

## **‘Get Rich Quick Syndrome’: The Involvement of Juveniles in Sport Gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District, Nigeria**

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### **Abstract**

This study sought to investigate "get rich quick syndrome": the involvement of juveniles in sports gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District, Delta State. The study design is a correlational survey that explains relationships between two or more variables (get-rich-quick syndrome and juvenile involvement in sports betting). The research employed "rational choice theory" to explain the phenomena of "get quick syndrome" and "juvenile involvement in sports betting and gambling." The population of this study consisted of 62,451 students from 178 public secondary schools in Delta Central Senatorial District. The sample size of 2400 junior and senior secondary students from the eight (8) sampled schools was used for the study. The instruments that were used for the study were questionnaires. The questionnaire consisted of two sections (A and B). Section A contained socio-demographic information, and Section B contained questions and views of respondents on the "get rich quick syndrome" and juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District, Delta State. An inferential statistic was used in testing the hypotheses, while Pearson Product-Moment Correlation (PPMC) was used to test hypothesis one and an independent t-test for hypothesis two of the study. Findings from the study revealed that there is a strong and positive correlation between get-rich-quick syndrome and juvenile involvement in sports gambling in the Delta Central Senatorial District in Delta State. A recommendation was made that sensitization and workshops should be effectively organized by school counselors to educate juveniles on the damage and adverse effects of sports gambling as well as get-rich-quick syndrome on their lives

**Keyword:** Get rich quick syndrome, involvement sport, gambling, juvenile

Syndrome de devenir riche rapidement » : l'implication des mineurs dans le jeu sportif dans le district sénatorial du Delta Central, au Nigeria

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### **Abstrait**

Cette étude visait à enquêter sur le "syndrome de devenir riche rapidement": l'implication des mineurs dans les paris sportifs dans le district sénatorial central de Delta, dans l'État du Delta. La conception de l'étude est une enquête corrélationnelle qui explique les relations entre deux ou plusieurs variables (syndrome de devenir riche rapidement et participation juvénile aux paris sportifs). La recherche a utilisé la "théorie du choix rationnel" pour expliquer les phénomènes de "syndrome d'obtention rapide" et "d'implication des mineurs dans les paris sportifs et les jeux d'argent". La population de cette étude était composée de 62 451 élèves de 178 écoles secondaires publiques du district sénatorial central de Delta. La taille de l'échantillon de 2400 élèves du premier et du deuxième cycle du secondaire des huit (8) écoles échantillonnées a été utilisée pour l'étude. Les instruments qui ont été utilisés pour l'étude étaient des questionnaires. Le questionnaire comprenait deux sections (A et B). La section A contenait des informations sociodémographiques, et la section B contenait les questions et les opinions des répondants sur le "syndrome de devenir riche rapidement" et l'implication des mineurs dans le jeu sportif dans le district sénatorial central de Delta, dans l'État du Delta. Une statistique inférentielle a été utilisée pour tester les hypothèses, tandis que la corrélation produit-moment de Pearson (PPMC) a été utilisée pour tester la première hypothèse et un test t indépendant pour la deuxième hypothèse de l'étude. Les résultats de l'étude ont révélé qu'il existe une corrélation forte et positive entre le syndrome de devenir riche rapidement et la participation juvénile aux paris sportifs dans le district sénatorial central de Delta dans l'État du Delta. Une recommandation a été faite pour que la sensibilisation et les ateliers soient efficacement organisés par les conseillers scolaires pour éduquer les jeunes sur les dommages et les effets néfastes du jeu sportif ainsi que sur le syndrome de devenir riche rapidement sur leur vie.

Mot-clé : Syndrome de devenir riche rapidement, participation sportive, jeux d'argent, juvénile

## Introduction

Gambling has an enormous social, psychological and economic impact on the lives of those who are actively involved in the act. Notwithstanding the huge amount of funds lost to the gambling industries, more Nigerians are still additively involved in it. Due to the high returns it promised to participators, and a way of becoming suddenly wealthy overnight without being diligent. The act of gambling is not new. From ancient literature, such as Homer, we know that gambling games were widely used in Ancient Greece, and in the Roman Empire gambling was well spread (McMillen, 2005). Even in Greek mythology, Zeus, Hades and Poseidon played 'throw the dice' in order to split the Universe between them. In many archaeological sites in Mesopotamia, four-sided and six-sided dice cubes marked with pips have been found, dating 3000 B.C. and Chinese gambling has been traced back as far as 4,000 years (France, 1902; Tse, Yu, Rossen, & Wang, 2010). The sports gambling industry has been able to leverage on Nigeria's huge football culture.

Some of the big leagues, such as the English Premier League, and the Spanish La Liga, have millions of fans in the country; sport gambling provides Nigerians the opportunity to earn from what they love. Betting houses can now be spotted in nearly all

the streets across rural and urban settlements in Nigeria, new ones are propping up daily, with subscribers in store and online daily (Ifeduba & Itetegbe, 2020). The causes of sport gambling among juvenile are innumerable to list, some of them are as follows; peer pressure, immoral behaviour by staff, stringent school rules, inadequate school facilities, poor remuneration, societal influence, get-rich-quick syndrome and egocentrism (Elujekwute et al. 2021). In the same manner, Soyele (2022) submitted that studies have shown that juvenile engages in sport gambling as a result of the following factors; lack of parental care, broken home, poverty, peer group influence, unemployment, unhealthy imitation of the civilised worlds, economic recession, societal pressure, impatience/get-rich quick syndrome, indiscipline, laziness, and greed. Sport gambling among juvenile are bad habits or immoral activities that are against the social order. As such, any given cultural society with moral values that supports hard work must at every time frowns at juvenile gambling because it is bad, unacceptable, quite unhealthy and of course, a negative behaviour, which discourages hard work by encouraging laziness. In fact, an act that is inimical to peace, growth and national development.

Gambling can be defined as “betting money or material goods on an event with an uncertain outcome in the hope of winning additional money and/or material goods” (Volberg et al., 2015,). Gambling is often thought to exist on a continuum, with non-gamblers at one end, and severe problem gamblers/disordered gamblers at the other (Reith & Dobbie, 2013; Strong & Kahler, 2007; Volberg et al., 2015). For the purpose of this work, the writer considers gambling as a deviant seeking behaviour, which involves the staking of one's values, either material or non-material, in the intent of achieving another value, which they believed is greater than their staked value. Sport gambling has taken a new turn in Nigeria and other nations. In Nigeria, the most patronized popular sport betting include: Naira Bet, Bet 9ja, Sure Bet, Winners Golden Bet, 1960 Bet, Merry Bet, Bet Colony, Stakes Den while the foreign betting games include but are not limited to: Bet 360, Bet 365, 1x Bet, 24H Bet, 368 Bet, Apollo Bet, Bet-at1Home. Typically, all the aforementioned betting companies create an open platform for interested persons to predict the outcome of a game – Football, Basketball, Car race, Hockey, Dog race, Virtual among others. Fans that predict correctly are rewarded, and those whose predictions were wrong lose their monies. This is fast becoming the order in Nigeria, as fans that are “fans enough” go a step further to “stake” on the higher level of fandom and expertise in the football understanding (Jamiu, 2019).

Juvenile in this study refers to individuals between the ages of 12–18 years. This age range refers to one of the most sensitive ages of an individual where he/she is expected to build oneself in body, mind, competence, and capabilities. With the greater part of it spent on sports betting, there may be little or no career prospect for the individual, immediate family and the country at large. Sports betting shops hold the promise of social and peer-group interactions (Lungu, 2020). This could be attributed to why sport gambling shop through-out their working hours experience a large influx of youths, some with the intention of betting while others for peer interactions.

Sports gambling by its nature, especially in strong traditional and religious societies like the various ethnic groups in Delta State, is perceived as unethical (Masaba et al 2016) and carries with social stigma.

In Nigeria, juvenile involvement in gambling are associated with social media and the use of the internet, as most betting outlets uses key stakeholders in the film industry to showcasing their brands, this is paired with the notion of “get-rich-quick” syndrome or “how to make fast money”. The inordinate desire of these juveniles and youths to “get-rich-quick” or “make fast money” is not peculiar to Nigeria because it is a globalized phenomenon, which has spread across the world via digital transformation (Ajao, 2022). In this digital age, sport betting companies such as Naira Bet, Bet 9ja, Sure Bet, Winners Golden Bet, 1960 Bet, Merry Bet, Bet Colony, Stakes Den while the foreign betting games include but are not limited to: Bet 360, Bet 365, 1x Bet, 24H Bet, 368 Bet, Apollo Bet, Bet-at1Home, are legitimate means of making fast money without necessarily pursuing hard work and education to university level.

Nothing is absolutely wrong with making money and accumulating wealth legitimately through hard-work to escape poverty; but to make money and accumulate wealth with little or no hard-work or not necessarily sweating for it, especially through juvenile involvement in sport gambling, what can be described as get-rich-quick syndrome. Students in tertiary institutions, even in secondary schools, have had their own experience of betting industries. Students used their school fees to play sport gambling, dice throwing and cards. Some of them deceived their parents, claiming that the school asked them to bring fees, but they ended up channelling the money to gambling. At the end of it, these students lost their money and could not attend school any more, and they also could not tell their parents what had swallowed their money.

Many youths, young adult, educated and non-educated Nigerians are involved in one form of sport gambling or the other to the extent that it has become part of mainstream economy, and it is a significant source of revenue to governments and private enterprise. Sport gambling also encompasses a source of harm and concern to some Nigerians due to its negative impact on individuals, families and communities. While most people handle sport gambling in a controlled way, many get addicted (Lavojo, Bala, Arogundade, & Francis 2020). Also, financial strain experienced by a juvenile parent or caregiver could be a determining factor that precipitates sport gambling among people. This could be as a result of unemployment, bad governance, economy recession and lots of other factors. So in order to survive, many people see sport betting as a means to end (Flack & Morris, 2017).

Increased participation in gambling activities has been observed in African countries, particularly Nigeria, and South Africa. Africa's economies consider gambling and sports betting as a form of economic rejuvenation due to the high levels of unemployment recorded in those countries (Udeze, 2018). The high levels of unemployment and outdated laws on gambling has made the African Market attractive to International sport betting companies (Iwuoha, 2016). According to the Udeze (2018) report that gambling industry in Africa, South Africa's gambling industry is the biggest with gross revenues estimated at \$1.7 billion, followed by Nigeria with estimated revenues of \$31 million. Empirical studies have identified a relationship between sport

gambling and individual desire to acquire sudden wealth. Findings show the main motivation to participate in sports betting is for monetary gain, leisure and peer pressure (Herskowitz, 2016; Koross, 2016; Yawe & Ssengooba, 2014; Wanjohi, 2012). Studies have also found that effects from increased gambling and sports wagering participation are twofold; economic and social (Williams & Wood, 2007; Masaba et al, 2016). Revenues obtained from gambling come with undesirable social economic problems which include; addiction, criminal activities by gamblers and increased expenditure on gambling from low-income individuals hence missing on essential goods (Ahaibwe, et al, 2016).

A survey identified the quest for “quick” money (30%), unemployment (21%), greed (15%), economic hardship (12%), and poverty (10%) as the major reasons that Nigerians engage in gambling (NOIPolls, 2019). About 80 million Nigerians between the ages of 12 and 40 years were reported to spend about 1.8 billion Naira (\$5 million) daily on gambling activities, with an average investment of 3,000 Naira (\$8.33) per day (Akwagiyam & Akinyelure, 2018). This acceptance of gambling by both gender, youths and adults has contributed to the “get-rich-quick” syndrome in society. Recently, a positive mind-set towards gambling is becoming common among juvenile, the majority of them reporting a previous gambling activity (Calado & Griffiths, 2016), and with around half of British adults (48%) indicating that they have previously participated in a gambling activity when they were between the age of 17 (Gambling Commission, 2017). McCarthy et al. (2018) reported that 45% of women aged 14–34 years in Australia gambled more than once a week; similarly, 40.5% of respondents in Uganda gambled at least once a week (Ahaibwe et al., 2016).

A rapid survey conducted among 3,879 youths in Africa revealed that the majority of them (54%) had indulged in gambling at some point (GeoPoll, 2017), while another poll indicated that 41% of 1,000 randomly selected youths in Nigeria had engaged in some form of betting (NOIPolls, 2019). Similarly, more than half (57%) of high school students in Nigeria had previously gambled (Aguocha et al., 2019). Older age (i.e., youths over 24 years) is linked to positive attitudes towards gambling (Ayandele & Aramide, 2020; Gambling Commission, 2017;). Previous research also revealed gender differences in gambling, with young male participants reporting more frequent gambling activity than young female participants (eAhaibwe et al, 2016; Ayandele & Aramide, 2020; Gambling Commission, 2017).

One would say that poverty and employment are the immediate causes of the youth and juvenile involvement in sport gambling due to the success record of the company, but a critical appraisal reveals that greed, desperation, gullibility, and pride are the remote causes of the increasing level of patronage that youth give to sport gambling company. Most Nigerians, especially youths, are greedy and seek quick money. The rising poverty and unemployment levels experience by juvenile parents and siblings are reasons that the juvenile are caught on the web of sport gambling. Most juvenile want to find money to fulfil most of their needs. This forces them to seek quick money, for which sport gambling provide the perceived answers.

The National Lottery Regulation Commission (NLRC) is empowered by the National Lottery Act of 2005, the Commission is responsible and charged with the

responsibility of regulating betting games in Nigeria. The commission's 2017 survey revealed that betting games is seen as a solution to unemployment and underemployment by the youth. The survey revealed that 77% of Nigeria Youth confirmed the increased patronage of betting games where they reside. It also revealed 92 and 91% prevalence rate of youth involvement in the South-West and South-South regions respectively. The need to either ascertain/corroborate if unemployment was responsible for the increasing participation of Nigerian

Gambling activities have different forms, and a juvenile's preference for one or the other could be due to educational or social exposure. Similarly, in Africa, men have more positive attitudes towards gambling than women do (Ayandele et al., 2019; Peltzer & Thole, 2000). These findings indicate that an increasing number of women are beginning to gamble (Holdsworth et al., 2012). Women regard online betting as a safe place to gamble (Corney & Davis, 2010), and both men and women gamble because there are no gender restrictions imposed by the government. Because there are few restrictions on the marketing of gambling products, many minors and youths are being influenced to indulge in gambling activities (Monaghan et al., 2008). Similarly, gambling advertisements and promotions tend to increase gambling frequency among some youths who gamble (Hing et al., 2014). Nigerian gambling companies such as BetNaija, Nairabet, and Premier Bet Lotto, among others, with their shops and kiosks on street corners around the country, are now placing advertisements on television, radio, and social media, as well as having sponsorship agreements with Stadia, broadcasters, and sport clubs to drive the use of mobile phones and the internet as platforms for gambling. Similarly, in Nigeria, several multinational firms such as brewery, bottling, and communication companies have used gambling as a sales promotion by stipulating that residents can either buy a bottle or recharge their mobile line to get a chance to watch live premiership matches or FIFA World Cup finals (Udeze, 2018). These advertisements and promotions could increase the risk for pathological gambling or encourage a positive disposition towards gambling among juveniles and youths (Griffiths, 2003). Excessive gambling activities could lead to staking more money than one can afford, developing higher levels of gratification and tolerance, and living a kind of parallel life to hide one's gambling pathology (Bussu & Detotto, 2013). Egbujo (2018) suggested that gambling pathology can, sooner rather than later, become a threat to public health. Gambling pathology is associated with a range of social and psychological sequelae such as depression, anxiety, mood swings, low self-esteem, criminal behaviour, and drug misuse (Blinn-Pike et al., 2010). Aside from the economic difficulties that middle-aged people and youths experience repeatedly while indulging in gambling activities, this behaviour is associated with both social and psychological challenges in adulthood (Salaam & Brown, 2012). Considering these unpleasant consequences, there is a serious need to better understand the factors that could make individuals susceptible to gambling pathology, to place this psychosocial problem under control or reduce it to a level that is not hazardous to players and society

Many Nigerian juveniles have developed the mindset of getting rich quick, which is fuelled by the loss of the age-old value system where the watchword was the dignity of labour. That age-old value system is now jettisoned by families and this snow balled

to juveniles in Nigeria increasing the drive to get rich quick mindset, ready to engage in anything to make them get rich quick. Most youth in Nigeria now run to play betting games with the hope that it will make them get rich quick while abandoning hard work and dignity (Oyebisi et al., 2012). It is against this background that the researchers had the motivation to investigate get rich quick syndrome and social deviance implication of juvenile involvement in sport gambling in delta central senatorial district, delta state.

### **Purpose of the study**

The main purpose of the study is to investigate 'get rich quick syndrome': the involvement of juveniles in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District, Delta State. Specifically, the study sought to:

- a. What relationship exists between get rich quick syndrome and juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District.
- b. What relationship exists between get rich quick syndrome of male and female juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District.

### **Rational Choice Theory**

Rational choice theory is argued to have developed as part of the behavioural revolution in American political science of the 1950s and 1960s, which sought to investigate how individuals behave, using empirical methods. The approach has increasingly become a growing approach to political science, especially in the United States. Downs, Anthony (1957) was the first to apply rational choice theory to electoral behaviour and party competition. His work, reviewed in Hinich and Munger (1997) went further to revolutionize the studies of elections. Other directions in which rational choice theory has gone away from the works of Downs include areas of collective action, public choice, and rent seeking, among others. The rational choice theory, also known as choice theory or rational action theory, is a theory for understanding and often modelling social, and individual behaviour.

The 'rationality' defined by the rational choice theory adopts a more specific and narrower definition, which simply means that "an individual acts as if balancing costs against benefits to arrive at an action that maximizes personal advantage." It has assumed that people are motivated by money and by the possibility of making a profit, and this has allowed it to construct formal, and often predictive, models of human behaviour. This apparent success has led many other social scientists to cast envious eyes in its direction. Sociologists and political scientists have tried to build theories around the idea that all action is fundamentally 'rational' in character, and that people calculate the likely costs and benefits of any action before deciding what to do. This approach to theory is known as rational choice theory, and its application to social interaction takes the form of exchange theory. Rational Choice Theory is an approach that could be used by social scientists to understand human behaviour and the reason why juveniles get involved in sport gambling.

The theory is appropriate in explaining the problem (get rich quick syndrome': the involvement of juveniles in sport gambling) because juveniles get involved in this act after cogently making internal calculations with regard to the gains and pains before

embarking on staking their values. The writers believe that the perpetrators (sport betting gamblers) embark on three mental cognitive rational calculations before taking actions on staking their values. These calculations revolve around three majors, comparing rational factors; First calculations; comparing what they are staking to what they are gaining. Second calculations; comparing what they are staking with actual hard work. Third calculations; comparing the risk/time to differ gratification of hard work and the get rich quick syndrome in sport betting. Thus, the rationale behind the act of gambling among juveniles is their personal beliefs. Believing that it's easier to becoming rich faster through using the escape channel of gambling compared to the huge time and hard work involved in normal conventional means (jobs) of wealth creation in society.

### **Methodology**

The study adopted the correlational survey design. A correlational study focused on examining the relationships among two or more variables. The population of this study consisted of 62,451 students from 178 public secondary schools in Delta Central senatorial district. There are eight (8) Local Government Areas and the number of junior and Senior Secondary School students in the Senatorial District is 62,451. Four (4) Local Government Areas out of the eight (8) Local Government Areas in Delta Central Senatorial District were used for the study. The researcher sampled eight (8) public secondary schools, two (2) schools from each of the four (4) Local Government Areas. The four (4) Local Government areas and the eight (8) research schools were obtained by sampling with replacement. The sample size of 2400 junior and Senior Secondary students from the eight (8) sampled schools was used for the study. 300 students were selected each from the eight (8) research schools.

The instruments that were used for the study are Questionnaire. The questionnaire comprised of two sections (A & B). Section "A" contained the socio-demographic information, and section "B" contained questions and views of respondents get rich quick syndrome and social deviance implication of juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta central senatorial district Delta State. The reliability of the instrument was established using the Cronbach alpha method of internal consistency. The questionnaires were administered to 70 respondents who were not part of the sample. The results were correlated and subjected to SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Science). The result yielded a correlation coefficient of the following; Get rich quick syndrome 0.95, juvenile involvement in sport gambling 0.87 the general reliability of 0.91 as a measure of consistency. This was considered high enough to be used for this study.

The researcher administered copies of the instruments through direct delivery method. The researchers with the help of other assistants distributed copies of the questionnaire to the respondents. The researchers and his assistants retrieved the filled and completed copies of the questionnaire at the spot for scoring and analysis. The data from the questionnaire was analysed and interpreted with the help of frequency distribution tables. The statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) version 23 was used for the analysis and was employed also in describing the characteristics of the



study population. Inferential statistics was used in testing the hypotheses while Pearson Product-Moment Correlation (PPMC) was used to test the hypothesis one and Independent t-test for hypothesis two of the study

## Results

### Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Below is a descriptive analysis of the demographics of the respondents. It includes information on variables like, Gender, Age, Class Level, and Religious Affiliation.

**Table 1: Gender Distribution of Respondents**

Sex	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	1128	47
Female	1272	53
Total	<b>591</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2023.**

The information presented in Table 1 above, shows that 47 of the respondents are male while 53 are female. It therefore implies that more females participated in the study than males.

**Table 2: Age Distribution of Respondents**

Age (Years)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
10yrs - 12yrs	456	19
13yrs - 15yrs	1128	47
16yrs - 18yrs	816	34
Total	<b>2400</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2023.**

Table 2 above presents the distribution of respondents by age. It shows that majority of the respondents (47%) were within the age range of 13-15 years, followed by those within the age of 16-18 years that constitute 34% of the respondents with respondents of 10-12 years as the least with 19%..

**Table 3: Distribution of Respondents on Class Level**

Class Level	Frequency	Percentage (%)
<b>Junior class</b>	1392	58
<b>Senior class</b>	1008	42
Total	2400	100.0

**Source: Field Survey, 2023**

Table 3 It shows that majority of the respondents (58%) were in junior class, followed by those in senior class that constitute 42% of the respondents with respondents .

**Table 4: Distribution of Respondents on Religious Affiliation**

Religious affiliation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Christianity	2064	86
Islam	72	03
African Tradition Religion	264	11
Total	<b>2400</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2023.**

Table 4 above presents the distribution of respondents by religious affiliation. It shows that majority of the respondents (86%) were Christian, followed by those who practice African tradition religion that constitute 11% of the respondents, with respondents of Islamic Religion as the least with 03%..

**Hypothesis one :** The is no significant relationship between get quick rich syndrome and juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District State

**Table 5: Correlation**

Coefficient of get quick rich syndrome and juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District

Pearson Correlation	get quick rich syndrome	Sport gambling
get quick Pearson Correlation	1	.089

rich syndrome	Sig. (2-tailed)		.875
	N	2400	2400
Sport gambling	Pearson Correlation	.089	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.875	
	N	2400	2400

**\*\*.** Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

The result in Table 5 shows that the correlation coefficient of get rich quick syndrome and juvenile involvement in sport gambling is .089. Thus, there is a markedly strong and positive correlation between get quick rich syndrome and juvenile involvement in sport gambling. This suggests that the more fund juvenile win from sport gambling, the higher is quest to get rich by all necessary mean available through sport gambling. Although relationship should not be seen a causation, there might be a third variable that is make juvenile to have the mindset of getting rich at all cost.

**Hypothesis two:** The is no significant difference between get rich quick syndrome of male and female juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District

**Table 6:** Independent t-test showing there is no difference between get rich quick syndrome in sport gambling of male and female juvenile in Delta Central Senatorial District

Gender	N	Mean	SD	T	DF	pvalue
Male	1128	43.70	15.965	2.96	2398	0.22
Female	1272	56.30	27.369			

Table 2.4 above revealed that there is a significant difference of gender in sport gambling ( $t(2398) = 2.96$   $p < .05$ ).

### Discussions of Findings

The first hypothesis stated that there is no significant relationship between get quick rich syndrome and juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District State. The hypothesis was rejected, it means, there is a significant relationship between get quick rich syndrome and juvenile involvement in sport gambling. The study revealed that there is a strong and positive correlation between get quick rich syndrome and juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial district in Delta State. It then implies that juvenile from this region have high propensity to become rich even when they have not reached the adulthood.

The findings are in corroboration with the work of Ajao, (2022) that the inordinate desire of these juveniles to “get- rich-quick” or “make fast money” have propelled the majority of juveniles to be actively engaged in sport gambling not minding the risk of becoming addictive. In Nigeria, juvenile involvement in gambling are associated with

social media and the use of the internet, as most betting outlets uses key stakeholders in the film industry to showcasing their brands, this is paired with the notion of “get-rich-quick” syndrome or “how to make fast money”. Also, other empirical studies attested to this finding, that there is a relationship between sport gambling and individual desire to acquire sudden wealth. Findings show the main motivation to participate in sports betting is for monetary gain, leisure and peer pressure (Herskowitz, 2016; Koross, 2016; Yawe & Ssengooba, 2014; Wanjohi, 2012). Studies have also found that effects from increased gambling and sports wagering participation are twofold; economic and social (Williams & Wood, 2007; Masaba et al, 2016). Revenues obtained from gambling come with undesirable social economic problems which include; addiction, criminal activities by gamblers and increased expenditure on gambling from low-income individuals hence missing on essential goods (Ahaibwe, et al, 2016).

The second hypothesis of the study states that “there is no significant difference get rich quick syndrome of male and female juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District”. The finding of the study point out that there is a significant difference between get rich quick syndrome of male and female juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District. Since there is no gender restriction to sport gambling in Nigeria, both gender are highly involved in other to make quick money. The findings are in consonance with the work of Ayandele and Aramide (2020) that gender differences exist in sport gambling, with young male participants reporting more frequent gambling activity than young female participants. More so, Calado and Griffiths (2016), affirmed this findings by reporting that both gender have come to the acceptance of sport gambling, and it has contributed to the “get-rich-quick syndrome in society. Recently, a positive mind-set towards sport gambling is becoming common among juvenile, the majority of them reporting a previous involved in sport gambling activity.

## **Conclusion**

In the light of the forgoing, it has shown that there is a significant relationship between get quick rich syndrome and juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District State, and also there is a significant difference in get rich quick syndrome of male and female juvenile involvement in sport gambling in Delta Central Senatorial District. It therefore concluded that sport gambling is on the increase in the region among juveniles and also that both genders in Delta Central Senatorial district Delta State are involved in sport gambling. The fact that a relationship exist between get rich quick syndrome and juvenile involvement in sport gambling does not imply it is now a causative factor, other variable could be responsible for juvenile participation in sport gambling.

## **Recommendations**

Recommendations were drawn from the following:

1. Government should review existing sport betting laws and come up with active measures to sanction any juvenile found engaging in sport gambling..
2. . Parents or guardians should reorient the mindset of juveniles from wanting to get rich quick at all cost by Inculcation of moral values, strong work ethics and there is dignity when you earn your income in a legitimate way.
3. Psychologist should intensify their effort to organize seminars/conferences on the negative effect of sport gambling processes on juvenile' behaviour and general

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