THE ROLE OF SPORT AS A MEANS OF RESOLVING CONFLICT IN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

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ABSTRACT
Conflicts in Institutions of Higher Learning have been a disturbing phenomenon for many years. Colleges and Universities in many countries of the World have been experiencing a lot of problems associated with student riots and demonstration.

Conflicts are known not only to be expensive to institutions of learning in terms of time, money and inconvenience but also to the learners, parents and other stakeholders in education. A lot of effort has been put in place to eradicate this menace in the education sector yet student unrest continues to be on the rise. In the recent past, we have witnessed very serious tragedies in our institutions of learning with students rioting, demonstrating and
even charring their counterparts. More concerted effort need to be put in place to eradicate this problem.

Literature review has shown that sport has certain unique values, which can help learners enjoy their leisure time. Sport is a human activity that involves specific administrative organisation and a historical background of rules, which define the objective and limit the pattern of human behaviour. It involves competition or challenge and a definite outcome primarily determined by physical skill. Through participation in sports; students will release emotions, experience success, socialize, control our behaviour and affirm our identity. Therefore, if our institutions of learning take sport as an agent for change and development, cases of student riots and demonstrations might be controlled.

Key Words: Sport, Conflict, Institutions