

Conceptual Analysis of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus in J.J.C. Skillz's *Cat Fish*

¹Frank Ifeanyichukwu
Amiriheobu,

²Ekperi, Godday Watts,

³Nwookocha Felix I. &

⁴Onum James Okoh

¹Department of Theatre Arts
Education, School of Arts and
Social Sciences,

²Department of Music Education,
School of Arts and Social
Sciences,

³Department of Education
Foundation, School of Education,

⁴Department of Primary
Education, School of Early
Childhood-Care and Primary
Education,
Federal College of Education
(Technical) P.M.B 11, Omoku,
Onelga, Rivers State, Nigeria.

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Corresponding Author:

Frank Ifeanyichukwu Amiriheobu

Abstract

The Nigerian state, hallowed with assorted natural and human resources; once an insignia of African preeminence, glued with divers ethnical inclinations, but overwhelmed with nepotism, divide and rule system, tribalism and the clandestine, corruption; once witnessed with malicious military overthrows; tribal, communal, and land clashes; precarious agitation for resource control, oblivion activism for self-determination, and malevolent terrorism manifestations, caused by tribal, religion, and economic cum political chauvinisms; is today, beleaguered with fraudulent enunciations - "Yahoo" and "Yahoo-Plus". These duplicitous acts, envisaged through the activities of some Nigerian youths are caused by frail governmental systems, which foists under-development, unemployment, poverty, hunger, suffering, sickness, pain, and death of the people as portrayed in J. J. Skillz *Cat Fish*. The gargantuan effects of these profaned acts are upsurge of crime related issues, ranging from incessant killings, drug and sex abuse, prostitution, pain, suffering, and death of premeditated victims. It has also lowered interest in educational processes and ridicules trust and integrity of the sovereign state. Among the major findings is that these issues have provided incentive for creative punches in argumentative representation by critics and dramatists, yet, the issues are highly predominant in the Nigerian frail societies. The study therefore aims at drawing a critical discourse on the cause and effects of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus in J. J. Skillz *Cat Fish*. To achieve this aim, Social and Behavioural Change and Communication Theory and Content and Analytical Methodology are employed as guide. The study therefore recommends that an imperative attention be given towards restructuring the Nigerian state in order to curb the issues of corruption, nepotism, and tribalism, thus foster development in the Nigerian society.

Background to the Study

The Nigerian state, having over two hundred tribes and languages, diverse culture, religion, norms, values cum occupations, but amalgamated as a single entity in 1914, and made sovereign in 1960, and republic in 1963, till present, has portrayed absurd nature which questions the unity which it professes.

Arguments are that the Nigerian Motto: peace, unity and progress, is a mere propaganda because ethnic bias is rapidly eating deep into the polity and even causing political divide and others are of the opinion that the oneness of Nigeria is borne with pain as some sections are treated as second class citizens in their own country (Amiriheobu, 2019). This thinking has caused series of unrest which sets off grounds for criminality, lawlessness and wanton destruction of men and resources.

After the nation became a republic in 1963, issues of marginalization, divide-and-rule, favoritism, nepotism, tribalism, and mutual distrust set in. Some who felt they were not getting full recognition, or were inordinately side-lined in the National diet, began to dissent and took to violence.

The most significant discord demonstrated mostly by youths was the Biafra-Nigeria civil war, led by Lieutenant Colonel Odumegwu Ojukwu. The aftermath of the civil war created so many policies of ethnic identity which have negative effect on the Nigeria nation (Robert, 1963). Presently, the Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) and the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) are also agitating because the issues of marginalization, favoritism, nepotism, tribalism and divide and rule system which their fathers died for in course of the civil war is still ongoing. The IPOB group is today declared terrorist group by the Federal Government for their activism of self-Determination (Mark, 2015).

From these, other heinous issues have escalated, thus, positioned as major menaced that have ridiculed the identity of the Nigerian state in the recent time. These issues include ranges from Boko Haram agitation, herders/farmers clashes, tribal wars, and the #EndSARS agitation, perpetrated by mostly the youths, caused by the upsurge of corruption, nepotism, tribalism, and divide and rule system which have increased poverty, unemployment, suffering, hunger, pain and death of the people and underdevelopment to the Nigerian society. Presently, the Nigerian state is overwhelmed with the issue of cybercrime.

Notably, cybercrime is a global issue that has transcended various geographical boundaries, its development as changed forms overtime; it continues to evolve into divergent phases. While quoting Adeniran (2008), Olayinka and Babajide (2020), aver that "Yahoo-yahoo/Cybercrimes cut across underdeveloped and developing countries and different people across the world have different reasons for engaging in cybercrime". On the same note, Clough (2015), in Tolulope (2017) dating back to the 60s until present, cybercrime is gradually updating as technology develops. In 1960,

cybercrime according to Tolulope focused on physical destruction of computer system parts and stored data. In the mid-1960s, the United States criminal abuse according to Tolulope focused on databases and the related risks to privacy. In 1970s, traditional ways of committing crimes such as manual stealing was in place, however the innovation of computer modernized ways of stealing. In 1980s, the number of computer systems increased, hence creating more potential targets for Cybercrimes.

Yee (2000), according to Tolulope (2017), explains that internet access enables cybercriminals perpetrate crimes through the computer without being present at the crime scene. In the 1990s, a graphical interface “World Wide Web (WWW)” according to Clough (2015), was introduced and this led to a tremendous growth in the number of Internet users, and this invention also welcomed new challenges in the cyber world. It means more advanced functions, more perpetrators and more victims were active within the cyber space.

Flowing from above the dynamics of cybercrime across the world breaded a new sort in Nigeria popularly known as yahoo-yahoo. At the dawn of the forth era of democratization in Nigeria in 1999, internet access through mobile phones dominated the society with roughly 350 000 users, which increased to approximately 120 million users by 2013 (Tolulope, 2017). During this 2 time, an internet corporation named Yahoo, which provided multiple services such as email and search engines, was the global market leader. Yahoo maintained its dominance as a service provider for years in Nigeria which led to the name being used as slang to refer to the internet (Doppelmayr, 2013, in Tolulope, 2017).

Globalizing effect of introducing internet to Nigeria did not only advance the state of technology in the country but also birth social vices such as internet fraud popularly known as yahoo-yahoo. Since internet was popularly referred as yahoo at point of introducing the service to Nigeria (See Doppelmayr, 2013), youth that engaged in activities relating to the internet were immediately labelled “yahoo-yahoo” boys, it was referred to as boys because basically boys engaged in various activities connecting to internet usage at this point. From the above, yahoo plus means the addition of any spiritual ingredient (Tade, 2013) and engagement in spiritual activities for the purpose of boosting the chances of a yahoo boy in getting a client online and successfully defrauding the client. Also, for an individual to practice yahoo-plus, he or she must be a yahoo-boy or yahoo girl. Therefore, yahoo plus can be referred to as the advancement of yahoo-yahoo to the spiritual level.

It is therefore to interrogate the cause and effects of Yahoo and Yahoo-plus as portrayed in J. J. Skillz *Cat Fish* that form the thrust of this study.

Aim and Objectives of the Study

The aim of the study is to investigate the cause and effects of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus on the Nigerian development as portrayed in J.J. Skillz *Cat Fish*. The specific objectives include:

1. To identify the cause and effects of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus on the Nigerian Development as portrayed in J.J. Skillz *Cat Fish*.
2. To identify the nature and practices of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus on the Nigerian society as portrayed in J.J. Skillz *Cat Fish*.
3. To identify the steps by which Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus can be eradicated in the Nigerian society as portrayed in J.J. Skillz *Cat Fish*.

Research Questions

1. What are the cause and effects of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus on the Nigerian development as portrayed in J.J. Skillz *Cat Fish*?
2. What is the nature and practices of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus in the Nigerian society as portrayed in J.J. Skillz *Cat Fish*?
3. What are the steps positioned by the Nigerian government towards curbing Yahoo and Yahoo-plus in the Nigerian society as portrayed in J.J. Skillz *Cat Fish*?

Significance of the Study

This study will be of great importance, as it will provide necessary information on the cause and effects of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus on the Nigerian development. It will also provide further research in combating the issue of Yahoo and Yahoo-plus in the Nigerian society. The study will also be useful for further purposes and for further researches into identifying the nature and practices of Yahoo and Yahoo-plus in the Nigerian society.

Scope of the Study

The study will be restricted to identifying the cause and effects of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus in Nigeria as portrayed in J.J. Skillz *Cat Fish*. It will also identify the nature and practices of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus on the Nigerian society. More so, the study will also identify the steps positioned by the Nigerian government towards curbing Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus in the Nigerian society. Finally, solutions to Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus in Nigeria society will also be sought in the cause of this research.

Literature Review

Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus in Nigeria

These victims might be aware of the prevalence of cybercrime; this process is referred to as yahoo-plus (Tade, 2013; Aransiola and Asidemade, 2008). The use of spiritual power has always been part of Yoruba culture. They make use of spiritual powers to solve various problems in their society such as poverty, barrenness, diseases, love, good and will (Tade 2013). As much as these spiritual powers serve good purposes, they have also been used to do evil such as getting quick wealth, retaining power; snatching people's wife and husbands and so on. These spiritual powers are evident in different areas of the society such as the political, religious social and economic areas. The politicians are known for the practice of oath taking and charms to emerge as winners of elections and also to retain political power (Oviasuyi, Ajagun and Isiraoje, 2011). Pastors and Islamic clerics often make use of spiritual power to improve their ministration and also to heal the sick (Jimoh, 2014). Even, the knowledge and practice of spiritual powers are often acted in local dramas. This explains the exposure of youths to the use of spiritual powers to boost their fraudulent activities online.

The 'Yahoo-Yahoo' business, formally known as cyber fraud in Nigeria's cybercrime law, is not a new phenomenon in the country. The illicit business, mostly perpetrated by young men and sometimes women, is an offshoot of the so-called '419' business of the 1980s and 1990s. The 419 code is derived from a section of the country's Criminal Act Section 419 (Advance Free Fraud) which frowns at obtaining money from people through pretense or impersonation, cheating, falsification, counterfeiting, forgery and fraudulent representation of facts. Internet fraud has now been here for decades and does not seem to be declining in spite of the government's efforts to stem the tide of the crime that has given the country a bad reputation.

Boys involved in the illicit business have various ways of duping their victims – mostly foreigners. These range from romance scam, email phishing, business email compromise fraud, identity theft, impersonation, to generating bogus business transactions that look too good to be true and shady business deals running into millions of Naira, usually in hard currencies. Their tools include laptops connected to the internet that runs almost on a 24-hour basis. They also have premium software exclusively for hacking purposes. Most of them live in secluded places, away from the prying eyes of the public.

When they are not at home, they use their mobile phones which are connected to mobile internet providers like Mifi to run their illicit schemes. Cybercrime in Nigeria is largely perpetrated by young people and students in tertiary institutions, and are socially tagged yahoo yahoo or yahoo boys. Yahoo boys rely on their computer dexterity to victimise unsuspecting persons in cyberspace (Oludayo, 2013). A new phenomenon in cybercrime according to Olayinka and Babajide (2020), is mixing spiritual elements with internet surfing to boost cybercrime success rates. Yahoo-yahoo/Cybercrime is a very popular crime enabled with deep penetration of information technology especially the internet. Cybercrime is the most challenging and dynamic security threats of this generation and may creep into the next without sufficient cyber criminological data and studies. There is thus the need for studies that capture the transforming contours of cybercrime. This is particularly so as cybercrime penetrates countries beyond developed countries. In fact, developing countries are becoming more involved cybercrime and their countries lack capacity to counteract the problem Olayinka and Babajide (2020).

For Ibrahim (2016), Olayinka and Babajide (2020) posit that “the interest in cybercrime in Nigeria is often traceable to economic gains rather and tangentially to psychosocial and geopolitical gains”. For Akanle, Adesina and Ankarah, (2016), in Olayinka and Babajide (2020), there are those that engage in cybercrime due to unemployment, lack of social support and failed leadership etc. Also, deprived youths in Nigeria according to Olayinka and Bajbaide reject rules and embrace the illegal means of achieving culturally prescribed goals because of the structural inequality, weak sanctioning system and the wide gap between the haves and the have nots (Adeniran, 2008).

Nonetheless, youths in Nigeria engage in cybercrime due to laziness, greed and the urge to live a luxurious lifestyle (Tade, 2013; Akanle, Adesina and Ankarah, 2016). It has been observed across literature that cybercrimes such as fraudulent sales online, online

romance scam, E-commerce fraud, consumer scam and advance fee fraud are prevalent in Nigeria; they are classified under a code name generally known as yahoo-yahoo and the perpetrators are generally referred to as yahoo-boys (Adeniran, 2008, in Olayinka and Babajide, 2020). In explaining the ways to identify yahoo-boys in Nigeria, Aransiola and Asindemade posited that yahoo-boys can be identified by the way they live.

The claim above is supported by the findings of Ojedokun and Eraye, (2012), in Olayinka and Babajide (2020), that yahoo-boys do spend their proceeds extravagantly by throwing parties and clubbing, lodging in expensive hotels, buying exotic cars, flashy phones and living in a well-furnished apartment. Yahoo-boys often in Nigeria enjoy the respect and praises they receive from the members of the society and will go to any length to retain it; they also enjoy the big boy status and are popular among friends and family members (Tade, 2013; Tade and Aliyu, 2011 according to Olayinpeku and Babajide, 2020).

The effect of this is that the yahoo-boys will be deprived from the luxurious life style which they hitherto enjoyed, they will be unable to live up to responsibilities and pressures exerted upon them by their peers and lovers and they will be regarded as weak and less manly; they might also suffer all sort of insult and scorn from their romantic partner and peers. In order to avoid this and other similar experiences of being broke, most of the yahoo-boys have turned to various spiritualists for help. With the help of various spiritual ingredients, they can successfully scam their victims by hypnotizing them even though these victims might be aware of the prevalence of cybercrime; this process is referred to as yahoo-plus (Tade, 2013, according to Olayinpeku and Babajide, 2020).

The difference between yahoo-yahoo and yahoo-plus can be determined by the level of wealth accumulation by those practicing either of them; majority of researches are that the era of rings and incisions are long gone and people have advanced. In fact, one can hardly, physically, distinguish a yahoo boy practicing ordinary yahoo-yahoo from those practicing yahoo plus except through their financial status and their influence in the Nigerian society. This finding resonates with the findings of Tade, (2013), as noted by Olayinpekun and Babajide (2020), that the dwindling fortunes of yahoo-boys in getting victims due to the increase in awareness of some of their strategies by the police officers and cyber security operatives, have pushed many of them to seeking spiritual help. This means that people involved in yahoo plus are getting spiritual help therefore they are richer than people doing ordinary yahoo-yahoo, hence, a suitable way of distinguishing them.

Painstakingly, Yahoo Yahoo and Yahoo-plus have dominated the Southern part of Nigeria, where Delta, Edo, Rivers, Imo, and Lagos are overwhelmed with their devilish manifestations.

Causes of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus in Nigeria

The promulgating factors for youths' involvement in yahoo-yahoo in Nigeria can be explained by two major categories: The first is the combination of unemployment and

poverty; the second factor is peer group influence. Agreeing to this fact, Kolawole (2020) aver that “one major factor adduced for the rise in various crimes in Nigeria, most especially cyber-crime is poverty. Other factors are believed to be: Nigeria's political, cultural and economic history; the relative acceptance of yahoo-yahoo in Nigeria society; the anonymity and distance from the victims the internet provided; the minor chances of being arrested by the police; easy access to online platforms; the presence of e-mail extractor software/ on the website; and, lack of knowledge of the grave consequences of internet crime (Adesina, 2017).

From scholarly analysis, one can see the magnitude of unemployment in Nigeria. These unemployed youths have time on their hands and have easy access to the internet to perpetuate cyber-crimes. Even if they do not have access to Internet at home, cyber-café's are readily available throughout the country at relatively low rates for Internet access (Kolawole, 2020). All these factors according to Olowu (2020), as noted by Kolawole (2020) combine to create a new generation of local hackers and cyber-criminals. Although, they may not have deep programming knowledge like experienced hackers who can create their own malware or viruses, they take advantage of many websites available for free that help them understand the basics behind hacking techniques with links to underground hacking sites and even free tools to use.

Effects of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus in Nigeria

The effect of cybercrime in the country are sometimes alarming and unprecedented such as they poses as major threat on the Nigerian development. According to Proshare (2020), as noted in Pius, Adenike and Oluwasegun (2021), the estimated annual financial loss in Nigeria due to cybercrime was ₦250 billion (\$649 million) in 2017 and ₦288 billion (\$800 million) in 2018. Just like any other crime in the society, Yahoo Yahoo according to Pius Adenike and Oluwasegun can affect individuals, businesses, and the nation at large. With regards to individuals, anyone who falls victim to Yahoo Yahoo may end up developing health issues such as heart attack due to financial loss (Pius, Adenike, and Oluwasegun, 2021). Victims can experience different degrees of psychosis also because of financial loss or use of charm by the perpetrator. There is also a feeling of mistrust that develops later on by the victim towards any individual.

To make matters worse, Umukoro (2019), according to Pius, Adenike and Oluwasrgun aver that “the value of human life is at stake because of ritual killings committed by some Yahoo boys. There is also the effect of suspicion in which everyone is deemed a —thiefl. Everyone is being treated as a potential thief who is willing to defraud another person and as such, people are being too careful to deal with their fellow Nigerians. Also, many Nigerians who travel abroad have often been faced with this effect that they have been treated with much disdain due to their nationality. The country's image has been dented with the scourge of the Yahoo Yahoo phenomenon.

In the opinion of Rouse (2020), according to Pius, Adenike, and Oluwasegun (2021), aver that “cybercrime (that is, Yahoo Yahoo) can affect businesses by damaging investor's perception after a security breach, and can cause a drop in the value of a company”. Also,

with the extravagant lifestyle of most Yahoo boys, market goods according to Pius, Adenike, and Oluwasegun are often made more expensive, as most of them usually spend money lavishly without caring the prices of good they are to buy. More so, the integrity of a country is at stake when Yahoo boys are on the loose. Many investors are discouraged from investing in the country and money meant for social development are usually channeled into combating Yahoo Yahoo. In fact, security agencies such as the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) and the Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) coupled with the State Security Service (SSS) and the Nigeria Police according to Pius, Adenike, and Oluwasegun, 2021 have been working round the clock to strengthen the national cyberspace, but their efforts seem to be in vain as crime rate is on the increase. This is largely as a result of corruption within the security agencies.

Nigerian government on the issue of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus

To curb the menace, Yahoo and Yahoo-plus from the Nigerian society, Olayinkeku and Babajide (2020), avers that “the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC), police officers, National Cyber Security Division and other government agencies have employed different strategies to combat cybercrimes; they have also spread the awareness and exposed the various tactics used by the cybercriminals which has made their job much more difficult and it has also reduced the chances of successfully defrauding their victims online (Adesina, 2017). For some time now, hardly does a week pass without the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) parading young men for cyber fraud or some being jailed by courts for internet fraud-related offences (Adeniran (2008).

According to Premium Time (2022), on January 9, 2022, Ten (10) persons were arrested for alleged involvement in internet-related fraud in Lagos by the Lagos zonal station of the EFCC. The suspects are: Jonathan Daniel Adebayo, Lawal Waidi Seun, Adeosun Joseph, Taiwo Gbemileke, Oseni Omotayo, Emmanuel Fakiyesi, Rasheed Ogunlana, Oladunni Segun, Sowunmi Rotimi and Efetobore Prince Wilfred. To further curb the issue, on 20th of January, 2022, EFCC Ibadan Zonal Office arrested 10 suspects in Olomi area of Ibadan, Oyo State capital. Later, on 22nd of January, 2022, 11 suspects were arrested in Osogbo, the Osun State capital by officers from the Ibadan zonal station of the EFCC. About 12 exotic cars, including SUVs, were recovered from the suspects. Also recovered from them were mobile phones, laptop computers and other devices (Premium Time, 2022). In January 23rd, 22 suspects were arrested at various residences at Terra Annex Estate, Sangotedo in the Ajah area of Lagos (Prime Time, 2022).

Further, the National Assembly (legislature) of Nigeria according to Olayinkekun and Babajide (2020) recently promulgated the “Anti-terrorism economic and financial crimes and allied matters law”. The law according to Olayinkekun and Babajide provides for the establishment of a standing commission known as the “Anti-terrorism, Economic and Financial Commission” whose primary responsibility is to confront this hydra-headed malaise of terrorism, financial crimes which of course include 419 scams and other cybercrimes. The law makes provisions for stringent punishment for convicted

offenders. Such provisions include confiscation of properties and passport of convicted offenders as well as long jail terms (Adesina, 2017).

Social and Behavioral Change and Communication Theory

Social and Behavioral Change Communication Theories (SBCC) by Crosby and Noar (2010), the theory is a hybrid field of enquiry, provides the mold with which this paper is shaped. When encapsulated, this theory outlines how to discourse the cause and effects of yahoo and yahoo plus in absurdist Nigerian state in the 21st century. When mastered and applied, the theory of Social and Behavioral Change Communication becomes a kind of psychological communication mechanism in the form of discourse required to change the mentality of people, thus presents the negative effects of yahoo and yahoo plus on the people and the country at large (Frank and Gloria, 2020).

Comprehensively, Social and Behavioral Change Communication Theory can help understand why people act the way they do and why behaviours change. This theory can also help to direct attention on what or who to address for social change. As it concerns the issue of yahoo and yahoo plus as interrogated in J.J.C. Skillz's Cat Fish, the targeted audience are the yahoo boys and girls in the Nigerian society. The youths and teenagers who thinks fraudulent behaviour is the best way of acquiring quick money.

Crosby and Noar (2010), avers that SBCC helps in explaining behavioural change, and area of focus-the individual, their intention to change their behavior or their surrounding environment. SBCC provides people with information and teachings and also guiding them on how they should behave which leads to desirable change in their response/behaviour. However, when there is a supportive environment with information and communication then there is a desirable change in the behaviour of the targeted group. By definition, Crosby and Noar still went further to state that "Social and Behavioral Change Communication (SBCC) theory is an interactive process of any intervention with individuals, communities and/or societies to develop communication strategies and to promote positive environment which will enable people to initiate, sustain and maintain positive and desirable behavioral outcomes".

Method of Data Collection

Method of data collection here describes the plans employed in carrying out this study. The nature of a subject matter often determines the kind of approach adopted for researching relevant materials, thus, this research work employs the content survey study. The methodological approach utilizes primary and secondary sources. The primary sources include the researchers' personal experiences and observations in the course of carrying out this research regarding the cause and effects of Yahoo and Yahoo-plus on the Nigerian state in the 21st century, while the secondary sources include written materials relevant to the topic from internet, researched projects, articles, text books, scholarly journals, conversations, interviews, etc.

Synopsis of *Cat Fish*

The film *Cat Fish*, directed by J.J.C. Skillz is a retell of greed, ego, overzealous for quick money, modern ritual killing, cyber theft, through malicious duplicitous cybercrime, with the name: yahoo yahoo and yahoo-plus, is today regarded as major issue that are affecting the economic cum social strata of the Nigeria state in the recent time.

The film revolves around Noza, a twenty two year old university graduate, who due to his quest of making quick money decided to lure his friends – Kay, PK, Sly, and Sobay into cybercrime in order to take back the future of the youths and the poor masses who suffers most from the effect of corruption, nepotism, favoritism, divide and rule system, and tribalism in the society of the film. He believes that, they are taking from the white men, the corrupt politicians who for long have enslaved the people and giving same back to the society. To achieve this, Nosa and his friends employed several dubious tactics which later became ineffective.

To further advance to the new and high level of cybercrime, Noza decided to publish the picture of his girlfriend Fola on his social media status. The beauty of Fola captured the interest of Greg who quickly fell in love with Fola and decided to succumb to all the demand which Noza proposes, thinking it was Fola, the Facebook girl he now loves. This new development triggered Noza into demanding exorbitantly from Greg, claiming that his mother is critically ill at the hospital and needed to be operated.

Greg understanding the gravity of Noza's request, accepted to pay the money on the condition that he has a video call with Fola which made Noza to quickly reveal his true identity to Fola and convinced her into agreeing to play along, which she did. Not satisfied with the video call, Greg demanded that Fola should pay him a casual visit before he could agree to pay the money. After several conviction by Noza, Fola finally accepted to pay Greg a visit. After the visit, Fola later discovered that Noza's behaviour towards her has drastically changed because Nosa has for long been cheating on her with other women. When she finally confronted him, Noza bullied and left her for days to wallow in pain, suffering and regret. In the midst of the trauma, Fola found solace in the arm of Greg. The play comes to an end when Noza was later invited by Greg as Fola's brother only to be arrested by members of Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC), because Fola had earlier confessed to Greg about her dubious involvement with Noza and how they planned to scam him.

***Cat Fish* and Yahoo and Yahoo Plus issues in Nigeria**

From the study, it is observed that *Cat Fish* is a microcosm of the duplicitous macrocosm of the Nigerian state, perpetrated in the 21st century. It interrogates the ravaging nature of yahoo and yahoo-plus in the absurdist Nigerian state. The absurdist nature is to the fact that the issue of yahoo and yahoo-plus are unequivocally fathomed as social problems, having its origin from the 419 practices in the 70s, 80s and the 90s. These acts are triggered by hard rate of unemployment, currency devaluation, poverty, pain and death caused by proceeds of corruption such as greed, embezzlement, favouratism, nepotism, and divide and rule, prevalent in the Nigerian state.

Evidence of this is seen in the film when Nosa, while trying to convince his girlfriend Fola whom he met at a bar into accepting to pretend as the real girlfriend that Mr. Greg fell in love with on Facebook, narrates how millions of fresh graduates are pumped into the Nigerian state to add to the millions of stranded graduates who are roaming the Nigerian society, in search of white collar jobs. Nosa further explains how his intention is humane, due to the fact that his target is to take from the corrupt and overzealous politicians who steal from the poor to better their lives and families, while the people wallows in abject poverty, pain, suffering and death. He plan given back what he takes from the corrupt politicians back to the affected people. He believes that he is only trying to fight for the right of the impoverished youths and people.

While explaining the absurdist state of the Nigerian society, Nosa vehemently reveals that the Nigerian state is lawless, thus a failed state. His position is to the fact that the corruption and its proceeds have eaten deep into the polity of the state; a state where the corrupt politicians are regarded as demi-gods; a state where the affected people pretends to be conducive with nothing; a state blessed with plenty natural resources, which is an envy to other African nations and other foreign states, is seen as poverty capital of the world; a country where the citizenry's opinions don't count and their educational and security fronts are epileptically dilapidated, yet, millions and billions of naira are daily looted from the national treasure by the corrupt politicians and administrators; a state where the national motto: peace, unity and progress, is a mere propaganda, but direct opposite of what they practice; a country whose judiciary system is ultimately controlled with sentiment, favouritism and partisan chauvinism. A state that produces highest barrel of crude in Africa and sixth in the world, still refers to smaller nations with lower GDP for finished products, such as gasoline, diesel, and other crude oil products, a state where the National Minimum Wage (NMW) is lower than the monthly domestic expenditure of its citizens, thus an iota of modern slavery.

Nosa in the film insists that the major cause of the present hardship in the Nigerian state in the recent time is the corrupt politicians who during campaigns, enumerates in their manifestos, how they would better the living conditions of the people, but when they are finally elected to represent the people in any political position, they forget their promises and starts maltreating the people. Evidence of this is visible in the Nigerian state where all promises made by the present government during campaigns which forms their major agendas are either forgotten or the problems which they promised to curb world are worsened. This is plausible considering the social, economic, religion, tribal, and political unrest in the country, which have made most people to start agitating for self-determination, resource control, restructuring, and expression of change by engraved groups.

In the play, Nosa and his friends unpatriotically decided to defraud the corrupt rich politicians and their children in order to correct the anomalies in the Nigerian state, unknowing to them that their acts are rather increasing the absurdist state of Nigerian. They even defraud the whites. This act is always seen in the Nigerian society where some

selected youths engage in defrauding white ladies and men and even members of their own immediate societies. They even engage in diabolism in order to advance their dubious acts due to frail governmental systems, which foists under-development, unemployment, poverty, hunger, suffering, sickness, pain, and death of the people. These diabolic means includes the act of using human parts and properties such as women underwear, wombs of some contracted young girls, mostly their supposed girlfriends, or planting charms in hotel rooms, mostly beneath the beds in notable hotel rooms so that any man who mistakenly have sex with a girl using the bed, his destiny may be transferred to theirs, or the act of using family members for ritual purposes.

Though the latter is added amongst the crimes of the yahoo boys in the Nigerian scenario because of their involvement in the act of spiritism, but it has been a regular practice, perpetrated by most prominent Nigerians in the 80s, 90s, and even in the 2000s. In the film, Nosa was negatively lured by his friends into involving diabolic means, such as meeting a native doctor, or evoking some supernatural powers using some guidelines from the social media platforms, or belonging to a secret organization, but could not due to Fola influence on his life.

This act of steadfastness and patience are ironically visible in the Nigerian state where most yahoo boys decides to stick to the original method and application of yahoo yahoo instead of involving into diabolism. These set of yahoo boys always takes many years before winning the heart of their victims after employing so many dubious antics. Rich white women, mostly advanced women, are often the major target of these set of yahoo boys. It is seen in a scenario where a Twenty years old boy after many days, weeks, months, or years of conviction, would agree to involve in a marriage contract with an Eighty Five years old rich white women, with the aim that if the white woman eventually dies, her properties would automatically become his. This set of yahoo boys always exercise high level of patience, to create good relationship and once they achieve their aim, they always add caution in spending their ill-gotten wealth compared to the other set of yahoo boys who engages in diabolism. In the film, Nosa and his friends are classified under this set of yahoo boys.

It is as a result of this that Kay suggested that they should quit the yahoo yahoo business and look out for more befitting and lawful jobs but was reminded of the millions of graduates like them who are seeking for employment, yet, find none.

On the other hand, the yahoo-plus boys in the Nigerian society are set of impatient yahoo boys who believe that it is a sin to die poor. Apart from using their girl friends, relatives, or victims in the society, they also use themselves, by trading their lives with wealth. They are happy to live for few years with lots of riches to their names, rather than dying poor. This set of yahoo boys always lavish their ill-gotten wealth on hard drugs, clubbing, partying, and engaging in expensive behaviours. They always act as directed by their chief priest. It is this kind of yahoo that Nosa regretted never joining when he was nabbed by members of Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC). He regretted been

caught like a coward because he decided to do his yahoo business in the genuine way rather than engaging into diabolism like other yahoo boys in the film society. To this, Nosa threatened to harden his tactics when released from the EFCC's custody. It is this regret that makes most yahoo boys in the Nigerian society to engage in diabolism, where they could get full protection, wealth and connection.

Conclusion

From the study, it is established that Yahoo is rather a sophistication of the duplicitous act, termed 419; witnessed in the late 70s, 80s, and 90s. The sophisticated nature is the incongruous use of social media platforms such as Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter, Instagram, Telegram and other forms of conversational mediums to lure the premeditated victim into believing something which is not real. The process of brainwashing the client may take days, month, or years, insofar as the victim is consistently engrossed in the act of believing the malicious presentation of the perpetrators. This heinous act which ultimately affects the premeditated victims and distinctly ridicules the holistic existence of the Nigerian state, pragmatically developed to Yahoo-Plus, which is the meticulous inclusion of ritual jingoism, that unequivocally makes the victims robots to their supposed clients. The act has even silenced the money ritual activities, masterminded by known secret societies in the country.

From the study, it is established that the yahoo and yahoo plus perpetrators aims at taken back the mineral and natural resources which they believed were stolen from the Nigerian state by the colonial masters. They believed that the incongruous exploitation and exploration activities by the colonial masters since their incursion to the northern and southern region of the Nigerian state in the 15th to early 18th century, ultimately triggered the issue of human slave trading of Nigerians to the European countries, for heinous labour. This, according to the film increased to the point of exportation of farm product to the European countries. These later transcends after the amalgamation of the southern and northern protectorates, even after the independence and first to the third republic. The discovery of crude oil in Oloibiri, Delta state in the year 1956, also increased the issue of exploration and exploitation activities as the natural and liquidized crudes are drilled and exported abroad for refining, and later imported back to Nigeria in form of gasoline, Kerosene, etc., at high prices.

Furthermore, the yahoo and yahoo plus perpetrators also believed that they are using the medium to agitate over the corrupt political leaders who are overwhelmed with corruption, nepotism, divide and rule system and favouritism. They believed that the sleazy politicians engages in unpatriotic and malicious activities which ultimately increases the level of suffering, hunger, poverty, sickness, pain, and death of the people and underdevelopment to the nation. They believe that they are taken back the resources and treasures of the people that was stolen by the corrupt politicians, and equally gives same resources to the same oppressed and repressed people in the absurdist Nigerian state.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are raised:

1. That an imperative attention be given towards restructuring the Nigerian state in order to curb the issues of corruption, nepotism, and tribalism, thus foster development in the Nigerian society.
2. Youth empowerment programmes should be provided to the youths by the Nigerian government. This will help curb issue of unemployment and poverty, which acerbate duplicitous acts in the Nigerian society.
3. Public awareness programmes should be provided occasionally to educate Nigerian youths on the negative effects of Yahoo and Yahoo-Plus on the Nigerian populace and Nigerian development.
4. Cybercrime agencies should be fully funded and their staff well paid and taken care of. This will make them discharge their duty without prejudice.

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