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PROBLEMS FACING RELIGION IN THIS SCIENTIFIC AGE: A STUDY OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS IN ANAMBRA STATE

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ABSTRACT

Religion and Science have remained for so long in the life of the society with a common objective of solving daily problems of humans and making life enjoyable. Religion as the soul of human community helps re-innovate man and re-orientate him to move from evil to good so as to maintain harmony and stability with the problems that face the society. Science also, strives with its technological discoveries and inventories to dazzle the imaginations of human beings in such a situation that one is being exposed to some improvement on the people's standard of living as: medical care, improved food production, communication etc. This research is carried out to find out the extent science and religion have contributed to solving the problems of humanity with particular attention to students and staff of tertiary institutions in Anambra State, problems facing religion in this scientific age, the reasons for the continuity of religion in the presence of science despite the fact that the modern man is increasingly experiencing some decline in matters of religion especially among the students of tertiary institutions. To carry out the investigation more effectively, structured questionnaire was administered to students and staff of selected tertiary institutions. The findings from the tertiary institutions show that science has an adverse effect on the religious man and his society. The educational implications of this were pointed out and recommendations made.

Keywords: Problems, Religion, Scientific Age, Tertiary Institutions, Anambra State.

Introduction

Science seems to be a perennial problem confronting religion in the society. This seemingly problem is particularly affecting religion, such that it becomes almost impossible for religion to effectively influence the lifestyle of the young in the tertiary institutions. In this age of science, many scientists argue against the existence of God, on the ground that science has answers to all issues confronting humanity. Those who are in support of religion equally are confused with the powerful idea which they had inherited from the past with reality of life.

Science, which supposed to collaborate with religion in creating a better society has reduce the sense of mystery from the world and destabilizes religion by its emphasis on objectivity. Some people no longer believe in the mechanism of heredity.

Everyone knows that religions are very various, but they commonly say something like: there is one supremely valuable goal of life or state of being towards which we ought to direct our lives. If we wish to attain the goal – that this supreme God lays beyond the world of sense, we

can together tread the way and attain the goal. This is what religion often say, and what has biological theory got to do with it?

A religion which includes a creation- story as why we are here and how it all began is a basic source of religious belief. But, in the present world, there is scientific and non-religious cosmology. The process by which the cosmos assume its present structure could be described in a non- theoretical story.

The change in the intellectual climate of civilized man wrought by science in the last three and half centuries has affected the outlook of most educated men and women. The technological achievements, spectacular as they are, are less significant than the illumination of the primeval darkness and the recession of metal horizons which are the outcome of the ever more penetrating insight of scientific inquiry. Prompted to reflect on the harvest of scientific efforts, the modern man directs his thoughts to inventions and practical applications displayed by science. To these, he ascribes the increase of his comfort and amenities, the reduction of his risks and sufferings, his physical and even spiritual existence.

The application of scientific knowledge is indeed impressive with respect to both its wide range and alleviation of the (seeming) sorrows of men. It however remains an error to allow the natural interest in familiar inventions (radio, computer, jets etc) or discoveries (anaesthetic, penicillin, nuclear power etc) to overshadow the meaningful world of our faith. It is based on this that this article sets to discuss the problems which religion faces in this age of science.

Statement of the problem

The human world is constantly undergoing a systematic change resulting to modernity and corresponding attitude to life especially people's attitude toward religion. People have a kind of movement away from a world of belief that is divine sovereignty of the world of human universe to a world where the society works its destruction through rationalization. As a result of these scientific activities and innovation on earth, the beliefs of students/staff of tertiary institutions have been practically disoriented.

Some students/staff of tertiary institutions in quest for material things which science can provide perform poorly in their academic. The learning environment is not all that conducive as it is filled with flashy cars and this distract students from learning as their minds are been occupied with what they should do to get theirs. This situation has led many of our students into stealing, being a professional criminal, forgetting that they are in the school to learn or to work on the side of the staff. Many of our students and staff have joined secret cult which do not give them the room to study and work, all in the name that they want to fill belonged.

Some of our female students have joined the company of prostitution, selling their bodies for money in order to buy what they think that science could provide for them. Modern houses are now built around the school premises, and many students forgetting who they are and where they come from, tried all means (even the most devilish one) to secure one in order to feel high. This is a problem that requires serious consideration. Thus, using elected tertiary institutions in Anambra State as a case in point, this study investigates the extent science has

taken the place of religion in the tertiary institutions and to discover if religion is still needed in the society today especially among the students and staff.

Specifically, the purpose of this study is broken down as follows:

1. To find out the extent science has taken the place of religion in the tertiary institutions
2. To discover if religion is still needed in the society today especially among the students and staff
3. To ascertain the place of religion in the social life of students and staff in this modern age.

Significance of the study

This study is to expose the great transformation of our society into a secularist one. As a result, religion is seen losing its lucrative position in people's mind especially those of higher learning and art of living in the society. Religious thoughts are swallowed like grains these days. Thus, people see it as not having empirical objectivity rather its philosophical spirituality toward the knowledge of God. The luxuriant living in the society as seen could be attributed to scientific knowledge. For these abilities of science to give man a growing light, man tends to behave usually in approach to their social problem, hence, science in this case is regarded as providence. Do we throw away religion and encourage science, which is a profitable venture? Or could man become too religious to follow its ways and forget science because some scientific attitudes, ideas and ways of doing things are deemed immoral acts toward God. This study will help man to balance the two – science and religion in this modern society.

Science and Religion

Conceptual Framework

The term science is a derivative of the word ***scientia.*** Thus, an understanding of the term **"*scientia*"** goes a long way to help in understanding the concept of science. Etymologically, the term scientia comes from Latin. It derives from Latin word meaning "knowledge" and comes from past participle of the Latin verb "nota" meaning "know".

Religion is equally derived from the Latin "religio" which was originally used to "mean only reverence for God or the gods, careful pondering of divine things, piety". Some scholars view religion as "ligare" which is classically understood "to mean the linking of human and divine". People view religion in their own way of reasoning. Thus, on the course of this study, the researcher has deemed it necessary to give technical description of the important terms used in her work, which are **Science** and **Religion**

Science

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary of New 8th Edition (2010:1320) defines "science as knowledge about the structure and behavior of the natural and physical world, based on facts that you can prove, for example by experiments: new developments in science and technology – the advance of modern science – the laws of science". This means that science, they say, is of an empirical oriented.

Academic press Dictionary of Science & Technology defines science as: "the systematic observation of natural events and conditions in order to discover facts about them and to formulate laws and principles based on these facts".

Observation indicates that natural events are things scientists as there were do not make by themselves. Thus the scientists find natural events the way they exist. Scientists role regarding natural occurrences was simply to discover the elements and not creating those elements or events or facts. No doubt that Science plays a vital role in discovering knowledge which aids acquiring wisdom.

Science therefore can be said to be is "the systematic and organized inquiry into the natural world and its phenomena". Science allows for a deeper and useful understanding of the universe.

One can imagine the horrific situation of the state of the world affairs without science. Knowledge of the world around us will be almost impossible without science and scientific adventures. From the beginning of life until death, science perhaps has explanation to any occurrences surrounding human existence. The growth of science has been closely related to science and economic demands for the solution of problems in the prediction and control of natural events. So, the foregoing account of the more intellectual, exploratory character of science must be supplemented by a careful appraisal of the effect of the wider social nexus, in which scientist operate, on their ability (indeed even their desire) always to live up to the ideals delineated.

Isaac Asimov in Maria Popova (2012) says that "Science does no purvey absolute truth, science is a mechanism". It is an avenue at disposal of man to improve man's knowledge of nature. In support of this, Carl Sagan echoed the same sentiment when he remarked: "Science is a way of thinking much more than it is a body of knowledge".

Worthy of note is that the method which science use in trying to explain the natural occurrence as they occur, allows researchers to predict or formulate testable propositions. "Scientists make observations of natural phenomenon and then through experimentation they try to simulate natural events under controlled conditions".

Religion

The term "Religion" creates universal problem as regards its definition. This is because people from different works of life define it from both their intellectual, moral and philosophical perspectives and relative to their religious beliefs and cultural surroundings.

Traditionalists define religion as a "belief in the supernatural being or power". **Christianity** defines it as a "belief in Almighty God". **Islam** defines it as a "belief in Allah".

The American Heritage Dictionary (2020: 5th Edition): view religion: "as the belief in and reverence for a supernatural power or powers, regarded as creating and governing the universe;…particular variety of such beliefs, especially when organized into a system of doctrine and practice: the world's many religions; … a set of beliefs, values, and practices based on the teachings of a spiritual leader".

Leonard Swidler (2014): Religion is an "explanation of the ultimate meaning of life, and how to live accordingly, based on some notion and experience of the transcendent." In every religion, there are things common to each; creed, ethics, mode of worship, hierarchical structure. These will determine the understanding and ideological belief of each religious entity. According to the functionalist perspective, championed by Emile Durkheim (1975) religion has to do with "sacred" and "profane" or more simply the sacred and non-sacred. According to him, religion as a unified beliefs and practices forms one simple moral community called Church.

We can as well define religion as "Animism", that is, "the belief in spirits". This originated from man's attempt to answer the following questions: "what is it that makes the difference between a living body and a bad one? What are those human shapes that appear in dreams and vision?" This gave birth to the idea of the soul by early philosophers.

From the above views, one can say that religion is a life process universally accepted as a result of different orientation in beliefs, prejudices, norms and values held by different people. Religion can also be seen as a "belief in the existence of supernatural ruling power, the creator and controller of the universe, who has given to man a spiritual nature which continues to exist after the death of the body."

Some Scholars try to describe religion as "Naturism" meaning "the belief that the forces of nature possess super-natural power". This came about as a result of the effect of nature on man's emotions. Man, therefore, personified the surprises, terror, marvel, and miracles of nature such as volcanoes thunder, lightening etc. believed to inhibit some spirit and took to worshipping them.

Ernest Becker (2018) has this to say that "religion solves the problem of death, which no living individuals can solve, no matter how they would support us". He goes further to explain that "religion gives the possibility of heroic victory in freedom and solves the problem of human dignity at its highest level". For him, the two ontological motives of the human condition are both met: "the need to surrender oneself in full to the rest of nature, to become a part of it by laying down one's whole existence to some higher meaning; and the need to expand oneself as an individual heroic personality".

Finally, "religion is only the hope of humanity, as it holds the dimension of the unknown, the fantastic mystery of creation that the human mind cannot even begin to approach, the possibility of a multidimensionality of spheres of existence, of heavens and possible embodiments that make a mockery of earthly logic and in doing so, it relieves the absurdity of earthly life, all the impossible limitations and frustrations of living matter". To an average man, religion becomes an illusion in the modern civilization he finds himself in. As a result of this, religion, a social institution finds it very weak to penetrate in the hearts of men. Science has come to stay hence, given what religion could not give to man, thereby shattering the old beliefs and behaviours of the masses more also, thrown man into confusion.

Man is seen as the river between what is old (religion) in one path, and what is new (science) on the other part. Therefore, man is seen as adjusting in the new approach (science) as a real thing and means of facing his ignorance in his society. Hence, the scientists tolerate the

existence of supernatural power, only that both parties are looking at a coin from different perspective. In the twentieth century, the relationship between religion and science has been emerging as an important topic and it is still seen as one in this present era. Science and religion are view in a different way according to human understanding and experiences of life. In science, they try to give the explanations based on evidence drawn from the examination of the natural world. Religious faith, on its own typically involves supernatural forces or entities and in contrast, does not depend only on empirical evidence. That means as religion is not a part of nature; supernatural entities cannot be investigated by science. In this society, religion and science are naturally separate and address every aspect of human experience in their different way of understanding. There has been a lot of controversy in the society between religion and science as some Scholars set out to pit the two against each other where none needs to exist

Influence of Science on Religious Students and Staff in Tertiary Institutions in Anambra State

Before the rise of modern science, religion provided answers to the questions of reality. For many, this ground is today lost to science. Religion seems now to lack the real assistance needed in solving concrete problems which science does not. The problems for which people consulted religion for, are now more adequately attended to by science. What religion had wanted to hold as science, the role of science presently explores as mystery, and therefore, seems to replace religion to a large extent. Hence, the church among some students and staff in tertiary institutions is today regarded as archaic, an ancient institution which has outlived its usefulness.

The religiosity found in Africa, Asia and Latin America is said to be as a result of low level of scientific development in these areas. The reality remains that many modern minds are dumping religious beliefs for scientific assertions. In fact, the proportion of attachment to advancement in modern science to the commitment to religious belief is to say, in the least, inverse especially the students and staff of higher learning who abandon religion to science and technology.

It is observed that the invention of science and technology have proved to be hard nut to crack because most of the modern man's problems are solved by science. It is this problem that religion faces at this present time. It is this problem that this study is set to find out and know how to balance the two. A research questionnaire was administered to some students, academic and non-academic staff of tertiary institutions and observations were made.

Sample and Sampling Technique

The researcher adopted a simple random sampling technique for choosing three tertiary institutions for the study. These are the Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, the Federal Polytechnic, Oko, and the Federal College of Education (Technical), Umunze. The respondents were also randomly drawn from the three selected institutions. A total number of four hundred respondents were selected in all; one hundred and fifty respondents from each institution. In each institution, one hundred second years to final students were randomly drawn, making a sum of three hundred students; while one hundred lecturers and non-academic staff members were randomly drawn from the three selected institutions. The

first year students were intentionally left out because there were considered to be relatively new to the academic communities.

Method of Data Analysis

The researcher used descriptive statistical method of analysis. The decision point or cut-off mean (accepted or rejected), based on a four-point scale, was calculated thus:
Strongly Agree [SA] = 4 points
Agree [A] = 3 points
Disagree [D] = 2 points
Strongly Disagree [SD] = 1 point
Decision point mean = 4+3+2+1/4 = 2.5
This means that the decision point or cut-off mean is 2.5; an interval scale of 0.5 was added. Thus, every mean score that is exactly or above 3.00 is accepted and any score below 3.00 is rejected.

Data Analysis and Results

In this section, we have the summaries of the data collected, the analysis of the data and the result of such analyses. The data are arranged and presented in tables according to the research questions that guided the study.

Presentation of the Data Analysis

Research Question 1:

Has Science taken the place of religion in tertiary institutions in Anambra State?

Table 1:

Scores of the responses of students, lecturers and non-tutorial staff on the influence of science in the life of religious students in tertiary institutions

SN	Items	SA	A	D	SD	TOTAL	X	REMARK
1	Science has adverse effect on religious students and staff	1229	156	63	9	1457	3.6	Accepted
2	Students, as well as staff, as a result of scientific discoveries, take to evidence (facts) in all their dealings before they can be convinced on an issue	1110	229	51	9	1399	3.5	Accepted
3	Researchers have created efficient means of doing things like manufacturing of wares like gun, toxic wine, drugs etc.	1020	96	72	5	1193	3.0	Accepted
4	Public roads have been beautified by the construction of bridges, tunnels, flyovers etc.	100	96	100	102	398	1.0	Rejected
5	As a result of scientific advancement, researchers	896	255	171	6	1328	3.3	Accepted

	(medical students and staff) play key roles in birth control and the determination of the sex of babies							
6	Through artificial insemination, scientists see themselves being equal to their creator, since they can manufacture human beings in the laboratory.	1210	164	75	6	1455	3.6	Accepted
7	Through scientific furtherance, modern and highly sophisticated cars, computers, cameras etc have directly or indirectly affected students of tertiary institutions	400	336	200	99	1035	2.6	Accepted
8	Science has made the members of university community both staff and students live a leisure, pleasurable life through the use of modern technologies like phone, television, radio sets etc.	1080	188	122	7	1397	3.5	Accepted
9	Science has made students and staff more rational in nature as a result of social modernity	1300	160	60	72	1592	4.0	Accepted
10	Engineers can erect buildings, structures to match their taste, irrespective of the topography of the land	1490	96	72	44	1702	4.2	Accepted
11	As a result of scientific knowledge, medical staff can boast of life support machines, carrying out major surgeries and these promote longevity	1493	192	96	46	1825	4.5	Accepted
12	Certain epidemics, illness and diseases could now be diagnosed, prevented and cured as an improvement on our health	1320	200	60	53	1633	4.1	Accepted

The above table shows that respondents strongly agree that science has really influenced religious students and staff in tertiary institution as they can boast of life support machine,

carrying out major surgeries, students and staff are more rational in nature, buildings and structures can be erected and diseases can be diagnosed and cured as a result. Those factors scored above mean score of 4.0 and above. Others reasons which seem to show that science is taking the place of religion are: the staff/students can now manufacture gun, toxic wine, drugs etc, they live pleasurable life through the use of modern technologies like phone, television etc, the sex of babies can be determined, artificial insemination can be used in the laboratory to manufacture human being and students/staff can now boast of flashy cars computers, cameras etc. These factors scored mean scores between 2.6 and 3.6. Respondents strongly disagree that public roads have been beautified by the construction of bridges, tunnels, flyovers etc. this factor scored a mean score of 1.0

Research Question 2:
To what extent is religion still needed in tertiary institutions in this modern age?

Table 2
Responses on the extent religion is still needed in tertiary institution in Anambra State

SN	Items	SA	A	D	SD	TOTAL	X	REMARK
1	Students in tertiary institutions still resort to religion as a source of healing where drugs/ science has failed	980	341	54	12	1387	3.5	Accepted
2	Religion provides for the students and staff the moral values by which their lives are regulated and harmonized e.g abortion is evil	1002	393	34	7	1436	3.6	accepted
3	Religion shows students / staff who boast of tomorrow their limitation on earth, that they are perishable goods in the society	342	211	24	65	642	1.6	Rejected
4	Religion tells scientific students / staff who boast of manufacturing human being that they created, of which they are dependent on their creator	997	421	21	8	1447	3.6	accepted
5	Religion draws students and society at large back to their superior being	680	430	71	102	1283	3.2	Accepted
6	Religion promises guidance, protection and final happiness to students/staff who have forsaken cultism and its evil acts	879	519	34	19	1451	3.6	accepted
7	Religion aids students and staff to ask questions which still	1138	401	15	8	1562	4.0	Accepted

	pose a mystery to their mind like: what happens after death! This draws them to religion to some extent							

From the table 2, it can be seen that religion aids students and staff to ask questions like what happens to him after death, provides guidance, protection and final happiness, aids them to understand what moral values are, helps them to still depend on their creator, and provides spiritual and physical healing to them. These have scores between 3.2 and 4.0 which is well above the mean of 2.5. The respondents generally disagree that religion reminds them that they are perishable goods in the society. This has scored 1.6 far below the mean score of 2.5

Research Question 3:
What is the place of religion in the social life of the students and staff in tertiary institution in Anambra State?

Table 3
Scores of the responses from the students, lecturers and non-academics staff on the place of religion in the social life of the students/staff in tertiary institution in Anambra State

SN	Items	SA	A	D	SD	TOTAL	X	REMARK
1	Students and staff have changed their appeal from God to material life with science and technology as their actual contact-points in time of stress.	1238	166	73	15	1492	3.7	Accepted
2	Church attendance in tertiary institutions in Anambra State has declined as students /staff tend to lose their sense of religious morality.	1194	194	76	17	1481	3.7	Accepted
3	Church attendance is meant for female students and women staff and not for male students and adult staff	1124	195	94	10	1423	3.6	Accepted
4	In this modern age, students and staff no more have satisfaction with the little or much they have. They chase after desire rigorously without regards to religious morality	1209	164	75	7	1455	3.6	Accepted

5	There is much crime in tertiary institutions which ranges from murder in cold blood to kidnapping of students and staff	1124	157	98	19	1398	3.5	Accepted
6	Students and staff love pleasures of this age. They turn to armed robbery, cultism and prostitution instead of working hard to earn a living and studying to pass their examination	1130	249	78	16	1473	3.7	accepted
7	Marriage vows have lost their values and importance. Students of this modern age value money to personalities of the person they wish to marry	968	465	173	23	1629	4.1	Accepted

From table 3, students and staff of tertiary institutions in Anambra State prefer social life to religious morality as many marry for money and not for love, some love pleasures of this age as they turn to armed robbery, cultism and so on, some murder in cold blood and kidnap the students and lecturers, many have no satisfaction in what they have and church are mainly filled with female students and women staff. Of all these, marriage for the sake of money instead of love received the highest score of 4.1, which is well above the mean score of 2.5.

Discussion of Results from the respondents

Research Question 1: Has Science taken the place of religion in the life of students and staff of tertiary institutions?

It is sometimes assumed that science and religion are mortal enemies. The first research question aimed at determining if science has really taken the place of religion in the life of the students and staff of tertiary institutions. Responses of the students, lecturers and non-academics staff on this indicates that a large number of them are of the view that the friction existing between science and religion is such that unless religion tries its best, science may triumph. From the responses, science is seen as the best way to solving their problems

Students and staff as a result of science take to evidence (facts) within all their dealings before they can be convinced on an issue. As a result of these, students as well as staff have now inquisitive mind as their way of living. Moreover, they ask critical questions on their religious doctrines which they swallow without reasoning.

In the lives of students and staff, science has created efficient means of doing things, for example: manufacturing wares like gun, toxic wine, drugs, sharp weapons like knives, all these aided them, though they are also used in destroying lives. These aided the rise of crime in a sophisticated method. This made life insecure in the society that everyone is armed with his own dangerous weapon incase been attacked.

As a result of science we can talk of birth control in the society. More also, is the determination of the sex of babies. This in fact made medical students and their staff a little equal to their creator hence they could manufacture human being through setting up experiments with human male sperm, artificial ovary and womb to have a baby, all in a test tube.

A state of Nihilism is fast growing up rapidly in the tertiary institutions in Anambra State. Majority of the students and staff are no longer interested in any type of religion or its practices, or believe in the existence of God or life after death, or the mysteries of the world. They are greedy these days. They are no longer satisfied with what they have. Really, science has tremendous influence on religious man and the society, hence, it changed their way of reasoning.

Research Question 2: To what extent is religion still needed in tertiary institutions of this modern age?

In the face of these seeming loggerheads between religion and science, it is very pertinent to ask whether religion stands against the scientific development of humanity. This is obviously not the case. The fathers of the Vatican Council 11 urge man to take proper actions in order to unfold the mystery that is in man and co-operate in tackling the main problems facing the world today (Gaudium et Spes, 10). If this is the case, why is there problem between the two? The problem lies in the fact that science claims to have the solution to all problems leaving no room for religion. The fundamental teachings of religion are questioned by science which claims the ability to give better ones. But, how absolute are the truths available to us by scientific knowledge.

The fundamental questions concerning our world: what is the cause of the universe? How did it start? What is the origin of man? What is his destiny? These have not been adequately answered by science. In fact, science has not achieved uniformity on secondary issues (such as the composite of physical mater) not to talk of realities beyond. Attempts to answer the basic questions tend towards no particular direction. These are above the limits of science.

The Routelege Encyclopedia of Philosophy (Vol.8) articulates it well when it states that "the very presents of religion is a valuable reminder that there are boundaries beyond which scientific explanations cannot go and these (religious) doctrines help us to answer question that lie beyond their answers.

The above research question aimed at finding out if religion is still needed in tertiary institutions. There is the strong agreement among respondents that students/staff in tertiary institutions still resort to religion as a source of healing where drugs and science has failed. They agree that religion promises guidance, protection and final happiness to students/staff who have forsaken cultism and its evil acts. Again, the respondents strongly agree that religion provides for the students and staff the moral values, by which their lives are regulated and harmonized. It was equally agreed that religion tells scientific students/staff who boast of manufacturing human being that they are created, of which they are dependent on their creator.

Research Question 3: What is the place of religion in the social life of the students and staff in tertiary institutions of this modern age?

It is evident that the respondents all agree that there are social changes in the lives of the students and staff as a result of science. This led to a new wave of moral attitudes toward religion. Presently, religious practice, religious thoughts and religious institutions have lost social significance. It is believed that religion has been playing significant role in creating some moral standards of every students and staff in tertiary institutions for the development of the society. In the presence of modernization, they had actually changed their appeal from God to material life with science and technology as their actual contact – points in time of stress. They tend to lose their sense of religious morality. We can discover that because of these attitudes to the religious morality, church attendances has decline. Today, we have more female and women students/staff in attendance while the male students and male adult's staff stay away. This means that church attendance or religion is meant for female students and staff. With such thoughts in mind, it indicates that the influence of the sacred in human interpretation to his environment has declined. More also, many students and staff of tertiary institutions love pleasures of this age. They turn to armed robbery instead of working hard to earn a living. They undertake any type of adventure to have pleasures.

As a result of this, most modern students and staff no longer accept the title of full house wives but rather love to be addressed as a working class mother. This contributed a lot to many cases of young women failing in their duties and becoming rebellious. The men folks are not left alone in this marriage decay. This is because of their illicit affairs outside their matrimonial homes. For this point of view, it could give proper account for great alarming rate of divorce suit in the church's tribunal and in the court, and many single parents found in the society. Hence, marriage institution has also changed with the change in pattern of life. The above reasons could account for the predominance of evil. Though in the midst of this situation, there are still many religious students and staff in tertiary institutions in Anambra State. Some students and staff still care for the interest and needs of the poor in the society. But these sets of good students and staff are in minority to the evil that has dominated the actions of students and staff in tertiary institutions in this modern age.

Educational Implication of the Study

The persistence of religion in the age of science is marked, as being in its era of civilization which is successful as a result of science and technological innovation. This situation altered the old thought, ideology to new ways of livelihood. As a result of these, there is a rapid transformation of students/staff and the society, giving rise to critical evaluation of facts before accepting them. Although majority of the students and staff say that there is no empirical data on religious beliefs and doctrine, but they do hold to the concepts in their mind. More also, religion persisted more when it was the only social institution which had already forecasted what happens in the future and could give account of things that happened in the past, that people could live on the lesson of history.

Religion gives answer to all critical questions, for this reason, religion is seen as reference to the modern mind. Although some students/staff and society at large presently think rationally toward everything they do, they do run to religion for their problem where all other agents of science and technology fail them. For example: when a man is seriously sick, at the point of

death, although he has been given some drugs, despite all scientific aids, still internally subjected himself to pray frequently to recover quickly through religion and respond to drugs. The modern man has no complete trust in science hence; they still believe that God is the architect of human life. That is the reason people are found doing good acts amongst the evil acts that predominate the society. Religion, these days have certainly accepted the acts of science as God sent to alleviate man from his problems. People have the belief that religion has forecasted the coming of age transformation in man; as a result have a changed environment. When in reality, two partners living together, one has to accept the other partner as the superior so as to bring in peaceful co-existence. Religion had really opened hand of accommodation to science.

There are mysteries which science could not solve; there are questions science could not answer. Religion had an already answers to the earthly problems: what happens next after this life. Everyone in the universe is afraid (fear) of unknown and science could not provide a remedy to it. People are afraid of what happens next when they live this world, which religious teacher explains as he teaches the Christian doctrine of eschatology. Science on its own part cannot prevent things happening nor decaying therefore science is limited to certain aspects of solving issues.

People have the knowledge of God and its thought and to communicate with God is term to be religious. For example: a criminal tied at a stalk awaiting execution use to ask the reverend Father for forgiveness. They pray for salvation.

Despite the fact that the society is turning into a secularist one, people have religious thoughts in their mind, though they all don't behave religiously. More also, science is like a branch of knowledge in a person, it solves its own problem and cannot fully dominate other existence of social institution.

Recommendations

Having seen the changes and the problems of religion in the age of science, which is not to the best interest of the society, some solutions are suggested to eliminate the problems.

Firstly, the God-oriented religious groups like Roman Catholic Church, Protestants etc should make an attempt to discourage attempts by the scientists to give religious meanings of the world a scientific meaning.

Secondly, looking closely at the importance of religion, it is good to restore it since it exposes the faith and moral values of the people outside the world. The God-oriented religious groups should select those parts of their religion that will help to build their faith and moral life without abandoning it to this scientific age.

Thirdly, apart from the high seat offered to this scientists, that they are the builders of new world, the God oriented religious groups should not reject their tradition and customs of their church gotten from the apostles on the ground that they are ancient and barbaric, rather they have to respect this religion and its tradition as they are begotten from Christ. A rejection of these religious values of the world leads to total nihilism.

The researcher however, is not concluding by saying that this scientific age should be wiped away. Hence, religionists and scientists should respect each other in person, habits and practice. There are also some activities performed in this religious group of God like Charismatic, scripture union holding crusades, revivals etc. This would help to ginger people and attract the reluctant ones or groups and thereby making their faith to be a strong one. Instrumentals both local and foreign should be included as to make the celebration lively and interesting.

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