INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AND YOUTHS DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract
Information communication technologies are the combination of items or equipment (hardware) and computer programme (software) that allow every individual to access, retrieve, store, organise, manipulate and present information by electronic means. Information communication technologies boom or bane on youths was investigated through the researcher designed questionnaire. The design of the study was descriptive survey. 24 youths from science education department, computer science department and industrial technology education department, federal university of technology Minna, were surveyed. The instrument for data collection was information communication technologies questionnaire (ICTQ). The (ICTQ) contained questions related to youth's demographic characteristics and liked scale questions pertaining to youths effects and defects of using information communication technologies. The data collected were analysed using means and standard deviation statistics. Findings from the investigation revealed that information communication technologies have more effects on youths than the defects. The implication of these showed that youths should embrace these technologies to be able to meet the needs of today, since technologies provides the ability to tailor learning to individual needs communities, societies and nation at large.

Introduction
Communication technologies (ICTs) are very important field, an awareness of which is a compulsion; otherwise, one would lag far behind the development of the world in which we live.

Information communication technologies according to Isaac (2010) is the modern form of civilization which has become so intricate and sophisticated so much so that one has to be competitive enough to survive. He went further to say that people especially youths, are compelled to keep themselves informed of all types of happening in the society. Using the application of computers and telecommunications equipment to store, retrieve, transmit and manipulate data, often in the context of a business of other enterprise. While Microsoft Encarta defined it as "processing and distribution of data using computer hardware and software,

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telecommunications and digital electronics". By the above definitions, it is evident that information communication technologies have major feature in the computer.

Speedy improvement as well as advances in information communication technologies has made available new and better ways of living. It has changed the way people live, interact, work and learn. For instance, the traditional methods of education are no longer able to meet the needs of today's youth. So, new technologies provide opportunities and ability to tailor learning to individual needs (Aaron 2012). Information communication technology (ICT) is a very important field, an awareness of which is a compulsion; otherwise, one would lag far behind the development of the world which we live.

In the past, if we have to reserve seat in an airline for example, we needed to go to the airport to book for it which at times would require you joining a queue, but one can do this now in the comfort of his/her office, home, in the market place etc. by just going through the internet by E-registration system. Similarly, if one has to send a message across to anyone within and outside the country, instead of sending a conventional letter as usual, he/she can send it via E-mail. Telephones and mobile phones are not left out as they are nowadays commonly being used by the youths particularly, that it has become difficult to imagine their lives without the benefits of ICT. One can rightfully say that information communication technologies (ICTs) have become an integral part of the society, community and nation especially in the area of transformation. This is to say that information communication technology has positive effects which lead to some changes in both the youths and nation's development.

To start with, computer is obviously the backbone of information communication technology (ICT). Be it the education sector, banking sector, post office, small and large scale industries, research departments, defence department, medical sector, agricultural sector and so on, computer has become essential part of virtually every field basically for storing huge amount of data (records). Such data was usually kept in files, and handling them was a difficult task. This is because, with time, there was possibility of such records being spoiled. But computer have helped in securing such data and enables quicker retrieval without having to search dust-racked files.

Internet has some very useful applications in the life of every individual in the society and country in general. Whether we have to take admission in a local or foreign institutions, collect geographical information of any region, check the results of examinations, transfer money from one bank account to another, send e-mail, have instant chat with anybody in any corner of the world and so on, internet is the fastest and cheapest means to do so. Important information could also be accessed through internet search engines such as Wikipedia, Google search, yahoo search and so on.

With the cut-throat competition in mobile communication technology today, things such as tariff rates has fallen rapidly, aiding a speedy increase on millions of customers to the ICT industries, of which the youths are majority. Mobile phones could now be seen in the hands of people ranging from CEO to a lower division Clark and from a big businessman to a labourer, a hawker, and mostly youths.

Obviously, whatever has effects would certainly have defects; this is just the case with information communication technologies in the emergency of globalization. According Nwadua (2012), the defects of information communication technologies are caused by its users which

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certainly hinder the growth and development of any nation. He went further to say that pornography is one of the defects of information communication technology especially, among the youths. With the advent of cyber cafes and mobile phones where one can surf the internet at cheaper rates, internet is easily accessible to the youths. Lots and lots of pornographic sites are available on the internet which attracts young people towards pornography. 67 percent of the people who surf the net, surf the pornographic sites. His survey proved that excessive surfing of such sites develops addition which is not good for mental health of the youth.

The issue of cybercrime which have on different occasions rocked different parts of the world, which show how serious these problems are. Web cameras according to Namsel (2012) are being used for making porn movies of couples who in certain cases may not even be aware that they are being captured and recorded. He went further to say that social network sites are used as tools to trick, trap and kidnap individuals, particularly, young people. A number of murder cases, rape, abduction etc. have resulted from such in several occasions.

Umeh (2010) observed that information communication technology is mainly for educated and technically qualified individuals who have effective communication skills. Therefore, jobs are offered to such individuals who are in-line with the modern technological development. Umeh maintained that uneducated and technically unqualified individuals are unemployable in information communication technology oriented organizations. The advisability of more than required number of technically qualified youths results in a devaluations of their degrees. Many of such youths are bound to switch over to other jobs or go to abroad in search of other jobs which may affect the development of the nation.

Statement of the problem
The link, network and connections created in the globalization through information communication technologies (ICTs) have brought about transformations of some positive effects and defects in the media practice and its audiences which lead to changes in the nation's development. Omeh (2011) found that four out of every five youth who use the internet cafe are deeply involved in fraud, and these youths who perform this act of fraud range from the ages of 14-35 years with an itch to get rich at all costs. These youths instead of using the internet for resourceful documents for educational activities which in turn is for development of the nation, they use it for illegal acts, and it is on this basis that the research is carried out.

Research Questions
1. In what ways can the devastating effects of misuse of information communication technologies (ICTs) (internet) be mitigated in the nation?
2. How is it true that the accusation of information communication technologies have made available new and better ways of living?

Methodology/Sample
24 youths were randomly sampled from department of educational technology, department of technical and vocation education, department of science education and department of computer science, Federal University of Technology Minna. 6 youths each from the 4 departments mentioned above were sampled. The participants (youths) were stratified into male and female.

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Instrument

The instrument used in this research was designed by the researcher. The survey instrument contained four sections. Section A contained four questions and it focused on information communication technologies on youth, department, status and gender. Section B focused on youth's perception on the use of information communication technologies (ICTs). The section has five items and the response mode of strongly agree (SA), agree (A), disagree (D) and strongly disagree (SD) were used. Section C of the questionnaire which contained twelve items addressed the issue of boom and bane effects on the use of information communication technologies on youths. The section contained 12 items and the response modes, were "I am fully computer literate (FCL coded 4). "I am a regular user of internet" (RUI coded 3). "I have the use of internet occasionally" (UIO coded 2). "I do not use internet" (NUI coded 1) and lastly "I am not aware of this internet application" (NA coded 0).

To test the instrument's validity and reliability, the adopted draft was administered on 5 youths from IBB University Lapai, Niger state Nigeria. The feedback obtained from the first administration was used to revise the final instrument. Twenty copies of the questionnaire were distributed to all the youths of the Federal University of Technology Minna. All the distributed questionnaire were returned and used for data analyses. The responses of the youths were tabulated and compared. Descriptive analyses were used to answer the research questions.

Results

The data collected were analysed using descriptive data analysis of weighted means (X). The term mean (X) and the criterion means (2.50) were computed and utilized to measure the level of internet uses among youths. The researcher accepted that if mean obtained is greater than criterion mean (2.50), the option is positively related (agree), but if in the other way round, the option is related negatively (disagree).

Research Question one: in what ways can the devastating effects of misuse of information communication technologies among the youths (ICTs) (internet) be mitigated in the nation.

Table 1: Effects of misuse of information communication technologies (ICTs) among youths (ICTs) (internet) are mitigated in nation.

S/NO	Items questions effects of ICTs	Mean	SD	Decision
1.	Information communication technologies improve teaching and learning among youth in Nigeria.	3.16	1.28	Agree
2.	Information communication technologies provide job opportunities.	2.76	1.09	Agree
3.	Information communication technologies has a very useful applications in the life of youth	3.44	0.51	Agree
4.	Information communication technologies have become an integral part of the nation especially in the area of transportation.	3.52	0.51	Agree
5.	Information communication technologies have not improved the standard of education.	2.08	1.55	Disagree
6.	Information communication technologies promote banking sector in Nigeria and nation at large.	2.96	0.84	Agree
7.	Information communication technologies do not promote communication system.	2.28	1.06	Disagree
8.	Information communication technologies in the emergence of globalization have not brought transformation in the country.	2.08	1.19	Disagree
9.	Information communication technologies have help to tailor learning to individual needs.	3.28	0.84	Agree
10.	Information communication technologies have enriched the youth's knowledge and skills on latest technology.	3.28	0.84	Agree

Table one results showed that youths agreed with items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, and 10 respectively. This shows that most youths agree that information communication technologies have positive effects on youths in Nigeria. However, in items 5, 7, and 8 the youths disagree that information communication technologies have defects to youths in particular in Nigeria.

Research Question Two

How is it true that the accusation of information communication technologies have made available new better way of living?

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Table 2: The level of competence of youths in the application of internet in the emergency of globalization

S/N	Questions	Mean	SD	Decision
1.	Information communication technologies can be use to promote agricultural sector in Nigeria.	3.72	0.61	Agree
2.	Social network can be access through internet.	3.36	0.64	Agree
3.	Information communication technologies are mainly for educated technically qualified youths.	2.28	1.49	Disagree
4.	Information communication technologies provides job employment opportunities	3.44	1.12	Agree
5.	Information communication technologies created competition among nations	3.08	1.26	Agree
6.	I can do deep web searching using appropriate meta-search engines surf wax very well.	2.80	1.41	Agree
7.	Information communication technologies (internet) can be use for instant chat (yahoo).	3.08	1.18	Agree
8.	Information communication technologies cannot be use for E-registration.	1.84	0.90	Disagree

Results in table 2 shows that most of the youths agree with the questions 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7, respectively. This indicates that information communication technologies have level of competence on youths in the application of internet in the globalization. They can use it in the globalization and transformation of positive effects which leads to changes in the nation's development.

Discussion of the Findings
The result of the research questions one reveals that youths have positive effects on information communication technologies in Nigeria. This paper has discovered that information communication technology among the youths improves teaching and learning, provides job opportunities, integral part of the nation especially in transport sector, improve the standard of education. In addition, it has exposed youths to the use of computer and enriches their knowledge and skills acquisition in the development of the nation. Youths with question mean (X) of 3.52 to 2.76 as against the criterion mean of 2.50. In the same vein, youths disagree on the defects of information communication technologies in Nigeria, these findings was supported by the findings of Umeh (2012), who found that speedy improvement in information communication technologies have made available new and better ways of living. Research question two also reveals that information communication technologies promote agricultural sector. As shown in table 2, most of the questions were rated positive (effects). However, only two out nine questions were rated negative (defects). The study revealed in table 2 that information communication technologies is an important tools in the emergency of globalization that leads to changes in the nation's development.

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This finding was corroborated by the work Gabriel (2012). He found that since the advent of information communication technologies in Nigeria. The traditional methods of education are no longer able to meet the needs of today's learners and so new technologies provide opportunities including the ability to tailor learning to individual needs.

Conclusion
Information communication technologies as was recovered in this research have more defects on the youths. The research also revealed that internet has useful application in the life of every individual irrespective of gender in the society, nation in general. It was also revealed from this research that internet is the fastest and cheapest means of sending message across people in the world. The research also found that the defects of information communication technologies are caused by its users which certainly hinder the growth and development of any nation.

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