

N.B-J.S  
M. DIV  
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**AN EVALUATION OF INDECENT DRESSING AMONG WOMEN  
AND YOUTHS IN SAMARU COMMUNITY AND ITS EFFECT  
ON THE SOCIETY**

**A Thesis Submitted to the  
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**In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree  
of MASTER OF DIVINITY**

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## ABSTRACT

The study was conducted to assess the concept and effect of indecent dressing among Nigerian women and youths with particular emphasis on Samaru community in Zaria north local government area of Kaduna state. The biblical, African and contemporary perspectives of dressing was examined alongside the factors influencing indecent dressing, its effect on the society and probable solutions to the menace.

The study was conducted on 100 participants from within and outside the church community through questionnaire. The data gathered was then analyzed using simple percentage count. The response received showed that factors such as parental influence, mass media, peer group and the society have contributed to the unabated rise in the spate of indecent dressing. It was also revealed that churches who teach on social issues record less instances of indecent dressing and other social vices in their worship sessions and the day to day living of their members.

From the analyzed responses of respondents to the questionnaire, it was gathered that 68% of respondents agree that the church should teach more on social issues than it has been doing. These respondents disagree with the idea of the church enacting dress codes but suggested that the church should concentrate more on teaching sound doctrine. The respondents were also unanimous in saying that the government should enact dress codes for various institutions and public settings and the violators of these codes should be made to bear the accompanying consequences. To this end, this study recommends that parents, the society and other stakeholders should work on sensitizing the youth on the evils associated with indecent dressing.

## **Conclusion**

It is obvious from the study that very little regard is given by churches to teaching on social issues generally. Many churches do not hear their pastors preach on a single social issue for years. In some other churches where the pastor endeavours to preach on social issues, it is not often balanced biblically hence members are more

confused after the message than before it. This has helped to fence moral uprightness out of the life of youths in the church and society and in its stead; there is an abundance of immorality and social ills. The responses gathered from both young and adult respondents revealed that both groups recognize the importance of sound biblical teaching on social issues as a means of all-round spiritual growth and as an agent of reducing social vices and immorality among youths. The implication of this is that, it is high time parents, the church, the society and all other stakeholders including government agencies rose to combat the menace of indecent dressing and other forms of social vices in the society. This can be achieved by working hand-in-hand to promote the African traditional wears and encourage decent styles when wearing western clothings.

### **Recommendations**

From the body of information gathered through the literature reviewed and research conducted, this researcher recommends that:

1. Parents should rise up to their responsibilities in the home by informing and educating their children on the developmental tasks of adolescence since most perpetrators of the act of indecent dressing are adolescents.
2. Churches should create a conducive, enabling and friendly environment where youths can serve God and be free to express their opinions and feelings without fear of being looked down upon.
3. Christian leaders and pastors should from time to time teach and preach on social issues especially such issues as dressing and sexual immorality.
4. The government should place restrictions on media houses so as to monitor the kind of programmes that are aired for public consumption

5. Special programmes like seminars, career talks and workshops should be organized by the church from time to time aside from the regular preaching to sensitize youths on various challenges of daily living.
6. Parents, teachers and other elders should live lives worthy of emulation so that the youths can be positively influenced through such lifestyles.

### **Suggestions for Further Studies**

As this study progressed, certain ideas came to mind but which cannot be catered for in this study hence they are suggested for further research. These are:

1. Impact of Interactive Pastoral Care and Counselling on reducing the rate of Sexual Promiscuity among Youths.
2. Effect of Discipleship on Curbing Moral Decadence among Teenagers in the Nigerian Baptist Convention