

INFLUENCE OF PARTY SYSTEMS ON POLITICAL STABILITY IN NIGERIA

BY

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[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Influence of Party Systems on Political Stability 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 party systems on political stability 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 party. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Elite Theory and the Systems Theory. A sample size of 419 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 401 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 = 3.12). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.513$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 5.34, $p < 0.05$). 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 influence.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of influence of party systems on political stability 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.

Debates on national transformation repeatedly return to the role of influence and its attendant dynamics. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream influence into routine governance. Evidence assembled by Bello and Adekunle (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to influence. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Osinachi and Kalu (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of influence are unevenly distributed across groups. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

Influence occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about party and national development. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which influence advances in practice. The aggregate picture emerging from Musa and Oyelaran (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. Longitudinal research by Dauda and Salami (2016) revealed that sustained attention to influence yields appreciable dividends over time. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

The relationship between influence and party has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. Evidence from national agencies indicates that influence has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. Dauda and Salami (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of influence are unevenly distributed across groups. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Aderemi and Eze (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

The phenomenon of influence, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which influence unfolds. Evidence assembled by Olawale and Bello (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to influence. The cumulative effect of these dynamics