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The roles of librarians in the protection of copyright in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study explored the role of librarians towards the protection of copyright in public universities in Ogun and Lagos State, Nigeria. The study was descriptive in nature where structured and validated questionnaire was used as instrument for data collection. The study population comprised of consists of 65 librarians in five selected public universities in Ogun and Lagos State. In all, 50 questionnaires were retrieved out of 65 targeted for the study through total enumeration sampling techniques which gave 76.9 % rate of return. Primary data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics (frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation and standard error). The result of the findings indicated that copyright materials available within the study areas include textbook, journals, thesis and dissertation, electronic databases among others. Equally, findings of this study indicated that the professional librarian were highly aware of copyright and that it is their duties and responsibilities to protect both author and user right towards violation. Findings further indicated that user should not be allow to make more than certain no of pages of materials in the library. Likewise, the agreement between libraries and database providers should be made available to users. Based on the findings, it was recommended that library users and librarians should be more vigilant towards copyright protection and to ensure that users do not violate such while utilizing library resources of any kind.

Keywords: Copyright, violation, law, infringement, Ogun State, Lagos State.

Introduction

University libraries like other types of libraries are made up of print and non-print materials which are collected, organized and housed in a building for consultation, reference, research, recreation and aesthetic enjoyment, with a trained personnel stationed to manage the resources. In this regard, library plays a vital role in enhancing the cause of education and academic research. Fulfilling the academic and research needs of users, a library acquires learning materials (in various formats), provides them in a proper manner, arranges them for easy access, disseminates them in a convenient manner and preserves them for future generation. In the process of acquiring, providing access, organizing, disseminating, and preserving such materials

(especially in non-print format), there may exist many situations wherein library professionals may not adhere to copyright provisions, knowingly or unknowingly. It is important for every library professional to have necessary knowledge and be aware of copyright issues and provisions related to libraries (Hiral & Anilkumar, 2019).

Copyright has an impact on nearly every aspect of the information professions, from developing collections to creating local policy and educating patrons. Librarians and other information professionals must comply with copyright as they build and share their collections, including lending materials through interlibrary loan and patron reserves. Copyright issues affect vendor contracts as libraries license, rather than purchase, much of their digital material.

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Librarians also help their patrons navigate copyright as they access, reproduce, use, and even create materials (Saunders & Estell: 2019). Nigeria is not left out in keeping up with global economic trends and challenges relating to copyright issues. Nigeria has signed various international treaties and conventions in order to create avenue for the rapid development and appreciation of intellectual property. The issue of copyright over a particular work is very important. It enables the creator of the work to have a sole responsibility over his work and to enjoy the work of his hand. This will motivate such creators to invest more in creativity since it is profitable to do. Copyright is the right to copy or use another person's work (Owushi, 2020). A copyright is a law that gives the owner of a document, musical composition, book, or other pieces of information, the right to decide what others can do with it. This makes it easier for authors to make money by selling their works. In view of this, a work can only be copied if the owner gives permission. People who copy a work under copyright without permission can be punished by the law, usually with a fine. In other more serious cases, they could be arrested or go to prison. Copyright is the right to literary property as recognized by law (Fabunmi, 2017).

In line with the above, access to information is a universal right that is protected by law to be enjoyed by all. The copyright law which protects the right of the creators of copyrighted materials tends to be a barrier to the freedom of access to information. In the university environment or academic institution, librarians are the custodians of information and are therefore charged with the responsibility of granting free access to information and protecting the interests of copyright owners. Some studies have indicated the ignorance of librarians in their responsibility in granting access to information and in the protection of

copyright (Nwachukwu & Tony, 2022). In Nigeria, copyright in a work means that its author has the exclusive right to control certain actions in respect of the whole or a substantial part of a work either in its original form or in any form recognizable or derived from the original (Oluwa, 2000). Apotiade (2004) asserts that librarians' awareness and education in the copyright law is the cardinal point in their assessment of the law. Intensive education of librarians in the copyright law will entail studies in copyright issues, copyright infringement, the substantial laws, copyright protection, copyright enforcement, the role of librarians in copyright protection and implementation as well as implications for policy and practice.

The issues plagiarism bring about provision of the copyright law. However this crime is treated with levity as the level of awareness and knowledge of the copyright law is low in Nigeria. A greater part of the society can claim oblivion of this law; however the academic world which should be more conversant with this enactment is only fairly informed of the provisions of this law. Librarians who are naturally positioned as information professionals and research experts can hardly justify their exalted career as they find themselves in the web of the other academics who are just fairly informed of the copyright law. There is no gain-saying the fact that the copyright law is highly infringed by many Nigerians, and furthermore, the enforcement of copyright law in the country is almost completely neglected, leaving the authors and other owners of intellectual property at the mercy of hoodlums and intellectual robbers. According to Apotiade (2004), librarians have not been keen participating in the enforcement of the copyright law despite their higher stake in the issue as major contributors to the academic reservoir.

Objective of the Study

The broad objective of this study is to investigate the role of librarians towards the protection of copyright in public universities in Ogun and Lagos State, Nigeria. Specifically, this study seeks to:

- 1. assess the level of awareness of copyright law among the librarians in public universities in Ogun and Lagos State;
- 2. investigate the copyrighted information materials available in libraries and
- 3. explore the measures taken by librarians to restrict copyright infringement.

Research questions

The following questions are answered in the study:

- 1. What is the level of awareness of copyright law among the librarians in public universities in Ogun and Lagos State?
- 2. What are the copyrighted information materials available in the public university libraries?
- 3. What are the measures taken to restrict copyright violation by the librarians?

Literature review

Conceptually, Adelowopo (2012) described copyright as at the right of a person to protect his ideas and information from commercial exploitation. According to Kolawole and Onu (2018), copyright is a set of exclusive rights granted by government for a limited time to protect the particular form, way or manner in which an idea or information is expressed. Copyright may subsist in a wide range of creative or artistic form or "works"; including literary works, movies, musical works, sound recordings, paintings, photographs, software

and industrial designs. Copyright laws simply explain the legal protection given to authors against unauthorized copying of their work. Copyright is the exclusive right given under the law to the owner to control the reproduction of the work which is the subject of copyright (Uvieighara, 2017). Copyright is a branch of Intellectual property which is the product of the mind and has been described as man's only genuine property worthy of protection (Ameh, 2015).

The concept of copyright stems from the fact that creators of intellectual property deserve to benefit from their efforts. Copyright is an aspect of the law of intellectual property, which also includes patents, trade mark and industrial design laws. Copyright as a legal term refers to the rights which countries grant authors or other originators of intellectual and artistic works to enable them have control over certain uses of their creations for defined periods of time. This limits who may copy, change, perform, or share those creations. Copyright has also been described as intangible right protecting the products of human intelligence and creation. The author of a work is therefore vested with the sole and exclusive privilege of reproducing and selling copies of his work. We often see the warning which has become a common feature in books and phonographic records as reproduced below: "All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher/author.

Korletey (2014) recognized that copyright can be as a form of exclusive right or a form of property right. Copyright as a Form of exclusive right relates to the exclusive rights of copyright owners/holders to reproduce, make a copy or otherwise do

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some of the acts reserved by the Copyright Act while copyright as a form of property right, relates to the fact that the property can given to heirs, donated, sold, leased/licensed under any sort of conditions, divided into separate parts and can protect it from almost every kind of trespass. According to Story (2009), copyright is "a legal system which regulates the creation, ownership, control and use, by the public, of products resulting from certain specified creative activities that are directed by the human brain which includes the writing of books." This invariably mean, copyright law across the world plays a common role of creation, regulating the ownership, protection and use of human intellectual expressions, such as books, journals and other information resources. Copyright entails the power an author has under the law to determine who and how his work is used. This means that the use of an author work either in original form or any other form whatsoever is unlawful without the permission or authorization of the author.

Broadly speaking, only the owner of a copyright in a work can reproduce, publish, perform, make a film or a record from a work or distribute it for commercial purpose. A plethora of literatures have established that copyright protects two sets of rights; the economic right and the moral right of an author (Okwilagwe, 2015, Korletey, 2014). Economic right has to do with the right of the author or owner of a copyright work to make gain and have financial benefits in respect of the work he has made. It is however noteworthy to mention that it is only the economic aspect of an author's right that can be disposed with subject to the expiration of the term of the copyright. On the other hand, moral right of an author of a copyrighted work is inalienable and sacrosanct. This right ensures that an author is duly acknowledged whenever his work is been used by affixing

his or her name in such a manner to show that he or she is the originator of the work who has expended intellectual prowess to create the work. This entails that, no matter where the economic right lies, the owner of a work still retains his moral right. The moral right continues to subsist even when the author or owner of the work is dead, however subject to the expiration of the copyright.

Empirically, Nworie, Nworie and Obiano (2019) investigated compliance with Copyright Law among library personnel in university libraries in South-West, Nigeria. The study adopted the descriptive survey of the correlational design. The population of study was made up of 117 library personnel in university libraries in South West, Nigeria and the total enumeration technique was adopted, hence there was no sample. Questionnaire was used for data collection. 103 copies of questionnaire were completed, returned and used for the study. The data collected for the study were analysed using the descriptive and inferential statistics. Specifically, the research questions were answered with the use of tables, percentages and mean. Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (PPMCC) was used to test the hypotheses formulated for this study at 0.05 level of significance. Findings revealed that library personnel in university libraries in south west, Nigeria are aware of copyright law which govern the information resources in their custody; and they comply with the provision of the Copyright Act to a high extent. The study concluded that there is a strong positive correlation between library personnel's awareness of copyright law and compliance with copyright law in the selected university libraries in South West, Nigeria with a recommendation that library management should be actively involved in sensitizing library personnel on copyright law and its violation to continually increase their level of awareness.

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Owushi (2020) surveyed the impact of copyright protection towards intellectual development in Nigeria . A descriptive survey design was adopted in carrying out the study. The sample size for the study was 112. A total of 112 copies of the questionnaire were distributed to librarian and lecturers, out of which 108 copies were duly filled and returned, representing 96.4%. The collected data was arranged in frequency and analyzed using percentage and mean score. The findings revealed that protection of copyright will encourage creators of intellectual works, and that if authors are well remunerated there is likelihood of adequate availability of various publications to meet information needs of Nigerians. The result showed that the right to intellectual properties is one of the ways to encourage intellectual development. The finding revealed that copyright protection provides security for intellectual product and does not negatively affect the availability of intellectual materials.

Onoyeyan and (2018)Awe explored the role of librarians in the protection of copyright in Nigeria. The study adopted a descriptive survey design. Questionnaire was the primary tool used for data collection. The study population consists of 63 librarians from the five selected universities in Ogun State. A total of 49 questionnaires were retrieved out of 63 administered and given a response rate of 77.8%. It was found that librarians are aware of the provisions of copyright law and take some measures to prevent its infringement. It was recommended among others that librarians should be more intentional in ensuring that copyright is not violated in the library by engaging all the available measures to ensure compliance.

Nwachukwu and Tony (2022) studied the role of copyright institutions and enforcement agencies in the digital and online dissemination of copyright Works in

Nigeria. The paper situates the discourse in its proper context by undertaking: an examination of the powers, functions and challenges of the various copyright institutions and enforcement agencies in fighting infringement; the Nigeria Copyright Act substantive provisions and the Nigeria digital and online dissemination of copyright works. The paper found out that digital technology has a strong impact on the attainment of these objectives, both in terms of opportunities for profitable exploitation, and as a challenge which exacerbates the problem of infringement. Therefore, the paper proposes that these issues need to be addressed through law reforms to address issues relevant to the right of copyright owners online by putting in place a suitable legal framework. Also necessary is logistic, technical support and creation of awareness levels of the implication and available options for right holders.

Johnson (2019) investigated the role of academic librarians in the protection of copyright law in South South universities. Two specific research objectives were formulated to guide the study. The research design was expost-facto research design. The population of the study was 67 comprising all academic librarians in the Universities of Uyo, Calabar and Port Harcourt using a purposive sampling technique. The instrument known as "Academic Librarians and Protection of the Copy-Right Law Ouestionnaire (ALIPCLAQ)" was used to collect the data. The instrument was subjected to reliability test, using test-retest method and it produced high average reliability coefficient of 0.89 to justify the use of the instrument. The analysis was done using Pearson Product Moment correlation (PPMC). The findings revealed that there is remarkable relationship between librarians' utilization of the copyright law and protection of copyright law. Also, there is significant

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relationship between librarians' awareness and the protection of the copyright law. One of the recommendations was that all librarians should be encouraged to participate in the enforcement of copyright law. This can be actualized through training, information and provision of resources.

Naheem (2017)assessed the copyright literacy levels of Indian LIS professionals. The targeted population was library information science and professionals working in India. methodology uses a quantitative approach. The survey instrument utilized in this study was obtained from an international research project called "Copyright Policies of Libraries and other Cultural Institutions". This quantitative study was carried out by using a web-based online questionnaire created through "Google Forms". The survey was so designed as to not allow participants to send more than one response but allow them to edit their responses. Data gathered were analysed using descriptive statistics, graph etc. It was gathered that only a small percent of respondents/ professionals are familiar with copyright related issues. A major portion of the respondents depend on websites as a source for getting copyright related information followed by books and articles. After examining the overall findings it is concluded that the level of familiarity of Indian LIS professionals with issues concerning copyright is low as compared to the importance of the topic.

Hiral and Anilkumar (2019) explored the awareness of legal issues to Libraries among Library Professionals of Gujarat. The research is based on an online survey of library professionals of Gujarat. The major findings of the survey reveal that there is an acute need to improve the awareness and knowledge about legal issues and legal provisions among LIS professionals in Gujarat. The results also show that

educational background, experience, or designation have no correlation with level of awareness or knowledge about legal aspects among library professionals. This study provides indications to major legal issues that affect the work of library professionals and what resources may be needed to enhance the level of awareness and knowledge about legal aspects related to libraries. The current study is limited to the study of library professionals in Gujarat, India and has potential to be conducted on national scale to check the level of awareness and knowledge about legal issues and legal provisions and may also provide important indications to address the issue of training and education of library professionals.

Fabunmi (2017) examined the roles of librarians in copyright protection in Nigeria. The author dwells much on the librarians' roles in the protection of their users' rights as well as safeguarding the interest of creators. According to the author, such protection provides the necessary incentives for scientific, technological and intellectual creativity. Librarians need to pay close attention to the balance between promoting the users' right as well as creators' right. The theoretical paper concluded that it is the responsibility of librarians to protect the copyright of authors. was recommended Similarly, it librarians need to discourage library users from infringing on copyright laws.

Owushi (2017) investigated the librarians' awareness and application of copyright law in academic libraries in Edo State. A descriptive survey design was adopted in carrying out the study. The total population for this study was fifty nine (59) academic librarians. Five research questions guided the study. Instrument for data collection was questionnaire. A total of fifty nine copies (59) copies of questionnaire were distributed to the librarians, out of

which 50 copies were duly filled and returned, representing 84.7%. Data was analyzed using frequency tables, percentages and mean scores. From the analysis, the findings revealed that librarians in academic libraries in Edo State are aware of copyright law and as well have working knowledge of the law.

The findings of the study will make a vital contribution to the existing knowledge and understanding of copyright awareness and application in modern library services. The finding of the study, hopefully, will be of immense benefits to librarians, students Nigerian officials of Copyright Commission. The result of the study will enable librarians be conscious of the implications of copyright law in the practice of their profession without violating the law. It will also help to alert librarians on the proper application of the law in the course of discharging their statutory duties. For the students, it will serve as a guide since they indulge in copious duplication of library resources without necessarily infringing on the copyright law. The result of the study will assist Nigerian Copyright the Commission to formulate effective and definite policies on reproduction and duplication of intellectual works in libraries and information centers. Such policy should

be able to spell out the number of pages, chapters that could be reproduced from a journal/book in libraries. The study will be of benefits to researchers and even librarians who would like to conduct research on copyright related issues. Finally, the finding of the study will provide empirical evidence that could serve as a guide to researchers and librarians in the course of their studies and services.

Methods

The research design adopted for this study is the descriptive survey of the qualitative type. The population of the study comprised of all the 65 librarians in five selected university libraries in Ogun and Lagos State, Nigeria (See Table 1). Total enumeration technique was used to cover the entire population size, hence no sample was drawn. The data collection instrument used for the study was a structured questionnaire constructed based on a working document, the Copyright Act (Onoyeyan, and Awe, 2018). In all, 50 copies of questionnaire were completed, returned and used for the study which accounted for about 92.4% rate of return. The data collected for the study were analyzed using frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation and standard error.

Table 1: Population and sample of the study

| University | State | Librarians | Total |
|---|-------|------------|-------|
| Tai Solarin University of Education | Ogun | 10 | 10 |
| Lagos State University (LASU) | Lagos | 11 | 11 |
| Olabisi Onabanjo University | Ogun | 14 | 14 |
| University of Lagos (UNILAG) | Lagos | 18 | 18 |
| Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta | Ogun | 22 | 22 |
| Total | | 65 | 65 |

Results

The findings of the study are presented in this section. Table 2 presents personal characteristics of the respondents in terms of gender, age group, academic qualification, and status and work experience. Result of the data analysis indicated that majority were female as indicated by 58.0%. Similarly, findings also indicated that majority of the respondents were between

the age bracket 40-49 years as indicated by 44.0%. Not only that, it was also gathered that majority of the respondents had between 20-29 years of work experience as indicated by 36.0% while majority, 66.0%, had master's degree. Also, majority were principal librarians as indicated by 40.0% followed by senior librarian as indicated by 24.0%.

Research questions one: What is the level of awareness of copyright law among the librarians in public universities in Ogun and Lagos States?

The data used to answer this question are in Table 3.

Table 3 reveals the level of awareness of copyright law among the professional librarians. Findings indicate a high level of awareness of copyright law among the

librarians in the study area. This is because the criteria mean of 2.50 is far lesser than the grand mean of 3.53. Nevertheless, awareness is higher on the statement that says "1t is not an infringement of copyright law if a portion of a document is copied for criticism and review or for reporting in the newspaper" (Mean = 3.61), followed by "Abuse of copyright deprives the creator of gains accruing from his intellectual property" (Mean = 3.57). Also, awareness is lowest on the statements that says "It is the duty of librarians to protect authors' rights" (Mean = 3.45).

Research question two: What are the copyrighted information materials available in the public university libraries?

The data used to answer this question are in Table 4.

Table 2: Demographic characteristics of Respondents (N = 50)

| Table 2. Demographic characteristics of Respondents (N = 30) | | | | | |
|--|-----------|------|--|--|--|
| Demographic information | Frequency | % | | | |
| Gender | | | | | |
| Male | 21 | 42.0 | | | |
| Female | 29 | 58.0 | | | |
| Age range | | | | | |
| < 30 years | 4 | 8.0 | | | |
| 30-39 years | 10 | 20.0 | | | |
| 40-49 years | 22 | 44.0 | | | |
| 50-59 years | 9 | 18.0 | | | |
| 60 years or more | 5 | 10.0 | | | |
| Work experience | | | | | |
| < 10 years | 14 | 28.0 | | | |
| 10-19 years | 13 | 27.0 | | | |
| 20-29 years | 18 | 36.0 | | | |
| 30 years or more | 5 | 10.0 | | | |
| Qualification | | | | | |
| MLS/Equivalent | 33 | 66.0 | | | |
| PhD | 17 | 34.0 | | | |
| Rank | | | | | |
| Assistant Librarian | 4 | 8.0 | | | |
| Librarian II | 11 | 22.0 | | | |
| Senior Librarian | 12 | 24.0 | | | |
| Principal Librarian | 20 | 40.0 | | | |
| Deputy Librarian/University | 3 | 6.0 | | | |

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Librarian

| /N | Statement | N | Mean | | Std. Deviation | |
|----|--|-----------|-----------|---------------|----------------|--|
| | | Statistic | Statistic | Std. Error | Statistic | |
| 1 | Abuse of copyright deprives the creator of gains accruing from his intellectual property | 50 | 3.5700 | .06237 | .62369 | |
| 2 | Knowledge of copyright law will enable librarians to render their services without violating copyright laws. | 50 | 3.4800 | .05942 | .59425 | |
| 3 | It is the duty of librarians to protect users' rights | 50 | 3.5500 | .06093 | .60927 | |
| ŀ | It is the duty of librarians to protect authors' rights | 50 | 3.4500 | .06416 | .64157 | |
| j | If there is the need to photocopy, the principle of fair use should be strictly adhered to | 50 | 3.4800 | .06110 | .61101 | |
| • | 1t is not an infringement of copyright law if a portion of a document is copied for criticism and review or for reporting in the newspaper | 50 | 3.6100 | .06178 | .61783 | |
| 7 | it is possible to obtain permission to copy or use copyrighted material by contacting the copyright owner. | 50 | 3.5500 | .05389 | .53889 | |

Table 4: Copyrighted information materials available in the public universities library

| Information motorials | • | Yes | No | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|--|
| Information materials | Frequency | Percentage | Frequency | Percentage | |
| Electronic databases | 42 | 84.0 | 8 | 16.0 | |
| E-journals | 40 | 80.0 | 10 | 20.0 | |
| Newspapers/magazines | 38 | 76.0 | 12 | 24.0 | |
| Textbooks | 50 | 100.0 | _ | - | |
| Journals articles | 48 | 96.0 | 4 | 4.0 | |
| Dissertations/ theses | 30 | 60.0 | 20 | 40.0 | |
| Others | 23 | 46.0 | 27 | 54.0 | |

Table 4 shows the copyrighted information materials available in public universities library. Findings above indicated that to a large extent electronic databases, e-journals, newspapers/magazines, textbooks, journals

articles and dissertations/theses were copyrighted information materials available in public universities library in Ogun and Lagos State.

Research question three: 3. What are the measures taken to restrict copyright violation by the librarians?

The data used to answer this question are in Table 5.

Table 5: Measures taken by librarians to restrict copyright violation in the study area

| 24 | Y | es | No | |
|---|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Measures | Frequency | Percentage | Frequency | Percentage |
| Copyright warnings should be displayed in conspicuous locations in my library to pass the message across to the users | 41 | 82.0 | 9 | 18.0 |
| Library should provide a photocopy machine within the library where copies will be monitored to avoid violation | 50 | 100.0 | - | - |
| Thesis and dissertation should only be made available to users for just consultations | 20 | 40.0 | 30 | 60.0 |
| Photocopying of entire journal should be restricted to library users | 23 | 46.0 | 27 | 54.0 |
| License agreement on database use should be displayed prominently while users browse content | 33 | 66.0 | 17 | 34.0 |
| Agreement between libraries and database providers should be made available to users. | 39 | 78.0 | 11 | 22.0 |

Table 5 reveals the measures taken by librarians to restrict copyright violation in the study area. Findings indicated that the measures taken by librarians to restrict copyright violation in the study area include: copyright warnings should be displayed in conspicuous locations in my library to pass the message across to the users, library should provide a photocopy machine within the library where copies will be monitored to avoid violation, license agreement on database use should be displayed prominently while users browse content and agreement between libraries and database providers should be made available to users among others.

Discussion

Findings based on research question one indicated that librarian within the study area possessed a high level of awareness of copyright law. Findings above were inline with the work of Fabunmi (2017) who stressed that it is the responsibility of librarians to protect the copyright of authors . Moreso, findings negate with that of Naheem (2017) who indicated that only a small percent of respondents/ professionals are familiar with copyright related issues. Findings also corroborate with the work of Johnson (2019) who indicated that there is remarkable relationship between librarians' utilization of the copyright law and protection of the copyright law. Equally, findings agrees with that of Onoyeyan and Awe (2018) who confirmed that librarians

are aware of the provisions of copyright law and take some measures to prevent its infringement. Similarly, findings were in line with the work of Nworie, Nworie and Obiano (2019). According to them, library personnel in university libraries were aware of copyright law which governs the information resources in their custody. Findings do not agrees with the work of Dicen (2014) who found that librarians' awareness of copyright is low, and Charbonneau and Priehs (2014) who also found in their study that librarians are only fairly aware of copyright policies. Findings were in line with the work of Owushi (2017) who stressed that librarians in academic libraries were aware of copyright law and as well have working knowledge of the law.

Based on copyrighted material, findings were in line with that of Naheem (2017). According to the author, a major portion of the LIS professional depend on websites as a source for getting copyright related information followed by books and articles. Also, findings were in line with the work of Onoyeyan et al. (2018) who find out among others that textbook, electronic databases, journals among others were copyrighted material available universities library worldwide. In line with research question three on the measures taken by librarians to restrict copyright violation in the study area, findings were in agreement with the work of Onoyeyan at al., (2018) who confirmed that librarians take some measures to prevent its infringement. Findings corroborate with the work of Owushi (2020) who indicted that copyright protection provides security for intellectual product and does not negatively affect the availability of intellectual materials. Findings also correlate with the work of Nworie et al (2019) who stressed that library personnel in universities library in Nigeria comply with the provision of the Copyright Act to a high extent.

Conclusion

There is no doubt that copyright law gives fortification to inventors of information resources and also provide for a balance between promoting the users' right as well as creators' right. Therefore, the impact of processional / academic librarians who are the guardians of intellectual property made them vital in the management of copyright law. It is therefore recommended that:

- 1. Library management should sensitize and make library personnel in the library to be aware of copyright law and its violation through the organization of workshops and seminars on copyright issues to increase their level of awareness in order to increase the level of compliance with copyright practices in the library.
- 2. Librarians should to create more awareness in order to ensure that libraries protect the rights of creators.
- 3. Librarians need to provide access to information for users based on balanced law.
- 4. Libraries should ensure that copyright warnings are displayed in conspicuous locations in the library.
- 5. Agreement between libraries and database providers should be made available to users to prevent them from abusing copyright law.
- 6. Libraries should have policy on copyright. Every library worker and user should be educated in this regard in order to familiarize them with the copyright provision.
- 7. As copyright violation can easily be carried out in the libraries, librarians should be more intentional and aggressive in ensuring that copyright is not violated in the library by

engaging all the available measures to ensure compliance.

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