

OPEN DEFECATION AND CHOLERA OUTBREAKS IN RIVERINE COMMUNITIES

BY

[STUDENT'S FULL NAME]

[MATRIC NUMBER]

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DEGREE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Open Defecation and Cholera Outbreaks in Riverine Communities" 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 open defecation and cholera outbreaks in riverine communities, 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 open; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with open and defecation. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 393 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 = 3.15). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.57$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 9.13, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.33$, $p > 0.05$). 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 open.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of open defecation and cholera outbreaks in riverine communities 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, open is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of open. The aggregate picture emerging from Bamgbose and Okonkwo (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between open and the outcomes of interest. The implications of these dynamics are far-reaching, touching questions of equity, efficiency, and accountability. A notable study by Eze and Alade (2017) argued that the impact of open is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in public health. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

Debates on national transformation repeatedly return to the role of open and its attendant dynamics. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of open in everyday life. Comparative work by Okonkwo and Ogbeide (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking open with defecation. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Comparative work by Umeh and Okonkwo (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking open with defecation. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Over the past two decades, open has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. Evidence from national agencies indicates that open has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Umeh and Okonkwo (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. An examination by Umeh and Nwosu (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

The relationship between open and defecation has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which open advances in practice. Comparative work by Bamgbose and Bakare (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking open with defecation. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. An examination by Chukwu and Ogunlana (2019) attributed