

DIFFICULTIES FACING EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

It is widely acknowledged that education has social, economic, Political and security benefits for an individual, for a society and for a country: Education is almost everywhere considered as the key to economic prosperity and a vital instruction for combating diseases, tackling poverty, and supporting sustainable development.

Few would argue that the state of our education system has plenty of room for improvement. However developing it to the right direction is easier said than done. The first challenge lies in the identifying underlying problems; keeping students from learning today. This challenge in part is due to the fact that the problems may change considerably depending on who is labeling them, whether it is students, parents, educators or law makers. Consider these challenges currently facing schools, based on the perspectives of many involved in the world of education.

1. **Politicalization of Education:** in Nigeria schools today admission in Universities, collage, Polytechnics, Mono-technics, secondary and primary schools are sometimes guided by politicians' not academic experts. Parents use their political offices or influences for the education of their children. Many people today are after securing job for their children just to have mean ticket not bothering whether their wards qualified or not.
2. **Indiscipline:** this manifested in secret cult menace, education malpractices, corruption etc. crises in today's schools has led to "brain-drain" students of today are no longer interested in academic excellence but when would I pass out from school. A poll from the National Center for education statistics cited that problems like apathy, tardiness, disrespect and absenteeism posed significant challenges for teachers. These were often seen in secondary school level, rather than the primary grades.
3. **Bullying:** Bullying is not a new problem, but it is one that has a profound impact on the learning aptitude of many students today. Technology has given bullies even more avenue to torment their victims through social networking, texting and other virtual interactions. Cyber bullying has become a major issue for schools, as evidenced by number of suicides that can be directly traced to bullying events. The facts that law are still fuzzy regarding cyber bullying adds to the challenge since parents, teachers and administrators are unsure of how to legally handle such issues.
4. **Classroom Size:** Many areas of the country are facing classrooms that are literally bursting out at the seams. A report at two years discussed how schools in Georgia, in the midst of

major funding cuts for schools, no choice but to lift all class size limits to accommodate students with the faculty the school system could not afford to keep.

5. **Poverty:** Students living at or below poverty level tend to have the highest drop out rate. Studies show that student who do not get enough food or sleep less likely to perform at their full academic potentials.
6. **Family Factors:** Family factors also pay a role in a teacher's ability to teach students. Principals and teachers agree that what is going on at home will impact a student's propensity to learn. Divorce, single parents, poverty, violence and many other issues are all challenges a student brings to school every day. While some teachers and administrators tries to work hard with children in less than ideal family environments, they can only do so much especially when parents are often not willing to partner with the schools to provide to the children technology.

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