PREDICTORS OF CRIMINAL RECIDIVISM: A STUDY OF RECIDIVISTS IN METROPOLITAN KANO, NIGERIA.

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PREDICTORS OF CRIMINAL RECIDIVISM: A STUDY OF RECIDIVISTS IN METROPOLITAN KANO, NIGERIA.

AHMED, AMINU MUSA (94781)

A Thesis submitted to the Ghazali Shafie Graduate School of Government in fulfilment of the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy
Universiti Utara Malaysia
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ABSTRACT

Criminal recidivism is a holistic phenomenon as a result of the interplay between institution, social and individual personality factors. This contributed to the alarming rates of re-offending among ex-prisoners. The objective of this study is to examine predictors of criminal recidivism. Specifically, the study examines the effects of prison institution, social stigma, ostracism, discrimination and personality factors on recidivism. The study also examines the mediating effect of stigma, ostracism, discrimination and personality traits on recidivism. Data were collected by survey method and in-depth interview. A total sample of 256 ex-prisoners has been selected by purposive sampling strategy and six ex-prisoners were randomly selected for interview. Partial Least Square method (PLS) was used to test the hypothesized relationship for the study and Nvivo was used to analyse the qualitative data. The findings of the study show a significant relationship between prison experiences, stigma, discrimination, conscientiousness, agreeableness traits and criminal recidivism. Moreover, the study establishes that social discrimination and conscientiousness significantly mediates the relationship between prison experience and criminal recidivism among ex-prisoners. This study contributes beneficial insights in terms of theoretical, methodological and policy. Suggestions for future studies are also identified and discussed.

Keywords: Criminal Recidivism, Institution, Ostracism, Prison Experience, Partial Least Square Method (PLS), Social Stigma
ABSTRAK


Kata Kunci: Pengulang Laku Jenayah, Institusi, Pemulauan, Pengalaman Penjara, Kaedah Partial Least Square (PLS), Stigma Sosial
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<td>Social Ostracism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPSS</td>
<td>Statistical Package for Social Science</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SS</td>
<td>Social Stigma</td>
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<td>VIF</td>
<td>Variace Inflation Factor</td>
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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Recidivism is a situation of fall back or relapses into prior criminal habits especially after imprisonment. It is the return of probationer or offender to illegal activity after release from incarceration. It also shows a situation of repeating criminal behavior after the experience of negative consequences of a particular behavior or has been treated or trained to extinguish that particular behavior (Tenibiaje, 2013).

Though there have been some controversies on the definitions of recidivism. That is, the phenomenon is explained from different perspectives. Recidivism is defined as the return to prison (Florida Department of Corrections, 2014). The US Legal (2012:1) also described criminal recidivism as ‘the rate of prisoners who after being released return to prison or jail because they have committed another crime.’ Payne (2007) refers recidivism to the repetitious criminal activity and is synonymous with terms such as ‘repeat offending’ and re-offending.’ In Nigeria, recidivism is seen as the return of the ex-prisoner to prison for committing another crime after the initial release (Tenibiaje, 2013). The explanations given are all centered on committing crime despite having been incarcerated in prison institution which negates the main objective of the prison institution which centered on rehabilitation, reformation and deterrence.
The contents of the thesis is for internal user only
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**Statuses**


The revised Standard Minimum Rules were adopted unanimously by the UN General Assembly (UN-Doc A/Res/70/175) on 17 December 2015.