in their studies. Some of them are the sole called back benchers in the classroom. Peer pressured students usually moves in groups.

In higher educational institution's premises, they can easily ferment troubles in if urgent attentions are not taken to control them. The female folks among them have clicks. The female peer pressured students believe that they can achieve the means by being loyal to their group members. The female folks among them can easily be engage into sex by their colleagues without being fully aware about the resultant effects of their actions. In some families, some children with peer pressure influences see family responsibility as punishment. They can use any means to subdue their seniors at home especially, when their senior brothers and sisters direct them to participate in the house hold chores at home. Peer pressured students like spending much times using their phones to watch films. Some of them watch pornographic films and rely on it solely on daily basis. They can easily spend their monies with their friends without minding if they will get monies from their parents and sponsors for their sustenance.

In their various churches, they see biblical teachings as confrontations to their success. In many homes, some children who usually associate with some bad peers usually acquire bad training from them. In both developed and developing countries of the world, vagaries of street fighting, reckless driving, drunkenness', driving vehicles without driving license and skills are perpetrated by youths of schooling ages. In the same vein, obscene speeches, high temperament, violence and lack of self-control are attributed to peer pressure influences among some peer pressured undergraduate students. Vast majority of actions caused by peer pressure, are found among growing children and youths in the whole world. Activities of peer pressured students inside and outside higher educational institutions are profound and a great concern to educational managers, lecturers and parents. Peer pressured students have caused infractions that are against their state and country's laws. Some are tried in the juvenile courts while some are flogged and warned to desist from the heinous crimes they have committed.

2.0 MEANING OF PEER PRESSURE

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Peer pressure is the juvenile behaviours found among youths. It is usually observed among students of schooling ages, especially, those between 10 to 18 years. In higher educational institutions, it is an act that inhibits effective listening, observation, note taken and decision making. Peer pressure is an act that can ruin ones destiny. Some students with growth pressures do not have adequate knowledge of what they do. Peer pressure among youths, can emanate from the trends of the season. Some children may be disturbed by one or two peer pressures drives. Peer pressure instincts are short lived when children grew up to adolescent ages. They are early age practices that could destabilize some children destiny and good character formation if urgent attention are not taken on the children. Some students between the ages of 16 to 20 years are deceived by their classmates to engage into taking alcohols, and they are ruined from it (Nwakwo & Eze, 2022). Peer pressured behaviours among children and adults of schooling ages are observed especially, in their frequent buying and eating habits, feeding habits, clothing habits, and high quest for wealth. As it is stated above, they are instincts that can inhibit good character, growth and development of any child. However, some students at their peak growth ages, do not want to be deceived to agree with inordinate behaviors (Steinberg & Monahan, 2021).

Peer pressure among students, is a situation whereby a student or group of students are un-able to align themselves with the curriculum offered in their institutions of higher learning. It is a situation whereby some students are intellectually backward to the teaching and learning offered in formal education institutions due to poor brain development. Actions children portray in their growths are acquired from friends they associate with. Some of them felt that things are very easy to achieve, and they can achieve them without dissipating much energy or sweats. They do things according to how their minds have directed them without anticipation of any short fall. No wonder they make decisions without checking the pros and cons of their decisions. In Educational Institutions, they exhibit behaviours that dis-align with the rules and regulations of educational institutions. Some students that are influenced by peer pressure ignorantly resort to smoking, drinking, flirting, raping, absenteeism, noise making and all manner of deviant behaviours (Brown & Larson, 2022).

2.1 Effects of Peer Pressure Among Some Students in Higher Educational Institutions Classroom

Particularly in higher educational institutions, peer pressure is a growth drive, affecting both female and male newly afmitted students between the ages of 18 to 20 years. Peer pressured students prefer to stay alone than to attend classes. Some newly admitted students with pinned growth drives prefer game watching, flirting, playing smoking and fiddles with their phones (Chukuma & Eze 2024). If proper counseling is not taken, they can abandon their education for frivolous living. They can tell stories of countries they have not visited before. They can easily provide reasons why they cannot attend classes. They can rebrand their lecturers with derogatory names. Regressively, there are majority of students whom their rates of peer pressure influences are worse. Those of them cannot engage in competitive learning in the classroom, because they can hardly read, spell words correctly nor pronouns words (Chinonye & Okafor, 2024). They hurry into businesses and fail apart due to lack of skills and good emotional drive to pay attention to their business. In the educational institutions, perhaps during extra- curricular activities like cultural days and games, they are the first to know the

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particular dates of every game and cultural days. They are the first to donate financially in those extra- curricular games but, they perform poorly in those games and cultural activities.

2.2 Managing Peer Pressured Students

Peer pressures among students have been a canker warm eating deeply in the fabrics of newly admitted undergraduate students. It is the sole responsibilities of lecturers and parents to intensify efforts towards restoring students to active and right-thinking persons. Lecturers ought to warn students not to step into their bands on school rules and regulations. They ought to warn students on their inordinate behaviours. It is necessary to blame students where necessary. In some occasions, lecturers ought to be flexible in handling students in some minor misdemeanors. Lecturers should as well provide remedial classes to students that cannot cope very well, show atmosphere of warmth to students, and in the classroom environment during teaching and learning (Hellen, 2016). It is imperative that lecturers should carry all students along during delivery of instructions. Lecturers ought to ensure that students mark their attendances in the provided classroom attendance lists. Lecturers ought to teach and ask questions to students they felt that are not paying attention. Lecturers ought to provide modalities for granting excuses to students who wanted to go out of the classroom to avoid destroying his or her classroom (Ogunu, 2001). In the same vein, religious instructions, laws, traditions and moral conducts ought to be taught to every student. Lecturers ought to give counseling to all students. Students counseling can take place at any given time, even during delivery of instructions in the classroom (Nosiri, 2007)

2.3 Some Self Motivating Skills Peers Acquire Among Themselves

A traditional aphorism revealed that not all masquerades are dangerous. It is evident that some students that are unintelligent, immediately they started associating with some of their colleagues whom their characters are mundane, starts developing intelligent quotients. Some who do not know how to write, will start knowing how to write. Some newly admitted students that are knowledgeable correct inordinate behaviours from their colleagues. They form reading groups and relied with it to pass their examinations with good grades (Udo & Okafor, 2023) Some peers use to train their members on good leadership qualities, public speaking charismas and excellent performance in academics. It should be borne in the mind that, not all students that associate with their peers are corrupt. Some students, who associate with their peers, have achieved some life sustaining skills, such as; good spoken English, good mathematical solving, and clear presentations of seminars in oral forms. Today, some of them that associate with their friends during period of school vacations have become good builders, fashion designers and event planners.

3.0 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Despite some benefits from associating with peers, some bad peers, have caused unimaginable number of students into drop out of schools and job learning grounds. Lingering influence of peer pressure have caused students who dropped out of schools and job learning grounds into societally abhorred crimes such as; stealing, rape, vandalism and all kinds of violence. Some peer-influenced students regard moral teachings as tutelages that inhibit them from practicing their ill- gotten behaviours. Some students that are bluffed with peer pressure disturbances

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hardly report their academic performance to their parents. They achieve poor grades in competitive examinations. In some social gatherings in their schools, they can cause uproarious situations. Continued flaring of these negative behaviours have caused societal unrest, especially those that are not properly checkmated. It is on this stand that some of them whom their negative behaviours are no controlled have become cultists and unknown armed men today.

4.0 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theory below, guided the study

4.1 Bandura's social learning theory.

This theory was put forward by bandura in the (1975). Bandura was of the view that for any learning to take place there must be a teacher from where knowledge will be drawn. Other factors that give room during learning are: Learners, proximity and good learning environment. Bandura identified that learners tap the knowledge of their teachers to remold their behaviours. According to bandura, learners acquire knowledge very intelligently and can exhibit the bad or good knowledge they have learnt at any given time. This theory has good relationship with this study because, it is through associating or relating together, with peers that bad and good knowledge are acquired.

5.0 DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The findings from this study revealed that students with growth pressure have felt constrained to engage in competitive learning in the classroom. Chinonye & Okafor (2024), hinted that those students can hardly read, spell words correctly nor pronouns words. In the same vein, (Nwakwo & Eze, 2022), identified that some students between the ages of 16 to 20 years are deceived by their classmates to engage into alcohols taking, and they are ruined from it. On the other hand, Chukuma & Eze (2024) established that newly admitted students that are pinned with growth drives, prefer game watching, flirting, playing smoking and fiddles with their phones.

Furthermore, Allen & Loeb (2023), maintained that uncorrected growth drives can ruin children lives up to the adolescent ages.

The findings from this study revealed that lecturers ought to provide remedial classes to some students that cannot cope very well, show atmosphere of warmth to students in the classroom during teaching and learning (Hellen, 2016). The findings from the study revealed that lecturers ought to provide modalities for granting excuses to students who wanted to go out of the classroom to avoid disrupting his or her classroom (Ogunu, 2001). In the same vein, religious instructions, laws, traditions and moral conducts that ought to be possessed by every student, ought to be taught to students. Again, Nosirir, (2007) established that lecturers ought to provide counseling to all students, even during delivery of instructions in the classroom.

6.0 CONCLUSION

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Peer pressure is an early growth drive that affects growing students. It manifests from students of the same age grades. Students in their early growing ages, associate with each other, determine the behaviours they will portray, the clothes they will wear. In their families, they determine who they will listen to his or her advice and those they will not listen to their advice. They have firm believe that life is easy. Majority of them cannot interpret lawfully some of their actions. On the other hand, in higher educational institutions, some students develop good academic drives, and they perform very well in their academics. Some students between the ages of 18 to 20 years, their peer pressure, have enabled them to have good leadership, deep thinking, creative thinking and good psychomotor.

6.1 Recommendations

The following recommendations glued to this study

1. Lecturers should monitor the behaviour of students and determine actual remedies to their behaviours. These would control some students' portrayal of deviant attitudes in higher educational institutions.
2. Regular counseling should be organized for students. This would curtail some bad characters among students of early growing ages.

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