

## **INFLUENCE OF PARENTS EDUCATION LEVEL AND OCCUPATION ON THE PERFORMANCE OF BUSINESS EDUCATION STUDENTS IN SHEHU SHAGARI COLLEGES OF EDUCATION SOKOTO AND ADAMU AUGIE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, NORTHWEST NIGERIA**

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### **Abstract**

*The purpose of the study was to examine the influence of parents education level and occupation on performance of business education students in Shehu Shagari colleges of education Sokoto and Adamu Augie college of education Argungu in northwest, Nigeria. The study had two objectives and two research questions were used to guide the study, while two null hypotheses were formulated and tested at 0.05 level of significance. Ex-post facto research design was adopted in conducting the research. The population of the study comprise 56 NCE Two business education students from the two colleges. Twenty (20) students from Shehu Shagari college of education Sokoto and thirty six (36) from Adamu Augie college of education Argungu. The entire 56 NCE two business education students for 2021/2022 academic session from two colleges of education were used as sample of the study. A five item questionnaire design by the researcher was used to collect students' bio data and a session academic record was used. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer the stated research questions. Regression analysis was used to test the two null hypotheses. The finding of the study revealed, among others that parents education level and occupation have influence on the academic performance of business education students in the two colleges of education. In view of the findings, part of the recommendations made are that the parents in low occupation ladder should be advice and encouraged to provide the children with needed resources so that they can be psychologically balanced to face the academic stress.*

### **Introduction**

Parents by virtue of their position in homes and families as the most experienced in terms of social issues and tend to exert considerable influence on the lifestyle and behaviours of their children. This influence expresses itself either expressly as in giving verbal instructions and directives or impliedly by conduct. Parents are seen influencing the decision of their children on who to associate with and who not, what courses to read at school, what career to pursue and even what type of men or women to marry. In an implied sense parents influence their children by their own penchant for education and acquisition of knowledge, the zeal and interest in their respective occupation. In family, parents are the most important aspect of socialization process, they mold and shape moral character of their children and dictate the occupation their children should pursue in later life (Li and Lerner 2019). Parent's educational level can be a motivational factor on how far their children can go in the education ladder. It is not uncommon to see children trying to match their parent's educational level or even to overtake it. Parental level of education can be an important indicator of parent's level of involvement in their children's educational pursuits.

The educated mind' usually has a penchant to support and encourage their children in moral and material sense and such can positively influence academic performance. On the contrary, the educationally uninitiated mind' could care less about the educational pursuits of their children and the result is poor performance of such children.

Musgrave (2020) highlighted that parents with more than minimum level of education are expected to have a favoured attitude to their children's education and to encourage and help them with schoolwork. However, Parent with low level of education may not feel capable of assisting their child or playing a role in his/her academic life as they may not understand the material or feel comfortable with their abilities. (Hill, Castelo, Lansford, Nowlin, Dodge, Bates & Pettit 2012). Parent's socio-economic status which is usually a reflection of their profession, vocation or trade can attract significant impact on the academic pursuits of their children. High and middle-income group parents are easily disposed to financially support their children at school and this could have salutatory effects on their performance, this is in most cases absent in the homes of low income bracket. Akanle (2007) in Yusuf (2016) concurred with the above assertion; he identified that parental income in his work to be a cogent factor upon which the academic /vocational successes of secondary school student's life depend. He further said that a child that is deprived of the essential needs may be found to perform poorly in his school work.

In every academic environment it is normal for students to be assessed from time to time to ascertain what they have retained of the learning experiences they have undergone. This is done by standardized test or performance assessment in a formative or summative sense on a grading system. Grades of students are then encoded and assigned numerical values which are summarized into a significant index called a grade point average for a particular semester or a cumulative grade point average for more and consecutive semesters. Such summarized data represents the academic standing of a student within a scale as being good performance or poor performance. As a result, the study investigates the influence of parents education level and occupation on performance of business education students in Shehu Shagari college of education Sokoto and Adamu Augie College of education Argungu in northwest Nigeria.

Studies on the influence of parents' educational level and environment have received a major focus in terms of research work in recent years by researchers. Researchers that contributed to the study of these variables among others include:

Onijingin, Alokun and Osakilen (2015) conducted a study on "The Influence of Parents' Educational Background and Study Facilities on Academic Performance among Secondary School Students in Ondo State". The objective of the study was to examine the influence of Parents' Educational Background and Study Facilities on Academic Performance among Secondary School Students in Ondo State. Two hypotheses were formulated for the study. The researchers used descriptive research design of survey type. Stratified random sampling was used to draw out the sample. Three schools were chosen randomly from urban areas and three schools were also randomly chosen from rural areas. In each school, 40 students of both sexes were selected, making a total of 240 students. A self-designed questionnaire called Academic Performance Questionnaire (APQ) was used for the study. The results of the external and uniform Junior Secondary School Certificate Examination were collected from the principal of the schools. The data generated were analyzed using t-test for the two hypotheses. The hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of

*Influence of Parents Education Level and Occupation on the Performance of Business Education Students in Shehu Shagari Colleges of Education Sokoto and Adamu Augie College of Education, Northwest Nigeria* significance. The results of the findings revealed a significant difference between academic performance of students from parents with high educational background and students from parents with low educational background.

A significant difference was also found between the academic performance of students having study facilities at home and students with no study facilities at home. It was concluded from the results that parental educational background and having study facilities at home have great influence on academic performance.

This present study is similar to the past study since parental educational level was among the determinant factor in examining students' academic performance, nature of data used and the statistical tools used in testing hypothesis. However, the present study involved tertiary institution students as subjects under investigation which was not the case in the past study, and the area of study is larger. So the researcher intends to bridge the gap in the area of how academic performance of tertiary institutions students would be influenced by the factors under investigation and also as bases for generalization which the previous study lacks.

Muruwei (2016) conducted a study on "Parents' level of Education and Senior Secondary Students' Academic Performance in English Language in Bayelsa State, Nigeria." The main objective was to examine parents' level of education and senior secondary school students' academic performance in English Language in Bayelsa State Nigeria and four objectives, research questions and hypotheses for the study were formulated. Descriptive Survey and a sample of the study were 250 students were randomly selected from forty secondary schools in Bayelsa State. The instrument used for this study was a 20 item-questionnaire. Oral interview and practical observations made as complementary tools. The formulated hypotheses were tested using independent t-test analysis.

The result of the findings showed that, though parents' level of education affects children's academic performance, other variables such as facilities and the learning environment are also very important. This present study is similar to the past study since parental educational level was among the determinant factor in examining students' academic performance, nature of data used and the statistical tools used in testing hypothesis. However, the present study involves students of tertiary institutions as subjects under investigation covering a wider geographical location which was not the case in the past study.

Another research study was conducted by Akinsanya, Ajayi, and Salami (2017) in Ogun state on the "Relative Effects of Parents' Occupation, Qualification and Academic Motivation of Wards on Students' Achievement in Senior Secondary School Mathematics". The objective of the study was to determine the extent to which Relative effects of parents' occupation, qualification and academic motivation of wards on student's achievement in senior secondary school mathematics. One of the null hypotheses stated for the study. The study employed ex-post facto type of research and the sample was selected using the multi-stage sampling technique. Two thousand four hundred students from 60 selected schools in nine local government areas within Ogun State, Nigeria were involved and two research instruments namely; Students' Questionnaire and Mathematics Achievement Test were used. Data were analysed using multiple regression at 0.05 level of significance.

The result reveals that parents' education has the highest significant influence on the academic achievement of students in Mathematics while the effect of academic motivation had the least effect among the variables which exerted significant effects on students' academic achievement in Mathematics. This present study is similar to the past study since parental educational level and occupation were among the determinant factors in examining students' academic performance. Also the study shares similarities in research design and sampling technique. The present study explored the variables under investigation independently which the past study did not do. And also, the present study involved students from tertiary institutions as subjects under investigation which was not the case in the past study. So the researcher intends to bridge the gap in the areas.

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Having gone through previous work in this area, there is very little if any evidence-based research that isolates each variable and judges the influence of each on the academic performance of students in business education. Majority of the past studies focus on secondary schools. The current study covered areas of parents' educational status and occupation in colleges of education and students' academic performance.

It the desire of every parent to see his/her children putting brilliant and outstanding performance in their academic pursuits. This informs parents doing the most they can to ensure that their wards excel in school and graduate with good result to be able to secure jobs that will made them assume the commanding heights of society. Parents are seen running head over heels in trying to ensure that they adequately provide and support their children's academic pursuits in a financial sense also offering moral encouragement. In reorganizing education as the key to development for many nations, various governments over the years have initiated and undertaken various educational programme and projects that will give access to schooling and better the lot of the people. It is believed that with a good system of education in place, vocational manpower skills would be provided and the productivity of the people will rise and their standard of living improved. Against this background therefore, Nigeria has since independence put in place policy initiatives that are geared towards; Development of human resources, Reduction of unemployment, Stimulation of economic growth and Improvement of the lifestyle of the people. In spite of the launching and implementation of these laudable educational programmes to take education to a higher level poor academic performance still remains a household word. Investment in education both on the part of parents and government do not seem to go in tandem. Performance does not justify investment, there seems to be a gap that is ever widening. The standard of education including business education has been derailed from what it ought to be. Effiong (2016) states that some years ago the cry of many Nigerians was falling standard of education and no one can say empirically that the Nigerian standard of education has 'risen' since then. Certainly, speaking of the standard in education one can say that it is getting worse. This has been corroborated by Jeinbiaje

*Influence of Parents Education Level and Occupation on the Performance of Business Education Students in Shehu Shagari Colleges of Education Sokoto and Adamu Augie College of Education, Northwest Nigeria* (2011) in Yusuf (2016) who asserts that poor academic performance is a re-occurring decimal in both secondary and tertiary institutions in Nigeria.

Reports and observations from the institutions in the study area have also indicated that success and high academic achievement have become a herculean task to attain among business education students for three consecutive years (Examination Office, Shehu Shagari College of Education Sokoto and Adamu Augie College of Education, Argungu 2021, 2022 & 2023). This has affected the attainment of the objectives for the provision of competent business education teachers at Junior Secondary School level, which is one of the primary aims for establishment of the colleges of education in the country. The abysmal of students' performance in colleges of education in Nigeria has been and is still a source of concern to researcher's educators, government, parents and students. All over the country there is a consensus of opinion about the fallen standard of business education in Nigeria. Many researchers have sought to find out the reasons for the downward trend in the academic performance of business education students.

In their views, the parents/guidance education and parent's occupation may be responsible for the poor performance of business education students colleges of education. The extent to which these factors are responsible for poor academic performance has, however, not been clear. It is as a result of this that, the study in establishing the influence of parent's education and occupation on the performance of students of business education would have addressed the missing link in investment in education and academic performance especially as it pertains to business education.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of this research work are to:

- i. assess the influence of parents' education level on the academic performance of NCE (business education) students in Shehu Shagari Colleges of Education and Adamu Augie College of Education Argungu.
- ii. find out the influence of parents' occupation on the academic performance of NCE (business education) students in Shehu Shagari College of Education and Adamu Augie College of Education Argungu.

### **Research Questions**

In line with each specific objective, the following research questions were raised:

- i. What is the influence of parents' education level on the academic performance of NCE (business education) students in Shehu Shagari College of Education and Adamu Augie College of Education Argungu?
- ii. What is the influence of parents' occupation on the academic performance of NCE (business education) students in Shehu Shagari College of Education and Adamu Augie College of Education Argungu?

## **Research Hypotheses**

The following null hypotheses were formulated and tested at 0.05 level of significance.

- H0<sub>1</sub>: There is no significant influence of parents' education level on the academic performance of NCE (business education) students in Shehu Shagari Colleges of Education and Adamu Augie College of Education Argungu.
- H0<sub>2</sub>: There is no significant influence of parents' occupation on the academic performance of NCE (business education) students in Shehu Shagari College of Education and Adamu Augie College of Education Argungu.

## **Methodology**

Ex-post-facto research design was used for the study. Ex-post facto research design or after research is generally a design in which investigation starts after facts have occurred without interference from the researcher.

The population of the study consisted of 56 NCE II Business Education students from the two colleges of education comprising 20 students from SSCOE and 36 from AACOE. All the 56 students were used as sample for the study because Glenn (2009) cited in Adamu (2014), recommended that at Precision level of 3% for population of less than 1,000, all of them should be use.

The instrument was validated in Test and Measurement Department of Faculty Education Ahmadu Bello University Zaria; a reliability coefficient of 0.78 was obtained using Kuder Richard (K12).

Data was generated through the administration of questionnaire and academic records of the students (2021-2022 session). Mean and Standard deviation were employed to answer research questions. T. test was used to test null hypotheses. According to Anthony (2016), simple regression should be employed where is one independent and dependent variables that are categorical.

## **Findings**

This section presents analyses of the data collected in the study in order to answer the two research questions raised for the study. For clarity, the analysis was done taking the research questions one after another.

Research Question One: What is the influence of parental education on the academic performance of business education students in Shehu Shagari College of Education and Adamu Augie College of Education Argungu?

To answer this research question, the data collected on Parents' educational level and corresponding students' academic performance (CGPA) from the two colleges of education were sorted and analysed using descriptive statistics of Mean and Standard deviation on SPSS version 23.0 and the results are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: Mean and Standard Deviation between Parental education level and the academic performance of business education students in SSCOE and AACOE**

Variables	N	Mean	SD	Mean Difference	Decision
Parents' Education	56	2.9286	.99411	0.1619	Influenced
CGPA	56	3.0905	.85104		

**Source:** Result of fieldwork 2021/2022

Table 1 presents the descriptive statistics of mean and standard deviation analysis conducted to establish the influence of parents' educational level on academic performance of business education students in SSCOE Sokoto, Sokoto state and AACOE Argungu, Kebbi state. The data analysis revealed a negligible amount of mean difference of 0.1619 between mean score of parents' educational level (N=56, Mean=2.9286 & SD=0.9941) and students' CGPA (N=56, Mean=3.0905 & SD=0.85104) which indicated that Parents' level of education has high level of influence on academic performance of students in Business education in the two colleges of education.

Research Question Two: What is the influence of parental occupation on the academic performance of business education students in Shehu Shagari Colleges of Education and Adamu Augie, Argungu?

To answer this research question, the data collected on Parents' occupation and corresponding students' academic performance (CGPA) from the two colleges of education were sorted and analysed using descriptive statistics of Mean and Standard deviation on SPSS version 23.0 and the results are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2: Parents' occupation and academic performance of business education students in Shehu Shagari Colleges of Education and Adamu Augie, Argungu?**

Variables	N	Mean	SD	Mean Difference	Decision
Parents' Occupation	56	3.0629	.91267	0.0276	Influenced
CGPA	56	3.0905	.85104		

**Source:** Result of fieldwork 2021/2022

Table 2 presents a summary of the descriptive statistics of mean and standard deviation analysis conducted to establish the influence of parents' occupation on academic performance of business education students in SSCOE Sokoto, Sokoto state and AACOE Argungu, Kebbi state. The data analysis revealed a very negligible amount of mean difference of 0.0276 between mean score of parents' occupation (N=56, Mean=3.0629 & SD=0.91267) and students' CGPA (N=56, Mean=3.0905 & SD=0.85104) which indicated that Parents' occupation has a very high level of influence on academic performance of students in Business education in the two colleges of education.

### **Test of Hypotheses**

This section presents analysis of the two null hypotheses formulated in the study. The analysis was done electronically on SPSS version 23.0 and the results are presented in Table 3

**Table 3: Model Summary, ANOVA and Coefficients table for Multiple Regression analysis between for the Influence of Parental Education and Occupation on Academic Performance of Business Education Students’ in SSCOE Sokoto, Sokoto state and AACOE Argungu, Kebbi state**

Model Summary and ANOVA tables						
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	F-Cal	df	Sig.
1	.834 <sup>a</sup>	.696	.684	60.662	(2, 53)	0.00

  

Coefficients Table						
Model		Unstandardized		Standardized		
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t-Cal	Sig.
1	(Constant)	.754	.229		3.294	.002
	Parents Education	.475	.100	.554	4.768	.000
	Parents Occupation	.309	.108	.331	2.849	.006

a. Predictors: (Constant), Parents Occupation, Parents Education

b. Dependent Variable: CGPA

Table 3 is a summary of multiple regression analysis conducted to establish the degree of influence of parents’ education and occupation on academic performance of business education students in SSCOE Sokoto and AACOE Argungu, Kebbi state. The analysis revealed that the independent variables (parents education and parents occupation) significantly predicted academic performance of business education students  $F(2, 53)=60.662, p < 0.001$  in SSCOE Sokoto and AACOE Argungu, which indicates that the two factors (parents education and parents occupation) have statistically significant influence on academic performance of Business education students in the two schools. Moreover, the  $R^2 = .696$  depicts that the model explains 69.6% of the total variance in academic performance (CGPA). Therefore, the null hypothesis 1 is rejected.

Null Hypothesis 1 ( $H_{01}$ ): There is no significant influence of parental education on the academic performance of NCE Business Education Students in SSCOE Sokoto, Sokoto state and AACOE Argungu, Kebbi state

To analyze this null hypothesis, coefficients table in Table 3 was further assessed to determine the significance of the influence of parents’ educational level on the criterion variable (academic performance in terms of CGPA). The results revealed that parents educational level has statistically significant positive influence on academic performance in terms of CGPA of Business education students in SSCOE Sokoto and AACOE Argungu (Beta = 0.475,  $t = 4.768, p = 0.001$ ). Hence, the null hypothesis 1 was rejected

Null Hypothesis Two ( $H_{02}$ ): There is no significant influence of parental occupation on the academic performance of NCE Business education students in SSCOE Sokoto and AACOE Argungu.

To analyze this null hypothesis, coefficients table in Table 3 was further examined to ascertain the influence of parents’ occupation on the criterion variable (academic performance in terms of CGPA). The results revealed that parents occupation has



*Influence of Parents Education Level and Occupation on the Performance of Business Education Students in Shehu Shagari Colleges of Education Sokoto and Adamu Augie College of Education, Northwest Nigeria* statistically significant positive influence on academic performance in terms of CGPA of business education students in Shehu Shagari College of Education, Sokoto and Adamu Augie College of Education, Argungu (Beta = 0.309,  $t = 2.849$ ,  $p = 0.006$ ). Hence, the null hypothesis 2 was also rejected

## **Discussion of Major Findings**

The major findings of these studies were chronological presented in the following manner:

With reference to research question one and null hypothesis one (HO)1, the results have revealed that parents' education influenced the academic performance of NCE business education students' in Shehu Shagari Colleges of Education, Sokoto and Adamu Augie College of Education Argungu.

The study discovered that there exist a positive relation between parents' education and the academic performance of business education students in the studied area. This implies that the more educated parents are, the higher students' tends to perform academically. This finding concurred with what was obtained by other researchers by Musgrave (2020) who opined that a child that comes from an educated home would like to follow the steps of his/her family and by this, work actively in his/her studies. He said further that parents who have more than a minimum level of education are expected to have a favourable attitude to the child's education and to encourage and help him/her with school work. Equally Tavani and Losh (2018) posited that parental education plays a significant role in the amount of parental involvement.

Research question two and null hypothesis two (HO)2 revealed that parents' occupation influenced the academic performance of NCE business education students' in Shehu Shagari Colleges of Education, Sokoto and Adamu Augie College of Education, Argungu. A Strong and direct relationship existed between parents' occupation and the academic performance of NCE business education students in the studied area. This by implication also means that, the higher the parents' occupational status, the higher that students' tends to perform better academically.

This finding agreed with the result obtained by Akanle, (2017) who observed that Parental income in his work to be a major factor upon which the academic/vocational successes of school students' life can thrive. He also found that parental occupation to a large extent affects the psychological balance or homeostatic balance in the class room

## **Conclusion**

Based on the four objectives that the research work addressed, the researcher concluded:

- i. that parents' education and parents' occupation influenced students' academic performance. The inference of the study is that the possibility of highly educated parents tends to get more involved in their children academic pursuit than the less educated ones. Students whose parents were highly placed in the occupational ladder tend to be more psychologically balanced to face academic stress and as well may not lack necessary materials that boost their academic performance.

## Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Parents with low education should as matter of importance be advice to provide a conducive background variable which could be interacting with students' academic activities.
2. Parents in low occupation ladder should be advice and encouraged to provide
3. the children with needed resources so that they can be psychologically balanced to face the academic stress.

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