

# **Rationale for Students' Involvement in Cultism as Expressed by Undergraduates of Tertiary Institutions in Ilorin Metropolis, Kwara State**

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## **Abstract**

*Cultism has attained a frightening status in Nigerian tertiary institutions. This study therefore investigated the rationale for students' involvement in cultism as expressed by undergraduates of tertiary institutions in Ilorin Metropolis, Kwara State. The study also sought to find out if variables such as gender and type of residence would affect the respondents' expressions. The descriptive survey design was adopted for the study. A three-stage sampling procedure was adopted to select 480 respondents for the study. A Researcher-designed instrument titled 'Rationale for Students' Involvement in Cultism Questionnaire (RSICQ), was used to collect information from the participants. The validity of the instrument was established through vetting of the questionnaire by three Experts while the reliability was ascertained using split-half reliability method and a reliability coefficient of 0.66 was gotten which confirmed that the instrument was reliable for use. The t-test statistical method was used to test the null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. Result revealed that undergraduates expressed that the rationale for students' involvement in cultism are peer group influence, societal moral decadence, low self-esteem, economic situation of the students among others. Based on the findings, it was recommended that counsellors should organize orientation programmes so as*

*for students to say 'NO' to cultism. Parents should be extra vigilant in monitoring the behaviours of their children; this could help undergraduates from involving in cultism. Tertiary institutions should adopt strict disciplinary measures to curb undergraduates from involving in cultism in schools.*

**Keywords:** Rationale, Cultism, Tertiary Institutions, Ilorin Metropolis