

**THE IMPACT OF MORALITY
ON THE PASTORAL MINISTRY
AMONG NIGERIAN BAPTIST CONVENTION PASTORS**

**An Essay Presented
To the Faculty of the
Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary
Ogbomoso, Nigeria**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Award of
The Degree
Master of Arts in Theological Studies
(M.A.T.S)**

**by
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AN EVALUATION OF MORAL DECADENCE AMONG THE
TEENAGERS IN OGBOMOSO

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IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR MASTER OF
DIVINITY IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

This study is titled "An Evaluation to Moral Decadence among teenagers in Ogbomoso." It is aimed at assessing the effects of moral decadence on the teenagers and the society and bring out the solutions to the moral decadence. The study was carried out in eight secondary schools in Ogbomoso metropolis.

In order to achieve the aim of this work the writer made use of the following methods, interaction with relevant books in the library, the use of questionnaire to collect data about the exhibition of moral decadence among teenagers. These afforded the writer the opportunity to collect primary and secondary information for this work.

From the findings of this work, causes and effects of moral decadence have been confirmed and some solutions have been proffered. The research findings showed that out of ten teenagers, nine of them are engaged in one vice or more, even though these ones attend one church or religious gathering or the other.

Therefore all adults in parents, teachers, governments, media, churches and religious organizations need to work relentlessly to eradicate moral decadence in our society.

Conclusion

From the findings, the following conclusions are reached:

Teenagers are human beings created by God like all other human beings.

To understand them you have to see them as people. Most of what is true about people is true about teenagers. (Aleshire, 1982, 22). What makes them teenagers and makes them behave strangely to adults is that they are experiencing particular

physiological and psychological changes and living in a particular society which puts pressures on them. They need parents, teachers, and every other adult to understanding and help them to behave and grow up to maturity.

By now it can be seen that as a result of the pressures experienced by the teenager's larger percentage of them exhibit moral decadence. Some teenagers still do not exhibit moral decadence as they subject the changes they are undergoing to the training they received from God and the religious instructions given to them. Ross (1984) stated that they should be encouraged to conform themselves to Christ's image, they only true ego idea (p. 69). A teenager's whole life style can change when he is able to confide in adults and the burden of feeling is shared.

Recommendation

In order to eradicate moral decadence in our society the following recommendations will be of help according to the study.

1. The growth and maturation process of a teenager is very important that it must be understood before they can be attended to spiritually and otherwise effectively. So all that relate with these teenagers should undergo training about them.
2. Parents should create time for their children and live by example, be willing to listen to their teenagers and be patient with them. Take pain to explain things to them. Be ready to discipline them in love as many of the teenagers are of the opinion that adults don't like them.

3. Parents, teachers, pastors, government and other adults should encourage teenagers, help them to see their gifts, remind them they are people who have been blessed and can be givers of blessing to others.
4. Government and Non-governmental Agencies should provide more social amenities that will make life more comfortable for teenagers.
5. Churches and other religious institutions should have forum of reaching out to teenagers
6. Media practitioners and Media Houses should streamline their programmes that have negative impacts on the teenagers.
7. Teenagers should be involved in activities at school, church organizations so that they will express themselves, rather than being caged and restricted. Many of them pretend to be good whereas they are not.
8. Parents teachers, media, government should show love to the teenagers that have exhibited moral decadence in the past rather than neglect them.