

Impact of Inadequate Funding On Discipline and Security in the Administration of Secondary Schools in Enugu State

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Abstract: *This study examined the impact of inadequate funding on discipline and security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools. Inadequate funding of the schools stems from national economic crisis. And knowledge of this study will add value to the genuine effort by the State Government in improving the funding of the schools. The study adopted survey research design. Two research questions and two hypotheses were formulated to guide the study. Instrument of self-structured questionnaire was used to collect the data. The instrument was validated by three experts. Internal consistency of the instrument was determined using Cronbach Alpha. High reliability indices of 0.86 and 0.78 were obtained, indicating that the instrument is reliable. Then, the instrument was used to obtain opinions of 291 principals of the secondary schools in Enugu State. Data collected were analyzed using mean and standard deviation, and the hypotheses were tested using t-test statistics at 0.05 level of significance. The study found that: There is great extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of the schools. There is great extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of the schools. More so, there is no significance difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of the schools. It was recommended that Government should adequately fund the secondary schools.*

Keywords: *Administration, Discipline, Funding, Security, Secondary Schools.*

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I. Introduction

According to Nwite [1], Government lacks the political will to implement UNESCO benchmark of 26% of annual budget on education. In Nigeria, budgetary allocations to both Federal and State educational sector are lower than the required minimum bench mark of 26%. The causes of the inadequate funding of secondary schools have been attributed to societal economic crisis [2, 3, 4, 5, 6]. In Enugu State, inadequate funding is a visible crisis in secondary schools. The budgetary allocation to education is on the decrease. And available financial resource appears inadequate for addressing the necessary needs of the schools. In various forms, educational stakeholders had expressed concern over potential danger posed by insufficient funding of secondary schools. And for the objectives of the secondary schools to be achieved, the school administrators have to ensure satisfactory environment, with high level of discipline and security. But due to inadequate funding, the secondary schools appear to be facing administrative problems of indiscipline and insecurity.

Funds are needed for the provision and maintenance of school facilities [7]. Availability of required funds will help to instill discipline and security in secondary schools. Discipline means self-control, the control of conduct including habits, action, desires, emotions, impulses and general behaviour. Ajibola and Ali [8] posited that the causes and kinds of disciplinary problems experienced are determinant of disciplinary measures to be taken. In the school setting, discipline and security are highly essential for the achievement of educational goals. Amanchukwu [9] opined that insecurity hinders progress in all fields including education. Insecurity is an unsafe factor that hinders effective education; it affects teachers, students and other educational stakeholders. A safe and healthy school environment is critical to education [10]. Security can be physical and financial in nature. When schools are under-funded, teachers are not properly rewarded for their jobs, they are exposed to financial insecurity; inadequate salaries, delay in payment of salaries, delay in promotion and unnecessary deductions from the salaries. When the schools are adequately funded, these administrative challenges on discipline and security will be minimized. Administration of schools involves interaction among the educational stakeholders including staff, students, parents and host communities. It is the component part of management concerned with careful utilization of available resources for the achievement of organizational objectives. Hence, secondary school administration entails prudent management of resources for the achievement of the objectives of secondary education. As it stands, there are no available data on the extent to which inadequate

funding impact on discipline and security in the administration of secondary schools. Such data are needed for the improvement of secondary education.

II. Statement of the Problem

Inadequate funding is an obstacle to the administration of secondary schools. In Enugu State, secondary schools are faced with administrative problems of indiscipline and insecurity. These problems stem from inadequate funding of the schools. And the extent to which the inadequate funding impact on discipline and security in the administration of the schools is unknown. Therefore, the problem of this study is put in a question form 'What is the impact of inadequate funding on discipline and security in the administration of secondary schools in Enugu State?'

III. Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to examine the impact of inadequate funding on discipline and security in the administration of secondary schools in Enugu State.

IV. Research questions

The research questions for the study are as follows:

1. To what extent does inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools?
2. To what extent does inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools?

V. Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses are formulated for the study and will guide the study and will be tested at the 0.05 level of significance:

H₀₁: There will be no significant difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

H₀₂: There will be no significant difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

VI. Theoretical Framework

Structural functionalist theory is related to this study because inadequate funding is an economic crisis that affect the administration of secondary schools. Economic crisis affects educational outcomes [11]. The educational system represents the society, with particular reference Enugu State secondary schools. Administrator of a school coordinates human and material resources of the school. And administration of the secondary schools involves interaction among the educational stakeholders including staff, students, parents and host communities. The stakeholders are required to work together in order to achieve the set goals. Thus, administration of secondary school is seen as a social process. And social processes are functional in the sense of working together. They are primarily analyzed in terms of this function. The principal is significant not in and of himself/herself but rather in terms of his/her status, his/her position in patterns of social relations, and the behaviours associated with his/her status. The social structure, then, is the network of statuses connected by associated roles.

VII. Research Method

This section presents the method used in this study. It is presented under the following sub-headings: Research design, Population of the study, Sample and Sampling techniques, Instrument for data collection, Validation of the instrument, Reliability of the instrument, Method of data collection and Method of data analysis.

VIII. Research Design

This study adopted survey research design. Survey research design is a type of descriptive research design which involves the assessment of existing phenomena by collecting and analyzing data from only a few people or items considered to be representative of the entire group [12, 13]. The survey research design helps to describe conditions in its natural setting with the intension to justify current conditions and practices or to make better plans for improving the conditions. The choice of survey research design is justified because data of the existing phenomena are needed from representatives of a group.

IX. Population of the Study

According to PPSMB [14], there are 291 public secondary schools in Enugu State under the responsibility of Post Primary Schools Management Board, Enugu. The population of study consists of all the principals (male and female) of the secondary schools in Enugu State. There are 291 principals of public secondary schools in Enugu State.

X. Sample and Sampling Techniques

The entire principals of the 291 secondary schools were used for the study. There was no sampling.

Instrument for Data Collection

The instrument for data collection is a self-structured questionnaire titled: Impact of Inadequate funding on the Administration of Secondary Schools Questionnaire (IIFASSQ). The research instrument has two sections, A and B. Section A dealt on the bio-data of the respondents, while B are the questionnaire items based on the research questions. Section B is made up four clusters. It is a likert type on a 4 point scale of VGE, GE, LE and VLE.

Validation of the Instrument

The instrument was face-validated by 3 experts. Two from the Department of Educational Management and one from Department of Science and Computer Education (Measurement and Evaluation), Enugu State University of Science and Technology. The number of items generated in the initial draft was 16 and the number was increased to 24.

Reliability of the Instrument

The internal consistency of the instrument was determined using Cronbach Alpha. Twenty (20) principals (10 males and 10 females) were sampled from Ebonyi State secondary schools for the determination of the internal consistency of the instrument. Principals from Ebonyi State secondary schools were chosen because of similarities in terms of the funding and administration of the schools. Reliability indices for the two clusters (A and B) were 0.86 and 0.78 respectively. These high values of the reliability index obtained showed that the instrument is reliable.

Method of Data Collection

Direct delivery and retrieval system was employed in the administration of the instrument to the respondents. Six trained research assistants were employed to assist the researcher in administering the instruments to principals in their respective schools. The research assistants were trained in a one day session on how to administer and retrieve the questionnaires. A total number of 291 copies of the questionnaires were distributed to the respondents. Each respondent was allowed to respond to the items before retrieving the filled questionnaire. All the copies of the questionnaire administered were filled and returned.

Method of Data Analysis

The data collected were weighted using four point rating scale of: Very Great Extent (VGE) = 4 points; Great Extent (GE) = 3 points; Low Extent (LE) = 2 points; Very Low Extent (VLE) = 1point. The data generated from the study were analyzed using mean and standard deviation, and the hypotheses were tested using t-test statistics. The t-test statistics (at 0.05 level of significance) was used to the four hypotheses. It was appropriate to consider t-test statistics because each of the hypotheses involved only two mean scores. The decision rule for testing hypothesis is that if the calculated t-value is equal to or greater than the t- critical value, the hypothesis is rejected, but if the calculated t-value is less than the critical value, the hypothesis is not rejected.

Data Presentation and Results

The data analysis is organized under research questions and hypotheses.

Research Question 1

To what extent does inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools?

Table 1: Extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

S/N	ITEMS	No of male principal (157)			No of female principal (134)		
		\bar{X}	SD	Decision	\bar{X}	SD	Decision
1	Lack of control of disobedience to rules of teaching profession.	2.77	1.03	Great Extent	2.81	1.02	Great Extent
2	Insufficient control of irregular attendance to school.	2.82	1.02	Great Extent	2.83	1.00	Great Extent
3	Unsatisfactory control of lateness to school.	2.94	1.01	Great Extent	2.90	1.02	Great Extent
4	Non-adherence to the instructional time as stipulated in the time table.	3.12	0.90	Great Extent	3.16	0.87	Great Extent
5	Inappropriate coordination of the school curriculum.	3.23	0.87	Great Extent	3.21	0.88	Great Extent
6	Inadequate implementation of school disciplinary measure.	2.35	1.08	Low Extent	2.18	1.06	Low Extent
	Grand mean	2.87	0.99		2.85	0.98	

Table 1 shows data on extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools. Out of the six items, five items (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) were accepted to be of great extent because their respective mean ratings are above the criteria mean of 2.50 which is the point for acceptance of the item in the questionnaire. Item 6 was rejected because the mean rating is below the criteria mean of 2.50. The grand mean ratings of the six items were 2.87 and 2.85 for the male and female principals respectively. These values are greater than the criteria mean of 2.50. It indicates that there is great extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools. To what extent does inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools?

Table 2: Extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

S/N	ITEMS	No of male principal (157)			No of female principal (134)		
		\bar{X}	SD	Decision	\bar{X}	SD	Decision
7	Inadequate funding: has adverse impact on providing job security of staff.	2.86	1.01	Great Extent	2.96	0.98	Great Extent
8	Principals are often threatened by parents when their children are asked to pay school fees.	2.96	1.01	Great Extent	2.99	0.97	Great Extent
9	Creates hostile relationship between the schools and host communities.	3.10	0.90	Great Extent	3.09	0.93	Great Extent
10	creates financial insecurity of staff due to delay in payment of salaries.	2.89	1.03	Great Extent	2.96	0.98	Great Extent
11	has adverse impact on financial security of staff due to delay in promotion of teachers.	2.94	1.02	Great Extent	3.03	0.97	Great Extent
12	Creates insufficient resources for the protection of school infrastructures.	3.17	0.87	Great Extent	3.15	0.89	Great Extent
	Grand mean	2.99	0.97		3.03	0.95	

Table 2 shows data on extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools. All the six items (7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12) were accepted to be of great extent because their respective mean ratings are above the criteria mean of 2.50 which is the point for acceptance of the item in the questionnaire. Also, the grand mean ratings of the six items were 2.99 and 3.03 for the male and

female principals respectively, are greater than the criteria mean of 2.50. This indicates that there is great extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

Test of Hypotheses

Hypothesis 1

H0₁: There will be no significant difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

Table 3: T-test analysis of the difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

Group	N	\bar{X}	S.D.	Df	t-cal	t-critical	Decision
Male	157	2.87	0.99	289	0.73	1.96	Do not reject H0 ₁
Female	134	2.85	0.98				

Table 3 shows that t-calculated value of 0.73 is less than t-critical of 1.96. Hence, the hypothesis is accepted. This implies that there is no significance difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

H0₂: There will be no significant difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

Table 4: T-test analysis of the difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

Group	N	\bar{X}	S.D.	Df	t-cal	t-critical	Decision
Male	157	2.99	0.97	289	2.17	1.96	Do not accept H0 ₂
Female	134	3.03	0.95				

Table 4 shows that t-calculated value of 2.17 is greater than t-critical of 1.96. Hence, the hypothesis is rejected. This implies that there is significance difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

XI. Discussion of the Findings

Table 1 showed the extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools. Item 6 is the only item whose mean score is below the criterion mean of 2.50. It indicates there is low extent to which inadequate funding hinders the implementation of disciplinary measure. It shows that disciplinary measures should be implemented irrespective of the financial status of the school. According to Ajibola and Ali [8], causes and kinds of disciplinary problems experienced are determinant of measures to be taken. At such, inadequate funding should not be an excuse for non-implementation of disciplinary measures. It was also revealed that five items (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) had mean scores above the criterion mean of 2.50. To great extent, inadequate funding impacted on discipline in the administration of the schools through; lack of control of disobedience to rules of teaching profession; insufficient control of irregular attendance to school; unsatisfactory control of lateness to school; non-adherence to the instructional time as stipulated in the time table; and inappropriate coordination of the school curriculum.

Furthermore, the grand mean scores are greater than the criterion mean of 2.50. It revealed that there is great extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools. This is in line with the findings of Ikgbusi and Iheanacho [15], which stated that insufficient funding hinders smooth administration of school. As noted by Aguba [16], discipline is very important to any society that is desirous of peace, harmony and progress. So, effort should be made to instill discipline in the schools.

Table 2 showed the extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools. All the mean scores of the six items (7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12) are above the criterion mean of 2.50. The findings revealed that principals were often threatened by parents when their children are asked to pay school fees. There was hostile relationship between the schools and host communities. There was financial insecurity of staff due to delay in payment of salaries. There was adverse impact on financial security of staff due to delay in promotion of teachers. Resources were insufficient for the protection of school infrastructures. From the data, inadequate funding had great impact on security in the administration of the schools. This is in line with the assertion of Amanchukwu [9], which states that insecurity hinders progress in all fields, including education. As noted by Eseyin et al [17], security is essential for cordial social relationship and safe school environment. Adequate funding will ensure job security, financial security and security of the school infrastructures.

The testing of hypothesis 1 shows that there is no significance difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools. This means that male and female principals do not differ in their opinions on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of the schools. The testing of hypothesis 2 shows that there is significance difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools. This means that male and female principals differ in their opinions on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of the schools.

XII. Conclusion

In view of the findings of the study and discussion, the following conclusions were drawn.

- There is great extent of impact of inadequate funding on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.
- There is great extent of impact of inadequate funding on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.
- Gender of the principals does not influence their opinion on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on discipline in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.
- There is significance difference in the mean ratings of male and female principals on the extent to which inadequate funding impact on security in the administration of Enugu State secondary schools.

The outcome of this research work is a useful tool to all educational stakeholders, which include the government, principals, teachers, students and parents. The knowledge of the impact of inadequate funding on secondary schools will motivate the Government to increase budgetary allocation to the secondary schools. It will provide the basis for the school administrators (principals) to develop and adopt appropriate strategies to remedy the problem of inadequate funding as it affects the administration of the secondary schools. The principals will be well guided in implementing disciplinary and security measures.

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