



Relationship Between Pornography Addiction and Students' Academic Performance in Oshimili North Local Government Area of Delta State

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Abstract

This study examined the relationship between pornography addiction and academic performance among secondary school students in Oshimili North Local Government Area of Delta State, Nigeria. A correlational survey design was adopted, with a sample of 250 Senior Secondary 2 and 3 students selected from five public schools using random sampling. Data were collected using two instruments: the Pornography Addiction Scale (PAS) and the Academic Performance Scale (APS), both validated by experts and demonstrating high reliability ($\alpha = 0.90$). Statistical analyses, including Pearson correlation, regression analysis, and Fisher's Z-test, were conducted at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed a significant relationship between pornography addiction and students' academic performance, with gender also influencing this relationship. Based on these results, the study recommends the establishment of functional counselling units in schools to support affected students. It also emphasizes the need for regular guidance programmes addressing socio-personal and behavioural issues to promote healthy lifestyles and improved academic outcomes.

Keywords: Pornography Addiction, Academic Performance, Secondary School Students, Gender Differences.

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INTRODUCTION

Pornography has become more addictive in the recent time than ever, According to Dines (2016) , pornography is a public health hazard because of the different studies that have revealed pornography's negative impacts on the social, emotional and physical health of individuals,

students , families and even communities . Pornography addiction refers to Psychological dependence upon pornography, characterized by obsessive, viewing, reading and thinking about pornography to the detriment of other areas of one's own life.

Barrett (2012) see Pornography as a public health issue that is prevalent among secondary school students, according to him, this is a trend that will

continue because pornography is a form of supernormal stimulation that thrives on factors such as accessibility and novelty, which have been proven to cause changes in the brain. Pornography addiction is being dependent on pornographic materials to the extent that it interferes with daily life, relationships, Academics, finances or other aspects of human life. It is a behavior that has a very strong influence on the life of anyone involved in it. The more you watch pornographic materials, the more you want to watch more.

The researcher has personally observed, discovered, that any student that involve in pornography does not do well academically. When a students is a pornography addict, the students loses concentration during teaching, ie, when a male student is a pornography addicts, if a female teacher is teaching, the male student will focus on the female teacher, lusting after her, having negative imagination about the teacher, the male students will be looking at the female teachers lustfully, viewing everywhere, instead of being focus and concentrate on what the teacher is teaching, this type of student can't do well academically . the same goes to the female student , when all they think in class , outside school, at home is pornography.

Pornography addiction refers to the overuse consumption of pornography noted by insatiable reading of pornographic literature and watching films which in turn interferes with daily life activities of the students involved in the behavior most especially in the area of student academic performance. Porn addiction is like any other chronic addictive behaviour e.g. alcohol, drug and gambling addiction. It is very rampant among secondary school students . It is destroying lives and affecting students academics.

Owens, Behun, Manning, and Reid (2012) Watching pornography is very easy because it requires less effort than interacting with a partner. This is why social media addicts are the most vulnerable to pornography addiction , and also advancement of technology, particularly the introduction of the internet, social media, smartphone, iPad etc have increased the rate at

which students get addicted to pornographic materials , as a result of this, it leads to poor academic performance

A pornography addict may not be able to succeed in life and he or she may never have a peaceful home until he or she is able to overcome the addiction. Social media, has improved and so has made easy the access and availability of pornography in recent times. With the advent of computer and internet and even the telephone sets, a lot of young children– male and female can access the most current soft- and hard-core pornography with ease.

Hass, and Rowland (2015) observed that depression in relation to pornography addiction was associated with decreases in college student's grade point average, which is an objective measurement of academic performance. According to Kühn and Gallinat (2014), pornography consumption can cause changes in the brain of the individual thereby having negative effects in the academic performance of the students. Also, the increased sexual permissiveness engendered by pornography increases the risk of the students contracting a sexually transmitted disease , which can lead to poor academic performance , and also affect the students emotion .

Goodson and Evans (2001) Pornography has a significant effects during all stages of life. When a child is exposed to pornography within a family setting, it can causes stress and also increases the risk for developing negative attitudes about the nature and purpose of human sexuality. For a student who view pornography, their emotional arousal when viewing sexually materials , their attitudes toward their own and others' sexuality changes, and their sexual expectations and behavior are shaped accordingly and this can affect their concentration in their studies and affect their daily life. The role of the youth in any society cannot be overemphasized, they are a fundamental part of any society's posterity and their academic performance is a factor that can make them eligible to fill key positions of economic significance in the nearest future (Kell, Lubinski, & Benbow, 2013).

A study conducted by Kell, Lubinski, and Benbow (2013) tracked 320 academically excellent students from the ages range of 13 to 20. The Studies revealed that secondary school students with academic success are more likely to be gainfully employed, have stable jobs, and also earn more money, but Unfortunately, many youths do not stand a chance since studies have shown that poor academic performances can destabilize the life course of an individual, ultimately having devastating effects on society. According to McAllister, (2017), Pornography is a problem that is peculiar to the current generation of youth because of its ease of accessibility, and this should raise genuine concerns in the public health sector.

Kühn and Gallinat (2014) discovered that there is a relationship between pornography consumption and low motivation levels, poor decision making skills, these are factors that may ultimately affect the academic performance of college students. On the other hand, abstinence from pornography has been associated with an increase in performance .

The use of pornography has also been found to be related with a weakening in the performance of one's working memory (Laier, Schulte, & Brand, 2013). To show the importance of working memory, a study employing 124 Student revealed that students with a low working memory capacity were more likely to lose focus when they faced academic tasks.

The term "academic performance" has been described as the scholastic standing of students at a given moment. It refers to how an individual is able to demonstrate his or her intelligent abilities. This scholastic standing could be explained as the grades obtained in a course (Adeyemi 2005). Abosede and Akintola (2016) observed that students 'academic performance is not only affected by school-related factors such as learning environment, school infrastructure, teachers' dedication to duty, qualified teachers; but some others addictive factors like Drug addiction, Pornography addiction, smoking addiction can affect secondary school student academic performance. The higher the level of pornography addiction there is also a corresponding higher

academic maladjustment among students, this means that students who over indulge in pornography behaviour allow their behaviour to affect their academic lives negatively thereby resulting in academic maladjustment. Given that they are guilty of pornography addictions they mod gage their time. It is important to note that time wasting and poor time management are great signals of academic maladjustment. Indeed they are the hallmark of incurable consumption of pornography among students. With neck deep into pornography, the victims are less motivated and enthusiastic to pursue their academics to a successful end. Thus he is not success oriented and he cannot attain a high academic standing. Summarily, this finding suggests that pornography addiction would overwhelm students to the extent that they lose sight of their personal characteristics and beliefs in academic attainment, such as purpose and sense of value. It is possible that majority of students may still not know why they are in school, and would allow their interest in pornography to becloud their taking part in worthwhile academic activities, doing their assignments, attend their classes frequently and engaging in such other co-curricular activities that would make for good academic attainment.

Gender dimension of pornography addiction has also been explored. Though every human being is sexual and therefore can give in to sexual excitement some people tend to hold the view that pornography is more associated with the male folk than the female. It is believed that gender inequality has placed women in subordinate position as far as sexual behaviour is concerned. Men it is said, have stronger sexual drives than women and the notion that men cannot do without sex (Reid, 2011; Cohen & Trussell, 2014).

Statement of the Problem

Pornography is a public health problem that is on a rampage among secondary school age. More youths are falling victim to pornography's onslaught, given that its use thrives on anonymity, accessibility and affordability (Cooper, 2010). There have been documented reports of the negative effects of pornography on Students

academic performance (Kühn & Gallinat,2014). However, there have not been many studies showing direct associations, if any, between pornography Addiction and secondary school students academic performance in Oshimili north LGA of Delta state, Therefore, the study is of concerned with the relationship between pornography addiction among secondary school students academic performance in Oshimili North LGA of Delta state .

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to investigate the relationship between viewing of pornography and secondary school student academic performance . Specifically, the study will:

1. Find out if pornography addiction has any relationship with the secondary school students academic performance in Oshimili North LGA of Delta state.
2. Find out if difference exist between pornographic addiction and academic performance by gender of students in secondary schools in Oshimili North LGA of Delta state.

Research Question :

The following research questions were raised to guide this study:

1. Is there any significant relationship between Pornography addiction and academic performance of secondary school students in Oshimili north LGA of Delta state?
2. Is there any difference in relationship between pornographic addiction and academic performance by gender of secondary school students in Oshimili north LGA of Delta state?

Research hypothesis :

1. There is no significant relationship between Pornography addiction and academic performance of secondary school students in Oshimili North LGA of Delta state?

2. There is no significant difference in relationship between pornographic addiction and academic performance by gender of secondary school students in Oshimili North LGA of Delta state.

Methods

The study adopted a correlational survey design. A correlational study according to Malim (2005) is the research design in which the researcher seeks to find the extent to which two or more variables are related to another. Correlation indicate the degree of relationship which exist among the variable based on correlation coefficient. The population of this study comprised all the senior secondary schools students (SS2-SS3) in public schools in Oshimili north LGA of Delta state specifically. Five [5] schools were randomly selected from the two LGA, . In each school, fifty [50] students were selected in each school as respondents through stratified proportionate sampling technique giving a total of two hundred and fifty [250]. The instrument for data collection were two questionnaires tagged: Pornography Addiction Scale (PAS), and Academic Performance Scale (APS). It is made up of three sections .Section A: is on demographic variable which consisted name of school, gender ,class, location, age,. Section B was made up of PAS with 20 items, while section C is made up of Academic Performance Scale (APS) with 20 items. The questionnaire was structured in a four (4) point scale that required respondents to tick (✓) as appropriate the statement for which they Strongly Agree {SA}=4, Agree{A} =3, Disagree {D}=2 and Strongly Disagree (SD)=1 The questionnaire was drawn and shown to two expert in the Department of Measurement and Evaluation , and Guidance and Counseling who made some corrections and considered the items good for the study. The suggestions and corrections were reflected in the final version of the Scales to enhance face, content and construct validity of the instrument. The content validity of the scales was shown by the total cumulative variance of the items. The Scales had **76.30%**, content validity while its construct validity was estimated with a rotated factor loading matrix which ranged between **.55 to.99**. To establish the reliability of

this instrument, Cronbach alpha method of internal consistency was used to estimate the internal consistency reliability of PAS and APS. Reliability of an instrument refers to the degree of consistency with which the instrument measures whatever it measures (Okorodudu, 2013). The scales have alpha = **.90 and .92 respectively** ($P \leq 0.5$). These scales were pilot tested on a sample of 42 respondents which were not part of the study. The data for this study were gathered from public secondary school students in Oshimili North LGA of Delta State. 270 copies of questionnaire were administered so that if some copies of the questionnaire got missing, the researcher will be able to retrieve the number needed for the study. To facilitate this, one (1) research assistant were

used for the administration of the questionnaire. Thereafter, the retrieved copies of questionnaire were taken to a statistician for data processing. The study involved both research questions and hypothesis. Consequently, Pearson Products Moment Of Correlation was used to answer research question one while Regression Analysis and simple correlation were employed to test the research hypothesis one, Fisher's Z was used to answer research question two and test null hypothesis two at .05 level of significance.

Research question one: Is there any relationship between Pornography addiction and academic performance of secondary school students

Table 1: Pearson Products Moment Of

Correlation of the relationship between Pornography addiction and academic performance of senior secondary school students

Variable	N	R	r ²	r ^{2adj}	Decision
Pornography addiction	250	.182	.033	.031	Positive relationship
Academics performance					

Table 1 showed that the r –value of .182 was the correlation between Pornography addiction and academic performance of senior secondary school students. The coefficient of determination of Pornography addiction was .033 and the amount of contribution was 0.31. This result revealed a positive relationship between Pornography addiction and academic performance of senior secondary school students. This implied that pornography addiction correlates with academic performance of senior secondary school students.

Research hypothesis one: There is no significant relationship between Pornography addiction and academic performance of secondary school students

Table 2 : Regression analysis of Pornography addiction and academic performance of secondary school students Model Summary

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
.182	.033	.031	10.150

The independent variable is PORNOGRAPHY ADDICTION

ANOVA

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
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Regression	1548.413	1	1548.413	15.029	.000
Residual	25332.32	240	103.028		
Total	26880.73	241			

The independent variable is PORNOGRAPHY ADDICTION

Coefficients

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
Constant	56.436	1.504		37.526	.000
PORNOGRAPHY ADDICTION	3.749	.967	.182	3.877	.000

The result in Table 2 reveals the regression output of a positive relationship between pornography addiction and academic performance of secondary school student. The computed $F(1,241)=15.029$, $P<.05$ level significance. Therefore the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant relationship between pornography addiction and secondary school students academic performance was rejected. The finding is that there is a significant relationship between pornography addiction and secondary school students academic performance. The conclusion is drawn that there is a significant relationship between pornography addiction and secondary school student's academic performance.

Research question two : Is there any difference in relationship between pornographic addiction and secondary school students academic performance by gender in Oshimili North LGA of Delta state?

Research hypothesis two: There is no significance difference in relationship between pornographic addiction and academic performance by gender of secondary school students in Oshimili north LGA of Delta state?

Table 3 : Fisher's Z of pornography addiction and academic performance by gender of students.

Gender	N	R	Zs	Z-cal	Z-critical
Male	115	.338	.531	1.51	-1.96
Female	135	.145	.266		

Data in Table 3 shows a Z calculated value of 1.51 and a table value of -1.96. Testing at an alpha level of .05 of significance, the calculated value does not fall within the acceptance region. The null hypothesis which states that there is no significance difference in relationship between pornographic addiction and academic performance by gender of secondary school students is rejected. This shows that relationship between pornographic addiction and academic performance of secondary school students is moderated by gender.

Discussion of findings

The study revealed that there is a significant relationship between pornography addiction and academic performance of secondary school students. The result of this study is in agreement with the study of Ogunode, Jegede and Olmide (2019) who investigated the influence of pornography on Senior Secondary School students in some selected senior secondary schools in Gwagwalada Area Council of Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, Nigeria. Primary data were

obtained from a random selection of 600 Senior High School Students who are SSI to SS3. The data were collected using a questionnaire and then analyzed using percentage method. The results indicated that watching pornography films and video is not good for students because pornography negatively influenced the academic performance of Economics students and that majority of secondary school Economics students source the pornography materials from the internet and social media.

The result of this study also agree with the result of Kobach and Paul (2013) who carried out a research on effects of watching pornography and academic performance, two research questions and two hypotheses were used, the sample of the study include male =105, female =115, regression analysis was used to test the hypotheses at 0.5 level of significance, the findings reported that academic performance of the secondary school students were being influenced negatively by pornography consumption.

Furthermore, this current study also revealed that there is a significant difference in relationship between pornography addiction and academic performance by secondary school students gender. This present study is in line with the study of Ward and Brown (2016), who conducted a study and mentioned that pornography is perceived as degrading and demeaning portrayal of the role and status of the human females as mere sexual objects to be exploited and manipulated sexually. This suggests ordinarily that pornography is prevalent more among the male generally than the female.

Conclusion

Watching of pornography is not good for secondary school students because it can make students fail and also lack career focus in life. The majority of secondary school students source and watch the pornographic material from the social media/ internet and this interferes with their study time and study concentration thereby leading to poor academic performance of secondary school students. Pornography can also lead to unwanted pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, Rape and incest among the

students and these are also militating factors against academic performance..

Recommendations

The following recommendations are made from the findings of the study:

1. Functional Counselling units should be established by school managements to assist students struggling with pornography addiction to gradually come out of such behaviour.
2. It is recommended that the students who make effort to overcome pornography addiction should be encouraged by counsellors to maintain the behavioural change process, employing all the necessary reinforcement packages and adopting individual and group counselling methods by counsellors and school management.
3. Secondary school counsellors should be encouraged to talk on a whole range of social personal issues including how to develop healthy relationships among fellow students, good interpersonal relationships and good sexual behaviours, evil effects of lesbianism, homosexuality, prostitution and pornography on periodic occasions to students.
4. School authorities should make school activities more interesting to students so that their interests would be sustained.

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