

A STUDY ON THE CORRELATION BETWEEN FUNDING ON NEWSPAPER UTILISATION AND ITS USAGE FREQUENCY

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ABSTRACT

Newspapers are sources of information on topical and current issues, stocked by libraries for use. They are very important to users because they provide valuable information on vital national issues; contribute towards better education, social environment, and growth in agriculture, business and industrial sectors. University libraries, therefore, have the challenge of preserving newspapers for quick access and posterity. Existing studies have dealt with newspaper preservation but there is a dearth of studies on effects of funding on newspaper utilisation. This study, therefore, investigated effects of funding on newspaper utilisation in university libraries in Nigeria. The survey research design was adopted. The stratified random sampling technique was used to select seven (7) federal and eight (8) state universities from all public universities in Nigeria in 2010. Fifteen (15) serials librarians and fifty (50) users from each of the selected universities participated in the study. The instruments used were two questionnaires, one for the serials librarian and the other for the users. The questionnaire on serials librarian had scales on funding ($r=0.65$), while that of the users had scales on newspaper utilisation ($r=0.71$). Data collected were subjected to descriptive statistics. The result explicitly reveals that funding positively influence newspaper subscription and frequency of use in both federal and state university libraries in Nigeria.

KEYWORDS: Newspaper Funding, Newspaper Utilisation, University Libraries

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