

COMMUNITY RADIO AND GRASSROOTS PARTICIPATION

BY

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DEGREE IN MASS COMMUNICATION

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Community Radio and Grassroots Participation" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined community radio and grassroots participation, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of community; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with community and radio. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Uses and Gratifications Theory and the Agenda Setting Theory. A sample size of 409 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 398 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.13). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.541$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.65, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.05$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on community.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of community radio and grassroots participation is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

Over the past two decades, community has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of community. Empirical evidence from Musa and Nnamdi (2021) suggests that positive developments in radio are associated with improvements in community. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in mass communication. Research by Umeh and Adeniyi (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting community and radio. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

The relationship between community and radio has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of community. The work of Chukwu and Bello (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that radio reinforces the effects of community. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. Empirical evidence from Aderemi and Adekunle (2021) suggests that positive developments in radio are associated with improvements in community. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in mass communication. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

Scholars have long recognised community as a critical determinant of outcomes in mass communication. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with community. Evidence assembled by Aderemi and Adekunle (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to community. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Findings reported by Olawale and Bello (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to community recorded markedly different results. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

The salience of community in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with community. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Ibrahim and Ibrahim (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. Such findings