



VALUES EDUCATION AND NIGERIA NATIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES



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Abstract

Value education is a systematic process of cultivating ethical, moral, social, and civic values in individuals. Value education plays a critical role in addressing national security challenges in Nigeria by fostering a sense of civic responsibility, promoting peace, and encouraging responsible citizenship. The Study investigated the effects of value education in solving national security challenges. The objectives were to examine the roles of poor value education, corruption/bad governance and unemployment in security challenges in Nigeria. The study was guided with three research questions and null hypotheses. The researcher adopted descriptive survey research design, and questionnaire were used as the data gathering instrument. The population of the study was 30 respondents from selected 20 states with different educational background. The reliability of the instrument was tested using Cronbach's Alpha, and data analysis was carried out to determine the relationship between the variables. The findings of the causes of insecurity in Nigeria were identified as Poor value education, Poverty and Unemployment, Weak Governance and Corruption, Porous Borders, Resource Conflicts, Ethno-religious Conflicts, weak judicial system, faulty educational and weak value systems. The effects of insecurity noted in this study include, loss of Lives and Property, economic Decline, Erosion of Social Fabric, Weakening of Governance and Institutions etc. To stem insecurity in Nigeria the following recommendations were made: educational reform that would encourage values education, establishment of community policing, overhaul of Nigeria security apparatus, government should create job opportunities and carryout economic reforms that will boost the economic standard of citizens and promoted good governance.

Keywords: Value education, National security, Security Challenges

Introduction

According to T. Roosevelt, "To educate a man in mind and not in morals and values is to educate a menace to society." The supreme end of education is expert discernment in all things – the power to tell the good from the bad, the genuine from the counterfeit, and to prefer the good and the genuine to the bad and the counterfeit. Value education is a systematic process of cultivating ethical, moral, social, and civic values in individuals (Magaji, 2014). It's not just about imparting knowledge, but also about fostering positive attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors that align with these values, promoting character development and responsible citizenship (Nwafor, 2022). Value education plays a critical role in addressing national security challenges in Nigeria by fostering a sense of civic responsibility, promoting peace, and encouraging responsible citizenship (Kennedy, Joshua, Alex, 2022). A strong emphasis on value education can help to mitigate the effects of insecurity stemming from issues like unemployment, corruption, and ethno-religious conflicts.

Insecurity broadly refers to the widespread feeling of vulnerability and lack of safety, stemming from various factors like terrorism, banditry, kidnapping, and communal clashes. It's characterized by the absence of security of life and property, and the breakdown of law and order, significantly impacting daily life, economic activities, and overall development. Insecurity in Nigeria which has come in different forms as Terrorism and Insurgency: Boko Haram and its splinter faction, the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), banditry and Kidnapping:, Herders-Farmers Clashes, Militancy and Separatist Agitations, have continued to carry out attacks despite government offensives. This is compounded by Poverty and Unemployment, Weak Governance and Corruption, Porous Borders,



Resource Conflicts, Ethno-religious Conflicts, weak judicial system, faulty educational and weak value systems (Nwafor, 2012).

Through well structured and standard value education system and implementation of effective security measures, insecurity in Nigeria can be tackled. Value education will cultivate ethical, moral, social, and civic values in individuals and also foster positive attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors that align with these values, promoting character development and responsible citizenship. Value education plays a crucial role in mitigating insecurity in Nigeria by fostering positive societal values, promoting peaceful coexistence, and equipping individuals with the tools to resolve conflicts constructively. By instilling empathy, self-esteem, and conflict resolution skills, value education can help address the root causes of insecurity, such as social inequality, poverty, and lack of opportunities.

Some of the roles of value education in combating insecurity in Nigeria are:

Instilling ethical behavior: Value education emphasizes the importance of honesty, integrity, and respect for others, which can curb corruption and other forms of unethical behavior that contribute to insecurity.

Fostering empathy and compassion: By promoting empathy, value education can help individuals understand and appreciate the perspectives of others, leading to reduced prejudice and conflict.

Encouraging social cohesion: Value education can help build a sense of community and shared responsibility, promoting peaceful coexistence and reducing social fragmentation.

Teaching peaceful dispute resolution: Value education can equip individuals with the skills to resolve conflicts peacefully through dialogue, negotiation, and compromise, rather than resorting to violence.

Promoting tolerance and understanding: By fostering tolerance and understanding of different viewpoints, value education can help reduce inter-group tensions and conflicts.

Building resilience to radicalization: Value education can help individuals develop critical thinking skills and resilience to extremist ideologies that promote violence.

Combating poverty and inequality: By promoting education and economic empowerment, value education can help address the root causes of insecurity, such as poverty and social inequality.

Reducing unemployment: Value education can equip individuals with the skills and knowledge needed to find gainful employment, reducing frustration and desperation that can lead to crime.

Promoting good governance: By fostering civic engagement and promoting ethical leadership, value education can contribute to better governance and reduced corruption, which are often linked to insecurity.

Promoting Peace and Unity: Value education, particularly through peace education programs, can help to reduce inter-ethnic and inter-religious tensions, fostering a more cohesive society.

Combating Corruption: By instilling ethical values and promoting integrity, value education can help to reduce corruption, which is a significant driver of insecurity in Nigeria.

Fostering Responsible Citizenship: Value education can help to cultivate a sense of civic responsibility, encouraging citizens to participate in democratic processes and uphold the rule of law.

Addressing Extremism: By promoting tolerance, understanding, and critical thinking, value education can help to counter extremist ideologies that can lead to violence, instability and general insecurity (Udeh, Okorafor, Iheji, 2013).



In conclusion, value education is a powerful tool for promoting peace and security in Nigeria. By instilling positive values, equipping individuals with conflict resolution skills, and addressing the root causes of insecurity, value education can contribute to a more peaceful and prosperous society.

Statement of the problem:

Value education is a systematic process of cultivating ethical, moral, social, and civic values in individuals. It's not just about imparting knowledge, but also about fostering positive attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors that align with these values, promoting character development and responsible citizenship. Value education plays a critical role in addressing national security challenges in Nigeria by fostering a sense of civic responsibility, promoting peace, and encouraging responsible citizenship. A strong emphasis on value education can help to mitigate the effects of insecurity stemming from issues like unemployment, corruption, and ethno-religious conflicts. Therefore, the study seeks to investigate the role of poor value education, corruption/bad governance and unemployment on Nigeria security challenges.

Objectives of the study:

The broad objective of the study was to investigate the effect of value education on the national security. The following specific objectives were applied to further guide the study.

To examine the role of poor value education in insecurity in Nigeria

To ascertain the relationship between corruption/bad governance and insecurity in Nigeria

To determine the effect of unemployment in insecurity in Nigeria.

Research Question

The following research questions were applied to guide the researcher in the investigation.

To what extent does poor value education contribute to insecurity in Nigeria?

What is the degree of relationship between corruption/bad governance and insecurity in Nigeria?

What effect does unemployment have in insecurity in Nigeria?

Research Hypotheses

H0₁: There is no significant effect of poor value education in insecurity in Nigeria

H0₂: There is no significant relationship between corruption/bad governance in insecurity in Nigeria.

H0₃: There is no significant effect of unemployment in insecurity in Nigeria.

Review of related literature

The concept of value education

Value education is a systematic process of cultivating ethical, moral, social, and civic values in individuals. It's not just about imparting knowledge, but also about fostering positive attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors that align with these values, promoting character development and responsible citizenship.

Value education is the process of teaching values. It is seen as the active and purposeful internalization of values through a socializing agent like family, schools, religious and social organizations. Adediran (2013) posit that it is an educative process in which there is a concerted efforts to expose student clientele to mostly desirable values without completely ignoring undesirable values, while allowing them freely and reflectively to choose their own values, that will enhance them to effectively function in a society that is characterized by ever present non-value free circumstances, valuing and national decision making. Similarly, Arisi (2013); Enu and Esu (2011) posits that value education as a process which involves the systematic inculcation of measures that make individuals useful in the affairs of a country. To him, value education deals with the mobilization and enablement of learners to cultivate an awareness and understanding that would transform them into.

Nwafor, (2022) Values are those intrinsic qualities or attributes that one possesses which influence his actions on daily basis. They constitute standards or yardsticks for assessing peoples'



actions to know whether they are in tandem with what the society accepts or subscribes to. Values are those salient beliefs an individual or community holds dear, that provide a guide for their actions and are used as reference to judge certain actions as good or bad, desirable or undesirable (Gelen, 2014). Their indispensability to man and the society at large makes them imperative for every member of the society to live by them in order to promote social integration and peaceful and harmonious atmosphere conducive for human habitation. In reality, both positive and negative values exist side by side in the society, and it is incumbent on members of the society to choose the type of values that would form their reference frame.

Values education is an aspect of education, just as we have cognitive, vocational, technical and entrepreneurial education that is responsible for the inculcation of those values accepted and cherished by the society. According to Duvie (2018), it is used to describe moral and citizenship education that helps individuals to acquire those good and worthwhile attitudes and abilities that are desirable and acceptable in the society. The primary concern of values education is to ensure that societal values are preserved, passed on from one generation to another, and the modification of values in line with present realities in the society. It begins at birth and continues through life-formally or informally- until the day one dies, and it is not restricted to a given age bracket in the society. The society today is more inclined to perpetuating negative values instead of positive values because of man's subjective attitude to societal virtues. This has given rise to some of the challenges facing Nigeria today like terrorism, militancy, banditry etc.

Values education is an integral part of education because it is intended for the total development of the individual which includes the formation of appropriate character traits. It is against this backdrop that Magaji (2014) asserted that "value is education and education is value". The absence of values in any educational enterprise would only lay emphasis on the cognitive or intellectual development of the individual, because values would not be transmitted without the instrumentality of education. As a result education that does not include the inculcation of values is of no worth and useless, because education is expected to impart life with lasting values that would bring about desirable and worthwhile changes in the individual and the society at large.

As an aspect of education, values education brings about the activation of the spirit of co-operation, mutuality and harmony, and facilitates the acquisition of requisite skills to cope with the complexities of our ever changing world (Shobha & Kala, 2015). It also encourages the establishment of a stable, peaceful and progressive society with few moral issues (Ukpabio, et al 2017). The inculcation of appropriate values would enable members of the society to acquire skills, characters and attitudes that would enable them to achieve personal fulfillments and success in their respective careers and in their lives. When people are adequately prepared through values education, they would contribute to the development of the society and the nation at large, thereby contributing to national development. Hence, the development of the personality of the individual would certainly have ripple effects on the overall development of the society and the nation, depending on the kind of values members of the society have imbibed, whether positive or negative. It is therefore obvious that the objectives of values education are in two-folds; first, the development of the individual, and then the development of the larger society. Absence of values education in any educational system or society would amount to a society without a moral or ethical frame.

The Concept Of Insecurity

Insecurity connotes a state of vulnerability, risk, fear, anxiety, uncertainty and defenselessness, and it is occasioned by the absence of protection, safety and stability (Nwafor, 2021). It creates a situation where people live in fear because they feel unprotected, and are prone to attacks by ill-intentioned individuals whose aim is the destruction of lives and property. This results in volatile and unfriendly atmosphere that does not encourage peaceful co-existence and the overall development of the society.

Insecurity signifies the inability of a country to guarantee the safety of her citizens and resources, thereby making them susceptible to threats, and internal and external aggressions (Udeh, Okoroafor, & Ihejie, 2013). This unwholesome situation is gradually becoming synonymous with the Nigerian state



because of the high rate of attacks on defenseless Nigerians that have resulted in the wanton destruction of property and untimely death of many young productive individuals.

It has also put a clog in the wheels of development of Nigeria because insecurity and national development are incompatible. Government on its part seems to be hapless and overwhelmed by this deleterious social menace as evident in her inability to stem the tide of insecurity in the country.

Security according to Otto and Ukpere (2012), has a close relationship with peace, stability, happiness and absence of threat. This would directly impact national development, as meaningful development can occur only in a peaceful and stable environment as they act as catalyst in the development process. It is on this strength that governments all over the world accord security prime attention because of its ripple effect on every facet of national life like education, economy, tourism, politics, among others. This is necessary because business and investment which drive development would thrive if the socio-economic and political atmosphere is calm and serene.

Causes Of Insecurity In Nigeria

Insecurity in Nigeria and the world over cannot be significantly reduced if its root causes are not identified. According to Nwafor, (2022), the factors responsible for insecurity in Nigeria include the following:

1. **Unemployment:** Nigeria has witnessed a geometrical growth in her population and this has been accompanied by a steady rise in unemployment rate. It has resulted in an increase in poverty as a greater percentage of the population live below the poverty line, with acute lack of basic amenities. Lack of employment opportunities have made many ably qualified young people take to various crimes that constitute security challenges to the Nigerian state. This ugly situation according to Nwagbosa (2012), can be attributed to burgeoning population and the failure of successive administrations to stimulate and encourage the private sector to create employment opportunities. This poses serious problem for national security and by extension sustainable national development, because it breeds more young people who out of desperation have to do anything whether legal or illegal to eke out a living.

It is therefore no surprise that the greater proportion of security challenges is caused by unemployed youths. These unemployed youths become willing tools and foot soldiers of terrorism kidnapping, prostitution, militancy, armed robbery, among others.

2. **Corruption and Bad Governance:** The rationale behind seeking political position should be to bring governance closer to the people, and to improve on their conditions of living by making decisions and formulating policies that are aimed at improving the welfare of the citizens, even though such decisions and policies may affect a section of the society negatively. This is the situation with developed nations, where the citizens to a large extent benefit maximally from the policies and decisions of those they have elected to govern them. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of Nigeria and her leaders, because corruption and bad governance have become the order of the day.

To attain political positions, political thugs are recruited and armed to the teeth with sophisticated weapons which are used for armed robbery, kidnapping, etc., when politicians no longer have need for them. Government has failed to provide a conducive environment to stimulate the creation of employment opportunities thereby creating an army of frustrated, disillusioned, disenfranchised and unemployed youths who take to crimes (Udeh, Okoroafor & Ihezue, 2013). The high level of corruption exhibited by government officials who convert public funds to personal use has further exacerbated the precarious security situation.

Yearly budgets are hardly implemented, yet large sums of tax payers' money are released and embezzled by the ruling political class and their cronies. This has made critical sectors like security, health and education to be grossly underfunded.

For this reason, the military is unable to acquire necessary hard wares and qualified personnel to combat even the smallest insurrection because of the sophisticated weapons in the possession of those who seek to perpetrate one crime or the other.



3. **Weak Judicial System:** Law plays an invaluable and indispensable role in inculcating the right values in people. It ensures that sanctions, penalties or punishments are clearly spelt out for different deviant behaviours, moral and ethical breaches, and meting out punishment to those who do not live up to the moral and ethical standards of the society.

Ironically, deviant behaviours are encouraged and rewarded in the society today (Haralambos & Holborn 2008). This has led to the reinforcement of these negative values (vices) thereby leading to an increase in crime rate and insecurity. The place of punishments of different forms for different offences cannot be over-emphasized as it serves as a deterrent to other potential offenders. But when appropriate sanctions and reprimands are not in place, or are not adequately and effectively implemented, people would always act as they wish. This has been sorry state of Nigeria's judicial system, where those who steal large sums of public fund are asked to refund an amount that is so insignificant and incomparable to the stolen amount.

4. **Faulty Educational System:** Education plays an incontrovertible role in the development of the individual and his socio-economic status. It equips one with skills, abilities and values that would make him a responsible and responsive citizen, and enable him secure better employment opportunities to earn better wages. Unfortunately, the Nigerian education system can be described as being lopsided, and hence not all embracing in nature, because it does not place emphasis on character development and civic education. Hence, most products of Nigerian educational system are deficient in character development. This according to Bhat (2010) is responsible for corrupt practices and erosion of societal values because people only gain cognitive knowledge which enables them to get good jobs but lack core values that would help them lead responsible life in the society. Also, the idea of using rote learning or memorization of facts that does not encourage creative and critical thinking, and individual-mindedness is another bane of Nigerian educational system. This has cast a big aspersion on the integrity of the certificates awarded at the various levels of education because it is not value-based.

5. **Weak Value System:** Value system can be described as a set of values, beliefs, and practices that regulate the behaviours of members of the society. The Nigerian value system can be described as weak because of its subjective and relativistic nature, thereby creating a situation where people act without taking into consideration the accepted moral and ethical principles of the Nigerian society. The operational value system in a country affects her developmental strides positively or negatively (Abdu-Raheem, 2018). A strong values system engenders peace and stability because every member of the society is duty bound to live according to the value system, bearing in mind that actions contrary to values accepted by the society would attract sanctions. This would ensure social control and people do not act in manners inimical to the growth and progress of the society. The subjectivity of the value system in

Nigeria gives rise to a situation where people do not know the operational value system, or hold contrary value system. Hence they tend to transmit that which they hold and feel is appropriate for their young ones. This has been the root of insurgency, militancy, banditry and cultism.

6. **Porous Borders:** Nigeria's extensive and poorly monitored borders facilitate the movement of weapons, criminals, and insurgents, exacerbating insecurity.

7. **Ethno-religious Conflicts:** Tensions and conflicts between different ethnic and religious groups can escalate into violence and instability.

8. **Terrorism and Insurgency:** Groups like Boko Haram and ISWAP have exploited existing vulnerabilities and grievances to carry out attacks and destabilize the country.

9. **Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons:** The easy availability of weapons fuels criminal activities and increases the potential for violence.



Consequences Of Insecurity In Nigeria

Insecurity in Nigeria has far-reaching consequences, impacting lives, the economy, and social stability. The loss of lives, displacement of populations, and destruction of infrastructure are direct impacts, while economic downturns, decreased investment, and social unrest are indirect consequences. These factors contribute to a climate of fear and uncertainty, hindering Nigeria's development and progress (Udeh, Okoroafor, & Ihejia, 2013).

Humanitarian and Social Impacts:

Loss of Life and Injuries: Insecurity leads to daily casualties through terrorist attacks, banditry, and communal clashes.

Displacement and Migration: Insecurity forces people to flee their homes, creating internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugee crises.

Mental Health Issues: The constant fear and trauma associated with insecurity can lead to increased rates of stress, anxiety, and depression.

Social Disruption: Insecurity erodes trust within communities, disrupts social structures, and can lead to increased crime rates and social unrest.

Economic Impacts:

Reduced Investment: Insecurity creates a risky environment for investors, both domestic and foreign, leading to capital flight and decreased economic growth.

Decline in Tourism: Fear of violence and instability discourages tourism, impacting businesses and revenue in the tourism sector.

Impaired Agricultural Production: Conflicts between farmers and herders, banditry, and terrorism disrupt agricultural activities, leading to food shortages and increased food prices.

Weakened Infrastructure: Insecurity can damage critical infrastructure like roads, power lines, and communication systems, hindering economic activity.

Increased Government Spending on Security:

Governments must divert resources to security efforts, potentially reducing spending on other crucial sectors like education and healthcare.

Political and Governance Impacts:

Erosion of Trust in Government: Insecurity can lead to a loss of public trust in government's ability to protect citizens, potentially destabilizing the political landscape.

Weakening of the Rule of Law: Insecurity can create an environment where the rule of law is undermined, with criminal elements operating with impunity.

Increased Political Instability: Insecurity can fuel social and political tensions, potentially leading to civil unrest and violence.

Other Impacts:

Reduced Education Opportunities: Insecurity can disrupt education systems, especially in affected regions, limiting access to quality education for children.

Increased Poverty and Inequality: Insecurity can exacerbate poverty and inequality by disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations and disrupting economic opportunities.

In conclusion, insecurity in Nigeria presents a multifaceted challenge with significant negative consequences for individuals, communities, the economy, and the political stability of the nation. Addressing the root causes of insecurity and implementing effective strategies to restore peace and security are crucial for Nigeria's sustainable development.

Solution To Nigeria Security Challenges

Addressing Nigeria's multifaceted insecurity requires a combination of economic, social, and security-focused strategies. This includes tackling poverty and unemployment, improving governance and law enforcement, and fostering social cohesion (Udeh, Okoroafor, & Ihejia, 2013).



1. Education Solution:

Value Education: Value education is the process of teaching values. It is seen as the active and purposeful internalization of values through a socializing agent like family, schools, religious and social organizations. Value education plays a critical role in addressing national security challenges in Nigeria by fostering a sense of civic responsibility, promoting peace, and encouraging responsible citizenship. A strong emphasis on value education can help to mitigate the effects of insecurity stemming from issues like unemployment, corruption, and ethno-religious conflicts

Citizenship Education: Citizenship education helps inculcate patriotism, loyalty and commitment to the country and to one's duty, and ensure that people learn the basic ethical principles needed to resolve moral and ethical issues one may face in the society. It ensures that there is a change in people's attitude towards others and the way they discharge their responsibilities with a sense of nationalism and patriotism. This would go a long way in curbing crime, and stemming insecurity, which do not encourage national development. The products of the educational system would be moral and patriotic citizens that would put Nigeria on the path of moral and civic rectitude (Nwafor, 2008).

This would fast track sustainable national development by improving the way people relate and interact with others, and make it easy for people to do business and encourage the protection of national assets rather than throw spanners in the wheel of progress through sabotage, vandalism, or activities that would create fear and panic, and constitute threat to life and property.

Unfortunately, the absence of citizenship and moral education in the Nigeria education system has made it faulty (Nwafor, 2006). This has made patriotism to be at its lowest ebb, and anyone who claims to be patriotic cannot jeopardize the development Nigeria by engaging in activities that in one way or the other contribute to the insecurity in the country.

2. Economic Solutions:

Job Creation: Reducing poverty and unemployment, particularly among youth, is crucial. This can be achieved through policies that support small and medium enterprises, vocational training, and investments in sectors with high job creation potential.

Poverty Reduction: Targeted programs aimed at alleviating poverty, especially in regions with high rates of insecurity, are necessary to address the root causes of crime and violence.

Sustainable Development: Promoting sustainable economic growth through diversification, infrastructure development, and improving the business environment can create more opportunities and reduce reliance on illicit activities.

3. Social Solutions:

Education: Investing in education, particularly at the basic and vocational levels, can empower individuals with skills and knowledge to participate more effectively in the economy and reduce their vulnerability to crime.

Community Engagement: Strengthening community structures and involving local leaders in security initiatives can improve intelligence gathering, promote peaceful conflict resolution, and build trust between communities and law enforcement.

Inter-communal Dialogue: Fostering dialogue and understanding between different ethnic and religious groups can help mitigate tensions and prevent conflicts from escalating into violence.

4. Security Solutions:

Improved Law Enforcement: Enhancing the capacity of law enforcement agencies through training, equipment, and better coordination is essential for effective policing and crime prevention.

Border Security: Strengthening border controls to curb the flow of illicit weapons and criminals is vital for national security.

Intelligence Gathering: Improving intelligence gathering and analysis capabilities can help identify and neutralize criminal networks and terrorist groups.



Counter-terrorism Operations: A comprehensive approach to counter-terrorism, including military operations, deradicalization programs, and addressing the underlying causes of extremism, is necessary.

Accountability: Ensuring accountability for human rights abuses committed by security forces is crucial for maintaining public trust and preventing further escalation of conflict.

5. Governance and Leadership:

Good Governance: Tackling corruption, promoting transparency, and strengthening institutions are essential for effective governance and public service delivery.

Accountability: Holding public officials accountable for their actions and decisions can help restore public confidence and reduce the sense of impunity that can fuel insecurity.

Leadership: Strong and decisive leadership at all levels is needed to mobilize resources, coordinate efforts, and inspire public support for security initiatives

Value education and sustainable national security.

Education since the beginning of time has been at the nucleus of humanity and the major illuminator of the human society. Kennedy, Joshua, Alex (2022) posits that it is an orderly accumulation of factual knowledge and progressive ability and apply that knowledge in human needs. Iwele (2018) posits that education is the process of acquiring new values and skills for the purpose of effective functioning in the society. Thus the challenge faced by Nigerian is not only economic transformation but that of reconstructing and rebuilding the society's values system that have been eroded by differences occasioned by our distinctive characteristics through education. To prepare for life in a modern society, the citizens should be exposed to qualitative education and acquire good moral values to enable them create a humane society. The achievement of the objectives of a sustainable nation security is hinged on the character of the leaders entrusted with the management of the society as well as those of followership. Thus, taking responsibility for the things we do right and wrong as a people is the way to move the society forward.

In a bid to change the current narrative of the country towards enhancing sustainability, the country and her citizens needs to meet certain conditions that can enhance development and sustainability of the nation which include absolute loyalty to the nation, willingness to live together as one, change of attitudes in both personal and official activities, love of one's country, subjugation of local and ethnic loyalties to those of the nation and others. And this can be achieved through teaching of value education occasioned by overhauling of the nation security system. The challenges before the leaders is to confront Nigeria's security problems with innovative ideas such as those propagated by value education in the nation's school curricular for enhanced character development for sustainable national security system.

Methodology

This study adopted a descriptive survey design. The population of the study was 30 respondents from selected 20 states with different educational background. The data of this study was generated primarily from structured questionnaire designed to get relevant information from the respondents in the research problem, as well as face-to-face interactions, The researcher used questionnaires for this study because they are simple to administer, relatively easy to analyze, information are collected in standardized way. To determine the reliability of the instrument, the researcher adopted Cronbach's Alpha to verify the internal consistency of each construct in order to achieve reliability which produced a reliability coefficient of 0.87. The researcher's method of data analysis will be descriptive and shall be presented using correlation and regression analysis.

Results

Research Question One: To what extent does poor value education contribute to insecurity in Nigeria? The data collected were used to answers the research question as presented in table 1 below.



Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	Df2	Sig. F Change
1	.826	.683	.672	10.29227	.683	60.293	1	28	.000

Source: Researchers Field Survey, 2025

Key DEC: Decision

Based on the provided model summary, poor value education has a high positive contribution on insecurity in Nigeria, as indicated by the high r-coefficient value (0.826), R-Square of 0.683 indicates that poor value education has approximately 68% contribution to insecurity in Nigeria.

Research Question Two

What is the degree of relationship between corruption/bad governance and insecurity in Nigeria?

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	Df2	Sig. F Change
1	.799	.638	.625	10.99142	.638	49.418	1	28	.000

Source: Researchers Field Survey, 2025

Key DEC: Decision

Table 2 reveals that the co-efficient value r 0.799, indicates a high positive relationship between corruption/bad governance and insecurity in Nigeria. R2 0.638 reveals that corruption/bad governance contribute approximately 64% to insecurity in Nigeria.

Research Question Three

What effect does unemployment have in insecurity in Nigeria?

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	Df2	Sig. F Change
1	.780	.609	.595	11.43262	.609	43.558	1	28	.000

Source: Researchers Field Survey, 2025

Table 3 shows that calculated r-value is 0.780. This implies that there is a strong positive relationship between unemployment and insecurity in Nigeria. The determinant value (R2) is 0.609. This indicates that unemployment contributes approximately 61% to insecurity in Nigeria.

Hypothesis Testing:

Hypothesis 1: There is no significant effect of poor value education in insecurity in Nigeria

Table 4: Regression analysis on poor value education and fighting insecurity in Nigeria.

Model	Understanding Coefficients		Standardized coefficient	T	Sig	Correlations			Collinearity statistics	
	B	Std. Error				Beta	Zero-order	Partial	Part	Tolerance



1.(Constant)	7.580 .812	7.926 .105	.826	.956 7.765	.347 .000	.826	.826	.826	1.000	1.000
Poor Value Education										

Source: Researchers Field Survey, 2025

Table 4 reveal that the P-value of 0.000 is less than 0.05 level of significance. This indicates that the relationship between poor value education and insecurity in Nigeria is statistically significant.
Hypothesis 2: There is no significant relationship between corruption/bad governance and insecurity in Nigeria.

Table 5: Regression analysis on corruption/bad governance and insecurity in Nigeria.

Model	Understanding Coefficients		Standardized coefficient Beta	T	Sig	Correlations			Collinearity statistics	
	B	Std. Error				Zero-order	Partial	Part	Tolerance	VIF
1.(Constant) Corruption/bad governance	7.754 .894	8.714 .127	.799	.890 7.030	.381 .000	.799	.799	.799	1.000	1.000

Source: Researchers Field Survey, 2025

Table 5 shows that p-value is 0.000 is less than 0.05 alpha level of significance. This reveals that the relationship between corruption/bad governance and insecurity in Nigeria is significant.

Hypothesis 3: There is no significant effect of unemployment in insecurity in Nigeria.

Table 6: Regression analysis on unemployment on insecurity in Nigeria

Model	Understanding Coefficients		Standardized coefficient Beta	T	Sig	Correlations			Collinearity statistics	
	B	Std. Error				Zero-order	Partial	Part	Tolerance	VIF
1.(Constant) Unemployment	4.371 .894	9.771 .136	.780	.447 6.600	.658 .000	.780	.780	.780	1.000	1.000

Source: Researchers Field Survey, 2025

Table 6 suggest that the P-value of 0.000 is less than 0.05. This indicates that the relationship between unemployment and insecurity in Nigeria is significant.

Findings:

Poor value education refers to a situation where individuals lack essential life skills, critical thinking abilities, and a strong moral compass, often stemming from inadequate or ineffective education



systems. This can result in individuals struggling with basic life skills, making poor decisions, and lacking the capacity to contribute meaningfully to society. From the result gotten above, poor value education contributes approximately 68% to insecurity in Nigeria.

Corruption and bad governance has long been recognized as a major impediment to effective security governance. Corruption erodes public trust in security institutions, diverts resources meant for security, and facilitates crime through bribery and collusion with criminal elements. In Nigeria, corruption within the security apparatus has been documented in cases where security personnel have been accused of colluding with insurgents, bandits, and kidnappers. The result from the data analyzed showed that corruption and bad governance contributes up to 65% to Nigeria security challenges.

Unemployment and insecurity are closely linked, particularly in the context of youth unemployment. High unemployment rates, especially among young people, can contribute to social unrest and instability, as frustrated and economically marginalized individuals may turn to criminal activities or social vices as a means of survival. From the data analyzed above, unemployment contributes up to 64% to insecurity in Nigeria.

Conclusion

The objectives of value education in Nigeria could go a long way in addressing moral decay which manifests through high and increase crime rate, cultism, drug abuse, violence, arm robbery, examination malpractice, prostitution to mention few. This is because value education in schools could inculcate awareness about societal values, morals and their significance in national security. National integration is a basic requirement for development of Nigeria and any nation that is why most of the developed nations of the world built their economy in atmosphere free of challenges such as corruption, insecurity, ethnicity, and violence that are affecting Nigeria development. Value education could go a long way in enhancing national values if introduced and properly implemented in Nigeria school curriculum.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are made:

- i. The government at all levels should take steps in improving the teaching of value education in schools at all levels through the available traditional subjects.
- ii. Government should implement policies that promote job creation, particularly for young people, is crucial to reduce poverty and deter involvement in criminal activities. Addressing the root causes of poverty through targeted social programs and economic empowerment initiatives can help alleviate the desperation that can drive some individuals to crime.
- iv. Strengthening Security Forces by improving the training, equipment, and intelligence capabilities of the military and police is essential to effectively combat various forms of insecurity. Addressing corruption within security agencies is vital to ensure accountability and effective service delivery.
- v. Community policing if introduced will help by fostering partnerships between law enforcement agents and local communities and improve intelligence gathering and build trust.
- vi. Government should prioritize dialogue and peaceful resolution of conflicts, particularly those related to ethnic and religious tensions, before it gets out of hand.
- vii. Strengthening border security to prevent the flow of illegal weapons and individuals is important.

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