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## Prevalence of Suicidal Behavioral Experiences in the Tertiary Institution: Implication for Childhood Development

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**Abstract :** This study examined the prevalence of suicidal behavioural experience in a tertiary institution and its implication for childhood development. In pursuance of the objectives, two specific purposes, two research questions, and two null hypotheses guided this study. This is a descriptive design that utilized university student populations (N= 36,000 students) in the University of Nigeria Nsukka. The sample of the study was made up of 100 students. An accidental sampling technique was used to arrive at the sample. A self-developed questionnaire titled Suicidal Behaviour Questionnaire (SBQ) was used for this study. The data collected was analyzed using mean and percentages. The result showed that university students do not experience suicidal behaviours. It also showed that suicidal experiences are not prevalent. There is no significant influence of gender on the responses of male and female tertiary institution students based on their suicidal behavioural experiences. There is no significant influence of gender on the mean responses of male and female tertiary institution students on the prevalence of suicidal experiences. Based on the findings, it is recommended that there should be the teaching of suicide education and prevention in schools as well as mounting of bulletins on suicidology by the Guidance Counsellors.

Keywords: suicide, behavioural experiences, tertiary institution, childhood development

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