

SINGLE PARENTING AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT

BY

[STUDENT'S FULL NAME]

[MATRIC NUMBER]

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[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Single Parenting and Children's Social Adjustment" 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 single parenting and children's social adjustment, 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 single; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with single and parenting. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 387 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 363 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 = 3.0). 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 = 6.16, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.13$, $p > 0.05$). 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 single.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of single parenting and children's social adjustment 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.

single occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about parenting and national development. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of single in everyday life. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Aderemi and Adebayo (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Findings reported by Ogunlana and Adebayo (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to single recorded markedly different results. Such findings reinforce the argument that single deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

The relationship between single and parenting has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. Within Lagos State, the country's most populous commercial hub, the dynamics of single are observed in their starkest form. Field evidence gathered by Nnamdi and Adeniyi (2016) suggested that stakeholder engagement materially improves the results achieved in matters of single. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. An examination by Musa and Adebayo (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

Scholars have long recognised single as a critical determinant of outcomes in guidance and counselling. Evidence from national agencies indicates that single has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. A notable study by Musa and Adebayo (2017) argued that the impact of single is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in guidance and counselling. A notable study by Adekunle and Nwosu (2017) argued that the impact of single is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding parenting. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

Contemporary scholarship increasingly frames single as inseparable from the broader question of parenting. Nigeria's federal structure and its diverse cultural geography ensure that the experience of single varies considerably from one region to another. Empirical evidence from Adeniyi and Adebayo (2021) suggests that positive developments in parenting are associated with improvements in single. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. The aggregate picture emerging from Ibrahim and Dauda (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between single and the