



## **Parents' Educational Qualifications and Marital Status as a Correlation of Social Adjustment of Secondary School Students in Delta North Senatorial District**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This study examined parents' educational qualifications and marital status as a correlation of social adjustment among secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. Three research questions and three null hypotheses guided the study. A correlational research design was used in the study. The population of this study is 16,473 senior secondary II (SS II) students from all the public secondary schools in Delta North Senatorial District. The sample for this study was 455 secondary school students. A multi-stage sampling method was used in this study. A questionnaire was used for data collection. The face validity and reliability of the instrument were assessed. The reliability of the instruments was estimated using the internal consistency reliability method, computed using Cronbach's alpha. These tests yielded reliability coefficient values of 0.89. The questionnaire was administered to 455 SS II students. However, only 439, which represents approximately 97% of the total number of administered questionnaires, was retrieved and used for data analysis. The data was analysed using descriptive statistics, and the Pearson Product Moment Correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) and coefficient of determination ( $r^2$ ) were used to answer the research questions. All hypotheses were tested using linear and multiple regression at an alpha level of 0.05. The findings of the study revealed that: there is no significant correlation between parents' educational qualifications and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District; there is no significant correlation between parents' marital status and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. There is a significant joint influence of parents' educational qualifications and marital status on the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. Based on the findings, it was recommended that school counsellors should regularly provide individual and group counselling to students who are struggling with social adjustment, irrespective of their parental parents' educational qualifications and marital status.

Keywords: Parents' Educational Qualifications, Marital Status, Social Adjustment, Secondary School

### **INTRODUCTION**

An increasing number of complaints concerning the behaviour and social adjustment of teenagers have been made in recent years by parents, educators, social welfare offices, administrators, and members of the public. The allegations cover a wide range of crimes, such as theft, disobedience, disrespect for authority figures, lying, aggression, cheating, cultism, gangsterism, armed robbery, prostitution, ritual killing, kidnapping, get-rich-quick syndrome, forgery and impersonation, falsification of a school report sent to parents, public assault, pervasive feelings of inadequacy, timidity, rape, shyness, absenteeism, truancy, and dropout, among other crimes. These behavioural misdeeds are occurring with frightening frequency. It seems to suggest that social adjustment issues are, in fact, concerns that students and adolescents face today's Nigerian teenagers.

Social adjustment refers to an individual's ability to adapt and fit into social environments. It encompasses a range of skills and behaviors, such as effective communication, forming and maintaining relationships, and understanding social norms and expectations. Social adjustment is crucial for overall well-being and success, as it directly impacts an individual's social, emotional, and academic development (Talluri, 2023). Particularly for secondary school students, who are navigating the challenges of adolescence and transitioning into more complex social settings, social adjustment plays a significant role in their overall adjustment. The social adjustment of secondary school students is influenced by various factors, including the educational qualifications and marital status of their parents. The social adjustment of secondary school students is a complex process that can be influenced by various factors.

One important factor of interest in this study is parents' education qualification. Parents' educational qualifications refer to the level of education that a person's parents have attained. This can be measured in terms of degrees, diplomas or certifications achieved. Generally speaking, higher levels of parental educational attainment are linked to better chances for children and improved life outcomes. It is believed that parents with higher levels of academic achievement pass on their knowledge and skillsets to their offspring which contributes positively towards the development and success of their child throughout their lifetime. A child's motivation for learning comes from their parents, and this sets the stage for their future. It is a well-established truth that children of educated parents possess greater confidence, resourcefulness, and experience compared to children whose parents are less educated.

Jencks (2012) says that the family plays an important role in formal and informal education. Parental education is considered the most stable (permanent) aspect of socio-economic status. Educated parents are more likely to provide better stimulating environment for their children (Khan et al., 2015). They can provide radio, television. Conditions such as lack of parental stimulation may cause dullness and dull children are likely to be performing below average. The educational qualifications of parents play a crucial role in shaping their children's social adjustment. Parents with higher educational qualifications tend to have better communication skills, problem-solving abilities, and higher socio-economic status, which can positively impact their children's social adjustment. Studies (Kitchner, 2014; Cenuşă & Turliuc, 2023) have shown that children of highly educated parents are likely to exhibit better social adjustment skills, including effective communication, conflict resolution, and adaptability. These skills are essential for building healthy relationships with peers, teachers, and other individuals in their social environment.

Parents' Marital status of the parents is another variable to be considered in this research. Parents' marital status refers to the legal union between a mother and father, or two people who are in an intimate relationship. Most commonly, it is used to refer to couples that have been legally married by signing a marriage license. In some cases, parents may also be living together without being formally married – this is known as cohabiting or common law relationships. Parents' marital status can affect their children in various ways; for example, research suggests that having both biological parents present in the household leads to positive outcomes such as higher educational attainment and lower rates of delinquency compared with households where only one parent is present or following divorce/separation. Children absorb the things they witness in their environment as they grow older, according to Denga & Denga (quoted in Irozuru, 2018). Children from separated or divorced homes will have social and psychological effects. Psychologically, they noticed that one parent is absent, particularly in cases when there were two of them, but that one parent must quit the marriage because of marital incompatibilities. With the exception of infrequent visits, the mother's or father's affection and care are no longer present. According to Edet (as cited in Irozuru, 2018), children who experience parent loss due to divorce or death tend to display a greater number of personality issues, including shyness, anxiety, and other repressed behaviours. However, there is a noticeable increase in behavioural issues among children whose parents have divorced. According to Irozuru's (2018) research, children of divorced families exhibit a markedly elevated likelihood of delinquency in comparison to their married and widowed counterparts.

Denga and Denga (as cited in Irozuru, 2018) claim that women who are abused by their husbands and are banished from their married homes typically wind up living with their mothers. When the battered mother's children start to side with her, their father fiercely pushes them away along with their mother. As long as the guy does not receive support from the children—even when he is in the wrong—they risk being rejected, neglected, and abandoned. They claim that this trend causes moms of little children to suffer greatly because they must now provide for their children's entire upbringing even though they may not be wealthy.

Some cultures demand a mourning lady to bring all that her husband left for the family to share, according to Denga and Denga (as stated in Irozuru, 2018). The lady is frequently pushed away with little, leaving her unable to provide for the kids. Long-term behaviour is a result of the child's surroundings; occasionally, the child is negatively impacted by the social, economic, and cultural conditions that are in place, which can cause the child to change from good to bad (Denga & Denga, as cited in Irozuru, 2018).

Therefore, if the adolescent's social adjustment is based primarily on rejection, a female single parent will need to put in extra effort to eradicate anti-social behaviours like hostility and aggression from their psyche. Denga and Denga (as cited in Irozuru, 2018) claim that these behaviours are strongly linked to frustration and other psychoanalytic theory concepts. Given the foregoing, the purpose of this study is to investigate the relationship between the social adjustment of secondary school pupils in the Delta North Senatorial District and the demographic characteristics of their parents.

### ***Statement of the Problem***

Social adjustment is a critical aspect of a student's overall development and plays a significant role in their academic performance and general well-being. Therefore, it is depressing to learn that the majority of secondary school students, especially those in the Delta North Senatorial District, appear not to be well socially adjusted. This is demonstrated by the numerous disruptive actions that these learners engage in. The media in Nigeria claims that there are daily reports of cult activity, arson, sexual misconduct, depressive symptoms, suicide attempts, violent protests, delinquency, examination malpractice, and disturbances among students (Vanguard, 2023).

The various problem emanating from poor social adjustment among students has over the years informed so many research efforts directed at looking at the factors influencing social adjustment of students. It however appears that much effort has not been given to the likely influence of Parents' educational qualifications and marital status on social adjustment particularly among secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. Thus the problem of this study in question form is: what is the relationship

Thus in this study Parents' educational qualifications and marital status are two factors that are believed to significantly influence a student's social adjustment. Educational qualifications of parents can impact the level of support and guidance they can provide to their children. Higher educational qualifications may result in parents having a better understanding of their child's social needs and being able to offer appropriate guidance and assistance. Marital status, on the other hand, may also have an impact on a student's social adjustment. The presence of both parents in a stable marital relationship may provide a more conducive environment for a child's social development. Conversely, the absence of one or both parents due to divorce, separation, or death may create challenges for the child in terms of emotional support and social interaction.

### ***Research Questions***

The following research questions were answered in this study

1. What is the extent of the correlation between parents' educational qualifications and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District?
2. What is the extent of the correlation between parents' marital status and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District?
3. To what extent do parents' educational qualifications and marital status jointly influence the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District?

### ***Hypotheses***

1. There is no significant correlation between parents' educational qualifications and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.
2. There is no significant correlation between parents' marital status and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.
3. There is no significant joint influence of parents' educational qualifications and marital status on the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.

### ***Purpose of the Study***

The main purpose of this study aims to investigate the correlation between parents' educational qualifications and marital status with the social adjustment of secondary school students in the Delta North Senatorial District. Specifically, the study:

1. investigated the degree of correlation between parents' educational qualifications and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.
2. explored the extent of correlation between parents' marital status and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.
3. examined the joint influence of parents' educational qualifications and marital status on the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.

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## **RESEARCH METHOD**

### **Research Design**

This study adopted the correlational research design. This design was chosen because it allowed the study of the relationship that existed between parents' educational qualifications, marital status and social adjustment of secondary school students. According to Tan (2014), a correlation research design seeks to ascertain relationships between two or more variables.

### **Population of the Study**

16,473 Senior Secondary II (SS II) students from 159 public secondary schools in the Delta North Senatorial District made up the study's population.

### **Sample and Sampling Techniques**

455 SS II students from five local government areas in the Delta North Senatorial District make up the sample size. For this investigation, the multistage sampling method was applied. First, the state was divided up into different senatorial districts. The sample for the study was chosen using the multistage sampling method. The first stage was to select two Local Government Areas from each Senatorial District, marking a total of six local government areas. The second stage was the selection of schools from these Local Government Area based on urban and rural schools by means of simple random sampling techniques.

### **Research Instrument**

The instrument employed in the study was a questionnaire. There are two sections on the instrument: A and B. The parents' demographic data, such as marital status and level of education, is included in Section A. Section B consists of 25 items on social adjustment of students (SAS). In Section B, students were requested to give their opinion based on a four-point scale of Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), And Strongly Disagree (SD).

### **Validity of the Instrument**

The research supervisor examined the structured questionnaires that the researcher had created. It was then presented to two experts from Delta State University's Abraka Faculty of Education's Guidance and Counselling Department. The experts determined that the instrument met the constructions of the variables to be measured, indicating face validity. It was determined that the instrument met content validity as well. After that, students from several senatorial districts participated in a pilot test of the instrument using a total of 50 copies. Factor analysis was applied to the data to determine the construct validity and substance. The instrument's content validity was estimated using the main component analysis of the extraction process. It produced a result of 69.68%. The rotating factor loading of the varimax method was used to evaluate the construct validity of the instrument, and the result was a value between 0.54-0.87.

#### Reliability of the Instrument

Pilot tests were conducted to determine the instrument's reliability. Students in the Delta Central Senatorial District used 50 copies of the instrument in total for the pilot test. The internal consistency of the instrument's numerous scales was ascertained by analysing the data from the pilot research using the Cronbach Alpha reliability coefficient. It produced an instrument coefficient of 0.89.

#### Method of Data Collection

Three trained assistants helped the researcher distribute the questionnaire to students in the nine Local Government Areas within the senatorial district. The study assistants received thorough explanations of each item on the questionnaire, which they then relayed to the participants. The face-to-face method was used to administer and collect the completed questionnaire from the respondents on the spot. The goal of this strategy is to reduce the instrument's attrition and death rate. For statistical data analysis, information from questionnaires that were filled out was gathered. 455 copies of the questionnaire were distributed throughout the exercise, and 442 of those copies were returned, representing a 97% retrieval rate.

#### Method of Data Analysis

Pearson's correlation coefficient of determination, simple and multiple regression were used to analyse the data. The research questions were answered with Pearson's correlation coefficient of determination. Simple regression was used to test hypotheses 1 and 2. while multiple regression. statistics was used to test hypothesis 3. The hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance.

### Analysis of Research Questions

#### Research Question one

What is the extent of the correlation between parents' educational qualifications and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District?

**Table 1: Correlation and Coefficient of Determination of Parents' Educational Qualifications and The Social Adjustment of Secondary School Students in Delta North Senatorial District**

Variable	<i>r</i>	<i>r</i> <sup>2</sup>	<i>r</i> <sup>2</sup> %	Decision
Parents' educational qualifications	0.142	0.020	2.0	Positive Relationship
Social Adjustment				

Table 1 depict the correlation and coefficient of determination of parents' educational qualifications and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. The result revealed a positive relationship, with a correlation coefficient (*r*) of 0.142, a coefficient of determination (*r*<sup>2</sup>) of 0.020, and a percentage representation (*r*<sup>2</sup>%) of 2.0%. These results indicate that the parents' educational qualifications accounts for only 2.0% of the variability in the social adjustment of secondary school students in the Delta North Senatorial District.

#### Research Question Two

What is the extent of the correlation between parents' marital status and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District?

**Table 2: Correlation and coefficient of determination of the relationship between marital status of parents and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District**

Variable	<i>R</i>	<i>r</i> <sup>2</sup>	<i>r</i> <sup>2</sup> %	Decision
Marital Status of Parents	0.088	0.008	0.8	Positive Relationship
Social Adjustment				

Table 2 presented the findings of an analysis that utilized Pearson's correlation and the coefficient of determination to explore the relationship between the marital status of parents and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. The result revealed a positive relationship, with a correlation coefficient (*r*) of 0.088, a coefficient of determination (*r*<sup>2</sup>) of 0.008, and a percentage representation (*r*<sup>2</sup>%) of 0.8%. These results indicate that the marital status of parents accounts for only 0.8% of the variability in the social adjustment of secondary school students in the Delta North Senatorial District.

**Research Question three:** To what extent do parents' educational qualifications and marital status jointly influence the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District?

**Table 3:** Multiple Correlation and coefficient of determination of the joint influence of parents' educational qualifications and marital status on the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District

Variable	R	R <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup> %	Decision
Educational Qualification of Parents	0.201	0.040	4.0	Positive influence
Marital Status of Parents				
Social Adjustment				

Table 3 show the extent do parents' educational qualifications and marital status jointly influence the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. The result revealed a Positive influence, with a correlation coefficient (*R*) of 0.201, a coefficient of determination (*R*<sup>2</sup>) of 0.040, and a percentage representation (*R*%) of 4.0%. These results indicate do parents' educational qualifications and marital status jointly accounts for only 4.0% of the variability in the social adjustment of secondary school students in the Delta North Senatorial District.

### Analysis of Hypotheses

Hypothesis one: There is no significant correlation between parents' educational qualifications and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.

**Table 4:** Regression analysis of the correlation between parents' educational qualifications and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District

Model	Sum of Square	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Regression	1006.034	1	1006.034	8.928	.003 <sup>b</sup>
Residual	48904.524	437	112.683		
Total	49910.558	438			
Variables in Equation					
Model	Unstandardized Coefficient	Standardised Coefficient	t	Sig	
	B	Std. Beta			
	Error				
Constant	65.325	1.118		58.422	.000
Educational Qualification of Parents	1.036	.347	.142	2.988	.003

$\alpha = 0.05$ ,  $R = 0.142$ ,  $R\text{-Square} = 0.020$

- Dependent Variable:** Social Adjustment
- Predictors (Constant):** Educational Qualification of Parents

Table 10 presents the result of a regression analysis examining the relationship between parental educational qualification and the social adjustment of secondary school students in the Delta North Senatorial District. The analysis revealed an F-statistic of 8.928 with degrees of freedom (1, 438) and a p-value less than 0.05 significance level. Since the p-value is less than 0.05, the null hypothesis is rejected. This suggests that there is a statistically significant relationship between parental educational qualification and the social adjustment of secondary school students in the Delta North Senatorial District. The beta value of 0.142 showed that parental educational qualification accounted for 2.0% of the variance in social adjustment of secondary school students.

**Hypothesis Two:** There is no significant correlation between parents' marital status and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.

**Table 5:** Regression analysis of the correlation between parents' marital status and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District

Model	Sum of Square	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Regression	385.133	1	385.133	3.375	.067 <sup>b</sup>
Residual	49869.636	437	114.118		
Total	50254.769	438			

- Dependent Variable:** Social Adjustment
- Predictors (Constant):** Marital Status of Parents

Table 5 presents the result of a regression analysis examining the relationship between parental marital status and the social adjustment of secondary school students in the Delta North Senatorial District. The analysis revealed an F-statistic of 3.375 with degrees of freedom (1, 438) and a p-value exceeding the 0.05 significance level. Since the p-value is greater than 0.05, the null hypothesis is accepted. This suggests that there is no statistically significant correlation between parents' marital status and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.

**Hypothesis three:** There is no significant joint influence of parents' educational qualifications and marital status on the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.

**Table 6:** Regression Analysis of the joint influence of parents' educational qualifications and marital status on the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District.

Model	Sum of Square	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Regression	1971.186	2	492.796	4.434	.002 <sup>b</sup>
Residual	46792.003	431	111.145		
Total	48763.189	433			

  

Variables in Equation					
Model	Unstandardized Coefficient		Standardised Coefficient	t	Sig
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
Constant	65.581	2.396		27.369	.000
Parents' Marital Status	-1.760	.668	-.132	-2.634	.009
Parents' Educational Qualification	1.055	.353	.145	2.987	.003

$\alpha = 0.05$ ,  $R = 0.201$ ,  $R\text{-Square} = 0.040$

a. Dependent Variable: Social Adjustment

b. Predictors (Constant): Parents' Marital Status

Parents' Educational Qualification

Table 11 show the Regression Analysis of the joint influence of parents' educational qualifications and marital status on the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. The analysis revealed an F-statistic of 4.434 with degrees of freedom (4, 435) and a p-value less than 0.05 significance level. Since the p-value is less than 0.05, the null hypothesis is rejected. This suggests that there is a significant joint influence of parents' educational qualifications and marital status on the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. The model, which combines various predictors, can predict the social adjustment of secondary school students. This model accounts for 4.0% of the variation in the social adjustment of secondary school students, represented by an R-squared value of 0.040. Notably, the most influential factor in explaining social adjustment among secondary school students is the educational qualification of parents, as indicated by a Beta value of 0.145. Furthermore, parents' marital status and educational qualification both make statistically significant contributions to the model, with P-values of 0.009 and 0.003, respectively, which are below the 0.05 level of significance.

## Discussion of Findings

### Parent's Educational Qualification and the Social Adjustment of Secondary School Students in Delta North Senatorial District

The first finding showed that there is significant relationship between educational qualification of parents and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. This finding has shown that the educational qualification of parents can determine the social adjustment of secondary school students. This finding suggests that parents with higher levels of education are more likely to provide their children with the resources and support they need to thrive socially. This is because parents with higher levels of education may have more knowledge about child development and parenting practices. This knowledge may help them to provide their children with the support and guidance they need to develop healthy social skills. Parents with higher levels of education may be more likely to have access to social networks and resources that can benefit their children. For example, they may be more likely to know other parents of children the same age as their own, and they may be more likely to be able to afford to enrol their children in extracurricular activities. Parents with higher levels of education may be more likely to have higher incomes. This higher income may give them more resources to provide for their children's needs, including their social needs. The above finding supports the findings of several previous studies. For instance, a study by Amato and Booth (2017) found that children of parents with higher levels of education were more likely to have positive social interactions with their peers and were less likely to experience social adjustment problems. Similarly, a study by McLanahan and Sandefur (2014) found that children of parents with higher levels of education were more likely to have close relationships with their friends and were less likely to engage in risky behaviours.

### The Extent of the Correlation Between Parents' Marital Status and The Social Adjustment of Secondary School Students in Delta North Senatorial District

The second finding revealed that there is a significant relationship among marital status, gender, age, educational qualification of parents and the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. This finding implies that the combination of parents' marital status, gender, age and educational qualification can determine the social adjustment of secondary school students. This finding suggests that these factors interact to influence how well students adjust socially. The possible explanation for this finding is that Children from different family backgrounds may be exposed to different social environments. For example, children from divorced families may be more likely to experience transitions between households, which can be disruptive to their social development. Additionally, children from single-parent families may have less access to social resources, such as financial resources and social support networks. Parents with different characteristics may use different parenting practices. For example, parents from different

socioeconomic backgrounds may use different disciplinary strategies. Additionally, parents from different cultures may have different expectations for their children's behaviour. Children's own characteristics, such as their gender and age, may influence how they respond to different family environments and parenting practices. For example, girls may be more likely to internalize their emotions, while boys may be more likely to externalize their emotions. Additionally, younger children may be more vulnerable to the negative effects of family instability and harsh parenting practices. The above finding agrees with the result of previous studies. For example, a study by Amato and Booth (2017) found that children of divorced parents were more likely to experience social adjustment problems than children of married parents. Similarly, a study by McLanahan and Sandefur (2014) found that children of single mothers were more likely to experience social adjustment problems than children of married parents. Additionally, a study by Coleman (2018) found that the social capital of parents, which is defined as the resources and networks that parents can access, has a significant impact on their children's social adjustment. Parents with higher levels of education are more likely to have access to social capital, which can benefit their children's social development.

### **Parents' Educational Qualifications and Marital Status Jointly Influence the Social Adjustment of Secondary School Students in Delta North Senatorial District**

The third finding revealed that there is a significant joint influence of parents' educational qualifications and marital status on the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. This finding implies that the combination of parents' educational qualifications and marital status can determine the social adjustment of secondary school students. The findings suggest that both factors play a crucial role in shaping students' social adjustment. Parents with higher educational qualifications are more likely to possess a broader knowledge base, which enables them to provide better guidance and support to their children. They are more likely to be involved in their children's education, engage in stimulating conversations, and expose them to a wider range of experiences. These factors contribute to the development of social skills, empathy, and emotional intelligence in their children. Marital status also has a significant impact on students' social adjustment. Research has shown that children from stable and supportive family environments tend to exhibit better social skills, higher self-esteem, and improved overall well-being. In contrast, children from single-parent households or families experiencing marital conflicts may face additional challenges in their social adjustment. The above finding agrees with the result of previous studies. For example, a study by Amato and Booth (2017) found that children of divorced parents were more likely to experience social adjustment problems than children of married parents. Similarly, a study by McLanahan and Sandefur (2014) found that children of single mothers were more likely to experience social adjustment problems than children of married parents. Additionally, a study by Coleman *et al.*, (2018) found that the social capital of parents, which is defined as the resources and networks that parents can access, has a significant impact on their children's social adjustment. Parents with higher levels of education are more likely to have access to social capital, which can benefit their children's social development.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the findings of the study, it can be concluded that parental parents' educational qualifications and marital status have no significant correlation with the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District, but there is a significant joint influence of parents' educational qualifications and marital status on the social adjustment of secondary school students in Delta North Senatorial District. This study highlights the importance of parental background in shaping students' social adjustment and emphasizes the need for targeted interventions and support for families with lower educational qualifications or unstable marital relationships

### **Recommendations**

Arising from the findings of this study, the following recommendations are made:

- I. Provide individual and group counselling to students who are struggling with social adjustment irrespective of their parental parents' educational qualifications and marital status
- II. Parents who are highly educated should teach their children healthy social skills. This includes teaching them how to communicate effectively, how to resolve conflict peacefully, and how to build and maintain relationships.
- III. Counsellors should provide training and support to teachers on how to teach social skills and support students who are struggling with social adjustment irrespective of their parents' demographic factors.

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