Awareness and Use of Social Media Platforms for Information Dissemination By Librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi.

Tofi, Simon Ternenge

Librarian II

Benue State School of Nursing

Makurdi

Emails: ternengetofi@gmail.com, ternengetofi@yahoo.com

Abstract - *The study examined awareness and use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi-Benue State, Nigeria. Four (4) objectives with corresponding research questions guided the study. The study adopted descriptive survey design. Questionnaire was the instrument used to collect data for the study. The population of the study comprised of 4 professional librarians in school of Nursing and 4 librarians in school of Midwifery library, Makurdiwhich gives a total population of 8 library staff for the study. A census of all librarians in the schools was carried out since the population was small and can conveniently be handled by the researcher. Data was collected and analyzed using frequency counts and mean scores to answer the research questions.*

The findings study revealed that, librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery Makurdi are aware of social media platforms such as Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and Blogs for information dissemination to a high extent. Findings of the study also revealed that, Facebook and WhatsApp are the type of social media platforms mostly utilized by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi for information dissemination. Also, the extent of utilization of Facebook by librarians for information dissemination is high extent. But there is low extent of use of social media platforms such as WhatsApp, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Blogs as well as Pinterest for information dissemination by librarians in Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi. However, findings further revealed that, lack of social media skills, poor support from ministry of health and school management, lack of internet access, unreliable power supply, inadequate training opportunities for SONM library staff, among others were the problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi. Finally, the study made recommendations based on the findings.

Keywords: Awareness, Use, Social Media Platforms, Librarians, School of Nursing and Midwifery.

Introduction

The integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into library services has changed the way and manner in which librarians provide information services to users. According to Akporhonor and Olise (2015), librarians in this age, are responsible for a variety of resources and services that expand beyond the typical eight-hour work day. Library services in the 21st century now strive on modern technologies. The librarian's role in the global information environment is unique (Igun, 2010). According to the author, the roles are

critical for the necessary control of information resources in physical and virtual domains. Notably, the advent of social media has led to a new challenge for librarians to meet the rapidly changing information needs and expectations of the 21st century users. Librarians working in schools of nursing and midwifery libraries now have a challenge of making themselves more relevant in this age. The challenge of most librarians is to attract users to the library and to retain them (Iwhiwhu, Ruteyan&Eghwubare 2010). In order to deal with this challenge, librarians are reconsolidating, reshaping, redesigning and repackaging resources as a means of promoting their services in order to enhance information dissemination which will in turn increase library patronage.

In the 21st century, provision of information services in academic libraries is handled and managed by incorporating information and communication technology into library services (Uche&Udo-Anyanwu, 2019). A potent means in which librarians and libraries can optimize for their work and services as well as maintain their relevance is through a medium like social media. Social media platforms are one modern and contemporary new media used by librarians for effective dissemination of informationin academic libraries in Benue state and Nigeria at large.

Social media are web-based services that give individuals the opportunity to create a public or semi-public profile within a bounded system, add a list of others to what they share, a connection and view and transverse their list of connections and those made by others with the system (Nwachi&Igbokwe, 2019). According to Gupta, Gautam and Khare (2014), social media platforms have emerged as a very interesting and powerful tool for libraries. The authors assert that, the scope of social media platforms application in libraries includes communication with user community, interaction with library users, marketing of library services, user education, creating awareness of library resources (e.g. new arrivals), connecting with other librarians and library staff, getting feedback of library and its services etc. Khan and Bhatti (2012) noted that libraries of all types are increasingly using social media to connect with library users and to make library programmes and services accessible. In this 21st century, a typical library of library user services is obvious and requires social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, Instagram, Blog etc. for information dissemination.

The potential of social media platforms for information dissemination in academic libraries can only be of benefit to librarians if they are aware of its existence. Awareness is defined as an understanding of the activities of other, which provides a context for your own activity (Ezema, 2015). Awareness is a state of consciousness and purpose. Chinedu cited in Obande (2019) viewed awareness as the condition of being aware and able to understand what is happening around one. Awareness is also a state or ability to perceive, to feel or to be conscious of events, objects or sensory patterns. Awareness means having idea of the existence of something. In relation with the above views, Wikipedia (2019) equates awareness with knowledge of, understanding of, appreciation of, recognition of, attention to perception of something. According to Uche and Udo-Anyanwu (2019), awareness refers to the consciousness of something, knowledge about a situation or fact. The authors further posits that, awareness is an essential factor that determines use. The extent of awareness of social media platforms among librarians will determine the extent they are most likely to utilize them for information dissemination as well as provision of library services. Quadri and Idowu in their study stated that, the level of awareness of librarian of the social media tools has increased rapidly. Uche and Udo-Anyanwu (2019) also attested that, tertiary institutions librarian are to some degree aware of social media that can be used to provide library

services. This is interesting considering the fact that the level of awareness is a determinant of usage. Recently, there is an increase towards the use of social media among librarians, and that is why they are using them to a high extent in performing their library functions.

Social media as a new technology has become part of people's life in recent times, it is important for librarians as part of the changing society to have the knowledge and ability to use this important tool for library services in Nigerian tertiary institutions. In support of this, Uche and Udo-Anyanwu (2019) attested that, the utilization of social media in libraries is now a global phenomenon and varies from one library to another depending on the extent of ICT integration to library and information services. According to the author's social media they are already been used as a means for rapid dissemination of information.

Acquisition of relevant skills for the use of social media is therefore a paramount importance to librarians for effective implementation of the role of the library which is providing current and relevant information to its users. Supporting this opinion, Murphy and Moulaison (2009) suggested that utilizing information within social media tools requires that librarians possess social media literacy skills. This implies that possessing social media skills is a requisite for effective utilization of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in schools of Nursing and Midwifery libraries. These skills include; skills for interacting with patrons within the sites, understanding and articulating the nature of social media types and their potential roles related to library services, etc.

Social media is used in the library because they cannot stand still in the face of this technology development. However, information professionals are faced with plethora of problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for effective dissemination of information and enhance service delivery. In support of this, Uche and Udo-Anyanwu (2019) reported that slow internet connectivity and unreliable power supply are major factors militating against the use of social media by librarians in the provision of library services. They equally agreed to poor support from authorities, inadequate technological skills among librarians and Laisser-faire attitude of librarians towards integration of social media in libraries, as problems militating against effective use of social media. Similarly, Wua and Tion (2013) in their submission indicated slow internet speed, unreliable power supply, unfamiliarity with social media, insufficient personnel, laisser-faire attitude of librarians and lack of technological skills as challenges of promoting the marketing of library resources on social media.

It has been observed that nurse tutors, student nurses/ Midwives, as well as other academic and non-academic staff who are part of the information user community that Nursing and Midwifery libraries were established to serve as well as to provide information to satisfy their needs are currently adopting social media habits and making increasing usage of social media to access information resources. For this category of users having access to library resources via social media platforms is an important library service. Generally, library resources in various formats are used for academic and for general purposes. Thus, student nurses and midwivesare placing new demands on libraries within the schools, they require access to the latest information, updated information resources and access to resources that could be utilized in their academic and final year research project which is a prerequisite requirement for recognition as professional and qualified nurses/ Midwives by the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN). Therefore to justify the schools of Nursing and Midwifery libraries, influence of awareness and use of social media platforms in information dissemination by librarians in the schools here in Benue State is necessary to attract potential

users. De-Vos, Strydom, Fouche and Delport (2011) notes that there are three broad aspects for justification of a study. That the study;

- Must contribute to knowledge either theoretically or methodologically;
- The relevant practice and/or policy arenas should find usefulness and meaning in the study;
- And the study should be useful for the intended target group.
- To the bestknowledge of the researcher, no comprehensive study has been carried out in Benue State relating to awareness and use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in schools of Nursing and Midwifery in the state.

This work therefore, deals withlibrary staff who are currently working in school of Nursing (SON) library as well as the school of Midwifery (SOM) library in Makurdi, Benue state.

Statement of the problem

Social media platforms are needed in academic libraries like the Schools of Nursing and Midwifery libraries to leverage effective service delivery and for timely dissemination of information. However, its relevance to librarians and the growth of the libraries cannot be overemphasized. Social media enables librarians in academic settings to effectively disseminate timely, relevant and current information to users. Academic libraries can also publicise in-house resources, new arrivals in various disciplines and as well, make it available to users when demanded within a short possible time. Librarians can also use social media platforms to provide quick and up-to-date information to users and immediate feedback is expected.Librarians can use the platforms to render specialized services like the Strategic Dissemination of Information (SDI).

Despite the tremendous benefits of social media platforms for information dissemination in academic libraries across the country, it has been observed that librarians in Benue state schools of nursing and midwifery, Makurdi though aware of the existence of some social media platforms but do not effectively utilize them for information dissemination in the libraries for enhance information service delivery for research and academic activities of the library users. The consequence of under-utilization of the social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in schools of nursing and midwifery libraries has lead to low patronage of the libraries by the users as a result of negative impression about the resources, facilities and services of the libraries. This on the side of the students nurses and midwives has led to poor academic performances and low quality of final year research project writing for both the basic and post basic nursing and midwifery students.

Studies have shown that, librarians in academic libraries in Nigeria are not actually aware of the existence of social media platforms for information dissemination. In support of this view, Akporhonor and Olise (2015) reported that awareness and knowledge among library staff on social media application is very poor. In a similar vein, Okoroma (2018) reported that the rate of use of social media platforms by academic library personnels in Nigeria is very low as a result of lack of awareness and training on the various kinds of social media and their applications to library services. In Benue state, Tion, Ilo and Beetseh (2019) observed that there is low usage of social media by librarians in Benue state libraries. Preliminary observation by the researcher also revealed that librarians in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery libraries Makurdi are lagging behind their counterparts in other health institutions in Nigeria in terms of information dissemination to attract more users and projecting the libraries image using the social media platforms. The key issues in this study

are: Do librarians in schools of nursing and midwifery, Makurdi actually aware of the use of social media platforms for information dissemination? What types of social media platforms do librarians in the schools mostly use for information dissemination? To what extent do the librarians in the schools utilize the social media platforms for information dissemination? What are the problems hindering librarians in the schools to effectively use the social media platforms for information dissemination? Hence the need to carryout this investigation to address the issues highlighted above.

Objectives of the study

The general objective of this study is to ascertain awareness and use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi. Specifically, the study sought to:

1. Ascertain the extent of awareness of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi.
2. Findout the types of social media platforms mostly utilize by librarians for information dissemination in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi.
3. Evaluate the extent of utilization of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi.
4. To investigate the problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi.

Research Questions

The study sought answers to the following research questions:

1. To what extent do librarians in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi aware of social media platforms for information dissemination?
2. What are the types of social media platforms mostly utilize by librarians for information dissemination in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi?
3. What is the extent of utilization of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi?
4. What are the problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi?

Review of Related Literature

Social media is a tool for libraries to reach out to all type of users regardless of their professional titles and social status, since social media is already widely used across population groups (Tofi, Tondo, Ugba&Akaaimo, 2019). Merriam Webster Dictionary Cited in ALA (2018) defined social media as "forms of electronic communication (such as websites for social networking and micro blogging) through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages and other content (such as videos)". Oxford Dictionary Cited in Jain (2013) defines social media as "websites and applications that enable

users to create and share content or to participate in social networking". According to Bradley (2012) the term social media refers to "the use of web-based and mobile technologies to turn communication into an interactive dialogue". Social media is also described as a group of internet based applications that build on the ideological and technological foundations of web 2.0 and allows the creation and exchange of user generated content. Based on the above definitions and the researchers own understanding, social media can be described as a group of web-based and mobile applications that allows users to share and create knowledge in a real social interaction. It is user-centric, multi-purpose and it is not time and location bound.

Social media platforms provide more opportunity to reach specific audience and give the audience a chance to interact. As noted by Xie and Stevenson (2013), there are variations of social media platforms. According to the authors the most popular applied social media platforms in academic libraries include; Facebook, WhatsApp, twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Blog, Pinterest, among others.

Jain cited by Uche and Udo-Anyanwu (2019), acknowledge Facebook as the most popular social media platform for creating library awareness and marketing. It can be used as a marketing strategy to draw the attention of users who have forgotten or are unaware of some existing grey literature in the library collection. According to Parveen (2011), social media like Facebook provides new avenues for young librarians to express themselves and to interact with one another. It also provides them an unprecedented platform for them to systematically form collaborative groups and create, publish, exchange, share and contribute any type of information.

WhatsApp application was developed in 2009 by Brian Acton and Jan Koum. It is a proprietary cross platform encrypted, instant messaging application for smart phones. WhatsApp features include one-on-one chat, group chat, push notifications, sending and receiving both video and audio files.It can therefore be argued that WhatsApp is viable ICT tool that can be used by libraries to disseminate information as well as access information.

Twitter which is a micro-blogging site according to Mannan (2012) enables the library staff to keep their users and patrons updated on day to day activities of the library, while the users in turn use twitter to give instant feedback about library services. Librarians can use this platform to give users first-hand information on any contemporary issue in society. Users can send Instant Messages (IM), complaints, re-share content or ask questions on a particular issue and get a feedback on the spot using Twitter's retweet (Okoroma, 2018).

YouTube is a free video sharing community that offers access to videos, films, video clips, and materials that in turn can be disseminated through blogs and other web locations. The use of YouTube, according to Thanuskodi (2011), represents a new type of exposure with worldwide impacts, at little cost and with wide access. Also, events such as important highlights of inaugural lectures, conferences and workshops are disseminated via the YouTube.

Blogs according to Dickson and Holley (2010) have several potential uses by libraries in tertiary institutions. The authors posits that, blogs encourage user interaction through their comment feature, which allows students to provide feedback regarding the information provided and the library itself.Blogs also provides an avenue for librarians to periodically post messages; share information on a particular subject or issue, and allow users to contribute to content.

Pinterest on the other hand, is a free web and mobile application that operates by sharing photos on websites. This website has a pin board that enables an individual to organize and share events and other activities (Tofi et al, 2019). According to the source, pinterest is an internet menu that provides an opportunity for libraries to market and promote their resources and services as well as disseminate information. A library can prepare attractive library posters by creating library profile. Libraries can also download attractive posters for display in library which are available freely on pinterest. Above all, pinterest can be used in libraries for marketing of library events, resources and services in order to inspire life-long learning, advance knowledge and strengthen community.

Previous studies as cited or reviewed above reflect the rapidly growing popularity and relevance of social media applications and usage in academic libraries. Thus, as libraries now fully embarked on experimenting with the social media platforms, it became pivotal to research in order to be more knowledgeable on issues from librarians perspective. However, it was also learnt that there was no similar study conducted using librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi. Hence, the need for social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi.

Methodology

The descriptive survey design was adopted for this study. The study was conducted in Makurdi – Benue State, Nigeria. The study population comprised of 4 librarians in school of nursing library and 4 librarians in school of midwifery library, Makurdi which gives a total population of 8 professional librarians in both the nursing and midwifery libraries. In place of sample size for the study, the researchers used the entire population of 8 professional librarians in the schools since the number is small and as such the researcher can manage it effectively. Questionnaire was used as instrument for data collection for this study. The questionnaire comprised four (4) sections (sections A-D) with section A containing (7) items designed to solicit information on extent of awareness of social media for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi; section B contains (7) items soliciting information on types of social media platforms mostly utilized by librarians for information dissemination in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi; section C contains (7) items soliciting information on extent of utilization of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi as well as, section D containing 10 items soliciting information on problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi. To ensure high percentage return, the questionnaire was administered by the researcher in the two libraries under investigation and retrieved back immediately, hence 8 copies of the questionnaire was distributed and 8 copies were retrieved back given a percentage return of 100%. Data for the study was analyzed using descriptive statistics of frequency count and mean scores. The choice of mean scores to answer research questions was because data collected was on internal scale. The average of the responses on a 4-point type scale was 2.50. Any mean that rank from 2.50 and above was accepted whereas 2.49 and below was rejected.

Results and Discussion of Findings
Research Question 1: To what extent do librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery,Makurdi aware of social media platforms for information dissemination?

To answer this research question, data on the extent of awareness of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi were collected and analyzed as presented on table 1.

Table 1: Mean responses on the extent of awareness of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi.

S/N	Extent of Awareness of Social Media	N	Mean ($\bar{x}$)	Decision
1.	Facebook	8	4.00	High Extent
2.	WhatsApp	8	4.00	High Extent
3.	Twitter	8	4.00	High Extent
4.	Youtube	8	3.75	High Extent
5.	Instagram	8	3.01	High Extent
6.	Blogs	8	2.87	High Extent
7.	Pinterest	8	2.39	Low Extent

Source: Field Work (2019)   N=Number of Respondents

Table 1 shows the mean responses on the extent of awareness of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery Makurdi. The mean scores shows that out of the seven (7) items on social media platforms listed, with the exception of one, Pinterest (2.39) which is below 2.50 the cut off mark, all the rest recorded between 2.87 to 4.00 mean scores which were above the cut-off mark of 2.50 which is accepted to be aware by the respondents to a high extent. This means that the respondents were aware of all the six (6) social media platforms presented to them. The respondent's degree of awareness was very encouraging (i.e. high extent).

Research Question 2: What are the types of social media platforms mostly utilize by librarians for information dissemination in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery Makurdi?

To answer this research question, data on the types of social media platforms mostly utilized by librarians for information dissemination in Benue State schools of Nursing and midwifery Makurdi were collected and analyzed as presented on table 2.

Table 2: Mean responses on types of social media platforms mostly utilize by librarians for information dissemination in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery Makurdi.

S/N	Types of Social Media platforms	N	Mean ($\bar{x}$)	Decision
1.	Facebook	8	4.00	Accepted
2.	WhatsApp	8	3.44	Accepted
3.	Twitter	8	2.39	Rejected
4.	YouTube	8	2.11	Rejected
5.	Instagram	8	2.00	Rejected
6.	Blogs	8	1.84	Rejected
7.	Pinterest	8	1.10	Rejected

Source: Field Work (2019)   N=Number of Respondents

The table above showed the mean responses on the types of social media platforms mostly utilize by librarians for information dissemination in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi. The first and second items on the table (Facebook and WhatsApp)

recorded mean of 4.00 and 3.44 respectively which is above the cut-off mark of 2.50 indicating accepted. While items 3 (Twitter), 4 (YouTube), 5 (Instagram), 6 (Blogs), and 7 (Pinterest) recorded between 1.10 to 2.39 mean scores which is below the cut-off mark of 2.50 indicating rejected. The findings on the table indicated in essence, that, Facebook and whatsApp are the only type of social media platforms mostly utilize by librarians in Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi for information dissemination. Hence, all other items were not utilize for information dissemination.

Research Question 3: What is the Extent of Utilization of Social Media Platforms for Information Dissemination by Librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi?

To answer this research question, data on extent of utilization of social media platforms information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi were collected and analyzed as presented on table 3 below.

Table 3: Mean responses on extent of utilization of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi.

S/N	Extent of Awareness of Social Media	N	Mean ($\bar{x}$)	Decision
1.	Facebook	8	2.93	High Extent
2.	WhatsApp	8	2.38	Low Extent
3.	Twitter	8	2.10	Low Extent
4.	Youtube	8	2.14	Low Extent
5.	Instagram	8	2.05	Low Extent
6.	Blogs	8	2.11	Low Extent
7.	Pinterest	8	1.10	Low Extent

Source: Field Work (2019)   N= Number of respondents

Result in table 3 above revealed the extent of utilization of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi. From the table above, item 1 (Facebook) had mean score of 2.93 above the bench mark of 2.50. This indicated that librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi utilize Facebook for information dissemination to a high extent. While the extent of utilization of items 2 (WhatsApp), 3 (Twitter), 4 (YouTube), 5 (Instagram), 6 (Blogs), and 7 (Pinterest) was indicated as low extent with mean scores ranging from 1.10 to 2.38 which is below the bench mark of 2.50.

Research Question 4: What are the problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi?

To answer this research question, data on the problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery Makurdi were collected and analyzed as presented on table 4.

Table 4: Mean responses on the problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi.

S/N	Problems Militating against effective use	N	Mean $\overline{(x)}$	Decision
1.	Lack of Social Media Skills	8	3.11	Accepted
2.	Lack of awareness	8	2.00	Rejected
3.	Poor support from ministry of health and school management	8	3.98	Accepted
4.	Lack of internet access	8	3.42	Accepted
5.	Unreliable power supply	8	3.14	Accepted
6.	Inadequate training opportunities for SONM library staff.	8	3.98	Accepted
7.	Inadequate finding for SONM libraries	8	3.21	Accepted
8.	Lack of Privacy and Identity Theft	8	3.11	Accepted
9.	Lack of computers in SONM libraries	8	3.42	Accepted
10.	Technophobia	8	2.14	Rejected

Source: Field Work (2019)   N=Number of Respondents

Table 4 above revealed the problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi. It is very glaring from the table above that majority of the respondents identified, lack of social media skills (3.11), poor support from ministry of health and School management (3.98), lack of internet access (3.42), unreliable power supply (3.14), inadequate training opportunities for SONM library staff (3.98), inadequate finding for SONM libraries (3.21), lack of privacy and identity theft (3.11), as well as lack of computers in SONM libraries as major problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery Makurdi. While lack of awareness and Technophobia which recorded between 2.00 to 2.14 mean scores below the cut-off mark of 2.50 were rejected.

Summary of Major Findings

The following findings emanated from the study based on the research questions answered by the respondents:

1. Librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery Makurdi are aware of social media platforms such as Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and Blogs for information dissemination to a high extent.
2. Facebook and WhatsApp are the type of social media platforms mostly utilize by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi for information dissemination.
3. Facebook is utilize by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi to a high extent.
4. Social media platforms such as WhatsApp, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Blogs and Pinterest are utilize by librarians in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi to a low extent.
5. The problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi include; lack of social media skills, poor support from ministry of health and school management, lack of internet access, unreliable power supply,

inadequate training opportunities for SONM library staff, inadequate funding for SONM libraries, lack of privacy and identity theft, as well as lack of computers in SONM libraries.

Discussion of Findings

Based on the findings derived from the results of the study, the following were discussed. Findings of the study as shown on table 1 revealed that, librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi were aware of social media platforms such as Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, and Blogs for information dissemination to a high extent. This findings is in agreement with that of Uche and Udo-Anyamwu (2019) whose study on awareness and utilization of social media by tertiary institutions librarians reported that, librarians are aware of the use of social media tools in providing library services to a high extent. Findings of the study also corroborate that of Quadri and Idowu (2014) whose study revealed that the level of awareness of librarians of the social media tools for information dissemination is very much increasing. However, this findings is in disagreement with that of Gupta, Gautamand Khare (2014) whose study reported that awareness and knowledge among library staff on social media application is very poor.

Findings of the study as shown on table 2 revealed that, Facebook and whatsApp are the type of social media platforms mostly utilize by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi for information dissemination. This findings corroborate with that of Islam and Habiba (2015) whose study reported that, Facebook is the most popular type of social media tool used by librarians for information dissemination. In a similar vein, the findings agrees with that of Amuda and Adeyinka (2017) whose study reported that, Facebook is the most used social media site by library staff as a result of its popularity in this part of the world as well as it's numerous opportunities for librarians. In support of the findings of the study which observed that librarians utilize Facebook to a high extent, Uche and Udo-Anyanwu (2019) in their study also reaffirms that, tertiary institutions librarians in order to provide library services utilize Facebook and other social media tools to a high extent.

Findings of the study on table 3 revealed that, social media platforms such as WhatsApp, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Blogs and Pinterest are utilize by librarians for information dissemination in Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi to a low extent. This findings corroborates that of Tion, Ilo and Beetsch (2019) whose study reported that, there is low usage of social media by librarians in Benue State libraries.

Findings of the study on table 4 revealed that, the problems militating against effective use social media platforms for information dissemination by librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi include: lack of social media skills, poor support from ministry of health and School management, lack of internet access, unreliable power supply, inadequate training opportunities for SONM library staff, inadequate funding for SONM libraries, lack of privacy and identity theft, lack of computers in SONM libraries. Findings of the study is in agreement with that of Okoroma (2018) whose study identified, lack of librarians training, dogmatism on the part of librarians, infrastructural problem, lack of technical support security issue, lack of access to internet, inadequate user education as well as inadequate funding as constraints to the use social media in academic libraries in Nigeria. findings also corroborate with that of Wua and Tion (2013) whose in their submission indicated slow internet speed, unreliable power supply, unfamiliarity with social media,

insufficient personnel, laisser-faire attitude of librarians and lack of technological skills as challenges of promoting the marketing of library resources on social media. Findings is also in line with that of Akporhonorand Olise (2015) whose study reported lack of funds, lack of social media skills, network problems, low level of technology penetration as well as privacy concerns.

Conclusion

The study concludes that librarians in Benue state schools of Nursing and Midwifery Makurdi are aware of social media platforms such as Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Blogs, as well as Pinterest for information dissemination to a high extent. The study reported that Facebook and WhatsApp are the types of social media platforms mostly utilized by librarians in schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi for information dissemination. However, Facebook is mostly utilize by librarians for information dissemination in the two schools to a high extent. Social media platforms such as WhatsApp, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Blogs, and Pinterest are utilize by librarians to a low extent for information dissemination in schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi. However,librarians in schools of Nursing and Midwifery are faced with a myriad of problems militating against effective use of social media platforms for information dissemination.

Recommendations

On the basis of the findings of this study, the researcher have made the following recommendations:

1. Librarians in Schools of Nursing and Midwifery Makurdi should be educated and trained on how to effectively use social media platforms for information dissemination. This will enable them to gain advanced knowledge and skills on the usage of social media platforms for effective dissemination of current and relevant information to their users.
2. Internet facilities should be made readily available in schools of Nursing and Midwifery libraries.
3. Funds should be adequately and promptly provided by the ministry of Health and Human Services to further enhance the use of social media platforms for information dissemination by libraries in Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi.
4. The management of Schools of Nursing and Midwifery Makurdi should liaise with the Benue State Ministry of health and human services to gain adequate support for the procurement of computers and internet subscriptions in the libraries.
5. Provision of alternative means of power supply for SONM libraries. Standby generator should be provided for the libraries to power on in case of power failure.
6. Librarians in Benue State Schools of Nursing and Midwifery, Makurdi should not prioritize Facebook and WhatsApp as the only social media platform for information dissemination. Other platforms such as Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Blogs as well as Pinterest should also be used for information dissemination in the libraries.

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