

## **Parents' Preference for Private Secondary Schools in Nigeria**

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**ABSTRACT** The study examined the phenomenon of parental preference for private secondary schools in Nigeria. The population consisted all the parents and guardians of children in private secondary schools. Purposive random sampling was used to select 750 parents from various private schools during the Parents-Teacher Association (PTA) meeting. An instrument designated Parental Preference for Private Secondary Schools (PPSS) was used to collect data. The instrument was validated and reliability coefficient was found to be 0.87. The results were analysed using frequency counts and percentages. The findings revealed some factors such as teacher quality and quantity, facilities, class size, curriculum practices, stability of academic activities, disciplinary concerns, cost effectiveness and overall output quality as responsible concepts preference to private secondary schools. Some of the recommendations made were curriculum implementation should be more targeted and student specific in public schools, public school administrators are encouraged to learn from best practices that makes private secondary school such an attractive option for both students and parents. Government is encouraged to borrow leaf from the management and supervision of charter schools in Columbia and Philippines who designed quality activity and requirements that are consistent with the ever changing intellectual, social and physical development of the child.