

**PERCEPTION OF CYBERCRIME AMONG NIGERIAN YOUTHS
(A STUDY OF CARITAS UNIVERSITY)**

BY

UMEOZULU FRANCES

MC/2008/ 325

**DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION
FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT AND MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL
SCIENCES
CARITAS UNIVERSITY, AMORJI- NIKE
ENUGU STATE**

AUGUST, 2012

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TITLE PAGE

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO
THE DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION
FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
CARITAS UNIVERSITY, AMORJI- NIKE**

ENUGU

**IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR
THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE [B.Sc] DEGREE IN MASS
COMMUNICATION**

AUGUST, 2012

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this project has been read and graded in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc) Degree in mass communication Caritas University, Amorji- Nike, Enugu, Enugu State

Mrs. Justina Obi.

Project supervisor

Dr. Acholonu Reginald.

Head of department

Date

Date

External Examiner

Date

DEDICATION

This research work is dedicated to God, the Father of all men for bringing me to a successful completion of this work, God the Son who made me his friend and exchanged my worries and difficulties with his glory, God the Holy Spirit for the comfort and innermost peace with which he sustained me all through the duration of the programme.

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Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine the perception of cybercrime among Nigerian youths using Caritas University as a study. In this research study, we found out people's reaction to messages depends mainly on how it is perceived. To achieve the aim of the study, literature was reviewed. Survey research method was used in which questionnaire, the major instrument, was distributed to various respondents in the execution of the study. Samples were selected using the systematic random sampling techniques. Chi-square and simple percentages were used in analyzing data. Internet is used as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities was the finding drawn. Finally, Cyber laws should be made to govern the country's cyber space and give the nation's adequate cyber security was the recommendation gotten based on the finding drawn.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Crime remains pervasive and forever strives to hide itself in the face of development. As measures and techniques for detecting crimes and criminals advance, criminals also look for means of hiding from these measures.

Obano (2007:17) asserts that the internet currently serve as a hiding place for fraudsters who have simply migrated from the streets to an electronic platform.

Okonigini (2002:25) defines computer crime as criminal activities, involving information technology infrastructure, including illegal access of computer data from or within a computer.

Similarly, Asokhia (2003:49) asserts that cyber crime, popularly called “YAHOO” is an off-shoot of advance fee fraud which became popular in the early 90s. Today, it has produced “YAHOO” as its first offspring with mostly young people (most especially the unemployed) as its practitioners.

Different nations have adopted different strategies to contend with crimes depending on their nature and extent. Certainly, a nation with high incidence of crime cannot grow or develop. For Nigeria, a nation in the process of saving her face regarding cyber crimes, efforts are now being directed at the sources and channels through which cyber crimes are being perpetuated the most. [Chiemeké (2008:32)].

Martins (2008:47) assert that “YAHOOISM” is an act of cyber crime that defrauds unsuspecting victims in foreign countries of their hard-earned money. In some instance, the unsuspecting victim is used to defraud banks, postal agencies, shops, etc. the yahoos (perpetrator) sends fake cheque or postal money orders to victims in any of the following countries: Canada, United States of America and other European countries or Asia as the case may be.

He further notes that when the cheques or money order are cashed, the victim is told to send the money through Western Union Money transfer in Nigeria, while in other cases, the victim is told to send the money to another country where the yahooist has built networks over time.

The mode of money collection is usually dependent on the modus operandi the yahooist uses. In similar vein, Alemika (2007:15) notes that in Nigeria today, cyber crime has found its root in the society. Like a cankerworm it has eaten deeply in the society and finally been accepted by the same society.

It is difficult to deny youth support of the menace with yahooze shirts, yahooze dance steps, yahooze songs from the likes of Olu Maintain. Even some young people identify themselves as yahoo boys and girls.

Similarly, Martins (2008:43) notes that the paramount classification of yahooism as a branch of cyber crime and transitional crime is not only expedient in understanding its mystery, but propounding a lasting solution when considering curbing the menace. Yahooism is the fastest growing transnational crime in recent times, especially in Nigeria.

1.2 STATEMENT OF RESEARCH PROBLEM

Nigeria according to Wikipedia is said to be 7th largest oil producing country in the world, but nevertheless, the majority of Nigerians are still living in poverty.

Nigeria is also rated amongst one of the most corrupt countries of the world.

Internet usage in Nigeria has grown rapidly resulting in the explosion of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and Internet Access Point creating an increase in the positive impacts on the socio-economic and educational developments in the country.

Unfortunately, the country's image has also suffered as a result of the unscripted activities of some Nigerians using the internet as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities.

The major implication of the unconscious acceptance of this menace in the Nigerian society in the nearest future has created a high level of disinterest in education and touting among young people.

In Nigeria today, young people mostly youths are the ones who engage in this form of anti-social behaviour for the purpose of living a life of splendour.

In recent times Nigeria has been labelled as a corrupt nation. There is a need for the Nigerian government to do something fast and urgent to curb this menace of cyber crime.

1.3 PURPOSE OF STUDY

1. To determine the perception of Nigerian youths towards cybercrime.
2. To determine the reason why cybercrime is mostly rampant among Nigerian youths.
3. To suggest measures that can be taken by the federal government to curb cybercrime in Nigeria.

1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To find out how Nigerian youths perceive cybercrime.
2. To assess the ways federal government can curb the continued spread of cybercrime among Nigerian youths and the general public.
3. To ascertain the factors that tends to cause young people's involvement in cybercrime in Nigeria.
4. To find out if the internet is used as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities.

1.5 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. In what way do Nigerian youths perceive cybercrime?
2. What are the ways Federal Government can curb the continued spread of cybercrime among Nigerian youth and the general public?
3. Is the internet used as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities?
4. What are the factors that tend to cause people's involvement in cybercrime in Nigeria?

1.6 RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

H₀: internet is not used as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities.

H₁: internet is used as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities.

H₀: the Federal Government cannot curb the continued spread of cybercrime among Nigerian youths and the general public.

H₂: the Federal Government can curb the continued spread of cybercrime among Nigerian youths and the general public.

1.7 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This study, which is primarily aimed at explaining how cybercrime has impacted on the perception of youths in the society, will provide an insight into the problems associated with cybercrime.

This report would be of great benefit for youths, to expose them to the factors that tend to cause young people's involvement in cybercrime in Nigeria.

It would be useful to the government and related stakeholders to enable them adequately understand factors responsible for and how to curb the continue spread of cybercrime among Nigerian youths [and the general public].

The findings will be useful for researchers to further generate knowledge in the field.

1.8 SCOPE AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

This study focused on the perception of cybercrime among Nigerian youths, using students in Caritas University as the study group.

A major limitation of the group is the samples were only from Caritas University where it was chosen as the area in carrying out this research.

This finding is based on the results gathered from Caritas University students on the perception of cybercrime among Nigerian youths.

1.9 ASSUMPTIONS OF THE STUDY

For the purpose of this study, the following assumptions were made:

1. It is assumed that Nigeria youths are aware of cybercrime.
2. That poverty is the major reason why youths engage in cybercrime in Nigeria.
3. That peer pressure contributes to the increase of cybercrime in Nigeria.
4. That Nigerian youth are educated on the use of the cyber all the time.

1.10 DEFINITION OF TERMS

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

Perception: Caritas student's attitude towards cybercrime among Nigerian youths.

Cyber: The use of computers, information systems or the internet by the Nigerian youths.

Crime: The display of illegal act characterized by decent, contentment or violation of trust of the youths.

Youth: It is when a young person is young especially the time before a child becomes an adult.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 SOURCES OF LITREATURE

In the course of gathering materials for this review, the researcher made extensive use of libraries, archives, media institutions and other relevant sources of secondary data. This chapter focused on the concept of perception, its measurement, and relationship with image, empirical studies and lastly the theoretical framework.

2.2 REVIEW OF RELEVANT LITERATURE

2.2.1 THE CONCEPT OF PERCEPTION

The central concept of the study was perception. Peoples' reaction to a message depends mainly on their perception of it. This has made perception a core psychological field that draws more attention than other subject matters in psychology. Although much work and studies have been done in the field, psychologists are still unable to arrive at a commonly acceptable definition for perception.

Fantino Reynolds (1995:11-19) define perception as the organizing principle by which we interpret our sensory input. This goes a long way in that perception is the way an individual reads and acknowledges his environment. In the same vein, perception is the process of discriminating among stimuli and of interpreting their meaning. Humans have a tendency perceptually as well as cognitively to seek completeness. We read the unsaid and visualize the unseen.

We can listen to two people talking about different things, but sooner or later, you have to abandon one person to be able to listen to other, for you to understand him/her thoroughly.

Perception is objective in the sense that it is related to objects, events, issues, situations, e.t.c.

2 .2.2 SOCIAL PERCEPTION

The term perception is subject to so many definitions.

Oxford Advanced Learners dictionary, 7th edition, defines perception as the way you notice things, especially with senses.

American Encyclopedia (1994:689) defines perception as a concept in psychology and dealing with a family of meaning.

Alfred Lindersmith and Anselm Strauss referred to it as ways an organism responds to stimuli picked up by the sense organs.

In giving clarity to perception, Dennis and Defleur (1981: 17) observed that, when a receiver perceives a word, he or she must identify the incoming pattern of physical events known as language symbol rather than other types of event

Folarin.B (1998:63) explains that perception depends on complex variables such as psychological disposition, past experiences, needs, cultural expectations and social relationship. In other words, each of us tends to perceive and then decide communication message in the light of our previous experiences and current disposition, needs, belief and memories.

Alfred and Anslem, identified the processes affecting perception in the following variants.

- Selectivity of perception: you see what you want to see while you neglect others.
- Frequency of previous experiences with particular stimulus and responses, which affects present stimuli.
- Experience with stimuli and responses that have been positively or negatively reinforced
- The contemporary factor prevailing at the moment of perception, such conditions include, hunger, fatigue or anxiety, which may affect what, is perceived.

Folarin.B (1998:67) also noted that selective interpretation of a given message causes an undue internal dissonance. That is, the receiver of the message may decide to forget the message.

2.2.3 PERCEPTION AND IMAGE

An image is a set of beliefs about an object, krecht et al (1976:17).

According to Oxford Advanced Learners dictionary, 7th edition, (743), image is the impression that a person, an organization or a product, e.t.c. gives the public. A person's image of an object does not necessarily reveal his attitude towards an object.

However, the image of an object varies from person to person. This is largely due to the person's beliefs, needs and past experiences with the object.

Also, images vary in their clarity and complexity. People at times, or have fuzzy or other related impressions.

2.2.4 PERCEPTION OF CYBERCRIMES COMMITTED BY NIGERIAN YOUTHS

Various scholars have examined the term “perception. People perceive things in a way that accord to their beliefs, interests, motives, needs and learning.

According to Obono (2008: 40), cybercrime describes “those criminal acts either committed in cyberspace, such as various forms of identity theft and bank fraud, or acts that have a physical component and are simply facilitated by the use of internet-based tools”. Such acts commonly include distribution of fraudulent e-mails, and pornography on the internet.

He further notes that cybercrimes are illegal activities perpetrated by one or more people using the cyberspace through the medium of networked computers, telephones and other information and communication technology equipment. There is hardly any crime committed in the world today that does not have cybercrimes undertone, because of high of dependence on modern technology.

According to Oketola (2009:49) some young people use the web for information on current issues in health, education, politics, researches, sports, and for personal development as well as building skills. While others, misuse it for unconstructive activities.

It is perceived by many, that what constitutes young people’s involvement in cybercrimes largely depends on their low level of moral standards, peer

pressure corruption, greed, poverty, and get-rich-quick-syndrome, lack of parental guidance and lack of jobs.

2.2.5 EMPIRICAL STUDIES

Many Scholars have conducted researches on the perception of Cybercrime among Nigerian Youths.

The following are some of the studies carried out on this Subject matter;

Asokhia (2010:13-19) in his work, titled “Enhancing National Development and Growth through Combating Cybercrime/ Internet Fraud”, carried out a comparative study of young adults perception of cybercrime in two Local Government Area of Edo State. His findings were that cybercrime were very prevalent in two Local Government Areas. More revealing is the fact the impact of television that the young people are aware of and the uncensored video and radio programmes also evolve in one kind of cybercrime or the other.

Adam (2008:432-443) in his work, “The impact of internet crime on development”, concludes that the internet is overwhelmingly a powerful tool for development. Paradoxically, the internet is a “double- edged sword”, providing many opportunities for individuals and organizations to develop but at the same time, has brought with it new opportunities to commit crime. He argues that the internet presents new challenges to law enforcement in both development and developing countries. However, developing countries suffer greatly from the activities of internet crime more than their developed counterparts as developing countries have inadequate technology, infrastructure and insufficient law enforcement expertise.

THE MISSPIN AMBASSADORS- the Misspin Ambassadors are a team of twenty four young people who were selected to contribute to sensitizing and creating awareness around cybercrime issues. They are located all over Nigeria and, for the last 12 months, have held various- activities from workshops to media campaigns.

OLUMIDE one of the MISSPIN Ambassadors, in partnership with AIESEC and a 400 Level Student of Computer Science at the University of Abuja, has within the last one year of the MISSPIN campaign engaged young people within and around the University campus in anti-cybercrime campaigns. He has coordinated a campus –wide rally against cybercrimes while also sensitizing internet café operators in the area against the danger of permitting scammers and the sending of scam mails within the precincts of their cyber cafes.

Robert who is also a MISSPIN Ambassador, in partnership with Dtalkshop, publishers of Takaii Law magazine, with the support of the Association of Nigeria Authors, Robert has taken the MISSPIN campaign to several Secondary Schools in Lagos and Calabar. Among other campaign efforts, Robert coordinates an anti-cybercrime media advocacy through the publication of Blingz Magazine, a youth-led magazine dedicated to celebrating positive virtues among Nigeria’s legitimately enterprising youths.

Ajayi (2006:56), he examined cybercrime as a phenomenon that is dysfunctional to the country. Evidence abound that is not only the persons that are duped that suffer for this, the immediate family dependants as well as the society where these victims are from, directly feel the effect of this act. The perpetrators country, also suffers the image problem, even to the extent of losing billions of

naira, legitimate investment that is supposed to come to the country. Hence, the companies that ought have established and employed the unemployed Nigerian cannot come to the country. Thus, unemployment continues to rampage the country.

2.3 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY

This research study perception of cyber crime among the youths falls within the self perception theory.

The Self perception theory is an account of attitude change developed by psychologist Daryl Bem. It asserts that people develop their attitudes by observing their behaviour and concluding what attitudes must have caused them. The theory is counterintuitive in nature, as the conventional wisdom is that attitude comes prior to behaviours. Furthermore, the theory suggests that a person induces attitudes without accessing internal cognition and mood states. The person reasons their own overt behaviours rationally in the same way they attempt to explain others' behaviours.

The issue of perception or image is so complex that it has to be analysed within a fitting theoretical framework. This is so because there is a strong likelihood that individuals have different perceptions of objects.

2.4 SUMMARY OF LITERATURE REVIEW

The whole business of this review has been to discuss some empirical studies and postulations by scholars in various fields, to see if they would give a

theoretical backing to the study. The effort is meaningful, since most literature reviewed has more or less, direct relationship with the study.

The review centered on the self- perception theory of mass communication, since it has a direct bearing on the study which is, " perception of cybercrime among Nigerian youths: a study of Caritas University" .The review pointed out that individuals develop their attitudes by observing their behaviour and concluding what attitudes must have caused those responses.

Furthermore, it further stressed that individuals tend reasons their own overt behaviours rationally in the way they attempt to explain other's behaviours. It is very evident in this review that there is a strong likelihood that individuals have different perceptions of objects.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the methodology used in this research study. It describes the method of research design, population sample and sampling technique, instrumentation as well as the method of data collection and data analysis. This is to ensure that the researcher's work is authentic verifiable and error free.

3.1 RESEARCH METHOD

Research method is a systematic way of producing knowledge through which findings of a subject are either accepted or rejected.

The research method used for this study was the survey method. This method was considered most appropriate because it is a method involving the search for opinions.

3.2 AREA OF STUDY

The area of study is Caritas University Amoji-Nike Emene of Enugu State.

3.3 POPULATION OF THE STUDY

The population of the study comprises of male and female students who reside in the hostels of residence of Caritas University in Enugu State. According to the Registrar, Mr. Ochang, of the noble institution, three thousand two

hundred and eighty two (3282) is said to be population of the university. For this study, three thousand and fifty- two (3052) students were penciled down.

3.4 RESEARCH SAMPLING TECHNIQUE AND SAMPLE SIZE

In order to get the sample size for the study, the Taro Yamane formular was used. Taro Yamane is presented as follows:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

where n= sample size

N=entire population

e=entire population

1=unit [a constant figure]

Using the appropriate formular above to get a benefitting sample size to ensure that the population of the study is adequately presented.

Based on this established data[n] was computed thus;

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2} \\ &= \frac{3052}{1 + 3052(0.05)^2} \\ &= \frac{3025}{1 + 3052(0.0025)} \\ &= \frac{3052}{1 + 7.63} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{3052}{8.63}$$

$$=353.65$$

$$=354 \text{ [approximated to the nearest whole number]}$$

Therefore, the sample size to be used in the questionnaire is 354.

3.5 INSTRUMENT FOR DATA COLLECTION

The questionnaire was self-administered to the respondents. This enabled the respondents to feel free in expressing themselves on the subject matter. And it was administered in the students' hostel of residence.

3.6 VALIDITY OF THE INSTRUMENT

The research instruments were developed by the researcher. The instruments were handed over to test experts for corrections. The validity of the instruments was ascertained through this process.

3.7 METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

A total of three hundred and fifty four (354) copies of questionnaire will be administered to the selected respondents of Caritas University. The researcher shall use the direct contact approach i.e. meeting the respondents in their hostels. This will help to minimize the percentage of distraction, unnecessary delays, and it will finally help to ensure an error free study.

3.8 METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS

The major techniques that will be used in data analysis shall be the chi-square (χ^2) statistical analysis, which is aimed at establishing any significant difference that might exist among respondent's frequencies. Chi-square is a non-parametric statistical tool which can conveniently be used in testing hypotheses when dealing with contented data. Chi-square formular is presented as follows:

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O - e)^2}{e}$$

Where χ^2 = chi-square

\sum = Summation

O = Observed frequency

e = expected frequency

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

This chapter deals with the data presentation and analysis gathered using percentage and simple table for clarity and easy understanding.

4.1 DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

For this study, three hundred and fifty four (354) copies of questionnaire were administered. Also in the process of data collection, all the 354 copies of the questionnaire were returned representing 100% response rate. This was possible because the copies of questionnaire were administered personally to the respondents in their various hostels. This method helped in avoiding unnecessary delays and mortality rate of questionnaire.

Data collected with questionnaire were presented and analyzed using simple percentage table, from which conclusions were drawn especially in the discussion in the distribution of data as provided by the respondents.

ANALYSIS OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON DEMOGRAPHY

TABLE 4.1.1 AGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

AGE	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
15- 20	130	36.7%
21- 25	164	46.3%
26 and above	60	17%
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: Field work 2012

The table above shows the age bracket of the respondents used. Age 15- 20 were 130 representing 36.7%, 21- 50 were 164 representing 46.3% and 26 and above were 60 representing 17%.

TABLE 4.1.2 SEX DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

SEX	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Male	162	45.8%
Female	192	54.2%
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: Field work 2012

From the table above, 162 respondents were male representing 45.8% and 192 respondents were female representing 54.2%. Generally, the number of females that filled the questionnaire outnumbered that of males.

TABLE 4.1.3 RELIGION OF THE RESPONDENTS

RELIGION	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Christianity	248	70.1%
Islam	106	29.9%
Traditional	0	0%
Others	0	0%
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: field work 2012

From the table above, the highest respondents came from those with Christianity with 248 respondents representing 70.1%, followed by those with Islam with 106 respondents representing 29.9%, those with traditional had no respondent representing 0% and there was no respondent with other religion representing 0%.

TABLE 4.1.4 ETHNIC GROUP OF RESPONDENTS

ETHNIC GROUP	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Yoruba	80	22.6%
Hausa	90	25.4%
Igbo	150	42.4%
Others	34	9.6%
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: field work 2012

The table shows the ethnic group of the respondents used. The Yoruba ethnic groups were 80 representing 22.6%, Hausa ethnic group were 90 representing 25.4%, Igbo ethnic group were 150 representing 42.4% and other ethnic group were 34 representing 9.6%.

TABLE 4.1.5 MARITAL STATUS OF RESPONDENTS

MARITAL STATUS	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Single	300	84.7%
Married	54	15.3%
Others	0	0%

TOTAL	354	100%
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Source: field work 2012

The analysis of the table below shows that 300 respondents were single representing 84.7%, 54 were married representing 15.3% and there were no others representing 0%.

TABLE 4.1.6 RESPONDENTS YEAR OF STUDY

YEAR OF STUDY	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Diploma/ year one	40	11.3%
Year two	69	19.5%
Year three	100	28.2%
Year four and above	145	41%
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: field work 2012

The analysis of the year of study of respondents shows that 40 respondents were diploma/ year one representing 11.3%, 69 respondents were year two representing 19.5%, 100 respondents were year three representing 28.2% and 145 respondents were year four and above representing 41%.

ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONS FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE

TABLE 4.1.7 ARE YOU AWARE ABOUT CYBERCRIME POPULARLY KNOWN AS YAHOO YAHOO?

RESPONSES	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Yes	354	100%
No	0	0%
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: field work 2012

From the above table, it shows that 354 respondents were aware about cybercrime popularly known as yahoo yahoo representing 100% and there was no respondent representing 0% that does not know the existence of cybercrime.

TABLE 4.1.8 IF YES, WHAT WAS THE SOURCE OF YOUR INFORMATION ABOUT CYBERCRIMES?

RESPONSES	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Radio	20	5.6%
Television	47	13.3%
Internet	87	24.6%
Others	200	54.5%
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: field work 2012

From the above table, 20 respondents choose radio as their source of information representing 5.6%, 47 respondents choose television representing 13.3%, 87 respondents choose the internet representing 24.6% and 200 respondents choose other source representing 56.5%.

TABLE 4.1.9 WHAT IS YOUR PERCEPTION ABOUT CYBERCRIME?

REPOSSES	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Very good	28	7.9%
Good	29	8.2%
Very poor	121	34.1%
Poor	80	22.6%
Don't know	63	17.8%
Others	33	9.3%
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: field work 2012

From the above table, 28 respondents perceived cybercrime at a very good response representing 7.9%, 29 respondents perceived it at a good response representing 8.2%, 121 respondents perceived it at a very poor response representing 34.1%, 80 respondents perceived it at a poor response representing 22.6%, 63 respondents don't know about their perception representing 17.8% and 33 other respondents perceived it representing 9.3%.

TABLE 4.1.10 CAN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CURB THE CONTINUED SPREAD OF CYBERCRIME AMONG NIGERIAN YOUTHS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC?

RESPONSES	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Yes	200	56.5%
No	64	18.1%
Can't say	90	25.4
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: Field work 2012

From the above table, 200 respondents believed that the federal can curb the continued spread of cybercrime representing 56.5%, 64 respondents believed that the federal government cannot representing 18.1% and 90 respondents cannot say if the federal government can represent 25.4%.

TABLE 4.1.11 WHAT ARE THE FACTORS THAT TEND TO CAUSE PEOPLE’S INVOLVEMENT IN CYBERCRIME IN NIGERIA?

RESPONSES	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Poverty	203	57.3%
Peer pressure	40	11.3%
Unemployment	75	21.2%
Corruption	20	5.6%
Others	16	4.5%
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: field work 2012

From the above, 203 respondents claimed that poverty tend to cause people’s involvement in cybercrime representing 57.3%, 40 respondents choose peer pressure representing 11.3%, 75 respondents choose unemployment representing 21.2%, 20 respondents choose corruption representing 5.6% and 16 respondents choose other factors representing 4.5%.

TABLE 4.1.12 IS THE INTERNET USED AS A CHANNEL FOR PERPETRATION OF CRIMINAL SPAMMING ACTIVITIES?

RESPONSES	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Yes	143	40.4%
No	99	28%
Others	112	31.6%
TOTAL	354	100%

Source: field work 2012

From the above table, 143 respondents said that the internet is used as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities representing 40.4%, 99 respondents believed that the internet is not used for criminal spamming activities representing 28% and 112 respondents believed otherwise representing 31.6%.

TABLE 4.1.13 DO YOU BELIEVE CYBERCRIME CAN BE CURBED IN NIGERIA?

RESPONSES	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Strongly agree	56	15.8%
Agree	77	21.7%
Strongly disagree	121	34.1%
Disagree	44	12.4%
Neutral	56	15.8%
TOTAL	354	100%

SOURCE: Field work 2012

From the table above, 56 respondents strongly agreed that cybercrime can be curbed in Nigeria representing 15.8%, 77 respondents agreed representing 21.7%, 121 respondents strongly disagreed representing 34.1%, 44 respondents disagreed representing 12.4% and 56 respondents were neutral representing 15.8%.

4.2 HYPOTHESIS TESTING

In this section, hypotheses one (1) and two (2) formulated by the researcher were tested using the data already presented and analyzed and also with the aid of the chi-square (χ^2). Chi-square formular:

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O - e)^2}{e}$$

Chi- square is therefore a measure of discrepancy existing between the observed and expected frequencies.

HYPOTHESIS ONE

H₀: the internet is not used as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities

H₁: the internet is used as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities.

USING TABLE 4.1.12

RESPONSES	O	E	o-e	(o-e) ²	$\frac{(o - e)^2}{e}$
Yes	143	118	25	625	5.3
No	99	118	-19	361	3.1
Others	112	118	-6	36	0.3
TOTAL	354			1022	8.7

$$\chi^2=8.7$$

Therefore the calculated chi-square(χ^2) = 8.7

Degree of freedom = (RC) =3-1 =2

Level of significance = 0.05

While tabulated value =5.99

DECISION RULE: Since the calculated chi- square is greater than the table value, $8.7 \geq 5.99$, we therefore reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative which states that the internet is used as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities.

HYPOTHESES TWO

H_0 : The government cannot curb the continued spread of cybercrime among Nigerian youths and the general public.

H_2 : the government can curb the continued spread of cybercrime among Nigerian youths and the general public.

USING TABLE 4.1.10

RESPONSES	o	E	o-e	(o-e) ²	$\frac{(o - e)^2}{e}$
Yes	200	118	82	6724	56.9
No	64	118	-54	2916	24.7
Can't say	90	118	-28	784	6.6
TOTAL	354			10424	88.2

$$X^2=88.2$$

Therefore the calculated chi- square(X^2)= 88.2

Degree of freedom = (RC) = 3-1 =2

Level of significance = 0.05

While tabulated value = 5.99

DECISION RULE: Since the calculated chi- square is greater than the table value, $88.2 \geq 5$, we therefore reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative which

states that the government can curb the continued spread of cybercrime among Nigerian youths and the general public.

4.3 DISCUSSION ON FINDINGS

The results gotten from the first hypothesis proved that the internet is used as a channel for the perpetration of criminal spamming activities. The second hypothesis proved that the federal government can curb the continued spread of cybercrime among Nigerian youths and the general public.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is designed to present the summary and conclusion of the entire research project.

5.1 SUMMARY

Cybercrime popularly known as yahoo is an act of crime that defrauds unsuspecting victims in foreign countries of their hard-earned money. Findings have shown that cybercrime is rampant among Nigerian youths.

The study was conducted using survey method. Three hundred and fifty four (354) copies of questionnaire were administered to three hundred and fifty four (354) randomly selected respondents, with eighty nine (89) from each of the hostels in the university. The researcher used chi-square (χ^2) and simple percentage (%) in analyzing the data gathered from the field.

In view of the in-depth background of the study of the study of the sample, the literature review of related studies, and theories in this field using the appropriate measuring instrument, testing and analyzing the two hypotheses, it has become obvious that cybercrime is being perceived by Nigerian youths.

The first hypothesis which states that the internet is used as a channel for perpetration of criminal spamming activities was statistically supported.

The second hypothesis states that the federal government can curb the continued spread of cybercrime among the Nigerian youths and the general public was equally supported.

5.2 CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions were reached.

- The understanding of the universality of cybercrimes and fraud and its rapid excessive growth among Nigerian youth is important to boost the country's economy.
- Having a sound Socio- Economic and Technological Environment to avoid the existence of cybercrime in our society.
- There is a need for a massive campaign awareness and action from all Religions Leaders, Youth association, Parents, Teachers, Guardians, and Multinational Companies e.t.c.
- It shows a relationship between male and female perception about cybercrimes. Awareness of cybercrime among the respondents was high as shown in the findings.
- Majority of the respondents perceive cybercrime among Nigerian youth as very poor which represents 34.1% of the total respondents.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

Other nations are racing to define their “information utility” based on educational and commercial content; Nigerian has been labelled the global capital for 419 scams. Based on the findings of this of this study, the following recommendations are hereby put forward:

- As a matter of urgency, government and other related stakeholder and other key player of the Nigerian Economy should try and create more job opportunities for our young graduates in order to alleviate their involvement in negative societal behavior.
- The massive campaign and sensitization exercise against the menace should be encouraged and supported by stakeholders.
- A better economic system, creation of opportunities for the young Nigerian, would also make a lot differences. Since it was observed that majority of the respondents perceived the involvement of young people in cybercrime as a result of economic condition.
- Government should try and sensitize the Police force, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFFCC), Independent Corruption Practices Commission (ITPC) and other security operatives on how to detect and prevent cybercrimes with technology.
- Government and administrations should ensure that youth centres are built at least in every local government in Nigeria; this is necessary in order for young people to be engaged in creative works and development through these centres.

- Nigeria needs cyber laws that would govern the country's cyber space and give the nation adequately cyber security measures.
- Telecommunication regulatory agencies in Nigeria should beef security on internet service provider's server in order to detect and trace cybercrimes. This can be done by the use of CISCO system router and sensors.
- Finally to curb and eventually eradicate cybercrime, Adult, Children and Youth need to be enriched with the "power of the teaching of distinguishing right from wrong". All schools should return to the teaching of moral education in order to empower all students with spirit of stewardship. While adults should live exemplary life, reflecting truth, kindness, dignity of labour and integrity. With all hands on deck, the evil of corruptible act like cybercrime in the minds of our youth will change for positive behaviour.

