The Issues of First and Second Term in Nigerian Democracy: The Impact of Political Appointees

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Abstract

This study examined the problem of first and second term in Nigerian democracy by political appointees, using Benin Metropolis The paper adopted the survey design using questionnaires. The study adopted the frequency tables, mean and standard deviation to analyse the hypothesis of the study. The result demonstrated that regarding how a governor's performance in a Nigerian democracy is affected by his or her first and second terms in office, opinions held by men and women are essentially the same. The outcomes of the primary elections for the various parties show the persistent barriers to women's representation in Nigerian politics. The incumbent governors has is strong influence on been elected for second term as governor in Edo State. Currently serving governors are the closest modern equivalents of governors, possessing great power and immunity from punishment according to the constitution. Nigerian governors understand that it is their job to decide who receives what, when, and how.

Keywords: Issues of First, Second Term, Nigerian Democracy, Political Appointees.

Introduction

It is becoming evident that many governors, in their second terms perform lesser than electoral especially. The claim that the Nigerian state, like its counterparts in Africa and other developing nations, underperforms because it lacks the state capacity necessary to handle the complexity of modern government has been made again and persistently over the years. Any study of politics in a state must

take into account the nature of the state and the public institutions that wield and uphold lawful power (Smith, 2003).

Therefore, a key to comprehending the socioeconomic malaise in Africa is the question of governmental capability. In particular, Clapham (2002) highlights the difficulties that weak societies face in maintaining a state and provides plausible justifications for states' inadequacies, particularly in the context of globalization. In light of the fact that many governors go to "asleep" after re-election and accomplish little in their second term, Many governors serving second term in office witnessed a decline in the activities of second-term as governors.

The ruling class has continuously shown over the years that they do not respect the laws and policies that control the state. For example the people democratic party (PDP) worn all 18 chairperson seats in the LGA election held in Edo state. The opposing party have alleged that the outcome of the Edo state 2023 local government election was mere nomination or selection (Uthman, 2023).

The ability of the state to maintain the rule of law is seriously compromised by the institutional and structural deterioration, corruption, and impunity that are pervasive in Nigeria's sociopolitical and economic environment (Yagboyaju & Akinola, 2019). The military's intrusion into Nigerian politics was one of the major threats to the country's rule of law and good governance. The military deliberately demolished democratic governance structures and placed institutions of government under an autocratic chain of command because it lacked leadership and governance skills (Morgan, 2022). For Nigerians, socioeconomic progress, human rights, and service delivery became aspirational goals. The Nigerian state and its citizens have been plagued by weak governance and a militarized civil service since nepotism was introduced into the political system.

Godfatherism is causing poisonous politics to grow and disputed elections in numerous states across the nation. As result, party members in municipal, state, and federal government are appointed by existing governors which select candidates for their various interest at the detriment of the entire state (Olumide, 2023). As a result, a large number of former governors have turned into kingmakers in order to maintain their position of authority and power even after

having instituted substantial lifetime pension cuts. The "you-chop-I-chop" democracy usually traps those who demand so much from good governance but are horribly neglected, while the godfathers are either fed fat or engaged in "loyalty" battles for the same. The following research questions were explored to direct the study.

1) Is there significant differences between the opining of male to that of female on the issue of governors first and second term in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy?
2) How does the power of the incumbent governors influences their been elected for second term as governor?

Objective of the Study

The main objective of this study is to examine the problem of first and second term in Nigerian democracy by political appointees, more specifically the objectives were,

1) to examine if there significant differences between the opining of male than that of female on the issue of governors first and second term in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy.
2) to examine the influence of the incumbent governors on been elected for second term as governor.

Hypotheses

The hypotheses for the study are stated in the null form as follows:

1) There is no significant differences between the opining of male than that of female on the issue of governors first and second term in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy.
2) The incumbent governors has no strong influence on been elected for second term as governor.

Theoretical Framework

This paper will be grounded in a theoretical framework that draws on David Easton's system approach to political science. The objective is to minimize the number of tries to integrate all knowledge and view all systems as interrelated. Instead of seeing systems as distinct entities, we should see them as organic wholes. According to this theory, every unit has unique structures and

substructures that depend on inputs, outputs, puts, and feedback in order to function. Particular environmental factors are emphasized that have an impact on a second term governor's decision-making process (output). Establishing a link between the input and outputs results of the second term of government operations enables specific programs, including local and state government elections, through feedback (Joharis, 2013). First- and second-term officials solely use their surroundings to benefit themselves and other party members; they appoint members of the party's elite, middle-class, and lower classes who share their operating conditions. All members of the governor's class must be treated equally and with respect, and they must participate in the decision-making process. The stability of a country's party structure is essential for the successful functioning of grassroots parties, which are essential to representative democracy (Kadima, 2008). Political party viability and peaceful cohabitation must be determined by the actions of elected public officials and political parties. For the party to survive and for its members to be satisfied, internal democracy is essential.

Methodology

A survey research design was used in the study. The purpose of the survey design is to investigate the presence or absence of a variable or phenomena. According to Akuezuilo & Agu in (Salihu and Adamu 2016), it is typically used by gathering data and methodically summarizing the distinctive qualities or facts about a specific population from a small number of individuals or objects thought to be representative of the entire group. In particular, a cross-sectional survey design was employed. In a cross-sectional study, all of the measurements are made at around the same time with no follow-up period, according to Hulley, Cummings, and Newman (2007). A cross-sectional survey is a method of gathering data for a sample at a single point in time. Data was collected from a sample of the population of Edo indigenes.

The study's goals, which include examining the issue of political appointees serving their first and second terms in Nigerian democracy, aligned with the design. The population under study consists of all unemployed individuals. The responders were chosen on purpose. 384 were employed in the study using the purposive sampling method. The retrieval and collection are carried out concurrently. The Modified Likert Scale, with four points, was used. Using the

Cronbach alpha formula, the dependability coefficient was calculated and came out to be 0.823. Danjuma and Muhammad (2011) state that if an instrument's reliability coefficient begins at 0.64, it is deemed dependable. The questionnaire is distributed and retrieved concurrently. The data is analyzed using inferential statistical techniques. The study's issues are addressed by the mean and standard deviation, while the t-test independent sample statistic is employed to verify the null hypotheses proposed at the 0.05 level of significance.

Results and Discussions

The text "The Problem of First and Second Term in Nigerian Democracy by Political Appointees" is analyzed and presented in this section. 384 surveys in all, correctly completed and returned with little to no damage, were distributed. The bio-data variables' distribution was examined in the first section, and students' perceptions of the research topics were presented in the second. Testing research hypotheses is the subject of the third section, and the study's key findings are outlined in the last section.

In relation to the research questions spelt out earlier, it is necessary to present quantitative and qualitative answers provided for the questions raised by the study. The frequency table, mean standard deviation and standard error were used as statistical tools to answer the questions raised. A = Agree, SA = Strongly Agree, D = Disagree, SD = Strongly Disagree.

Research Question 1: Is there significant differences between the opining of male to that of female on the issue of governors first and second term in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy?

Table 1: The opinion of male and female with respect to first and second term governor in office.

S/n	Items	Gender	Respondents				Mean	S. D
			A	SA	D	SD		
1.	Promote the activities of godfathers	Female	9	10	77	78	3.29	.796
		Male	11	10	101	88	3.27	.780
2.	Enhances community development	Female	12	12	76	74	3.22	.852
		Male	13	11	100	85	3.23	.811
3.		Female	22	14	77	61	3.02	.971

	Support rural-urban security	Male	21	13	93	83	3.39	.918
4.	Rapid response to infrastructure	Female	13	13	80	68	3.47	.861
		Male	15	20	95	79	3.14	.861
5.	Decline in government expenditure on capital project	Female	13	12	76	73	3.20	.867
		Male	14	15	83	98	3.26	.860
6.	Corruption and mis-management increases in second term	Female	10	16	77	71	3.20	.833
		Male	25	24	82	79	3.02	.985
7.	Increase in poverty among citizens in the state	Female	15	19	76	64	3.09	.905
		Male	11	19	80	100	3.28	.837
8.	Poor spending on agriculture sector	Female	10	21	78	65	3.14	.842
		Male	17	29	85	79	3.08	.914
9.	Poor road maintenance	Female	20	8	84	62	3.08	.928
		Male	17	13	95	85	3.18	.873
10.	Poor maintenance of urban road network	Female	3	11	76	84	3.39	.685
		Male	5	9	113	83	3.45	.665
	Cumulative mean						3.194	

Decision mean = 2.50

The table 1 revealed the opinion of male and female based on the issue affecting governors second term in office in Nigerian democracy. Their mean responses however, were 84.7874 for female and 84.9048 for male on various variables on governors second term in office in Nigerian democracy respectively. The responses of female and male respondents regarding the issue of governors second term in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy was positive reason being that the cumulative mean of 3.194 is higher than the decision mean of 2.50.

On the part of the female unemployed Individual, their highest mean response is 3.44 which were on item 10 which states that the issue of governors second terms in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy. Further, the second highest mean response for female youth's is 3.39 poor maintenance of urban

network. In addition, the third highest mean response for female youth's is 3.29 which say Rapid response to infrastructure.

The analyses of the significant differences between the opining of male to that of female on the issue of governors first and second term in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy, the result shows that most governors in their second tem promote the activities of godfathers; some enhances community development during second term in office; the result revealed that governors in second term does not have high support for rural-urban security and reduced response to rapid response to infrastructure. The result of governor second term in office experiences decline in government expenditure on capital project and prevalence of corruption and mis-management increases in second term; the result also shows increase in poverty among citizens in the state. The analysis also showed that political abnormally has led to poor spending on agriculture sector and it is encircle with poor road maintenance and poor maintenance of urban road network.

Research Question *2:* How does the power of the incumbent governors influences their been elected for second term as governor?

Table 2: The power of the incumbent governors influences their been elected for second term as governor

S/N	Questionnaire	A	SA	D	SD	Mean	S.D	S.E
6.	The incumbent governors uses their authority to influence campaign	10	9	99	79	3.25	0.767	0.55
7.	The incumbent governors influences the electoral processes	12	14	92	79	3.21	0.822	0.059
8.	The incumbent governors fixes manpower to his/her favour for second term	25	13	92	67	3.02	0.958	0.068
9.	The incumbent governors influence political thugery in the state	15	17	91	74	3.14	.867	.062

	The incumbent governors uses all available resource for their favour	14	11	80	92	3.27	.859	.061
						3.195		

Decision mean = 2.50

The analysis of research question two revealed that item six (6) with mean value of 3.25 with standard deviation of 0.99, item seven (7) shows the mean value of 3,21 with standard deviation of 0.55 which implies that incumbent governors uses their authority to influence campaign, the result also revealed the mean value 3.21 with standard deviation of 0.059, implying the incumbent governors influences the electoral processes, the result further indicated a mean value of 3.02 with standard deviation of0.068, implying that the incumbent governors fixes manpower to his/her personal interest for second term and the result also revealed the mean value of 3.14 with 0.062, implying that the incumbent governors uses all available resource for their personal interest.

Hypotheses Testing

This paper is hinged on two hypotheses which were tested at 0.05 level of significance. The t-test statistic is used in validating the hypotheses.

1) There is no significant differences between the opining of male than that of female on the issue of governors first and second term in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy.

Table 3: Significant differences between the opining of male than that of female on the issue of governors first and second term in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy.

Hypothesis	N	Mean	S.D	Df	t-Cal	t-Crit	P	Decision
Significant differences between the opining of male than that of female	174	84.7874	4.39727	382	.263	1.96	.793	H_{01} Retained
	210	84.9048	4.31316					

SPSS version17 P > 0.05, t-calculated < 1.96

The overall of the independent t-test revealed that there is no significant differences between the opining of male than that of female on the issue of governors first and second term in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy. This is due to the fact that the calculated P (significance) value of 0.793 is greater than 0.05 alpha and the calculated t value of 0.263 is less than 1.96 t critical at degree of freedom (D.F.) 382. Their mean responses however, are 84.7874 and 84.9048 for male and female issues of first term governor sustaining its position for second term in office. Based on the above, the null hypothesis which says that there is no significant differences between the opining of male than that of female on the issue of governors first and second terms in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy. From the above statistic implying there is no significant differences between the opining of male than that of female on the issue of governors first and second terms in in office affects their performance in Nigerian Democracy

2) The incumbent governors has no strong influence on been elected for second term as governor.

Table 4: From the test of hypothesis two the incumbent governors has no strong influence on been elected for second term as governor.

Hypothesis	N	Mean	S.D	S.E	D.F.	Cal. T	Crit. T	P
The incumbent governors has no strong influence	197	84.8883	4.16223	.29655				
	187	84.8128	4.54278	.33220	382	.170	1.96	.055

P > 0.05, t-calculated < 1.96

The overall independent analysis revealed that there is significant relationship between incumbent governors and election for second term as governor. This is due to the fact that the calculated P (significance) value of 0.055 is greater than 0.05 alpha, at degree of freedom (Df) 382. Their mean responses 84.8883, and 84.8128 for female and male respondents respectively. Based on the above, the null hypothesis which says there is significant relationship between incumbent governors and election for second term as governor..

The summary of findings revealed that:

1) There is no significant differences between the opining of male than that of female on the issue of governors first and second term in in office affect their performance in Nigerian Democracy.
2) The incumbent governors has is strong influence on been elected for second term as governor in Edo State.

Conclusion and Recommendations

1) Regarding how a governor's performance in a Nigerian democracy is affected by his or her first and second terms in office, opinions held by men and women are essentially the same. Since 2011, women's presence in Nigerian politics has been declining, and the elections in 2023 in the continent's largest economy validated predictions of dismal results for women. Women currently hold percent of seats in the Senate and percent of seats in the House of Representatives in Nigeria's National Assembly, a 19% decrease from the previous assembly. This result may be as result of how possible to comprehend

the low performance of Nigerian women in the recent elections by looking at the obstacles and difficulties that female candidates and aspirants experienced in the 2022 primary elections. The outcomes of the primary elections for the various parties show the persistent barriers to women's representation in Nigerian politics.

The incumbent governors has is strong influence on been elected for second term as governor in Edo State. Currently serving governors are the closest modern equivalents of governors, possessing great power and immunity from punishment according to the constitution. Nigerian governors understand that it is their job to decide who receives what, when, and how. Incumbent governor go to great lengths to exhibit their nearly total use of power and authority because they understand that they are the "President" of their own states.

Consequently, this conclusion supported the assertion that Obaseki, running on the platform of the All Progressives Congress, was elected governor of Edo State on September 29, 2016. Obaseki ran for reelection under the APC in the 2020 Edo Gubernatorial Election, but the party's Primary Election Screening Committee controversially disqualified him from running in the primary, citing missing letters on the governor's National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) certificate and what other observers called bogus justifications regarding the governor's university admission. The National Working Committee (NWC), which served as the screening committee at the time, was led by Comrade Oshiomhole, the National Chairman of the APC, and the governor had a running feud with him. With the ultimate goal of preventing the governor from receiving a second term ticket under the APC, political observers say that the former governor performed out a script. In the end, Comrade Oshiomhole lost his position as the APC's national chairman.

Consequently, it is recommended that:
One, community based activities should be initiated and encouraged so as to strengthen the institutional and individual capacities of women. The Edo women must be encouraged to develop confidence in herself and her abilities.

Two, gender-sensitive information should be regularly disseminated by government, and specific laws should be enacted to promote and protect the political rights of women to jostle for public positions in the same proportion as men.

Three, there should a government institution to checkmate the excesses of incumbent governors in Nigeria. Deliberate efforts should be made to put in place specific gender- sensitive legislation and policies or affirmative-action policies top promote women to the decision-making level.

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