

ASSESSMENT OF INTERNAL FACTORS AFFECTING CORRECTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICE INMATES IN ANAMBRA STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

Across various climes and epochs, there have always existed established patterns of dealing with people who apparently fail to conform to the acceptable mores of the society hence, the establishment of modern Correctional Service Centre. This paper assessed the internal factors affecting correction and sustainable development of inmates in Aguata and Onitsha Correctional Service Centres of Anambra State, Nigeria. The theoretical orientation is pinned on the Marxian theory of social conflict. Mixed methods design was employed. The population of the study is one thousand, two hundred and two (1,202) staff and inmates of Aguata and Onitsha Centres, and the sample size is 301. This was statistically generated using Taro Yamane formular. Multi-stage sampling procedure was used in selecting the respondents. The quantitative data were processed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software and were analysed using frequency distribution tables, percentages and charts. Chi-square (χ^2) inferential statistics was used for hypotheses testing. Descriptive quotes culled from proceedings of the indepth interviews were used to analyze the qualitative data. The paper found amongst others that staff briefing of inmates on matters affecting them (effective communication), inmates use of goodwill of prison officials to meet some of their pressing needs, unhygienic state of the correctional centres, inadequate feeding and clothing of inmates and inhumane attitude of officials towards inmates were found to be the major internal factors influencing the correction of inmates. The chi-square result shows that there is a significant difference in the views of the staffs and inmates of the centres regarding the influence of availability of training facilities on correctional functions of the centres as p-value (.012) is < .05 sig. level. The study concluded that until these are upturned through careful application of proactive measures, the system would not only continue to suffer some setbacks but sustainable development of the inmates and other services would be a mirage. Therefore, it recommended amongst others that there should be compulsory training and retraining of prison staff so as to acquaint them with international best practices on prison management and correctional roles. This will help the staff to be abreast with modern practices and relationship with inmates enhanced. Again, skilled trainers on areas of tailoring, soap/shoe making, wood-

work and some other vocational areas should be employed and staffed to be training the inmates. Where the government may consider this as an employment burden the prison staff can be made to undergo such trainings and possessing of those skills made a prerequisite (added advantage) for subsequent recruitment of prison staff.

Keywords: Correction, inmates, internal factors, prison, reformation.

Introduction

Across various climes and epochs, there have always existed established patterns of dealing with social deviants or those who fail to conform to the acceptable mores of a society. Societies have used distinct patterns of punishment to correct and deter people from going against their norms and values which exist for the maintenance of order (Igbo, 2010). In 399BC for instance, Socrates at the age of 70 was condemned to death for belligerently corrupting the youths of Athens and mocking the city's gods. He was subsequently executed by being forced to drink the hemlock, a slow acting poison (The Prison Transformation Digest, 2010). According to Little (1999), in 1757 Robert Francis Damien was sentenced to be publicly slaughtered in Paris for an assassination attempt on King Louis XV. Slaughtering him was adjudged a commensurate punishment for the attempted treason (Scmalleger & Snykla, 2010).

In recent past, there has been a paradigm shift from capital punishment like execution to reformation, rehabilitation and reintegration into the society. Modern prison services emphasize reformation and rehabilitation of inmates. Orakwe (2011) made an inventory of the correctional facilities existing within and outside the Nigeria correctional service centres. He observed that the centres were designed to have schools, workshops, farms and other agricultural projects as well as industries to give inmates the opportunity to acquire skills so that on leaving the centres, they will depend on these skills to earn a living and shun crime. The Nigeria correctional service centres do this through its Inmate Training and Resettlement Project (ITRP). The NPS-ITRP is expected to use the skills acquisition strategy to empower inmates, so that on discharge they can have skills to fall back on. There is also expected to be Adult Remedial Educational Program (AREP) in these centres which is to enable those who are illiterate to access education, and those in secondary school to continue to tertiary institution. There are also vocational workshops meant to train inmates on woodworks, cabinet, metal, tailoring, electrical/electronics, workshops, barbing, laundry and saloon. Unfortunately, these trainings and services are often not given as expected (Temibiage, 2010).

This deprivation and non impactful correction on inmates appear to be as a result of staff nonchalant attitudes and corruption, inmates' hostile behavior, unhygienic state of the centres in the country and lack of adequate/qualified skilled personnel. It is in view of the aforementioned issues that this paper examines an assessment of internal factors affecting

correction and sustainable development of correctional service inmates in Anambra State, Nigeria.

Study Hypothesis

The hypothesis below was designed to guide this work.

H₀: Correctional service staff and inmates will not differ in their perception of availability of training facilities as influencing correction of inmates.

H₁: Correctional service staff will differ in their perspective of availability of training facilities as influencing correction of inmates.

Conceptual Clarifications

Concept of Prison (Correctional Service Centres)

The concept of prison has been treated from various perspectives which include structural and functional dimensions. McCorkle and Korn (1954) described a prison as a physical structure in a geographical location where a number of people living under highly specialized condition, adjust to the alternatives presented to them by the unique kind of social environments. Sykes (1958), Goffman (1961) and Okunola (1986) conceived prison as a place where people are highly secluded from the rest of the world with entirely new order and control. This conceptualizations advanced by scholars are limited towards understanding that, prison is a physical environment and could be described geographically or spatially. Different from the physical conception, there are other schools of thought that are based on function, framework and label. From the functional perspective, a prison is perceived as a place to punish offenders, where criminals that are removed from the society are dumped to protect the society from further criminal activities. It is a place to reform and teach offenders to be law abiding and productive after their release.

Okunola (1986) and Goffman (1961) defined the concept of prison in various ways. While Goffman (1961) conceptualized total institution as where there is a basic split between large classes of individuals who are restricted contact pattern where social mobility is restricted. Okunola (1986) on the other hand, sees a total institution as a place, (unlike the free environment or the community) that inhabits those who are socially rejected, insane, or mentally retarded. The labeling point of view on the other hand, stressed prison as a place for vagrants who may pose actual danger to social life in the larger society. This model pre-supposes that every person in the prison is a vagrant and irresponsible person. This was the position of Howard (1986) who demonstrated his view with what obtained during the ancient Greek times. With the recent developments, the general conception about the prisons is changing in the mind of some people with reference to the economic idea that people in the prisons are dregs of the society (Yongo, 2010). Imprisonment is most appropriately conceived as a formal perspective of inflicting pain on the individual.

This has been an aspect of the traditional criminal justice system in various societies in Nigeria (Obioha, 1995; Obioha 2002).

The Nigeria correctional service was established to manage criminals in prison yards. This constitutional function empowers the Nigerian prison services to:

- i. Keep convicted offenders (prisoners) in safe custody.
- ii. Keep awaiting trial inmates in custody until law courts ask for their production.
- iii. Punish offenders as instructed by the law courts.
- iv. Reform the convicted prisoners.
- v. Rehabilitate and re-integrate inmates who have completed their sentences in the prison (extract from prison training manual (Adetula, 2010).

Sustainable Development

In recent times, the concept of sustainability has received growing recognition, yet seems unfamiliar or new for most discipline. To some, the concept remains abstract and theoretical. However, Redcliff (1987, in Egbue, 2015) traced it back to the 'limits of growth' debates of the 1970s and the 1972 United Nations Stockholm Conference. He described it as a process of meeting human developmental goals (Ibekwe, Obiajuku, Ohi, Nwankwo, Mathias & Ufomba, 2018). To sustain an organization's capital base or societal resources for general good of all is a well accepted principle of development (Onyilofor, Nnabuife, Orogbu, Okafor, Onyeizugbe & Onyilofor, 2019). Yet, many societies appear to have not actually found their stand or path to sustainability. The International Institute for Sustainable Development in conjunction with Deloitte and Touche (2000) stated that if sustainability is to achieve its potential, it must be integrated into the planning and measurement systems. They stressed that sustainability means adopting strategies and activities that meet the needs of the people and society as a whole.

Brundtland Report (1987 in Ibekwe et al, 2018) defines sustainable development as a form of development which satisfies the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. They noted that at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit of 25th September 2015, world leaders adopted a set of seventeen Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), amongst which are to fight inequality and injustice. This recognizes the glaring injustices in many judicial processes; even those awaiting trials or that justice is being denied. It has been argued that many inmates in the Nigeria detention facilities are deprived access to justice and are serving terms that they ought to have been acquitted. Out of a total of 56,785 inmates that were admitted into the Nigerian prison in 2014, only 17,775 were said to have been convicted with the rest awaiting trial (Nigerian Prison Annual Report, 2014). Often, serving inmates do not get the expected correction while in the prison and usually come out worse than they went in. Temibiage (2010) observed that instead of reformation and

rehabilitation, prisons have become training grounds for inmates to become hardened criminals. This unfortunate situation has been attributed to some internal factors playing out.

Internal Factors affecting Correction of Prison Inmates

As there are usually external influences to certain phenomenon, so has correction of prison inmates being pointed to be constrained by certain internal factors. These internal influences are usually found or emanate within the prison walls.

Orakwe (2006) argues that Nigeria correctional centres were designed to take custody of convicted inmates for the purpose of their reformation and rehabilitation. A number of factors have continued to militate against the correction of these inmates in the correctional centres. While some of these factors are internal some others are external. Amongst the internal factors that have hampered the correction of inmates are; overcrowded nature of Nigeria correctional centers, lack of adequate correctional facilities. A few of these centers in Nigeria can boast of functional health facilities that can take care of inmates when they fall ill (Ajekwe, 1999). The situation is so alarming that when an inmate is diagnosed with HIV he/she is released on humanitarian grounds. The reason being that the centers lack both the infrastructural and human capacity to deal with such ailment.

There is also the challenge of inadequate facilities to teach inmates basic skills that will be beneficial to them when they leave the prison. Even where these facilities are available, there appears to be few qualified staff that can man them and teach the prisoners effectively. Also, is the constant conflict that brews between inmates and the prison staff (Ahmed, 2009). He argued that most often the inmates feel dissatisfied with the kind of treatment they receive from the prison authorities and have to engage in confrontations with them. Due to the corrupt nature of most prison officials, they often collude with some inmates to bring in illegal commodities like hard drugs into the correctional service centres, thus, not showing the right example for the inmates to emulate (Amstrong, 1978).

More so, the way inmates are classified in these centres is a major problem to correction. Some inmates are given preferential treatment in the prison walls. This goes a long way in constraining correction (Olawale, 2005). He noted that limited number of counselors, power struggle between prison staff, poor communication between prison staff and inmates, inequitable distribution of resources meant for prison staff, frequent movement of inmates and lack of discipline and poor attitude to work among the prison staff are other internal factors that constrain correction of inmates.

In a study in Calabar Prison on why recidivism is on the increase in Nigeria, Akam (1997) found that inmates get back into the society hardened after serving their sentences. This

suggests the fact that they were not properly reformed during their incarceration period. Similarly, Amaeze (2009) in a study at Sapele Prison attributed inmates' riot within prison walls to poor communication between prison staff and the inmates. Also, the inequitable distribution of resources meant for prisoners also makes correction difficult. However, Amaeze (2009) noted that prison congestion puts a lot of strain on maintenance cost, stretches the work force and various other facilities provided in the prison. The few facilities available become grossly inadequate for inmates rising population. However, Orakwe (2006) noted that through proper training of prison staff correction of inmates will be enhanced. This tries to suggest that despite the congestion and other possible internal factors, once there is effective training of staff on prison management the application of corrective measures on the inmates would possibly be actualized.

Theoretical Orientation: Marxian Theory of Social Conflict

Karl Marx is the father of the social conflict theory. In 1848 Marx made his most outstanding contribution to the conflict theory. The theory holds that social order is maintained by domination and power rather than consensus and conformity. According to the Marxian conflict theory, those with wealth and power try to hold on to it by any means possible, chiefly by suppressing the poor and the powerless. The theory also holds that the state of the economy, which is capitalist oriented and the means of controlling power in the society through democracy are attempts to control the masses rather than to a desire for social order (Charles, 2010). For Marx, punishment is one of the instruments of class struggle. It is used by the bourgeoisie (State) to consolidate its rule, the law and violation of which is seen as crime is elitist. The theory has however, been criticized for its tacit support for class inequality in the society.

Relating the theory to this paper, it becomes clear and more understandable that we have correctional centres scattered all over the country to keep those that go against established economic and political laws of those in power under check. As if keeping the offenders in prisons is not enough, they are further made to go through dehumanizing conditions. Capitalism dehumanizes the 'have nots and powerless'. This is with the sole aim of keeping them under check and preventing them from overthrowing the ruling class. This theory makes it clear that correctional service centres in Nigeria are more of punitive than corrective. Genuine prison reform is capital intensive. Selectivity in judicial sentencing is also reflected on how inmates are classified and treated.

Materials and Methods

Mixed Method design was employed. The Nigeria correctional service centres in Aguata and Onitsha, Anambra State were used. The state has four centres under the control of Nigeria Prisons Service (NPS). Aguata Correctional Centre is a medium security prison and was built around 1982 with operational housing capacity of about 85 inmates.

Presently, it houses more than 220 inmates. On the other hand, the Onitsha Federal Correctional Centre which is located around the Akpaka area of Onitsha is also a medium security prison but quite bigger than that of Aguata Prison. It was built by colonial masters in 1906 with a capacity for about 326 inmates but currently accommodates more than 793 inmates, 89.3 percent of which are awaiting trials. The two correctional centres are quite old and as have been canvassed by several Governors of the state for the centres to be relocated to more suitable places for expansion and conduciveness of the inmates. The choice of the two correctional centres was made for comparison of urban and rural influences on correction.

The population of the study is one thousand, two hundred and two (1,202) prison staff and inmates of Aguata and Onitsha prisons (excluding lifers, i.e. those on life sentence). Specifically, data showed that there were about 220 and 680 prison inmates; 73 and 229 prison staff within the two prisons respectively (Federal Prisons Service, Awka, Statistics Department, 2015). The sample size is 301. This was statistically generated using Taro Yamane formular (1967). Multi-stage sampling procedure was used in selecting the respondents. The sampling distribution is displayed in Table 1: Data were generated through the use of structured questionnaire and in-depth interviews. The quantitative data were processed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software and analysed using frequency distribution tables, percentages and charts. Chi-square (χ^2) inferential statistics was used for hypotheses testing. Descriptive quotes culled from proceedings of the indepth interviews were used to analyze the qualitative data. This entails the use of descriptive quotes culled from discussions held with participants. Quantitative and qualitative data on substantive issues investigated were jointly presented. This is to enhance observation of areas of their agreement and divergence.

Findings/Results

Table 1: Sampling of Inmates and Staff at the Aguata and Onitsha correctional centers

Onitsha Centre	Quota	Aguata Centre	Quota
Inmates	146	Inmates	90
Staff	34	Staff	31
Total	180	Total	121

Analysis of Internal Factors Influencing Correction of Prison Inmates

Table 2: Respondents' views on Internal Factors Influencing Correction of Prisoners

Internal Factors Influencing the correction of Prisoners	Aguata Prison (n =112)			Onitsha Prison (n =161)		
	Yes	No	Don't Know	Yes	No	Don't Know
Prison Staff ability in briefing inmates on any matter that affects them enhances correction	99 88.4%	11 9.8%	2 1.8%	101 62.7%	54 33.5%	6 3.7%
Inmates using the goodwill of prison officials to meet some of their pressing needs outside the prison walls enhances correction	81 72.3%	25 22.3%	6 5.4%	101 62.7%	43 26.7%	17 10.6%
Prison environment being kept very clean and hygienic enhances correction of inmates	102 91.1%	3 2.7%	7 6.3%	136 84.5%	17 10.6%	8 5.0%
Inmates being fed and clothed properly enhances inmates' correction	98 87.5%	7 6.3%	7 6.3%	133 82.6%	16 9.9%	12 7.5%
The attitude of prison officials influences the corrective capacity of prisoners	83 74.1%	12 10.7%	17 15.2%	140 87.0%	10 6.2%	11 6.8%

Table 2 shows that majority (88.4%) of the respondents in Aguata, and (62.7%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that staff briefing inmates on any matter that affects them enhances correction of the inmates while (9.8%) of the respondents in Aguata and (33.5%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that they did not think so. Also (1.8%) of the respondents in Aguata and (3.7%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that they did not know.

Table 2 also shows that majority (72.3%) of the respondents in Aguata and (62.7%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that inmates using the goodwill of prison officials to meet some of their pressing needs outside the prison wall enhances correction of inmates while (22.3%) of respondents in Aguata and (26.7%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that they did not think so while (5.4%) of the respondents in Aguata and (10.6%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that they did not know.

The table also shows that majority (91.1%) of the respondents in Aguata and (84.5%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that prison environment being kept clean and hygienic enhances correction of inmates while (2.7%) of the respondents in Aguata and (10.6%) in Onitsha

prisons indicated clean environment does not enhance correction of inmates while (6.3%) of respondents in Aguata and (5.0%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that they did not know.

The table also shows that majority (87.5%) of the respondents in Aguata and (82.6%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that inmates being fed and clothed properly enhances inmates correction while (6.3%) of the respondents in Aguata and (9.9%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that they did not know while (6.3%) in Aguata and (7.5%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that they did not know.

The table also shows that majority (74.1%) of the respondents in Aguata and (87.0%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that the attitude of prison officials influences the corrective capacity of inmates, while (10.7%) of the respondents in Aguata and (6.2%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that they did not think so while (15.2%) in Aguata and (6.8%) in Onitsha prisons indicated that they did not know. By implication, if the above factors are put in place, there would be a positive step towards the correction of the prisoners. In furtherance to these findings,

A 42year old male prison inmate IDI respondent in Aguata noted:

How can there be correction when we are treated like animals? We stay in a very unhygienic environment and also underfed. Many of us here can change within months if there is a positive step towards the correction; but what we experience here is a difficult situation that makes correction almost impossible. (Male, 42 years, Prison Inmate, Aguata Correctional Service Centre)

Also, attitude of prison officials was identified as a significant factor in enhancing the corrective function of prisons.

Yes, as prison officers, part of the training we have received is to know how to relate with inmates. As a prison officer, you are more or less a teacher, you have to prove to them that you are a role model by your attitude, by the way you behave and relate with them. It is more or less like a teacher-student relationship; one do not need to be very familiar with them before you can properly relate with them, but at the same time, one do not have to be very harsh. There should be a level of confidence they should have in one so that the corrective measures one is impacting on them can have some effect. If this is not done systematically, the corrective purpose may not be achieved. So the attitude of staff is very

important in the correction and reformation of inmates
(Male, 54year old, General Superintendent of Prisons,
Anambra State).

Another important internal factor taken into consideration is the periodic training of prison staff on the latest correctional programmes and skills in enhancing the correction of inmates. Thus, figure 1 shows the findings with respect to this:

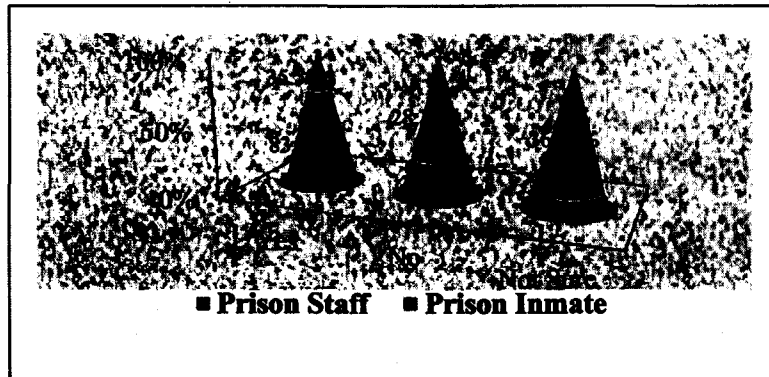


Fig. 1: Respondents' views on the periodic training of prison staff on the latest correctional programmes and skills as a factor enhancing correction of inmates.

The data in figure 1 show that majority of the inmates (36.4%) are not sure if the periodic training of prison staff on the latest correctional programmes and skills enhances the corrective capacity of prisons. Only 35.5% of them agreed to that while 28.1% of them disagreed to that. On the other hand, the prison staff were more likely to agree with this notion more than the prison inmates. 83.9% agreed that the periodic training of prison staff on the latest correctional programmes and skills enhances the corrective capacity of prisons. However, 10.7% of them disagreed to this while only 5.4% of them were not sure of it. This finding aligns with the qualitative findings obtained through the in-depth interview:

A Male 54year old prison Staff noted this:

....of course, there is the need for periodic training and retraining of the staff, not only in the prison but all other judicial arms. This is important because things are changing. Today we are talking about best global practices; that is practices that are acceptable globally within institutions. Without a periodic training of personnel, achieving these best global practices would not be possible. So, the periodic training of prison staff is very important to achieve the

purpose of prisons as a corrective institution.(Male, 54 years, Prison Staff, Onitsha Correctional Service Centre)

Another respondent made a similar contribution to the above as he said:

One of the major factors affecting us in this institution is staff training. The staff needs training and retraining because at the moment, internet services enhance global increase in knowledge. So there should be constant training and retraining of prison staffs for them to cope with the current reality. Where the staff is not well-trained, there would not be the possibility of achieving the corrective purpose of prison institution. There is also need to organize workshops and seminars where they will be exposed to contemporary methods of prison services so as to make the positive impacts in correcting the prisoners (Male, General Superintendent of Prisons, Anambra State).

In furtherance of the internal factors influencing the corrective capacity of the prison institutions, the respondents were asked to express their views on whether the availability of training facilities influences the possibility of prisoners' correction. Their responses are presented in figure 2 below:

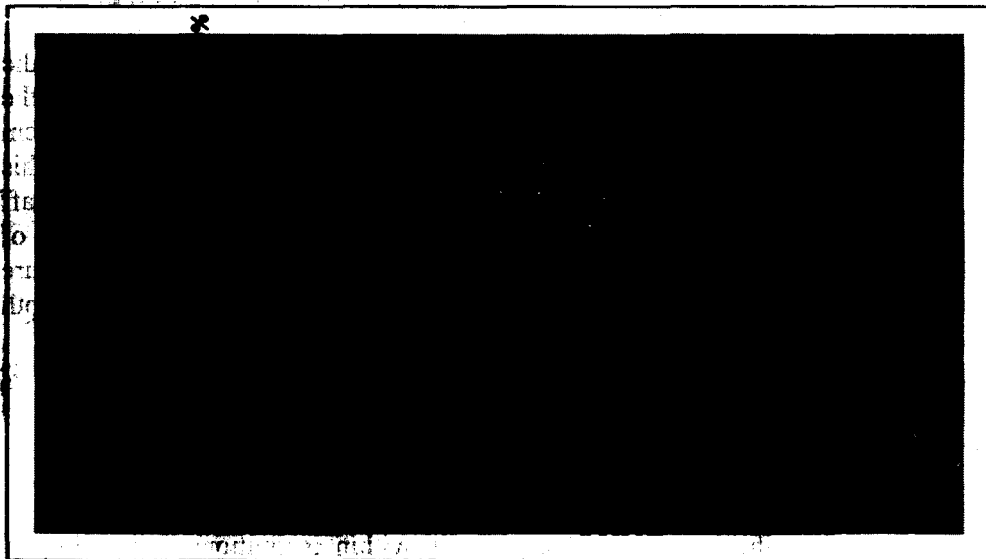


Fig. 2: Respondents' views on whether or not availability of training facilities influences the possibility of inmates' correction.

As shown in figure 2, amongst the prison staff, a majority of them (75.0%) were of the view that availability of training facilities influences the possibility of prisoners' correction. This view contrasts with the views of the prison inmates (49.8%) who affirm that the availability of training facilities does not influence the possibility of prisoners' correction. A male respondent also noted during an in-depth interview that:

The problem is not only making the facilities available. We have some equipment here, but we are not making efficient use of them because no one is teaching us with them. They should employ people to teach us skills like tailoring, shoe making, carpentry and others so that such equipments can be useful to us instead of bringing them and allowing them to spoil without use (Male Prison inmate, Aguata Prison).

Test of Hypothesis

H1: Correctional service staff will differ in their perspective of availability of training facilities as influencing correction of inmates.

Table 3: Chi-Square Test showing Prison Status of Respondents and their Perception of Availability of Training Facilities as Influencing Factor to Correction of Inmates

Prison Status	Availability of training facilities influences the possibility of prisoners' correction			Total	X ²
	Yes	No	Don't Know		
Prison Staff	42 (75.0%)	12 (21.4%)	2 (3.6%)	56 (100.0%)	X ² = 20.04, (N = 273), df = 2, P = .000
Prison Inmates	90 (41.5%)	108 (49.8%)	19 (8.8%)	217 (100.0%)	
Total	132 (48.4%)	120 (44.0%)	21 (7.7%)	273 (100.0%)	

Pearson Chi-Square test: Cal. 20.04, df=2, Asymp.sig= .000.

Table 3 shows result of the hypothesis and since the p-value (.000) is less than the assumed level of significance (.05), there exists a strong evidence to accept the alternate hypothesis (H₁). This implies that there is a significant difference in the views of prison staff and inmates on influence of training facilities on the correction of prisoners.

Discussion of Findings

The findings revealed that staff briefing of inmates on matters affecting them (effective communication), inmates use of goodwill of prison officials to meet some of their pressing needs, unhygienic state of the prisons, inadequate feeding and clothing of inmate and inhumane attitude of prison officials towards inmates were found to be some of the internal factors influencing the correction of prison inmates. This agrees with Olawale (2005) that limited number of counselors, power struggle between prison staff, poor communication between prison staff and inmates, inequitable distribution of resources meant for prison

staff, frequent movement of inmates, and lack of discipline and poor attitude to work among the prison staff constrain correction of inmates. The study also found that periodic training and retraining of prison staff would have a positive influence on the correctional functions of prisons. However, the study also found that availability of training facilities would have a positive influence on the correctional function if there is a commensurate employment of skilled trainers/teachers to train the prisoners on vocational skills required for their proper correction and reformation. The chi-square result shows that there is a significant difference in the views of the prison staffs and prison inmates regarding the influence of availability of training facilities on correctional functions of the prisons as p-value(.012) is < .05 sig. level. This suggests that the prison officials were more of agreeing that availability of training facilities has an influence on the correctional functions of prisons than prison inmates. This aligns with the findings of Orakwe (2011) that proper training of the prison staff will enhance the correction of inmates.

Conclusion

The inefficiencies observed in the Nigerian Prison system in a bid to perform her statutory function of correcting inmates formed the basis for this paper. Therefore, this paper assessed the internal factors affecting correction and sustainable development of prison inmates at Aguata and Onitsha prison in Anambra state. Having provided some theoretical and empirical perspectives on the factors influencing or constraining the corrective roles of the prisons, the paper submits that Nigeria prison system is plagued with myriads of internal challenges affecting its correctional functions. The paper concludes that until these are upturned through careful application of proactive measures, the system would not only continue to suffer some setbacks, but sustainable development of the inmates and prison services would be a mirage.

Recommendations

The paper recommends the following for possible policy implementation;

1. There is the need for compulsory training and retraining of prison staff so as to acquaint them with best international practices on prison management and correctional roles. This will help the staff to be abreast with modern practices and good relationship with inmates enhanced.
2. Skilled trainers on areas of tailoring, soap/shoe making, wood-work and some other vocational areas should be employed and staffed to be training prison inmates. Where the government may consider this as an employment burden the prison staff can be made to undergo such trainings and possessing of those skills made a prerequisite (added advantage) for subsequent recruitment of prison staff.
3. Inmates should be made to imbibe the culture of hygiene and participate in sanitation exercises within the prison walls, possibly every Saturday without brutal force or coercion.

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