

THE ETHICAL EFFECTS OF SOCIAL STUDIES AS AN IMPETUS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: THE WAY FORWARD

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Abstract

Social studies is the process of education that centres on the interaction that human beings have with their physical and social worlds. With this idea, it deals with activities of man at home, in the family, village, school, at play, in politics, at work, in religion, wherever man is engaged in his efforts to survive in the environment he lives. Here, the main aim of social studies education is to equip the individual with selected knowledge, skills, attitudes and social actions, in line with their interactions with others and the environment in which they live. Social studies targets that the knowledge, attitudes and skills that are acquired in the process of study will aid individuals as mature citizens to take decisions which are useful to him and the society at large. Thus, the impacting of these ethical values on individuals in the higher education through lectures, researches and innovation will aid rapid development that will sustain the future. The paper shall examine social studies as a rod for sustainable future as it develops Nigerian, analysis of environmental education as a means for Nigerian future. Then man's experiences of environmental problems, the ethical essence of peace and cooperation for sustainable future, an analysis of some Nigerian military peace keeping operations, in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Mali. The way forward for environmental peace for sustainable future. Finally, the paper shall round up with the ethical dialogue of social studies, peace and environmental education for higher education, research and innovation for sustainable future and conclusion.

Social Studies is an area of the curriculum designed particularly to study man and how his problems are tackled. So it dwells on how man can suit into the society by utilizing the necessary skills, attitudes and values. With this, Social Studies integrates with the social science subjects to comprehend, analyse and react to situations. Thus, Social Studies centre on the use of critical and reflective thinking to solve the problems of man's survival. Thus, if these ethical values are impacted to individuals in higher