

THE PERCEPTION OF TEACHERS' AND STUDENTS' ON THE CAUSES OF POOR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN SCIENCE SUBJECTS AMONG SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN NIGER STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the perception of teachers' and students' on the causes of poor academic performance students in science among senior secondary schools in Niger State. The study was carried out in the three senatorial zones of Niger State. Descriptive survey designed was adopted for the study. Six null hypotheses were formulated to guide the study and tested at 0.05 level of significance. The sample of two hundred (200) academic staff was drawn from the population through random sampling technique from the three senatorial zones. The Instrument Perception of Teachers and Students on Student's Poor Academic Performance in Science (PTSSPAPS) was used for data collection after been validated by three research experts pilot test was conducted to ascertain the instrument validity. The reliability Coefficient was obtained using Cronbach Alpha with index of 0.87. Inferential statistics of Chi-Square was used to test the research hypotheses. The results revealed that teachers' qualification, method of teaching, learning materials and environment do influence students' academic performance. It is therefore recommended among others that; teachers be given in-service training with full sponsorship, modern teaching methods be embraced by the teachers including the use of computer in teaching science, provision should be made by government for learning materials and laboratory equipment for proper teaching and learning of science, provision of conducive teaching and learning environment etc.

KEYWORDS: *Academic Performance, Perception, Qualifications, Environment, Method of Teaching, Students and Teachers*