AVAILABILITY AND EFFICACY OF INMATES EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES IN NIGERIAN CORRECTIONAL CENTERS IN ILORIN, KWARA STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract
This study examined the availability and efficacy of educational programmes for inmates in correctional centers in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. This study made use of descriptive survey research. The population for this study were all inmates in correctional centers in Kwara State, Nigeria. One hundred and eight (108) inmates and twenty-eight (28) teachers were sampled for this study making one hundred and thirty-six (136) respondents all together. Purposive sampling technique was used to sample Oke Kura Correctional Center located in Ilorin and simple random sampling technique was used to sample respondents for this study. A researcher's designed questionnaire titled Availability and Efficacy of Correctional Center on Educational Programme for Inmates (AECCEPI) was used for data collection while data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics of percentage, mean and rank order were used to answer the three research questions raised and two research hypotheses were tested, t-test and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) at 0.05 level of significance. Findings from the study revealed that socio-economic skills and value/ethics education, virtues and self-reliance education, recreational education, counselling education, vocational education, moral/value education, reintegration education, moral/religious education, among others were the educational programmes available for inmates at the correctional center in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. It was therefore recommended that the inmates as beneficiaries of the educational programmes of these correctional centers should be law abiding and be patriotic so that when they are discharged from the correctional center, they would be able to start positive life.

Keywords: ***Availability, Efficacy, Inmates, Correctional Centers.***

Introduction

The term 'education' has been defined by different people in different ways. It is seen sometimes as formal schooling or to lifelong learning. Some scholars according to Akinwale (2019), refer to it as acquisition of knowledge, skills and attitudes. Others see it as nothing but training of people's mind in a particular direction to bring about desired changes.

Etymologically, the word education is derived from two Latin words namely '*educare*' meaning 'to raise' and 'to bring up' and '*educere*' which means 'to lead forth' or 'to come out'. These meanings indicate that education seeks to nourish good qualities and draw out the best in every individual. Education, therefore, seeks to develop the innate or the inner potentialities of humans. The above root words of education lead us to believe that education aims to provide a nourishing environment that would facilitate or bring out and develop the potentialities in an