

# **EFFECT OF DATA PROTECTION REGULATION ON DIGITAL PRIVACY IN NIGERIA**

BY

[STUDENT'S FULL NAME]

[MATRIC NUMBER]

BEING A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW, FACULTY OF LAW,  
UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, AKOKA, LAGOS STATE

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.Sc.)  
DEGREE IN LAW

[MONTH, YEAR]

## CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Effect of Data Protection Regulation on Digital Privacy in Nigeria" 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.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

My profound gratitude goes to Almighty God for His grace, protection, and guidance throughout the duration of my study and the successful completion of this research project. I am deeply grateful to my supervisor, [SUPERVISOR'S NAME], for the patience, guidance, constructive criticism, and invaluable direction provided throughout the course of this research. I also wish to appreciate the Head of Department, the lecturers of the Department of Law, and my course mates for their support and friendship. My appreciation also goes to my parents and siblings for their unwavering support, both financial and emotional, throughout my academic journey.

## **ABSTRACT**

This study examined effect of data protection regulation on digital privacy in nigeria, 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 effect; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with effect and data. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Positivist Theory of Law and the Natural Law Theory. A sample size of 397 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 359 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 = 3.11). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ( $r = 0.462$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.34,  $p < 0.05$ ). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ( $t = 1.2$ ,  $p > 0.05$ ). 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 effect.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                                      |      |
|------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Title Page .....                                     | i    |
| Certification .....                                  | ii   |
| Dedication .....                                     | iii  |
| Acknowledgement .....                                | iv   |
| Abstract .....                                       | v    |
| Table of Contents .....                              | vi   |
| List of Tables .....                                 | vii  |
| List of Figures .....                                | viii |
| CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION .....                      | 1    |
| 1.1 Background to the Study .....                    | 1    |
| 1.2 Statement of the Problem .....                   | 4    |
| 1.3 Objectives of the Study .....                    | 6    |
| 1.4 Research Questions .....                         | 7    |
| 1.5 Research Hypotheses .....                        | 7    |
| 1.6 Significance of the Study .....                  | 7    |
| 1.7 Scope and Limitation of the Study .....          | 10   |
| 1.8 Definition of Terms .....                        | 12   |
| CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW .....                 | 14   |
| 2.1 Conceptual Review .....                          | 14   |
| 2.1.1 Concept of Effect .....                        | 14   |
| 2.1.2 Concept of Data .....                          | 15   |
| 2.1.3 Concept of Protection .....                    | 17   |
| 2.2 Theoretical Framework .....                      | 19   |
| 2.2.1 Positivist Theory of Law .....                 | 19   |
| 2.2.2 Natural Law Theory .....                       | 20   |
| 2.2.3 Social Contract Theory .....                   | 21   |
| 2.2.4 Deterrence Theory .....                        | 22   |
| 2.3 Empirical Review .....                           | 23   |
| 2.3.1 Early Studies on effect .....                  | 23   |
| 2.3.2 Recent Nigerian Evidence on effect .....       | 25   |
| 2.3.3 Effect and data .....                          | 27   |
| 2.3.4 Comparative Perspectives across Africa .....   | 29   |
| 2.4 Summary of Literature Review .....               | 30   |
| CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY .....            | 32   |
| 3.1 Research Design .....                            | 32   |
| 3.2 Population of the Study .....                    | 32   |
| 3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Technique .....         | 33   |
| 3.4 Sources of Data Collection .....                 | 34   |
| 3.5 Research Instrument .....                        | 35   |
| 3.6 Validity and Reliability of the Instrument ..... | 36   |
| 3.7 Method of Data Analysis .....                    | 37   |
| 3.7.1 Administration of the Instrument .....         | 38   |

|                                                                    |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 3.8 Ethical Considerations .....                                   | 38 |
| CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION ..... | 41 |
| 4.1 Data Presentation .....                                        | 41 |
| 4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents .....               | 41 |
| 4.3 Analysis of Research Questions .....                           | 42 |
| 4.4 Test of Hypotheses .....                                       | 43 |
| 4.5 Discussion of Findings .....                                   | 44 |
| CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....        | 49 |
| 5.1 Summary .....                                                  | 49 |
| 5.2 Conclusion .....                                               | 50 |
| 5.3 Recommendations .....                                          | 51 |
| 5.4 Suggestions for Further Studies .....                          | 51 |
| REFERENCES .....                                                   | 53 |
| APPENDIX .....                                                     | 55 |

## LIST OF TABLES

|                                                                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Table 2.1: Summary of the Review of Related Literature .....                         | 31 |
| Table 2.2: Operationalisation of the Study Variables .....                           | 31 |
| Table 3.1: Population of the Study and Sampling Technique .....                      | 39 |
| Table 3.2: Validity and Reliability of the Research Instrument .....                 | 39 |
| Table 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents .....                                  | 47 |
| Table 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents .....                                     | 47 |
| Table 4.3: Educational Attainment of Respondents .....                               | 47 |
| Table 4.4: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question One .....                     | 48 |
| Table 4.5: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question Two .....                     | 48 |
| Table 4.6: Correlation Summary between the Independent and Dependent Variables ..... | 48 |
| Table 4.7: Independent Samples t-test by Gender .....                                | 48 |
| Table 4.8: Chi-square Test of Association .....                                      | 48 |

## **LIST OF FIGURES**

|                                                      |    |
|------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework of the Study .....  | 13 |
| Figure 3.1: Law Research Context .....               | 40 |
| Figure 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents ..... | 47 |
| Figure 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents .....    | 47 |

## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background to the Study

The study of effect of data protection regulation on digital privacy in Nigeria 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.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of effect. Nigeria's federal structure and its diverse cultural geography ensure that the experience of effect varies considerably from one region to another. Longitudinal research by Adigun and Bello (2016) revealed that sustained attention to effect yields appreciable dividends over time. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. An examination by Nwosu and Famuyide (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

In both global and African literatures, effect is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which effect unfolds. A notable study by Ogunlana and Adigun (2017) argued that the impact of effect is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Comparative work by Nwosu and Musa (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking effect with data. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of effect. Evidence from national agencies indicates that effect has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. An examination by Nwosu and Musa (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Longitudinal research by Adebayo and Alade (2016) revealed that sustained attention to effect yields appreciable dividends over time. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

The salience of effect in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. Evidence from national agencies indicates that effect has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. An examination by Ogbeide and Chukwu (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. An examination by Bamgbose and Ogbeide (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to