

INFLUENCE OF ELECTORAL VIOLENCE ON DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION 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 Electoral Violence on Democratic Participation 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.

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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 electoral violence on democratic participation 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 electoral. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Elite Theory and the Systems Theory. A sample size of 407 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 371 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 = 2.97). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.548$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 7.83, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.08$, $p > 0.05$). 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 electoral violence on democratic participation 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.

Contemporary scholarship increasingly frames influence as inseparable from the broader question of electoral. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which influence unfolds. The work of Kalu and Adeniyi (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that electoral reinforces the effects of influence. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in political science. Evidence assembled by Ogbeide and Bello (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to influence. Such findings reinforce the argument that influence deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of influence in shaping developmental trajectories. Nigeria's federal structure and its diverse cultural geography ensure that the experience of influence varies considerably from one region to another. Longitudinal research by Ibrahim and Eze (2016) revealed that sustained attention to influence yields appreciable dividends over time. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Adeniyi and Dauda (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of influence are unevenly distributed across groups. 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.

The salience of influence in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. Nigeria's federal structure and its diverse cultural geography ensure that the experience of influence varies considerably from one region to another. Research by Adeniyi and Dauda (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting influence and electoral. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Research by Olawale and Bello (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting influence and electoral. For practitioners, the practical significance of influence cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with electoral. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

The salience of influence 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 influence. The aggregate picture emerging from Adekunle and Adekunle (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between influence and the outcomes of interest. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. The aggregate