



RESEARCH ARTICLE

TRAJECTORIES OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND SPORT BETTING ON ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AMONG YOUTH IN NIGERIA: DEMYSTIFYING THE MYTH

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ABSTRACT

Sport betting has been seen an act or behaviour that has consequence on the perpetrator's financial, psychological, moral and social life health. This act has been reported to be associated or related to deviant, antisocial and or criminal behaviour and lifestyle. This study examined the trajectories of unemployment and sport betting on antisocial behaviour among youths in Nigeria. The paper adopted the Robert Agnew (1991) Strain, the Gary Becker (1976) Rational Choice and the Albert Bandura (1977) social learning theory in explaining the phenomenon under study. The theories suggest that sport betting is associated with strain from unequal opportunities, interacting and learning from others as well as reinforcement and rewards. The method of data collection were the quantitative (questionnaire) and qualitative (key informant interview). 400 Likert format structured questionnaires were administered and retrieved while 12 Key informant interviews were administered on participants. The quantitative instruments were analyzed using simple percentages of column and rows in a univariate form while the KII were analyzed using content analysis and ethnographic summaries. The findings revealed that sport betting is deviant and antisocial behaviour that results in other deviant, and antisocial and criminal behaviour. The study recommends good government policies that will create employment, stabilize economy and enhance development; an all hand on deck approach as well as proper socialization and sensitization as a way out.

Keywords: Unemployment, sport betting, antisocial, deviant, criminal behaviour.

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Received: 10/5/2026; **Revised:** 29/6/2026; **Accepted:** 7/7/2026; **Published:** 20/7/2026



1.0. INTRODUCTION

Unemployment is a global phenomenon that has since been declared by united nation as a serious social problem (Akan, 2017). The problem of unemployment is hydra-headed that most countries have made concerted effort that has enabled them jostled their way out of the issue while most are still battling with the phenomenon. Sport on the other hand is recreational activity that has a global acceptance and has since been adopted in the entire world as a form of competition, entertainment and occupation for those in the sport sphere. This universal acceptance has brought jobs, fame, funds and various positive growth and development in almost all human endeavours. Sport activities date back to almost 7th centuries ago when mankind discovered the use of objects to create fun and entertainment.

However, the idea of sports betting could be traced to the 19th century when most countries of the world like United State, Italy, Portugal, Argentina, Mexico, Spain and England developed extremism in sport entertainment that most people become fanatical about supporting certain countries and club sides as fan. This led to most countries of the world imbibing sports as a full time professional occupation. Mexico, Argentina and Italy started engaging in gambling using sport predictions and staking to make fortune and wealth in clubs, Casino and sport viewing centres. This sport betting idea grew across all continent of the world and today, almost every youth in all countries of the world are sport lovers, supporting or fanning a team or are directly involved in sport betting of one kind or another.

Eboh (2015) believed that sport betting also known as problem gambling can be defined as a compulsive behaviour in which people involve themselves in gambling despite the fact that such behaviour is detrimental to their life. Sport betting could become and addiction. These are People who experience sport betting/gambling to the extent that it has negative effect on their life but still continue involving themselves in sport betting/gambling. Sport betting/gambling addiction is the urge to engage in gambling behaviour despite the harmful effect of this behaviour in their life. An individual that experience this addiction may use the whole money left in their pocket which supposed to be used for other better things in their life to bet.

From perspective of Ministerial council in Gambling (MCG), "Problem gambling is characterized by many difficulties in limiting money and/or time spent on gambling which leads to adverse consequences for the gambler, others or for the community." The University of Maryland Medical Center sees pathological sport betting/gambling as "being unable to resist impulses to sport betting/gamble, which can lead to severe personal or social consequences. The idea which started a love for sports grew from Europe, American Arctic and Antarctica into Asian and Africa and today is generating tension and deviance as a result of fanaticism and extremism.

Heather et,al (2007) in Eboh (2015) reported that among European youth gambling addiction were found more among people who engage in spread betting follow by fixed odds betting and betting exchange experience least gambling addiction. In United State of America, people who experience gambling addiction are 2.3% as at 2008. In Nigeria today, as a result of technological development and availability of internet facilities, the level of youth engagement in gambling behaviour such as 1960 bet is increasing. This is a big problem among this population. Present indication shows that more and more people are involve themselves in this activity; some have even perceived it as a source



of income and abandon other activities that can provide themselves with better future. Recent data shows that Nigerians spend about 1.8 billion naira daily on online sport betting. While some people benefit from this activity, majority tends to lose their money in this activity.

Zumve (2010) in Akan (2017) posits that Nigerian have a unique problem where youths are unemployed and idle. To him, these jobless youths always congregate in sport viewing centres, gambling spots and beer parlours to while away their time. Unfortunately, where two or three idle Nigerian youths are gathered, there is a tendency for deviant, anti-social or criminal idea and or actual commission to occur. This led Utor (2016) to posit that due to the current economic recession and drop in the price of Nigeria's black gold (crude oil), Nigeria youths have resorted to engaging in any form of social deviance, antisocial behaviour and or crime, in which sport betting is one of them, as a survival strategy. Akan (2017) believes that idle or jobless youth are a potential danger. He asserted that such youths are found most times congregating in beer parlours, sport betting centres, casino and uncompleted buildings engaging sport betting, gambling, smoking Marijuana and drinking different kinds of concocted alcoholic beverages.

These youths gather in such areas to smoke and drink their lives out and at the same time engage in acts that are not approved by the law of the land. Such places Akan (2020) maintained is likely to encourage street crime, street gang and deviant behaviour that may result to developing a subculture of deviance and crime from this unholy assembly. Akan (2017) argued further that and idle youth is a time bomb waiting to detonate. He believed most deviant and antisocial behaviour originate from such areas and it may not be unconnected with jobless and idleness among youths in Nigeria. This view is supported by Yecheo (2007) in Akan (2020) who argued that the Nigeria youth is disadvantaged because of unemployment may be result to joblessness and criminality if nothing is done urgently.

Most scholars and researchers like Adepegba (2011), Ibrahim, (2011), Lartey (2011); Olatunji (2011), Abioye (2011) and Okafor (2012) in Akan, (2017) have adumbrated that Nigerian youths engaged in deviant and antisocial behaviour like unlawful assembly where they indulge in gambling, drinking and smoking because of joblessness and idleness. This scenario fits into what Alemika (2012) described as a web of crime due to unemployment.

Ubwa (2013) succinctly conceived this idea when he wrote that Nigeria political leaders (elites) have left the youth with no choice other than being hopeless and fending for themselves through illegal and unrealistic means where they will end up as victims of crime or criminals. The identified position was also towed by Anasi (2016) who said Nigeria youths indulgence in deviant and antisocial behaviour is a function of economic reality, leadership style and directionless policies. Akan (2107) adumbrated it well when he documented that a Nigerian youths whose joblessness and idleness made him/her drift into deviant or antisocial behaviours like gambling, sport betting, prostitution, drinking and smoking should be seen as victims and not deviants. He further wonders why government allow night clubs, casinos and sport betting to thrive if it not very evident that the leadership has failed.

The world is fully spotted with huge investments in sporting activities and this idea is gaining momentum as most countries of the world have it economy built around sport. Sport has created job opportunities for billions of youth across the globe and has brought fame, fun, entertainment and help to engage youths in different endeavours. Most continents and countries of the world have built sport academies and encouraged various kinds of sport so that the youth would not be found idle and



jobless but in countries like Nigeria, sports is not well encouraged and the youths who have inclination or are attracted to sports fan other countries or club sides.

This love for sport that is not well harnessed or channeled has resulted in youths in this part of the world to reverse or quash the train and trend of events and rather indulge in sport betting. This trend may not be unconnected with unemployment and joblessness that has brought idleness and untold hardship on the youths and the socio-economic growth and development of the country in general. Akan (2017) investigated youth unemployment and crime in Obudu Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria. The findings revealed that the causes of both unemployment and crime are bad leadership, bad government policies, poor socialization, greed, corruption, poverty and warp materialism and youthful exuberance. This view was towed by Alemika (2012) who carried out a study on Youth violence and crime in Nigeria. The study revealed that the causes of unemployment amongst Nigeria youths are legion and include bad leadership, weak government policies, corruption, sentiment and biases. This study seeks to fill the void in the nexus between unemployment, sport betting and deviance in Nigeria.

Utor (2016) studied the causes of sport betting and deviant behaviour among youths. The findings revealed that unemployment, poverty, greed, curiosity and bad government policies are responsible. This position was supported Abbeb Olufemi Saleem (2014) who conducted a study on Gambling for sustainability.” Area Boys” and gambling in Lagos Nigeria published in international Journal of mental health Volume 12(1). The study revealed that the presence of economic desperation associated with hardship, reward salience/illusion, and the need to fit in within their peers are the causes of gambling and sport betting in Lagos. He argued that sport staking, predicting and winning has effect on the youths. He believed that quarrels, fight, vandalism and drug substance use are common features of gambling spots.

Eboh (2015) studied the prevalence and determinants of gambling behaviour among secondary school students while Jude and Josephine (2019) examined effect of sport gambling behaviour on secondary school students in Dunukofi Local Government Area of Anambra State. Just like other scholarly works, it revealed a significant negative influence of sport betting/gambling on youths. They findings accused the craze for materialism as being responsible for sport betting/gambling among youth. Because of the craze to have money to throw around at an age where this should not be a problem. This craze to belong to the club of the rich and elite in the society has necessitated the betting industry to witness significant growth in the last few years. This growth can be linked to the large population of unemployed youth, increased access to the internet through portable devices which include, ipad, smart phones among other internet enabled devices.

Although one can argue that sport betting/gambling has impacted greatly on the country's economy, underage gambling or betting among teenagers and youth is increasingly growing at an alarming rate, as they now choose gambling over their academics and work, with a good part of the money used in gambling derived from theft, inflated school fees, pocket or transport allowance. This menace of gambling especially under age, teenage and youth gambling has to be discouraged before it eats deep into the country because the long term effect of these is disastrous and cancerous. Hence, this study x-rayed the influence of unemployment, sport betting on antisocial behaviour among youths in Nigeria.

**1.1. Research questions**

This study posed the following question on unemployment, sport betting on antisocial behaviour amongst youths in Nigeria to give the paper a direction.

1. What are the causes of unemployment and sport betting among youths in Nigeria?
2. What is the role of staking of games on quarrelling among youths in Nigeria?
3. What is the influence of predicting games on fighting among youths in Nigeria?
4. What is the effect of winning cash on the use of drug substances among youths in Nigeria?

1.2. Research objectives

This study examined as its general objective, unemployment, sport betting on antisocial behaviour amongst youths in Nigeria. While its specific objectives are:

1. To examine the causes of unemployment and sport betting among youths in Nigeria
2. To explore the role of staking of games on quarrelling among youths in Nigeria
3. To ascertain the influence of predicting games on fighting among youths
4. To investigate the effect of winning cash on the use of drug substances among youths in Nigeria

2.0. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theories to explain unemployment, sport betting and antisocial behaviour among youths in Nigeria is to be located in the works of Robert K. Merton. Anomie theory popularized by Robert Agnew (1991) as Strain theory, the Gary Becker (1976) Rational Choice theory and the Albert Bandura (1977) social learning theory to explain the issue under investigation. The Robert K. Merton's (1968) Anomie theory is an offshoot of Emile Durkheim's writing in 1893 when he introduced the word Anomie to mean lawlessness. Durkheim took on the word to explain how societal lawlessness could result to crime. He argued that man's appetite mostly are not natural but cultural. To him, a sizeable portion of societal deviation does not represent instances of individual's breaking of the law through weakened social control structures or regulatory norms which could no longer bind people into conformity. Rather societal deviations accordingly, are socially and culturally induced.

This is because society provides cultural goals (wealth, material possession like cars, houses, cloths etc) and institutional means to attain the goals. These laid down ways or means constitutes part of the social structures. He emphasized that the American culture promotes materialism as its goal without an equal chance or corresponding institutionalized means to attain the goals. Thus, most youths who cannot attain such cultural goals through the approved institutionalized means will devise a means or drift into deviance and or crime because the blocked opportunities will force them to adopt alternative means as a result of strain and frustration occasioned from the inability to use the conventional means. While the conformist and retreatists stay aloof, the innovationist, ritualists and rebellionists will deviate and commit crime as a way out.

Borrowing from the above assertion, Robert Agnew (1991) strain theory built on Robert K. Merton's idea that citizen's inability to attain their desired cultural goals through the conventional institutionalized means will suffer frustration and strain which will eventually end in deviance and or crime as a way of coping with the lack of equal opportunity or corresponding means to attain the cultural goals. Thus, sport betting and antisocial behaviour is as a result of the society's inability to provide jobs or equal chances or opportunities for all Nigerian youths to reach their goals through the institutionalized means. Deviant and antisocial behaviour becomes an alternative means for the erring youths to reach their goals or dreams.



The rational choice theory of Gary Becker (1976) is rooted in the Adam Smith theory of choice (unseen forces driving the free market) published in an “inquiry into the nature and causes of wealth of Nation” in 1776, Thomas Hobbes “Leviathan” (1651), Niccolo Machiavelli “the Prince” (1513), George Homans, Peter Blau and James Coleman (1950-60) as well as the Cesare Baccaria and Jeremy Bentham’s Classical theory of the 18th century which argued that deviance or crime is a choice which the perpetrator has chosen having weighed the gains and pains as well as the chances of success and being caught. The scholars start from the premise that man has free will to make choices and he hedonistic (pleasure seeking and pain avoiding) thus, will always make choices that profit him against those that would not. Hence, deviance and crime is a by-product of a well calculated, profitable rationalized choice. Gary Becker (1976) holds that engaging in deviance or crime is likened to doing business where the intended business man weighs his pros and cons before delving into the business.

The driver of the choice of indulging in the business will only come is it is perceived that the business is profitable else, the businessman will avoid going into such business. So also the choice of breaking the law like stealing, sport betting, gambling, smoking Marijuana, prostitution, etc is borne out of the anticipated or perceived gains. Sport betters/gamblers get involved in it as a result of what they stand to gain or profit from it. For this theory, no matter what the causes or factors responsible are, even if it is as result of strain or frustration resulting from unemployment or whatever the excuse is, it is because they have weighed their choices and found it profitable and not because of the excuses adduced.

The social learning theory of Albert Bandura (1977) believed that people (youths) learn criminality just like people like tailoring and mechanic as apprentice from their craft masters. Thus criminal activities or deviant/antisocial behaviour are learnt in the process of interaction or association based on the level of frequency, regularity, intensity and commitment of the learner to such interaction with a professional criminal. He believed that these act are learnt with attention, retention, reproduction and motivation, to him, attention refers to the degree to which we notice the behaviour (that is behaviour must catch our attention before it can be imitated). Retention: this refers to how well we remember the behaviour. That is, we cannot perform the behaviour if we do not remember it.

Reproduction: This implies the ability to perform the behaviour we observed. Motivation: This simply connotes the will to emulate the behaviour; it is a meditational process often referred to as vicarious reinforcement. It involves learning through observing the consequences of action for other people, rather than through direct experience. Thus, it is the totally processes of learning all of the above plus rewards and punishment that follows by an observer. If the observer perceive the reward to be greater than the cost (punishment then they will most likely imitate the behaviour if not then, they will desist from imitating the deviant or criminal behaviour.

Sport betting and gambling in this case is learnt in the course of fraternizing, interacting and associating with people who are more inclined or involved in such acts. This association, interaction and affiliation might be as a result of idleness, joblessness or unemployment etc as claimed but it comes to bear through learning in association with a more professionally trained deviant or criminal.

The social learning model of gambling proposes that gambling as a form of behaviour that is highly subjected to reinforcement and reward. the theory propose that as individual engage in sport betting/gambling and such sport betting/gambling brings high return in term of money, such



individual is motivated and reinforce to participate more in the is behaviour. This reinforcement tends to strengthen the relationship between sport betting/gambling and outcome of such sport betting/gambling (reward). The theory posits that this reinforcement create a sense of physiological arousal which serves as motivation or enforcement for an individual to engage in sport betting/gambling in other to gain more profit. Brown (1987) believes that a person residing in a culture which permit gambling and the attitude of the people toward gambling is positive. In other word, an individual living in an environment where people are engaging in gambling, such individual is also expected to join the group and participate in such act. Brown (1987) also suggests that physiological arousal also motivate an individual to engage in gambling, Brown claim that internal reinforcement improve the vulnerability of individual to gambling.

The internal urge to gamble according to Brown predisposes individual to engage in gambling. Gambling availability in Nigeria according to this theory is one of the reasons while some people may experience gambling and eventually develop a gambling addiction. Sport betting therefore is an antisocial and deviant behaviour that can lead to addiction and criminality if not well guarded. It could be as result of breakdown in law and order, strain, due to the perceived gain or even via learning, interaction and association with professional deviants or criminals. These theories were used in this work because the best explained unemployment, sport betting and antisocial behaviour among youths in Nigeria

3.0. METHODOLOGY

This study employed the use of descriptive survey research design. Descriptive survey design was adopted because it provides the researcher with an opportunity where data are collected and described systematically on the characteristic facts regarding a particular population. This is found suitable for studies because it allows respondents' opinion to be sought and evaluated for possible inferences. The method of data collection were the quantitative (questionnaire) and qualitative (key informant interview) technique. The clustered sampling techniques made use of hat method in selecting state and Local Government Areas while the simple random sampling techniques was used in selecting the respondents via fish bowl method.

A sample of four hundred (400) Likert scale structured questionnaires were administered and retrieved, while 12 Key informant interviews were administered on participants. The choice of the techniques and methods is based on its flexibility, objectivity and ability to cover a wide range of people, subject and areas. The quantitative instruments were analyzed using simple percentages of column and rows in a univariate form while the KII were analyzed using content analysis and ethnographic summaries.

4.0. PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 above examined the causes of unemployment and sport betting among youths in Nigeria. The result showed that out of 400 responses 358(89.5%) agreed that bad government policies is being responsible while the remaining 42(10.5%) disagreed. This means that a bad government policy is one of the causes of both unemployment and sport betting among youths in Nigeria. While 322(80.5%) respondents agree, 78(19.5%) disagree that corruption one of the causes of unemployment and sport betting. This result implies that corruption is causes of unemployment and sport betting in Nigeria.

**Table 1: Causes of Unemployment, Sport Betting and Antisocial Behaviour among Youths**

Causes	A (%)	SA (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	UN
Bad government policy	182(45.5)	176(44.0)	32(8.0)	10(2.5)	
Corruption	154(38.5)	168(42.0)	56(14.0)	22(5.5)	
Sentiment and biases	202(50.5)	172(43.0)	18(4.5)	8(2.0)	
Bad leadership	204(51.0)	169(42.2)	21(5.3)	6(1.5)	
Warp materialism	124(31.0)	143(35.8)	89(22.2)	44(11.0)	
Laziness among youth	179(44.8)	152(38.0)	63(15.7)	6(1.5)	

It was gathered from 400 respondents that 374(93.0%) agreed that sentiments is one of the causes of unemployment and sport betting among Nigerian youth, only 26(6.5%) disagree. It is clear from the above result that sentiments deprived youths from being employed and encouraged them to engage in sport betting. 373(93.2%) agree that bad leadership style causes unemployment and sport betting, the remaining 27(6.8%) disagree. This result implies that bad leadership style bring about unemployment and encouraged sport betting among youths. 267(66.8%) respondents believed that warp materialism causes unemployment and sport betting but 124(31.0%) disagree that it does not. This result revealed that warp materialism is one of the many causes of unemployment and sport betting among youth in Nigeria. Out of 400 respondents 331 (82.8%) agree that laziness among youth is a cause of unemployment and sport betting in Nigeria but 69(17.2%) disagree. This finding above revealed that laziness among youth is a causative factor of both unemployment and sport betting in Nigeria. This result proved that the causative factors of unemployment and sport betting among youth in Nigeria are bad government policy, corruption, sentiments; bad leadership style, warp materialism and laziness among Nigerian youths.

The key informant interview finding revealed that the causes of unemployment and sport betting among Nigeria youths are corruption, bad leadership, laziness, greed, warp materialism and bad government policies. This finding is in line with the quantitative data results.

Table 2: Effect of staking of games on quarrelling among youths in Nigeria

Effect of staking games	A (%)	SA (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	UN
Leads to insult/verbal assault	182(52.5)	144(40.0)	53(5.5)	21(2.0)	
Leads to psychological trauma	162(45.0)	146(50.5)	61(3.0)	30(1.5)	
Creates fear and anxiety	164(50.5)	158(27.5)	46(16.0)	32(6.0)	
Affect one`s mental health	186(53.0)	139(26.5)	42(12.5)	33(5.5)	
Leads to intimidation	148(44.5)	126(36.0)	66(14.0)	60(5.5)	

Table 2 examines the effect of staking of games on quarrelling among youth in Nigeria. The result showed that out of 400 responses received, 322(81.5%) agreed while the remaining 78(18.5%) disagree that staking of games leads to quarrelling among youths who engage in it. This result shows that it does. While 308(77.0%) agree that staking of game leads to psychological trauma, 92(23.0%) disagree. This is a clear indication that it does. It was also gathered from 322(80.5%) out of 400 respondents that staking of games creates fear and anxiety but 78(19.5%) disagree with the opinion. This result showed that staking of games creates fear and anxiety as the game better anticipates the outcome of the staking. 325(81.2%) agreed that staking of game affect one`s mental health but 75(18.8%) disagree. This finding proved that staking of game has a way of affecting one`s mental health.



From the above findings, the effect of staking of game on quarrelling is that; it leads to insult/verbal assault, it leads to psychological trauma, it creates fear and anxiety, affect one`s mental health as well as leads to intimidation.

The finding from KII revealed that the effect of staking game on quarrelling are; it creates fear and anxiety, it leads to insult/verbal assault, it affect one`s mental health, it leads to intimidation and causes psychological trauma. This finding is a confirmation of the result from quantitative data above.

Table 3: Effect of predicting games on fighting among youths in Nigeria

Effect of predicting games	A (%)	SA (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	UN
Heightens anxiety and worries	164(52.5)	139(40.0)	61(5.5)	36(2.0)	
Increase high blood pressure	186(45.0)	144(50.5)	52(3.0)	18(1.5)	
Bring about confrontation	168(50.5)	126(27.5)	71(16.0)	35(6.0)	
Destruction of properties	148(53.0)	156(26.5)	82(12.5)	13(5.5)	
Creates emotional trauma	137(44.5)	151(36.0)	70(14.0)	42(5.5)	

Table 3 above table examines the effect of predicting games on fighting among youths in Nigeria. The result indicates that out of 400 respondents 303(75.8%) agree while 97(24.2%) disagree that it does not heightens anxiety and worries. While 330(82.5%) agree predicting games could lead to increase high blood pressure among sport betters, 70(17.5%) disagree. The finding showed that it does. It was reported by 294(73.5%) respondents that predicting games could bring about confrontation from fellow sport betters, 106(26.5%) disagree that it does not.

The result is an indicator that predicting of game could lead to confrontation. 304(76.0%) of the total 400 respondents said predicting of games could lead to destruction of properties but 96(24.0%) disagree. This result proved that correct prediction of games could bring about destruction of properties (vandalism). While 288(72.0%) agreed that predicting of games could lead to emotional imbalance or trauma, 112(28.0%) disagree that it does. This result clearly showed that correct prediction of games could lead to emotional trauma. From the findings above, the effect of predicting games on fighting among youth are that; it heightens anxiety and worries, creates high blood pressure, it leads to confrontation, it least to destruction of properties and create emotional trauma.

The KII finding showed that the effect of predicting games on fighting among Nigeria youth are it leads to confrontation, emotional trauma, high blood pressure, worries and anxiety, vandalism and fear. This finding agrees with the result from the quantitative data.

Table 4: Effect of winning cash on drug substance use among youths in Nigeria

Effect of winning cash	A (%)	SA (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	UN
It promotes smoking marijuana	188(52.5)	146(40.0%)	26(5.5)	40(2.0)	
It promotes alcoholism	192(45.0)	164(50.5%)	31(3.0)	13(1.5)	
It promotes puffing of Shisha	148(50.5)	156(27.5%)	44(16.0)	52(6.0)	
It enhances substance use	166(53.0)	152(26.5%)	43(12.5)	39(5.5)	
It promotes stimulant use	149(44.5)	156(36.0%)	45(14.0)	50(5.5)	

Table 4 examines the effect of winning cash from sport betting on drug substance use among youths in Nigeria. The result indicates that out of 400 responses received, 334(83.5%) agree while 66(16.5%) disagree that one of the effect of winning cash in sport betting is that it promotes smoking of



marijuana among youth (sport betters). This result shows that winning cash in sport betting promotes marijuana smoking. While 356(89.0%) agree and only 44(11.0%) disagree that the effect of winning cash on drug substance use is that it promotes alcoholism. The finding showed that the effect include that it promotes alcoholism. 304(76.0%) agree that winning of cash in sport betting promotes puffing of Shisha but 96(24.0%) disagree. The finding indicates that the effect of winning cash in sport betting is that it promotes puffing of Shisha. 318 (79.5%) respondents were in agreement that winning of cash in sport betting could enhance substance use but 82(20.5%) disagree that it does. This result revealed that winning of cash in sport betting could actually enhance substance use. It was the view of 305(76.2%) respondents in agreement that winning of cash in sport betting could promote stimulant use while 95(23.8%) were in disagreement. This result indicates that winning of cash in sport betting is synonymous with increase in stimulate use

From the above findings, it is evidenced that the effect of winning cash in sport betting on drug substance use is that, it promotes the smoking of marijuana, it promotes alcoholism, it promotes puffing of Shisha, it enhances illegal substance use and it promotes stimulant use. The KII finding proved that the effect of winning cash in sport betting on drug substance use among Nigerian youth are it promotes alcoholism, smoking of marijuana, puffing of shisha, stimulant use and enhances illegal substances/drug use. This finding aligned with the result obtained from quantitative data.

5.0. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Conclusion

The study concluded sport betting is bad and should not be encouraged not matter what its causes and gains are. It revealed that sport betting have negative consequences in an individual's financial, social, and overall health. Its health effect spins beyond the individual health or wellbeing to, familial health, community health, health care system and public policy. Sport betting leads social effect are personal disorders, family dysfunction and domestic violence; alcohol and other drug problems, psychiatric conditions, suicide and suicide ideation, significant financial problems as well as antisocial, deviant and or criminal behaviour.

5.2. Recommendations

The study makes the following recommendations to ameliorate the situation in Cross River State.

- The study recommends good government policies that will create employment, stabilize economy and enhance development;
- An all hand on deck approach and proper socialization as a way out.
- Socialization functions but be taken seriously by all its agents to correct the anomalies
- Education, orientation and reorientation should be mounted in form of workshops, seminars, bill boards, handbills and fliers through the National orientation agency, Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) and good spirited Nigerians on the dangers of sport betting in our society.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that no conflict of interest exist in this manuscript.



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