NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION THROUGH THE USE OF ICT TO CURB SOCIETAL ILLS: THE ROLE OF LIBRARY

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Abstract

This paper is examining National Transformation through the use of ICT to curb societal ills. Also the Role of Library was examined and how library is encouraging learning, promote awareness in other to create a peaceful society which is a prerequisite to development and transformation suggest measure to control the societal ills and in conclusion government, leaders, institution of learning must work together to put an end to societal ills.

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National Transformation is seen as a gradual growth toward advancement and development, development as socioeconomic transformation is taken to mean the level of social services facilities, goods and infrastructure, which are provided and are available in a given society at a given time.

It a process of profound and radical change that orients an organization in a new direction and takes it to an entirely different level of effectiveness. While dictionary of British World English stress that transformation is a basic change of character and little or no resemblance with the past configuration or structure.

Information and Communication Technology is seen as a major invention of the 20th Century that has contriouted immensely to the s^r-vice of humanity because of its advancement and global acceptance (Abimbade, 1977).

ICT is a broad term that has to do with the harnessing of process the methods and the product of electronic and communication related technologies and other related resources in today's knowledge driven society.

Obanya (2002) Information and Communication Technology encompasses a range of "new" technology and their application including all aspects of the use of computer

Through the use of ICT students will be more individually and actively involved in learning process, be men independent in their learning and make more choices about how and what they learn They will be challenged in their learning activities and be more creative in the way they respond to any problem/ societal ills.

Igwe (2005) state that one way of transforming the society is to properly harness and integrate the efficiency of promoting literacy through Information and Communication Technology into the society, since information is dispensable to the society.

Adamu (2004) states that Information Communication Technology (ICT) is a diverse set of technological tools and resources used to communicate, disseminate, store and manage information. In the same vein Abimbade (1988) says Information Communication Technology includes the print and the electronic (radio, television, telephone, internet).

Virtual library is to undergo learning and acquisition of knowledge, to provide a more solid basis for education and enhance quality of life by drawing on digitally available on line, books materials, and journals via ICT based tools. A virtual library provides remote (on line or CD - Rom based) access to a variety of national and international contents. The concepts of the virtual library is one that has developed with growth in the telecommunication networks especially the internet.

USES OF ICT TO CURB SOCIETAL ILLS

The role of ICT cannot be over emphasized, it brought about communication through the use of Communication satellites. There is nothing that can be achieved without information. ICT plays important role in the World Metrological Organization (WMO) which is used for climate monitoring and control, weather forecasting, disaster prediction and detection.

ICT has helped to detect fraud crimes and examination malpractices within the society.

The use of ICT has helped to reduced unemployment which leads to self- reliance.

ICT bring new opportunities for interaction among people, sharing of the world knowledge resources for transforming people lives and contributing to the global development e.g Radio and Computer education have provided individual with different job opportunities such as e-mail, -e-education -e-library.

Application of ICT can be used in research findings, finding solution to health problems which is one of society ills through the use of ICT, latest techniques and current technological and engineering products can be advertised while ICT can be use for documentation, record keeping and

static's which will assist to curb societal ills and ICT can be used to detect frauds, embezzlement and different malpractices.

The use of ICT machines such as fax, video and television can bo used to reduce high rate of indiscipline in the society.

Information Communication Technology is one of the important factors in curbing our societal ills because it has enhanced our ability to express our self and correct one another.

In another development ICT play a great role in transforming the Nigeria homes, schools' and on technical know- how e.g radio, entertainment, television programme which has change some bad behaviour in the society. More importantly, it has made it easy for people of different culture to appreciate the culture, custom and

The sub- cultural theory develop (re cultism, corruption and other vices) to eradicate it will be difficult The institutional and environmental theory include, general fustration, deprivation Hopelessness and hardship. Admission of unqualified person, uncoordinated University administration, employment of cult- members into institutional admission and lack of commitment in .teaching, and learning, as well as a scarcity of infrastructural resources, which has lead to overcrowding in our classrooms, . essence and lack of reading materials in libraries and so on. These are all forms of societal ills that causes a lot of problems in our society.

The Role of Library

The role of library in-curbing societal ills in our society cannot be over emphasized. The basic philosophy of the library is to encourage learning and a place where learning materials are stored tor use. (Popoola, 1 990).

Therefore, a good library must have abundant and varied collection of books periodical, tape recorder, graphic like charts, maps, posters, graphs, globes to be shown to the population. Library is a tools in transforming the society with the use of ICT in curbing societal ills.

Library is a centre that serves to expose human to the world of information as it creates appropriate relationship that links people with good integrity to exchange idea's.

Library promote awareness which will facilitate development amuiig all racial and cultural group to avoid crises.

Library in our society develop it citizins on how to understand government programme thereby, participating in governance to create a peaceful society which is a pre- requisite to development and transformation.

- Library also performs its social responsibility to people by providing them information related to existing job vacancies in the society
- Library help to break information earner and empowered nation through economic transaction and improved social relation among the people.
- Libraries have been used to promote campaign against violence to use library for this aspect of development. Stickers with catching colours like red and yellow will be use. The stickers should have educative message on WARS, RIOTING. KIDNAPPING, AND DEMONSTRATION.
- Library play a vital role in educational development of any society, it has became indispensable in the fight to eradicate through books and other related information materials.

The Role of Library and ICT in creating awareness and mobilization should not be led for government agency, librarian should engage themselves in translation and repackaging of information.

Librarian should use ICT in outreach and extension Library Services with the aim of disseminating information to various communities e.g. information on causes of Ozone depletion ought to be repackage and circulated to the general public. The integration of ICT across the curriculum has imparts the knowledge and skills of the profession in preserving and providing access to the records of cultural heritage creating awareness. Using ICT in Education is one of the main challenge of mobilizing cur education policy while the traditional methods of education

did not meet the needs of today learners (Zalzadeh/ 2006/ in Egbukole 2010.

Suggested Measures to Control our societal ills

To eradicate all these societal ills in our society inorder to transformed our society into a better place to live.

The government should try to play equal right in it activities by penalizing any offender, most especially any person/or group of people connected with cultism.

In our Educational Sector the government should try to provide adequate and useful facilities such as health centre sport centre.

The communities should be properly advised and educate to formed the government about individuals or group of people whose activities are questionable.

The Government should avoid the use of cult groups in pursuing their own selfish ambition while the security system should be overhauled for efficiency incase of problems.

The police and other security agents should be properly trained, equipped and funded to effectively counter any societal ills in our society.

The citizen should be educated from time to time on Radio, Television and Public campaign against all these bad ills.

The government security agents should go round the communities unannounced to create some awareness, that they are alerts, incase there will be any troubles.

Conclusion

Societal ills, whether in a small community or larger society, is detrimental. Everybody is a target. Despite its hydra headed nature, societal ills, i.e corruption, cultism, robbery examination malpractices, raping, they can be eradicated. Government, leaders, community heads. Institution of learning must work together to put an end to it. Nigeria is an important nation and could become a rescuer of other nations if it can save itself from all these menace.

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