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RESTRUCTURING INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEMOCRACY: SOCIAL STUDIES PERSPECTIVES

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### Abstract

*Nigeria electoral management body is not strong enough to withstand the pressure exerted by the political process and the electoral misconducts that accompanies it, this continues to threaten democratisation process in Nigeria. The paper examines restructuring independent national electoral commission (INEC) for sustainable democracy. Descriptive survey design was used, the target population for the study comprised all the students in Kogi State University, and the sample for the study comprised of 120 students in Social Science Education, Faculty of Education. These students were drawn using purposive sampling technique from Economics Education students who are offering Social Studies Education as an Electives and Social Studies Education Students in Kogi State University. The researchers constructed questionnaire titled restructuring independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy (RINECSD). This instrument was validated by experts in the field of Education Social Studies and other experts. The data collected were analysed using the weighted mean of 2.5 computed as  $4+3+2+1=10/4=2.5$ . Similarly, the inferential statistics of chi-square was used to test the null hypotheses with the level of statistical significance put at  $\alpha = 0.05y$ . The reviewed that Social Studies Education addressed issues relating to right type of values and norms on independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy, teaches democratic values in independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy etc. To a very great extent, relationship exists between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy, there is significant relationship between the roles of Social Studies Education and restructuring independent national electoral commission and significant relationship exist between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy. It was recommended that Nigerian Government through ministry of education should make Social Studies Education a compulsory subject not only at the primary and junior secondary school but at all level of education so as to teach democratic values, skills and knowledge for sustainable democracy among others.*

Key Word: Restructuring, Independent National Electoral Commission, Sustainable Democracy and Social Studies Perspectives.

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### Introduction

Democracy as a foundation for restructuring supposed to guarantee Independent National Electoral Commission, (INEC) to conduct a Free and Fair Election, improve in the conduct of elections in Nigeria but unfortunately, undue excitement and momentary parochial interests have always worked against the success of positive political programmes in Nigeria. Therefore, there is urgency need to revisit and restructure Independent National Electoral Commission, (INEC) for sustainable democracy. Social Studies Education is an educative means of imparting

the knowledge of social sciences, arts and humanities, physical, pure and natural sciences to learners which its broad knowledge enable social studies students to acquire a better understanding of the concepts, events and materials around their physical environment (Obaje, 2015). Social Studies Education among other school subjects is primarily designed and taught in schools to address issues relating to right type of values, attitudes and behavior with a view to achieving sustainable democracy.

Social values is concerned with organization of social relations between the communities values, social norms, beliefs and customs that needs to be reform to promote social order in the society. The essence of social studies is to study human social, physical, cultural, economic, political and religious environment and of how human being interact with and control the social environment, provides human needs and aspiration to solve human problems in the society, since human being dose not lives in isolation but lives among groups in the society. Social Studies as a complex but organized process through which individual acquire worthy, knowledge, attitude, values, skills and competences that are vital for self-fulfillment and effective contribution to the survival and captivity of the society. These definitions imply that social studies have the attributes to develop desirable qualities for an all-round development of rich personality (Danladi, 2005).

Therefore, Restructuring is the corporate management term for the act of reorganizing the legal, ownership, operational, or other structures of a society for the purpose of making it more profitable, or better organized for its present needs. (Vanguard, 2017)

Restructuring is simply a call for the restoration of federalism, the foundational constitution structure to which all Nigerians subscribed as encapsulated in the independence constitution of 1960. A sustainable democracy is the Government of the consent of the people capable of being sustained or maintained. Democracy on the other hand is a system of Government which gives periodic opportunities for the masses to choose their leaders. It ensures massive participation in governmental activities. Udu (2015) observed that in reality, there are empirical evidences over the years that the INEC has not been fully autonomous and non-partisan; neither does it appear to be sufficiently empowered to carry out its assigned duties and responsibilities impartially.

A sustainable democracy is therefore a controlled reasonably high and stable level of democracy. Therefore, all sincere advocates of restructuring must join in the mobilisation of all resources and institutions for the enthronement of democracy as necessary foundation for the positive realisation of the gains of restructuring Independent National

Electoral Commission, (INEC) in Nigeria. The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) is Nigeria's national Election. Management Body (EMB) established in both the Nigerian Constitution of 1999 and the Electoral Act 2010. In 2012, INEC prepared a strategic plan as a roadmap to guide its activities from 2012-2016. In 2016, the Commission embarked on a review of the Plan and the development of a new one, a process that culminated in the present (INEC, 2017).

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), is the institutionalized Governmental body established, through the instrumentality of law, to manage the nation's electoral process. The INEC, as an instrument of processing democratic ideals and structures is hopefully expected to be a truly independent body that personifies the ideals of transparency, impartiality, accountability and responsiveness. This perhaps, informed the popular perception that the body is insulated from partisan politics and that it is fully empowered to discharge its duties devoid of any influence whatsoever (Udu, Nkwede et.al 2014).

The powers and functions of INEC are specified in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of

Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) and the Electoral Act 2010 (as amended). Paragraphs 14 (1&2) and

15 (a-c) of the Third Schedule 226 (1-3) of the 1999 Constitution (as amended) specify the establishment, powers, and composition of the Commission. Sections 1, 2 (a-c), 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 25,

33 and 87, and similar other sections of the Electoral Act 2010 (as amended) also specified some of these powers in relation to establishment, control over funds, as well as supervision and monitoring of political parties. These powers and functions are as follows:

- a) Organizing, undertaking and supervising all elections to the offices of the President and Vice-President, the Governor and Deputy Governor of a state, and to the membership of the Senate, the House of Representatives and the House of Assembly of each State of the Federation; as well as the Chairman and Councilors of FCT Area Councils;

- b) Registering political parties in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and an Act of the National Assembly;
- c) Monitoring the organization and operation of political parties, including their finances;
- d) Arranging for the annual examination and auditing for the funds and accounts of political parties and publishing a report on such examination and audit for public information;
- e) Arranging and conducting the registration of persons qualified to vote and preparing, maintaining and revising the register of voters for the purpose of any election;
- f) Promote knowledge of sound democratic election processes;
- g) Monitoring political campaigns and providing rules and regulations which shall govern the political parties;
- h) Ensuring that all Electoral Commissioners, Electoral and Returning Officers take and subscribe to the oath of the Office prescribed by law;
- i) Delegating any of its powers to any Resident Electoral Commissioner(s);
- j) Carrying out such other functions as may be conferred upon it by an Act of the National Assembly;
- k) Delimiting Constituencies at intervals of not less than ten years;
- l) Conducting referenda for recall of State Houses of Assembly (SHA) or National Assembly (NASS) or any other referendum; and
- m) Conducting Civic and Voter Education (INEC, 2017)

Based on the above, for democracy to flourish, election must reflect the collective will of the people and for elections to reflect the general will of the people, the citizens must perceive that they are free to exercise their rights and have confidence that the electoral process will accurately reflect their choice. But free and fair elections can only take place in an environment conducive to clean and honest electoral contest. Again, for elections to be free and fair, they must be governed by rules and regulation. Elections inarguably are the core institution of democratic as well as representative Government. This is true

because in a democracy, the authority of the Government to govern derives entirely from the consent of the citizens. The cardinal mechanism for translating the consent of the governed into Governmental authority is by conducting open, transparent, free and fair elections. Free and fair elections held at regular intervals are crucial if democratic transitions are to be achieved (Nwosu, 2010)

The problem inherent in elections conduct and administration constitutes a central factor in the democratic rule in Nigeria in many sub-saharan African states (Momoh and Adejumobi, 1998; cited in Akinboye, (2005). Iyayi (2004) opines that the failure of the electoral system and democratization process in Nigeria should be attributed to six (6) interrelated processes. These are-the historical context of processes of formation of the Nigerian State, the nature and character of the Nigerian State, the nature and character of Nigeria's ruling class in terms of the political, economic and social values of members of the dominant coalition within the ruling class, the strength of oppositional pro-democracy forces in society and the character of the international economy and politics. On the basis of this, Iyayi (2004) maintains that the history of elections, electoral practices and democratization in Nigeria show conclusively that representative democracy of even the bourgeois, variety has failed in Nigeria. Jega (2002) observed that to ensure a sustainable democracy and good governance in the Fourth Republic, the three arms of government namely: the Legislature, Judiciary and the Executive must be restructured to make them amenable to proposed political and socio-economic restructuring. The Judiciary, the Legislature and above all, the Executive arm of Government will be required to change their character. This is ordinarily translated into the radical transformation of the character of Nigerian state. There cannot be democracy without a viable state just as good governance cannot be attained in the midst of piracy, indolence and ineptitude.

Based on INEC strategic plan 2017-2021 consolidating free, fair and credible elections in Nigeria, INEC need a restructuring in the following areas for sustainable democracy.

1. Broad issues of the electoral framework which comprises
  - a) The mode of appointment of members of the Commission;
  - b) Unbundling the Commission to make it more focused on delivering good elections;
  - c) Electoral adjudication particularly the issues of election-related cases and prosecution of electoral offenders;
  - d) Funding of INEC to ensure its independence from Government, particularly the Executive arm of Government;
  - e) Relationship between INEC as the Federal Electoral Management Board (EMB) and State Independent Electoral Commissions (SIECs) as regional EMBs; and
  - f) The electoral system, particularly the issue of simple plurality versus proportional representation.
2. Specific institutional and structural reform such as
  - a) The optimal organisational structure of the Commission;
  - b) Lack of clarity in job descriptions and conflicting or overlapping functions;
  - c) Lack of clarity in reporting processes;
  - d) Clarifying the role of the Commissioners in policy making and policy implementation;
  - e) Poor record keeping;
  - f) Weak rules and regulations;
  - g) Disciplining of staff.
3. Issues relating to improvements in election management, such issues are
  - a) Issues of planning, operations and logistics;
  - b) The voters roll or register;
  - c) Voting procedure;
  - d) Design and handling of ballot papers;
  - e) Election security;
  - f) Counting, tallying and announcement of results (INEC, 2017)

The need to restructure the above independent national electoral commission (INEC) strategic plan for sustainable democracy is very pivotal. In line with this, Udu (2015) opined that democracy clearly requires institutional mechanisms, established procedures and organisations such as political parties, legislatures, interest groups through which

public opinion is translated into government policy. Since elections must be free and fair before their outcome can be said to represent the popular will, the question that arises is: How then can the conduct of free and fair elections be assured in a democratic polity?

Uya (1999) has observed that though the successful conduct of free and fair elections is an important cornerstone of democracy and good governance. Democratization of a policy involves much more which include: love of freedom and equality; resentment of autocracy, freedom of dissent, respect for individuality of each person, creation of appropriate environment for individual to free himself from the constraints of poverty, hunger, ill-health, coercion and control; equality of opportunity and access to education, medical attention and work; equality of all, the ruler and the ruled, before the law; the creation of an ordered, stable society which guarantees security of lives and property of individuals. Cultivation and inculcation in the citizenry of a democratic temper, an attitude of service and trusteeships, a sense of civic responsibility, a spirit of fair play and tolerance of other people's opinions and interests; absence of arrogance and arbitrariness and a sense of honest, faithful, selfless, disinterested, impartial and objective service, dedicated, selfless, disciplined, patriotic, honest and highly motivated leadership style, free from social indiscipline, ethnic hatred and jealousies, religious bigotry and the tendency to personalize rulership and power. Also a deliberate and determined move towards the creation of a society bound together by shared sentiments and out look

Furthermore, Odumakin (2017) opined that in any honest observer, who has seen how Nigeria has steadily and systematically moved from being a country of great promise to a country of great problems observed that:

- Nigeria earnestly restructured, is a Nigeria positively restored: a country restored to a previously-travelled path of developmental progress, rapid educational advancement, robust and committed Public Service
- Nigeria restructured is a Nigeria with enhanced leadership-building culture,

- Nigeria restructured is a Nigeria where the Central Government along with its lower-level Federating Constituents, will, and must, be strong
- Nigeria restructured is a Nigeria enhanced by the removal of the current perverse-incentives system, where many people seek elected and appointive government positions
- A Nigeria restructured is a Nigeria where every area, region or zone of the country will be able to devote more thinking time, conceptualisation, research, exploration and analysis to its mineral and agricultural resources, with a view to developing an economic value-chain from them, which is the first serious step towards the development of a manufacturing capacity across the country.
- Restructured Nigeria is a Nigeria where there would no longer practise the current system of forced equalization of 'ever-downwards' educational opportunities across the country
- In a truly-restructured Nigeria, the negative effects of lowering academic and examination standards will very quickly become obvious and untenable among the people in the states and regions practising this immorality

#### The purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to examine the restructuring of independent national electoral commission (INEC) for sustainable democracy. Specifically, the objectives of the study are to:

1. Examine the roles of Social Studies Education in restructuring independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy
2. Examine the roles of independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy

#### Research Questions

1. What are the roles of Social Studies Education in restructuring independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy?

2. What are the roles of independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy?

#### Research hypotheses

The following hypotheses were stated and tested in this study.

H<sub>01</sub>: There is no significant relationship between the roles of Social Studies Education and restructuring independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy.

H<sub>02</sub>: There is no significant relationship between the roles of independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy

#### Methodology

Descriptive survey design was used in the study, the target population for the study comprised all the students in Kogi State University, and the sample for the study comprised 120 students in Social Sciences Education, Faculty of Education. These students were drawn using purposive sampling technique from Economics Education students who are offering Social Studies Education as an Electives and Social Studies Education Students in Kogi State University. The researchers constructed questionnaire titled restructuring independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy (RINECSD) to measure restructuring independent national electoral commission (INEC) for sustainable democracy. The instrument has 10 items of a four point scale of to a Very Great Extent (VGE), Great Extent (GE), Moderate Extent (ME) Little Extent (LE). This instrument was validated by experts in the field of Social Studies Education and other experts from test and measurement. The researchers distributed and collected the copies of the questionnaire with the help of two research assistants from the same Faculty of Education, Kogi State University. The data collected were analysed using the weighted mean of 2.5 computed as  $4+3+2+1=10/4=2.5$ . Any mean score that is equal to or above 2.5 is considered significant and therefore, accepted while the one that is less than 2.5 is rejected. Similarly, the inferential statistics of chi-square was used to test the null hypotheses earlier stated with the level of statistical significance put at  $\alpha = 0.05$ .

Research Question One: What are the roles of Social Studies Education in restructuring independent

national electoral commission for sustainable democracy?

Table 1: Roles of Social Studies Education in restructuring independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy

S/N	Statement/Items	VGE	GE (4)	ME (3)	LE (2)	X (1)	Remark Mean
1.	Social Studies Education addresses issues relating to right type of values and norms on independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy	43 36%	60 50%	10 8%	7 6%	3.2	Great extent
2.	Social Studies Education teaches democratic values in independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy	56 47%	50 42%	11 9%	3 2%	3.3	Very great extent
3.	Social Studies Education promotes understanding of independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy	61 51%	41 34%	12 10%	6 5%	3.3	Very great extent
4.	Social Studies Education helps citizens to develop the right attitudes to independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy.	46 38%	48 40%	21 18%	5 4%	3.1	Great extent
5.	Social Studies Education helps to teach desirable qualities in discipline, rules and regulations of independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy	34 28%	55 46%	29 24%	2 2%	3.0	Great extent
	Weighted mean						3.2

Source: Field Survey 2018

Table 1 shows that on item 1 the respondents agreed to the statement that Social Studies Education teaches democratic values in independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy with a mean score of 3.2. On item 2 89% of the respondents agreed to a very great extent that Social Studies Education teaches democratic values in independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy. While 11% disagree to a moderate and little extent to the statement. Item 3, 51% of the respondents agreed to a very great extent, 34% agree to a great extent with the statement that Social Studies Education promotes understanding of independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy while 10% disagreed to a moderate extent and 5% disagreed to a little extent to the statement. Furthermore on item 4, with a mean score of 3.1 the respondents agreed to a great extent that Social Studies Education helps citizens to develop the right

attitudes to independent national electoral commission for sustainable development. Also on item 5 with a mean of 3.0 which is above the calculated mean of 2.5 the respondents agreed to a great extent that Social Studies Education helps to teach desirable qualities in discipline, rules and regulations of independents national electoral commission for sustainable development. Therefore, the result indicates that Social Studies Education teaches democratic values in independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy, Social Studies Education promotes understanding of independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy; Social Studies Education helps citizens to develop the right attitudes to independent national electoral commission for sustainable development among others.

Research Question Two: What is the relationship between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy?

Table 2: Relationship between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy

S/N	Statement/Items	VGE	GE (4)	ME (3)	LE (2)	X (1)	Mean	Remark			
6.	Restructuring independent national electoral commission can bring about a sustainable democracy	35	29%	66	55%	9	8%	10	8%	3.1	Great extent
7.	Institutional and organization reform of independent national electoral commission leads to sustainable democracy	59	49%	44	37%	11	9%	6	5%	3.3	Very extent
8.	Massive participation in election by the citizens to choose the leaders who will represent them is an index of sustainable democracy	33	28%	50	42%	25	21%	12	9%	2.9	Great extent
9.	Improvement in election management by the independent national electoral commission leads to sustainable democracy	42	54%	5	35%	8	4%	3.4	7%	3.4	Very great extent
10.	Carrying out effective functions as required by independent national electoral commission lead to sustainable development	71	59%	31	26%	2	2%	16	13%	3.3	Very extent
Weighted mean								3.2			

Source: Field Survey 2018

Table 2. Item 6 84% of the respondents agreed to a great extent that restructuring independent national commission can bring about a sustainable democracy while 16% disagreed to a moderate and little extent to the statement. Item 7, the respondents agreed to a very great extent to the statement that

institutional and organization reform of independent national electoral commission leads to sustainable democracy with a mean score of 3.3. The table reveals on Item 8, that with a mean score of 2.9 the respondents agreed to a great extent that massive participation in election by the citizens to choose the

leaders who will represent them is an index of sustainable democracy. Furthermore on item 9, 54% of the respondents strongly agreed to a very great extent, 35% agree to a great extent to the statement that improvement in election management by the independent national electoral commission leads to sustainable democracy while 4% disagreed to a little extent and 7% strongly disagreed to a moderate extent to the statement. Also on item 10 with a mean of 3.3 which is above the calculated mean of 2.5 the respondents agreed to a very great extent that carrying out effective functions as required by independent national electoral commission lead to sustainable democracy. The result from the study indicate that restructuring independent national commission can bring about a sustainable democracy and institutional and organization reform of independent national electoral commission leads to sustainable democracy among others.

Testing of Hypotheses

Hypothesis one: There is no significant relationship between the roles of Social Studies Education and

restructuring independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy

Using the result derived from the questionnaires, the researcher uses chi - square test to test the hypotheses which stated that there is no significant relationship between the roles of Social Studies Education and restructuring independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy.

The formula below represents chi-square test:

$$\chi^2 = \frac{\sum(O-E)^2}{E}$$

Where O represents Observation frequency

E represents Expected (theoretical) frequency

$$\text{Using } \frac{CT \times RT}{GT}$$

$$\frac{494 \times 120}{106 \times 120}$$

$$600 = 99$$

$$600 = 21$$

O	E	O-E	(O-E) <sup>2</sup> /E
103	99	4	0.16
17	21	-4	0.76
106	99	7	0.49
14	21	-7	2.33
102	99	3	0.09
18	21	-3	0.43
94	99	-5	0.25
26	21	5	1.19
89	99	-10	1.01
31	21	10	4.76
			11.47

$$\chi^2_{cal} = 11.47$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Degree of Freedom (df)} &= (R-1)(C-1) \\ &= (2-1)(3-1) \\ &= 3 \times 2 = 6 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Level of Significance} = 0.05$$

$$\text{Tabulated Value } \chi^2_{tab} = 7.815$$

Decision Rule

Since  $\chi^2_{cal}$  is greater than  $\chi^2_{tab}$ , the hypothesis which is  $H_0$  is accepted. From this test, it is deduced that there is significant relationship between the roles of Social Studies Education and restructuring independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy.

Hypothesis two: There is no significant relationship between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy?.

Using the result derived from the questionnaires, the researcher's uses chi - square test to test the hypothesis which stated that there is no significant relationship between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy the formula below represents chi-square test:

$$\chi^2 = \frac{\sum(O-E)^2}{E}$$

Where O represents Observation frequency

E represents Expected (theoretical) frequency

$$\text{Using } \frac{CT \times RT}{GT}$$



<u>496x120</u>	<u>104x120</u>		
600		= 99	
600		=21	
O	E	O-E	(O-E) <sup>2</sup> /E
101	99	2	0.04
19	21	-2	0.19
103	99	4	0.16
17	21	-4	0.76
83	99	-16	2.59
37	21	16	12.19
107	99	8	0.65
13	21	-8	3.05

#### Decision Rule

Since  $X^2_{cal}$  is greater than  $X^2_{tab}$ , the hypothesis which is  $H_1$  is accepted. From this test, it is deduced that significant relationship exist between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy

#### Findings

1. Social Studies Education addressed issues relating to right type of values and norms on independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy, teaches democratic values in independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy, promotes understanding of independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy, helps citizens to develop the right attitudes to independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy and helps to teach desirable qualities in discipline, rules and regulations of independents national electoral commission for sustainable democracy.
2. To a very great extent, relationship existed between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy.
3. There is significant relationship between the roles of Social Studies Education and restructuring independent national electoral commission.
4. Significant relationship exist between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy

#### Discussions

The data in table 1 of research questions one shows that majority of the respondents agreed to a great extent that Social Studies Education addresses issues relating to right type of values and norms on

102	99	3	0.09
18	21	-3	0.43
			20.15

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Degree of Freedom (df)} &= (R-1)(C-1) \\ &= (2-1)(3-1) \\ &= 3 \times 2 = 6 \\ \text{Level of Significance} &= 0.05 \\ \text{Tabulated Value } X^2_{tab} &= 7.815 \end{aligned}$$

independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy, teaches democratic values in independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy, promotes understanding of independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy, helps citizens to develop the right attitudes to independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy and helps to teach desirable qualities in discipline, rules and regulations of independents national electoral commission for sustainable democracy and the result of the hypothesis shows that there is significant relationship between the roles of Social Studies Education and restructuring independent national electoral commission for sustainable democracy. Based on the above, Otoja (2013) observed that Social Studies Education among other school subjects is primarily designed and taught in schools to address issues relating to right type of values attitudes and behavior with a view to achieving national development and sum it up when the author affirmed that Social Studies Education can effectively inculcate changes through the adoption of pedagogical approaches to the teaching and learning of the subject. Social Studies Education influences the attitudes of the young (citizens) through early inculcation of good values system in them early in life to enhance spirit of nation building (Onifade, in Ezegbe, Eskay, Anyanwu and Abiogu, 2014).

Social studies was integrated in the Nigerian school curriculum as a subject that intends to assist in understanding and finding solution(s) to the problems confronting the Nigerian society (Obidoa, 1991; CESAC, 1993). Uche in Okobia (2013) further emphasized the strategic roles of social studies in nation building in his categorization of the objectives of social studies in Nigerian schools. According to

him, these objectives include: (a) Providing Humanistic Education aimed at helping the child to comprehend his life, (b) Citizenship Education, centered on equipping the child with skills for social responsibility, (c) Intellectual Education which seeks to introduce the child to the modes of thinking and inquiry in the social sciences and (d) Value education, an area of learning that aims at inculcating in the individual some societal expected behaviors and group attitudes, values and feelings.

The data also shows that to a very great extent, relationship exists between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy and the result of the hypothesis shows that significant relationship exist between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy. Based on the finding, the logical sequence is that democracy should come first, and it will be a strong foundation for the restructuring of Nigeria. Any form of government that lacks the ingredients of social contract and the rule of law is not a democratic Government. Democracy is inevitably required for the laudable objectives of restructuring to be achieved in Nigeria. Farayibi, (2017) observed that restructuring should be geared towards solving the leadership problem in Nigeria. Real attention should be given to good governance which would lead to poverty reduction and better distribution of wealth affecting Nigerians, and not necessarily the divisibility of the country, which is not feasible or viable. Nigerian should restructure their attitudes. Thus,

- Commitment to the unity, indivisibility and progress of a new Nigeria through effective governance is very essential.
- Give the dividend of democracy such as job creation and greater economic opportunity.
- Ensure economic renovation, reforms and industrialization.
- Say no to corruption, hunger and poverty

Furthermore, Udu, (2015) observed that the most important elements encapsulating the democratic agenda are popular participation, equitable representation and accountability. Thus, democracy provides ample opportunities for the citizens to make their inputs in the policy process. In other words, democracy affords the citizens the chances to contribute to decisions that affect their lives and environments. Alemika (2007) concluded that

elections remain a way of realizing some of the core values of democracy, especially participation of the citizenry, which helps to ensure quality of governance and accountability on the part of elected officials. As remarked by the writer, quality of elections provides, therefore is an indicator of the extent to which democratic governance has been consolidated

#### Conclusion

In achieving restructuring of independent national electoral commission (INEC) for sustainable democracy, it is hopeful that all the citizens needs to be committed to the success of democracy as a requirement for our development and as a foundation for a sustainable and a successful Restructuring. Nigeria is not yet a democratic country, but an evolving democracy in need of the patriotism of government and the citizens for its enthronement can take place if Social Studies Education with its loadable objectives of imparting democratic values in the society is effectively taught and internalize in the process and commitment to the conduct of substantially free, fair and credible elections.

#### Recommendations

1. Nigerian Government through ministry of education should make Social Studies Education a compulsory subject not only at the primary and junior secondary school but at all level of education so as to teach democratic values, skills and knowledge for sustainable democracy.
2. Nigerian Government should organise conferences, workshop and seminars to make a significant contribution to identifying some of the obstacles to good governance, democratization and institution building in Nigeria, as well as considering some policy options that can help overcome those obstacles.
3. Cordial relationship between independent national electoral commission and sustainable democracy be establish as universal consensus around the idea that elected Government through credible and regular elections are the foundation of any emerging democratic process.

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