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UNDERSTANDING OF SCHISTOSOMIASIS [BILHAZIASIS] AMONG SENIOR
SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS; IN ENDEMIC AND NON-ENDEMIC AREAS.

BY

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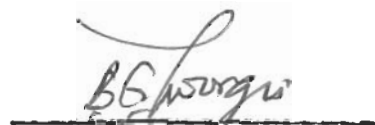
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APPROVAL PAGE

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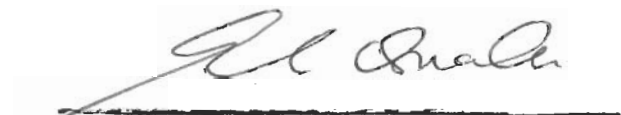
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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my husband Prof. S. O. Onyegegbu and my children Adi, Ucheamaks and Onyenuchea.

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There are many who have shown interest and given me support in writing of this project. First, I would like to express my gratitude to my supervisor Dr. (Mrs) E.A.C. Okeke, who gave me generously her time energy, continued guidance and detailed criticisms throughout the study.

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ABSTRACT

v.

This study sought to assess the level of understanding of schistosomiasis among second year senior secondary school biology students in endemic and non-endemic areas, of Anambra State.

A sample of four-hundred and forty-nine students from six schools, of which three each from endemic and non-endemic areas of schistosomiasis were used. The students were subjected to a test on schistosomiasis developed by the researcher. This was based on the biology concept under the unit "Micro-organisms man and Health" in the senior secondary biology core curriculum. The answers were scored and the scores were analyzed to determine the level of understanding of schistosomiasis.

The result of this test showed that SSII biology students possessed a moderate level (52.4%) of knowledge of schistosomiasis.

Further analysis of performance between students from the endemic areas and those from the non-endemic areas, revealed a higher mean score by students from the endemic areas. The t-test confirmed that students from the endemic areas performed significantly at $[p < 0.05]$ level better than those from the non-endemic areas. This could be attributed to a

considered influence of the environment and the social experiences of the people in dealing and being victims of the disease.

Finally, the educational implications of the findings and suggestion for further research were discussed.

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