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Utilization of Electronic Surveillance System in Curbing Theft and Mutilation of Library Resources at Kwara State University, Malete, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: This study investigated the utilization of an electronic surveillance system in curbing theft and mutilation in Kwara State University, Malete, Nigeria. **Method**: The population of the study comprises the librarians and para-librarians of the Kwara State University Library, Malete. The study adopted mixed methods approach, where interviews and a set of questionnaires were used to collect data for the study. The study adopted the total enumeration method otherwise known as census as a sampling technique.**Findings**: The study found out that the majority of the librarians revealed that electronic surveillance has been very effective in curbing theft and mutilation of information resources in the library. The study also found out that electronic surveillance reduces theft, the consciousness of being monitored in the library, preservation, and protection of library collection, and loss of library materials are the benefits of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation. **Conclusion**: Electronic surveillance is one of the mechanisms that is used by the library to deter the theft and mutilation of information materials. The study concluded that Kwara state university library is using anti-theft surveillance and they would start using CCTV surveillance as soon as they move to the newly built library.

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1. Introduction

Academic libraries all over the world are perceived to be facing the problem of collection security such as theft and mutilation, but convectional ways of combating these challenges have been shortchanged by users. However, with the revolution of Information and Communication Technology (ICTs), electronic surveillance systems have been able to curb the ill practice of users as to theft and mutilation of library resources. The challenges of theft and mutilation are seen to be affecting the realization of the university library's goal of providing resources for teaching, research, and community development. Meanwhile, the 21stCentury has heralded the advent of Information and Communication Technology that required surveillance to be monitored (Sulaiman & Akanbi, 2020; Akanbi, Sulaiman, & Adeyemi, 2018). The use of surveillance to eradicate electronic information gives room for better use of information materials. Salaam and Onitade (2010) observed that theft and mutilation of library materials have been age-long problems in the libraries.

Maidabino (2012) asserted that theft and mutilation of library collections are anti-social prohibited acts, which are considered as an offense, and the perpetrators of which can be subjected to legal punishment if caught. Akussah and Bentil (2010); Adeyemi (2020) noted that the threat to intellectual property through theft, mutilation, and other forms of security issues has posed a tremendous challenge to the library profession all over the world. Similarly, Bijayananda and Ratnapriya (2015) noted that the security of both books and non-book materials in Nigerian university libraries is in danger as these libraries rely mainly on checks at the library entrance and exit to overcome the challenges.

Meanwhile, the menace of theft and mutilation of materials in academic libraries in Nigeria especially Kwara State University Library, Malete can hopefully be put to check with the introduction of the electronic surveillance system. Electronic surveillance systems are modern technological devices that are used with the aid of electrical devices to secure library resources against theft and mutilation (Ozowa, Aba & Aba, 2016). Osayande (2011) observed that electronic surveillance systems can help control unethical practices of theft and mutilation in academic libraries. An electronic surveillance system is a system installed at the entrance and exit of a library facility to detect the unauthorized removal of library materials (theft) (Kumbhar& Veer, 2016).

Omosekejim, Ijiekhumhen, and Ojeme, (2015) observed that the primary rationale of the electronic surveillance system is to detect, observe, monitor, and record observation (which could be theft and mutilation in this context). They noted further that it also provides real-time information for detection identification, and recording. As observed in the literature, Nigeria and other developing countries, the use of manual security such as checks at the entrance and exit of a library is the popular security measure in libraries. The Kwara State University is investing so much in terms of adding to the collections and information materials in the library. Hence, there is a need to ensure that appropriate security measures are put in place for these resources to preserve them for long-term usage. Based on the foregoing, this study examined the utilization of electronic surveillance systems in curbing theft and mutilation in Kwara State University, Malete, Nigeria.

1-2. Statement of the Problem

Over time it is perceived that information resources of libraries are in the state of coma due to the handful of evils perpetrated by an undergraduate in higher institutions. This act is seen to be theft and mutilation of information resources of libraries. However, it is observed that undergraduates involve in this act are as a result of perceived lean resources of universities library that is not going round. Meanwhile, it is now necessary for the library to go scientific in curbing the menacing act perpetrated by students who engage in theft and mutilation in higher

institutions libraries. Theft and mutilation of library information materials are surmountable challenges that affect students' educational development and endanger the efficiency of library services to users (Ozowa, Aba, & Aba, 2016). Therefore, not available or complete security management such as surveillance for the prevention of these tasteless challenges in helping to deliver first-class makes students make it becomes a problem to this study.

Meanwhile, the existing security in KWASU university libraries is perceived not to withstand the relentless demands from users who are prone to stealing or mutilating information materials in the library with over 1200 library information perceived to be mutilated and stolen in the library. This act has resulted in the loss of valuable materials in the KWASU university library that cannot be easily replaced due to cost and non-availability because of the rare nature of some of the materials. Studies by (Ajegbomogun, 2004; Ugah, 2007; Maidabino, 2010; Odaro, 2011,) suggested that theft and mutilation in university libraries can be curbed with the use of modern information technology such as electronic surveillance system RFID, Closed Circuit Television (CCTV). However, this has not been confirmed in the Nigerian university libraries' context. Against this background, this study sought to investigate the utilization of electronic surveillance systems in curbing theft and mutilation in Kwara State University, Malete.

1-3. Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this study is to investigate the utilization of electronic surveillance systems in curbing theft and mutilation in Kwara State University, Malete. The specific objectives are to:

1. Assess the effectiveness of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation of library resources in Kwara State University;
2. Investigate the benefits associated with the use of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation in Kwara State University and;
3. Identify the constraints associated with the use of Electronic Surveillance System to prevent library resources against theft and mutilation by undergraduate students in Kwara State University

2-2. Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were formulated to guide the study at a 0.05 level of significance.

H01: There is no significant difference in the perspectives of Kwara State University librarians on the effectiveness of using electronic surveillance systems to curb theft and mutilation of library resources based on gender.

2. Literature Review

This chapter review literature related to this study under the following headings.

Theft and Mutilation in Libraries.

Theft is an anti-social, unlawful act and offense in which the perpetrator can be subject to legal punishment (Maidabino, 2012). Ugah (2007) described the theft of library materials as criminal activities and formidable obstacles to information access and use. This refers to actions taken by library users that demand punishment in terms of using and having access to library information materials for a while. Specifically, it is the aberrant taking and removing of library information materials with the intent to deprive other users of their usage (Olajide, 2017). Theft of library material is a problem dating from ancient times that put the resources of the library in disarray (Lucky, Daniel, & Joy, 2018). Akor, (2013) asserted that theft is the total removals of library materials from the library without the normal procedures, either by the library users, library staff, or both of them.

It is observed that students in universities resort to the act of mutilation if they find the act of stealing unsuccessful. Mutilation is therefore defined as an act of removing or tearing any part of library materials or book (Olajide, 2017). Iselbe (2014) observed that mutilation of information materials includes acts such as cutting pages, highlighting, underlining, marking notices in margins, and

adding materials, such as stickers or letters that are not meant to be part of the materials. Mutilation is the act of destroying or removal an essential part of library materials as to render it useless that could be as a result of bending of the corner of paper or inserting pencil or biro into pages and opening of books back to back, tearing of relevant pages (Akor 2013).

Abiola and Omolara(2013)carried out a study on the security risks management in selected academic libraries in Osun State, Nigeria. The study used a descriptive survey design of the ex-post facto type. The population of the study comprised 145 library personnel and 14,317 registered library users in four selected academic libraries in Osun State while the sample size consisted of all the 145 library personnel and 2% of the registered users to make a total of 432 respondents. Questionnaire and interview with the Chief Librarians of the selected academic libraries were the instruments used for data collection. Data were analyzed using frequency count and percentages run using a statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). The study findings revealed that the most prevalent security risks in the libraries included stealing/theft of library materials, mutilation of library materials, defacing, misuse/mishandling of library materials, insect attack, fire outbreak, and flood.

Ozowo, Aba, and Aba, (2016) investigated the impact of electronic surveillance systems on book theft and mutilation in Francis SuleimanuIdachaba Library, University of Agriculture, Makurdi. The population of the study was 300 library users drawn from the nine (9) colleges in the University of Agriculture, Makurdi. A questionnaire and interviewed guide was developed by researchers titled "Questionnaire on the Impact of Electronic Surveillance Systems on Book Theft and Mutilation in Francis SulemanuIdachaba Library (QIESSBTMFSIL). A response rate of 300 (100%) was recorded. Data collected were analyzed using frequency counts, percentages (%), mean (X), and standard deviation (SD). The findings revealed that (34.0%) use the library. It also showed that male (87.05%) undergraduates use the library more than female undergraduates once in two weeks (26.3%). The Grand mean of (X =2.69) revealed that insufficiency of library materials, the selfishness of some library users, and absent mindedness of library staff were the major reasons for theft and mutilation in Francis SulemanuIdachaba Library.

3-1. Effectiveness of Electronic Surveillance System in Curbing Theft and Mutilation in the Libraries

In an academic library, surveillance plays an important role in preventing theft and mutilation of information materials, especially in the area of defacing, tearing off of library materials, and tracing library materials with a biro. Therefore, Mwantimwa and Kelefa (2007) noted that electronic surveillance systems, such as motion detectors, alarm systems, and closed-circuit television, RFID have been employed increasingly for after hour's security and they are extremely gainful in preventing theft in academic libraries. Electronic surveillance is a boon to the librarian as well as its users. The RFID, CCTV, Biometrics technology makes the work of librarians easier, fast-tracking documents, and saves the time of the users. It has provided rapid check out / check-in, increases the circulation, minimizes the time of the users as well as library staff, minimizes the expenditure incurred on counter and inventory staff, high reliability, high speed inventorying, automated material handling (Kumbhar& Veer, 2016).

Moreover, Bijayananda and Ratnapriya (2015) investigated the security & conservation of libraries. The study identified major security issues in libraries' mutilation of books, theft of library materials, intentional misshelving of books, use of other patron's library cards, duplicating ownership stamps, etc. Several types of safety and security problems faced by the library and different mechanisms followed in the conservation of libraries were provided. In a similar vein, Osanyode (2011) carried out a study on electronic security systems in academic libraries with a

focus on selected university libraries in South-West Nigeria. A survey was designed for this study. Descriptive and inferential statistics of frequency counts and percentages were used to analyze data gathered through the survey. One hundred and nine (109) copies of the questionnaire were distributed. Eighty-one (81) copies which represent (74%) were duly completed and retrieved from the respondents. A participant observation method was also employed to measure how effective the electronic security devices are. The study unveils that academic libraries have suffered adversely from security issues and other anti-social menace and that the installation of security devices would drastically improve the situation.

Marcus, (2014) carried on a study causes and effects of theft and mutilation of information material in academic library services in Delta State. The study identified four research questions, survey design was used. 140 set of questionnaire was administered and 123 questionnaires were returned. The study concluded that the three selected institutions' libraries have been affected by the twin problem of theft and mutilation. The study recommends that multiple copies of books in the circulation section and those displayed in the open stack should be provided since it is discovered that textbooks are the most affected by theft and mutilation.

3-2. Constraints to the Use of ESS against Theft and Mutilation

Oyesiku et al. (2012) examined disruptive readers in academic libraries: a study of OlabisiOnabanjo University Library. This study employed a case study method on destructive behavior among users of OlabisiOnabanjo University Library, Ago-Iwoye, Ogun State, Nigeria. A structured questionnaire was designed to gather information based on the research objectives. The following were deduced from the findings: Disruptive behavior is a common phenomenon among users of academic libraries; limited materials, selfish interest, and lack of photocopying facilities aid stealing and unlawful removal of parts of books and other materials; Self-interest among users, author's, integrity and limitation/scarcity of materials encourage users to hide library materials; lack of orientation, lack of discipline, ignorance, and group discussion gives room for users distortion in the library; library materials may not be easily located when needed, and strike actions among others make users hold overdue materials; high registration fees and loss of original card were the reasons for using fake library card .and users eat in the library due to lack of discipline, fatigue, and to avoid sleeping during reading exercise.

Fasae and Adedokun (2016) examined the abuse of information materials in academic libraries by students of tertiary institutions in Ekiti-State, Nigeria. The study is descriptive design and the population of the study is 140. A quota sampling technique was employed and 100 copies of the questionnaire were distributed to the respondents, while 80 copies were returned giving an 80% return rate. Data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics. The results show that the most abused information materials are textbooks (92%), projects/theses/dissertations (60%), and newspapers (58.75%). Some students abuse information materials because they are too lazy, selfish and the high demand for a particular book by the students sometimes influences them to abuse library materials. The most common ways of abusing library materials by the student are by tearing of pages (92.10%), folding of pages (86.66%), and writing on pages of information materials (82.50%). It was suggested that abusers should be subjected to heavy and well-defined penalties, while closed-circuit television should be installed in libraries to minimize these occurrences, as well as providing effective photocopying facilities which can be easily used when needed by library users.

Olajide (2017) investigated the theft and mutilation challenges and management in academic libraries, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria serving as a case study. The study aimed to identify the causes of book thefts and mutilation in university libraries and how to curb this menace. A survey

research method was adopted. The questionnaire was the main instrument for data collection. A total number of 420 library staff and students were selected from the institutions to participate in this study. Twenty (20) library staff and four hundred (400) students who had spent at least an academic session in the institution were randomly selected by lottery which gave each person in the sampling frame an equal chance of being included in the sample. Frequency counts, tables, and percentages are the main statistical tools used for data analysis. Results of the analysis showed that the university library materials are stolen and mutilated due to inadequate copies of library materials, porous security systems, etc. It was also discovered that various methods were used for stealing and mutilating library materials which include: tearing of book page(s) off, diverting the mind of people at circulation area, hiding of books under their clothes and their pockets, etc.

3. Method

The research design adopted for this study is mixed method. The population of the study consists of librarians in Kwara State University Library in Kwara State University, Malete. According to the 2019/2020 annual report of the academic planning office of the University, the total number of professional librarians in the Kwara State University library stands at eight (8) while Para-professional are also eight (8) thus become sixteen (16). Interview was conducted with professionals however; the structure interview was used with closed-ended option in order generates reliable results and easy of execution while questionnaire was used to collect data from para-professionals. This study adopts total enumeration method otherwise known as census. The research adopted total enumeration because of the very small population of the study. Interview is considered for this study because the study sought to collect in-depth data from a limited number of respondents within a limited time frame (Adeyemi & Omopupa, 2020).

The interview guide was developed to contain some pre-determine items that was relevant to collect qualitative data. Similarly, questionnaire was developed to capture data from the respondents and test the two hypotheses for the study. The questionnaire was validated by experts in the field of Library and Information Science in line with research questions by checking the correctness of the instruments. The questionnaire was divided into two major sections. The collected data for interview were analysed using thematic analysis based on the objectives of the study. Thematic is adopted in order to provide the opportunity to code and categorise data into themes (Ibrahim 2012). Descriptive statistics (frequency counts and simple percentage) was used to analyzed the research questions, and T-test was used to test the hypotheses of the study.

4. Findings

Interview was conducted with the Head of the Library (University Librarian), Head of Porter Unit, Head of E-library and Acquisition Librarian.

Note: University Librarian: **UL**
Head of Porter Unit: PU
Head of E-Library: **EL**
Acquisition Librarian: **AL**

4-1. Analysis of Research Questions based on the Interview

Research Question 1: Effectiveness of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation of library resources from the perspective of librarians in Kwara State University?

UL: "The anti-theft machine the library is using is very effective and students have caught in the process on many occasions and necessary measures have been taken against them".

PU: "The anti-theft machine is working very well and some time students were caught to show the level of effectiveness".

EL: "The machine is very effective, especially during examination time when users (students) were many and ability of porter to do proper checking is limited but with the anti-theft machine does the work"

AL: "The electronic surveillance is very effective because when students move closer to machine with library materials at least 20 centimeters, the machine would make the signal"

4-2. Analysis of interviewees on the effectiveness of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation of library resources

Table 1.
Distribution of respondent on effectiveness in the use of surveillance

Effectiveness	Themes
Effectiveness of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation of library resources from the perspective of librarians in Kwara State University	Very effective and the machine have caught students
	The machine is working well and students have caught
	Very effective during exams and when ability of porter to do proper checking is limited
	Very effective, with supervisor by library staff

Source: Field Survey (2021)

Table 2 shows the effectiveness of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation of library resources from the perspective of librarians in Kwara state university. Interviewees1, 2, 3, and 4 revealed that the anti-theft machine of the university library is very effective and users (students) were on different occasions caught with library information resources using an anti-theft machine. Interviewee 4 revealed that as part of the effectiveness of the machine when students move closer with the machine at least within 20 centimeters, the machine raised alarm. This revelation implies that the anti-theft machine is very effective toward taking away library resources students.

Research Question 2: What are the benefits associated with the use of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation from the perspective of librarians in Kwara State University?

UL: "Yes, it reduces theft in the library; students would not be able to take out limited library materials with anti-theft, a consciousness of being monitored in the library, preserve and protect our materials".

PU: "It has a lot of benefits to the system; it helps to monitor the library materials within the library"

EL: "Part of the benefit is that it caught out students from taken library materials. It assists the library from loose the library materials."

AL: The benefits of ES are very numerous, its help in monitory the activities of library users.

Table 2.
Distribution of respondents on benefits of using surveillance

Benefits	Themes
What are the benefits associated with the use of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation from the perspective of librarians in Kwara State University?	It reduces theft, consciousness of being monitoring in the library, preservation and protection of library collection
	It helps monitory
	It assist library from loose out library collection
	Its helps in monitory

Source: Field Survey (2021)

Table 2 shows the responses of the participants on the benefits associated with the use of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation from the perspective of librarians in Kwara State University. Interviewee 1, 2, and 4 revealed that with anti-theft electronic surveillance in the library, information resources of the library is monitored from being taken away by students. Moreover, Interviewee 1 provided further that it reduces the level of theft, preserve and protect library collection. Interviewee 3 noted that the anti-theft machine of Kwara state university assists the library from loss of valuable collections. This implies that anti-theft surveillance of the university library is very beneficial to the library in terms of collection preservation and protection.

Research Question 3: What are the constraints associated with the use of Electronic Surveillance systems to prevent library resources against theft and mutilation?

UL: It's a normal thing! Like lack of experts to make use of the machine, lack of constant electricity, proper monitory that is also associated with people that take care of the machine

PU: The only challenge encountered in the use of this anti-theft is the use of power and when their power fails and the library switch to the inverter, it sometimes switches off without notice.

EL: The major problem the use of anti-theft encounter is power. Another problem is that sometimes the machine just kept quiet as it's called hard and ware machine

AL: "The major constraint of using anti-theft is power, when there is no power; the use of the machine would be stopped and reverse back to the use of manual way. Sometimes, the library uses an inverter to power the machine and it requires a lot of monitory in terms of replacing the worn-out. Another constraint is the fund; because, the machine needs enough funds to keep it working.

Analysis of interviewees on constraints of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation of library resources.

Table 3.
Distribution of respondents on constraints of using surveillance

Constraints	Themes
What are the constraints associated with the use of Electronic Surveillance System to prevent library resources against theft and mutilation?	Lack of experts, lack of constant electricity, poor monitory
	Poor power supply
	Power, machine just kept quite
	Power, fund

Table 3 shows the qualitative findings on the constraints of using surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation. Interviewees1, 2, 3, and 4 noted that poor power supply in the library has been the major constraint associated with the use of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation in the Kwara state university library. Interviewee 1 also revealed that poor monitoring and lack of experts that can attend to any fault developed by the surveillance machine are other challenges associated with its usage. The implication of this is that power failure is a major problem the use of anti-theft machines encountered, and there are other challenges such as lack of skilled experts to manage the surveillance machine and poor monitoring.

4-3. Analysis of Research Questions Using Questionnaire

This section presents responses from the Para-professional on the utilization of electronic surveillance systems in curbing theft and mutilation in Kwara State University, Malete. Eight (8) copies of the set of the questionnaire were administered and were properly filled and returned given a 100% returned rate.

4-3-1. Demographic Information of Respondents

Table 4 shows that majority of respondents were male. The Table also indicates that the majority of respondents were between 31 years and above. On the years of experience, Table 5 reveals that the majority of respondents were having 1- 10 years of working experience. On the cadre, 1(12.5%) of the respondents were principal higher library office and senior higher library officer respectively while 2(25.0%) of respondents were higher library office and 4(50.0%) of respondents were library officer. The Table further shows that only half of the library staff were library officers and a quarter of the library staff were senior and principal higher officers.

Table4.
Distribution of Respondents on Demographic

Demographic	Frequency	Percentage
Male	7	87.5
Female	1	12.5
Total	**8**	**100**
Age	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Below 20 years	**-**	**-**
21-25 years	**-**	**-**
26-30 years	2	25.0
31 years and above	6	75.0
Total	**8**	**100**
Years of Experience	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
1-10 Years	5	62.5
11-20 Years	2	25.0
21-30 Years	-	
31 Years and above	1	12.5
Total	**8**	**100**
Cadre	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Principal Higher Library Officer	1	12.5
Senior Higher Library Officer	1	12.5
Higher Library Officer	2	25.0
Library Officer	4	50.0
Total	**8**	**100**
Qualification	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
PhD	**-**	**-**
Master	**-**	**-**
B.Sc/BA	1	12.5
Diploma	7	87.5
Total	8	100

Research Question 1: What is the effectiveness of electronic surveillance in resources from the perspective of a librarian at Kwara State University?

Table 5.
Distribution of Respondent on the Effectiveness curbing theft and mutilation of library of ES

Effectiveness of ESS	SA	A	N	D	SD
The ES system can be used to monitor client movement in the library	2(25.0%)	6(75.0%)	-	-	-
The ES help to check record evidence on clientele and library staff misconduct on collection	1(12.5%)	7(87.5)	-	-	-
The ES assist in the post-incident investigation of book theft and mutilation	1(12.5%)	7(87.5)			
The ES assist in checking faulty perpetrated by users	2(25.0%)	4(50.0%)	1(12.5%)	1(12.5%)	-
The ES help in raising security alerts	5(62.5%)	3(37.5%)	-	-	-

Table 5 shows the response on the effectiveness of ES in curbing theft and mutilation with 2(25.0%) of respondents strongly agreed while 6(75.0%) of respondents agreed that the ES system can be used to monitor client movement in the library. 1(12.5%) of respondents strongly agreed that the ES helps check record evidence on clientele and library staff misconduct on the collection and assist in the post-incident investigation of book theft and mutilation while 7(87.5%) of respondents agreed respectively. 2(25.0%) of respondents strongly agreed that ES assist in checking faulty perpetrated by users while 4(50.0%) of respondents agreed and 1(12.5%) of respondents were neutral and disagreed that ES assist in checking faulty perpetrated by users. 5(62.5%) of respondents strongly agreed that ES help in raising security alerts and 3(37.5%) of respondents agreed. The implication of this table to the study is that majority of Para-librarians agreed with the effectiveness of the ES system.

Research Question 2: What are the benefits associated with the use of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation from the perspective of a librarian at Kwara State University?

Table 6.
Distribution of Respondent on the Benefits of ES

Benefits of ESS	SA	A	N	D	SD
ES keep information resources of library durable	3(37.5%)	5(62.5%)	-	-	-
ES put resources of the library in a safe condition	2(25.0%)	6(75.0%)	-	-	-
ES library from continuous theft	2(25.0%)	6(75.0%)	-	-	-
ES put an end to the violence argument in the library	2(25.0%)	4(50.0%)	1(12.5%)	1(12.5%)	

Table 6 shows responses on the benefits of ES with 3(37.5%) of respondents strongly agreeing that ES keeps information resources of library durable while 5(62.5%) of respondents agreed. 2(25.0%) of respondents strongly agreed that ES put resources of the library in a safe condition and from continuous theft while 6(75.0%) of respondents agreed respectively. 2(25.0%) of respondents strongly agreed that ES put an end to the violence argument in the library, 4(50.0%) of respondents agreed while 1(12.5%) of respondents were neutral and disagreed respectively. This indicated that ES is very beneficial in curbing theft and mutilation.

Research Question 3: What are the Constraints in the use of an Electronic Surveillance System to prevent library resources from theft and mutilation?

Table 7.
Distribution of Respondent on the Constraints of ES

Constraints of ESS	SA	A	N	D	SD
Hardware and software failure	2(25.0)	6(75.0%)			
Staff attitude towards changes	4(50.0%)	1(12.5%)	3(37.5%)		
Lack of literate or skilled personnel	1(12.5)	3(37.5%)	4(50.0%)		
Cost of replacing faulty gadgets	1(12.5%)	7(87.5%)			
Poor power supply	4(50.0%)	2(25.0%)	2(25.0%)		

Table 7 shows responses on the distribution of respondents on the constraints of ESS with 2(25.0%) of respondents strongly agreeing with hardware and software as constraints while 6(75.0%) of respondents agreed. 4(50.0%) of respondents strongly agreed that staff attitude toward change is part of the constraint of ESS while 1(12.5%) of respondents agreed and 3(37.5%) of respondents were neutral. 1(12.5%) of respondents strongly agreed with the lack of skilled personnel while 3(37.5%) of respondents agreed and

4(50.0%) of respondents were neutral. 1(12.5%) of respondents strongly agreed with the cost of replacing faulty gadgets as the challenge of ESS while 7(87.5%) of respondents agreed. 4(50.0%) of respondents strongly agreed with poor power supply while 2(25.0%) of respondents agreed and were neutral respectively.

Test of Hypotheses

H01: There is no significant difference in the perspective of Kwara State University librarians on the effectiveness of using the Electronic Surveillance system to curb theft and mutilation of library resources based on gender.

Table 8.

T. Test difference on the effectiveness of using Electronic Surveillance system to curb theft and mutilation of library resources based on gender

Variables	Score	Mean	St. deviation	N	DF	P. value
Male	7	1.8000	.40000	8	6	.000
Female	1	1.8000				

The analysis of the result in table 10 shows that the P-values (is less than the significance level (0.05) for 6 degrees of freedom (P=.000, P<0.05). This means that the hypothesis which stated that there is no significant difference in the perspective of Kwara State University librarians on the effectiveness of using the Electronic Surveillance system to curb theft and mutilation of library resources based on gender is hereby rejected at a level of significance 0.05. This implies that there is a significant difference in the perspective of Kwara State University librarians on the effectiveness of using the Electronic Surveillance system to curb theft and mutilation of library resources based on gender.

5. Discussion of Findings

On the effectiveness of electronic surveillance in curbing theft and mutilation of library resources, the majority of the librarians revealed that the machine has been very effective in curbing theft and mutilation of information resources in the library. The study shows that if students move closer to the machine at least 20 centimeters, the machine will raise alarm, and take away materials would be detected. This is supported by Kumbhar and Veer (2016) that anti-theft provides rapid check out/check-in, increase the circulation, minimize the time of the users as well as library staff, minimize the expenditure incurred on the counter, high reliability, high speed inventorying, and automated material handling in the library.

On the benefits of surveillance to curb theft and mutilation of library materials, the findings revealed that electronic surveillance reduces theft, the consciousness of being monitored in the library, preservation, and protection of library collection and loose out of library material are the benefits of electronic surveillance in curb theft and mutilation. This is supported by Ramana (2010) that Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) is used in libraries to enhance the ability to control book theft and tear off the pages of books and magazines.

On the constraints of electronic surveillance to curb theft and mutilation in Kwara state university, the majority of the librarians revealed that poor power supply, lack of skilled personnel, poor attitude of library staff, and difficulty in replacing faulty hardware and software as major challenges to curb theft and mutilation in the library. This has concurred with Voters (2007) who found that inadequate funds, lack of literate or skilled personnel, poor power supply, hardware and software failure, and telecommunication security problem to the use of surveillance on detection of theft and mutilation in an academic library.

It was also found that there is significance difference in the perspectives of Kwara State University librarians on the effectiveness of using Electronic Surveillance systems to curb theft and mutilation of library resources based on gender.

The study findings also show that there is no significant relationship between in the perspective of Kwara State University librarians on the effectiveness of using Electronic Surveillance systems to curb theft and mutilation is accepted.

6. Conclusion

Electronic surveillance is one of the mechanisms that is used by the library to deter the theft and mutilation of information materials. The study concluded that Kwara state university library is using anti-theft surveillance and they would start using CCTV surveillance as soon as they move to the newly built library. Moreover, the study revealed that the management is very keen on the use of surveillance to curb theft and mutilation in the library. The study also concluded that the anti-theft machine of Kwara state university is very effective in curbing theft in the library as many students have been caught while taking away library information collection. The study also concluded that with the use of the anti-theft machine in Kwara State University library, there has been a reduction in stealing of library resources as students were conscious of being monitored in the library and culprits are gripped by the fear of the potential punishment that they may face if found guilty of theft and/or mutilation. The study also concluded that insatiable power supply, inability to replace faulty hardware and software, and lack of skilled personnel to man the system were found to be the constraints of using surveillance in curb theft and mutilation.

7. Recommendations

The following recommendations were made:

1. The study recommends that the manual security apparatus should be used to complement the electronic surveillance system during the examination time for better monitoring.
2. The study recommends that the incentive and remuneration should be provided to the library staff to have a positive attitude to the in the using of surveillance
3. The study recommends that an alternative power supply should be provided in the library so that when there is power failure anti-theft surveillance would not be stopped.

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