

# **Appraisal of Knowledge Level of the Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in Contemporary Constitutional Democracy in Nigeria among Agbani Residents, Enugu State**

---

Paul Martin Obayi, Charles Makata, & Emmanuel Ugwuanyi

## **Abstract**

The purpose of this study is to appraise the knowledge level of the Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers under constitutional democracy among Agbani residents in Enugu State. The study was anchored on Diffusion of innovation theory. The study employed survey research method and relied on structured questionnaire as an instrument for the collection of primary data. A sample size of 400 respondents was drawn from the population of 41,832 using Taro Yamane formula. The data collected were presented with frequency distribution tables and analyzed using simple percentage approach, with the aid of the computer through the application of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software for analysis. Based on the findings, the study discovered that the awareness and knowledge level of the Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers under constitutional democracy among Agbani residents in Enugu State was comparatively low. The study concluded that the low level of awareness and knowledge level of the Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in constitutional democracy among Agbani residents in Enugu State was because of the fact that all executive and legislative powers are derived from the constitution which defines not only the field of a given governmental activity but also, the conditions/ procedures for the exercise of such powers. The study therefore, recommended among others that in the exercise of its normal constitutional judicial approach, the judiciary has to entertain all actions, make all necessary determinations involving law and facts, and see that all the parties get their due according to the law of the land.

**Keywords: Judicial Approach, Legislative and Executive Powers, Constitutionalism, Campaigns, Perception**

## **Introduction**

The judicial approach is the power of the court in appropriate proceedings before it to declare a governmental measure either contrary or in accordance with the constitution or other governing law, with the effect of rendering the measure invalid or void or vindicating its validity (Ewelukwa, 2014).

S.6 (1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As Amended) stated that the judicial powers of the Federation shall be vested in the courts to which this section relates, being courts established for the Federation. Also, S. 6 (2) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As Amended) maintained that the judicial powers of a state shall be vested in the courts to which this section relates, being courts established, subject as provided by this constitution for a state.

The prime duty of the judiciary as a constitutional arm of the government is to interpret laws enacted by the legislature through the courts (tribunals). Judges interpret these laws all the time even when no clear guidelines or parameters or laid down procedures of interpretation are handed down by the legislature. In the situation the court finds itself in a state of absolute and unbridled discretion; whereby the judge must make findings and deliver a decision no matter what it takes even when the law is blurred on the core of the link between the law and the question for determination or facts before the court.

In judicial approach, the courts are concerned with the legality of the action not the merit of the action. The purpose of the judicial approach is to hold the government and its functionaries in check and to stop them running wild with powers invested on them. The laws do not themselves decide disputes, for they have to be applied to the case in hand. This process leaves the judge an element of choice, which is guided by a variety of considerations.

### **Statement of the Problem**

Every legislative and executive powers should be derived from the constitution which defines and shapes not only the power of a given government activity but also, stipulates the conditions and procedures for the exercise of such power. Hence, any law, order or even directive resulting from either the legislative or executive arm of government which is inconsistent with any provision of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As Amended) is unconstitutional, ultra vires, null and void.

Unfortunately, the recent judicial approach to the legislative and executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy has been riddled with inconsistency and irregularity to the already known judicial precedents. The citizens seem to have lost confidence in Nigerian courts as the last hope of a common man.

No wonder, it argued in *Sussex Justices Ex Parte McCarthy* and, *Agha V. IGP* that judges exercise enormous powers, the extent of the power is mostly imbedded deep in the law, leaving both the parties and lawyers appearing before the judge prancing about the exact scope of interpretation of the law. The crux of judicial approach is on the procedure leading to the determination of the case and not on the correctness of the decision. This is because justice must not only be done, but must be manifestly and undoubtedly seen to be done. The test is a reasonable man who observed the proceeding.

Thus, in human beings unending quest for human liberty and freedom, judicial approach is evolved as a means of effectively holding the legislative and executive arms of government and their functionaries in check and stopping them from trampling on rights of the individual. Judicial approach, therefore, operates like brakes on the wheels of our administrative machinery, compelling the government to act cautiously so as to avoid provoking and uncontrollable challenges to the legality of their actions.

Although, there are many research findings on judicial approach, some of these findings only succeeded in establishing the relevance and application of judicial approach in social contract engagement. These studies did not, however, dwell much on evaluation of the knowledge level Of the Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria among Agbani Residents in Enugu State. What is the nature of perception of the Agbani residents on Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy? It is against this background that it becomes pertinent to evaluate the knowledge level of Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria among Agbani Residents in Enugu State.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of the study is to appraise the knowledge level of Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria among Agbani Residents in Enugu State. However, other objectives include to:

1. Determine the extent of the Agbani residents' awareness level on Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria.
2. Discover the knowledge level of the Agbani residents on Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria.
3. Determine the nature of perception of the Agbani residents on Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria.

### **Research Questions**

The research questions for this study include:

1. What is the extent of the Agbani residents' awareness level on Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria?
2. What is the knowledge level of Agbani residents on Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria?
3. What is the nature of perception of Agbani residents on Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria?

### **Significance of the Study**

The significance of this study can be seen in many ways. Firstly, it will contribute jurisprudentially to the enrichment of literature on media studies, legal studies, political science and national development. The importance of this study will go a long way to ensure that the legislative and executive arms of government are accountable and responsive to the citizens. It will ensure qualitative representation in the parliament and orderly execution of the laws in Nigeria. Thirdly, it will provide baseline information through its analysis and discussion to assist the national policy makers in articulating societal developmental policies that will positively impact on national affairs. The study will also help the members of public to have more understanding and appreciation of legislative processes and executive responsiveness in constitutional democracy in Nigeria.

### **Brief Review of Literature**

#### **Judicial Approach to the Legislative Powers**

Madebayo (2012) maintained that in Nigeria, we have instances where the judicial approach to the legislative power has been exercised by the judiciary. In *A.G Abia State v. A.G Federation* (2006, 16 NWLR. PT. 1000, ALL FWLR, PT. 338, 604), the Supreme Court stated that the intendment of the provisions in the 1999 Constitution is to grant power and autonomy to a state government in its relationship with local government in a state and to subordinate local government in the instant case, the National Assembly by enacting the 2005 Act into Law in relation to states had unwittingly engaged in a cause that is a hindrance to the autonomy granted a state government in its power to control the local council.

Also, in *Akpan v. Umah* (2002, 7 NWLR, PT. 767, 701), the Supreme Court ruled that although, it is within the legislative power of a State House of Assembly to make a law to regulate a local government council in the state plagued with crisis or to make a law to prescribe for an event upon which a local government is dissolved or the chairman or vice-chairman of a local government council is removed or vacates his office, any law made by the House of Assembly which provides for nomination of membership of a council or appointment of an Administrator or Caretaker Committee to replace a democratically elected council is inconsistent with the clear and unambiguous provisions of S. 7 (1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As Amended) which guarantees democratically elected local government councils and is therefore, unconstitutional to the extent of the inconsistency.

Additionally, in *Dapianlong v. Dariye* (2007, 8 NWLR, PT. 1036, 332), the Supreme Court affirmed that S.188 (5) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As Amended) requires that the request to the Chief Judge of the State to constitute a panel to investigate the allegation against the governor should be made by the Speaker of the House of Assembly, but was signed by the Speaker Pro Tempore, who is not duly elected Speaker of the House of Assembly. If it were to be otherwise, the constitution should have so provided but it did not and has not so provided.

#### **Judicial Approach to the Executive Powers**

The Executive powers are also subject to judicial approach and instances are bound to substantiate the claim. In *A.G Lagos State v. A.G Federation* (2005, ALL FWLR, PT. 244, 805), the Supreme Court ruled that in creating

new local government council, the state will have to go a step further by submitting returns to the National Assembly which in turn will amend S.3 (6) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As Amended) for the new local government council to be accommodated by the constitution.

Subsequently, in *A.G v. Abubakar* (2007, 10 NWLR, PT. 1041, 1), the Supreme Court averred that under the provision of S.40 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As Amended), it will operate illegality, injustice and unconstitutionally to refuse or deny a citizen of this country to opt out, join, belong to any political party, trade union or any other association for the protection of his interest, except where in case of political parties, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has not recognized the party. In the instant case, it has not been shown by credible evidence that the party said to have been formed by the Ist Respondent and to which he is said to have defected, Action Congress (AC), has not been recognized by INEC. Thus, as a citizen of Nigeria, Ist Respondent cannot be subjected to any such disabilities.

### **Campaign Programmes and Perception**

Moguluwa (2016) noted that executing campaign involves presenting behaviour changing messages to the target group or audience in such a way that they would be sufficiently convinced to adopt them as intended behaviour . Ezeah, Apeh, Omerigwe & Ojo (2014) submitted that campaign must be prepared in a way to accommodate many factors and issues that are vital to make the exercise successful and reduce lack of access to important information by audience in developing nations.

Bovee (2013) stated that perception is the process of being exposed to a stimulus, paying attention to some degree, and then interpreting the received message. For perception to take place, there must be exposure to stimuli with certain level of attention paid to the stimuli and finally, the stimuli are interpreted by the audience.

Anaeto, Onasanjo & Osijeso (2008) maintained that the assumption of perception theory is that mass communicators want audience to pay attention to their messages, and make appropriate changes in attitudes or beliefs, or produce the desired behavioural responses. Woolfolk (2014) noted that perception is the process of detecting a stimulus and assigning meaning to it. This meaning is constructed based on both physical representations from the world and our existing knowledge. As perception continues, the features are organized into patterns.

### **Theoretical Framework**

This study is anchored on diffusion of innovation theory. This is because its basic tenets are fundamental to the understanding of the subject under study. Bittner (1989) cited in Okunna (2002) stated that diffusion of innovation theory recognizes that the media can lead someone into getting aware of the existence of an item. From there, he gets interested, makes an attempt to evaluate it, gives it a trial before making up his mind to acquire it. Hence, this theory is relevant to the study as it concerns appraisal of awareness and knowledge level of the Judicial approach to the legislative and executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria.

### **Brief Review of Empirical Studies**

Although, there are many research findings on legislative processes, some of these findings only succeeded in establishing the relevance and application of judicial approach in social contract engagement. Empirical studies have established such connection. For instance, Kana (2014) observed that in practice, the legal and constitutional powers of the Nigeria courts are largely similar to that of the United States of America (US), Article 111, Section 2, of the US Constitution also grants the judiciary broad power, which extends to all the cases, in law and equity, arising under this constitution, the laws of the United States, and treatise made. Judges' decisions must be made based on the rule of law which in the United States, derives not only from statutes passed by Congress but also, from the tenets of the constitution. In addition, common law, on judge made law, provides limits based on the principles of stare decisis, which holds that a court's decision in a particular case must conform with the rule of

law as they have been determined by that court or by other higher level courts in previous cases.

Sanni (2006) affirmed that it is important to note that a particular event that gives rise to a legal dispute before the court is usually made up of myriads of facts linked together like a chord, for the Judge or adjudicator to resolve the dispute he must first of all ascertain the fact of the case and then apply the law to the facts.

Dias (1985) observed that deciding disputes involves three kinds of knowledge: knowing the facts, knowing the law applicable to those facts and knowing the just way of applying the law to them. Knowing the law involves knowing how to find it in judicial precedents, statutes and immemorial customs.

These studies did not, however, dwell much on appraisal of awareness and knowledge level of the Judicial approach to the legislative and executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria among Agbani residents. This study is novel in nature unlike many other researches that focused on nature of the of judicial approach in a state.

### **Methodology**

#### **Research Design**

Bearing the nature and objectives of this study in mind, survey research method was used for this task. Nworgu (1991) stated that survey is the study which aims at collecting data on, and describing in a systematic manner, the characteristics, features or facts about a given population.

#### **Scope of the Study**

This study covered the appraisal of knowledge level of the judicial approach to legislative and executive powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria among the Agbani residents.

#### **Area of Study**

The area of study was Agbani in Nkanu-West Local Government Area, Enugu State.

#### **Population of the Study**

The population of study consists of the total number of Agbani community which is 41,832 (**Source: National Population Commission, 2006**)

#### **Sample Size**

Having determined the population, the researcher then proceeded to determine the sample size. However, considering the fact that 2006 is too far a time, the researcher aligned himself with Owuamalam (2012), which maintained that the population of Nigerians has increased significantly since the last census which was held in 2006, and did a projection of 18 years (2006- 2024= 18) using an annual growth rate of 3.2 per cent (UNDP cited in Owuamalam, 2012). The projection formula provides that  $Pp = Gp \times Pi \times T$

Thus,  $Pp = 41,832, Pi = 3.2\%$  or 0.032

$T = 2024 - 2006 = 18$

$Pp = 41,832 \times 0.032 \times 18 = 24,095.232$

When added to the population of the community, it shall be:  $41,832 + 24,095 = 65,927$ . Based on this, the sample size was determined using Taro Yamane Simplified formula (Isreal, 2012) which stated as follows:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{65,927}{1 + 65,927(0.0025)}$$

$n = 400$ . Thus, 400 served as the sample size for this study.

### **Sample Technique**

Interestingly, this study used purposive sampling technique. This method of sampling, Nwodu (2006) observed that it is often called judgmental sampling. Here, the respondents were selected on condition that they meet certain criteria. Also, Uzoagulu (2011) stated that purposive sampling technique ensures that only those elements that are relevant to the research are included. This means that the researcher is at liberty to judge, select or reject a respondent on the basis that the respondent meets or fails to meet the purpose of the research. Thus, purposive sampling technique tends to represent a section of the population that meets specific objective prescribed by the researcher. Ikeagwu (1998) indicated that the basic assumption behind this technique is that with good judgment and an appropriate strategy, one can handpick the cases to be included in the sample and thus, develop samples that are satisfactory in relation to one's needs.

### **Sources of Data**

Because of the nature of this work, the study used primary and secondary sources of data.

### **Instrument of Data Collection**

Specifically, the instrument used for primary data collection was structured questionnaire. The copies of structured questionnaire were administered with the help of research assistants to the respondents.

### **Method of Data Analysis**

Thus, the data collected were presented with frequency distribution tables and analyzed using simple percentage approach with the aid of computer through the application of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software for analysis.

### **Data Presentation, Analysis and Discussion of Findings**

Ordinarily in this study, as noted earlier, 400 copies of the structured questionnaire were distributed to the respondents. However, a total of 395 copies of structured questionnaire were returned. Three (3) copies were not returned while two copy was mutilated. Hence, 395 copies of questionnaire constituted the actual number of validly returned questionnaire used in the analysis.

**Table 1: Respondents' Gender**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Male	144	36.46	36.46	36.46
Female	251	63.54	63.54	100.0
Total	395	100.0	100.0	

*Source: Field Survey, 2024*

Table 1 shows that 144 respondents representing 36.46% were males while 251 respondents representing 63.54% were females.

**Research Question 1:** What is the extent of the Agbani residents' awareness level on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria?

**Table 2: Agbani Residents' Awareness Level on Judicial approach on Legislative and Executive powers**

Variables	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very high	34	8.61	8.61	8.61
High	42	10.63	10.63	19.24
Low	270	68.35	68.35	67.59
Very low	49	12.41	12.41	100.0
Total	395	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2024

Table 2 shows that 34 respondents representing 8.61% indicated that the Agbani residents' awareness level on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria were very high; 42 respondents representing 10.63% indicated high exposure to the Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria; 270 respondents representing 68.35 % indicated low exposure while 49 respondents representing 12.41% indicated very low exposure.

**Research Question 2:** What is the knowledge level of Agbani residents' on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria?

**Table 3: Knowledge Level of Agbani Residents on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers**

Variables	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very high	59	8.61	8.61	8.61
High	62	10.63	10.63	10.24
Low	199	68.35	68.35	87.59
Very low	75	12.41	12.41	100.0
Total	395	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2024

The table 3 shows that 59 respondents representing 8.61% believed that the knowledge level of Agbani residents on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria were very high; 62 respondents representing 10.63% believed that the level of awareness were high; 199 respondents representing 68.35% believed that the level of awareness were low while 75 respondents representing 12.41% indicated that the level of awareness were very low.

**Research Question 3:** What is the nature of perception of Agbani residents' on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria?

**Table 4: The nature of perception of Agbani residents on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers**

Variables	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Favourable	86	21.77	21.77	21.77
Unfavourable	249	63.04	6.04	84.81
Neutral	60	15.19	15.19	100
Total	395	100.0	100.0	

Source: Field Survey, 2024

Table 4 shows that 86 respondents representing 21.77% indicated that the nature of perception of Agbani residents on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria were favourable; 249 respondents representing 63.04% indicated that the perception on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria were unfavourable while 60 respondents representing 15.19% were neutral.

### Summary of Findings

From the data gathered, presented and analyzed so far, the following findings emerged:

1. Based on the findings in table 2 ( two) that showed that 34 respondents representing 8.61% indicated that the Agbani residents' awareness level on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in constitutional democracy in Nigeria were very high; 42 respondents representing 10.63% indicated high exposure to the Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in constitutional democracy in Nigeria; 270 respondents representing 68.35 % indicated low exposure while 49 respondents representing 12.85% indicated very low exposure.
2. It is quite glaring from the findings from table 3 (three) revealed that 59 respondents representing 8.61% believed that the knowledge level of Agbani residents on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria were very high; 62 respondents representing 10.63% believed that the level of awareness were high; 199 respondents representing 68.35% believed that the level of awareness were low while 75 respondents representing 12.41% indicated that the level of awareness were very low exposure.
3. Based on findings from table 4 (four) showed 86 respondents representing 21.77% indicated that the nature of perception of Agbani residents on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria were favourable; 249 respondents representing 63.04% indicated that the perception on Judicial approach to the Legislative and Executive Powers in contemporary constitutional democracy in Nigeria were unfavourable while 60 respondents representing 15.19% were neutral

### Discussion

Based on the available data, the awareness level of Agbani residents on Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers was comparatively low. This notwithstanding the fact that the rule of law demands not only that the government should rule by and under the law, but the law itself and judicial decisions based therein must meet certain minimum standards of justice and fairness. This result supports the findings of Kana (2014), which observed that the court's decision in a particular case must comport with the rule of law as they have been determined by that court or by other higher level courts in previous cases.

Additionally, residents of Agbani affirmed that the knowledge level on the Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers were low. However, due to the disconnect between the people and their representatives, it



becomes pertinent that there should be strong democratic institutions that set standards which every citizen is obligated to follow and conform to the well being of the society and also, ensure independence of the judiciary. Findings seem to be in conformity with the observation of Dias (1985), which averred that deciding disputes involve three kinds of knowledge: knowing the facts and knowing the law applicable to these facts and knowing the just way of applying the law to them. Knowing the law involves knowing how to find it in judicial precedent, statutes and immemorial customs.

Finally, the residents of Agbani were sincerely enough to accept the fact that the nature of their perception on Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in constitutional democracy in Nigeria were unfavourable. This result supports the findings of Woolfolk (2014), which observed that perception is the systematic interpretation of sensory information.

### **Conclusion**

The study concludes that the low level of awareness on Judicial Approach to the Legislative and Executive powers in constitutional democracy in Nigeria was because of the fact that in the exercise of its normal constitutional judicial approach, the judiciary has to entertain all actions, make all necessary determinations involving law and facts, and see that all the parties get their due according to the law of the land. All executive and legislative powers are derived from the constitution which defines not only the field of a given governmental activity but also, the conditions/ procedures for the exercise of such powers. Thus, any law, executive or legislative action which is inconsistent with any constitutional provision remains unconstitutional, null and void.

### **Recommendations**

Finally, this study recommends that judicial approach should be exercised in accordance with the enabling statutes. Thus, the exercise becomes judicial and judicious in nature. The implication is that a reasonable man will leave the court with the impression that justice has been done to the matter. Just as the court stated in *Sussex Justices Ex Parte McCarthy* that justice must not only be done, but must be manifestly and undoubtedly seen to be done.

### **References**

- Anaeto, B; Onasanjo, C & Osieso, D. (2008). *Strategic Reputation Management*. London: Routledge.
- Bovee, T. (2013). *Principles of Psychology*. New York: University Press.
- Dias, R, *Jurisprudence*, Haryana: LexisNexis, 2013.
- Ezeah, G; Apeh, A; Omerigwe, E & Ojo, L. (2014). Breast Cancer Campaign among women in Benue State: When knowledge does not translate to practice. In *International Journal of Media, Security and Development*, vol.1(1).
- Ewelukwa, D, Lecture Notes on Administrative Law 11 (Reviewed and Edited by C. Ogbuabor), 2014.
- Isreal, G. (2012). *Determining Sample size: Agricultural Education and Communication Department*. Florida: Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.
- Kana, A, : "Perspectives and Limits of Judicial Discretion in Nigerian Courts" in *Journal of Law, Policy and Globalization*, vol. 29, 2014.
- Madebayo, A, (2012). *1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria As Amended: Annotated with Cases*. Ikeja: Princeton.
- Moguluwa, S. (2014). Marketing Strategies and the Execution of Poverty Alleviation Programmes in Nigeria: A study in Social Development Marketing. *IDS Monograph Series*. Enugu: Institute of Development Studies, UNEC.
- Nwande, M.C. (2010). *Law of Administration in Nigeria*. Nsukka: Solith Publishers.
- Nwodu, L. (2006). *Research in Communication and Other Behavioural Sciences*. Enugu: Rhyce Kerex Publishers.
- Okunna, C.S. (2002). *Teaching Mass Communication: A Multi-Dimensional Approach*. Enugu: New Generation Books.

- Owuamalam, E. (2012). *Data Analysis & Research Project Writing*. Owerri: Top Class Agencies Ltd.
- Sanni, A. (2006), *Introduction to Nigerian Legal Methods*. Ile-Ife: Obafemi Awolowo Press Ltd.
- Sinatra, G & Mason, L. (2012). Beyond Knowledge: Learner Characteristics influencing conceptual change. In *International Handbook of Research on Conceptual Change*, vol. 2(3).
- Uzoagulu, A. (2011). *Practical Guide to Writing Research Project Reports in Tertiary Institutions*. Enugu: John Jacob's Classic Publishers Ltd.
- 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As Amended)*.

---

Paul Martin Obayi (PhD), is a Professor from Department of Mass Communication, Godfrey Okoye University, Enugu, Enugu State;

Email:

frobayi@gmail.com.

Charles Makata (PhD), Department of Mass Communication, Renaissance University, Ugbawka, Enugu State; Email: cccmakata@gmail.com.

Emmanuel Ugwuanyi is of School of Postgraduate Studies, Faculty of Law, Renaissance University, Ugbawka, Enugu State;

Email: ugwuanyiee@gmail.com.