

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

The Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria is the Pioneer Broadcast Organization in Nigeria with a rich culture of excellence. Available records reveal that Radio Broadcasting was introduced into Nigeria in 1933 by the then colonial Government. It relayed the overseas service of the British Broadcasting Corporation through wired system with loudspeakers at the listening end. The service was called Radio Diffusion System, RDS. From the RDS emerged the Nigerian Broadcasting Services, NBS in April 1980. Prior to the NBS, the colonial Government had commissioned the Nigerian Broadcasting survey, undertaken by Messrs Byron and Turner which recommended the establishment of stations in Lagos, Kaduna, Enugu, Ibadan and Kano. Mr. T.W. Chalmers, a Briton and controller of the BBC Light Entertainment Programme was the first Director-General of the NBS.

Radio ownership and control has since colonial times been subjected more to political exigencies than economic forces. Successive governments have, in the laws they enact and enforce, made it abundantly clear that the press was at the mercy of politics, and that the political tune to which a paper dances was enough to ensure its survival or death Abramsky, (2005). The laws and their implementation have seldom encouraged private investment in the media nor given radio proprietors reason to believe that it is feasible to run it as a business by attracting advertisement revenue with good circulation figures.

The government shows that it is more interested in containing the media politically than in providing its proprietors and practitioners the enabling economic environment they need for

professional excellence and financial independence. This has brought about the underdevelopment of the press by imposing on it a series of constraints. No one who knows what a radio looks like (in content and form) take seriously what is passed on news Akpan, (2008), of course, some of the constraints to a vibrant, professional and financially viable radio are obviously internal to the press itself. However, even these so-called internal constraints can be explained by the overt political control and administrative determination to stifle all forms of creative and liberating difference from the status quo that a free press of any kind might seek to encourage Beder, (2002). This necessarily means privileging ignorance over knowledge, and encouraging media practitioners who know little or care little about professionalism.

Thus, the first and main threat to free-flow of information is still largely from wielders of political power, efforts at economic liberalization notwithstanding (Konings, 2006). Control by big business or financial magnates is perhaps a future danger, as overt political interference has made it too risky for the business world to contemplate any meaningful partnership with or investment in the press, the critical private press in particular. During the monolithic era, the sole political pace-setter was the government. Today, there is the added danger of power elites other than the governing, manipulating the press in similar ways if not worse.

Often, the journalists I have interviewed tend to think, quite mistakenly, that the only real threat to their freedom and independence comes from proprietors. This is quite understandable, given that the government is directly responsible for repressive laws and their day to day application, and given that the radio owners have consistently worked to keep the press divided through sponsoring the creation of private papers or thwarting attempts to create strong unions of media practitioners (Guiffo, 2003; Nyamnjoh, 2006; Nyamnjoh et al., 2006). This

notwithstanding, it is important for journalists to bear in mind that threats to their independence could also come from big business, such as experienced from government. They ought also to note that an equally dangerous threat could arise from unwittingly playing into the hands of the power elite in the opposition, as even they would agree has happened during democratic process. Among the internal constraints to a free press (constraints induced, of course, by governments and radio owners monolithic inclinations and severe laws over the years), is the inadequacy of professionalism and unity among journalists.

The splits, squabbles and instability we have witnessed among radio proprietors and journalists over the past eight years of democratic struggle, mean that the press has been preoccupied more with internal wrangles of its own, than with a conscious, concerted effort as an institution, to pool their resources together and fight for better laws and for persecuted journalists, as well as better inform their readership or viewership Bleifuss, 2005. If journalists are more united and better organized, they could resolve most of the problems that currently plague them and their profession, even if such professional independence.

Lack of job security is equally a constraint. Radio owners have capitalized on the helplessness of the job-seekers, who have not been guaranteed regular salaries. No firm arrangements are reached; as the owners are often more interested in whatever commercial gain they can muster than in professional excellence. This has inevitably led to prostitution by journalists or to what one may term a hand-to-mouth journalism, if not a journalism of misery Burton, 2004. In 1994 and 1995 when I ran a series of training and refresher programmes for journalists under the auspices of the Friedrich-Ebert Foundation in Cameroon, it was not uncommon for journalists to show more interest in the per diem that the foundation paid them for

attending, than in the training itself. Journalists find themselves being forced to make unreliable promises to publish stories or slip in an advert here or there; promises which have led to untold problems for them. Any bit of money can lure a journalist to write anything, including blackmail. Even with the official media, a journalist thinks that if he writes this or that flattering article about this or that highly placed person in the ruling party or in the administration, he could be recognised and promoted. The main reason is that journalists do not receive good salaries and therefore have to aspire to extra-professional appointments which can fetch them a little more. The lack of job security has thus negatively affected professionalism as journalists seek to make ends meet through unprofessional practices, usually referred to derogatorily as 'le journalisme de Gombo' ('Soya Journalism' or 'bread and butter journalism') (cf. Tueno Tagne, 2006). Such gombo-isation of the profession has, together with other factors, done much to devalue the journalist and his product in public esteem (FFE, 2003, 2006).

The next type of constraint pertains to financial difficulties that have compounded the problems of news-gathering and news-production, and made papers even less credible as they stretch and strain to make possible every single edition. The high death or hibernation toll among radios Boh, (2007, p.193-230), is clear proof of these difficulties. If currently there is little advertising in the press, and if industry and commerce behave as though advertising were doing journalist a favour, this is due largely to the very unprofessional approach to journalism of which the press is guilty, but also to the fear on the part of businessmen, of drastic government sanctions on anyone caught keen on investing in the private press. Increased professionalism would most likely lead to high circulation and more advertising, and consequently, more revenue

for the publishers to invest in new technology. It could also act as an incentive to big business to invest in the media.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Among the problems to a free press (constraints induced, of course, by government's unchanging inclinations and asphyxiating laws over the years), is the inadequacy of professionalism and unity among journalists. Independence in journalism means freedom from all obligations that might interfere with the fidelity to the public interest. Therefore what the study wants to find out is; how does Radio Ownership Influences Professional Journalism Practice?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of the study is to determine Radio ownership as constraint for professional journalism practice in FRCN.

1. To determine how journalist are been restricted from their duty.
2. To ascertain the extent to which journalist protect the confidentiality of their news sources
3. To determine how the constraints can be solved.

1.4 Research Questions

1. How do journalists experience restriction in the course of their duty?
2. To what extent do journalists protect the confidentiality of their news sources?
3. What are the solutions to the constraints faced by journalist?

1.5 Scope of the Study

There are ethical lights which guide the journalistic enterprise. A good journalist is judged by the extent of his commitment to these ideas of them acting based on their codes. The research will be concerned with FRCN.

1.6 Significance of the Study

This study will help government policy makers, radio owners, Journalist and all students conducting research on the same topic. In the same vain it will be of immense help to the students in Mass Communication department.

1.7 Definition of Terms:

1.7.1 Radio: The transmission and reception of electromagnetic waves of radio frequency, esp. those carrying sound messages.

1.7.2 Constraint: A limitation or restriction.

1.7.3 Journalist: A person who writes for newspapers or magazines or prepares news to be broadcast on radio or television.

1.7.4 Proprietor: The owner of an establishment

1.7.5 Professional: a person who is expert at his or her work: You can tell by her comments that this editor is a real professional.

1.7.6 Influence: The effect that a person or thing has on someone's decisions, opinions, or behavior or on the way something happens

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Sources of Data

This chapter reviewed all literature relevant to the study of “Influence of Radio Ownership on professional Journalism Practice”. The researcher looked into different materials and compared the opinion of supra authors. Relevant literature in relation with the study and how it contributes to the research were considered. The literatures to be used in this study were obtained from primary and secondary data, text book, libraries, research centers and online data. The chapter was arranged according to the titles and subheadings relevant to the study including the concept and relevant related literatures. The theoretical frame work concept and related literature and summary were also inclusive.

2.2 Review of Concept

2.2.1 The Concept of Professionalism

Professionalism is one of the concepts that have brought about a chain of elusive meaning. The word professionalism falls under three meaning firstly, amateur, secondly, the unification by special training, thirdly, a code of conduct giving priority to the interest of the recipient client. Delta as quoted in Odo (1997, p.88) mentions three aspects of a profession, expertise, self determination and public recognition. Professionals have rules and regulations guiding them, in every profession there is code of ethics.

However, although the question of whether journalism 'counts' as a profession has been important to the extent it has provided a basis upon which particular rights and privileges have been claimed, recognized and refused, critical perspectives on professionalism have long

disputed approaches that simply regard it as an objective and definitive set of qualities that qualify or disqualify occupations as 'professions' (Johnson 1972, Hughes 1963).

Others have recently emphasized both historical and recent attempts of employers to exercise influence over professional education in order to promote instrumentalist training agendas and to de-emphasize, or altogether remove, critical aspects within journalism courses (Reese 1999, Reese and Cohen 2000). Soloski's study of news professionalism also explicitly draws on this critical perspective to identify journalistic objectivity as an effective 'transorganisational control mechanism' (1997, p.143) that works in tandem with the editorial system as a mechanism for ensuring that journalists operate in a disciplined and relatively standardized fashion. As journalism's 'most important professional norm', objectivity displaces journalists' responsibility for what they report onto procedures of gathering 'facts' and presenting 'fair and balanced' reports, leads them to develop collective assumptions about what is socially 'normal', and supports a routine reliance on centers of political and institutional power as these are drawn upon to support the 'authoritative' credentials of the professional journalist. Similarly, Michael Schussing has developed an historical analysis of objectivity that incorporates both a Durkheimian perspective on its adoption as an occupational norm, and a Weberian perspective on its instrumental use by employers as a mechanism to exercise control over employees, both of which are implicated in the gradual 'professionalization of American journalism' (2001: 149).

A related perspective on journalism's historical 'professionalization' in the US informs Daniel Hallin's (2000) claim that professionalism now appears to be in decline. Hallin quotes the 1947 Hutchins Commission of Freedom of the Press call for the press to 'look on itself as performing a public service of a professional kind' (2000, p.219), and suggests that rather than a

watershed, this was consistent with a trend toward an ethos of 'public service' and 'social responsibility' across various sectors:

The professionalization of journalism was part of a general trend, beginning in the Progressive Era, away from Partisan politics as a basis for public life, and towards conceptions of administrative rationality and neutral expertise. The journalist was supposed to serve the public as a whole, and not particular interests, whether the partisan causes journalists had championed in the nineteenth century, or the narrow commercial interests of advertisers and owners. Hallin (2000, p.220) With hindsight, Hallin argues, this period of 'professionalization' may be seen as a brief period of 'high modernism' that, though perhaps not entirely displaced, today merely maintains a residual influence over the field of journalism. This decline of professionalism, he suggests, has occurred as a result of a combination of transformations within media industries and broader processes of political and cultural change that have each served to undermine the structural conditions upon which it rested. In the case of the former, an intensified competition, the relaxation of broadcast regulation, and a blurring of formal lines of separation between business and editorial roles within media organizations are cited as key influences that have coincided with, and contributed to, the merging of news and entertainment. Here, Hallin also cites the effect of identity politics and its progressive critique of claims to speak from either an 'objective' or consensual position, alongside the emergence of widespread distrust in centers of political authority. While largely pessimistic about the trends he describes, Hallin is careful to avoid an uncritical nostalgia, and explicitly points toward the many inequities and shortcomings of this 'high modern' tradition.

Is it justified, however, to regard such trends as a decline of professionalism itself? To answer this, we must return to the question of what 'professionalism' is. If professionalism is not a fixed

set of attributes but a basis of social identity that forms a site of social struggle, then claims that an historical 'professionalization' of journalism occurred appear well founded.

However, it follows from this approach that what 'professionalization' represents is *not* the establishment of a 'profession' with definitive qualities, but rather the mobilization of both particular claims regarding the professional status of journalism itself (or, at least, some areas of it) and the deployment of particular techniques to promote 'professionalism'. The question of whether professionalism in journalism is in decline, in this sense, cannot be equated to the question of whether a previously accepted definition of professionalism is no longer widely held. Rather, we must ask whether, today, there are fewer agents who seek to mobilise discourses of professionalism, and fewer mechanisms through which forms of professional identity are promoted.

2.2.2 The Concept of Journalism

Journalism has been defined by various authors. According to the BBC English Dictionary (1992:629) Journalism is the job of collecting, writing and publishing news in news papers, magazines, on television and radio. Akinfeleye (1990, p.1-3) sees journalism as a profession, vocation or occupation requiring advanced education, training and involving intellectual skills.

Thus implies that the journalist has to be skillful on the job of collecting, writing and publishing news.

Journalism is the profession of writing, communicating, formally employed by publications and broadcasters, a journalist is expected to use facts to describe events, ideas and issues that are relevant to the public, journalist is known as news analyst, reporter and

correspondent who gathers information, and disseminate it so that the society remains informed about local, state, national and international events.

Ike (2005, p.120) describes journalism as the trades technique or profession of reporting news for the public by various means. Samba (2008, p.230) says “Journalism is a report of things as they appear at the moment of writing, not a definitive study of a situation”. Sobowale believes that “a journalist is anyone who has undergone either formal or on-the-job training in the art of journalism and is competent to perform journalistic functions” David (2001, p.5).

There are certain qualities that enables a journalist to function effectively, among such qualities according to David (2001, p.3-6) are; Interest in his job and in the people, which enhance his performance for the fact that he sees his job as a calling and places his interest for the job in the masses he serves above his limited self-interest. The journalist is expected to have an inquisitive nature which creates an urge in him/her to know and tell others Menche (1983) as cited in David (2001, p.4). Creative imagination is also considered an essential quality that the journalist must have in order to be able to provide original ideas.

Creative imagination according to David (2001, p.4) implies the journalist’s ability to visualize new and original ways of solving problems others believe are not soluable and handling situations that appear quiet complex. The journalist requires the qualities in is arduous task of digging up facts that people intentionally suppress.

Journalist according to Sonaike (1987) as quoted in David, Imeh (2001, p.4) is his ability to nose for news that enables him to know news potentials of an event, casual dues to important information, related events and a number of facts concerning the same subject matters.

Akinfeleye, Ralph (1982) as cited in David Imeh (2001, p.5) also considers news judgment as an important quality that enables the journalist to perform his job effectively. Courage and perseverance are also an essential quality of a journalist because the journalist needs boldness to enable him to put across some penetrating questions to some kinds of persons or visit some places. A journalist must always be ready and open, willing to learn and experiment new approaches and ways. He must always return from his news beat with a publishable news story. A sense of commitment on the part of the journalist makes him dependable. Integrity and discipline, these are ingredients of personal ethics, a sense of integrity and self-discipline will enable the journalist steadily work at a task until it is accomplished. This integrity will win both confidence of news sources and professional colleagues.

Every profession of repute has its practitioner's code of ethics that guide the conduct of members in the performance of their duties. Journalistic ethics have been established all over the world both by members of the profession and media organization.

In Nigeria, the Press Organization (NPO) has a code of conduct that every journalist must adhere to. This code of conduct deals with what is right or wrong and dispute stipulates punishment for violators, notwithstanding, the availability of code of conduct of journalism in Nigeria is still riddled with many ethical problems.

Merill (1982) defines ethics as the branch of philosophy which aids in determining what is wrong or right, ethics is the study of right conduct its ultimate concern is how to provide moral principles or norms for action. The purpose of ethics in mass communication is to assist journalist to be morally sound professionals. Journalistic ethics will stipulate rules, norms and principles that would guide the journalists is making moral decisions.

Codes of journalistic ethics can be defined as rules and norms, which are prepared and adopted by journalist to regulate the conduct of their profession. Professional ethical norms first began to be codified in the early 1920s and at present these desirous of working in the realm of investigative journalism, there is a ceiling”. For the sake of their lives and livelihood, journalists pander to the columns and caprices of those at the top positions in the state. This is particularly so for government owned radio stations that lack the audacity to publish stories as the ethics of the profession demands. As a result of thus, corrupt practices, fraud, money-laundering and other voices are swept under the carpet, journalist of government owned radio stations who dare to expose these evils are severely dealt with. Hence, since these journalists are paid by the government they usually have to support them whether it is in the interest of the public or not.

2.2.3 The Concepts of Constraints.

Constraints according to the BBC English Dictionary controls what you want limits, restricts or controls what you want to do. Professional journalism is bedeviled by various constraints which are classified under legal, economic, moral and infrastructural constraints. Curran et al (1979, p.283) consider legal constraints to include all rules and regulations that are defining the rights and obligations of media instructions that are ultimately enforceable by the executive and judicial arms of the state. According to them, legal constraints primarily define the area within which the radio owner may exercise freedom of expression circumscribed as the case may be by libel laws, legally protected rights of privacy, restriction on national security grounds. It has been asserted that since 1909, legal limitations and fierce rivalry between the press and the government has become regular issues. A variety of laws and constitutional amendments exist in the country to regulate journalist. The Nigerian legal system over the years has had some

unnecessarily restrictive measures that have inhibited the practice of professional journalism. These are said to have enthroned repression and suppression of views, particularly those that might be opposed to official positions. The laws regulating professional journalism are too many, with most of them in favour of government and influential people in the society.

Journalists are been restricted because of the economy situation. The economy hinders the development of investigative journalism. For most radio stations in Nigeria today, the challenges of conforming with or within the boundary of professional conduct are dwarfed by the instinct of survival. Out of desperation to capture one's market, very often the whole process of verifying or crosschecking fact is ignored. As a result of the poor economic situation in the country, most radio station have inadequate fund which has led to the neglect of many important news events. It has also led to a total non coverage of rural areas. Most journalists are paid peanuts for the hectic and hazardous job of news sourcing, gathering, reportage and dissemination. This hampers their motivate codes exist in some countries in all regions of the world (MacBride et al, 1981), Okunna (1997) pointed out that there are certain fundamental journalistic principles applicable to all regions of the world. These include truthfulness, refusal to collect bribes, avoidance of plagiarism, confidentiality of sources, people's right to privacy, correction and rectification of incorrect report. Anim (2006, p.19-12) opined that "Journalism entails a high degree of public trust". It is in the light of this that Nigerian Journalist prepare for themselves a code of ethics to guide them in the practice of professional journalism.

2.2.4 The Concept of Radio Ownership

Radio is defined as an electromagnetic device used for the transmission and reception of information or message from the sender to the receiver with help of our waves and radio frequencies.

The National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) is a commission established by decree No. 38 of 1992 empowered to take full responsibility of managing and supervising the affairs of broadcasting in Nigeria. The National Broadcasting Commission was to advise the Federal Government on the implementation of the National Mass Communication policy with the particularly reference to broadcasting, it was also established to receive, process and consider applications from individuals or cooperate bodies for ownership of radio stations and television stations, it is to recommend applications through the honorable Minister of Information and Communication to the president for the granting of radio and Television services, to regulate ethical standards and technical excellent in both public and private broadcasting stations, it's established to disseminate a national broadcasting code that set standards with regards to the content and quality of material and of broadcast, the NBC was established to monitor broadcasting. It is to allocate airwaves and frequencies to radio and Television stations.

Ownership in the broadcast sector is shrouded in excessive secrecy particularly during the licensing process. There is some legislative provision for control of cross-ownership. Section 9(4) of NBC Act 38 says that in determining the granting of licenses, the NBC shall consider "The structure of share holding in the broadcasting organization and 'the number of shareholding in other media establishment.

Okenwa (2002:11) and Effiom (2005, p.138 – 139) believe that the ownership structure and the resultant influence of owners of the media organizations, broadcast of the electronic media has had serious effect on journalism. The news content of many radio stations conform to the interest of radio owners. As the saying goes “He who pays the piper dictates the tune” – Abayomi Ogundeji, Editor of *comet* believes that “what this means is that where a journalist is for the job which results to inefficiency in the job. According to Jerry Ashiphe in his article titled “Journalist brainstorm on condition of service” October 22 (*Nigerian Chronicle*, page 4 Wednesday, October 22, 2008). The national president of the Nigerian Union of Journalist (NUJ), Comrade Ndagene Akwu believe that the irregular payment of salaries has contributed largely to corruption in the industry where journalists covering beats often wait behind after assignments to collect “Brown envelopes” to cover their transport fair. This factor has led to the apparent loss of moral values as some journalists now resort to accepting bribes to make ends meet. This has constrained professionalism as the journalists have to dance to the tune of their “bread winners”. Anum (2006, p.185) believes that this restriction breaks the provisions of article seven (reward/gratification) under the ethical code of conduct of the journalist which says that “a journalist should neither solicit for nor accept bribe, gratification or patronage to suppress or publish information.

2.2.5 Technical Standard and Accessibility of Services

The FRCN transmit on Amplitude Modulation (AM) or Frequency Modulation (FM), the Federal Radio ranges from 20 to 25 kw for AM, and from 10 to 20 kw for FM Stations. Most of the country is covered by the combined networks of government and commercial stations availability of electricity is erratic in both urban and rural areas of the country. The Nigeria’s

electricity sector, long dominated by a state monopoly, the National Electric Power Authority (now the Power Holding Company of Nigeria) provides less than 4000 megawatts to the country. Fifty one broadcasting organizations have to invest in the purchase and maintenance of private electric generators to power their operators; due to this radio audiences are denied access because they do not have alternative sources to power their sets. The Radio stations purchase equipment from different foreign manufacturers, leading to numerous types and models being used, often incompatible with each other, as a result, equipment in Radio house is often obsolete and inadequate. It is still common to find analogue equipments only gradually being replaced by digital systems. Access personnel to computers and allied technologies is still low in many places; Journalists have to queue for the few available midgets or recorder before they can go out and get information and before it can be transmitted.

2.3 Review of Related Studies

2.3.1 Agatha Cecilia, (2011). The constraints of Professional Journalism Practice.

This segment of the review considers other studies relevant though are not the same with the study. The study is a research carried out by Agatha Celia. The constraints of professional journalism in Nigeria. The researcher discovered that most journalist are educated and informed as such were not constrained in the practice of their profession by Miteracy. The reaction of government and influential people in the society to journalist when negative publications are made about them is hostile. This therefore constitutes serials constraints to the practice of professional Journalism. Journalists suffer physical injury and loss of lives in the course of their professional practice. The risk factor exist in other countries, nevertheless, other countries bring their risk factor under control through legal protection of journalist. This is not the case in

Nigeria where politics has delayed the passage of freedom of information bill before the National Assembly.

Politics has also constrained the freedom of the press as government and influential people in the society direct and influence the affairs of the press. Also the economic situation in the country has not helped with the poor pay package of the journalist, some government functionaries and other influential people in the society have capitalized on this to bribe journalists causing them to forget their professional ethics and to bend to the defects of these powerful people. Suffice this to mean that ethical standards have been thrown to the dust in favor of “what to eat with my family“. There should be sufficient legal and constitutional protection for journalist. There is poor and absolute no equipments in most media houses.

The research came to a conclusion that professional journalism is divided by a lot of constraints.

2.4 Theoretical Frame Work

Theory is an idea intended to explain something; it is set of principle on which the practice of an activity is based on. A study like this nature demands the use of some theories for clarity and to give the study more credibility. The following theories are relevant to this study.

2.4.1 Development Media Theory

This theory according to Okunna (1999, p.136) states that the theories emerged in the 1950s to which became increasingly noticeable as the gap between the classical theories of the press was strictly applicable for developing countries.

Mac Quail (1989, p.119-121) submitted that the great variety of economic and political condition and the changing nature of situations of developing countries a general statement of perception, appropriate their media situations is not easy to make. Development media theory is of utmost important, it posits that the media is an agent of development and mandated to fashion out media messages that will meet developmental needs of the society. Mc Quail as cited by Nwodu (2003, p.52) said media should accept and carry out positive development task in line with a nationally established one. If this be the case the need for unnecessary control and censorship by Radio owners is un called for, The journalist are expected to practice within the limits of press freedom to avoid constraints.

The unity of the development theory of the media is the acceptance of economic, development itself (thus social change) and often the correlated national building as overriding objectives.

2.5 Summary of Literature Review

The review shows that radio owners restricts journalist that are under them from doing their jobs. The research reviewed that journalist are not free to do their jobs and there are lots of restrictions that is been set for them by the media (Radio) owners. There is need for the journalists to be allowed to perform their duties so that every one will be informed and it will make the work easier.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This chapter is focused on the methodology used in this research study. This include the method of research design, population, sample and sampling techniques ,instruments used as well as method of data collection and analysis techniques. These are to ensure that the research work is authentic, verifiable and empirical.

3.1 Research Design

The design used for this study 8is survey research design. Survey design technique areused to gather contemporary data either by direct m easurement or by solution from others. According to Ogili (2005). Survey is a form of descriptive research that studies both large and small population for the stud . It studies a group of people, considered to be representative of the entire group. The research instrument employed in this study were questionnaires which were used in preference to other survey techniques.

3.2 Population of the Study

Population of the study according to Ogili (2005:53) “involves a group of persons or aggregate items, things the researcher is interested in getting information from the study”. The population of the study is the journalist of Federal Radio Cooperation Enugu. The population is made up of the entire journalist in FRCN, with the total number of 450.

3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Techniques

A sample is a representative of the whole population. Osuala (1982). Sampling is taken to be any proportion of a population as a representative of that population. Ogili (2005:54) defines sample as the actual number of or part of the study of population that is objectively selected for the purpose. Sampling is necessary because the entire population cannot be studied as it may be too large and cannot be controlled.

The sampling technique adopted for this study is simple random sampling technique which gives every member of the population the chance of selection. The researcher also used purposive sampling technique in the study to get the actually size that was studied. The sample size of this study 140 randomly selected from the 450 journalist in FRCN and this Journalist were Purposively selected.

3.4 Description of Research Instrument

A total number of twenty (20) items drawn and administered to the respondents. They were divided into two section, section A contained item in on the demography of respondent and section B answered the research question.

Item 1-5 answered questions on the demography of the respondents.

Items 8-14 answered research question one

Items 15-17 answered research question two

Items 18-19 answered research question three

Item 20 was used to find out if there are unions that protect journalist.

3.6 Validity of Instrument

After construction and critical study of the questionnaire. It was passed to the researcher's supervisor for proper modifications of aspect of the questionnaire.

3.7 Reliability of the Instrument

For the objective of this study, test and test method were used to test the reliability of the data collectively, questions were given to the respondents and after a week the same questions were given to the same respondents. The first set of questionnaire was served to their respondents were marked 'X' while the second set of the questionnaire were marked 'Y'. The correlation between these two answers were determined by using co-efficient correlation to arrive at the degree of liability of two set answers from the selection.

3.8 Method of Data Collection

Data was collected using the questionnaire which the researcher administered face to face to the respondents. Out of 140 questionnaires distributed to the respondents, 120 copies were retrieved. This represented a response rate of 85.7%.

3.9 Method of Data Analysis

In analyzing the data collected tables and responses were grouped and their percentage was calculated. Research questions were answered and analyzed using responses from respondents.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

The aim of this study is to determine the influence of Radio ownerships on professional journalism practice. This chapter is concerned with the presentation and analysis of data, through the use of questionnaire distributed. One hundred and forty (140) copies of questionnaire were distributed, out of which one hundred and twenty (120) copies were returned with a response rate of 85.7% while 20 copies were not returned with a response rate of 14.3%.

4.1 The study answered the following research questions

1. Do journalist experience restriction in the course of their duty?
2. To what extent do journalists protect the confidentiality of their news sources?
3. Are there solutions to the constraints?

4.2.1 Analysis of Demographic Data

Items 1-4 in the questionnaire answered questions on the demographic of the respondents

Question 1: What is your sex?

Table 1: Response to question 1

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Male	60	50%
Female	60	50%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field survey 2013

The above table shows that 60 respondents representing 50 are males and 60 respondents representing 50 are females.

Question 2: Age bracket**Table 2:** Response to question 2

Response	Frequency	Percentage
18 – 20	40	33.3%
21 – 30	30	25%
31 and above	50	41.7
Total	120	100%

Source: Field survey 2013

The above table indicated that 40 respondents representing 33% were between the age of 18-20years, 30 respondents representing 25% are between the age of 21 – 30, 50 or 41.7% were between the age of 31 and above.

Question 3: What is your educational qualification?**Table 3:** Response to question 3

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
'O' level	20	16.7%
OND./GCE/NCE	30	25%
B.Sc.	40	33.3%
M.Sc.	25	20.8%
Ph.d	5	4.2%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field survey 2013

The table above shows that 20 respondents, represents 6.7% are 'O' level holders, 30 or 25% are OND/GCE/NCE holders, 40 or 33.3% are B.Sc. holders, 25 or 20.8% are M.Sc. holders, 5 respondents representing 4.2% are PhD holders.

Question 4: What is your marital status?**Table 4:** Response to question 4

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Single	70	58.3%
Married	50	41.7%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field survey 2013

The table above indicates that 70 respondents representing 58.3% are single, 50 respondents representing 41.7% are married.

4.2.1 Question 5: Are you a Journalist?**Table 5:** Response to Question 5

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Yes	120	100%
No	0	0%
Total	120	100

Source: Field survey 2013

The table above shows that 120 respondents, representing 100% are all journalist.

Question 6: In which area are you practicing?**Table 6:** Response to question 6

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Radio	40	33.3%
Television	30	25%
Freelancer	10	8.3%
Newspaper	20	16.7%
Magazine	20	16.7%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field survey 2013

The table above shows that 40 respondents, representing 33.3% practice in radio stations, 30 respondents, representing 25% practice in Television stations, 10 respondents representing 8.3% are freelancers, 20 respondents, representing 16.7% practice in newspaper house, 20 respondents representing 16.7% practice in magazine house.

Question 7: How long have you been on the Job as a professional journalist?

Table 7: Response to question 7

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
0 – 5yrs	32	26.7
6 – 10yrs	43	35.8
11 – 20yrs	25	20.8
21 – 30yrs	15	12.5
31 – 35yrs	5	4.2
Total	120	100

Source: Field survey 2013

In the above table 32 or 26.7% respondent said they have been on the job as professional journalist for 0 – 5yrs, 43 respondents, representing 35.8% said 6 – 10yrs, 25 respondents, representing 20.8% said 11 – 20yrs, 15 or 12.5 said 21 – 30yrs, 5 respondents representing 4.2 said 31 – 35yrs.

Question 8: Journalist experience restriction in the course of practicing their profession.

Table 8: Response to question 8

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Strongly agree	41	34.2%
Agree	30	25%
No idea	10	8.3%
Strongly disagree	19	15.8%
Disagree	20	16.7%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field of survey 2013

The table indicates that 41 or 34.2% respondents strongly agree that journalist experience restriction in the course of practicing their profession, 30 or 25% agree, 10 or 2.3% had no idea on the fact, 19 or 15.8 strongly disagree that journalist experience restriction in the course of practicing their profession, 20 or 16.7% disagree.

Question 9: Is the restriction caused by the government or the radio proprietors?

Table 9: Response of question 9

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
The government	24	20%
The radio proprietors	26	21.7%
No idea	6	5%
All of the above	46	38.3%
Non of the above	18	15%
Total	120	100%

The table showed that 24 or 20 respondents said the restrictions caused by the government, 26 or 21.7% respondent said the radio proprietors, 6 or 5% respondents said no idea, 46 or 38.3 respondents said all of the above, 18 or 15% respondents said non of the above.

Question 10: Do you agree that the restriction is caused by the radio proprietors?

Table 10: Response to Question 10

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Strongly agree	40	33.3%
Agree	20	16.7%
No idea	16	12.5%
Strongly disagree	30	25%
Disagree	15	12.5%
Total	120	100

Source: Field survey 2013

The above indicates that 40 or 33.3% respondents strongly agree that the restriction is caused by the radio proprietors, 20 or 16.7% agree, 15 or 12.5% had no idea, to the fact, 30 or 24% strongly disagree that the restriction is caused by the radio proprietors, 15 or 12.5% disagree.

Question 11: What are the factors that restrict journalism practices?

Table 11: Response to Question 11

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Inadequate infrastructure	22	18.3%
Poor remuneration	17	14.3%
Economic problem	55	45.8%
Illegal protection	16	13.3%
Threats from wealthy people	10	8.3%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field surveyor 2013

The table showed that 22 or 18.3% respondent says that journalist are restricted due to inadequate infrastructure, 17 respondents, representing 14.3% says poor remuneration, 55 or 45.8% respondents said economic problem, 16 respondents, representing 13.3% said illegal protection, 10 or 8.3% respondents said threats from wealthy people.

Question 12: Do government have laws that restrict journalism practice?

Table 12: Response to questions 12

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	100	100%
No	20	16.7%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field of survey 2013

The above table showed that 120 or 100% respondents said yes that government has laws that restrict journalism practice.

Question 13: Why do governments restrict journalism practice

Table 13: Response to question 13

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
National security reasons	30	25%
To ensure compliance to the rule of law	30	25%
To protect individuals	10	8.3%
To ensure professional qualifications	20	16.7%
To maintain code of conduct	30	25%
Total	120	100

Source: Field of survey 2013

From the above table 30 or 25% respondent said National security reasons, 30 or 25% respondents said to ensure compliance to the rule of law, 10 or 8.3 respondents said to protect

individuals, 20 or 16.7% said to ensure professional qualifications, 30 or 25% said to maintain code of conduct.

Question 14: Government has cordial relationship with journalist. Do you agree?

Table 14: Response to question 14

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly agree	17	14.2%
Agree	13	10.8%
No idea	9	7.5%
Strongly disagree	60	50%
Disagree	21	17.5%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field of survey 2013

From the table above 17 or 14.2% strongly disagree that government have cordial relationship with journalist, 13 or 10.8% agree, 9 or 7% had no idea, 60 or 50% strongly disagree that government and journalist have cordial relationship 21 or 17.5% disagree.

Question 15: To what extent do journalists protect the confidentiality of their news source?

Table 15: Response to question 15

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Very high extent	40	33.3%
High extent	20	16.7%
moderately	30	25%
Very low extent	20	16.7%
Low extent	10	8.3%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field of survey 2013

From the above table 40 or 33.3% respondents said very high extent, 20 or 16.7% said high extent, 30 or 25% said moderately, 20 or 16.7% said very low extent, 10 or 8.3% said low extent.

Question 16: Do you protect the confidentiality of your news source

Table 16: Response to question 16

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Most often	70	58.3%
Often	26	21.7%
Always	14	11.7%
No idea	10	8.3%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field of survey 2013

From the above table 70 or 58.3% most often protect the confidentiality of their new source, 26 or 21.7% often protect the confidentiality of their news source, 14 or 11.7% said always, 10 or 8.3% said no idea.

Question 17: How do you protect the confidentiality of your news source?

Table 17: Response to research question 17

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
By obeying the plea of anonymity	41	34.2%
Off record	39	32.5%
By making the meeting private	20	16.7%
No idea	10	8.3%
All of the above	10	8.3%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field of survey 2013

From the above table 41 or 34.2% said by obeying the plea of anonymity, 39 or 32.5% said off record, 20 respondent, representing 16.7% said making the meeting private, 10 or 8.3% said they had no idea, 10 or 8.3% said all of the above.

Question 18: Do you agree that there are solutions to the constraints?

Table 18: Response to question 18

Response	Frequency	Percentages %
Strongly agree	70	58.3%
Agree	20	16.7%
No idea	2	1.7%
Strongly disagree	10	8.3%
Disagree	18	15%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field of survey 2013

The above table showed that 70 respondents, representing 58.3% strongly agree that there are solutions to the constraints, 20 or 16.7% agree, 2 or 1.7% said no idea, 10 or 8.3% strongly disagree that there are solutions to the constraints, 18 or 15% disagreed.

Question 19: What would you consider most as a solution to the constraints on professional journalism practice?

Table 19: Response to question 19

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Great freedom of the press	36	30%
Speedy passage of the freedom of information bill before the national assembly	9	7.5%
Legal protection of the journalism	24	20%
Bettters pay for the journalist	17	14.2%
All of the above	34	7.5%
Total	120	100

Source: Field of survey 2013

The above table indicates 36 or 30% said great freedom of the press is what they would consider most as solution to the constrains,9or 7.5% said speedy passage of the freedom of information bill before the National Assembly, 24 or 20% said legal protection of the journalist, 17 or 14.2% said better pay for the journalist, 34 or 28.3% said all of the above.

Question 20: Are there unions that protect journalist in the course of their duty?

Table 20: Response to question 20

Response	Frequency	Percentage %
Yes	40	33.3%
No	20	16.7%
Yes, but not effective	40	33.3%
No idea	20	16.7%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field of survey 2013

The table above indicates that 40 or 33.3% respondents said yes that there are unions that protect journalist in the course of their duty, 20 or 16.7% said No, 40 respondents, representing 33.3% said yes, but not effective, 20 or 16.7% said no idea.

4.3 Discussion of findings

In this section, the data collected in the field on the topic: “Radio ownership as constraint for professional journalism practice would be discussed.

Out of 140 copies of questionnaire distributed to the respondents 120 copies were returned. Responses to the data in relation to the research question would be discussed.

Research Question 1: Do journalist experience restriction in the course of their profession?

The aim of this question was to find out if journalist experience restriction during the course of their duty.

The data on tables 8,9,10,11,12,13 and 14 answered this research question. In table 5, 34.2% strongly agree that journalist experience restriction in the course of their profession, 25% agree, 8.3% had no idea, 15.8% strongly disagree, 16.7% disagree that journalist experience restriction in the course of their profession, table 9, 20% said the restriction is caused by the government, 21.7% said the radio proprietors, 5% said they had no idea, 15% said all of the above, that the restriction is caused by the government and radio proprietors, while 15% said none of the above causes the restriction. In table 10, 33.3% strongly agreed that the restriction is caused by the radio proprietors, 16.7% agree that it is caused by the radio proprietors, 12.5% had no idea on the fact, 25% strongly disagree that the restriction is caused by the radio proprietors, 12.5% disagree that the restriction is caused by the radio proprietors. Table 11, 18.3% said inadequate infrastructure the factors that restrict journalism practice, 14.3% said poor remuneration, 45.8% said economic problem is the factor that restrict journalism practice. 13.3% said illegal protection is the factor that restrict journalism practice, 8.3% said threat from wealthy people is the factors that restrict journalism practice. Table 12, 100% said government have laws that restrict journalism practice. Data on table 13 showed that 25% said National Security is the reason government restrict journalism practice, 25% said to ensure compliance to the rule of law, 8.3% said to protect individuals, 16.7% said to ensure professional qualifications, 25% said to maintain code of conduct. Table 14 showed that 14.2% strongly agree that government have cordial relationship with journalist, 10.8% agree, 7.5% said they had no idea if government and journalist have cordial relationship, 50% strongly disagree, 17.5% disagree that government have cordial relationship with journalist.

From the finding therefore, it can be established that journalists experience restrictions from radio proprietors and government in the course of practising their duties.

Research Question 2: To what extent do journalists protect the confidentiality of their news sources?

The aim of this research is to know if journalist protects the confidentiality of their news sources.

The data contained on table 15, 16 and 17 answered this research question. Table 15 showed that, 33.3% said very high extent, 16.7% said high extent, while 25% said moderately, 16.7% said very low extent, and while 8.3% said low extent. The data on table 16 show that 58.3% most often protect the confidentiality of their news source, 21.7% often protect the confidentiality of their news source, 11.7% said always, while 8.3% said no idea. The data on table 17 show that 34.2% of the respondent protects the confidentiality of their news source by obeying the plea of anonymity, while 32.5% respondent said off record, 16.7% respondent protect the confidentiality of their news sources, by making the meeting private, while 8.3% respondents said they had no idea and 8.3% respondents said all of the above.

From the findings above, it can be recognized that a high percentage of the journalists protect the confidentiality of their news sources.

Research question 3: Are there solutions to the constraints?

The aim of this research question is to find out if there are solutions to the journalism constraints.

Table 18 and 19 answered the research question table 18 indicates that 58.3% strongly agree that there are solutions to the constraints, 16.7% agreed while 1.7% respondents have no idea, while 8.3% strongly disagree that there are solutions to the constraints and 15% of the

respondents disagreed. Table 19 indicates that 30% of the respondents said great freedom of the press while 7.5% of the respondents said speedy passage of the freedom of information bill, before is what they consider as solution to the constraints, 20% of the respondents said legal protection of the constraints, 20% of the respondents said legal protection of the journalist is what they consider as solution to the constraint, while 14.2% of the respondents said better pay of the journalist, 7.5% said all of the above.

Table 20 was used to find out if there are unions that protect journalist. The data on table 20 showed that 33.3% of the respondents said yes, that there are unions that protect journalist in the course of their duty. 16.7% said No that there are no unions that protect journalist in the course of their duty. 33.3% said yes, but not effective, while 16.7% said they have no idea.

From the findings therefore, it is appropriate to say that there are solutions to the constraints and these solutions can be effected with the help of the union of journalist. The findings receive the support of development theory which sees that journalist can be useful in the development of the nation and also with the help of the radio proprietors not restricting them.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

Introduction

This chapter is designed to present the summary and conclusion of the entire research study and make some recommendations.

5.1 Summary of Findings

The study was focused on the constraints of professional journalism by Radio proprietors.

As a profession, journalism has there constraints as they practice anywhere, either in a radio or television house. Literatures were reviewed.

Survey research design was adopted for the study. The design was considered most relevant because it gives the researcher a chance to make references and generalization of the population by studying the sample size obtained from the study. The selection was carried out through the simple random sampling technique. The main instrument used for data collection was the questionnaire designed by the researcher with the help of the supervisor and personal interview, journalist working with them or for them. The result of the analysis indicated that radio owners put constraints on professional journalist and these makes the journalist not to do their job or perform their duties.

5.2 Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions were reached: The research study has shown that journalist is been restricted from their duties and also from performing their jobs as journalist. It can be seen from the data gotten that 34.2% of the respondents strongly agree that journalist are been restricted from doing their jobs and it could also be seen that 33.3% of these constraints is caused by the radio owners.

Most radio owners don't allow the journalist that work under them to perform their duties, because they don't want those covering events that will put them as the media into problems with the government. They also put this constraints because they feel or believe that as a journalist you can't present something good except through them and this is where they get to tell journalist where to go to cover an event and where not to go, they also do this because there is no great freedom of the press.

5.3 Recommendations

1. It is recommended that radio owners should reduce the rate at which they put constraints on journalist.
2. Journalist should be given freedom as it demands in the constitution that there should be freedom of the press. These can help the press to serve under the development media theory, if the press is given freedom they could help in the development of the nation, by helping to go those rural areas and gather information about them by doing this the government would get to hear about this rural areas and think of ways of developing them.

3. Journalist should learn how to maintain the ethical code of conduct, by not committing the brown envelope syndrome crime, by not been an junket journalist, by not been an Afghanistan.
4. The rules and regulations provided for journalist should be amended on a way that it will be suitable for both the journalist and the radio owners.
5. Radio owners should learn to develop cordial relationship with the journalist because without them they won't be able to run a radio house or radio owners and also the media is the watch dog of the society and this can be achieved with the help of the journalist who work for the media's.

5.4 Suggestion for Further Studies

The researcher suggests that further studies should be done on the study “Influnece of Radio Ownership on Professional Journalism Practice”.

Researchers who want to embark on this project should try and research on the negative and positive influence that radio ownership has on journalist.

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APPENDIX A

Caritas University,
Amorji Nike Enugu
Enugu State.
8th June, 2013.

Dear Respondent

I am a final year student from Mass Communication Department of the above Institution, currently working on the topic “Influence of Radio Ownership on Professional Journalism Practice”. The research work is in partial fulfillment of the award of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) Degree in Mass Communication.

Please assist me in giving the appropriate answers to the questions attached to enable me get the best of my result.

Be assured that the answers will be treated confidentially; hence this is for academic purpose only.

Thanks

Yours sincerely,

Nweke Dorcas Onyinyechi

APPENDIX B

Tick [] right for any option you choose

1. Sex: Male [] Female []
2. Age: 18 – 20 [] 21 – 30 [] 30 and above []
3. Marital Status: Single [] Married []
4. Educational qualification []
 - (a) 'O' level []
 - (b) OND/NCE/GCE 'A' Level []
 - (c) B.Sc. []
 - (d) M.Sc. []
 - (e) Ph. D []
5. Are you a Journalist?
 - (a) Yes [] No []
6. In which area are you practicing?
 - (a) TV []
 - (b) Radio []
 - (c) Freelance []
 - (d) Newspaper []
 - (e) Magazine []
7. How long have you been on the job as a professional journalist?
 - (a) 0 – 5yrs []
 - (b) 6 – 10yrs []
 - (c) 11 – 20yrs []

- (d) 21 – 30yrs []
- (e) 31 and above []
8. Journalist experience restriction in the course of practicing their profession
- a. Strongly Agree []
- b. Agree []
- c. Disagree []
- d. Strongly disagree []
- e. No idea []
9. Is the restriction caused by the government or the radio proprietors?
- a. The government []
- b. The radio proprietors []
- c. No idea []
- d. All of the above []
- e. None of the above []
10. Do you agree that the restriction is caused by the radio proprietors?
- a. Strongly agree []
- b. Agree []
- c. No idea []
- d. Strongly disagree []
- e. Disagree []
11. What are the factors that restrict journalism practice
- (a) Inadequate infrastructure []

- (b) Poor remuneration []
 - (c) Economic problem []
 - (d) Legal protection []
 - (e) Threats from wealthy people []
12. Does government have laws that restrict journalism practice?
- a. Yes []
 - b. No []
13. Government has cordial relationship with journalist. Do you agree?
- (a) Strongly agree []
 - (b) Agree []
 - (c) Disagree []
 - (d) Strongly disagree []
 - (e) No idea []
14. Why do government restrict journalism practice
- a. National security reasons []
 - b. To ensure compliance to the rule of law []
 - c. To protect individuals []
 - d. To ensure professional qualifications []
 - e. To maintain code of conduct []
15. To what extent does journalist protect the confidentiality of their sources?
- a. Through freelancers []
 - b. Through news agencies []
 - c. Through reporters []

- d. Interviews []
- e. All of the above []
16. Do you protect the confidentiality of your news source?
- a. Most often []
- b. Often []
- c. Not often []
- d. No idea []
17. How do you protect the confidentiality of your news sources
- a. By obeying the plea of anonymity []
- b. Off record []
- c. By making the meeting private []
- d. No idea []
- e. All of the above []
18. Do you agree that there are solutions to the constrains?
- a. Strongly agree []
- b. Agree []
- c. No idea []
- d. Strongly disagree []
- e. Disagree []
19. What would you consider most as a solution to the constraints?
- a. Great freedom of the press []
- b. Speedy passage of the freedom of information bill before the National Assembly []
- c. Legal protection of the journalist []

- d. Better pay for the journalist []
 - e. All of the above []
20. Are there unions that protect journalist in the course of their duty?
- a. Yes []
 - b. No []
 - c. Yes but not effective []
 - d. No idea []