

Ethics in Examination Administration: Evaluating Quality Assurance Practices in Higher Education for Socio-Economic Development in Nigeria

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Abstract:

Ethics in examination administration is critical to ensuring the integrity of higher education, particularly in developing countries like Nigeria. This study explores the role of ethical practices in examination administration and their impact on quality assurance, focusing on fostering socioeconomic development. It highlights how lapses in ethical standards, such as examination malpractice, inadequate invigilation and overcrowded examination halls, undermine institutional credibility and devalue academic qualifications. Using a mixed-methods approach, data were collected via a self-developed questionnaire (EEA-EQAHE) from examination officers, lecturers, students and quality assurance personnel at Yaba College of Technology and McPherson University. Data analysis revealed a positive correlation between ethical practices and socioeconomic outcomes, including graduate employability and institutional reputation. Institutions with strong quality assurance frameworks demonstrated better adherence to ethical standards. The study recommends establishing standardized ethical guidelines, integrating technology for examination monitoring and implementing capacity-building programs for examination officers. Additionally, incorporating ethics education into curricula is proposed to cultivate a culture of integrity among students and staff. Policymakers are encouraged to prioritize quality assurance as a strategy for driving socio-economic development through education.

Keywords:

Ethics, Evaluating Quality Assurance, Examination Administration, Higher Education, Socio-Economic Development.