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STUDENT UNION ELECTION MALPRACTICES AND VIOLENCE IN NIGERIA AS PERCEIVED BY TERTIARY INSTITUTION STUDENTS IN OGUN STATE

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Abstract

Elections are supposed to be a mechanism to produce leaders democratically and peacefully. But student union elections in Nigeria are far from being peaceful and democratic. The study assessed electoral malpractices and violence during the students' union election as perceived by tertiary institutions in Ogun State. Four (4) research questions were raised and answered in the study. The study was carried out using a descriptive research design. The target population of the study consists of all seven thousand six hundred students of the Federal College of Education (FCE), Osiele, and Sikiru Adetona College of Education Science and Technology (SACOTEC), Omu-Ijebu, Ogun State. Three hundred and twenty (320) students were selected for the study using a convenience sampling procedure. A self-designed questionnaire tagged "Student Union Election Malpractices and Violence Questionnaire" (SBEMVQ) was used to obtain information from the respondents. The data were analysed using descriptive analysis of the mean and standard deviation. The finding showed that students' attitudes towards participating in the student union election are low, and interference by the school management contributes to students' low level of interest in the student union election. Based on the findings, the study recommended that universities set up an awareness process for educating students on the need to participate in student union elections, strict enforcement

of rules, and the adoption of e-voting to reduce electoral malpractice and violence during student union elections.

Keywords: Student Union, Election, Malpractices, Violence, Tertiary institution

Introduction

The success of any democracy lies in the efforts and commitment of citizens to maintain their democracy; therefore, for the country to achieve true democracy, citizens must be actively involved and participate fully in sustaining the democratic process (Ogbe & Ojie, 2020). Through democratic practice, citizens must focus on promoting and sustaining the ideals of democracy. The young people of any nation are one of the most important forces to consider in decision-making in society. The young people constitute the largest percentage of the Nigerian population, with an estimated population of 70% of youths living in Nigeria (Premium, 2022). It is therefore important that youths be considered in democratic decisions in the country. The young people must not limit their political participation and democratic practice to only voting during the national election but must also contribute towards sustaining democratic practice in the country (Owonikoko, 2021). If the youths will participate meaningfully in sustaining democracy in a larger society, they must be equipped with the ideals, knowledge, and democratic practices that will make them function as good democratic citizens. This implies that the youth must be active in participating in the nation's democracy, starting with their involvement in the students' administration selection process in their schools. The youths must be equipped with knowledge and democratic dispositions that will create awareness and willingness to participate in the election process. This will encourage them to be part of the democratic process in their schools, as the decision to be part of their institution's democratic process or not is determined by their levels of democratic consciousness.

The democratic practice has its roots in ancient Greece, where all male adults are part of the decision-making process in society, especially decisions about their welfare. However, in modern democracy, the large expanse of land and the increase in the population of the citizens make it very difficult to involve all citizens in making decisions about the affairs of the state in a particular place at a particular time. This makes the selection of representatives to represent the interests of all the citizens imperative and necessary (Ofoegbu, 2018). To achieve a seamless and acceptable selective process, an electoral system was developed to make it easy for the representative of the people to be chosen through a process that involved all qualified adults in society. Elections have been identified as an important aspect of the democratic process. Elections allow citizens to select their leaders and representatives (Sobowale & Ngarabara, 2023). Elections allow citizens to choose their leaders directly or indirectly and give their opinion on how they are governed (Nu'man, 2012). Elections play an important part in the leadership selection process in any country that practices democracy. Alemka and Omotosho (2018) defined election as the process of choosing a leader who occupies an official position. In a country such as Nigeria, elections imply a process that allows adult citizens who

are 18 years of age and older to be part of the leadership selection process in the country. The electoral process could be through the secret ballot system, the raising of hands to indicate support for a candidate or lining up behind an aspirant in the election. The candidate with the highest total vote cast will be declared the winner and become the representative of the people in government.

The Student's Union is the highest governing body of the students in tertiary institutions in Nigeria, with the role of serving as an interface between the students and the tertiary institution management. This relationship between the student union and the management serves as an avenue for students to express their views and communicate their desires and concerns to the management. It's the central body through which the students pursue common goals (Sobowale & Ngbarabara, 2023; Peter & Ebimobowei, 2015). Students' union elections are a tool for students's political activists to rally voters during the institution's election. Elections to the student union are always influenced by both internal and external factors. The student' union election is a mirror of local, state, and national politics, as the student union is seen by the politicians as a major block that can be used to influence their acceptability by the students during the general election. Most candidates during the students' union election are sponsored by the school management and politicians outside the school campus (Alao, 2016; Uche & Odeh, 2017; Adekitan, 2018). In some tertiary institutions in Nigeria, the student unions organise themselves into political groups. These groups are sometimes affiliates of political parties outside the school campus. The patronage, benefits, and opportunities the student union executives received from the school management and politicians outside made the membership of the student union juicy and attractive. The meddling external authorities in the tertiary institution student union election are always geared towards making sure that their anointed candidate wins the election, and this in most cases triggers revolts and violence by the students (Sahara Reporter, 2009).

The student union electoral process is always tense and characterised by propaganda, ethnicity, and religious bias campaigns (Ojo, 2014). In some institutions, membership in some religious organisations, social groups such as tea clubs, kegites, lion clubs, and so on, and cult sub-groups play a crucial role during the student union election. Most cult groups always want to install their members in the union so that they can control social activities on campus. The activities of the cult groups introduce violence and manipulation into student union elections (Peter & Ebimobowei, 2015). The voting process during student union elections has always been manual, and it is done with the use of ballot boxes and papers until recent times when some institutions have introduced an e-voting system because manual voting allows for manipulations, which at times triggers electoral crises within the campus and subsequently encourage voters' apathy. Factors such as the interest of the mainstream politicians, suspicion of the possibility of rigging, and alleged rigging during the election process led to agitation and violence during the students' union election (Adekitan et al., 2018). The organising of students to participate in student union elections has constituted a serious challenge for the student union and institution management (Molokwu & Agu, 2014), due to the high level of electoral malpractice and violence that are associated with student union elections in Nigerian tertiary institutions (Mbamala, 2020).

Vote buying is a process through which voters offer their votes for sale and aspirants or their agents bargain to buy the votes from the seller (Nwagwu et al., 2022). Vote-buying is a form of electoral fraud. Electoral fraud is interference with the process of an election that may illegally overturn the mandate of the majority (Ugwuala et al., 2020). Electoral fraud comes in the form of underage voting, manipulating the figures of elections, mass voting by unregistered voters, multiple voting by an individual, ballot box stuffing and snatching, intimidation of political opponents using state and non-state actors, scaring away genuine voters, changing the polling unit register to discourage voters from voting, sitting polling booths in the area of a candidate to intimidate other voters, media manipulation of the election result, publication of the wrong result, and declaration of the wrong candidate as the winner (Ugwuala et al., 2020). When electoral fraud occurs, it makes it difficult for the electorate to remove an unpopular government. It aids in the installation of wrong and unpopular candidates. It in most cases leads to political apathy by the populace, who fear that their electorate opinion will be manipulated even if they participate in the process.

Vote buying gives undue advantages to unpopular candidates and improperly changes their choice of electorate (Nwagwu et al., 2022; Olorunmola, 2016). Vote buying is serving as a threat to achieving effective electoral processes and undermining the efforts of the electoral empire in conducting credible, free, fair, and competitive student union elections for the sustenance of democratic development within the tertiary institutions in Nigeria (Nwagwu et al., 2022). Vote buying in recent times has risen in proportion, scope, and sophistication as pictorial and video evidence shows the illegal distribution of money and other items to the electorate during the election period to attract them to vote for their candidates (Onuoha & Okafor, 2020). During the student's union election, candidates at times rent buses to convey students' voters to the election venue in non-residential institutions and distribute water, soft drinks, and snacks to the electorates to influence their electoral decisions in their favour. Funds were also deployed for the painting of posters and the spread of propaganda to attract voter's attention. Money and other material gifts have been considered crucial factors for candidates to run their affairs during the campaign and election periods. Student union general elections generate more attention and interest from the entire student body than departmental and faculty/college elections. This interest made the aspirant strive to win voters' attention by inducing them with gifts. In the national context, 2015, 2019, and 2023 are some of the most monetized elections in the history of electoral processes in Nigeria. Although the changes in naira colour and scarcity of naira could have reduced voter inducement and vote buying in 2023, politicians still find another way of inducing the voters using cash- cards, transfers, and recharge cards to entice the voters to vote for them. Since independence in Nigeria, most of the elections have been characterised by high levels of electoral malpractice, money politics, and electoral violence (Olowojulo et al., 2019).

Electoral violence involves all forms of organised acts by using threats, intimidation to harm, and blackmailing political opponents to influence the electoral process (Olorunlana & Nwaodu, 2020). It is also an act of violence perpetrated during political activities; this may include thuggery, the use of force, and the use of dangerous weapons to intimidate, causing bodily harm, and causing injury to political opponents. Electoral violence involves all forms of

threats, intimidation, and blackmailing against political opponents (Alberts, 2007, Olorunlana & Nwaodu, 2020). The student union election has witnessed several reported cases of election manipulation, which at times leads to violence and the loss of lives and properties within the tertiary institution campus in Nigeria (Ibrahim, 2017, Mbamala, 2020, Sobowlae & Ngarabara, 2023). Records of violence during student body elections in higher institutions of learning date back to the 1988 ABU crisis (Adekitan et al., 2018). At Mubi on October 2, 2012, several students were murdered in the aftermath of the student union election result. The police account stated that the killers were calling out the student's names before shooting them. The student union election at the Yaba College of Technology on March 10th, 2015, turned violent during the vote-counting process as thugs invaded the campus and fired shots sporadically to scare students away from the voting centre (Sahara Reporter, 2015). Eight students were injured and 32 arrested after violence erupted during the student union election at the College of Education, Kangere.

The violence was caused by ethno-religious arguments and alleged election manipulation. The students blocked the Bauchi-Gombe highway and harassed and injured students and citizens (Premium Times, 2017). Students' revolts against externalisation and rigging of the 2016 student union election resulted in violent protests by the students of Ladoko Akintola University of Technology in Nigeria (The Nation, 2016). In 2017, at Federal Polytechnic Mubi, a post-election crisis led to the deaths of some students. Also, the student union election at the College of Education, Kangere resulted in a crisis in which several students were injured (Ibrahim, 2017; Mbamala, 2020). One student was shot dead by a rival group during the student union election of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic in Owo Ondo State, which was marred by violence and alleged manipulation (Vanguard, 2021). The student union election at Federal Polytechnic Ede, Osun State, was suspended due to alleged electoral irregularities and violence that occurred between two groups (Punch, 2022).

Student union elections in Ogun State tertiary institutions also recorded electoral malpractices and violence in a few of the tertiary institutions in Ogun State. In some cases, allegations of election malpractice, management interference, and cultist support for a group have led to the cancellation of election results, suspension of students, violent protests, and closure of tertiary institutions in Ogun State. The student union election at Ogun State Polytechnic was cancelled due to electoral malpractices that occurred during the student union election, which also led to violent protests, the destruction of school properties by the students, and the cancellation of the election result. Fourteen (14) students were arrested for their involvement in the election violence for disrupting the student union election (Premium Times, September 18th, 2012). On September 15, 2015, the school management of Federal College of Education (FCE) Osiele Abeokuta closed the school following a leadership tussle by the student union government during the 2015 student union election to forestall violence over alleged electoral malpractices during the election. In addition, on September 26, 2023, the students of Olabisi Onabanjo University (OOU), Ago-Iwoye, protested against interference and manipulation of the student union electoral commission by the Vice Chancellor of the institution (Daily Post, September 26, 2023). To forestall crises during the election, the Nigerian police arrested three suspected cultists for planning to disrupt the 2024 student union

election at Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagun, Ogun State (The Eagle, February 22, 2024). These have shown the prevalence of violence and malpractice in some tertiary institutions in Nigeria. However, the prevalence of these attributes (election malpractices and violence) in the student union election among the tertiary institutions in Ogun State still needs to be studied. This study therefore aimed at assessing the perception of undergraduates on student union election malpractices and violence in Nigeria as perceived by tertiary institution students in Ogun State.

Theoretical Review

The theory that provides the background for this study is found in the democratic theory postulated by Greenberg (1987). The theory has its roots in participatory democracy, with the idea that decision-making processes require deliberation (Garson, 1987). Deliberative democratic processes are considered to transform individuals' preferences and opinions into some sort of morally and rationally justifiable and convergent position. Behrouzi (2005) thinks that the primary motives behind these transformations are the power of reason, participants' morals, and consideration of the common good, as well as the idea that decision-making is first and foremost consensus-building. The link between the theory and this study is that participatory democracy requires citizens to be part of the decision-making process in society. The study is also focused on examining the student union election, malpractices, and violence, which have their roots in student participation in the election of who emerges as their leader.

Shobowale and Nwagbara (2022) studied a comparative analysis of students' perceptions of e-voting and paper ballot voting systems during the student union elections at the Federal University, Otuoke, Bayelsa State, Nigeria. The result shows most of the respondents' preference for the e-voting system over the paper ballot voting system. Offor et al. (2016) investigates the causes, consequences, and prevalence of measures of election malpractice in the student union government of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. Findings show that electoral violence, the emergence of shameless and incompetent student union leaders, a lack of transparency, and an unpopular student union government are the consequences of election malpractices. The results further revealed that discouraging vote-buying with money or gift items, training of the student electoral body, and adequate and timely distribution of electoral malpractices were preventive measures to reduce election malpractice and violence during student union elections. Adekitan et al. (2018) examine the implementation of an e-voting system for student union government elections. The study concluded that studies have shown that student body elections in higher institutions of learning have led to unrest and violence at various instances due to mistrust in the election process. Therefore, the electronic voting system will help to eliminate the challenges of the paper-based ballot system and rigging during the voting and vote count processes. Steve, Nwocha, and Igwe (2019) examine electoral violence, malpractices, and election results in Nigeria. The result showed that electoral violence, thuggery, and other malpractices have continued to be part of the national electoral process since 1999. Anaobi (2023) assesses the perception of university lecturers on the factors contributing to election malpractice in Nigeria. Findings

showed that disregard for electoral acts by the Independent Electoral Commission (INEC) and vote buying among various political parties to win elections, among others, are perceived factors responsible for election malpractices in Nigeria.

Statement of Problem

The goal of electoral processes in any nation is to strengthen the democratic process and allow the citizen to be part of the electoral process in selecting their representatives in a conducive environment that will lead to a free, fair, and credible election devoid of irregularities and intimidations. Electoral experience in a larger society has shown that in most cases, elections are characterised by vote-buying, electoral manipulation, underage voting, and intimidation of the opponents. In addition, several studies have been carried out on electoral malpractices and violence in Nigeria within the wider political space, which have shown the effects in terms of electing the wrong people to occupy leadership positions. Students' union elections in Nigeria and Ogun State have also witnessed cases of electoral malpractice and violence that have not been given the needed attention. However, electoral manipulation, intimidation, school management interference, and violence during the student union election have not been fully reported in tertiary institutions in Ogun State. This study therefore tends to assess the perceptions of tertiary institution students about election malpractices and violence during the student union election in Ogun State, Nigeria.

Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this study is to examine student union election malpractices and violence in Nigeria as perceived by tertiary institution students in Ogun State. Specifically, the study intends to:

- i. examine the attitudes of students towards student union elections in Ogun State.
- ii. assess the factors responsible for electoral malpractice and violence during student union
- iii. examine the consequences of electoral malpractice during the student union election.
- iv. Assess the consequences of violence during student unions.

Research Questions

The following research questions guide the study:

1. What are the attitudes of students towards student union elections in Ogun State?
2. What are the factors responsible for electoral malpractice and violence during the student union election in Ogun State?
3. What are the consequences of electoral malpractice during the student union election in Ogun State?
4. What are the consequences of violence during the student union election in Ogun State?

Methodology

The study employed descriptive research design. This design helps to get the views of the students on electoral malpractices and violence during the students’ union election. The population of this study comprises all the students at all the government-owned tertiary institutions in Ogun State. The target population comprises all seven thousand six hundred students of the Federal College of Education (FCE), Osiele, and Sikiru Adetona College of Education Science and Technology (SACOTEC), Omu-Ijebu, Ogun State, The population was selected because the schools have a history of electoral malpractice during student’s union elections in the past. Three hundred and twenty (320) students made up the sample for the study. The students are selected using stratified sampling procedures and convenience sampling procedures. Stratified sampling was used to group the students based on their levels. Convenience sampling was used to select 200 and 300-level students who were available on campus during the fieldwork. This is appropriate because the 200 and 300-level students have observed and experienced voting during the student union election.

The instrument used for this study was a self-designed questionnaire tagged “Student Union Election Malpractices and Violence Questionnaire” (SBEMVQ). This is constructed from the research questions that were raised to be answered in the study. The instrument is made up of 27 questionnaire items. Section A of the instrument was designed on two scales of Yes and No; Section B was designed on four scales of SA, A, D, and D; while Section C had Always, Often, Sometimes, and Never alternatives. The content and face validity of the questionnaire were established by presenting a copy of the draft questionnaire to two experts in the field of testing and measurement for further scrutiny and modification. This was to ascertain the suitability of the instrument in terms of language, presentation, clarity, and applicability. Based on their comments, the necessary modifications were made. Also, a field trial of the instruments was carried out at another institution outside the study area. Split-half was used to determine the reliability coefficient of the instrument, which was found to be 0.78. The collected data were coded and analysed using descriptive statistics of mean and standard deviation to answer the research questions raised for the study.

Results

Research Question One: What are the attitudes of students towards student union elections in Ogun State?

Table 1: Attitudes of Students Towards Student Union Election in Ogun State

S/N	Items	N	Mean	SD
1.	I have been participating in the student union elections	320	1.51	.501
2.	I have not been participating in student union election	320	1.48	.500
3.	I assumed that election would be characterised by	320	1.61	.489

	violence that’s why I didn’t come out to vote during the SU election.			
4.	Voting during the SU election is a waste of time since the election will be rigged.	320	1.66	.476
5.	Cult-related activities that are associated with SU election made me not to participate in the election.	320	1.58	.494
6.	Intimidation by different political groups in the campus discourages me from coming out to vote during SU election.	319	1.57	.496
7.	I always have interest in participating in SU election but school assignments disturbed me most time.	320	1.64*	.482
	Average Mean		1.58	3.439

Table 1 above shows the respondents’ opinions on the attitudes of students toward students’ union elections in Ogun State. The average mean value of 1.58 (SD =.491) is below the average mean value of 2.5, which shows that students' attitudes toward participating in the student union election are low. The standard deviation shows a high level of dispersion and closeness with the mean.

Research Question Two: What are the factors responsible for electoral malpractice and violence during student union elections in Ogun State?

Table 2: Factors responsible for electoral malpractice and violence during student union election in Ogun State.

S/N	Items	N	Mean	SD
1.	Candidates winning at all cost syndrome.	320	4.07*	.931
2.	Cult group desires to install their candidate.	320	3.52	1.334
3.	Interference by the school management.	320	3.79	1.089
4.	Biased electoral umpire.	320	3.95	.937
5.	Political Parties/ government trying to install student union executives.	320	3.63	1.219
6.	Refusal of many students to come out for student union election.	320	3.97*	1.129
7.	Demands for gratification by students before voting encourages electoral malpractices.	320	3.71	1.133
	Average Mean		3.80	8.979

Table 2 shows respondents' opinions on the factors responsible for electoral malpractice and violence during the student union election in Ogun State. The average total mean of 3.60 (1.110) shows that factors such as candidates desire to win at all costs, refusal of many students to participate in the electoral process, and interference by the school management are the major

factors that are responsible for electoral malpractices and violence during student union elections in tertiary institutions in Ogun State.

Research Question Three: What are the consequences of electoral malpractice and violence during student union elections in Ogun State?

Table 3: Consequences of electoral malpractice and violence during student union elections in Ogun State.

S/N	Items	N	Mean	SD
1.	Cancellation of election.	320	2.42	.896
2.	Fighting and disrupting of electoral process.	320	2.83*	.973
3.	Distruption of electoral process believe in the electoral system.	320	2.59	1.102
4.	Discouraging students from participating in student union election.	320	2.93*	.934
	Average Mean		2.69	2.486

Table 3 shows the respondent's opinions on the consequences of electoral malpractice during the students' union election in Ogun State. The average mean score of 2.69 (SD = 0.621) shows the agreement of the respondents on the factors such as constant malpractices and violence during the student union election that have led to students not coming out to participate in the election, fighting, and disruption of the electoral process. Building a generation of students who don't believe in the electoral system. The standard deviation shows high levels of dispersion.

Research Question Four: What are the consequences of electoral malpractice and violence during students' union elections in Ogun State?

Table 4: Consequences of violence during student union election in Ogun State.

S/N	Items	N	Mean	SD
1.	Disruption of School programme	320	3.61	.686
2.	Destruction of school properties	320	3.39	.986
3.	Injury on some student	320	2.37	.974
4.	Closing down of the school	320	3.31	1.027
5.	Death of students	320	1.96	1.007
			2.93	2.739

Table 4 shows the respondents' opinions on the consequences of violence during the student union election in Ogun State. The average mean score of 2.93 (SD =.5478) shows the agreement of the respondents on factors such as disruption of the school propragmme, destruction of school properties, and closing of the school by institution management. The standard deviation shows high levels of dispersion.

Discussion of Findings

The study assesses student union election malpractices and violence in Nigeria as perceived by tertiary institution students in Ogun state. The findings of research question one showed that students' attitudes towards participating in the student union election are low. These findings are corroborated by the findings of Offor (2016) and Peter et al., (2015) who found students had low interest in participating in the selection process of their leadership. This finding might be due to student experience during past union elections that were characterized by manipulations and violence which resulted in high-level manipulation of election results and violence in the selected tertiary institutions. The finding of research question two shows that factors such as candidates' desire to win at all costs; the refusal of many students to participate in the electoral process and interference by the school management are the major factors that are responsible for electoral malpractices and violence during student union election in tertiary institutions in Ogun state. This finding is corroborated by the findings of Steve et al., (2019) and Oduntan and Ademola (2023) who found that the benefits attached to leadership positions made students attempt to win elections at all costs. This finding might be because all the issues mentioned as causes of electoral malpractices and violence during the student union election are prevalent in the study area.

The findings of research question three show that electoral malpractices during the student union election have led to the cancellation of election results, disruption of the electoral process, and discouraging of students from participating in the student union election. This finding is corroborated by the findings of Offor et al. (2016) and Peter et al. (2015), who found factors such as the emergence of incompetent leaders, a lack of transparency, and an unpopular government as consequences of electoral malpractices during student union elections. This finding might be because most of the student union leaders that emerged through manipulative processes are not always answerable to the students, but to those who manipulated the election for them. The findings of research question three show that electoral violence during the student union has consequences, disrupting school programmes, destroying school properties, causing physical injury to students that are attacked, and closing down schools. This finding is corroborated by the findings of Uqochukwu (2016) and Peter et al. (2015), who found factors such as attacks on students and school properties, the closing down of the school, and disruption of the school academic programme as consequences of violence during the student union election. This finding might be due to students' experience, which showed that school

management always takes preventive measures by closing down the institution any time students demonstrate their grievances about happenings within the campus.

Conclusion

The study assesses the perceptions of tertiary institution students about electoral malpractices and violence during student union elections. Findings from the study lead us to the following conclusion: Most of the students do not participate in the student's union election due to their past experiences with rigging and violence that characterise student's union elections. Constant power struggle, which is characterised by external influence, has continued to promote electoral malpractices and violent elections. Malpractice and violence during the student union election have sometimes resulted in the closure of schools, disruption of the school academic calendar, and, above all, promoting student electoral apathy. This suggested that electoral malpractices and violence during student union elections promoted violence and the emergence of incompetent leaders, which has eroded student interest in participating in student union elections. Adoption of measures such as e-voting and disqualification of candidates who engaged in electoral malpractices and violence from participating in student elections This suggested that measures must be taken to curb electoral malpractice and violence during elections to promote electoral participation in student union elections.

Recommendations

Based on the conclusion of the study, the following recommendations were made for the study:.

1. To enhance students' confidence and improve their participation in the electoral process during the student union election, the school management should adopt the use of e-voting for all student elections. This will reduce electoral malpractice, rebuild the confidence of the students in the voting process, and improve their participation in the electoral process.
2. To reduce candidates winning at all costs and disrupt the electoral process, school management should institute stringent measures and punishment for offenders. Affected students should be disqualified from participating in elections. Also, any candidates linked with a cult group should be suspended to serve as a deterrent to other students.

3. To reduce levels of malpractice and violence during the student union election, the school management must insist on and ensure that the student electoral body maintains transparent electoral processes and enforces the rules strictly.
4. To reduce the levels of violence that followed a manipulated electoral process, the school must provide adequate security before, during, and after the election. Politicians and people in government should desist from interfering in the student union election.

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