

Corruption in education and assessment system:
The waec experience

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Corruption and fraudulent practices in education and assessment have been in the front burner of academic discourse in Nigeria in recent times. Collaborative research efforts in Nigeria show a less than satisfactory learning environment, inadequate infrastructure, poorly equipped libraries and laboratories, disinterested teachers and students, degraded societal values, cultism and other related vices have combined to sustain the malaise. Little wonder that they manifest largely in the various forms of examination malpractice which the Federal Government of Nigeria is sparing no effort to tackle. This paper identifies the various aspects of the system that are prone to corruption and fraudulent practices and highlights the various forms of examination malpractice perpetrated by candidates, schools, parents, communities, examination officials and even law enforcement agents. The paper considers the trends in examination malpractice, highlights the efforts of the West African Examinations Council, governments (federal and state) and other stakeholders in the fight against examination fraud in Nigeria and concludes that these efforts are helping to sanitize the system and restore confidence in the validity of the examinations and the integrity of the resultant certificates.