

Original Research Article

Impact of Civic Education on Political Participation and Awareness among Nigerian Youths

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Abstract: This study aims to investigate the impact of civic education on political participation and awareness among Nigerian youths. Civic education is considered an essential tool for fostering democratic values, active citizenship, and political engagement. However, little is known about its effectiveness in the Nigerian context, particularly among the youth population. The study employs literature review research design, where related literature, books, text, articles and journals were used as a primary source of data. The study found that there are large increases in basic civic and political engagement: better educated citizens are more attentive to politics, more likely to vote, and more involved in community associations. The paper concludes that quality civic education programmes for Nigerian youths can empower youths to actively participate in politics, shape the democracy, and contribute to the social and economic development of the nation with some recommendations made to guarantee youth in active citizenship.

Keywords: Civic Education, Political Participation, Political Awareness, Youth and Nigeria.

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BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

Youth is widely recognized as the backbone and future of any society. They have the potential to drive significant social, economic, and political change. The importance of youth cannot be over-emphasized (UN, 2019) in all endeavours of life. In terms of innovation and creativity, young people tend to possess fresh ideas, innovative thinking, and creativity that can contribute to solving complex problems and boosting progress in various fields (NBS, 2020). Their energy and willingness to take risks allow them to challenge conventional wisdom and generate new ways of doing things. Youth plays a crucial role in economic development. By actively participating in the workforce, they contribute to productivity and generate wealth. Additionally, as entrepreneurs, they have the potential to create job opportunities and stimulate economic growth. Youth often acts as a catalyst for social transformation. Through their activism, advocacy, and engagement in various social issues, young people can bring attention to problems such as social inequality, environmental concerns, and human rights. They are instrumental in raising awareness, mobilizing communities, and demanding change. The involvement of youth in politics is essential for a functioning democracy. Their active engagement and

participation in political processes ensure that their generation's voices, perspectives, and interests are represented in decision-making. By voting, running for office, or joining political parties, youth can bring about policy changes that address their specific needs and concerns. Human rights and social justice: Youth are often at the forefront of movements for human rights and social justice. They have the power to challenge discrimination, stand up against injustice, and advocate for equality. Their energy, passion, and idealism can create a positive impact in promoting a fair and inclusive society.

Considering sustainable development, youth engagement is crucial for achieving sustainable development goals (Obi & Olajide, 2017). They have a vested interest in ensuring a sustainable future and are more likely to adopt environmentally friendly practices. Their enthusiasm for environmental activism, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and conservation efforts can contribute significantly to mitigating the effects of climate change.

Above all, youth represent the future leaders, decision-makers, and professionals of a society. By investing in their education, skills development, and

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mentorship, societies can ensure a smooth transition and continuity in leadership and expertise (Ogbanje & Okeke, 2019). The importance of youth lies in their potential to drive innovation, contribute to economic growth, bring about social change, participate in politics, promote human rights, achieve sustainable development, and serve as future leaders. Their active involvement and empowerment are essential for building a better and more inclusive society.

Similarly, the youth in Nigeria play a pivotal role in the development and progress of the country. Nigeria has a predominantly young population, with about 60% of its population being under the age of 30 (NBS, 2020). This large youth population presents an opportunity for economic growth, innovation, and development. By harnessing the potential of the youth, Nigeria can leverage its demographic advantage to drive economic progress and address social challenges. Nigerian youth represent a significant pool of potential workers (Ogundele & Ajala, 2018). With the right investments in education, skills training, and job creation, they can contribute to the country's labour force and productivity. Engaging the youth in productive employment can lead to economic growth, poverty reduction, and overall improvement in living standards. The youth are an essential component of any democratic society. They represent the future leaders and policymakers of Nigeria. The Federal Government in its effort to ensure active and politically engaging youth, introduced civic education into the Nigeria education curriculum through The Nigeria Policy on Education (FRN, 2003).

Civic education refers to the teaching and learning of the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic society. It is the process through which individuals acquire the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to actively participate in their communities and make informed decisions about public issues. Civic education plays a crucial role in developing informed, engaged, and responsible citizens. It helps individuals understand the principles of democracy, such as equality, justice, freedom, and individual rights. It also fosters a sense of civic duty and encourages active participation in political, social, and cultural affairs.

One of the main goals of civic education is to promote political literacy and help citizens understand how their government works. It teaches individuals about the different branches of government, the separation of powers, and the role of citizens in democratic decision-making processes. Civic education also educates individuals about their rights and responsibilities as citizens, including voting, serving on juries, and contributing to their communities.

Moreover, civic education helps develop critical thinking and analytical skills. It encourages individuals to explore different perspectives, question

authority, and engage in respectful dialogue. By analyzing historical events, current issues, and public policies, civic education enables citizens to make informed decisions and take action to address social and political challenges. Civic education is typically taught in schools as part of the social studies curriculum, but it can also be integrated into various subjects and extracurricular activities. It utilizes a variety of teaching methods, such as group discussions, debates, simulations, and community service projects, to engage students in active learning and practical application of civic principles.

Civic education plays a vital role in promoting active citizenship and democracy. By providing individuals with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for informed decision-making and engagement, civic education cultivates a sense of responsibility and participation in public life. To ensure its effectiveness, civic education should be prioritized in school curricula and address the challenges of polarization and fragmentation in society.

Civic education plays a crucial role in enhancing political participation and awareness among Nigerian youths. Civic education equips Nigerian youths with a better understanding of political systems, institutions, and processes. They become more knowledgeable about their rights, responsibilities, and how they can contribute to the political process. Through civic education, Nigerian youths develop a greater awareness of sociopolitical issues, including corruption, inequality, and governance challenges. This awareness fosters a sense of responsibility and encourages them to engage in political discussions and activities. Civic education instils a sense of active citizenship in Nigerian youths, encouraging them to participate in political activities beyond elections. They become more inclined to join political parties, civil society organizations, and community-based initiatives that aim to solve societal problems. Civic education plays a crucial role in voter education, ensuring that Nigerian youths understand the importance of voting, the electoral process, and how to exercise their voting rights. This increases their likelihood of participating in elections and making informed decisions.

Being aware of their rights, Nigerian youths who receive civic education are more likely to engage in advocacy and activism. They are empowered to voice their concerns, demand accountability from political leaders, and advocate for policies that address their needs and aspirations.

Civic education helps bridge the generation gap by fostering intergenerational dialogue and understanding. It allows older political actors and institutions to learn from the perspectives and experiences of Nigerian youths, creating space for their active involvement in decision-making processes. Civic

education has the potential to drive social and political change among Nigerian youths. By understanding the principles of democracy, human rights, and the rule of law, they are more likely to challenge oppressive systems, promote inclusivity, and demand justice and accountability.

Overall, civic education has a transformative impact on political participation and awareness among Nigerian youths. By equipping them with knowledge, fostering awareness, promoting active citizenship, and nurturing advocacy and activism, it empowers them to become agents of change in their communities and the country at large.

Political participation and awareness among Nigerian youth has witnessed a significant growth in recent years (World Bank, 2020). This can be attributed to several factors, including increased access to information through technology, the desire for change, and the growing influence of social media platforms.

One of the main drivers of political awareness among Nigerian youth is the access to information through technology. The widespread use of smartphones and the internet has made it easier for young people to access news, updates, and commentary on political issues. This has empowered them to be more informed about political events and developments in the country.

Moreover, the desire for change has motivated Nigerian youth to actively participate in politics. The youth population in Nigeria is quite significant, and they have realized the importance of their voice in shaping the future of the country. They want to be involved in decision-making processes and have their interests represented. Social media platforms have also played a vital role in enhancing political awareness and participation among Nigerian youth. Platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram have become powerful tools for mobilizing young people and creating spaces for activism and political discourse. Through these platforms, young Nigerians can voice their opinions, share information, and organize protests or rallies.

Additionally, various youth-led organizations and movements have emerged to promote political awareness and participation. Groups like the Nigerian Youth Parliament, Not Too Young to Run movement, and the Bring Back Our Girls movement have mobilized young people and provided spaces for them to engage with political issues (Amodu & Olajide, 2017).

However, despite these positive developments, there are still challenges that hinder full political participation and awareness among Nigerian youth.

These include political apathy, lack of adequate representation, and limited access to political resources. Many young Nigerians still feel disillusioned with the political system and believe that their voices are not being heard. Political participation and awareness among Nigerian youth have been on the rise in recent years, driven by increased access to information, the desire for change, and the influence of social media platforms. However, there are still challenges that need to be addressed to ensure that young Nigerians can fully participate in the political process and have their voices heard. This paper therefore seeks to investigate impact of civic education on political participation and awareness among Nigerian youths.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In Nigeria, there is a low level of political participation and awareness among young people. This is evident in the apathy displayed by Nigerian youth towards voting and other political activities (Ogundele & Ajala, 2018). Many young people do not understand the importance of their involvement in the political process or how their participation can make a difference in the governance of the country. One major factor contributing to this problem is the lack of civic education among Nigerian youths (Yusuf & Abubakar, 2018). Civic education, which encompasses the knowledge and skills needed to be an active and engaged citizen, is not adequately taught in Nigerian schools. This results in a lack of understanding of democratic principles, political institutions, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens, among young people. Without proper civic education, Nigerian youths are less likely to participate in political activities such as voting, running for office, or engaging in political debates. They are also more susceptible to political manipulation and misinformation, as they lack the critical thinking skills to evaluate political messages and make informed decisions.

Furthermore, the lack of civic education among Nigerian youths has broader implications for democracy and good governance in the country (Obayelu, 2018). A politically disengaged youth population means that important perspectives and voices are missing from the political discourse, leading to policy decisions that may not reflect the needs and aspirations of young people. Therefore, this study aims to examine the impact of civic education on political participation and awareness among Nigerian youths and explore potential strategies to improve civic education in the country.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The main purpose of this paper is to investigate the impact of civic education on political participation and awareness among Nigerian youths.

Specifically, the study seeks to:

- i. assess the level of political participation among Nigerian youths, including their involvement in voting, joining political parties, and engaging in political campaigns;
- ii. identifying the level of awareness and understanding of political issues among Nigerian youths;
- iii. examining the existing civic education programs targeting Nigerian youths and evaluating their effectiveness in promoting political participation and awareness;
- iv. identifying the factors that hinder Nigerian youths from engaging in political activities and acquiring political knowledge and
- v. assessing the role of civic education in empowering Nigerian youths to actively participate in the political process and make informed decisions.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The following research questions guided this study:

1. What is the level of political participation among Nigerian youths, including their involvement in voting, joining political parties, and engaging in political campaigns?
2. What is the level of awareness and understanding of political issues among Nigerian youths?
3. What are the existing civic education programs targeting Nigerian youths and evaluating their effectiveness in promoting political participation and awareness?
4. What are the factors that hinder Nigerian youths from engaging in political activities and acquiring political knowledge?
5. What is the role of civic education in empowering Nigerian youths to actively participate in the political process and make informed decisions?

Literature Review- Concept of Political Participation and Awareness

The concept of political participation and awareness refers to the active involvement and knowledge of individuals in political processes and decision-making. It is essential for a functioning democracy as it allows citizens to voice their opinions, exercise their rights, and hold their leaders accountable.

Political participation can take various forms, such as voting in elections, joining political parties, participating in protests or demonstrations, engaging in civic activities, attending public meetings or debates, and running for office (Olanrewaju & Fasesin, 2017). It is the means through which individuals can influence the creation and implementation of policies that impact their lives.

Awareness, on the other hand, refers to the understanding and knowledge of political issues,

institutions, and processes. It involves staying informed about current events, government policies, and public affairs (Olatunji & Oyelakin, 2019). Informed citizens are better equipped to make reasoned decisions, engage in meaningful discussions, and actively participate in the political system. The importance of political participation and awareness cannot be overstated. They are fundamental pillars of a democratic society. When citizens actively participate, they contribute to a more inclusive and representative political system. Increased participation also leads to greater legitimacy and trust in government institutions (Olayinka & Adeyemo, 2018).

Furthermore, political participation and awareness enhance civic engagement and social cohesion. They empower individuals and communities to have a say in decisions that affect their lives, fostering a sense of belonging and ownership in the political process (UNDP, 2019). This, in turn, can lead to collective action, social change, and the pursuit of common goals. In conclusion, the concept of political participation and awareness is crucial for the functioning of a democratic society. It allows citizens to exercise their rights, influence political decisions, and hold their leaders accountable. By promoting participation and awareness, societies can ensure a more inclusive, responsive, and representative political system that serves the needs and aspirations of its citizens.

WHAT IS THE LEVEL OF POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AMONG NIGERIAN YOUTHS, INCLUDING THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN VOTING, JOINING POLITICAL PARTIES, AND ENGAGING IN POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS?

The level of political participation among Nigerian youths can vary, but overall, it has been traditionally low. However, in recent years, there has been a notable increase in youth involvement in political activities as opined by National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), (2019).

Voting: Nigerian youths have historically exhibited low voter participation. This can be attributed to various factors such as voter apathy, lack of trust in the electoral system, and disillusionment with the political class. However, in the 2019 general elections, there was a surge in youth voter turnout, indicating a growing interest in political processes and the desire for change.

Joining Political Parties: While some Nigerian youths have become members of political parties, youth representation within these parties has been limited. Political parties in Nigeria are often dominated by older politicians, which has made it difficult for youths to actively participate in decision-making processes. However, there is a growing recognition of the need for youth inclusion, and some political parties have started encouraging youth involvement by providing platforms for young politicians to emerge.

Engaging in Political Campaigns: Nigerian youths have increasingly engaged in political campaigns, both online and offline. Social media has played a significant role in amplifying youth voices and mobilizing them for political causes. Young Nigerians are often active on platforms like Twitter, using hashtags and digital activism to raise awareness and demand change. Additionally, youth-led movements, such as the #EndSARS protests in 2020, have showcased the political consciousness and activism of Nigerian youths (Adebayo & Olanipekun, 2020).

Overall, while political participation among Nigerian youths has traditionally been low, there has been a noticeable rise in recent years. Factors such as increased awareness, digital activism, and a desire for change have contributed to a more engaged youth population in Nigeria's political landscape. However, there is still a need for greater representation of youths within political parties and the political decision-making processes to ensure their voices are heard and their concerns addressed.

WHAT IS THE LEVEL OF AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF POLITICAL ISSUES AMONG NIGERIAN YOUTHS?

The level of awareness and understanding of political issues among Nigerian youths varies. While some Nigerian youths actively engage in political discussions and stay updated on political developments, many others have limited knowledge or interest in politics. Factors such as access to education, exposure to political information, and socioeconomic status play a significant role in shaping the awareness and understanding of political issues among Nigerian youths. Those who have access to higher education, internet connectivity, and diverse sources of information tend to be more aware and knowledgeable about political issues.

However, it is important to note that there is a significant portion of Nigerian youths who are politically apathetic or disinterested (Bello-Imam *et al.*, 2018). This can be attributed to various factors, including disillusionment with the political system, a lack of confidence in political leaders, and prioritizing immediate socioeconomic challenges over political engagement.

Furthermore, Nigeria's large youth population and diverse cultural backgrounds contribute to varying levels of political awareness and understanding. In urban areas and among more politically active youth organizations, there tends to be a higher level of awareness and involvement in political issues. On the other hand, in rural areas and among marginalized communities, political awareness and engagement may be relatively lower due to limited resources and opportunities (Ajayi & Olorunjuwon, 2018).

Overall, while some Nigerian youths actively participate in political discussions and engage with political issues, there is a considerable portion of the youth population that lacks awareness or understanding of political matters. Efforts to improve political literacy and encourage youth political participation are crucial for ensuring a more informed and engaged generation of Nigerian youths.

WHAT IS THE EXISTING CIVIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS TARGETING NIGERIAN YOUTHS AND EVALUATING THEIR EFFECTIVENESS IN PROMOTING POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS?

There are several existing civic education programs targeting Nigerian youths aimed at promoting political participation and awareness. Some of these programmes according to Emeuze & Uwujare (2016) include:

1. **National Orientation Agency (NOA):** The NOA is a government agency responsible for disseminating information about government programs and policies. They organize civic education programs to promote political awareness among Nigerian youths.
2. **Youth Initiative for Advocacy, Growth, and Advancement (YIAGA):** YIAGA is a non-profit organization that focuses on youth empowerment, democracy, and good governance. They run various programs such as the Youth Organizing School (YOS) to educate and engage Nigerian youths in politics.
3. **Not-Too-Young-To-Run Campaign:** This campaign is an initiative that advocates for the reduction of the age qualification for political offices in Nigeria. It aims to promote youth political participation and awareness.
4. **Action Aid Nigeria:** This international NGO works to promote democracy and good governance in Nigeria. They run programs such as the "Strengthening Citizens' Voice in Nigeria" project, which includes civic education initiatives targeting Nigerian youths.

Evaluating the effectiveness of these programmes in promoting political participation and awareness among Nigerian youths can be done through various means, such as:

1. **Surveys and Questionnaires:** Conducting surveys and questionnaires before and after the participation in the programs to assess changes in political knowledge, interest, and engagement among the youths (Fatile *et al.*, 2015).
2. **Interviews and Focus Group Discussions:** Organizing interviews and focus group discussions to gather qualitative data about the impact of the programs on participants'

political awareness and involvement (Fashua, 2019).

3. **Case Studies:** Conducting in-depth case studies of specific programs to understand their effects on the political behavior and attitudes of Nigerian youths (Adedokun, 2014).
4. **Observations and Documentation:** Observing the activities and documenting the outcomes of the programs to assess the level of participation and effectiveness in increasing political awareness among Nigerian youths (Akpan & Nvau, 2019).

It is important to note that evaluating the effectiveness of such programs might require a long-term perspective, as political awareness and participation are complex and dynamic processes.

WHAT ARE THE FACTORS THAT HINDER NIGERIAN YOUTHS FROM ENGAGING IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES AND ACQUIRING POLITICAL KNOWLEDGE?

There are several factors that hinder Nigerian youths from engaging in political activities and acquiring political knowledge. Many Nigerian youths lack access to basic political education and information. The school curriculum often neglects political education, leaving students uninformed about political systems, processes, and their rights (Ojewunmi & Folorunsho, 2018). High levels of poverty and unemployment among Nigerian youths make it difficult for them to prioritize political activities. They may be more focused on finding employment and meeting basic needs rather than engaging in political activities. Nigerian youths often feel marginalized and underrepresented in political processes and decision-making. This reduces their motivation to engage in the political arena (Okonkwo, 2018).

Nigeria has a history of political violence, intimidation, and harassment. Youth who express an interest in politics may face threats and violence, which acts as a deterrent to participation (Olaleye & Afolabi, 2019). The perception of pervasive corruption within the political system discourages Nigerian youths from engaging in politics. They may view it as a futile endeavor where their efforts will be undermined or exploited. Irregularities, voter intimidation, and lack of transparency during elections also discourage youth participation. They may perceive the electoral system as unfair and unrepresentative, leading to apathy and disengagement. Nigerian youths often lack role models or mentors who can guide them in political activities. The absence of mentorship opportunities limits their exposure to political knowledge and involvement (Okeke-Joseph, 2020). Women face additional barriers in political engagement due to cultural and societal norms that inhibit their participation. This gender bias limits the engagement of female youth in politics.

Addressing these factors requires efforts from various stakeholders, such as the government, educational institutions, civil society organizations, and political parties. Implementing reforms in education, creating mentorship programs, promoting transparency and accountability, and ensuring inclusive political environments can help promote youth engagement and political knowledge acquisition in Nigeria.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF CIVIC EDUCATION IN EMPOWERING NIGERIAN YOUTHS TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS AND MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS?

The role of civic education in empowering Nigerian youths to actively participate in the political process and make informed decisions is crucial. Here are the key aspects of this role as submitted by Ibrahim & Onyejiuwa (2020):

1. **Developing political awareness:** Civic education helps Nigerian youths understand the political system, institutions, and processes, and become politically aware individuals. It educates them about their rights, responsibilities, and the importance of participating in democratic activities.
2. **Fostering critical thinking:** Civic education equips Nigerian youths with the skills to critically analyze political events, issues, and policies. It encourages them to question, evaluate information, and form their own opinions. By promoting critical thinking, civic education empowers youths to make informed decisions based on a thorough understanding of political issues.
3. **Promoting active citizenship:** Civic education inspires Nigerian youths to become active citizens who engage in community development, advocacy, volunteering, and political activities. It instills a sense of responsibility and encourages youths to actively participate in the political process, such as voting in elections, joining political parties, or running for office.
4. **Enhancing political participation:** Through civic education, Nigerian youths gain the knowledge and confidence to participate effectively in the political process. They learn about different forms of participation, including attending public meetings, engaging in peaceful protests, contacting policymakers, or joining civil society organizations. This active involvement leads to a stronger democratic culture and better representation of youth interests.
5. **Building leadership skills:** Civic education nurtures leadership skills among Nigerian youths by teaching them about the qualities and values of effective leaders. It encourages them to develop leadership abilities, engage in teamwork, and promote positive change in their communities. This helps create a new generation of politically engaged and responsible leaders.

6. Bridging societal divides: Civic education promotes inclusivity, understanding, and respect for diversity among Nigerian youths. It fosters dialogue and constructive engagement, bridging societal divides and encouraging youths from different backgrounds to collaborate in addressing common challenges. This contributes to a more cohesive and democratic society.

Civic education plays a crucial role in empowering Nigerian youths to actively participate in the political process and make informed decisions. It develops political awareness, critical thinking skills, active citizenship, participation, leadership abilities, and promotes societal inclusivity. By doing so, civic education strengthens democracy and ensures that young Nigerians have a voice in shaping their country's future.

SUMMARY

The impact of civic education on political participation and awareness among Nigerian youths is significant. Civic education plays a crucial role in shaping the political behavior and engagement of young people in Nigeria. This paper reviews the level of political participation among Nigerian youths, including their involvement in voting, joining political parties, and engaging in political campaigns; explores the level of awareness and understanding of political issues among Nigerian youths; investigate the existing civic education programs targeting Nigerian youths and evaluating their effectiveness in promoting political participation and awareness; investigate the factors that hinder Nigerian youths from engaging in political activities and acquiring political knowledge as well as determines the role of civic education in empowering Nigerian youths to actively participate in the political process and make informed decision.

Civic education has a significant impact on political participation and awareness among Nigerian youths. It plays a crucial role in shaping the political behavior and engagement of young people, enhancing their political awareness, and fostering a sense of political efficacy.

CONCLUSION

Based on the argument of the researcher, civic education has a significant impact on political participation and awareness among Nigerian youths. It equips them with the necessary knowledge, skills, and values to actively engage in political processes and make informed decisions. Through civic education, Nigerian youths become aware of their rights, responsibilities, and the importance of active citizenship. They also gain a deeper understanding of democratic principles, the political system, and the power dynamics within their society. Efforts should be made to overcome the challenges and ensure the widespread implementation of quality civic education

programs for Nigerian youths in order to empower its youths to actively participate in politics, shape their democracy, and contribute to the social and economic development of the nation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Strengthening the Civic Education Curriculum:** The Nigerian government should prioritize the inclusion of comprehensive and age-appropriate civic education in the national curriculum. This would involve revising and expanding existing curriculum materials to cover various aspects of political participation, rights, governance, and democratic principles.
- 2. Engaging Qualified and Dedicated Teachers:** The government should invest in the training of qualified teachers who have a strong understanding of civic education and its importance in promoting political participation and awareness among youths. These teachers should be given the necessary resources and incentives to effectively deliver civic education in schools.
- 3. Promoting Active Learning Approaches:** Civic education should not be restricted to theoretical lessons in classrooms. The government should encourage schools to adopt interactive and participatory learning methods, such as debates, mock elections, and community engagement activities, to allow students to actively engage in political discussions and decision-making.
- 4. Collaboration with Civil Society Organizations:** The government should collaborate with civil society organizations that specialize in civic education and youth empowerment to develop and implement impactful programs. These organizations can provide additional resources and expertise to enhance civic education initiatives.
- 5. Integration of Technology:** Leveraging technology, such as online platforms, social media, and digital tools, can be an effective way to reach a wider audience of Nigerian youths. The government should explore innovative ways to incorporate technology into civic education programs, making it more accessible and engaging for the younger generation.

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