

AN APPRAISAL OF REHABILITATION STRATEGIES BY THE NIGERIAN CORRECTIONAL SERVICE: A STUDY OF HADEJIA CUSTODIAL CENTRE, JIGAWA STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

The cardinal objective of the study was to empirically appraise rehabilitation strategies and practices by the Nigerian Correctional Service in the study area. However, the study comprised of only male convicted and a few awaiting trial inmates in Hadejia Custodial Centre. A total of 150 questionnaires were distributed to the categories of the above mentioned inmates. A sample size of 150 was determined using the sample size calculator at a confidence and interval level of ± 3 and confidence level of 95% out of a total number of 229 inmates in the study area. Data obtained were processed using SPSS as a statistical tool. However, a selected result revealed that, impressively Tsocio-economic status of parehe majority of the inmates (72.7%) stated that there were adequate vocational training programmes in the custodial centre while a few of the inmates (27.3%) stated that vocational training programmes were inadequate. The study recommends an improvement on the existing rehabilitation programmes made available for the fact that some inmates were dissatisfied with effectiveness of rehabilitation programmes in the study area.

Keywords: Awaiting trial inmates, custodial centre, inmates, Nigerian Correctional Service, rehabilitation.

Introduction

The Nigerian government has a responsibility of funding the Nigerian Correctional Service. With 244 Custodial Centres cutting across the country (Federal Ministry of Interior, 2020), the government has never relented in its quest to fund the NCS. This can be confirmed as each year, from the National budget, funds are made available for the day to day activities of every NCS command which usually includes ensuring safety of both convicted and awaiting trial inmates, providing conducive environment to ensure effective rehabilitation of convicted inmates, provision of welfare services and recreational activities within the custodial centres as well as ensuring that the environment is suitable for effective discharge for daily activities of correctional staff to ensure rehabilitation ideals and potentials of the NCS amongst others. In an attempt to make custodial centres in Nigeria reformative in nature, the Nigerian government tries to comply with international human rights standard which will be able to ensure the ideals of reformation, rehabilitation and also re-integration of convicted inmates. This corroborates the view of

Richmond, Butler, Indig, Wilhem, Archer and Wodak (2012) who jointly stated that custodial centre is a place where rules are meant to be adhered which will aid in correcting inmates. Richmond *et al* (2012) further stated that custodial centre is a place where inmates are expected to develop personally and also rebuild their individual lives so that they will be less likely to indulge in crime related activities and adequately re-integrate back into the society that once rejected and considered them as bad elements to the society. However, rehabilitation potentials of the Nigerian Correctional Service cannot be overemphasized as strategies are put in place to ensure rehabilitation with some activities like carpentry, welding, tailoring, laundry services amongst others. In line with the above, some studies in the Nigerian context suggest that rehabilitation programmes are made available in custodial centres in Nigeria. Thus, this study empirically examined the rehabilitation potentials and practices of the NCS from the perspective of convicted and a few awaiting trial inmates in Hadejia custodial centre

Statement of the Problem

The NCS as a reformative home faces several impediments such as inadequate funding despite been funded by the Nigerian government. The mentioned factor may impede on rehabilitation potentials and ideals of the NCS. Additional problems may include obsolete rehabilitation facilities, insufficient number of correctional staff to inculcate inmates with vocational skills amongst others. Coincidentally, the above problems are seen to have corroborated some findings of some research on rehabilitation potentials of the NCS. For example, Eze and Okafor (2007) study on Kiri-Kiri Minimum custodial centre revealed that majority of inmates were not involved in learning any trade which may be due to unavailability of some needed tools or equipment. Additional findings such as that of Amali (2018) revealed that majority of the inmates in Kano Central and Goron-Dutse custodial centre were not involved in rehabilitation programmes. Thus, rehabilitation ideals and potentials of the NCS from the perspective of convicted and awaiting trial inmates in the study area were empirically examined, which will involve their individual perceptions on the vocational and rehabilitation programmes in the custodial centre

Materials and Methods

This study empirically examined rehabilitation strategies and practices of the NCS mainly from the perspective of convicted and awaiting trial inmates in the study area. It was purely a quantitative research design; quantitative research design was adopted to enable generation of quantitative data. This strategy assisted the researcher to uncover the perceptions of convicted and awaiting trial inmates on custodial centre facilities. Thus, the method adopted for the study was able to empirically probe into rehabilitation practices by the NCS from the perspective of inmates.

However, as at 14/3/2020, Hadejia custodial centre had an official capacity of 640, with a final lock-up of 229, with 227 males and 2 females. Additional details revealed that from the 229, 75 awaiting trial male inmates, 2 awaiting trial inmates, male lifers were 21, convicted criminals were 9, male detainees were 3, convicted male inmates were 119 and there was no case of a convicted female. Thus, a total number of 150 inmates participated in the study which included all convicted inmates which were 119 and additional 31 awaiting trial inmates. Furthermore, only male convicted inmates formed part of the study which was due to the fact that only two female inmates were accommodated in the study area when the research was conducted, suggesting that females had a very low representation in any academic research in the study area. However, structured copies of questionnaire amounting to 150 were distributed to inmates to obtain quantitative data. A sample size of 150 was determined using the sample size calculator (Ma Corr Research, 2017), at a confidence and interval level of ± 5 and confidence level of 95% out of a total number of 229 inmates. Conclusively, data of this study were generated from 150 respondents in the study area. In the course of this study, two methods were employed to obtain data which were primary and secondary sources. Thus, questionnaire was used to generate quantitative data for the study.

With the researcher's knowledge on research, data were collated and analyzed which involved three stages. In the first stage, the researcher ensured that all responses were assigned codes for the responses generated from the 150 structured questionnaires. This process involved the use of SPSS version 22 to ensure coding and capturing. The second stage included computing simple frequencies of all the variables that formed part of the study. With an intention to eliminate errors when data were captured, data were checked and reviewed. In a situation where errors may be noticed, it was swiftly corrected on the structured questionnaire. Furthermore, while conducting the study, simple descriptive statistics were employed with an intention to make a summary of every respondent's responses (Battaglis, 2010). Data for the study were presented with the use of tables. Conclusively, the third stage includes the use of bivariate analysis (Chi-square test) which was used to empirically probe into perception of inmates on rehabilitation practices, potential and strategies of the NCS in the study area.

The research was purely quantitative in nature and data were gathered by the administration of structured questionnaires to the respondents which comprised of only male convicted and a few awaiting trial inmates. The structured questionnaires were made up of open and close-ended questions. The nature of the questions which suggested that the research was purely academic led to the researcher getting a formal acceptance granted by the NCS, Jigawa command to embark on this research. Data for the study were obtained as the researcher was able to embark on a research visit in the custodial centre. For the benefit of doubt and also in an attempt to win the confidence of respondents, the researcher

informed all participants that the study was purely academic and every information obtained from the respondents in the course of the study will be treated with utmost confidentiality. It took the researcher some days to adequately administer and retrieve the structured questionnaires from the participants. Thus, the main objective of the research was to empirically examine the rehabilitation potentials or practices of the NCS from the perspective of inmates in the study area.

Ethical Considerations

In an attempt to gain entry into Hadejia Custodial Centre, the researcher made a formal application to the state Controller, NCS, Jigawa State Command. Few days later, a formal communication was sent to the researcher informing him of the approval to conduct a purely academic research as it was indicated in the application. The researcher was advised by the NCS, that he should adhere to rules and regulations stipulated on the approval of the academic research. In an attempt to adhere to research ethics, most especially a purely academic one and also adhering to the conditions of the NCS, confidentiality of the respondents was done by the following ways:

- That participant should not write his name on the research instrument administered.
- There was no compulsion to participate in the study and it is advised that any respondent who agrees to serve as a respondent to the study is strongly advised to return the research instrument given to him. Participants were also advised not to discuss their individual responses with other participants. Conclusively, all participants for the purpose of the study were kept in a safe place while making responses on the research instrument.

Results/Findings

This section focuses on the analysis and the presentation of data that were obtained through the administration of structured questionnaires to participants in the study area. 150 questionnaires were administered and the researcher ensured that he retrieved all the structured questionnaires that were distributed to respondents. Thus, data obtained were analyzed based on percentages and SPSS was used as a statistical tool for data processing.

Table 1: Age of the respondents

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|----------------|-----------|---------|
| 20 years below | 15 | 10.0 |
| 21-30 | 77 | 51.3 |
| 31-40 | 15 | 10.0 |
| 41-50 | 21 | 14.0 |
| 51 and above | 22 | 14.7 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Table 1 illustrates that the majority of the inmates (51.3%) were between the ages of 21-30 years, while only a few number of inmates (14.0%) were between the ages of 41-50.

Table 2: Gender of the respondents

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|-------------|-----------|---------|
| Male | 147 | 98.0 |
| Female | 0 | 0.0 |
| No response | 3 | 2.0 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Table 2 reveals that entire responses revealed only male respondents which was (98.0%) with a recorded case of (2.0%) as no responses

Table 3: Marital status of the respondents

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|---------------|-----------|---------|
| Single | 39 | 16.0 |
| Married | 73 | 48.7 |
| Divorced | 18 | 12.0 |
| Widow/Widower | 20 | 13.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Table 3 illustrates that (48.7%) of the inmates were married, only a few (12.0%) of the inmates divorced.

Table 4: Responses on whether the married respondents lived with his wife before conviction.

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|-----------|---------|
| Yes | 51 | 66.2 |
| No | 20 | 26.0 |
| No responses | 6 | 7.8 |
| Total | 77 | 100.0 |

Table 4 above revealed that 66.2% of the respondents indicated that they live with their wives before conviction, 26.0% did not live with wives while 7.8% did not respond. These findings revealed that majority of the married respondents lived with their wives before conviction.

Table 5: Respondents' level of education

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Primary | 39 | 26.0 |
| Secondary | 31 | 20.7 |
| Tertiary | 19 | 12.7 |

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|
| Qur'anic/Islamic only | 58 | 38.6 |
| No response | 3 | 2.0 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

As shown in Table 5 (38.6%) of the inmates had qur'anic recitation as level of education, compared to (26.0%), (20.7%), (12.7), for, primary, secondary, tertiary respectively.

Table 6: Respondents' occupation before incarceration

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|---------------|------------|--------------|
| Civil Servant | 16 | 10.6 |
| Business | 49 | 32.7 |
| Petty trading | 30 | 20.0 |
| Farming | 55 | 36.7 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

As shown in Table 6, majority of the inmates (36.7%) were involved in farming compared to a minority of (10.6%) who were civil servants. One possible reason for huge disparity could be that as a rural area, possible offenders were unlikely to be involved in crime compared to unemployed individuals.

Table 7: Respondents' religion

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Islam | 103 | 68.7 |
| Christian | 47 | 31.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Religious affiliation of the respondents shows that 68.7% were Muslims while 31.3% were Christians. This is due to the fact that the study area was dominated by people whose religious affiliation is Islam.

Table 8: Responses on whether the custodial centre has adequate vocational training programmes

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 109 | 72.7 |
| No | 41 | 27.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

As shown in table 8, impressively the majority of the inmates (72.7%) stated that there were adequate vocational training programmes in the custodial centre while a few of the inmates (27.3%) stated that vocational training programmes were inadequate.

Table 9: Respondents description on the vocational training programmes they have access to

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Excellent | 5 | 3.3 |
| Very good | 46 | 30.7 |
| Good | 80 | 53.3 |
| Fair | 4 | 2.7 |
| Poor | 15 | 10.0 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

The analysis of inmates' description and access to vocational training programmes reveals that majority of the inmates (53.3%) stated that access to vocational training programmes was good compared to a few of the inmates (30.7%) who stated that vocational training programmes were very good. An overview of the results above shows that majority of the inmates had access to vocational training.

Table 10: Responses on whether the respondents have educational training in the custodial centre

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 112 | 74.7 |
| No | 38 | 25.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

When asked about educational training in the custodial centre, the majority of the inmates responded positively. However, majority of the inmates (74.7%) stated that they had educational training in the custodial centre compared to a few inmates (25.3%) who stated that they had no educational training in the custodial centre. These mean that most of the inmates had educational training in the custodial centre. (Table 10)

Table 11: Responses on whether there are classrooms in the custodial centre

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 21 | 14.0 |
| No | 129 | 86.0 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Respondents were asked about the availability of class rooms. Table 11 reveals that more than half of the inmates (86.0%) stated that they had no class rooms. Further findings revealed that only a few of the inmates (14.0%) stated that they had access to class rooms.

It can be deduced from the above result that class rooms in the custodial centre were not sufficient.

Table 12: Respondents views on whether they are satisfied with the classrooms in the custodial centre

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|---------------------|------------|--------------|
| Highly satisfied | 4 | 2.7 |
| Satisfied | 3 | 2.0 |
| Dissatisfied | 118 | 78.6 |
| Highly dissatisfied | 25 | 16.7 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Another striking result revealed that the majority of the inmates (78.6%) stated that they were dissatisfied with the class rooms in the custodial centre while a few of the inmates (2.7%) stated that they were satisfied with class rooms in the custodial centre. The findings show that the majority of the respondents are not satisfied with the classrooms and this can affect their ability to learn.

Table 13: Responses on whether there are library facilities in the custodial centre

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 89 | 59.3 |
| No | 61 | 40.7 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Table 13 presents availability of library facilities and the results reveals that the majority of the inmates (59.3%) stated that there were library facilities in the custodial centre compared to a few inmates (40.7%) who stated that there were no library facilities in the custodial centre. It can be deduced from the findings that the custodial centre partially has library facilities.

Table 14: Respondents' description on the library facilities

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Excellent | 6 | 4.0 |
| Very good | 6 | 4.0 |
| Good | 12 | 8.0 |
| Fair | 93 | 62.0 |
| Poor | 31 | 20.7 |
| No response | 2 | 1.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Respondents were asked to describe library facilities. The results revealed that majority of the inmates (62.0%) described library facilities as fair compared to a very few inmates (20.7%) described the library facilities as poor. In respect of the few responses, it can be deduced that most of the library facilities may have not met the required standard.

Inmates' Awareness of Rehabilitation Facilities

Table 15: Responses on whether the respondents are undergoing any rehabilitation/vocational programme

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 91 | 60.7 |
| No | 59 | 39.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Table 15 illustrates that the majority of the inmates (60.7%) stated that they were undergoing rehabilitation programmes compared to a minority of the inmates (39.3%) who stated that they were not undergoing any rehabilitation programmes. These show that more than half of the inmates are undergoing rehabilitation/vocational programme.

Table 16: Respondents satisfaction on the rehabilitation programmes they undergo

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|---------------------|------------|--------------|
| Highly satisfied | 10 | 6.7 |
| Satisfied | 48 | 32.0 |
| Dissatisfied | 75 | 50.0 |
| Highly dissatisfied | 8 | 5.3 |
| No response | 9 | 6.0 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

The analysis on inmate's satisfaction with rehabilitation programmes reveals that only (6.7%) of the inmates were highly satisfied with rehabilitation compared (32.0%) who were only satisfied with the rehabilitation programmes. Additional findings revealed that half of the respondents (50.0%) stated that they were dissatisfied with rehabilitation programmes with an additional result which revealed that (5.3%) were highly dissatisfied. These suggest that the levels of satisfaction with rehabilitation programmes are equally tied with domination of one over the other in the custodial centre. (Table 16)

Table 17: Respondents' views on facilities for vocational programme

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Adequate | 69 | 46.0 |
| Inadequate | 52 | 34.7 |
| Obsolete | 15 | 10.0 |
| No response | 14 | 9.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Participants were asked about the views on vocational programmes and the results show that (46.0%) of the inmates stated that the facilities for vocational programmes were adequate while (34.7%) of the inmates stated that facilities were inadequate. Additional findings revealed that a few of the inmates (10.0%) stated that facilities for vocational training were obsolete. Based on the above findings it can be deduced that majority of the respondents perceived that facilities for vocational programmes in the custodial centre were adequate. (Table 17)

Table 18: Respondents frequent attendance to vocational programme

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|
| Every day of the Week | 115 | 76.7 |
| Twice in a week | 8 | 5.3 |
| Thrice in a week | 22 | 14.7 |
| No response | 5 | 3.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

The analysis on inmate's frequency in attending vocational programmes reveals that majority of the inmates (76.7%) stated that they attended vocational programmes every day of the week, compared to a few of the inmates (5.3%) who stated frequency at attending vocational programmes was twice in a week. Additional findings revealed that a few of the inmates (14.7%) stated that they attended vocational programmes thrice a week in the custodial centre. Irrespective of dissimilarity of views among the respondents, the findings reveal that most of the inmates attended vocational programmes every day of the week.

Table 19: Responses on whether there are adequate facilities to ensure effective rehabilitation

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 44 | 29.3 |
| No | 106 | 70.7 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

As shown in Table 19 a few of the inmates (29.3%) stated that there were adequate facilities to ensure effective rehabilitation while majority of the inmates (70.7%) stated that there were no adequate facilities to ensure effective rehabilitation. Findings show that majority of the responses suggest a lack of adequate facilities for ensuring effective rehabilitation, this can affect the rehabilitation process.

Table 20: Responses on whether the respondents have access to rehabilitation facilities

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 115 | 76.7 |
| No | 35 | 23.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Table 20 illustrates that majority of the inmates (76.7%) stated that they had access to rehabilitation facilities compared to a few number of inmates (23.3%) who stated that they had no access to rehabilitation facilities. These findings reveal that inmates have high access to rehabilitation facilities in the custodial centre.

Table 21: Responses on the need of rehabilitation to inmates

| Inmates order of rehabilitation | Responses | | | Total |
|---|------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| | Yes (%) | No (%) | No resp. (%) | |
| Avoid coming back to custodial centre | 140 (93.3) | 0 (0.0) | 10 (0.7) | 150 (100.0) |
| Adapt to life in custodial centre | 79 (52.7) | 32 (21.3) | 39 (26.0) | 150 (100.0) |
| Stay focused on the training | 83 (55.3) | 52 (34.7) | 15 (10.0) | 150 (100.0) |
| Acquire further vocational training | 110 (73.3) | 30 (20.0) | 10 (6.7) | 150 (100.0) |
| Get along with other inmates | 56 (37.3) | 40 (26.6) | 54 (36.0) | 150 (100.0) |
| Stop abusing drugs | 118 (78.7) | 20 (13.3) | 12 (8.0) | 150 (100.0) |
| Stop fighting | 98 (65.3) | 20 (13.3) | 32 (21.3) | 150 (100.0) |
| Acquire formal education and know how to approach people properly | 141 (94.0) | 0 (0.0) | 9 (6.0) | 150 (100.0) |

Table 22 illustrates inmates' responses on their need for rehabilitation. Thus, a majority of the inmates (93.3%) stated that they need rehabilitation to avoid coming back to the custodial centre, (52.7%) indicated to adapt to custodial centre life, (55.3%) indicated to stay focused on the training, (73.3%) indicated to acquire further vocational training, (37.3%) indicated to get along with other inmates, (78.7%) indicated to stop abusing drugs, (65.3%) indicated to stop fighting, while (94.0%) indicated to acquire formal education and know how to approach people properly. From the findings, most inmates need rehabilitation for them to acquire formal education and know how to approach people properly.

Table 23: Responses on the relationship between inmates and custodial centre officials

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| Friendly | 22 | 14.7 |
| Cordial | 105 | 70.0 |
| Hostile | 23 | 15.3 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Inmates were asked about their relationship with correctional officials. Table 23 illustrates that a few of the inmates (14.7%) stated that their relationship with custodial centre officials was friendly compared to a majority of the inmates (70.0%) who stated that the relationship was cordial. Further results reveal that only (15.3%) of the inmates stated that the relationship with custodial centre was hostile. It can be deduced from the findings that the relationship between inmates and custodial centre officials was cordial.

Table 24: Responses on whether the inmates are subjected to maltreatment

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| Yes | 47 | 31.3 |
| No | 103 | 68.7 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Table 24 presents findings on whether inmates were subjected to maltreatment. A total of (68.7%) inmates stated that they were not subjected to maltreatment compared to 31.3% of the inmates who stated that they were subjected to maltreatment. Based on the findings, one can conclude that majority of the inmates were not subjected to maltreatment compared to those who were maltreated.

Table 25: Responses on the kind of maltreatment inmates are subjected to

| Kind of maltreatment inmates are subjected to | Responses | | | Total |
|---|------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| | Yes (%) | No (%) | No resp. (%) | |
| Food denial | 99 (66.0) | 20 (13.3) | 31 (20.7) | 150 (100.0) |
| Verbal insults | 141 (94.0) | 5 (3.3) | 4 (2.7) | 150 (100.0) |
| Torture | 125 (83.3) | 15 (10.0) | 15 (10.0) | 150 (100.0) |
| Punishment | 112 (74.7) | 10 (6.7) | 28 (18.6) | 150 (100.0) |

Inmates were asked about the kind of maltreatment they were subjected to by custodial centre officials. As shown in Table 25 (66.0%) stated food denial as a kind of maltreatment, (94.0%) stated that verbal insults were the kind of maltreatment they were subjected to

(83.3%) stated it was torture compared to (74.7%) who stated that it was punishment. This means that majority of the inmates were subjected to verbal insults compared to torture, punishment and food denial.

Table 26: Responses on whether respondents bribe custodial centre officials before enjoying some facilities

| Variable | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 102 | 68.0 |
| No | 48 | 32.0 |
| Total | 150 | 100.0 |

Table 26 reveals that majority of the inmates (68.0%) stated that they were obliged to bribe the custodial centre officials to enjoy some facilities compared to a few inmates (32.0%) who stated that they were not obliged to bribe custodial centre officials to enjoy some facilities. This means that most of times the warders received bribe from the inmates in order to allow them to enjoy some facilities.

Table 27: Responses on the situations that make inmates to bribe custodial centre officials

| Situation that makes inmate to bribe warders | Responses | | | Total |
|--|------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| | Yes (%) | No (%) | No resp. (%) | |
| Access to portable water | 100 (66.7) | 30 (20.0) | 20 (13.3) | 150 (100.0) |
| Visit | 80 (53.3) | 55 (36.7) | 15 (10.0) | 150 (100.0) |
| Access to Medication | 79 (52.7) | 56 (37.3) | 15 (10.0) | 150 (100.0) |
| Room allocation | 112 (74.7) | 10 (6.7) | 28 (18.6) | 150 (100.0) |

Respondents were asked about situations they had to bribe custodial centre officials. Table 27 reveals that (66.7%) of the inmates stated that access to portable water was one of the reasons they had to bribe custodial centre officials, (53.3%) of the inmates stated that it was visit. Additional findings revealed that (52.7%) of the inmates stated access to medication, while (74.7%) of the inmates stated room allocation was one of the reasons they had to bribe custodial centre inmates. Although responses indicated access to portable water, visit and access to medication as situations that necessitate bribery, room allocation is the most common of all.

Discussion of Findings

The key findings on inmate's perceptions towards rehabilitation programmes in the study area are discussed in this section. It is imperative to also present demographic and socio-economics of the respondents in the study area. The results are as follows:

- **Table 1 illustrates that the majority of the inmates (51.3%) were between the ages of 21-30 years, while only a few number of inmates (14.0%) were between the ages of 41-50. Table 2 reveals that entire responses revealed only male respondents which was (98.0%) with a recorded case of (2.0%) as no responses. Only two females were in the custodial centres but never served as respondents to the study. Thus, the custodial centres accommodated both male and female inmates. This is in line with the view of Agbakwuru and Godfrey (2014) who stated that custodial centres usually accommodate different typology of offenders of all categories which may include, male and female, awaiting trial, convicts, condemned inmates.**
- **As shown in table 8, impressively the majority of the inmates (72.7%) stated that there were adequate vocational training programmes in the custodial centre while a few of the inmates (27.3%) stated that vocational training programmes were inadequate. The findings are in line with the view of Igbo (2007) who posited that vocational programmes are designed to inculcate discipline as well as respect for rule for law and order. The analysis of inmate's description and access to vocational training programmes reveals that majority of the inmates (53.3%) stated that their access to vocational training programmes was good compared to a few of the inmates (30.7%) who stated that vocational training programmes were very good. An overview of the results above shows that majority of the inmates had access to vocational training. (Table 9).**
- **Vocational training is very important for inmates in custodial centres and some findings corroborate the assertion of Kotsikis (2007) who stated that vocational education aims at the acquisition of qualifications which may be in line certain profession, an art which is likely to make available the needed training and the required skills such as technical knowledge which will ensure that the inmates will be able to exercise a profession, an art, freely or individually at their age and training level. Additional view is upheld by Oyebolu (2011) who believed that vocational skills are seen to be very vital for individual success. The above view is also in line with the assertion of Agbiokoro (2010) who posits that vocational training is a foundation for national improvement and poverty eradication. Thus, "vocational education and training signals both creation of different and special way of training and a whole field of learning. In general terms, "this type of education refers mostly to manual professions opposed to the cultivation of the mind" (Anyanwu, Onyechi, Adikwu, Ezegbe & Otu, 2018:15312).**
- **Respondents were asked about the availability of class rooms. Table 11 reveals that more than half of the inmates (86.0%) stated that they had access to class rooms. Further findings revealed that only a few of the inmates (14.0%) stated that they**

had no access to class rooms. It can be deduced from the above result that class rooms in the custodial centre were not sufficient. However, Ogbaka, Ewelum and Apiti (2017) stated that custodial centre education is seen as a replaced strategy that will assist inmates to exit the custodial centre with additional skills and make themselves available for possible employment upon regaining freedom. However, the above findings contradict the assertion of Ogbaka *et al* (2017) as majority of the inmates were not exposed to class room facilities. Another striking result revealed that the majority of the inmates (78.6%) stated that they were dissatisfied with the class rooms in the custodial centre while a few of the inmates (2.7%) stated that they were satisfied with class rooms in the custodial centre. The findings show that the majority of the respondents are not satisfied with the classrooms and this can affect their ability to learn. The above results show a disparity on the perception of inmates on availability of class rooms in the custodial centre. Otodo and Ugwuoke (2015) were of the view that additional rehabilitations imply that an inmate will be engaged while serving jail term in custodial centre which is through formal educational programmes but on the contrary, data obtained in the course of this shows otherwise.

- Table 15 illustrates that the majority of the inmates (60.7%) stated that they were undergoing rehabilitation programmes compared to a minority of the inmates (39.3%) who stated that they were not undergoing any rehabilitation programmes. These show that more than half of the inmates are undergoing rehabilitation/vocational programmes. This shows that rehabilitation in custodial centres remains important, thus in line with the view of Otodo and Ugwuoke (2015) whose study on Jos Custodial Centre reveals the importance of education on reformation and rehabilitation of inmates. The analysis on inmate's satisfaction with rehabilitation programmes reveals that only (6.7%) of the inmates were very satisfied with rehabilitation compared to 32.0% who were only satisfied with the rehabilitation programmes. Additional findings revealed that half of the respondents (50.0%) stated that they were dissatisfied with rehabilitation programmes with an additional result which revealed that (5.3%) were very dissatisfied. These suggest that the level of satisfaction with rehabilitation programmes are equally tied with domination of one over the other in the custodial centre. (Table 16). One possible reason for some level of dissatisfaction by some inmates could be as a result of poor funding of the NCS. This is in line with Aliyu, Mustaffa and Nasir (2017) who were of the view that funds are not adequately made available to the NCS to purchase tools for correctional programmes.

- The analysis on inmate's frequency in attending vocational programmes reveals that majority of the inmates (76.7%) stated that they attended vocational programmes every day of the week, compared to a few of the inmates (5.3%) who stated that frequency at attending vocational programmes was twice in a week. Additional findings revealed that a few of the inmates (14.7%) stated that they attended vocational programmes thrice a week in the custodial centre. In respective of dissimilarity of views among the respondents, the findings reveal that most of the inmates attended vocational programme every day of the week. (Table 18). With divergent views by inmates on vocational programmes, idleness may be a general phenomenon in the custodial centre. In line with the assertion of Aduba (2007), it is possible that vocational programmes availability of several facilities is capable of exposing inmates in custodial centres on the attainment of skills which is capable of keeping them busy (inmates).
- Table 24 presents findings on whether inmates were subjected to maltreatment. A total of (68.7%) inmates stated that they were not subjected to maltreatment compared to (31.3%) of the inmates who stated that they were subjected to maltreatment. Maltreating any inmate violates his or her right. This particular finding contradicts the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 10: *all persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human persons*". Based on the findings one can conclude that majority of the inmates were not subjected to maltreatment compared to those who were maltreated. Inmates were asked about the kind of maltreatment they were subjected to by custodial centre officials.
- As shown in Table 25, 66.0% stated food denial as a kind of maltreatment, (94.0%) stated that verbal insults were the kind of maltreatment they were subjected to, 83.3% stated it was torture, compared to 74.7% who stated that it was punishment. The above findings are in line with the assertion of Okonkwo (1992) who opines that inmates in Nigeria are been treated as if he or she has no right, on the assumption prison security or for absolute imprisonment. This means that the majority of the inmates were subjected verbal insults compared to torture, punishment and food denial. The above findings contradict the Principle 1 of the Basic Principles of Treatment of Prisoners which provides that: *all prisoners shall be treated with the respect due to their inherent dignity and value of human beings*".
- Table 26 reveals that majority of the inmates (68.0%) stated that they were obliged to bribe the custodial centre officials to enjoy some facilities compared to a few inmates (32.0%) who stated that they were not obliged to bribe custodial centre

officials to enjoy some facilities. These mean that most of times the warders received bribe from the inmates in order to allow them to enjoy some facilities. The findings above are in line the views of Muhammad, Gwangndi and Hassan (2017) who jointly stated that "subjecting the inmates to compulsive forces of the state through the agency of prison often lead to scuffle between prison officials and inmates.

- Respondents were asked about situations they had to bribe custodial centre officials. Table 27 reveals that (66.7%) of the inmates stated that access to portable water was one of the reasons they had to bribe custodial centre officials, 53.3% of the inmates stated that it was visit. Additional findings revealed that 52.7% of the inmates stated access to medication while 74.7% of the inmates stated room allocation was one of the reasons they had to bribe custodial centre inmates. Although responses indicated that access to portable water, visit and access to medication are situations that necessitate bribery, room allocation is the most common of all. It should be taken into cognizance, that "*any kind of maltreatment of inmates whether genuine or perceived may lead to a united response which may in some cases be hostile and violent and can lead to riots and jail* (Muhammad et al, 2017:78)

Conclusion

From the analysis of the data obtained in the course of this study on rehabilitation potentials of the NCS and from perspective of inmates, it can be concluded that there is disparity on inmate's perceptions on rehabilitation strategies. It is also obvious that majority of the inmates are dissatisfied with the existing rehabilitation and vocational programmes in the custodial centre compared to inmates who may be satisfied with the rehabilitation potentials of the NCS in the study area. This may amount to idleness amongst inmates and could be responsible for high rate of recidivism. According to some selected findings, rehabilitation potentials may be deemed inadequate although concerted efforts were being made by the NCS in the study area.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are made:

- Government should ensure that there should be monthly or quarterly review of existing rehabilitation facilities in the study area.
- Attempts should be made to develop a frame work to widen the rehabilitation potentials of the NCS in the study area.
- Problems bedeviling the rehabilitation potentials of the NCS should be improved upon.

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