Leveraging Digital Cameras in Combating theft within the University Environment: A case study of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka

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Abstract

This study examined the need for installation of digital cameras on every street of a university as a strategic measure to combat theft within university environments, using Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka as a case study. To explain this study and achieve these objectives, the researcher anchored this study on the technology acceptance model and adopted the descriptive survey design, respectively. The researcher determined the sample size of this study (381) using Meyer's (1973) sample size determination formula while the samples were selected using the multi-stage sampling procedure. Using the multi-stage sampling procedure, the researchers randomly selected two (2) Faculties (Engineering and Arts) from which two (2) Departments (Civil engineering and Mechanical Engineering; Religion and Linguistics) were randomly selected for the study. For data collection, the researchers used a close-ended, valid, and reliable questionnaire to collect data and used descriptive statistics (frequency tables and simple percentages) to analyze the data. From this study, the researchers found among others, that the undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, believe that digital cameras can help to combat theft within the school and its environs to a very high extent. Based on the findings, it was recommended, among others, that the Federal Government should provide adequate security for Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka especially and other universities at large, for the students at the Universities not to feel abandoned and continue to live in fear.

Keywords: cameras, theft, university, technology, model

Introduction

The issue of theft in university environments has become a pressing concern, affecting not only the safety and security of students, faculty, and staff but also the overall academic atmosphere. Universities, as open environments, present unique security challenges due to their large and diverse populations, multiple access points, and extensive physical spaces (Taylor & Harrell, 1996). The traditional security measures, including physical patrols and basic alarm systems, often prove inadequate in addressing these challenges effectively (U.S.

Department of Justice, 2003). In this context, leveraging digital camera technology presents a promising solution to enhance security and mitigate theft in university settings (Welsh & Farrington, 2009; Ratcliffe, Taniguchi, & Taylor, 2009).

The word "university" is derived from the Latin phrase "universitasmagistrorum et scholarium" meaning "community of teachers and scholars" (Nnorom *et al.,* 2020). The word "universitas" (Latin, "a whole") refers in general to "a number of persons associated into one body, a society, company, community, guild, corporation, etc. (Colish, 1997 cited in Nnorom *et al.,* 2020). According to Daramola, and Amos (2016) cited inNnorom *et al.,* (2020), a university, first and foremost, is a place of learning that supports students to achieve professional knowledge, skills and understanding. However, there has been a paradigm shift in the concept and practice of university management and leadership pattern at the turn of this century. The University is one of the most complex organizations in our society, with very diverse human resources corresponding to the professional fields they are active in, its diverse culture and its involvement in the community life and its mission to train specialized human resources, necessary for the development of the society and for social renewal (Nnorom *et al.,* 2020).

However, a university with high records of criminal cases no doubt will lose its' reputation and this situation will lower the enrolment and withdrawal of some donors (Downes, 2017). Nigeria has recorded several cases of crimes including killings and victimization by cult groups, assassination, murder, and other violent acts (Asiyai & Oghuvbu, 2020). Worried about unethical practices and increasing criminal activities in Nigeria, Ifedili and Ifedili (2011) decried the high incidence of crime and violent acts which have become so rampant in tertiary institutions in Nigeria. More worrisome is the acts of victimization, assault, sexual harassment, and armed robbery which have posed serious problems in the tertiary institutions (Chirasha & Mahapa, 2012; Fagbohungbe et al., 2012). In view of the above and in consideration of the fact that our universities have to be secured for learning and development to fully take place in them, this study, therefore, sought to ascertain how digital cameras can be leveraged by Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka to combat theft within the university and its environs.

Nnamdi Azikiwe University, located in Awka, Nigeria, is one of the leading institutions of higher learning in the South-East region. With a large student body and numerous faculties, the university faces considerable challenges in maintaining a secure environment. Over the past few years, there has been a noticeable increase in theft incidents within the campus, ranging from petty thefts to more serious property crimes. This trend has caused financial and property losses among the university community. The use of digital cameras for security purposes has been extensively studied and documented in various settings, including urban environments, commercial establishments, and educational institutions. Research indicates that the presence of surveillance cameras can act as a significant deterrent to criminal activities, including theft. A study by Welsh and Farrington (2009) found that CCTV (closed-circuit television) systems are effective in reducing crime in public spaces, particularly in car parks and residential areas. Similarly, Ratcliffe, Taniguchi, and Taylor (2009) demonstrated that the deployment of surveillance cameras in urban settings led to a notable decrease in property crimes.

In the context of educational institutions, surveillance cameras have been shown to enhance security by providing continuous monitoring of key areas, thus deterring potential offenders, and assisting in the swift resolution of incidents. For instance, a study conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice (2003) highlighted the role of surveillance cameras in improving school safety by reducing incidents of vandalism, theft, and other criminal activities. Additionally, research by Taylor and Harrell (1996) emphasizes the importance of strategic camera placement and the integration of surveillance systems with other security measures to maximize their effectiveness. For over two decades to date, it is observed that there is persistent insecurity in the universities in Nigeria, hence the need to combat it by making the campus security personnel to be more tactical, pro-active, and professional in campus security management (Temitope, Owoyemi, Obi & Oluwajuyigbe, 2020). It is no more an exaggeration that insecurity has taken several dimensions in several institutions of higher learning in Nigeria while the strategies of tackling it remains one of the major qualifications through which a new university management is inaugurated (Ahamefula, 2013 cited in Temitope *et al.,* 2020).

Traditional security measures, such as regular patrols by security personnel and the use of manual logs to monitor access points, have proven insufficient in curbing the rise in thefts (U.S. Department of Justice, 2003). These methods are often reactive rather than proactive, responding to incidents after they occur rather than preventing them (Taylor & Harrell, 1996). Additionally, the vast and open nature of university campuses makes it difficult for security personnel to monitor all areas effectively. Therefore, there is a need for more advanced and efficient security solutions that can provide continuous surveillance, deter potential thieves, and aid in the quick resolution of theft incidents (Welsh & Farrington, 2009; Ratcliffe et al., 2009).

A University is a highly developed community. The University of Lagos Strategic Planning Committee (2002) cited in Temitope *et al.,* (2020), described university as a community of scholars all of whom are in continuous learning process. The University has an inalienable right, indeed a responsibility, to protect itself, the numerous students entrusted in its care, staff and other internal and external customers who visit the universities from all forms of dangers that assail the institutions daily as a matter of course (Ajayi, 2014). This is where security comes into play. University campus as we all know is a small city with students as its own citizens. However, unlike the deployment and use of police force and security personnel in a State, the university management limits its own to security officers and a very few policemen who most of the time do not wield arms and weapons, to its premises (Temitope *et al.,* 2020). This is because students in Nigerian university campuses are left vulnerable to the threat of criminal-minded individuals (Ayodele, 2012).

Safety, however, remains the goal of every man on earth. In everything human beings pursue, they do so to enjoy safety at present or in the future (Abiodun et al., 2018). The greatest fear of every man is that his immediate environment is no longer safe or secured for him; he is always at risk. If this remains the phobia of Nigerian students on school campuses, then there is a serious problem for us to solve (Temitope *et al.,* 2020). There are numerous security threats in our university campuses today ranging from cult activities, gang-raping of female students, kidnapping for ransom, students' riots, religious mayhem, stealing, assassinations, money rituals among others (Abiodun *et al,* 2018). All these problems have seriously proved a major concern for every security officer on university

campus. For instance, cultists possess, in many cases, more deadly arms and weapons than university security personnel to the extent that many of those cult groups engage supernatural powers in their nefarious activities. They also use hard drugs and could behave in irrational manners while under the influence of the hard drugs (Nwannennaya & Abiodun, 2017).

Besides, female students develop the fear of moving around when it is dark on campus to avoid being gang-raped, robbed of their items or being caught up by cult boys (Temitope *et al.,* 2020). According to them, the various cases of theft in hostel rooms and armed robbery have also revealed that the campuses are not secure any longer. Stealing and poaching of items in various hostel rooms have remained a rising tradition despite efforts of the Student Union Security Committees and that of University Security (Ahamefula, 2013 cited in Temitope *et al.,* 2020). It is established that majority of students in Nigerian universities are youth falling within the ages of 15 and 30 years (Temitope*et al.,* 2020). During this stage of life, Temitope *et al.,* (2020) pointed out that they develop a thirst for youth adventure; indulging in cult activities, prostitution, smoking and come under the influence of drugs and form bad gangs.

In Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, for instance, there have been cases of theft in recent years. In an ugly incident off-campus, Obianeri (2023) reported January last year that a 200-level student at the school, who was from the Department of Philosophy, identified simply as Daniel, was shot dead while trying to recover his phone from armed robbers in his lodge. In the same month and year, Opalim (2023) cited the Nation newspaper as reporting that no fewer than 17 students at the school sustained varying degrees of injury during a midnight robbery attack of off-campus hostels located along Ifite road, Awka. Due to this incident and other similar incident of theft and armed robbery within and outside the school, Ujumadu (2023) reported that the university engaged the services of a private security agency to assist in fighting crime within the areas inhabited by the students of the institution. Despite taking this measure, Lambo (2024) reported that yet another incident of alleged armed robbery occurred within the university premises and that it claimed the life of a fresh graduate of the Department of Quantity Surveying, who was identified as Ifunanya Miracle, aka Bliss, after she jumped out of a moving tricycle with her friend, Peace, to avoid being

robbed by a passenger beside them who later claimed that he only pranked them. Though this study is more concerned about theft against students, there are cases of cars parked either by staff, students or visitors been broken into and belongings of the victim taken away. Cable wires have been stolen as well. These are just few cases out of other cases of theft within the school and armed robbery incidents that have occurred off-campus.

At the same time, it is observed that there is annual teeming population of students admitted into our universities nowadays, thereby increasing the existing students' population (Ayodele, 2012).As a result of this, there is need for adequate security beef-up on campuses to checkmate all criminal acts and behaviors of students (Temitope *et al.,* 2020).Since digital cameras are among the security equipment that can be deployed to ensure adequate security in university campuses and their surrounding areas, this study, therefore, seeks to ascertain the views of undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University on the usage of digital cameras in combating theft within the school and its environs.

Statement of the Problem

Every university has a responsibility to protect itself, the students, staff, visitors, and stakeholders who visit the university for one form of transaction or the other from all forms of danger (Uduak et al., 2020). The National School Board Association (2013) cited in Uduak *et al.,* (2020), identified the responsibility of all schools to include, giving adequate safety and security against disasters, accidents, injuries, as well as prepare proactive plans that investigate perceived threats and disasters.

Though the management of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka has put in place certain measures to zero theft and other security challenges within the school environment and off-campus, there is still need for installation of digital cameras on the streets of the university environment due to its large and diverse populations, multiple access points, and extensive physical spaces (Taylor & Harrell, 1996). The robbery-alleged prank related death that happened in the university on 9th June 2024 (Punch, 2024) and other forms of insecurity in the institution and its environs is no doubt drawing negative attention to the school. Just recently, a student jumped to her death while trying to avoid being robbed by a fellow

student who claimed that he only pranked his victim and her friend when the incident occurred inside a tricycle, they boarded within the school premises. This is just one out of many similar incidents which often go unreported. Students now live in fear of the unknown when they should be focusing on the academic activities that they are in the school for. In most cases of insecurity in Nigeria, authorities are always accused of being more reactive on issues and less proactive.

To curb the menace of theft as described above and other forms of insecurity threatening to bring the school to bad repute, it is important to ascertain whether digital cameras can be adopted alongside other measures by the school management. This study therefore aims to find out what the views of undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe are on its usage to combat theft within the university environment.

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study are:

1. To find out the level of awareness of the menace of theft within Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka and its environs among the undergraduate students.
2. To ascertain the extent undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, have been victims of theft within the school and its environs.
3. To ascertain the views of the undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, on the use of digital cameras combating theft within the school and its environs.

Research Questions

The following research questions guided this study:

1. What is the level of awareness of the menace of theft within Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka and its environs among the undergraduate students?
2. To what extent have undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, been victims of theft within the school and its environs?

3. What are the views of the undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, the use of digital cameras in combating theft within the school and its environs?

Empirical Review of Literature

In their examination of the security challenges and control measure in six (6) colleges of education libraries in North-East, Nigeria, Umar, Umar and Umar (2023) adopted the survey research design and administered structured questionnaires to 20 librarians, library officers and library assistants from Federal College of Education (Technical), Potiskum, Federal College of Education, Yola, College of Education, Zing, College of Education, Azare and College of Education, Waka-Biu. They analyzed the data they collected using frequency tables and simple percentages. From this study, they found, among others, that Information Communication Technology (ICT) is not used to safeguard library collections in the libraries because of poor power supply. Based on their findings, they recommended, among others, that school managements should provide multiple copies of materials to meet the information needs of their users. This study was carried out in the Northeast while the current study was carried out in the South-East State of Anambra.

In an investigation of the effects of theft and mutilation of information resources in university libraries in Benue State, Nigeria, Ozowa and Agada (2022) adopted the descriptive survey design and administered copies of a 4-point Likert scale questionnaire to 300 library users from Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi, Benue State University and University of Mkar. They analyzed the data they collected using mean and standard deviation. From this study, it was found, among others, that theft and mutilation cause frustration to librarians and library users and cause shortage of library materials in the three libraries. Based on the findings, it was recommended, among others, that the university administration should provide more security gadgets to check information resources like textbooks, reference materials, computers, magazines, projects/thesis/dissertations among others as they are prone to theft and mutilation in

university libraries in Benue State. This study focused on theft in university libraries in Benue State while the current study focused on theft within Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Anambra State and its environs.

While investigating the extent of students' involvement in security breaches in Kogi State, Nigeria, Toluhi (2021) adopted the survey research design involving the use of questionnaire (for students) and interview (for security agencies) for data collection from the undergraduate students of Kogi State Polytechnic, Lokoja, Kogi State University, Ayingba, Federal College of Education, Okene and some security agencies in Kogi State. He used frequency tables and simple percentages for the analysis of the data he collected. From this study, it was found, among others, that students are the key players in crimes in Kogi State while poverty, drug/substance abuse, peer pressure, bitter/do-or-die politics among others, are factors responsible for students' involvement in crimes in Kogi State. Based on his findings, he recommended, among others, that the security architecture of higher institutions should incorporate technologies and other such measures that could make the option of crime less appealing/enticing. This study focused on crimes in the whole of Kogi State while the current study focused on the crime of theft in Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Anambra State and its environs.

In the investigation of the effect of insecurity of school environment on the academic performance of secondary school students in Imo State, Nigeria, Ojukwu (2017) adopted the descriptive survey design and used a valid and reliable questionnaire to obtain data from senior secondary school students in the 27 Local Government Areas of the State in the 2014/2015 academic year. He used simple random, proportionate stratified random and purposive sampling techniques to select the 1000 students he studied. For the analysis of the data he collected, he used frequency tables, mean and standard deviation and used independent samples t-test to test his hypotheses. From this study, it was found, among others, that insecurity of school environment significantly affects the academic performance of secondary school students while students' gangsterism, smoking of Indian hemp, abuse of other hard drugs, cult and related violent activities were some of the factors that constituted insecurity of the school environment. Based on the findings of this study, it was recommended, among others, that owners of schools and other stakeholders in education

should take bold steps to fence and protect school environments from intruders to ensure the safety of the students. This study focused on secondary school students while the current study focused on university students.

Literature Gap

The review shows that past researchers have only focused on security challenges and control measure in college of education libraries, effects of theft and mutilation of information resources in university libraries, extent of students' involvement in security breaches, effects of theft and vandalism of library information resources and its control mechanisms in academic libraries and the effect of insecurity of school environment on the academic performance of secondary school students. Nonetheless, there appears to be a dearth of studies focusing specifically on leveraging digital cameras to combat theft within the University environment. This represents, in the opinion of the researchers, a knowledge gap which the current study filled.

Theoretical Framework

Technology Acceptance Model

Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) was developed by Fred Davis and Richard Bagozzi in1989. It is an information system theory which explains how users come to accept and use a technology. TAM postulates that the acceptance and use of a particular technology by an individual depends on how the individual perceives that technology to be useful to him (Okorji, 2020).Factors such as Perceived Usefulness (PU), which include relative advantage, attached prestige and cost effectiveness, and Perceived-Ease-of-Use (PEOU), are significant in user's choice of acceptance of technology (Olorede & Oyewole, 2013, p.4).

Giving his views on the postulations of TAM, Bagozzi (2007, p.248) cited in Olorede and Oyewole, (2013, p.4) explains that people could be reluctant to accept new technologies because of the technologies' complexity and element of uncertainty which exist in the minds of decision makers with respect to the successful adoption of the technology.

Since TAM postulates that the acceptance and use of a particular technology by an individual depends on how the individual perceives that technology to be useful to him, it

means that the acceptance of digital cameras (technology) by both undergraduate students and management of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka (UNIZIK) and its usage by the latter (school management) to combat theft in the university, is dependent on whether the former (undergraduate students) perceive digital cameras (technology) to be useful in combating theft within the school and its environs.

Method

For this study, the researcher used the descriptive survey design and investigated Nnamdi Azikiwe University undergraduate students whose population is 34, 650 according to the administrative unit of the school. The researcher determined the sample size of this study (381) using Meyer's (1973) sample size determination formula while the samples were selected using the multi-stage sampling procedure. Using the multi-stage sampling procedure, the researchers randomly selected two (2) Faculties (Engineering and Arts) from which two (2) Departments (Civil engineering and Mechanical Engineering; Religion and Linguistics) were randomly selected for the study. For data collection, the researcher used a close-ended, valid and reliable questionnaire to collect data and used descriptive statistics (frequency tables and simple percentages) to analyze the data.

Data Presentation and Analysis

4.1 Demographic Data of the Respondents

Table 1: Demographic characteristics of the respondents

Items	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
18-20	67	18
21-23	176	46
24 and above	138	36
Total	381	100

Sex		
Male	187	49
Female	194	51
Total	381	100
Marital status		
Single	327	86
Married	54	14
Total	381	100

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024

The table above shows the demographic characteristics of undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. It shows that out of the 381 students that were studied, 18% of the students are between 18 and 20 years old, 46% are between 21 and 23 while 36% are 24 years and above. The table also shows that 49% of the students are male while 51% are female. Out of the 381 students that were studied, 86% are single while 14% are married.

Analysis of Data from the Research Questions

Research Question 1: What is the level of awareness of the menace of theft within Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka and its environs among the undergraduate students?

Table 2: The level of awareness of the menace of theft within Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka and its environs among undergraduate students at the school

Items	Frequency	Percentage
Very high	241	63
High	136	36
Low	4	1

Very low	0	0
Total	381	100

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024

The table above shows the students' level of awareness of the menace of theft within Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka and its environs. It shows that out of the 381 students that were studied, the level of awareness of the menace among 63% of the students is very high while the level of awareness of the menace among 36% of the students is high. The same table also shows that the level of awareness of the menace among 1% of the students is low while none of the students indicated that their level of awareness of the menace is very low. Based on this finding, therefore, the level of awareness of the menace of theft within Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, among the undergraduate students at the school is very high.

Research Question 2: Have undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, been victims of theft within the school and its environs?

Table 3: The rate at which undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, have been victims of theft within the school and its environs.

Items	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	215	56
No	166	44
Total	381	100

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024

The table above shows the rate at which undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka have been victims of theft within the school and its environs. It shows that out of the 381 students that were studied, 56% of the students have been victims of theft within the school and its environs while 44% of the students have not been victims of theft within the school and its environs. Based on this finding, therefore, the undergraduate

students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, that were studied have been victims of theft within the school and its environs.

Research Question 3: To what extent do undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, believe that the use of digital cameras can help to combat theft within the school and its environs?

Table 4: The extent to which undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, believe that the use of digital cameras can help to combat theft within the school and its environs.

Items	Frequency	Percentage
Very high	266	70
High	112	29
Low	3	1
Very low	0	0
Total	381	100

Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024

The table above shows that the extent the undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, believe that the use of digital cameras can help to combat theft within the school and its environs. It shows that out of the 381 students that were studied, 70% believe that digital cameras can help to combat theft within the school and its environs to a very high extent while 29% of the students believe that digital cameras can help to a high extent. Out of the same 381 students that were studied, 1% of the students believe that digital

cameras can help to combat theft within the school and its environs to a low extent while none of the students believes that digital cameras can help to combat theft to a very low extent. Based on this finding, therefore, the students believe that digital cameras on strategic places and on streets of the university can help to combat theft within Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, and its environs to a very high extent.

Discussion

From this study, it was found that the level of awareness of the menace of theft within Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, and its environs among undergraduate students at the school is very high. While this is an indication that the students are highly security conscious, this finding does not speak well of the school as an institution of learning. It shows that the students of the school are not safe and gives credence to the findings of Abdullahi and Orukpe (2016) and Enang (2019) who observed that theft, cultism, kidnapping, rape, room break-in, office break-in, cell-phone snatching, stealing, violent demonstration by students, vandalism and other forms of assaults are major security challenges on campuses. For Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, to cease from being seen as having the major challenge of theft, the school management should prioritize the security of the students by putting adequate security measures in place to protect students of the school and rid the school of people and things that promote theft. If this is done and done right, the school will be better for it.

It was also found from this study that the undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, that were studied have been victims of theft within the school and its environs. This experience of theft must be one of the things on the mind of Uduak et al (2020) when they stated that recent happenings have shown that university environments are not so safe for the students and for the school personnel any more due to some threatening security challenges. It is unfortunate that undergraduate students of Nnamdi

Azikiwe University, Awka, are experiencing theft. Beyond prioritizing the safety of the students, the school management should collaborate with student bodies in the school in the implementation of security measures. This is for the management to fully understand the plight of the students and know how to effectively protect them from the danger of theft.

It was finally found that the undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, believe that digital cameras can help to combat theft within the school and its environs to a very high extent. This may be considered their opinion but should not be taken for granted since the students play an important role in the overall functioning of the university and have a major influence in decisions that affects the school culture (Ogunode et al., 2020). By not taking this finding for granted, the students will feel that their opinions count for something and will be willing to work with the school management to curb the menace of theft within the school and its environs. It is when everyone within the school and its environs is safe that proper learning and development will take place within the school. While this will make the school attractive to potential students and investors, adequate safety of the students and the school cannot be achieved without the collaborative effort of everyone within the school and its environs.

Conclusion

In this study, it was established that there is the security challenge of theft within Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka and its environs. Because of this security challenge, some students at the school have died while others sustained various degrees of injuries at one point or the other. To combat this threat, the school must be intentional in its fight against theft by not paying lip service to the issue of security of the students and their properties.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the study recommends that:

1. The Federal Government should provide adequate security for Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. This is for the students at the school not to feel abandoned and continue to live in fear.

2. The management of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, should take the overall security of the students and the school seriously by putting necessary security measures in place and seeing to their full implementation. This is for the students at the school not to be forced to take laws into their hands.

3. The management of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, should install digital cameras in all streets and strategic places as this viewed by students as capable combating the menace of theft in the school to a high extent.

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