

**NEWSPAPERS FRAMING OF BUDGETARY PROVISION FOR THE EDUCATION
SECTOR IN A RENTIER STATE:
A STUDY *THE GUARDIAN* AND *PUNCH* NEWSPAPERS**

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Abstract

Within the last decade in Nigeria scholars in Political science, Economics and Public administration have written extensively on the budget for two critical sectors, education and health. Unfortunately, the media appears to be at the center with several persons accusing it of not playing its watchdog and advocacy function effectively. Hence, this study looks at how Nigerian newspapers have framed budgetary provision for education sector between 2016 and 2019. Using Krejcie and Morgan Sample size calculator, a sample size of 317 was drawn from the population of *The Guardian and Punch newspapers* at 1788. The systematic random sampling technique was used in this regard and data were generated using content analysis. News, Feature/opinion articles, and illustration were used as the major units of analysis. Framing and Development media theories were used to provide theoretical support for the study. After the analysis, findings revealed that the select newspapers did not give prominence to the budgetary provision for the education sector as they are not adequately covered. It was also found that the select newspapers reported on education and budget which emphasized the shortage of funding to the education sector from the national budget while reports were not narrowed down to the provision of budget for the education sector. It was revealed that news is the dominant newspaper genre used in reporting news and budgetary allocation to the education sectors. This study finally concluded that Nigerian newspapers do not frequently cover the budgetary allocation to the education and health sectors compared to other competing issues such as Ruga settlement, Fulani herdsmen and Elections in the country. From content analyzed data, the study recommends the media should not only inform the public on education and the budget allocated to it but should take a step further to analyse the impact of shortage of budgetary allocation to a third world country like Nigeria, balanced and in-depth coverage should be given.

Keywords: Newspapers, Framing, Education Budget, Rentier State

Introduction

Education for every nation is paramount in the developmental processes. This explains why world bodies and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) insist that a sizeable percent of the national budget should be allocated to education

and health. This is because the education and health sectors are the indexes used to measure human capital development in any nation. Of the two, education remains critical to the development of any nation. In it lies the platform for the development of other sectors, including health. Government all over the world especially those of developing nations are expected to allocate sizable percentage of their nation's annual budget to education. According to UNESCO (2000), "education refers to the total process of developing human ability and behaviors". It is an organized and sustained instruction designed to communicate a combination of knowledge, skills and understanding value for all activities of life (Abubakar, 2013).

In 2012, the Nigerian government allocated 8.2% of its national budget to education. It however increased the budget to 8.55% in 2013 and in 2014, 9.94% was allocated while in that same year, defense got 20% of the budget. A decline emerged in 2016 as the education sector received 6.10%. The decline continued in the following years as at 2017, 2018 and 2019, 7.38%, 7.03% and 7.05% were allocated to the education sector respectively.

According to Adekunle (2018), Kenya's education sector has traditionally received the lion share of its country's national budget. In 2016, Kenya assigned 23.1% to education. Similarly, Ghana has been established as one of Africa's big spenders on education. In 2013, Ghana committed 31% of its national budget to education although it declined to an average of 17% from 2014 to 2016. It however, increased the budget again to 20.7% in 2017. This has never been the case for Nigeria as they yearly allocate lower percentage of the national budget to education compared to other African countries. Lesotho, a small country in Southern Africa even spends more than Nigeria which is seen as the giant of Africa. For instance in 2017, Lesotho allocated about 20.7% to education which was more than Nigeria's entire education budget for 2017 and 2018 (Adekunle, 2018).

Since the beginning of the Fourth Republic in Nigeria the lowest allocation to education was 4.46%, which was in 1999, and the highest, 10.43%, was in 2006. From all these, it is clear that Nigeria's highest expenditure on education so far has not gone beyond 11%. The Nigerian constitution of 1999 states that education is a right which government pledge to do all that is possible in ensuring the people receive the best (Micaiah, 2013).

The 1999 Nigerian Constitution, the Vision 20:2020 document and the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) underline the importance of education as a vehicle for both individual empowerment and national development. This is further elaborated and made more focused in the National Policy on Education (NPE), cementing the country's commitment to Education For All (EFA) and education-related MDGs through the provision of free education (UNESCO, 2012). There has been numerous speculations that UNESCO set a benchmark of 26% of a country's national budget to education which has been discredited but the fact remains that whether there is a benchmark or not, education is the bedrock of any country's development and any country that does not educate its populace is bound to fail.

According to UNICEF (2015), Nigeria has about 10.5 million out of school children even though primary education is officially free and compulsory. Children aged from 5-14 years are not in school. Only 61 percent of 6-11 year-olds regularly attend primary school and only 35.6 percent of children aged 36-59 months receive early childhood education. In the north of the country, the picture is even bleaker, with a net attendance rate of 53 percent. Getting out-of-school children back into education poses a massive challenge. There is education deprivation in the North-eastern and North-western parts of the country largely because of poor funding in this sector. And in 2015, youth illiteracy of Nigeria was 9.43 million. Youth illiteracy of Nigeria increased from 5.9 million in 1991 to 9.43 million in 2015 growing at an average annual rate of 24.32%.

While in 2018 Nigeria adult literacy rate was at level of 62 %, up from 51.1 % in 2008.

Statistics from the Federal Ministry of Education indicate that only 500,000 of the 40 million adult illiterates are enrolled in adult learning classes. There are also 3.5 million nomadic school-aged children with only 450,000 of them accessing any form of schooling. Nigeria is further saddled with the largest number of out-of-school-children estimated at over 7 million, 10 percent of the global total (UNESCO, 2012).

Nigeria as well as other rentier countries with rentier economies receive rent for its large deposit of oil and resources. When there is a shift in oil price, the amount for the revenue will also be affected which most often than not lead to a deficit in the budget of a country. A sharp decline of crude oil prices from 2014 to early 2016 sent Nigeria into a recession that added to the country's already long list of problems. In addition the violent Boko Haram terrorism, low life expectancy, inadequacies in public health systems, income inequalities, high illiteracy rates and endemic corruption are the challenges common to many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Therefore, experts insist that it is important for Nigeria to come up with plans for diversification of its economy to reduce the over-dependence on rent from outside clients.

Going by Section 22 of the Nigerian 1999 constitution as amended and the African Charter on the rights of a child, the media is expected to hold the government accountable to ensure reasonable budgetary allocations for education and health sector. Some observers believe that the media have played a major role in enlightening the people about budget talks, procedures, and release date and given detailed analysis, breakdown and interpretation of the budget to clarify any misinformation and misunderstanding by the common man (Benjamin, 2018).

Since the inception of newspaper in Nigeria in the 19th century, it has played a significant role in information sharing, advocacy, nation building and national development. The nationalists used it as a tool to foster independence for the country. Till date it has been used to advocate for diverse needs of the people. Newspaper and the media in general helps people to understand governments operations, political decisions and hold the government responsible and accountable for its decisions. Therefore, the coverage and reportage of the media on education is vital and if the media decide to place emphasis on the budget allocated to education, then the government will have no choice but to take the advice of UNESCO and follow the trend already set by other African countries in developing the education sector.

The advocacy is that the media should report issues relating to education and the budget allocated to the sector. The media should not think it is a favor done on Nigerians but it is part of their corporate social responsibility to inform and educate Nigerian citizens. (Adeyomo, 2015). It is based on this foregoing that this study examines Newspaper Framing of The Budgetary Provisions of the Education Sector in a Rentier State.

Statement of the Problem

Nigeria with all of its endowment still lags behind in apportioning budget to the education sector compared to other African countries such as Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Lesotho, Egypt and Rwanda. Lesotho despite been a small land-locked country with a population of about 2 million which is about ten (10) times smaller than Nigeria still spends and allocates more of its budget to the education sector. Although, the country is under-populated it spends a significant amount on education, which is three (3) times more than what a nation with about 200 million in populace spends on education.

Available studies such as the one conducted by Ogungbenle and Edogiawerie (2016) focused on the effect of Federal government budgetary allocation on the development of tertiary institutions

in Nigeria. Others like Matthew, (2016) focused on financial allocation to education, its issues and the way forward in Nigeria while Adeyomo (2015) studied select newspapers in Nigeria focusing on the coverage of education issues and to underscore the crucial role of the print media in the construction of stories related to education. Also, Benjamin (2018) captured newspaper framing of budgetary provision for the health sector. Literature review so far shows that a few studies has been conducted on the media, budgetary allocation and the education sector. It therefore, becomes very important that the media stay at the forefront in order to play a vital role in improving and developing government's decision on the budget allocated to education and health. The result is also seen in the manner at which the media frames the issue of budgeting in the country. Hence, it becomes imperative to compare the work previously done and this study is carried out to find out the veracity of newspaper framing of the budgetary provision for the education sector in a rentier state.

Research Questions

The following research questions guides the study:

1. What level of prominence do *The Guardian* and *Punch* newspapers give to budgetary allocation for education sector in Nigeria?
2. What is the dominant frame used by *The Guardian* and *Punch* newspapers to report budgetary allocation for education sector in Nigeria?
3. What volume of coverage do *The Guardian* and *Punch* newspapers give to budgetary allocation for education sector in Nigeria?
4. What is the dominant newspaper genre used by *The Guardian* and *Punch* in reporting budgetary allocation for education sector in Nigeria?

Literature Review

Conceptual framework

Hussein Mahdavy is accepted at the first scholar to lay out the fundamentals of rentierism as a term and concept. According to Mahdavy, a rentier state receives significant rents from "foreign individuals, concerns, or governments". He categorized rentier state as countries that obtain significant amounts of external rent on a consistent basis. Prior to this it was categorized by early economist as rent, later referred to it as rentier capitalism (Rentnerstaat) or usurer state by Maxist. Beblawi refined Mahdavy definition and argued that a rentier state is one where the rents are paid by external actors, accrued directly to the state (Sarajuddin, 2014).

This concept over time has advanced and is used to define a number of countries known as The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) with states like Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) which are endowed with resources including some other Africa countries like Nigeria, Algeria, Gabon, Angola and Uganda. (Gray, 2011).

Nigeria is a typical example of a rentier state. Nigeria is a nation that is independent with vast human resources and mineral deposit, the extraction, refining or lease to foreign countries or multinational companies to process, while the corporations in turn credits the revenue system of Nigeria. Ruthledge (2014) explains that in modern day rent, the oil producing countries are the landowners while the OICs (International Oil Companies)are the tenants who pay rent when due. (Benjamin, 2017)

Nigeria is regarded as a rentier state largely because of its dependence on oil as the major source of revenue for the country and formulation of policies that are prejudiced and determined by the underlying forces in the oil sector in disregard to the development of other prolific sectors.

The Media, Education and Budget in Nations: An Empirical Review

A study by Adeyomo in 2015 on Newspaper Coverage of Education Issues in Nigeria. With the exhaustive content analysis of the two newspapers used in the study, *The Punch and The Nation* newspapers were selected from the 2012 sampling frame. Consequently, 240 issues were content analyzed covering January-April publications of the select newspapers and a total of 536 stories were recorded as education stories. It was established that the understudied newspapers had a robust thematic content on education issue. It was also established that the various themes covered especially critical issues bothering on standard upgrade, curricular monitoring, teachers' welfare, staff strike and students' unrest were not passionately and critically examined. It is equally revealed that the selected newspapers had weekly publication on education issue.

To conclude these findings, Adeyomo outlined recommendation and suggestions for improving the quality and quantity of education issues coverage that will make a positive difference. He pointed out that balance and in-depth coverage should be given to all levels of education with a view to monitoring quality delivery of education philosophy. He added that Education issues should also be part of media agenda setting since it has been discovered that there is a significant relationship between the salience of a story and the extent to which people think that the story is important. And this is because people tend to attribute importance according to media exposure. He went further to state that there is need for interaction between the media and the education sector. And advance that symbiotic relationship will indeed foster virile development communication.

Guanah (2018), examined the relationship between education and the mass media, especially the newspaper, and the benefits derivable from such synergy. Content Analysis research method was used in this study which is hinged on the Agenda Setting Theory. The findings of this study showed that newspapers gave adequate coverage to education news, but did not give adequate prominence.

He concluded that if education news are given prominence it will draw the attention of education stakeholders to the problems in the education sector, which may in turn, lead to actions that will help to improve the standard of education in Nigeria.

A similar study was conducted by Irungu in 2018 that explored print media coverage on education issues in Kenya. He analyzed *The Nation and the Standard* newspapers from December 2017 to February 2018. The study found that newspapers rarely go deep to interrogate critical issues of education such as free education budgets and infrastructure development. The study recommended that newspaper should endeavor to cover and dig deeper into issues of education and establish guidelines, desks or special columns to basically give readers more say as it pertains to the coverage of education.

In 2020, Chukwu conducted a study on Newspaper Coverage of the Education Sector in Nigeria. With the comprehensive content analysis of *Daily Sun, The Nation, The Guardian* and *Vanguard*, while agenda setting theory and development media theory served as the theoretical base of the

Study, it was established that Nigerian newspapers despite reporting education stories, mostly, once in a week, they had it as a tradition to position majority of them on the inside pages which downplayed the prominence level of the coverage.

To conclude his findings, Chukwu outlined recommendations and suggestions for improving the reportage of the education sector in the media. He pointed at Newspaper editors should expedite effort in placing education stories on the front page of their newspapers. Stating that this would

help attach importance to what is happening in the education sector and spirit the attention of the government, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and well-meaning individuals to come to the aid of this sector when necessary.

He added that Nigerian newspaper should give more days of the week for the publication of stories from the education sector. This is predicated on the fact that the newspapers studied dedicated mostly, one day in a week especially Thursdays, for the publication of education stories.

Benjamin (2018) conducted a study on newspapers' framing of budgetary provision for the health sector in a rentier state. It centered on news, features, opinion articles, illustrations, advertorials and editorials framing of *The Guardian* and *The Punch* newspapers between the periods of 2013 to 2017.

She examined Nigeria's health budget in comparison with other African countries and the implications of being a rentier state, which implied that Nigeria as a nation is limited and overly dependent on oil and also derives all of it considerable percentage of its national profits from the lease of indigenous resources to external clients. The study adopted Development Media Theory and Framing Theory. With a population size of 1741, using Krejcie and Morgan Online Sample size calculator, a sample size of 318 was drawn.

She discovered that Nigerian newspapers do not give prominence to budgetary provision for the health sector and that budget allocated to the health sector is not adequately covered. However, it was discovered in that Nigerian newspapers cover other competing issues such as the Boko Haram insurgency, Fulani herdsman crisis and the epic 2015 presidential election. She concludes her study by suggesting that the media must be charged with the responsibility of advocating for the life and health of the masses.

It was recommended that the media should treat health issues as process oriented rather than event oriented concerns and that Government should endeavor to formulate fixed policies that will certify the increment of health budget allocation. The study however failed to look at budgetary provision for the education sector which is an important indexes in the development of Nigeria.

Ahmed (2012) in his study on Nigerian newspapers and the coverage of developmental issues stated that development matters should be covered adequately under various columns such as health, education and agriculture, this is expected to enhance the development of Nigeria. He added that newspaper should not only concentrate on political reporting.

Kayode and Adeniran (2013) looked at the media coverage of development issues in Nigeria using the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), now known as Sustainable Development Goals as examples. It was found that the Nigerian media did not give equal coverage to the development issues they covered. They reported some issues frequently, while other equally pressing developmental challenges in the country were neglected. Additionally, the Nigerian media did not do much to educate, enlighten or motivate the public towards the need to achieve the developmental issues reported.

Theoretical Framework

The two theoretical frameworks under which this study will be examined are framing theory and Development Media theory

Framing Theory

Media framing could be seen from two concepts which are psychological concept and sociological concept. The psychological concept looks at reaction or effect a message or concept has on an individual while sociological concept looks at people's approach to reality taken into

account the contributions of others.

Framing is, thus, present in the mind of the journalist who writes the news report, but also in the news report that he builds, reaching the reader through a decoding process that is necessary to understand the news report and the reality to which it refers. (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015)

In this study, framing theory looks at how newspaper report budgetary allocation to the education sector and it stirring effects on the readers. It considers how the portrayal of education budget by newspaper informs how the public sees the issue which shapes the reaction of the public and perspective the government. Here, framing theory suggests that how something is presented to the audience influences the choices they make about how to process that information. This theory is closely related to the agenda setting theory.

Development Media theory

The development media theory was formulated by McQuail in 1989. As a theory, development media theory seeks to explain the normative behavior of the press in developing countries or third world nations (Asamah as cited by Benjamin, 2018). As the name implies the theory seeks to explain media as a tool for improvement of the nation. Development media theory seeks to emphasize the positive, it nurtures the autonomy of the developing nations and gives special importance to indigenous cultures. It is both a theory of state support and one of resistance to the norms of competing nations and competing theories of media. The primary goal is to use the press to serve the general good of a nation by making the media function as government instruments for achieving economic growth, political stability, national sovereignty, and cultural development (Okunna, and Omenugha, as cited by Omenugha, Uzuegbunam, and Omenugha, 2013).

The theory is relevant to this study because it looks at how newspaper framing of budgetary allocation to education can promote to National development in Nigeria. Newspaper is responsible for development in every society. In Nigeria, the economic and political development is measured vis-à-vis with media.

Research Method

This study adopts quantitative method using content analysis. The universe of the study was Nigerian newspapers published in between 2012 to 2018. Two national newspapers (dallies) were purposively selected, they were *The Guardian andpunch* newspaper.

The two (2) national dailies are the population of study of this work. The study focuses on studying the newspapers when the budget of each year was proposed by the executive to the legislature and when the budget or Appropriation Bill was signed to become an Act and two (2) months after the appropriation Bill has become an Act. The reason being that, at this period, debates, arguments and discussions reaches the maximum height of scrutiny amongst other issues.

This therefore means that the months under study will vary from year to year. The period under study is 2016 to 2019, it amounts to 4 years.

Year	Number of Newspapers' editions from time of budget presentation to passage by National Assembly	Number of editions two months after the budget was signed by the President	Total
2016	184	122	402
2017	358	122	304
2018	448	122	480
2019	312	122	570

$$304+480+570+434= 1788$$

Therefore, the target population is 1788

The table above indicates that ‘N’ is population size while ‘S’ is sample size. The population size of study is 1788, this happens to fall between the population size of 1700 and 1800. The sample size is 317. The researcher decided to oversample by 1 to have 318 as the sample size, the reason for over sampling is that 317 is not divisible by 2. 318 divided by 2, the researcher arrives at 159. Thereby, the sample size for each newspaper is 159.

The sample size is divided by the total of all the months under study. The total months under study are 33. The sample size which is 164 divided by the total number of months which is 33, the sum arrived at is approximately 5.

This means that the systematic random sampling will pick an edition after the interval of 5. This method is applicable to both The Guardian and Punch newspapers.

Unit of Analysis

The units of Analysis that were studied are; News, features articles, opinions articles and illustration.

Content Category

The content category that were used in this study are:

- Prominence, • Frame: • Volume: • Genre:

Presentation of Content Data

Here, data which form part of the content categories that reflected the four (4) research questions and hypotheses raised were analysed. They are presented in the tables below according to the research questions.

Research question 1: What level of prominence do *The Guardian and Punch* newspapers give to the budgetary allocation for education sector in Nigeria?

To answer this research question, data generated on the published news stories and features articles were used.

Placement	<i>The Guardian</i> news	<i>Punch</i> news	<i>The Guardian</i> features	<i>Punch</i> feature	The Guardian opinion article	<i>Punch</i> opinion article	Total	%
Front page	5 x 4 = 20	3 x 4 = 12	0	0	0	0	8	= 32
Back page	6 x 3 = 18	7 x 3 = 21	0	2 x 3 = 6	0	1 x 3 = 3	16	= 48
Inside page	22 x 1 = 22	30 x 1 = 30	6 x 1 = 6	8 x 1 = 8	11 x 1 = 11	8 x 1 = 8	85	= 85
Center spread	0	1 x 2 = 2	0	1 x 2 = 2	0	0	2	= 4
Total	33 = 60	41 = 65	6 = 6	11 = 16	11 = 11	9 = 11	111	= 169

The data in the table above show that a total of 111 issues of news feature and opinion articles were published on budgetary provision for the education sector by the two selected newspapers within the period under review. *The Guardian* newspaper published a total 50 issues on the

budgetary provision for the education sector. While *Punch* newspaper published 61 issues.

Of the 50 issues published by *The Guardian* newspaper, 5 were on front page; 6 were on back page; 39 were on inside pages; none was on center spread. *Punch* newspaper published a total of 61 issues in all. From this figure, 3 issues were front page stories; 11 was on back page; 46 were inside page stories; 1 was on center spread.

The scoring in the table above was scored because the degree prominence is usually measured based on the placement of the content in a newspaper. This is because the story placed on the front page cannot be equal to that placed on the inside page. Hence, front page stories were scored 4 points, back page stories were scored 3 points, and centerspread stories were scored 2 points. All other stories in the inside page were scored 1 point.

Other newspaper genre such as illustrations, was not used in determining the prominence given to budgetary provision for the education sector by *The Guardian* and *Punch* newspapers because news stories features and opinion articles represent 99% of the entire genre.

Implication: A total of 111 stories were published in *The Guardian* and *Punch* newspapers. This stories scored a total 169 points. Of the 169 points scored by all the published news stories, features and opinion articles, those placed on the front page scored 32 points. Thus, scoring only 18.9% of the total work. It is safe to conclude that budgetary allocation to the education sector was not given prominence in the select newspapers.

Research question 2: What is the dominant frame used by *The Guardian* and *Punch* newspapers to report budgetary allocation to the education sector?

Newspapers	Inadequacy frame	Adequacy frame	Diversification frame	Dependency on oil frame	Recession frame	Other frame	Total	%
<i>The Guardian</i> News	12	1	4	3	6	7	33	29.7%
<i>Punch</i> news	16	2	6	4	3	10	41	36.9%
<i>The Guardian</i> features	2	0	0	0	0	4	6	5.4%
<i>Punch</i> features	5	0	2	1	1	2	11	9.9%
<i>The Guardian</i> Opinion article	4	0	0	0	0	7	11	9.9%
<i>Punch</i> Opinion article	2	0	0	1	2	4	9	8.2%
Total	41=36.9%	3= 2.8%	12=10.8%	9=8.1%	12=10.8%	34=30.6	111	100%

Data in the table above showed the dominant frames used by the selected newspapers in their coverage of the budgetary allocation for the education sector. Coding revealed that there were six

dominant frames used by the select newspapers- **inadequacy frame, adequacy frame, diversification frame, dependency on oil frame, recession frame and other frame**. The inadequacy frame scored 36.9%; adequacy frame scored 2.8%; diversification frame scored 12% dependency on oil frame scored 8.1%, recession frame scored 10.8% while other frame scored 34%

Implication: The analysis showed that **inadequacy** frame was used more by the select newspapers. The implication is that the select newspapers employed more of inadequacyframe to the budgetary allocation to the education sector. This means that most of the reports did not emphasized the shortage of funding to the education sector from the national budget.

Research question 3: To what volume do *The Guardian* and *The Punch* newspapers report budgetary allocation to the education sector?

Table 4.2.3 Volume of news stories and features articles

Newspapers	Full page	Half page	Quarter page	Less than quarter page	Total	%
<i>The Guardian</i> News	1	12	7	13	33	29.7%
<i>Punch</i> news	3	9	10	19	41	36.9%
<i>The Guardian</i> features	1	1	0	4	6	5.4%
<i>Punch</i> features	2	3	4	2	11	9.9%
<i>The Guardian</i> Opinion article	1	2	6	2	11	9.9%
<i>Punch</i> Opinion article	0	6	3	1	9	8.2%
Total	8= 7.3%	33= 29.7%	30= 27%	40=36%	111	100%

Data in the table above showed the volumes used by the selected newspapers in their coverage of the budgetary allocation for the education sector. Coding revealed that there were four volumes used by the select newspapers- full page, half page, quarter page and less than quarter page. The full page scored 7.3%; half page scored 29.7%; quarter page scored 27% while less than quarter page scored 38%

Implication: Since 8 stories out of the 111 were published in full page that accounts for 7.3% of the volume of coverage, it means it was not adequately covered but not covered to a large extent.

Research question 4: 4. What is the dominant newspaper genre used in reporting budgetary provision for the education sector in Nigeria?

Newspaper	News	Feature	Opinion Article	Illustration	Total	%
<i>The Guardian</i>	33	6	11	1	51	45.5 %
<i>Punch</i>	41	11	9	0	61	54.5 %

Total	74 =66.1%	17=15.2%	20 =17.9%	1 (1%)	112	100 %
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Data in the table above showed the genre used by the select newspapers in their coverage of the budgetary allocation for the education sector. Coding revealed that there were four genres used by the select newspapers-news, features articles, opinions articles, and illustrations. The news scored 66.1%; features articles scored 15.2%; opinions articles scored 17.9%; while illustrations scored 1%

Implication: since 74 stories out of the 112 were published in news genre that accounts for 66.1% of the two selected newspaper coverage, it means that **news** is the dominant newspaper genre used in reporting budgetary provision for the education sector.

Conclusion

After a careful and thorough analysis of the data, results gotten and literature reviewed, the researcher reached the following conclusions

That The Guardian and Punch newspapers did not give prominence to budgetary provision for the education sector in a rentier state. The researcher, also, concludes that The Guardian and Punch newspapers used more of inadequacy frame in their coverage of the budgetary provision for the education sector in a rentier state. Again, the researcher concludes that budgetary provision for the education sector in a rentier state was not adequately covered by Nigerian newspapers.

It was finally concluded that Nigerian newspapers did not frequently cover the budgetary provision for the education sector in a rentier state compared to other issues like Boko Haram insurgency, Chibok girls, Fulani herdsmen, and 2015 and 2019 presidential election during the period under study.

Recommendations

Following the analysis made, the literature reviewed, and the results gotten, some recommendations were made.

1. The media should not only inform the public on education and the budget allocated to it but should take a step further to analyse the impact of shortage of budgetary allocation to a third world country like Nigeria, balanced and in-depth coverage should be given. This will make the government and people understand the implication of lack of funding to the education sector.
2. The media should understand that education issues are process oriented concern and not event-oriented concerns. Therefore, education budget allocation should not only be discussed when budget appropriation bill is about to be implemented rather it should be published consistently and continuously to set an agenda.

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