

SOME ISSUES ON FIELDWORK AND THE TEACHING OF GEOGRAPHY IN SOME SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN KANO METROPOLIS, KANO NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Geographical field work has been argued to be particularly useful in the development of insight, attainment of cognitive/intellectual, technical achievements and development of empathy in students. In view of this argument therefore geographical field work becomes an inalienable and corporate part of teaching and learning process in schools. The study therefore assesses the implementation of fieldwork. Stratified random sampling was used to select 10 schools out of the 34 public senior secondary in the zone. Teachers' and students formed the sampling frame for the study. All the geography teachers in the selected schools were use as samples since their number is not large. This way a total of 37 geography teachers were selected for the study Stratified random sampling was employed to select 50 students from six schools out of the ten sampled schools. Data was gotten through the participant observation and administration of questionnaire to the samples. The students were pre tested on some selected concepts in physical geography before going to the field. The pre and the post fieldwork tests were analysed using mean, standard deviation and analysis of variance. The result showed significant difference in the mean scores of students for the pre and post test. The study found among other things, that the field work was better in enhancing students understanding of geographical concepts and appreciation of the natural environment, it was also found that the involvement of students in group work was seen as a step in the development of leadership roles amongst them. Some of the major constraints to the effective implementation of field work in schools are attributed to inadequate preparation on the parts of the teachers, large classes, time constraint, inadequate funding and insecurity amongst others. It is recommended that adequate preparation be made before teachers carry out field work since the classes are large adequate number of teachers should be involved in field work in addition measures should be taken to ensure the safety of students while on field trip.

Key words: *Field work, Gender, and Geography*