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## INFLUENCE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE ON DELINQUENT BEHAVIOURS AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN DUTSIN-MA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA KATSINA STATE, NIGERIA

<sup>1</sup>Steve Olusegun Bada & <sup>2</sup>Abdurrashid Jafaru

<sup>1,2</sup>Department of Educational Foundations, Federal University Dutsin-Ma, Katsina State, Nigeria

Email: [bdolusegun@gmail.com](mailto:bdolusegun@gmail.com); [abdulrashidjafar@gmail.com](mailto:abdulrashidjafar@gmail.com).

<sup>1</sup>Corresponding Author  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7472-769X>

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### ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** This study aimed at investigating the relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students in Dutsin-Ma LGA, Katsina State.

**Methodology:** Three hundred and eighty-one (381) students were sent as sample from three public schools in Dutsin-ma Local Government Area Katsina State. The data collected was analysed using Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (PPMC) and t-test Statistical analysis was used to analyze the data collected. Substance Abuse Questionnaire (SAQ) and Delinquent Behaviour Questionnaire were Constructed and used in the data collection. The instruments was validated by educational experts while the Substance Abuse Questionnaire (SAQ) have reliability index of 0.81 and Delinquent Behaviour Questionnaire (DBQ) have reliability index of 0.76 respectively.

**Results:** The findings on substance abuse and delinquent behaviour revealed that r-value is 0.596 and P-value (0.000 < 0.5). Therefore, indicated that there was moderate positive relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among Secondary School Students. On substance abuse, delinquent behaviour and gender, the result showed that p-value of 0.044 is less than 0.05 level of significance at 380 degrees of freedom indicating that there is a significant relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour on the gender basis. On class level, the result revealed that p-value of 0.008 is less than 0.05 level of significance indicating that there is a significant relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour.

**Conclusion:** The researchers therefore recommended that parents, school, society and government should joint hand in the supervision, monitoring, and guiding students both at home, school and on the streets as well as checkmating their associates and whereabouts.

**Keywords:** Substance Abuse, Delinquent Behaviour, Drug, juvenile delinquency



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## **PUBLIC INTEREST STATEMENT**

The findings of this research will be useful to parents, students, teachers, curriculum planners, educational administrators, testing bodies, educational policy makers, educational stakeholders and the general public. It can serve as guiding principles to all education stakeholders on the dangers, causes, detection and control of substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among adolescents in secondary schools of Dutsin-Ma Local Government Area, Katsina State.

## **INTRODUCTION**

A drug, or pharmaceutical, is a substance used to prevent or cure a disease or ailment or to alleviate its symptoms. However, some people abuse the use of drug, that is why Chen (2021) said drug may also refer to an illegal or restricted substance used by individuals recreationally or to get high. Australian government department of Health (2021) defined drugs as "substances that change a person's mental or physical state. They can affect the way your brain works, how you feel and behave, your understanding and your senses". Therefore, this research considers drug as any substance (with the exception of food and water) which, when taken into the body, alters the body's function either physically and/or psychologically. Drug and substance are terms that are used interchangeably; this research is not an exception, because it means the same thing. Drugs may be categorized or classified according to certain shared symptomatology or effect (Ernest N. Memorial & Conventional Center, 2014). Therefore, categorized drug as Depressants, Stimulants, Hallucinogens, Dissociative, Narcotic, Inhalants and Cannabis.

According to Buddy (2020), Substance abuse can simply be defined as a pattern of harmful use of any substance for mood-altering purposes. Drug/ substance abuse are the use of illegal drugs or the use of prescription or over-the-counter medications in ways other than recommended or intended. It also includes intentional inhalation of household or industrial chemicals for their mind-altering effects (William, 2020). The same crimes committed in the society, school is an educational society where the norms and values are transmitted to the younger generation so

as to make them functional members of the society. Due to different factors law and order are set to regulate the excesses of the students. These laws are regularly violated, the violation of these rules is considered as juvenile delinquency. Juvenile delinquency in our schools today has become a major problem. Some of the delinquent behavior in school include: Truancy, Bullying, Habitual Lateness to school, Examination malpractice, Violation of school uniform, Stealing, (from student and school property), Canalization of school properties, Walls defacing, Running away from school before the closing hours, Cultism and other antisocial gangs, Traffic offences, Indiscipline, Fighting in school, Isolation and aggression among others.

A study conducted by Al-alwi and Sheikh (2018) on prevalence of substance abuse among the school students in Al-Dhahirah governorate, Sultanate of Oman. A total of 614 participants were included in this study. Data obtained from this study showed that one-fifth (20.7%) of the respondents were abusing substance. The majority of abusers in this study were taken stimulants (25%), followed by sedatives (18%). The study also showed that a considerable percentage of people used tobacco (17%), poly substance (16%), paint (13%), glue (6%) and alcohol (5%). Most of the substance abusers were started abusing substances before grade 9 (48%) followed by grade 9 (32%). Abusers were mainly taken substances alone (55%), and with friends (28%). About 40% of the abusers in the present survey addressed the study problem is the main cause for substances addiction. The survey also confirmed that about two-fifths (38%) of abusers knew the way of distribution of the substances.

Morris conducted research in (2016) on Assessing Substance Abuse among Secondary School Students in Kendu Zone, Homabay County, Kenya. It was a school based descriptive cross-sectional study involving a total number of 257 students. The study used cluster random sampling technique where three schools were selected through simple random technique and the level of students in terms of which form a student was used as clusters for this study. From the findings of the study it was found that male students engaged in substance abuse more than their female counterparts. The study also found out that alcohol was the most abused substance at 42.3% followed by cigarette at 22.4%, miraa 16%, bhang and cocaine at 12.1% and 2% respectively with majority of the students reporting that they engaged in substance abuse mainly on weekends, during academic trips and during holidays.

A study conducted by Onoja (2010), on Prevalence of substance abuse among adolescents in public and private secondary school, and its relation to parental habits in Jos Nigeria in 2010. Study compared the prevalence of substance abuse among students of two secondary schools, one government owned, the other privately owned. A total of 250 self-administered questionnaires were distributed in each school, using the proportionate allocation by stratification method. The prevalence of substance abuse was 22.1 percent and 15.3 percent among students of private and public secondary schools, respectively. The study also found that even though one or both parents of over half of the students sampled for both schools (52% for the private school and 52.3% for the public school) indulge in one form or the other of substance intake, there is no statistical correlation between parental use of substances and influence on respondents to abuse substances.

A study conducted by Lawal and Aliyu in 2020 on Assessment of Causes and Effects of Drugs and Substances Abuse among Youth: A Case Study of Katsina Metropolis (North West Nigeria). Using three hundred and twenty (320)

Samples. The data was Collected using questionnaire and analysed using SPSS revealed that majority 85.2% of the respondents are male, within the age group of 25-29. The majorities 64.1% were not married and 88.5% of them indicated Islam as their religion. In terms of educational background, 186 (48.4%) of the respondents did not finish secondary school and 60.9% of them have no occupation and 36% live with their parents. With regard to parent occupation, less than half 46.1% of the respondents' reported their parent to be business men and 77.8% mothers are house wives and 60.9% of the respondents' parents are still in married. With 79.7 reported father did not take any illicit drug and 83% mothers has no history of taking illicit drug, likewise 67.2% of the respondents also reported no family history of taking illicit drugs. From the above figure, it shows that Majority (38.5%) of the respondents reported peer pressure as the reason for their drug abuse followed by 19.5% for enjoyment and 13.3% to ease their disturbances from the above figure we can see that majority 29.2% of the study subject abuse cigarette, 21.6% codeine, 17.7% marijuana, followed by 14.3% Roche and 9.1% tramadol respectively.

Another report of the research conducted by Mrug, et al, (2010) School-Level Substance Use: Effects on Early Adolescents' Alcohol, Tobacco, and Marijuana Use in Birmingham England. Method: This cross-sectional study included 542 students attending 49 public middle schools in a single metropolitan area. Students reported on their use of alcohol, cigarettes, and marijuana, and friends' deviant behavior in the last 12 months. Parents provided information about parental nurturance and harsh and inconsistent discipline. School-wide levels of substance use were obtained from the Pride Surveys completed by all students in Grades 6-8 at each school. Multilevel logistic regressions modeled individual use as a function of school-level use for each substance. Interactions of friends' deviance and poor parenting with school-level substance use evaluated differential susceptibility. Results: Among the three

substances, only school-level rates of cigarette smoking were associated with individual smoking. The relationships of school-level smoking and alcohol use with individual use were stronger for students whose parents reported poorer parenting practices.

A number of factors increase a person's risk of abusing drugs. Although, not all people with risk factors will abuse drugs. Risk factors for drug abuse include: anxiety disorders or depression, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, bipolar disorder, early drug use, lack of parental supervision, male gender, parental substance abuse, peer pressure, personality disorders, such as antisocial behavioral disorder or borderline personality disorder, physical or sexual abuse, poor family communication or bonding, stress (William, 2020). According to William (2020), complications of untreated drug abuse can be serious, even life threatening in some cases. The effects of drug abuse include: Brain damage, memory loss, Psychological changes, including aggression, paranoia, depression and hallucinations, Withdrawal symptoms among others and delinquent behavior.

Refusal to abide by the law of the land, attend duty late, commuting crime, aggression and anti-social behavior are what constitutes delinquent behavior. That is why Bada (2017) defined delinquency as "a kind of abnormality when an individual deviate from the course of normal social life" he further identifies the following as delinquent behavior among adolescents (secondary school students): sexual offences, shoplifting, stealing, running away from home without parental permission and Habitual truant among others. According to content team (2016) "Delinquency is criminal behavior, or acts that do not conform to the moral or legal standards of society, carried out by a minor" it further clarifies that delinquent behavior involved Failure or neglect of duty or obligation and Disorderly, antisocial, or illegal behavior.

Psychologists theorized the reasons for delinquent behavior among which are: The anomie theory was first

written in the 1940s by Robert Merton. Merton's theory explains that juvenile delinquency occurs because the juveniles do not have the means to make themselves happy. Their goals are unattainable within legal means so they find unlawful means by which to attain their goals. An example would be a juvenile who has had a goal to get a job and purchase a car. The juvenile is not able to find a job to make money so he either steals a car or he steals money to purchase a car. Another theory about juvenile delinquency is the subculture theory. In 1955, Albert Cohen developed the subculture theory, which is a culmination of several of his theories. The subculture theory is much like it sounds; juveniles that do not meet the social standards seek validation from a subculture. The subculture group is formed of other juveniles who also do not meet the social standards. These groups then act in manners that are not socially acceptable and rebel against the socially acceptable standards. According to Cohen, juvenile delinquency is a product of society. The juveniles commit crimes, such as stealing, because it is not a social norm, and they do it to fit in with their subculture.

Several drugs cause hallucinations, energized, and depressed the user to some points distorts with brain and general nervous system functioning, so much crimes are committed consciously or unconsciously by the substance abusers. That is why there is an undeniable link between substance abuse and delinquency. "In 2018, the United States handled approximately 744,500 juvenile delinquency cases, less than one-third of crimes committed by juveniles are committed by females, almost 16,400 crimes involved weapons, about 100,000 drug-related offenses" (Lustik, 2021). There is a two-way relationship between both of them. On one hand, substance abuse leads to criminal behavior. While, on the other hand, criminal behavior promotes the use of substances in teens (Home, family and parenting 2019). Studies of youth in juvenile court demonstrate that a majority of court-involved adolescents

have recently used illegal substances (Slowikowski, 2010).

According to Indian Journal of Psychiatry (2016) "There is an intimate relationship between drugs and criminal behavior". In a study the conducted in (2016), 487 detained juveniles aged between 8 and 18 years were included. This was obtained by face-to-face semi-structured interviews and juvenile case records maintained by the juvenile home. Out of 487 juveniles-under-enquiry booked under different crimes, 86.44% of the sample had a history of substance use. Consumption of tobacco and cannabis were higher when compared to other drugs. Consumption of psychotropic drugs though relatively lesser was related with more serious crimes. There is an increasing trend in serious crimes such as rape, murder/attempt to murder, and burglary committed by juveniles.

Bada (2017) defined juvenile delinquency as "teenage Crime". According to Blanko (2020) Juvenile delinquency is defined as an individual under the age of 18 who fails to abide by the laws. In our secondary schools the students range between 12 to 18 years during which individual of this age is described as juvenile, (adolescents) According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), (as cited in Blanko 2020) "a juvenile is anyone under the age of 18 regardless of how each individual state defines a juvenile". That is why Crimes committed by individuals of this age group is considered as juvenile delinquency. Therefore, the purpose of this study is an attempt to find out the influence of drug abuse on delinquent behaviour among secondary school students in Dutsin-Ma LGA, Katsina State.

### **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Substance abuse become a common thing among individuals of different age groups including under age, male and female in school. It is the major concern in which the expected educational aims and objectives are missed where the students are involved in it, the effect is multidimensional in which it affects the students abusing the

drug, other students, the teachers, parents the entire educational system and the nation large. One of the effects is that it causes delinquent behaviour among students as (Bada, 2017) identify drug abuse as cause of juvenile delinquency. these are undesirable behaviours exhibits by adolescents at home or in school. The delinquent behaviour include the following: running away from home without the permission of parents, habitual truancy beyond the control of parents and teachers, spending time idly beyond limits, use of vulgar languages, wandering about rail-roads, streets and market places, visiting gambling centres, committing sexual offences, shop lifting, stealing etc.

Majority of court cases involving adolescents have recently used illegal substances (Slowikowski, 2010). Research conducted by Alabi and Jumoke (2020) with sample of 30 teachers and 150 students from the five selected public secondary schools in Ilorin South Local Government Area of Kwara State Nigeria revealed that there was significant relationship between the drug abuse and students' riot, bullying of fellow students and students' disobeying school authorities in Secondary Schools. The researcher aimed at addressing the problem of substance abuse and delinquency in Ilorin local government of kwara state. This study therefore aimed at investigating the relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students in Dutsin-Ma LGA, Katsina State.

### **PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

1. find out if there is any significant relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students in Dutsin-Ma L.G.A. Katsina State.
2. investigate if there is any significant gender difference in substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students in Dutsin-Ma L.G.A. Katsina state.
3. examine if there is any significant difference in substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students in Dutsin-



Ma L.G.A. Katsina state based on class level.

### HYPOTHESES

1. There is no significant relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students in Dutsin-Ma L.G.A. Katsina state.
2. There is no significant gender difference in substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students in Dutsin-Ma L.G.A. Katsina state.
3. There is no significant difference in substance abuse and delinquent behaviour between classes among secondary school students in Dutsin-Ma L.G.A. Katsina state based on class level.

### METHODOLOGY

#### *Research Design*

The research adopted survey research method, with the target population of all nine public secondary schools of Dutsin-Ma Local Government Katsina State. Because it the most suitable to the topic, where the researcher will have a direct contact with the population. It Is also flexible in which the respondent will have more chance of participation in the research, hence the choice of the survey research considering the topic and the variable involved as well as the instruments and the nature of the population of the study.

#### **Population and Sample**

The population of the study comprises of all students of government senior secondary school Dutsin-Ma, Katsina State, Nigeria. While the target population consists of all SS2 and SS3 of senior secondary school Dutsin-ma, Katsina State. They are as follows:

**Table1: Table showing the population of the students.**

S/N	NAMES OF SCHOOLS	NO. OF SS II STDS	NO OF SS III STDS
1.	Govt Pilot Secondary School Dutsin-Ma	629	574
2.	Govt Senior Secondary School Makera	300	170
3.	Govt Day Secondary School Darawa Dutsin-Ma	430	325
4.	Govt Day Secondary School Babawa	87	75
5.	Govt Girls Arabic Secondary School Dutsin-Ma	304	281
6.	Govt Girls Day Secondary Schoool Dutsin-Ma	490	500
7.	Govt Day Secondary School Karofi	350	354
8.	Govt Senior Secondary School Kuki	103	98
9.	Govt Senior Secondary School Bagagadi	83	61
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2776</b>	<b>2438</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>5214</b>

**Source:** Dutsin-Ma Education Quality Assurances Zonal Office.

A total of 5214 students from SSII and SSIII are the population of the research from all nine public schools of Dutsin-ma Local Area of Katsina State.

A simple random sampling technique was employed, three schools (Government Pilot Secondary School Dutsin-Ma, Government Girls Arabic

Secondary School Dutsin-Ma and Government Girls Day Secondary School Dutsin-Ma) were selected out of which three hundred and eighty-one (381) students were used as the sample using Krejcie and Morgan 1970s table for determining sample size. The table for the sample is stated below:

**Table 2: Table showing the sample population of the students**

S/N	NAME OF SCHOOLS	NO. of SSII STDS	NO. of SSIII STDS
1.	Govt Pilot Secondary School Dutsin-Ma	103	97
2.	Govt Girls Arabic Secondary School Dutsin-Ma	40	46
3.	Govt Girls Day Secondary School Dutsin-Ma	50	45
<b>Total</b>		<b>193</b>	<b>188</b>
<b>Grand total</b>			<b>381</b>

**Instrument for Data Collection**

In this study, Substance Abuse Questionnaire (SAQ) and Delinquent Behaviour Questionnaire (DBQ) was developed by the researchers. The instruments (questionnaire) comprised of sections A, B and C. Section A comprised the bio-data of the respondents such as Name of school, Class, and Gender; section B comprised ten (10) items drawn on the substance abuse among secondary School students and section C comprised ten (10) items drawn on delinquent behavior among secondary School students were administered by the researcher himself. The items were structured in a Likert Scale of Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD).

In order to establish the validity of the instrument, the questionnaire was validated by Educational Psychology and Educational Measurement/Evaluation Lecturers from the Department of Educational Foundations in Federal University Dutsin-Ma. The Substance Abuse Questionnaire (SAQ) have reliability index of 0.81 and Delinquent Behaviour Questionnaire (DBQ) have reliability index of 0.76 respectively. The data collected were tested with the use of Pearson Product Moment Correlation

Coefficient (PMCC) and t-test at 0.05 level of confidence ( $P < 0.05$ ).

**Procedure for Data Collection**

The procedure for data collection involved administration of questionnaire with the aide of the teachers in the schools. The researcher coordinated the organisation, distribution and collection of the data for this study.

**Method of Data Analysis**

The hypothesis formulated was tested at 5% level of significant using both descriptive and inferential statistics of Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (PPMC) and t-test statistics. Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (PPMC) was used to answer hypothesis 1 while t-test statistics was used to answer both hypothesis 2 and 3. This is also appropriate in testing the relationship between substance abuse on delinquent behaviour among secondary school students.

**RESULTS**

**Hypothesis 1:** There is no significant relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students of Dutsin-Ma LGA, Katsina State.

**Table 1 Pearson Moment Product Correlation between Substance abuse and Delinquency Behaviour**

Variables	N	Mean	Std. Dev	r(Pearson)	P-value
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	382	26.837	5.7328	0.596	0.000
<b>Delinquent</b>	382	27.350	5.3622		

**Behaviour**

0.05 level of confidence ( $P < 0.05$ ).

The result in Table 1 revealed that r-value is 0.596 and P-value (0.000 < 0.5). Therefore, the null hypothesis is accepted. This reveals that there was moderate positive relationship between Drug abuse and delinquent behaviour of Secondary School Students.

**Hypothesis 2:** There is no gender significance difference in substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students of Dutsin-Ma LGA, Katsina State.

**Table 2: Substance Abuse and Delinquent Behaviour and Gender difference.**

Variables	Sex	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	DF	t-Cal	P-value	Decision
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	Male	184	27.45	5.50	380	2.024	0.044	Rejected
	Female	198	26.267	5.89				

The result in Table 2 showed that p-value of 0.044 is less than 0.05 level of significance at 380 degrees of freedom indicating that there is a significant relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour on the aspect gender. Hence, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant

difference between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour on the aspect of gender was rejected.

**Hypothesis 3:** There is no significant difference between Substance abuse and delinquent behaviour between classes among secondary school students of Dutsin-Ma LGA, Katsina State.

**Table 3: Substance Abuse and Delinquent Behaviour on Class level.**

Variables	Class	N	Mean	Std. Dev.	DF	t-Cal	P-value	Decision
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	SS 2	149	27.80	6.25	378	2.659	0.008	Rejected
	SS 3	231	26.21	5.31				

The result in Table 3 showed that p-value of 0.008 is less than 0.05 level of significance at 378 degrees of freedom indicating that there is a significant relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour based on class level. Hence, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference in substance abuse and delinquent behaviour between classes among secondary school students was rejected.

**DISCUSSIONS**

The findings of this study indicated that students who abuses substances tend to develop delinquent behaviour among secondary school students in Dutsin-ma Local Government Area Katsina state. A continuous cycle that cuts across gender and classes of boarding and day secondary schools. The first hypothesis states that there is no significant relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students of Dutsin-Ma LGA, Katsina State.



The findings of the research revealed that there is moderate positive relationship between Drug abuse and delinquent behaviour of Secondary School Students, therefore, the null hypothesis is accepted. This is contrast with the words of American Addiction Center (2020) "there is a strong link between delinquent behavior and substance abuse" This is online with the words of Catherine (2021) "As the rate of adolescent substance use increases so does the rate of youth who commit crimes". A research conducted by Alabi and Jumoke (2020) with sample of 30 teachers and 150 students from the five selected public Secondary Schools in Ilorin South Local Government Area of Kwara State Nigeria revealed that there was significant relationship between the drug abuse and students' riot, bullying of fellow students and students' disobeying school authorities in Secondary Schools.

The second hypothesis states that there is no gender significance difference in substance abuse and delinquent behaviour among secondary school students of Dutsin-Ma LGA, Katsina State. The findings of the research indicate that there is a significant relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour on the gender basis. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. This is in line with the view that Male students are generally more likely than females to abuse substances and commit delinquent offenses (Mennis & Mason, 2012). Chen & Jacobson (2012) accepted that females shows a greater tendency to decline or desist from substance abuse and delinquent behaviour. Latent transition analysis of Bright, Sacco & Compton (2017) identified Primary Delinquent, Delinquency and Substance Use, and Low Risk classes. Females were less likely to be in the Primary Delinquent class at age 12 than males. From 15 to 18, females were approximately equally likely to transition from Primary Delinquent to both other classes, whereas males were more likely to transition from Primary Delinquent to Delinquency and Substance Use. This is in Contrast with the research work of Brunelle, Tremblay, Martin & Gendron (2013) which shows that the

more delinquent youths have a more severe profile of substance use, thus confirming the strong association between psychoactive substance (PAS) use severity and delinquency. Girls being treated for addiction present a more severe profile of substance use than boys treated. No interaction effect was found between gender and level of delinquency. It also appears important that the history of sexual abuse be considered as one of the variables associated with the severity of PAS use.

The third hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference between Substance abuse and delinquent behaviour between classes among secondary school students of Dutsin-Ma LGA, Katsina State. Indicating that there is a significant relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour on the aspect class difference. Hence, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference in substance abuse and delinquent behaviour between classes among secondary school students was rejected this was supported by Mennis & Mason (2012) " that substance use is enhanced by being older and male" which indicates that those in upper classes are like to abuse drug more and more delinquent. They further stressed that older adolescents are more strongly influenced by social and neighborhood contexts than younger adolescents, where ages 14-16 appear to be a key transition age for the emergence of contextual effects on substance use.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the result obtained from the research, that there is strong relationship between substance abuse and delinquent behaviour. Most of the delinquent adolescents are having the history of substance abuse. Age and class of the students also determine the level of substance abuse and delinquent behaviour. That gender is also a factor that determines the gravity of delinquent behaviour and substance abuse, where men are considered to be more exposed to substance abuse and delinquent behaviour than the female students.

More over female students have more chances of quitting substances and participate less in delinquent behaviour.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Base on the above findings, the researchers recommend the following:

1. That parent as care givers, should look out for their children especially at adolescence age, check mating their excesses and supporting their weaknesses. Mind their friends and associates respecting their personal choices.
2. School should monitor the conduct of the students, supervise their unions and group. Approve the healthy unions to discourage isolation.
3. School should empower counselling unit and encourage the student to patronize the unit, ensuring confidentiality of their secrecy. Train the counselling masters, support them and reduce their stress so they can have enough quality time with the students.
4. School should joint hand with parents in monitoring the movement and activities of students in and out of school. Parent teachers' associations should be given a special consideration, so they remain functional and active to the task.
5. Antidrug clubs should be established, to enlighten the students on the effect and danger of drug abuse. They will help the student understand the school antidrug rules as well as national policies on substance use and abuse.
6. Schools should liaise with drug law enforcement agencies for lectures, seminars and enlightenment to students on drugs abuse and its effects.
7. School Masters should establish cordial relationship with students to enable them understand the students' condition and help them in solving their problems.
8. Government should establish anti-drug rules to regulate the sales and drug abuse among public, through drug laws and policies that will curtail

the circulation of substances among students.

**Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest

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### **Disclaimer**

We hereby declare that this paper is our autonomous work. All texts either quoted directly or paraphrased have been indicated by in-text citations. Full bibliographical details are given in the reference list. This work has not been submitted to any other examination authority.

### **Authors' Bionote**

**Dr Bada Steve Olusegun** is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Educational Foundations, Educational Psychology Unit, Federal University Dutsinma, Katsina State. Dr Bada is an experienced Educational Psychologist and a Guidance Counsellor with lecturing experience of over 15years in both Colleges of Education and University. He has vast experience in supervising both Master and Doctoral students in Educational Psychology. He has published several academic papers both local and international on contemporary issues in Educational Psychology. He is the immediate past Deputy Director of the Continuing Education Centre of the University.

**Abdurrashid Jafaru** is a Master student of Educational Psychology at the Department of Educational Foundations, Federal University Dutsinma, Katsina State. Abdurrashid is an experienced Educationalist with many years of teaching experience.

### Authorship and level of Contribution

Abdurrashid Jafaru co-authored the work together with my supervisor Dr Bada Steve Olusegun who is instrumental in guidance, correction and editing of the entire work.

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