

A Sociological Review of Parental Responsibility in Child Character Formation towards Nation Building in Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

Aim of the Study: Previous studies have examined various dimensions of parental involvement in child character formation and development with little attention paid to parental responsibility towards nation building in Nigeria. Most parents were reluctant to take responsibility for the development of their children's character. The moral character indicated that parents have rights and responsibilities to educate their children in a cultural of respect, integrity and control when it comes to the maturation of an individual child. In order to develop and support the quality of good character in children, parents have many opportunities and tools at their disposal.

Methodology: Both qualitative and quantitative methods were adopted in this research and description approaches were used to analyses the data.

Findings: According to the paper, it was discovered that all children were just a reflection of their immediate environment. Today there were some disgraceful acts among children due to a lack of good parental character building. The paper also revealed that children who do not have the right kind of parental involvement in character development end up being dishonest.

Conclusion: Parents will have the pleasure of seeing their children grow up to be people of integrity, compassion and personality when they become capable of using these tools in their hands. Little wonder, it is usually said that charity begins at home. It is recommended that restructuring the future of a country like Nigeria depends on good child character development.

Keywords: Review, Parents, Responsibility, Nation building, Nigeria.

Introduction

The importance of history as the foundation to national identity, civil responsibility, patriotism, nation-building, and overall human development cannot be over-emphasized. When the purpose of a thing is known, abuse of such a thing will be avoided. As nationals, we must understand the purpose of parental involvement in child character formation and how it fits into nation-building so that we can contribute to national development. This is why the focus is on this vital subject of parental responsibility and child character towards nation-building. Since Nigeria attained independence in 1960, a number of societal

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problems have become apparent to its population and there has been no lasting solution between the nation's indigenous administrations, armed forces or civilian government. These problems are: bad behaviour, due to broken homes, neglect of children, excessive pampering, poverty, economic woes, greed, socio-cultural influence, illiteracy, social disorder, corruption, etc. In the case of adolescents, there is a large amount of such unrestricted factors for deviant behaviour that are on an upward trajectory at regular intervals (Chukwu, 2021).

Besides, these social problems are not new phenomena. They were also found at all ages, where adolescents displayed inappropriate behaviour. This creates a situation in which deviant behavior is perceived and continues to raise questions from one area of society to another. Insecurity with its effect brought about by the emergence of notion of menace of Boko Haram, child smuggling and abduction as seen with the Chibok girls and the latest Dapchi girls' synopsis are proofs of failure in the responsibility of parents towards behaviour formation. In other word, any misconduct, such as misbehaviour, dishonesty, indolence, corrupt practices, killing, assault, drug addiction, and bad governance were punished to serve as discouragement to others. In the family, minor disputes were resolved, but in the village square, the Council of Elders resolved major ones. While values and natural laws have not yet been established, people are familiarizing themselves with them by the process of socialization. There were only a few cases of moral decadence in this way. Odudele and Ayegunle (2021), argued that Promoting the health and well-being of an individual or group of maladaptive persons if they interrupt a similar socialization process is the best criteria for determining normal behaviour.

Moreover, new technologies have exacerbated this social problem, such that the importance of foreign ideas is visible to young stars and films, western fashion and cultures with the outcomes of motivating young females to take harlotry in abroad as a career. According to Hussein (2022), it is not necessary to desire for nation building if we cannot find effective parenting in our contemporary society. These are just some of the factors holding back progress in view of a number of profound changes taking place in this country, which have been marked by radical transition and revolution. It is a branch of human development to form characters. It is a way to develop yourself based on character traits, and aims at defining everything in terms of personality characteristics and the person you wish to be. Parents whose values and objectives are shaped by their character, their inner life and the outside world are in perfect alignment, their confidence is soaring and they are feeling strong, happy, fully engaged as a person and fulfilling the family's needs.

In the view Odudele (2020), the role of parents is very important when it comes to raising a child. Children's education is about teaching the child a variety of values, morality, good manners and civilized attitudes that help him to grow up. The rearing of children has been a task over the years. When you're raising a kid, it means taking care of him until he grows up. The development and evolution of the child, his character, is determined by a parent's genetic factors. The responsibility to build up the character of children lies with parents who can change their ways in becoming better citizens for this country. This is why parents owe the whole society an obligation to develop their child's character. The child's life will be spoiled if parents don't take care of their responsibilities, and the county's future is at stake.

Study Objectives

- To examine the influence of parenting roles and responsibilities on children's development in Nigeria, taking into account sociocultural factors such as traditional norms, religion beliefs or culture practices.
- To assess the extent of involvement of parents with these institutions, the role played by formal and informal education, including schools, religious bodies and community organizations in shaping children's character.

- To explore the various parenting practices and strategies employed by Nigerian parents in instilling values, ethics, and morality in their children, considering both traditional and modern approaches.
- This study will assess the link between effective parental responsibility in child character formation and its implications for nation building in Nigeria, including the development of responsible citizens, social cohesion, and the promotion of national unity.
- To identify and analyze the challenges, barriers, and obstacles faced by parents in fulfilling their roles in shaping the character of their children, with a focus on effective intercession for the nation.

Significance of the Study

Here are several key reasons why this study is significant:

Nation Building: The study directly addresses the concept of nation building, which is crucial for the development and progress of any country. It focuses on the role of parental responsibility in shaping the character of children, which, in turn, has a direct impact on the future of the nation. A strong, well-formed character in the younger generation is essential for building a strong and prosperous nation.

Cultural Context: Nigeria is a diverse country with various ethnic groups and cultures. Understanding how parental responsibilities contribute to child character formation can provide insights into how cultural and traditional practices influence these dynamics. This knowledge is essential for maintaining cultural integrity while progressing as a nation.

Social Cohesion: The study can shed light on how effective parenting contributes to social cohesion and unity in a nation as diverse as Nigeria. It can help identify best practices for instilling values that promote harmony and cooperation among different ethnic and religious groups.

Research and Academia: This study can contribute to the field of sociology by adding to the body of knowledge on the dynamics of parental responsibility and child development. It can serve as a valuable resource for future research in this area.

Methodology

This study adopted a mixed-methods design. That is, both qualitative and quantitative methods were adopted in this research and description approaches were used to analyses the data. The study was conducted in south west Region of Nigeria which consists of five states namely Ekiti, Ondo, Osun, Oyo, Ogun and Lagos state. The researcher considered some factors in selecting these states. Thus the respondents had first –hand experiences and information on the subject matter. A total of 360 respondents were selected from the South West region, with 60 from each state through questionnaires. They were selected through quota sampling and random sampling. A questionnaire and an in-depth interview guide were used to gather data. The interview guide was semi-structured with each of the interview sessions lasting approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Interview responses were analysed using summative content. All their responses and views were incorporated in body of this work.

Results and Discussion

Results of the study revealed that:

The majority of parents were unwilling to take responsibility for the development of their children's character. The moral character implies that when it comes to the development of individual children, parents are entitled and responsible for raising their kids with a culture of respect, integrity and responsibility. Parents have numerous options and instruments at their disposal, with a view to developing and supporting children's good character.

Nigeria, a country in transition from poverty, is facing many of these challenges. We have reported that in the aftermath of independence, there were periods of civil war, recessions, redundancies, unemployment, uncertainty, strikes and so on. These were the reasons why a number of Nigerian youths have become involved in harlotry, vending, street begging, slum life, maladjustment at school, truancy, corruption, evil organization, examination malpractice and so on.

It has been established that the new technologies have contributed to this social problem, such that the importance of foreign ideas is visible to young stars and films, western fashion and cultures with the outcomes of motivating young females to take harlotry in abroad as a career. They say it wouldn't be necessary to build a nation, if all of this could happen today in our society. Due to a number of substantial changes taking place in this country, those factors are just some of them holding back progress.

A great deal of influence can be played by parents in developing a child's character. Thus, parents should act as role models for their children. Compared to any teacher or anybody, the kids are more likely to copy their parents. Therefore, before a child is born, parents should take particular care and exercise caution. Parents should make sure their children are taught to work hard so that they will become responsible for themselves and society at large in the future.

Formation of Character from Sociological Context

Breathing life into someone's characters is not a quick and dirty way. People's characters are a reflection of themselves with their specific sets of complexities, opinions and personalities. It is necessary to give yourself time for your development and relationships. The degree to which our principles have built up in us and how we make people feel about us is, of course, a matter of character. All the character traits that we really live by are honesty, patience, kindness, ambition, and so on and not those we are interested in. The character has its origins in both nature and nurture. Nature is cultured and disciplined, so as to bring nature's instincts into line with moral values. A man from his own species is marked by this natural individuality with clear and specific differences. That individuality, however, can be immoral.

The following behaviors should be shown to develop one's personality. Be honest: he must tell the truth, he must be sincere, he must not mislead or withhold important information in the context of trust; he must not steal. Prove integrity, stick to your word, be loyal, and take care of yourself; strive excellence. He's got to treat people with respect, care and compassion (Adeniji, 2003). It must be disciplined and organized into the structure of a true moral being in order to develop character. The character is about choice, a settled habit of will, in order to be able to see the results and conduct of it. The character takes the raw materials of nature and temperament and blends them into the strong, well-knit texture of a fully moralized man.

Parents can play a role in developing the character of their children in many ways. According to Elliason and Jenkins (2003), parents should be role models for their children. The children are more likely to be copying their parents than any teacher or anybody else. This is why parents should be careful and act in a cautious manner before their children. To ensure that in the future they will be responsible to themselves and society as a whole, parents should train their children to work hard. They should make it a priority to develop the education of their children. They are supposed to be interested in their tasks, they should make sure that their children read morally sound books and look out for what they watch on television or online. At homes, parents should give sex education to their children and as their children look at them, they must demonstrate the kind of person they are. There is no character revealed by what they say, wish, hope or plan, but it is how they act in the face of adversity. In any situation, they must say the truth and do not compromise their values. In the case of children, parents must aim for leadership qualities in their own children according to Odudele (2016).

In each area, only the most brilliant people should make it to the top. Parents need to spend some time with their kids and give them a chance to answer any questions they have. This way, parents can teach kids what they need to know and bring about proper values in them. Parents should have listening ears

and pay due attention to their kids. They should also listen to their opinions about issues rather than shouting them. It is their duty to show care, love and affection for their children so as to help them develop good character. It will help them to act in a way that's acceptable wherever they find themselves, according to Odudele (2018).

The character of a person is shaped by his destiny. One time President of the United States once said: "Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude." As Christians, It is disturbing how people are sabotaging themselves by looking for spiritual solutions to problems of character deficiency. When their greatest demons lurk inside them, they look at everyone as suspects in their troubles. Most people believe that, if we stick to some prayer rituals, we can be successful and get away with virtually anything. There's no such thing as a sufficient amount of spiritual penance to be substituted for character. Through the prayers, we have become so spiritually connected as to overlook our place of character and relationships with human beings. There are many of them, in fact, hopelessly tied to Heaven. But with no relevance at all on earth. You are allowed to speak of your spiritual depth, pray publicly and maintain a holy appearance, but only if you act in good character will all that God has for you manifest itself.

Character in Perspectives from Biblical Point of View

The woman from the Shunammite must have prayed for a child her whole life. She finally got a much anticipated miracle because she was so friendly to the man of God. Her doors were not open by prayer; they were because of her character. If she was not hospitable, she might as well miss the essential miracle of her life. Many times, we pray, fast and bind demons that do not exist when our real demons are just our greatly flawed character. It is painful that many have insulted people that were divinely sent and orchestrated to be of great help to them in fulfilling their destiny. There are people out there who keep malice with their destiny helpers placed for them.

Furthermore, a person once argued: "The best index to a person's character is how he treats people who cannot do him any good, and how he treats people who cannot fight back." By how he treats those who can't help him, you can easily judge a man's character. Obviously speaking, the way we treat people generally matters especially those we think cannot be of assistance to us. It tells more about our character and integrity than the way we perceived it. What are your ways of treating people?

Prayer is not everything, is it? Form and sustain relationships, do not forget that God will always use man, develop your family. Think of your words and the way you speak to people. Make sure you're serious about your character and attitude to life. The character is not optional; it's sacred to the future that God has planned for you and your home. No matter where you place prayers, character matters. It's faith without character that is the greatest fraud in life. A man without character is recklessly alive. Proverbs 22:6 says we're supposed to train a child the way he's supposed to go, when he's old, he won't leave. In other words, when a child is still young, especially between the ages of one and seven years of age, he develops a child character.

This was why East and West Berlin were segregated by a great wall at the time of German division. One day, someone from East Berlin took a truckload of garbage and dumped it across the line to West Berlin. West Berlin's people could have done that as well, but they didn't. They'd taken a truckful of canned foods, bread, milk and whatever else they could arrange in neat compartments on the East Berlin side. They put up a sign at the top of this stack: they all give what they have. How very true! You're not allowed to give anything but what you have. Be sincere! What's inside you, what do you have?

Importance and Components of Personal Character Development

Every child has the right to become a person of good character and competence, so that he or she will be able to learn from mistakes and take decisions capable of enabling him or her to grow up as a competent individual. Becoming a fine person with perfect vision, in each respect, is one of the basic objectives that children hope to achieve in life. From the time they grow up, children are taught to be responsible and

respectful. Parents teach and demonstrate the values their children eventually possess as the first teacher and agent of socialization. Here the parents need to be very cautious, since these kids are watching and observing them (Odudele, 2020). And I can see them looking up at their parents when they lie, disrespect, are not honest and all this stuff. They are observing a lack of values in their parents, as if to replicate them. Parents should focus their attention from all angles on character education.

In addition, the components and recipe for individual character development are listed in Alexander (2005) as follows. Anyone who wants to develop his or her character needs to become acquainted with the following:

Belief:- It is an opinion about something, something you think is true, and you are allowed to pursue it.

Principle: - The basis of belief and behaviour, or in the case of claims reasoning, is based on this basic truth.

Habit: - That is a regular act of behaviour. It occurs when the routine is reaped regularly. The fact that it happens subconsciously is one of the major characteristics of habit. You don't know the routine of your behaviour when you're doing a habit.

Behaviour: - It refers to the actions of living beings or systems that respond to the environment. It's a response by the system or an individual to various external influences.

Virtue: - A trait which strengthens character and intelligence, guided by our ethics or compass of morality.

Character Education:- The pursuit of good for oneself and society.

Empathy: That means being able to get a sense of the emotions of other people and know what they are thinking.

Self-control:- Even when we don't want to be, this is good for ethics.

Will:- This is to give duty its highest priority before pleasure, thinking about the morality of what's happening.

Competence: - This is the ability to turn moral judgment and feeling into an effective action.

Knowing moral values:- This is what every value represents as well as how to use it in different situations.

Moral awareness:- This is the understanding of what it means to be ethical, and why we should behave in a morally correct manner.

Parental Responsibility in Child's Character Formation and Development

In an environment where ethical choices are imposed upon the individual, character cannot be developed. The character is the result of judgement, discretion and choice arising from a man's free will. A decision that's coerced isn't moral and it can't be a choice of character. In acting on ethics, it shall manifest itself as being independent and solely responsible to the common good and discipline in conformity with this principle. However, in order for a parent to be an active participant in the development of his and her child's character, he or she also needs to have good discipline and moral integrity. The parents need to have a good sense of their own character. Parents cannot hope to preserve this trait if they do not speak less of shaping the character of their children. One of the greatest influences on child's character is those with whom he surrounds himself. It is the mothers who are particularly close to their children.

Today parents have a higher degree of pressure to act for the best interests of their child than they did in earlier generations. Thus, according to Yesmin (2008), parents are considered to be involved and sympathetic listeners. The child will be impressed with the grace and beauty of his ideal, while gradually

being influenced by it to strive for a standard of good judgment and feeling, thanks to parents' spirit of fairness and charity as well as their clearly defined views on every ethical issue.

From childhood, the character of a child is shaped and influenced by where he gets to grow up, how he's raised, what his parents are teaching him in terms of religious or academic education as well as so on. Parents are the most influential role models children are likely to have in any given society (Crosser, 2007). It is important for parents to take responsibility for their children's lives. When parents shape their character in a better way, it benefits the child. In Eliason and Jenkins's (2003) report, it is stated that the child benefits from parents having full trust to help their kids succeed at school or in life.

The development of a child's character should be traced back to the parents when he or she shows good qualities. Parents will do well if they can help develop the character of their children every moment. When a child is walking, talking, eating, drinking, working and playing, going out and coming home, parents need to be involved since he's the conscience of this community where he comes from. In this respect, there is much to be desired in particular from women. At the very early stage of life, a baby's close to his mother. Mothers should take good care of their wards closely from childhood even while sucking breast on daily basis.

The development of a character begins with the child, from the moment they recognize the environment; that is, when they sense it. The organs of vision, hearing, feelings, smells and touch are developing. Both parents and guardians must carefully monitor this stage of development. at regular intervals.

Common Deviant Behaviour in Cotemporary Nigeria

Disobedience: It starts with disobeying parents' orders, disrespecting parents, lateness to school, breaking school rules. It is a attitude which can only be controlled by parents if they do not handle it properly.

Truancy: - Children that exhibit deviant behaviour are habitual truant. They don't go to school every day, they spend a few extra days or weeks after the holidays. In order to avoid school attendance, some of them leave the classroom.

Dishonesty: It is all started by falsification of the report sheets or cards, deception during examination and lying about it.

Stealing: It's all about collecting the parents' money, choosing fellow students "or teachers" to spend school fees on what they please.

Drug effectiveness: This includes snuffing tobacco, smoking cigarette and Indian hemp, heroin, cocaine, drinking alcohol and using drugs not prescribed by doctors.

Sex offences: Some youths with deviant behaviour are found to be engaged in premarital sex around the home and school. Many get impregnated and ready to go for abortion.

Assault and insult: Certain youths are caught frequently in unlawful places with unlawful behaviour, they engaged in fighting, use abusive words on other people, fight members of the family and disregarding the people (Goode, 2016).

Challenges Facing Parents while Performing their Responsibilities

Two major challenges affecting parents' role in building their children character are broken homes (inadequate parental care) and poverty.

Broken Homes

It has been noted that, in order for the child to be what he is, his family from which he comes plays an important role. If the home upbringing of a child has not been addressed, it would be impossible to talk about Social Problems. According to Crosser (2007), most of the youths who have social problems live in

unhappy homes which makes them feel dissatisfied with their lives. He made a point of pointing out that this discontent varies from one home to another.

Poverty

According to Crosser (2007), an unused poverty sticker with many mothers has more than average obstacle to overcome in order to be effective in her child rearing task. She has not been able to take up the task that society entrusts most strongly to her family, namely help with child socialisation and contribute to his development. In fact, in this way he is prepared to settle into a comfortable and useful place of adulthood within the society. Unruly behavior may seem like a solution for young people who have found themselves in this mess.

There can be no trust, no justice, no true community or stability, no real pursuit of happiness in Nigeria today without people of good character. For the good of their children, parents' qualities should influence them to build power and strength in a better future and lifestyle towards nation building.

Formation and Development of Character towards Nation Building in Nigeria

The restructuring of an organization or system usually involves changing the way in which it operates, so as to make it work more effectively. Discourse on restructuring means that Nigerians have agreed despite her unity in diversity, to strengthen the structures to make the union more functional based on comparative advantages. Restructuring is necessary due to destabilising circumstances which have arisen under the present conditions (Moghalu, 2018). He also emphasized the fact that by restructuring Nigeria we could stabilize it, or continue playing an ostrich and pretend our "processes" are a problem not its structure.

Despite the wealth of natural resources and the fact that Nigeria is Africa's largest economy and the most populous black country, it is not happy with the current political structure. A call for reform of politics, Constitutional and Fiscal Policies from the Nigerian community has been brought about by this state of public discontent on a variety of grounds and motives. The countries that are not active today, who cannot develop their resources, fight poverty in their areas or contribute to Nigeria's development will be unable to do so. (Nwosu, 2016).

The infrastructures are inevitably in bad shape. The poor become poorer, no good roads, water and electricity, public administration is not working, unemployment is on the high side, hostility, violence, insecurity, chaos abound every day. Crime has made life very unsafe all over the country and hence, the clamour for parental responsibility in Child restructuring of Nigeria. The new crime rate of the herdsmen killings of farmers on their farmlands is becoming alarming. Farmers have left their land and farming is at its lowest level ever. (Odofin, 2003).

A societal norm based on a small number of core values should be the longer term answer to these problems. Positive development of youth is a real necessity for today's children, and this starts with character formation.

Those who demand the restructuring argue that, by stimulating working and competition between federal units, it will lead to a situation of greater stability on the national political scene as well as bring about progress for the economy. Nothing is going to be achieved if the people with questionable character are in power. There is a need to collaborate and cooperate between parents in order to achieve best outcomes for children. (Odudele, 2021).

In order to achieve peace, parents should call the young children and tell them how things are supposed to go. It is the training parents give their children at home that enables us to build our national character. There is a need to make sure that parents, particularly mothers, do not hesitate from fulfilling their responsibilities because of the work schedule or business.

Accountability, transparency, diligence, commitment, honesty, objectivity, kindness, fairness and integrity are attributes of a character. As parents, they need to exploit the advantages that parenthood offers in making the world more beautiful.

Towards Effective Intercession for a Nation

The act of national intercession involves praying on the behalf of others, groups, states or the nation. It is a direct form of prayer, petition or entreaty in favour of another person, group, state or country. It is a self-sacrificial work of pouring oneself out for others in prayer. National intercession is a call to pray for our nation. The flow of prayer in church generally is not very much persistent and earnest especially on national issues despite Paul's injunction (1 Timothy 2:1). The Sunday services in church frequently lack any such concerted national intercessory prayer and this is true of many evangelical churches. In worship services, it is also frequently overlooked. The agenda does not devote a great deal of attention to public prayer for the rulers and governments. There's a need for reflection as to whether our intercession can have the same effect on inspiring believers and convicting unbelieving unbelievers.

Interceding for our national as critical role even when the nations goes through judgment. As in the case of some prophecy mediators, such as Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, and Jeremiah, they are not always able to stop God's decreed judgments (as is currently the case with our own nation), but their prayers through the trials of judgement were crucial for ultimate survival and restoration. Intercession is an instrument by which God is able to "in wrath, remember mercy" even in the direst of national straits.

It is important to underscore here that all effective intercession begins in the heart of the intercessor; that is prayer which agrees with the will of God is prayer that get result. Intercession on behalf of others comes from a burden in the heart of the intercessor. As patriots, if we must intercede for our nation to get result, it must come from a burden of our heart to see things change for the better (Odudele, 2006). The following are the necessary step we must take if our prayer will be effective:

1. We must be ready to purge ourselves from sin and come before Him in holiness, righteousness and purity (Luke 6:45; Matthew 12:34). If our lives are not purged from sin, we cannot ask anything from God and He will do it. Therefore, we must first turn away from sin before approaching God's throne for mercy on our land.
2. We must trust God with the whole of our heart with stern belief that He can change our nation for the better. We should recognize His person and power to turn things around rather than depend on head knowledge or our leaders.
3. We must approach God in Faith. God has promised that whatsoever we asked in His name, He will do. Therefore, presenting our nation to God in prayer must be done in confidence that He will hear us. We serve faithful God and whatever we present to Him in faith, He will do. The question now is: What to pray for in the place of prayer?
 - a. A new course for our country
 - b. National wellbeing of citizen
 - c. End of sensational strife and carnage in our beloved country
 - d. End of terrorism
 - e. Uprooting violence and kidnapping, ritual killings and political upheavals.
 - f. End to corruption and political unrest
 - g. Praying for the will of God to be established in the North to South, East and west corners of the country
 - h. Hope to be restored to the hopeless
 - I. Healing of our land

j. Rising of honest, selfless leaders of integrity.

k. Restoration of homes and families.

Results/Discussion and Conclusion

For children, parents are supposed to be role models. Children will be greatly affected if they do not perform their tasks, and they may be forced to adopt bad role models. Therefore, parents need to be warned and behave themselves before their children. In the future, parents should train their children to work hard so that they will be responsible for themselves and society as a whole.

The best means of building a nation is to educate, and so parents need to take an active role in the development of their children's education if they want to be committed to National Development. The parents should provide the young children with preparatory training in order to prepare their minds for the tasks that are before them. Sex education should be given to the youth by parents at homes. Parents are duty bound to continue discussing Nigeria's history with a view to building up the nation, while remembering that there is still work to be done in terms of learning more about Nigerian history.

Besides, the kind of person they are should be shown by parents. What they say, wish, hope or plan is not an indication of their character. Especially in the face of adversity, it's that kind of action. By reporting the truth in all situations, they have to develop integrity and become truly honorable people. They've got to stand up for what they believe, and aspire to develop leadership in their children. Only those people who in any area are the best to make it into the top.

Parents in Nigeria should be committed to upholding social justice, equality, and people's welfare, which will help the country in nation building. The impact of the parents to national development and growth can be seen in the education sector and other areas of the country. Parent has also influenced the nation in setting the pace for righteousness. The influence of Christian missionaries has contributed to building the nation. Thus, the home is one of the famous institutions that have positively influenced many Nigerians.

Thus, a strong family is the core of an entire nation's strength. In terms of its role as a mother, it is the state's primary institution. The clamour for restructuring will not be necessary if Nigeria develops the kind of senior management that it needs from now on. If a family breaks up, the country might not be able to achieve its full potential. Yesmin (2008) argues that parents and mothers should play an important role in the upbringing of their kids, ensuring they have good values. The need for both parents to be fully involved in the child's development is critical if all children are to reach their full potential. It is usually said that charity begins at home. The father and mother should be good model for the children to copy. The home or family being the first agent of socialization and first school of the child should provide the basic needs for the child. At home, the parents or the family could influence the moral upbringing, and action of the child positively and negatively. The family should provide a stimulating environment that will encourage the children to learn. The home is expected to inculcate in the child moral and religious lessons for self, societal development and nation building.

Lastly, the paper has existence argued that to build a strong Nigeria society, it is imperative to explore and maintain its growth through the family, since it is within the family that basic rules are inculcated. It is therefore with this understanding that state on her own part should work towards empowering her citizens so that she will in-turn receive from the family the reward for building the nation. The Christian families in carrying out the task of nation building needs love for one's country as a basic duty that must manifest in one's interest and concern for the nation's welfare. Being always ready to enjoy in her time of joy and suffer with her in her period of suffering even to the point of readiness for service in a just war. This is an acid test of a genuine patriotism. This is because no nation can build itself without the strength of her citizens who are the families. By penetrating these orders, the Christian family finds its responsibilities and opportunities to contribute to nation building and thereby remains fully in touch with all the facets of national life and development. Above all, family promotes human interaction among members of the society. Thus, the family regulates procreative and biological relations between individual and society.

Family therefore makes one to be responsible, responsive and accountable for his actions towards nation building.

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