

THE INFLUENCE OF PARENTS' EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND IN
ENHANCING CREATIVITY OF CHILDREN IN JUNIOR SECONDARY
SCHOOLS IN UYO MUNICIPALITY

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ABSTRACT

Creation, creativity and creativeness all have their origin, continuity and sustenance in God. Humans as well as everything that can be seen or not seen are products of creation of God. Humanity is considered to be the crown of God's creation. There are therefore clear features in humans that so distinguish them from other creatures that truly earn them the crown of the creation of God. Those distinguishing features and acts God puts in them, they inherit God's creative nature and likeness, and they are commanded to do certain things as He does; to create and to procreate. Things were created are still being created to solve the problems of humans and its fellow creatures through creative thinking, problem solving thinking, experimentations, and play arising from parental influence upon their children and daily life challenges and needs. Creativity could either be inherited or learnt and is found in all facets of life and human endeavours. Chapter one of this work gives an overview of this research effort. Chapter two of it leads us to the Biblical Basis for creativity. Chapter three discusses the research methodology used for the work. In chapter four, the data collected for the study carried out is analysed and discussed. This essay ends with summary, conclusion and recommendations.

5.2 Conclusion

From this study, it is vividly clear that educational level of parents does contribute to enhance creativity of children in junior secondary schools in Uyo municipality. It is equally clear that with the above notwithstanding, children are still very much in need of more support from their parents in the area of encouragement, provision of materials, and freedom of self-expression.

It is the place of parents to support and nurture their children in the discovery and expression of their innate creative abilities. Parents should know that children

actually begin their education at home, meaning that they should make themselves available for them as guides and try to bring their experiences to bear on their works. It could also be gleaned from the study that fathers contribute more to their children's educational advancement than do the mothers, and that children want their parents to show them verbal appreciation for their creative efforts.

Apparently, mothers are closer to children than fathers are, even as this study indicates in the love the children have for them. Mothers should exploit this natural affinity to invest in the educational upbringing of their children as a way of encouragement to them. This, if done will establish confidence in the children that their mothers are equally as committed to their future as do their fathers.

5.3 Recommendations

Based on the outcome of this research work, this researcher would like to offer the following recommendations:

1. Parents should learn to encourage their children verbally when they demonstrate certain creative acts no matter how insignificant that may be. This, children believe will encourage them to experiment and put in more effort in always attempting to venture into new and unfamiliar areas.
2. Parents should also devote time to teach their children some creative ways of doing things even as children desire them to do so.
3. Mothers should do more to help their children in their academics, and not leave it to the fathers alone since children still love their mothers more than they love their fathers in spite of fathers' efforts in helping children in the progress of their education.
4. Parents should allow children liberty for self-expression into new and creative ways and not entertain fear of failure.

5. Parents should provide their children with adequate materials needed for exploration in their creative endeavours.
6. They should form the habit of showing their children's work to their friends as a way of helping them build self-confidence.
7. Teachers and parents should lead children in the understanding of what creativity is all about and not just in the area of arts alone.