

**USING SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION AS A TOOL FOR DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALIZATION IN IKA NATION, DELTA STATE**

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Abstract

Every citizen in the society needs to identify with the political world around him and this to a larger extent begins when the individual starts to feel that they are part of a wider political community. This is made possible through the socialization process which in turn facilitates the young people to gain an understanding of their democratic world through their interaction with adults and the media alike. This to a large extent means that Nigerian democracy is still considered to be young being that the existence of the country as a country is about six decades. And within this period of existence it has witnessed military Junta's rule which to a large extent has disrupted the entire democratic system and development. Democracy is widely accepted as a viable system of government in the world and democratic socialization of citizens in any democratic dispensation is germane. The term Democratic socialization within the context of this paper is not used explicitly until the publication of Herbert Hyman's literature synthesis in 1959. Since its inception however, it has been used to enable individuals in society to learn and frequently internalize a political lens of how power is arranged and how the world around them particularly Nigeria is organized. Over time these perception in turn shapes and defines individuals to know who they are and who governs them and most importantly how they should be governed in the political and economic institutions in which they live. This paper intends to examine how Nigeria as a society has come of age under democracy and its ideologies of governance which seems to have drastically increased the chances of individuals acquiring negative values on the part of citizens of supporting democracy in their lives endeavours. It further intends to see how social studies education can be used as a viable tool for positive democratic socialization in Nigeria as well as examining the relevance of democratic socialization to societal growth. The challenges of achieving the above including recommendations were identified. Finally, the paper considered how social studies education can be used for effective value and socialization of citizens and it equally examined the use of effective instruction and research enhancements among other agencies towards promoting this ethos in Ika South and Ika North East Local Government Areas of Delta State and other concluding remarks were given on the adequate ways of achieving democratic socialization of citizens in the large society.

Keywords: Social Studies Education, Tool and Democratic Socialization

Introduction

Democratic socialization in Nigeria is still at a growing stage, this is so because a lot of citizens are not democratically socialized to full on capacity which leaves them ill inform about democratic activities in the country. According to INEC record (2019), Nigeria has total registered voters of 84,004,084 out of an estimate of 180 million populations as at the last census. This may be an impressive figure of high awareness level to democratic rights but does not really translate or portray the democratic socialization of the citizens. Democratic socialization is beyond registration and casting of votes by electorates rather it entails more enlightenment like understanding the nitty gritty of the democratic activities and ethics in the society. Democracy as a word is a widely accepted system of government across the globe and developing societies like Nigeria among other African countries that has been practicing democracy for many decades now. Democracy is simply the trending system of government and it is embraced by most countries of the world except for few. According to Yoroms (2014), democracy... has to do with the active participation of the people and indeed all groups in all facets of national life. Furthermore, democracy can also mean a governmental system which is based on popular election and representation. Supreme power is vested in the people and exercised directly by them or their elected or nominated representatives (Olisa 2020). In a democracy, there is supremacy of the people's representation and popular

participation. However in a simple term a democratic government is an open administration, directed by choice, aspiration and welfare of the masses. This implies that it is a government accountable to the people and the democratic government is usually established through the mandate of the people. Consequently, sustainable operations of democracy in a polity is guided by standard, principle, laws and values which must be exercised by the people whose interest it is meant to protect and serve.

The concept of democratic socialization on the other hand is a term referring to a political democracy within a socially owned economy, with a particular emphasis on economic democracy, work place democracy and workers self-management as well as individual patriotism within a decentralized planned society like Nigeria. However, within a democratic society citizens have equal rights to exercise and participate in the electoral processes. But the nature of our formal schools largely in charged with shaping peoples political values. It is also true that, other developed political and economic systems also enhance democratic socialization attitudes and values for better and smoother governance.

According to Peter (2016), when people are carefully inducted into the political culture of their society that is referred to as socialization. It is usually expected that older members of the society should teach younger members the rules and norms of the society's political life. This to a large extent has not been the case in Nigeria, a large population of the Nigeria society are ignorant of any political ideology or culture. Supporting this assertion Almond and James Coleman (2020) have observed that, "people do not inherit their political behaviours, attitudes, values and knowledge through their genes". Instead they need some form of socialization in order to understand their roles to fit into the society. This further indicates that democratic socialization is vital for the peaceful and unity of a society.

Socialization of citizens in a democratic frontier style is not as easy as it may sound, it requires a conscious, intensive approach if citizens will be inculcated with the needed democratic values in any ideal democratic setting. In the case of Ika Nation – Ika South and Ika North East which this paper is concerned, they happen to be local government areas in Delta state within the South-South region of Nigeria with over 1 million populations. The level of democratic socialization in the Ika Nation is appreciable but leaves much to be desired. This is because the nature of residents in the city is mixed and has diverse people from across the country with different ethnic background and ideology. In Ika Nation, the means and method used in transmitting as well as ensuring political socialization involving avenue like religious institutions, family, schools, social media, political parties and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), these are the key agents that help in the spread and achievement of political socialization at different levels of the society. The schools for instance does the grooming through students unionism and classroom pedagogies, the religious institutions exercise theirs in the worship center by assisting the government carryout essential enlightenment of masses and even some politicians. While the family being the bedrock of all forms of socialization to a large extent determines how sociable an individual becomes at an early stage in life as regards democratic socialization. Peer groups, political parties and the media among others play their roles of democratic socialization through different modes and influences.

With all these pertinent agents and the laudable roles each play in effort to ensure massive democratic socialization one would think and believe that all citizens and on individuals resident in Ika South and Ika North East local government areas of Delta State are practically democratic socialized, but will equally be amazing to state that most persons within Ika Nation are not democratically socialized as expected. The best they know blurring the electoral process is to cast their votes during election but all other democratic functions like follow up, investigations, recall, formation of political parties and the rest they are ignorant of it. For healthy society and healthy democracy, there is the need to properly socialize the citizens and individuals in line with the democratic tenets and ethos of society. It becomes necessary that, a subject like social studies education which is concerned with preparing individual citizens and learners for the complexity of the ever changing world and society. Social studies education as a discipline is value laden and encompasses necessary virtues, values, skill and attitude necessary for breeding and developing good and responsible citizens. In some quarters social studies is also referred to as citizenship education this is because, the discipline is seen as a proper course and tool for instilling democratic values and socialization of citizens in a democratic settings. It is against this background that this

paper intends to examine how social studies can be used as a tool for effective democratic socialization of citizens in Ika Nation which is made up of Ika South Local Government Area and Ika North East Local Government Area of Delta State Nigeria.

Conceptual Framework of the Paper

Social Studies Education:

Some people perceive the discipline as a mishmash of courses such as career education, ethnic studies, gender studies, consumer education, environmental studies, peace education, character education, democratic education and drug education. While some still ask whether it is a field that defines its goals in terms of cultivating skills like decision making, interpersonal relations and critical thinking as well as the development of "critical" attitudes like global awareness, environmental consciousness, multiculturalism and gender equality. Whatever, Social studies Education is one of the core subjects offered at the Universal Basic Education level and the junior secondary school level and other tertiary levels of Education to provide the necessary knowledge, behaviours and skills needed to make them transformed citizens of a society.

According to Kazi (2016) it is a subject that, deals with man, his problems and environments in a broad frame work towards the interrelationships of issues or problems and knowledge with the aim of helping man to think and act systematically, critically and creatively in the world of human affairs. The common perception of Kazi above indicates that the author considers man as the central focus of social studies education and how he can be helped through the instrumentality of the subject, to think and act rationally based on the knowledge, skills, attitudes, values and actions that conform with the interest and expectations of the society.

Consequently, the objective of social studies education in the universities is to transform Nigeria society through youth imbued with acceptable values, attitudes, skills and intellectual power for national reconstruction development and unity (Mezieobi, 2017). Ideally teaching democratic values in social studies instruction in Nigerian Universities is one of the crucial means of equipping the learner with attitudes, political socialization, patriotic feelings and consciousness to transform the political landscape of Nigeria for sustainable and viable democratic stability. Social studies education is apt in inculcating positive values in the learner in the bid to grooming human resources for achieving sustainable democratic growth development and political stability in Nigeria. This implies that democratic order and discipline is rooted in the cultural behaviour of the people. Adeyoyin (2014) confirms that, social studies education is value laden in content for meaningful political education reorientation and redirection of attitudes of Nigerians towards transparency, objectivity and accountability in political conduct and participation.

Again, Social studies education is an avenue for providing young people with a feeling of hope in the future and confidence in their ability to solve the social and environmental problems of individuals, their community, state or nation (Osakwe, 2019). This underscores, the essence of inculcating patriotic values in the learner through social studies instruction, which will add in equipping the learner further, with the feeling of national consciousness, cooperative attitude and the realization that a formidable progressive Nigeria society would be hinged on citizens who relish in national unity through commitment transparency, accountability and qualitative democratic operational processes not inhabited by ethnic sentiments biases. Social studies education is a dynamic course of instruction with major focus on how to reshape the thinking patterns, social life, skills, attitudes and values of citizens towards accepting and participating in positive social actions geared towards the progressive development of the society.

Democratic Socialization:

The term Democratic or political socialization was not used explicitly until the publication of Herbert Hyman's literature synthesis in 1959, and the author envisage democratic socialization as dealing with the understanding and acquainting of citizens to democratic values and virtues of the polity and nation at large. Democracy is the government of the people by the people while socialization deals with instilling young learners and citizens how to behave in acceptable manner in the society. However, the concept of democratic socialization is a term referring to a political philosophy supporting political democracy within a socially owned economy, with a particular emphasis on economic democracy, work place democracy and workers self-management as well as individual patriotism within a decentralized planned society like Nigeria. Understanding these concept brings to mind the act of exerting one's human right virtues towards societal growth within

a democratic society most citizens have equal rights to exercise and participate in the electoral processes. But the nature of our formal schools which is mainly and largely charged with shaping peoples political values seems to be playing low on that. It is also true that other developed political and economic systems also enhance democratic socialization attitudes and values of their individuals, since their understanding and participation generally contributes to societal growth. According to Peter (2016) when people are carefully inducted into the political culture of their society that is referred to socialization. It is usually expected that older members of the society should teach younger members the rules and norms of their society's political life. This to a large extent has not been the case in Nigeria. Most high ranking individuals and politicians believe it is the sole duty of the parents and school to educate their younger ones not minding it is the greater responsibilities of all members. A large population of the Nigeria society is ignorant of any political ideology or culture. Supporting this assertion Almond and James Coleman (2020) have observed that, "people do not inherit their political behaviours, attitudes, values and knowledge through their genes". Instead they need some form of socialization in order to understand their roles to fit into the society. Social studies Education can be a viable means within the school curriculum to achieve this goal and objective.

THE CRUX OF THE MATTER

Democratic socialization promotes political learning whereby people develop the attitudes, values, opinions and behaviours that are conducive to becoming good citizens in their country. It is with careful awareness and sensitization that people develop positive attitudes towards the political system in any society through the socialization process. This is further enhanced only when the citizenry believe in the integrity of the system and the process such as elections. People's participation in elections demonstrates a willingness to trigger growth and development. Consequently, the need for political socialization which should begin in the social settings and continues to flourish is not given adequate attention. More so, people have more confidence that the political system and or institutions would be responsive to the wants and needs of its citizens and that abuses of governmental power will be held in check, thus the need to create this awareness and education. The idea of being in check requires the followership to serve as mechanism that can hold such leaders accountable whenever they engage in questionable behaviour. But when people do not know this and trigger willingness to participation then leaders elected by other means would tend to abuse power. Dania and Emuebie (2012) further asserted that, parents overtime have invested resources in order to transmit their own political values to their children. While neglecting the democratic values of the larger society, it is not acceptable to ignore the people that democracy is meant for. This to a large extent is a factor for low attendances and political participation in the electoral process. However, democratic socialization helps individual citizens to acquire values and opinions that shape their democratic stance and ideology. It is through this that electoral and other developmental processes are properly understood so that the correct norms and behaviour during and after elections are transmitted from generation to another. In fact, it is through Democratic socialization that individuals are inducted into the political culture and their orientations towards political objectives are formed and more importantly; the right individuals are elected into political positions to ensure smooth transition of power in the larger society. This big virtue is however missing thus creating a gap of ignorant individual who just participate in elections because money will be given to them and so wrong individuals occupy positions of significance in society today. This means that subject does not encourage passive learning but on the contrary promotes active learning in schools through various activities. Consequently, Social studies Education and its scope are tended towards an ever increasing attempt to cater for societal needs and to prepare the learners for meaningful socio-civic living. And the content of the discipline to a large extent is sensitive to the dynamic nature of the society in order not only to make the individual learner current and up to date but also positioned to make the society a better place for all.

OTHER AGENTS OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIZATION

For effective Democratic Socialization other agencies are essential aside the fact that there should exist internal democratic structures and practice in the society. Peter (1996) is of the opinion that "the absence of this most times weakens the political system". The family, the mass media and the peer group among others.

- a. **Family:** The family's central role is to shape or inform the individual's political personality which is largely derives from its role as the main source and locus for the satisfaction of all the basic, innate needs of mankind. Hence, the individual child first lends to identify with his parents and to adopt their outlook towards the political system. The father in turn becomes the proto typical authority figure as well as the head and thereby initiates the child's view of any democratic authority. This primary responsibility should be taken more serious by the family. The socialization process becomes vital in order to shape the child's life pattern if the child understands the right behaviour pattern the society will grow. When conflict generates between his own emerging needs family patterns for satisfying them and the demands and opportunities of the large society, the growing child are in mental turmoil. It is therefore paramount for the individual to grow with the values of his large society, only gradually then can such an individual change from hierarchical nature of society to equalized patterns of political behaviour in which he can responsibly share power with his new equal fellow citizens. Power will not be circulated the way it has been segmented to only a few rich individuals.
- b. **Mass Media:** Media Socialization exposes the individual to massive political parties' campaign information from television and newspaper which to a large extend can have important impact on the cognitive of process human beings. (Bronstein, 2013). However, other researchers reveal that, most individual citizens have position image of the person contesting for instance position of a president but, this attitude has declined in recent times, thus idealization of the president may be due to the citizens' mood and levels of socialization they have received. Other recent studies like that of Mabe (2019) reveal that, most individuals especially children had no interest in the democratic and political campaigns. In fact, a harmful or majority even show a lack of faith in the Nigerian Political system to a large extends. Because of the massive looking and corruption going on in it instead of attending to their manifest to goal and objectives. The reasons for this poor attitude to democratic issues can be attributed to poor information the citizens have received from as well from the broadcast media.
- c. **Peer Group:** This peer group largely tries to influence age grades and mates on its activities and most times they exert pressure on their peers forcing them to accept its ideas and attitudes. Again most times an individual within a peer group or friends may become involved in political activities because of the influence of their close friends and not that they are really interested in what is going on.. By so doing, the individual changes his attitudes and ideas and presents the behavioural pattern as desired by his close friend circle, voting people into power not belonging to any political party or understanding their missions for common good of all.

RELEVANCE OF SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIZATION

Social studies education is an innovative course of instruction geared at focusing education that is reflective of Nigerian's social, political, technological, economic and physical environment (Mezieobi, 2018). Democratic socialization is key to development of any democratic institution, the reason why the world looks up to America in terms of democracy is not just because they popularized it but because, they have been able to democratically socialize their citizens which makes them democratically inclined and further makes the democracy healthy and strong.

Most citizens know where their rights starts and where it ends, they are enlightened and well informed about such good of their society and how to achieve them one at a time in a day or some decades to come before it metamorphosed over time. Hence, achieving top notch democratic socialization of citizens in Nigeria with reference in Ika Nation can be made viable and durable through the utilization of social studies education as a potent instrument and or tool for efficient democratic socialization. The inculcation of democratic values through social studies instruction is essential for achieving democratic socialization as it has been said earlier because the subject can foster sustainable democratic operations which are guided by principles, rules, transparency and objectivity. Against this background, Agu (2014) remarked that, democratic socialization is achievable where citizens agree on crucial democratic values. To buttress the foregoing discussion, Mkpà (2017) observed that, social studies education is enriched in content to expose and enlighten the learner with democratic cherish values and culture which will ensure proper socialization of such individuals and citizens. The current democratization drive in contemporary

Nigeria aims at the establishment of democratic values geared towards the increased participation of the populace in decision making.

Accordingly democratization is dependent on the expansion of societal values and structures to facilitate increased participation in the exercise of state power (Attahir and Dunmoye, 2014). The main philosophy behind the teaching and learning of social studies in our schools and colleges is to be measured in terms of its positive contribution at mobilizing and enabling learners cultivate an awareness and understanding that would transform them into good and effective citizens that would not only lay the solid foundation for forging a cohesive society but would support the notion of Nation building (Okam and Bozimo, 2016). Implying that, the ultimate goal of social studies education is for the development of socio-civic and personal behaviour.

Ololobo as cited in Diana and Emuebie (2012) have similarly explained that, "social studies education is a programme of study in which clients are exposed to carefully selected physically and social environment realities, with an in built package for the development of skills of various kinds and nurturing of values, attitudes and actions conducive to the continued orderly survival of the society" (p.185). From the foregoing, one can rightly argue that, democratic socialization of citizens through the use of social studies is achievable in a formal and informal manner. The subject also takes care of the need of the learners and equally takes into cognizance the informal setting of a society. Since social studies education can be seen as what happens to an individual in the reality of day to day life as he/she is busy planning for other life activities.

CHALLENGES OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIZATION IN NIGERIA

Disintegrative nationalism: The political history of Nigeria is dominantly characterized by disintegrative nationalism which refers to the inclination towards sectional consciousness, due to perhaps the fragmentation of the nation into several nationalities at the detriment of national allegiance, integration and stability (Ukadike, 1999). It is through the acquisition of democratic values that most citizens and individuals can be re-oriented to think and feel that Nigeria is a united entity irrespective of her ethnic nationalities. National consciousness and patriotism is stimulated through unity and purpose and collective actions of citizens that constitute a nation state. National goals of building a stable state of Nigeria, where the social right of citizens are respected and their freedom of life is ensured without oppression, cannot thrive without democratic order.

Ethnicity: Democratic operations in Nigeria most times are criticized by observable leadership bias in appointments, employment and distribution of national resources. Ethnicity has continued to affect both civil and military governance in Nigeria. Best (2011) has described ethnicity as the bane of Nigerian politics. Furthermore, Akpekpe (2016) remarked that "Democracy the free and open competition for peoples votes is simply not visible in an environment of intense ethnic preferences". Nigerians should deemphasize inclination to ethnicity and embrace leadership based on sound transparency, accountability and determined effort to achieve national unity and social education.

Fraudulent Instability: Olisa, (2020) posited that democracy is not working in a pure and perfect form anywhere in the world. In the case of Nigeria, elections are massively rigged and its results doctored. A vivid case in point is the newspapers reports inundated with election results nullified by the courts, specifically the 2007 election in Nigeria.

Political Instability: the institutionalization of stable democracy in Nigeria political scenario is frustrated by personal, ethnic, political and military interventions and crises civil rule hardly last without military intervention. Ikelegbe (2015) reports that "Nigeria has become independent with a blossoming but problematic parliamentary democracy". At present, the democratic situation in Nigeria is progressively being nurtured to stability even though a lot of insecurity challenges has engulf most facet of the polity.

Mismanagement of Public Funds: Corruption is a house hold word with reference to political activities and governance. Those at the corridors of the power amass wealth meant for the development of the polity at all levels of political administration in Nigeria. This anomaly has attracted the attention of eminent Nigerians; especially Anyim (2001) who remarked that, democratic freedom should be managed and not abused in the management of national resources in order not to generate insecurity. However, one may look at it, mismanagement of public funds today has increased the spate of corruption in all sectors where politicians are holding public office. Instead of protecting the masses interest they are busy looting the funds for their private pocket.

Non-Independent Judiciary: A democratic government is established with unbiased independent judiciary, which protects the citizens from the oppression of the ruled and fellow citizens in Nigeria. But largely the appointment of judges is directly influenced by the executives. The executive heads have often used their power to appoint persons known to support their politics. However, in the past dispensation the Judiciary is commended for annulling some spurious election results in Nigeria, while some escaped unrevised but today this responsibility is under question because so many anomalies are taking place.

Non-Adherence to Public Opinion: Most civilian government operate as military rulers because when they live government as military officers they quickly enter politics and occupy political positions. In short, our democratic structure have been militarized; governors and head of state remove commissioners and other ministers from their duty positions, without deliberations and consultation with the House of Assemblies or National Assembly. According to Darcathy in Ogunna (2013) "without adequate stimulus from critics, government can be slack and complacent or even corrupt". Implying that they are part of those siphoning funds themselves at the detriment of providing the needs of the common man. Constructive criticisms and acceptance of quality opinions guide democratic governance and direct the formation of public policies. The public need to be educated to speak out against anomalies of this nature and that is only possible through socialization (Mezieobi, 2016).

Faulty Policy Implementation: Good packaged programmes are poorly implemented including public policies over time in Nigeria. For example, the 6-3-3-4 system of education wars on corruption and most principal officers in education siphoned monies meant to boost education at all levels. For instance, Universal basic Education has been haphazardly implemented worse still; public expenditures are not made public for consumption, scrutiny and criticism. Public officers in government give procedural account of their office operations and explanation in the use of financial and material resources entrusted in them, this is accountability. The scenario in Nigeria is that most executives are shy to run open administration and account for their activities.

Party Interference and Dominant Class Influence: Most political parties dominantly interfere with the operations of the Local government chairmen, governors and the Heads of states. They often assert pressure for political patronage like the award of contracts, employment, influencing of state policies amongst others. All this has made democratic practice in Nigeria to fail and people are suffering. Again, the rich take advantage of their power and wealth to influence political decision and public policies, the lower class is often and most time exploited, manipulated and made spectators of the political scenario. They consequently, live in their poverty state unsatisfied but also lacking how best to withdraw their vote rights from the politician.

USING SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIZATION

One of the ways of inculcating democratic values and ensuring democratic socialization in social studies education is by helping students identify their feelings and priorities about certain environmental issues. However, the position of the social studies as at present is meant to expose issues about the political life and political participation in Nigeria democracy to the learners and citizens in line with the positive and negative experiences. Since democratic practice is a universal governmental practice standard democratic principles have to be inculcated in the learner to assess the success of democratic governance in this country.

1. **National Interest Focused Instruction:** While it is essential to focus conflict generating issues in Nigeria as religious differences, ethnic divide, corruption, poverty, marginalization amongst others in social studies instruction, the content and primary objective of the social studies curriculum and instruction should anchor on the promotion of national values for comprehensive integration of the minds and philosophies of Nigerians towards national unity. Adeyoyin (2014), Mkpà (2011) and Mezieobi (2018) all agreed that, social studies education is value laden and capable to teach national integration and unity. Teaching values for democratic governance via social studies instruction will be meaningful and functionally relevant to the cognition of learner when there is justice and equity in Nigeria's polity and spirit of promoting leadership by example. If corruption can be highly detested, high respect for the independence of the Judiciary, curtailment of electoral violence, rigging and political murder, where religion or ethnicity does not determine ascendancy to public office Osakwe, (2019) democratic socialization would become more effective. In other words the existing negative

social issues in the Nigerian society may go in no distant time away to work against negative tendencies as mentioned earlier thus enhancing value education projected and inculcated by social studies education.

II. The Use of Innovation Instructional Methods: Social studies education is value laden and most professionals in the field including society feels it could help students develop consistent democratic values and skills if effectively taught with appropriate instructional strategy as Nwaubani (2018) once stated. Against, this background, some suggested effective strategies for teaching democratic values in social studies education are problem solving, reflecting inquiry (Osho2016; Fadipe, 2011). Others are discussion method, exposure to community resources: meet the people interactive session, value clarification analysis and observation. However, Obemeata (2013) and Obebe (2015) condemn the over use of expository methods of teaching because it is teacher dominated and limits students participation in learning rather emphasis is merely on acquisition of factual knowledge and information which inhabits potentials for acquisition and promotion of desirable values, attitudes and skills which are germane for the effective implementation of social studies curriculum.

III. Intensive Research on Fundamental Social Issues: Democratic governance has to be studied practically by students through observation, inquiry, use of documentations and assessment of relevant information materials. The ability to do so is fully embodied in the teaching of social studies. By this exercise, the learners are most times sensitized to appreciate the values of democratic governance through the survey of diversified literatures in social studies. However, the limitation is that, government places emphasis on funding researches in science and technology as against the social science where social studies belongs which is formulated to produce functional citizens equipped with knowledge, values, attitudes and skills for societal development and rehabilitation as specified by Mezieobi (2018). Consequently intensive social studies education research is a process of learning how to learn and further acquire these skills.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Nigerians democratic socialization should be able leave the states fortified when a greater majority of Nigerians are sensitized through social studies instruction to accept unity across ethnic divides and unity in diversity in their pursuit of national political, social, economic and technological matters.
2. Government should finance research in social studies education in view of its relevance to political socialization.
3. Citizens should be carefully carried along and properly sensitized on the need for proper democratic socialization for healthy democracy.
4. The society should be made to understand that social studies education is essential towards achieving a democratic socialization of her citizens in any democratic arena by constantly creating social awareness
5. Integration of the consequences of youth restiveness and violence education into social studies curriculum will offer learner experience for the acquisition of desirable attitudes, values and knowledge for achieving sustainable democratic development in Nigeria (Nwanna-Nzewunwa and Mezieobi, 2018).

CONCLUSION

Democratic socialization is achievable in a polity through the acquisition of democratic values. Social studies education by the composition of its curriculum content and philosophy in Nigeria is apt to reject negative democratic values for democratic socialization through intense political socialization of its youths who are the present and future managers of state affairs. Hence, achieving great and meaningful democratic socialization can be a reality with the effective use of social studies education as a tool for driving such purposes.

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