

INFLUENCE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS ON POLICY ADVOCACY IN NIGERIA

BY

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DEGREE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Influence of Civil Society Organisations on Policy Advocacy 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.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined influence of civil society organisations on policy advocacy 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 influence; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with influence and civil. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Elite Theory and the Systems Theory. A sample size of 386 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 373 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 = 2.96). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.523$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 6.95, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.22$, $p > 0.05$). 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 influence.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of influence of civil society organisations on policy advocacy 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.

In both global and African literatures, influence is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. Within Lagos State, the country's most populous commercial hub, the dynamics of influence are observed in their starkest form. Longitudinal research by Dauda and Adigun (2016) revealed that sustained attention to influence yields appreciable dividends over time. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. The aggregate picture emerging from Ibrahim and Nnamdi (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between influence and the outcomes of interest. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

The phenomenon of influence, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of influence in everyday life. Empirical evidence from Nnamdi and Okonkwo (2021) suggests that positive developments in civil are associated with improvements in influence. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Comparative work by Alade and Salami (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking influence with civil. The implications of these dynamics are far-reaching, touching questions of equity, efficiency, and accountability. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

The salience of influence in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. In Nigeria, the intersection of influence and civil is conditioned by unique socio-economic, cultural, and institutional factors that differ markedly from Western settings. Empirical evidence from Alade and Salami (2021) suggests that positive developments in civil are associated with improvements in influence. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. A notable study by Famuyide and Olawale (2017) argued that the impact of influence is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Over the past two decades, influence has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with influence. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Osinachi and Musa (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. For practitioners, the practical significance of influence cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with civil. Research by Osinachi and Bamgbose