**THE EFFECT OF VIOLENCE MOVIES ON TEENAGERS**

**CHAPTER ONE**

**INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Background of the Study** A teenager is a young person whose age falls within the range of 13 to19 years they are called teenager’s because their number end with teen. Merriam Webster (1828)

Biologically, a teenagers falls between the stages of infancy and adulthood. Also a teenager is a being between the stage of birth and puberty legally, a teenager is refers to a minor, or somebody who is yet to become an adult. Everything that a teenager sees in a media affects them in many ways .Emphatically , every sight a teenager has behoove emulation , be it positive or negative .

A teenager who is exposed to violent movies respond actively to the ideology induces by the movie characters. As an interact process through the mass media in which persons or group related to each other, share information ,experience and culture.

Mass media consist of the various means of conveying information heterogeneously and simultaneously, with the aid of radio television, newspaper, internet, films etc. However, the aim of communication by the media on its audience is to influence their behavior.

Research has shown that there is a twelve percent increase in aggressive behavior after watching violent behavior,(Tompkins,2003)still ,Aimee Tompkins (2003) adds that every viewer that watches four (4) hours a day, put in less effort at school , have poorer reading skills, plays less with friends, have fewer hobbies and activities and are more likely to be overweight”

Cesarone Bernard (1994) highlights’ the American Psychology associations three major effect of watching violent media (films, television, etc.) “Teenagers become less sensitive to pain and suffering of others, teenagers may be more fearful of the world around them and teenager may be more likely to have in aggressive or hurtful ways towards others

However, at the other hand, critics of video games claim that watching violent film is less detrimental due to the teenagers not physically playing out the violent. Still maker of those violent movies argue that violent teenagers are drawn toward the violent movies. These people believe that the teenagers must have been exposed to more than just the programming in order to exhibit behaviors that they may have seen in films (Cesareone, 1994)

This research is therefore design to find out whether violent movies have a negative or positive impact on the teenagers of uyo local government area.

**1.2 Statement of Problem**

The inability to select what one exposes ones mind to can pose a greater danger to oneself the ability to distinguish reality from illusion and fantasy is the problem this research seeks to solve. Violent movie has become a problem on teenagers in that, what they see on violent movies are taken into practice by them. With this their attitudes and behavior seem to be more aggressive and arrogant.

It is also noticed that academic ability of teenagers is dwindling and most often is attributable to length of time they spend watching television, while their behavior seems not to conform to societal moral standard.

Therefore this study sought to out what motivate teenagers to watch violent films and the impacts of violent movies on the teenagers of Uyo Local Government Area.

**1.3 Objectives of Study**

This research work is targeted to achieving the following objectives.

1. To find out what motivate teenagers to watch violent films.
2. To find out how violent films can affects the behaviors of teenagers.
3. To find out the amount of time spent by teenagers on watching violent movies
4. To examine the influence of violent movies on teenagers.

**1.4 Research Questions**

1. What motivate teenagers to watch violent movies?
2. How do teenagers behave after watching violent movie?
3. How long do teenagers sit to watch violent films?
4. What is the influence of violent movies on teenagers?

**1.5 Scope of Study**

This research was carried out on teenagers. From some selected secondary schools in Uyo Local Government Area. Akwa lbom state the following

Four towns secondary commercial school Effiat-Offot .

Aka Community Secondary School, Aka Offot

The research also focused on the effect of violent movies on teenagers in Uyo local government area.

**1.6 Significance of the Study**

1. This research will reveal salient impact and measures of the negativity of violent films on teenagers.
2. The study will bring to the fore negative effect of violent films
3. It will discourage the exposure of teenagers to violent movie
4. It will discourage the importation of violent films into the country
5. It will serve as reference material for student and scholars wishing to carry out studies in related field.

**1.7 Limitation of Study**

For a successful research on teenager, it demands a cordial relationship with them in order to obtain factual information, however it was difficult to get information from the students as some of them were shy.

Also the process of moving from class to class in both schools questioning consumed time and thus, stressful. However the research was able to scale through successfully.

**1.8 Operational Definition of Terms**

1. **Movies**: This is defined as the showing of motion pictures in the cinema, home and sold in video shops.
2. **Viewing:** This is the ability to watch something carefully.
3. **Effect**: This is a change, reaction, impression or influences that is caused by watching violent movies
4. **Teenagers:** Young people resident in Uyo Local Government Area (male and female) whose age falls with the range of 13 to 19 years.
5. **Violence:** The World Health Organization (W. H. O 2009) defines violence as the intentional use of physical force or power to theatre. Oneself, another person or against a group or community that either results in or has a high like hood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, or deprivation.
6. **Uyo L.G.A:** This is a local government area in AkwaIbom State. It is a capital city with the total population of 527 132.