ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION TECHNIQUE USED IN TREATING JUVENILE DELINQUENTS IN BORSTAL TRAINING INSTITUTE KADUNA

BY

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis has been produced by me. The topic has not been presented on any previous application for a higher degree. All quotations are indicated by quotation marks and sources of information are duly acknowledged by means of references.

N. M. DOGO (MRS)

CERTIFICATION

This thesis report entitled "ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION TECHNIQUES USED IN TREATING JUVENILE DELINQUENTS IN BORSTAL TRAINING INSTITUTE, KADUNA" by N.M. DOGO meets the regulations governing the award of the degree of Master of Education M.Ed. (Guidance and Counselling) of Ahmadu Bello University and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

Mrs. B. O. Ker
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Member, Supervisory Committee — 26/7/93 Date

Dr. Nsa A. Nsa
Member, Supervisory Committee — 26/7/93 Date

Dr. F.O. Ogunlade
Head of Department — 13/8/93 Date

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Dean, Postgraduate School — 18/4/96 Date

DEDICATION

This piece of work is dedicated to the memory of my late Father, Mallam Aluwong Bodam, and my late mother, Aliyat Aluwong Bodam, who laid the foundation upon which I am able to measure up to this present standard.

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ABSTRACT

This research work assessed the effectiveness of the behaviour modification technique used in Borstal Training Institute, Kaduna, for the purpose of reforming juvenile delinquents taken there for treatment. The institution has, on the average, at any given time, an inmate population of about 450 delinquents, 24 instructors and 8 social welfare officers. It is from this target population that six inmates of the sample study-group and one social welfare officer were randomly selected (hat draw technique). Three of the sampled inmates were new arrivals and the other three were graduands. All of them were taken to the Borstal Training Institute on the grounds of habitual stealing.

The study, which is descriptive (quasi-experiment) in nature has, as its methodology, used interviews, questionnaire and close contact observation of the sample study group to obtain the information and data on which the assessment depends. These tools made it possible to probe

into the backgrounds of the inmates, the technique used by the institution, the mode of applying the technique for desired effect and the observable behaviour change in the graduands. The H_O formulated for the purpose of the study which stated that "there is no significant difference between the effect of the observed behaviour modification technique and what is expected" was retained. The three-grade system was found to be in use at the Borstal Training Institute. This three grade system combines counselling and observation. On the whole the out come of the technique (three-grade system) employed was observed to be acceptably effective in modifying behaviour of the delinquents of the Kaduna Borstal Training Institute.

However, it was observed that *on* graduation, no attempts are made by the institution to find out how any of the ex-inmates cope with life outside the institute. To the researcher this is something of serious lapse and thus recommendation has emphasised the need to redress this oversight.