Assessment of NCCE's Role in Election 2008

A Study Conducted By the Research Department of the National Commission For Civic Education (NCCE)

November, 2009

CONTENTS

List of Tables			2
List of Figures	3		6
Acknowledger	ment		7
Executive Sun	nmary		8
CHAPTER 1	Introduction and Methodology	•••	11
1.0	Background		12
1.1	Objectives of the Study		12
1.2	Methodology		12
1.2.1	Introduction		12
1.2.2	Sample Design		12
1.2.3	Sample Selection		12
1.2.4	Survey Instrument		13
1.2.5	Training and Fieldwork		13
1.2.6	Questionnaire Administration		13
1.2.7	Data Capture and Processing		14
CHAPTER 2	Socio-Demographic Background of Respondents	••••	15
2.0	Introduction		15
2.1	Questionnaire Administration		15
2.2	Sex of Respondents		16
2.3	Age Distribution of Respondents		16
2.4	Educational Attainment of Respondents		17
2.5	Occupation of Respondents		17
2.6	Marital Status of Respondents		17
2.7	Religious Affiliation of Respondents		17
2.2.1	Sex of Respondents by Region		17
2.2.2	Sex of Respondents by Age		18
2.2.3	Sex of Respondents by Educational Attainment		16
2.2.4	Sex of Respondents by Occupation		20
2.2.5	Sex by Marital Status		21
2.2.6	Sex by Religion		17
2.3.1	Age of Respondents by Region		18
2.4.1	Educational Attainment by Region		19
2.5.1	Occupation by Region		0.1
2.6.1	Marital Status by Sex		21
2.7.1	Religion by Age, Sex and Region		22

СНАРТЕ	R 3 Registration and Exhibition of the Voters' Register	•••	23
3.0	Introduction		23
3.1	Year of Registration		24
3.1	.1 Year of Registration By Sex	•••	24
3.1	.2 Year of Registration By Age		24
3.2	Knowledge of the Registration Exercise		24
3.3	Eligibility of Registered Voters		25
3.4	Success of the Registration Exercise		26
3.5	NCCE's Contribution Towards the Registration Exercises		27
3.6	Exhibition of Voter Register		28
3.6	.1 Institutions that Provided Information on the Exhibition Exercise		30
3.6	.2 Success of the Exhibition Exercise		31
СНАРТЕН	4 Voter Education	•••	32
4.0	Introduction		32
4.1	Voting in Election 2008 and Motivation to Vote		32
4.2	•		33
4.2	.1 Institutions that Most Impressed Upon the Voters to Vote		33
4.2	.2 Institutions that Provided Much Education		34
4.3	NCCE's Voter Education in Election 2008		36
4.3	.1 Materials Used by NCCE in the Voter Education		36
4.3			38
4.3		•••	39
4.3			40
4.3			40
4.3			40
4.3	1	•••	40
4.4	Success of the Elections		42
СНАРТЕН	5 Collaboration and Role of Institutions	•••	43
5.0			43
5.1	Collaboration Between NCCE and EC for Effective Voter Education	on	44
5.1			
	Education and Educational Background of Respondents		44
5.1	e		
	and the EC for Effective Voter Education Against Expectations on the NCCE and the EC Need to Collaborate for Voter Education		45
5.2		•	46
5.2	5 6		48
5.3	Acceptance of Election Results		49
5.3	.1 Roles NCCE Should Play Towards the Acceptance of Election Resu	ults	50

CHAPTER 6	Field Experience of Research Assistants	•••	51
6.0	Introduction		51
6.1	General Procedures Adopted		51
6.2	Difficulties in Adopting Procedures Selected		51
6.3	Response to the Questionnaire		51
6.4	Noteworthy Issues		52
6.4.1	Politics		52
6.4.2	Economic / Infrastructure		52
6.5	Difficulties		52
6.6	Suggestions	•••	53
CHAPTER 7	Conclusion	•••	54
References		•••	56
Questionnair	e		59

List of Tables

Table 2.1:	Response to Questionnaire from the Regions		15
Table 2.2:	Age of Respondents		18
Table 2.3:	Occupation of Respondents		20
Table 2.4:	Religious Affiliation of Respondents		22
Table 3.1:	When Respondent First Became a Registered Voter		23
Table 3.2:	Institution/Body that First Provided Information to Respondents		23
Table 3.3:	Cross tabulation of Success of the 2008 Registration Exercise with		
	Eligibility of those Who Registered in 2008		25
Table 3.4:	Did you Check Your Name and Centre During the 2008 Exhibition		
	Exercise		29
Table 3.5:	Cross tabulation of Did You Check Your Name and Centre During	g the	
	2008 Exhibition Exercise as Against Did You Receive Informatio	n	
	on the Exhibition Exercise on Time		30
Table 3.6:	Institution that Provided Information on the Exhibition		30
Table 4.1:	Institutions that Impressed Upon You Most to Vote		34
Table 4.2:	Materials Most Useful to You		36
Table 4.3:	Election Materials Most Useful to the Respondents by Region		37
Table 4.4:	Cross Tabulation of the Materials Most Useful to the Respondents		
	With the Educational Background of the Respondents		38
Table 4.5:	Sources of Information		41
Table 4.6:	Cross-Tabulation of Sources of Information by Region		41
Table 4.7:	Cross-Tabulation of Sources of Information Against Educational		
	Background		42
Table 5.1:	Rating Collaboration Between the NCCE and EC for Effective		
	Voter Education		43
Table 5.2:	Cross Tabulation of Rating the Collaboration Between NCCE		
	and EC for Effective Voter Education With Sex of Respondents		44
Table 5.3:	Expectations of Collaborations Between NCCE and EC		45
Table 5.4:	Expected Role of NCCE During Declaration of Results		47
Table 5.5:	Cross Tabulation Showing Expected Role of NCCE During the		
	Declaration of Results as Against Whether the NCCE Did Play		
	Such Roles		48
Table 5.6:	Ranking of Institutions		49
Table 5.7:	Role NCCE Should Play in Acceptance of Results		50

List of Figures

Fig 2.1:	Sex of Respondents	 16
Fig 2.2:	Educational Background of Respondents	 19
Fig 2.3:	Marital Status of Respondents	 21
Fig 2.4:	Marital Status of Respondents by Sex	 21
Fig 3.1:	Eligibility of Those who Registered in 2008	 25
Fig 3.2:	Did the NCCE Provide Information to You on the Registration	
	Exercise	 28
Fig 4.1:	Voting in the 2008 Elections	 32
Fig 4.2:	Institutions that Provided Much Education About the Election	 33
Fig 4.3:	Success of the Elections	 42

Acknowledgement

This survey report on *NCCE's Role in Election 2008* was conducted by the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) in November, 2009.

We acknowledge that this survey has been successful due to the support, contributions and assistance of several individuals, institutions and organizations. To Mr. Laary Bimi, we say a very big thank you for your support. We are grateful to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for their sponsorship. To the Research Assistants who collected the data, and their directors, we say thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Our commendation also goes to the staff of the Research Department of the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) headed by Mrs. Gertrude Zakariah-Ali, the directors and regional directors for their contributions.

The interviewees who availed themselves to be interviewed also deserve commendation as well as the community leaders for their support.

Finally, NCCE acknowledges with gratitude the diverse contribution of several other people who made this survey a success.

Baron Y. Amoafo Deputy Chairman (Programmes)

Executive Summary

The Study to assess NCCE's role in Election 2008 was undertaken in November 2009. A total of one thousand, four hundred and forty people were interviewed in sixty constituencies sampled from all the ten regions of Ghana. The highlights of the findings are presented in this summary.

Year of Registration

Majority of the respondents, nine hundred and twenty-seven (64.4 per cent), registered before the year 2000. Only one hundred and fifteen (8.0 per cent) registered in 2008. The least number of respondents, forty-five (3.1 per cent), registered in 2006. Of the seven hundred and sixty-nine male respondents, five hundred and nine (66.2 per cent) registered before 2000. Females who registered before 2000 were 412 (62.4 per cent) out of the total of six hundred and sixty female respondents. Out of a total of one hundred and fifteen respondents who registered in 2008, forty-one (2.8 per cent) were aged 19 and below, and another seventy (4.9 per cent) were in the 20–29 age group.

Knowledge About the 2008 Registration Exercise

When respondents were asked to mention the institution or body from which they first obtained information on the 2008 registration, six hundred and forty-six (44.9 per cent) mentioned the Electoral Commission, while four hundred and twenty-eight (29.7 per cent) mentioned the NCCE. Another two hundred and ten (14.6 per cent) first obtained their information from political parties. Civil Society Organizations reached only twenty-eight (1.9 per cent) respondents first with information on the registration.

On the eligibility of those who turned out to register, majority of respondents, one thousand one hundred and seven (76.9 per cent) said those who registered in the 2008 were eligible. Apart from eight interviewees who didn't respond to the question, the remaining three hundred and twenty-five (22.6 per cent) of the respondents were of the view that those who registered in year 2008 were not eligible.

When respondents were asked if NCCE provided any information to them on the registration exercise, one thousand and fifty-seven (73.4 per cent) confirmed receiving information from the NCCE. Three hundred and seventy-six (26.1 per cent) of the respondents said they didn't receive any information from the NCCE. Fifty-nine per cent (659) of those who received information from the NCCE did so through public announcements and durbars, while nineteen per cent (205) of respondents received their information through posters/ hand bills /stickers. Another twelve per cent (124) of respondents who received information from the NCCE did so through the media.

Majority of respondents agreed that the registration exercise was successful. A small proportion, three hundred and thirty-four (23.9 per cent) of the respondents said it was not successful. Eleven respondents were not able to assess the exercise.

Exhibition of the Voters Register

Thousand two hundred and fifty-one (86.9 per cent) respondents checked their centres and names during

the 2008 exhibition of the voters register. Only eighty-one (12.6 per cent) didn't check their names. As to whether respondents received information on the exhibition exercise on time, thousand two hundred and thirty-seven (85.9 per cent) said they did. One hundred and eighty-eight (13.1 per cent) did not receive the information on time.

The National Electoral Commission, National Commission for Civic Education and political parties were identified as the three leading institutions that provided information on the exhibition exercise. Five hundred and seventy-eight (40.1 per cent) of respondents identified the NCCE, five hundred and sixty-three (39.1 per cent) the EC, and two hundred and twenty-five (15.6 per cent) chose political parties.

Majority of respondents, one thousand, one hundred and eighty-six (82.4 per cent) said the exhibition was successful, while two hundred and thirty-nine (16.8 per cent) said it was not.

Institutions and Voter Education in 2008 Elections

Majority of respondents, thousand three hundred and eighty-four (96.1 per cent) voted in the 2008 elections. Only fifty-four (3.8 per cent) respondents were not able to vote. Five hundred and thirty-seven (37.3 per cent) respondents said they were most impressed upon to vote by the NCCE, while four hundred and thirty-nine (30.5 per cent) said it was the political parties that most impressed upon them to vote. Another two hundred and sixty-six chose the EC as the institution that most impressed upon them to vote.

On the extent of information provided by the institutions, six hundred and fifty-nine (45.8 per cent) respondents said the NCCE provided them with much information. The EC was mentioned by three hundred and seventy-seven (26.2 per cent) respondents, while two hundred and seventy-four (19.0 per cent) said the political parties provided much information.

NCCE's 2008 Voter Education

The six hundred and fifty-nine (45.8 per cent) respondents who received much education from the NCCE did so through various materials and programmes deployed by the Commission. One thousand and three respondents (69.7 per cent) confirmed they received voter education materials from the NCCE. Four hundred and thirty-four (30.1 per cent) however never received any materials. Majority of respondents, seven hundred and seventeen (49.8 per cent), who received the materials found posters to be the most useful.

On methods used by the NCCE, five hundred and twenty-eight (36.7 per cent) of the total respondents said durbars were the most useful. This was followed by street announcements with four hundred and eighty-four (33.6 per cent) mentioning it. The third most useful method was the media with three hundred and fifteen (21.9 per cent) choosing it.

More respondents rated public education programmes as informative, to a large extent, than any other programme. As many as 384 (26.7 per cent) respondents said public lectures were informative to a large extent, with another 313 (21.2 per cent) rating public lectures as informative to some extent. For radio talkshows, 227 (15.8 per cent) said they were informative to a large extent, with 217 (15.1 per cent) saying to some extent.

Even though the NCCE's radio programmes were rated as less informative than the public lectures, majority of the 1,440 respondents identified radio as an important source of information when asked to mention the three most important sources of information. Thousand two hundred and sixty-four (1,264) chose radio, while seven hundred and seventy-nine chose public lecture.

NCCE/EC Collaboration for Effective Voter Education

Over sixty per cent of respondents (877) were satisfied with the collaboration between the NCCE and EC for effective voter education. Sixteen per cent (230) however felt it was not effective, and another twenty-one per cent (314) could not rate the collaboration.

On how respondents expected the NCCE and the EC to collaborate, sixty-eight per cent (983) respondents said they should organize joint voter education programmes. Almost nine per cent (128) said the two institutions should meet regularly to review their programmes.

Roles of NCCE During Declaration and in Acceptance of Results

Fifty-three per cent of respondents (767) said NCCE's role during the declaration of results was to inform stakeholders on the need to be tolerant and law abiding. Seventeen per cent also felt the NCCE should have representatives at the various polling stations. Respondents were able to say the extent to which the NCCE performed the expected roles in relation to election 2008.

Of the 767 respondents who expect the NCCE to educate stakeholders on tolerance, 319 of them agreed this role was fullfilled during election 2008. The rest said the NCCE did not play the role during declaration of results. Eighty of the 247 respondents who expected the NCCE to have representatives at the polling stations said this was the case in 2008, while 162 said it was not the case.

Respondents identified the Electoral Commission, the NCCE and political parties as the three most important institutions that have a responsibility to ensure that election results are accepted. One thousand, three hundred and twelve (1,312) chose the EC, one thousand and forty-eight (1,048) chose the NCCE and nine hundred and fifty (950) chose political parties.

The roles expected of the NCCE in ensuring the acceptance of results include informing stakeholders on the need for peace, tolerance and acceptance of the results. Emphasis should also be put on tolerance after acceptance of the results.

Success of Election 2008

One thousand and ten (91.0 per cent) respondents were of the view that the 2008 elections were successful. Only one hundred and twenty-two (8.5 per cent) felt the elections were not successful. Happily, only sixty-eight (4.7 per cent) of respondents said the elections were marred by several anomalies.

CHAPTER 1 Introduction and Methodology

1.0 Background

Elections are an integral part of every democratic dispensation, since it is the process by which governments are elected into office. With the institution of the Fourth Republic and the 1992 Constitution, Ghanaians have gone through five successful presidential and parliamentary elections and four district assembly elections. Ghanaians have also successfully changed government twice through the ballot box, and it is therefore believed that democratic governance in Ghana is deepening by the year.

The 2008 general election was crucial and stakes were high because the government in power was determined to hand over power to the presidential candidate of its party whiles members of the opposition were also bent on taking over power from the ruling party. The period was highly volatile where every unguarded comment made was attributed to the action or inactions of a particular political party. Tempers did run high and the need for tolerance seems to have been forgotten.

It was against the backdrop of this emotionally charged situation that all stakeholders, including the NCCE, got on board with various educational programmes to ensure peaceful and successful elections. As a result, the NCCE and other institutions played a key role in the success of the elections. The NCCE as a constitutional body established by an Act of Parliament (Act 452) is mandated to educate the citizenry on the tenets of the Constitution. The Commission in pursuit of it mandate performs the following functions:

- a) To create awareness and sustain within the society the awareness of the principle and objectives of the Constitution as the fundamental law of the people of Ghana.
- b) To educate and encourage the public to defend the Constitution at all times against all forms of abuse and violations.
- c) To formulate for the consideration of the Government, from time to time, programmes at the national, regional and district levels aimed at realising the objectives of the Constitution.
- d) To formulate, implement and oversee programmes intended to inculcate in the citizens of Ghana awareness of their civic responsibilities and an appreciation of their views and obligations as free people.
- e) To assess for the information of the government, the limitations of the achievement of true democracy arising out of the existing inequalities between different strata of the population and make recommendations for redressing these inequalities.

As part of its functions the Commission in every election period undertakes extensive education on the need to vote as a right and a civic responsibility of every citizen and also ensure peaceful elections. The 2008 general election was not different. The Commission as usual embarked on a vigorous and intensive education to ensure peaceful, free and fair elections.

Various education programmes were undertaken throughout the country by the Commission. These took the form of community drama programmes, cinema shows, public lectures, radio talk shows, TV programmes, mobile/street announcements and durbars. Various materials were also used in the education which were leaflets/handbills, posters and stickers. This was to convey to Ghanaians the need

for tolerance and unity in order to ensure that our beloved country would not become like neighbouring countries which have been plunged into chaos as a result of elections.

1.1 Objectives of the Study

Therefore, the main purpose of this study *Assessment of NCCE's Role in Election 2008*, was to find out the extent to which NCCE's voter education was effective towards a successful elections. The specific objectives were to find out:

- If the various activities the NCCE undertook towards the voter education exercise could be identified by citizens.
- The extent to which such education was useful.
- The best public education approach in the community that was appropriate for voter education
- Educational materials used by the NCCE that were most useful.
- The most important source of information on voter education to the voter.
- How effectively the NCCE collaborated with the EC during the general election.

1.2 Methodology

1.2.1 Coverage Area

The study was undertaken in all the ten regions of the country. Of the One hundred and thirty-eight districts, sixty were selected for the exercise due to limited resource.

1.2.2 Sample Design

The study was designed as a representative nationwide sample survey, where every person 18 years and above in a household in the country had an equal chance of inclusion in the sample. Considering the main objectives of this survey, the basic sampling unit was determined to be the household. The institutional population, namely hospitals, boarding houses, was excluded because people in such institutions do not constitute a household. The household, for the purpose of this survey, follows that of the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS, 2000), which defines it as a person or group of persons who live together in the same house or compound, share the same house keeping arrangements and are catered for as one unit. It also includes members of a household who have been away from the house for a period up to three months as a result of schooling or travelling.

1.2.3 Sample Selection

Sixty (60) districts were selected from the ten regions of Ghana; the number of districts selected from a region depended on the registered population of the region, and the number of districts within the region. In the selection of the household, the household Kish Grid was used based on a specific interval of three (3) and five (5) for rural and urban communities respectively. Only one (1) respondent was interviewed in each household. In cases where a particular respondent to be interviewed is absent, the research officer replaces him/her with another member of the household.

To ensure fairness in gender representation, over 40 per cent of the questionnaires were administered to women. Four (4) of the questionnaires were also administered to opinion leaders such as chiefs, teachers etc.

1.2.4 Survey Instrument

A semi structured questionnaire was the survey instrument used to collect data from the field. The questionnaire was developed by the Research Department of the NCCE. The draft questionnaire went through some modification or adjustment of certain questions after a pre-testing conducted in four communities in Accra namely Madina, Amasaman, Dome, Weija from October 15 to 17, 2009.

The questionnaire was divided into four broad sections. The first was on variables such as background information on age, sex, educational background, occupation, marital status, and religious affiliation. The second section dealt with the registration and exhibition of the voter's register. This included variables such as knowledge on the registration exercise and success of the exhibition exercise.

The third section dealt with voting and voter education and covers variables such as the institutions which impressed the voter most to vote, how peaceful the election was and method used by the NCCE on voter education.

The last and not least is the fourth section which also dealt with Collaboration and role of institutions. Some of the variables include collaboration between the NCCE and the EC, Roles the NCCE should play during the declaration of election results, and Acceptance of election results.

1.2.5 Training and Fieldwork

In order for research assistants to be equipped with the necessary skills to undertake the field exercise, training for research assistants took place at the Public Service Union Centre in Kumasi from October, 27 to 31, 2009. The training was organized in two (2) parts. The first was for the Northern sector, comprising Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Upper West, Upper East and the Northern regions, on the October 28, 2009, while the second was for the Southern sector, which comprised Greater Accra, Central, Volta, Eastern and Western regions, on October 30, 2009.

Research Assistants from the regions were briefed on the selection procedure, objectives of the assignment and proper use of the survey instruments. This was to enable them to undertake quality fieldwork.

1.2.6 Questionnaire Administration

Questionnaires were administered to the general public aged 18 years and above. Each research assistant administered twenty-four questionnaires. Four electoral areas in each of the sixty (60) districts were covered. A maximum of eight (8) questionnaires were administered in each electoral area, however the random sampling and the day's code were applied in selecting households. The respondents Kish Grid was also applied in selecting respondents.

Each research assistant took four (4) days to complete the assignment which commenced on Sunday, November 1, 2009 and ended on Wednesday, November 4, 2009. This was not the case for Bawku due to the outbreak of violence in the area. Data collection in Bawku therefore took place from November 10 to 12, 2009.

1.2.7 Data Capture and Processing

The retrieved questionnaires were edited and coded at the Head Office. The data was captured and processed using the SPSS Software. The results were analyzed and the report produced using Microsoft Word and Excel.

CHAPTER 2

Socio-Demographic Background of Respondents

2.0 Introduction

This section looks at the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents in the regions in terms of Age, Sex, Marital Status, Occupation, Educational attainment and religious affiliations.

2.1 Questionnaire Administration

A total of 1,440 questionnaires were administered in the 60 sampled districts. There was equity in the selection of the number of districts as it was based on the regions' proportion of the population. The table below provides the regional response to the questionnaires administered.

Table 2.1: Response to Questionnaire from the Regions

Region	Questionnaire Administered	Response to Questionnaire	Percentage
Ashanti	216	216	100
Brong Ahafo	144	144	100
Central	120	120	100
Eastern	168	168	100
Greater Accra	168	168	100
Northern	168	168	100
Volta	144	144	100
Upper East	96	96	100
Upper West	72	72	100
Western	144	144	100
Total	1440	1440	100

2.2 Sex of Respondents

A look at the sex of respondents brought to light that of the 1440 interviewees, 769 representing 53.4 per cent were Males with Females constituting 660, representing 45.8 per cent. The graphical description is indicated below;

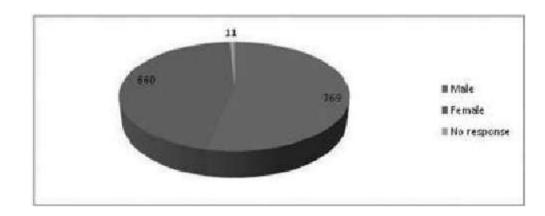


Fig 2.1: Sex of Respondents

2.2.1 Sex of Respondents by Region

At the regional level, Ashanti Region had the highest number of male respondents, 135 (62.5 per cent). Following was the Volta Region which had 86 (59.7 per cent) of its 144 respondents also being males. The Upper West Region came third as the region with 42 (58.3 per cent) of its 72 respondents being male.

For females within the regions, the Central Region had the highest proportion of female respondents with 67 (55.8 per cent) of its 120 respondents being females. The Eastern Region came next with 87 (51.8 per cent) of its 168 interviewees being females. The Brong Ahafo Region followed with 73 (50.7 per cent) female respondents. This represented a little over half of its total respondents of 144.

2.2.2 Sex of Respondents by Age

A look at the Sex of respondents and their ages brought to light that, the age group 20-29 had the highest number of male respondents, 191 (24.8 per cent) of the 769 respondents. Following were the age groups 30-39 which obtained 145 (18.9 per cent) of the male respondents and the age groups 40-49 and 50-59 obtaining 143 (18.6 per cent) and 139 (18.1 per cent) respectively. The age group 19 and below had the least number of male respondents obtaining 36 (4.7 per cent) of the total number of male respondents. On the other hand, 196 (29.7 per cent) female respondents of the total of 660 female respondents belonged to the 20-29 age group.

2.2.3 Sex of Respondents by Educational Attainment

By educational attainment, majority of the males, 280 representing 36.4 per cent had attained secondary education. Following were those who had attained basic education. They were 218 (28.3 per cent). Only 123 (16 per cent) males were educated up to the tertiary level. 112 (14.6 per cent) had no formal education. For the females, majority of them, 266 representing 40.3 per cent, had been educated only up to the basic level. Females whose highest educational attainment was up to the secondary level

followed with 169 representing 25.6 per cent .It is worthy to note that 161, representing 24.4 per cent of the female respondents had no formal education.

2.2.4 Sex of Respondents by Occupation

Looking at sex, it was evident that over a quarter, 217 (28.2 per cent), of the male respondents are either farmers and/or fishermen. Following this group are those who were either teachers or lecturers as they were 119 constituting 15.5 per cent of the respondents who were males. Traders followed with 89 (11.6 per cent) with artisans and students obtaining 87 (11.3 per cent) each. Females on the other hand had as high as 223 (33.8 per cent) of the female respondents engaged in trading. Following were those who were engaged in farming or fishing. They were 155 (23.5 per cent). Those who were teachers or lecturers followed with 60 (9.1 per cent).

2.2.5 Sex by Marital Status

For sex of respondents by marital status, it came to light that of the 769 male respondents, 477 (62 per cent) were married with 224 (20.1 per cent) single. 23 (3 per cent) of the males were widowed. 20 (2.6 per cent) of them were divorced, with the same number going for those separated. For the female respondents, 360 (54.5 per cent) of them were married while 165 (25 per cent) of them stated that they were single.72 (10.9 per cent) of them also indicated that they had lost their husbands. Those divorced were 34 (5.2 per cent) with 28 (4.2 per cent) of the 660 females also indicating that they were separated.

2.2.6 Sex by Religion

It is also worth noting that 522 (67.9 per cent) of the male interviewees were Christians, 179 (23.3 per cent) were Moslems, 60 (7.8 per cent) stated that they were traditionalists with 7 (0.9 per cent) belonging to religions such as Buddhism, Hinduism etc. Among the female respondents, majority of them, 507 (76.8 per cent) were Christians, 121 (18.3 per cent) were Moslems with 29 (4.4 per cent) stating that they were traditionalists. Two females stated that they were either Buddhists or Hindus.

2.3 Age of Respondents

2.3.1 Age Distribution of Respondents

Respondents were made to indicate their ages. For effective analysis, interviewees were categorized as 19 and below, from 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and those above the age of Sixty. It came to light that a little over a quarter, that is 387 (26.9 per cent) of the respondents were between the 20-29 age group. Following them are those within the 30-39 year group since they were 315, representing 21.9 per cent of the respondents. Table 2.2 below provides the full details on the age group of the respondents.

Age Group	Frequency	Per cent	
19 and below	60	4.2	
20-29	387	26.9	
30-39	315	21.9	
40-49	277	19.2	
50-59	223	15.5	
60+	173	12.0	
No response	5	0.3	
Total	1440	100.0	

Table 2.2: Age of Respondents

2.3.2 Age of Respondents by Region

A look at the age of respondents by regions brought to light that, of the 387 respondents who are within the 20-29 age group, 66 (17.1 per cent) of them came from the Ashanti Region. The Northern Region followed with 60 (15.5 per cent). Following the Northern Region were the Eastern and the Greater Accra regions with 45 (11.6 per cent) and 42 (10.9 per cent) respectively.

With the age group 30-39, the age group with the second highest number (315) of respondents,48 representing 15.2 per cent of the respondents came from the Ashanti Region with the Northern Region following with 43, representing 13.7 per cent. The Greater Accra Region followed with 41 (13 per cent).

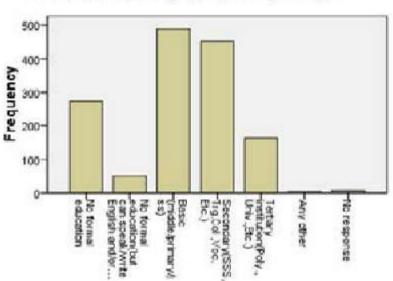
With the age group with the least number (60) of respondents, 10 representing 16.9 per cent came from the Ashanti Region with the Brong Ahafo Region following with 9 (15 per cent).8 (13.3 per cent) of the respondents within this age group also came from the Upper West Region.

2.4 Educational Background of Respondents

2.4.1 Educational Attainment of Respondents

Respondents were asked to provide their highest educational attainment. It is worthy to note that of the 1440 respondents, 488 representing 33.9 per cent were educated up to the Basic level. Following this were those who were 452 respondents who were educated up to the secondary level, representing 31.4 per cent. 273 of the respondents had not received any form of formal education. Those who had been educated to the tertiary level were 164 (11.4 per cent). In addition, those who had received no formal education but can speak/write English and or vernacular were 51 representing 3.5 per cent. Below is the graphical presentation.

Fig 2.2: Educational Background of Respondents



Educational background of respondents

2.4.2 Educational Attainment by Region

At the regional level, the Ashanti Region had its highest number, 88 representing 40.7 per cent of its 216 respondents educated up to the secondary level. For the Brong Ahafo Region, 51 representing 35 per cent (highest percentage of its interviewees) had been educated up to the tertiary level. For the Central Region, exactly half (50 per cent) of its 120 respondents were educated up to the basic level.

In the Eastern Region also, those whose highest educational attainment was at basic level recorded the highest percentage of 40.5. Just as in the Ashanti Region, the Greater Accra Region also had the percentage of its respondents educated up to the secondary education level being 33 per cent, which represents 56 of its respondents. In the Northern Region, 66 out of the 168 respondents making the majority had not attained any form of formal education. In the Volta Region, those who had obtained secondary education were the majority, thus 57 of the 144 interviewees, making 39.6 per cent. In the Upper East Region, more than half of its respondents have had no formal education. The Upper West Region had the same percentage (33 per cent) of its respondents educated up to the secondary level or with no formal education. For the Western Region, 47 representing 32.6 per cent of its respondents have been educated up to the secondary level.

2.5 Occupation of Respondents

Interviewees provided information on their occupation. It came to light that a little over a quarter (25.9 per cent) representing 373 of the respondents were into farming or fishing. Following this were those into business or other forms of trading as indicated by 313 (21.7 per cent) of the interviewees. Students accounted for 143 (9.9 per cent) of the 1440 respondents. The least number of respondents, 136 (9.4 per cent) said they were artisans. Details can be found in the table below.

Occupation	Frequency	%	
Student	143	9.9	
Farmer/Fisherman	373	25.9	
Teacher/Lecturer	179	12.4	
Public Servant	131	9.1	
Trader/Businessman	313	21.7	
Unemployed	59	4.1	
Artisan	136	9.4	
Any Other	103	7.2	
No Response	3	.2	
Total	1440	100.0	

Table 2.3: Occupation of Respondents

2.5.1

Occupation by Region

At the regional level, in the Ashanti Region most of the respondents, 43 (19.9 per cent), of its 216 interviewees are into farming, with 39 (18.1 per cent) into trading or other forms of business and 29 (13.4 per cent) who are public servants.

In the Brong Ahafo Region, 43 (29.9 per cent) constituting the majority of its respondents were just as in the Ashanti Region also involved in farming. Following this were those into trading or business who constituted 28 (19.4 per cent) of the respondents from the region. 19 (13.2 per cent) were teachers or lecturers. 18 (12.5 per cent) were public servants.

Of the 120 respondents from the Central Region, 33 (27.5 per cent) are into trading or business, those following this are the civil servants who constitute 17 (14.2 per cent). From the Eastern Region, farming or fishing are the mainstay of almost a quarter (24.4 per cent) of the respondents from the region.

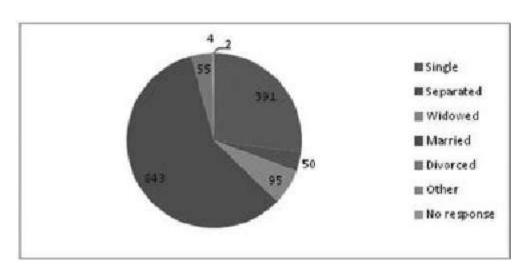
From the Greater Accra Region, trading or business is what majority, 55 (32.7 per cent), of its 168 interviewees were involved in.

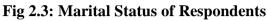
From the Northern Region, 52 (32.1 per cent) were farmers or fishermen as it was same with the Volta Region where they constituted 45 (31.2 per cent) of the respondents from the region. In addition, the Upper East ,the Upper West and the Western regions all had farming or fishing topping as the occupations most of their respondents were involved in as they obtained 44 (45.8 per cent),26 (36.1 per cent) and 39 (27.1 per cent) respectively.

20 | NCCE Research Reports Vol. II - 2007 - 2011

2.6 Marital Status of Respondents

In ascertaining the marital status of the respondents, it was realized that over half (50.8 per cent) constituting 843 of the 1,440 respondents were married. They were followed by 391 (27.2 per cent) of respondents who were single. Next were the widowed that numbered 95 (6.6 per cent). The figure below presents the full details.

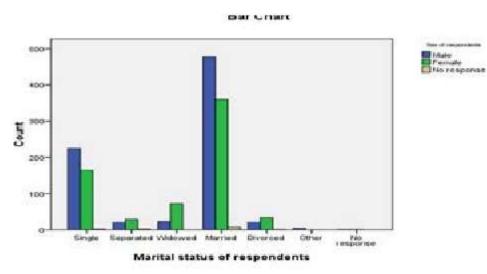




2.6.1 Marital Status by Sex

For the 843 respondents who were married, males and females obtained 477 (56.6 per cent) and 360 (42.7 per cent) respectively. Secondly, besides those who were married, the single followed obtaining 224 (57.3 per cent) for males and 165 (42.2 per cent) for females respectively. Again, of the 95 respondents who were widowed, 72 (75.8 per cent) were females with males constituting 23 (24.2 per cent). Those divorced were 55, with 34 (61.8 per cent) females and 20 (36.4 per cent) males. For the 50 respondents who were separated, 28 (56 per cent) were females with 20 (40 per cent) males. The graphical description is indicated below:

Fig. 2.4 Marital Status of Respondents by Sex



2.7 Religious Affiliation of Respondents

Interviewees also provided their religious affiliations. Of the 1,440 respondents from across the regions, 1,039 (72.2 per cent) of them were Christians, with 301 (20.9 per cent) being Moslems. Following them were the traditionalists. They were 89, representing 6.2 per cent of respondents. Those who belonged to other religious groups beside the three were 8 (0.6 per cent). 3 (0.2 per cent) also did not provide their religious affiliation.

The details are as indicated in figure 2.4 below.

Religion	Frequency	Per cent
Christian	1,039	72.2
Moslem	301	20.9
Traditionalist	89	6.2
Any other	8	0.6
No response	3	0.2
Total	1,440	100.0

Table 2.4: Religious Affiliation of Respondents

2.7.1 Religion by Age, Sex and Region

At the regional level, the Central Region topped as the region with more Christians as 89.2 per cent of its 120 respondents were Christians. Following the Central Region was the Western Region which had 88.9 per cent of its respondents who were Christians. It is only in the Northern Region that majority of the respondents, 119 (70.8 per cent) were Muslims.

Of the 1,039 respondents who were Christians, 522 (50.2 per cent) of them were males, with females constituting 507 (48.8 per cent). Of the 300 respondents who were Muslims, 179 (59.5 per cent) were males and 121 (40.2 per cent) females. For the traditionalists, 60 (67.4 per cent) were males and 29 (32.6 per cent) were females.

A look at the religious affiliation of respondents and their ages brought to light that 279 (26.9 per cent) of the respondents who were Christians were from the ages of 20-29. Following this group with 221 (21.3 per cent) of respondents were those from the ages of 30-39.

CHAPTER 3

Registration and Exhibition of the Voters' Register

3.0 Introduction

According to Article 42 of the 1992 Constitution, every citizen of Ghana of eighteen years and above and of sound mind has the right to vote and is entitled to be registered as a voter for the purposes of public elections. As a result, from August 1 to 13, 2008, the registration exercise was opened for all prospective new voters throughout the country.

Also, as part of correcting any anomalies and updating the voters' register, a provisional register is displayed at all polling stations throughout the country for voters to go and check their names for any anomalies to be corrected.

This chapter therefore seeks to assess the role NCCE played during the registration, and exhibition of the voters' register.

3.1 Year of Registration

To be part of public elections in Ghana it is important to go through the registration process to have one's name on the register. Our survey sought to find out the year in which respondents first registered and this was categorized into six, which is 'Before 2000', 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008. Of the 1,440 respondents interviewed, 927 (64.4 per cent) first registered 'Before 2000', 158 in 2000, 46 in 2002, 144 in 2004, 45 in 2006 and 115 in 2008. Five of the respondents however did not respond to this question. The distribution of respondents by year of registration can be seen in table 3.1 below.

	Frequency	%
Before 2000	927	64.4
2000	158	11.0
2002	46	3.2
2004	144	10.0
2006	45	3.1
2008	115	8.0
No Response	5	0.3
Total	1440	100.0

Table 3.1: When Respondent First Became a Registered Voter

3.1.1 Year of Registration by Sex

A critical look at the year in which a respondent first became a registered voter against the sex of respondents showed that of the 769 males interviewed, 509 representing 66.2 per cent of males registered 'Before 2000' and 412 representing 62.4 per cent of the total female figure of 660 registered 'Before 2000'. In all, the least number of first time registered voters for males occurred in 2006 with 20 (2.6 per cent of 769) males and for females, the least number of first time registered voters occurred in 2002 with 24 (3.6 per cent of 660) females.

3.1.2 Year of Registration by Age

The year respondents first registered across the age of the respondents clearly depicts that majority of the respondents who were 30 years and above registered from, before 2000 to 2002. As many as 112 of respondents within the age group 20-29 registered in 2004 and this represents 77.8 per cent of the 144 respondents who were first registered in 2004. In 2008 41 (2.8 per cent) of the respondents were in the 19 and below category and 70 (4.9 per cent) in the 20-29 year category.

3.2 Knowledge of the Registration Exercise

Respondents were asked to mention a body/institution they first obtained information from on the registration exercise in 2008.

An analysis of the results presented in table 3.2 revealed that a high proportion of 646 (44.9 per cent) respondents mentioned the Electoral Commission, 428 (29.7 per cent) mentioned the NCCE, 210 (14.6 per cent) said they first obtained information on the registration exercise from Political Parties and 28 (1.9 per cent) Civil Society Organizations. 92 (6.4 per cent) of the respondents gave any other reasons like the Media. Twenty-nine (2.0 per cent) respondents were of the notion that no institution provided them information about the registration exercise, and 7 (0.5 per cent) respondents however, did not respond to the question.

	Frequency	Percentage
Electoral Commission	646	44.9
NCCE	428	29.7
Civil Society Organizations	28	1.9
Political Parties	210	14.6
Any Other	92	6.4
None	29	2.0
No Response	7	.5

Table 3.2 Institution/Body that First Provided Information to Respondents

An analysis of the institution/body that first provided information on the registration exercise in 2008 as against respondents' highest educational attainment revealed that, all the educational categories recorded a high number of respondents mentioning the Electoral Commission as the body/institution they first received information from on the registration exercise. For respondents with the tertiary

education background, 88, that is 53.7 per cent of them mentioned the Electoral Commission, 44 (26.8 per cent) mentioned the NCCE, 20 (12.2 per cent) Political Parties and 3 (1.8 per cent) Civil Society Organizations. Also, for respondents with no formal education, 101 (37 per cent) of them said the Electoral Commission and 65 (23.8 per cent) mentioned the NCCE.

Furthermore, the survey also shows that among those who mentioned the NCCE, majority of them, 161 (37.6 per cent) had the basic level as their highest educational background, closely following were those in the secondary category 135 (31.5 per cent). This explains that the NCCE is doing well among those with lower education. An example is the civic clubs set up in the various first and second cycle institutions nationwide.

A cross tabulation of the sex of respondents depicts that 45 per cent (346) of the male respondents mentioned the Electoral Commission as the institution they first obtained information from on the registration exercise and 45 per cent (297) of the total number of female respondents also mentioned the Electoral Commission. For respondents who mentioned the NCCE, 58.4 per cent (250) of them were males and 40.7 per cent (174) were females.

3.3 Eligibility of Registered Voters

In assessing the knowledge of respondents on the eligibility of those who registered in 2008, 1,107 (76.9 per cent) said in their opinion, those who turned out to register in 2008 were eligible. 325 (22.6 per cent) of the respondents said they were not eligible and 8 (0.6 per cent) did not respond to the question. This can be seen in Chart 3.1 below.

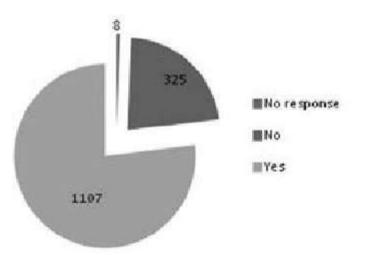


Figure 3.1: Eligibility of Those Who Registered in 2008

When respondents were asked as to why they believe that those who registered were ineligible, 248 (17.2 per cent) of them said the registered voters were under age, 60 (4.2 per cent) said there was double registration and 23 (1.6 per cent) were of the view that there were non-citizens among the registered voters. 16 (1.1 per cent) respondents did not have any idea why they think those who registered were ineligible.

A cross sectional analysis of the eligibility of registered voters indicated that both males and females respondents had a higher proportion who said most of those who turned out to register in 2008 were

eligible. Out of the total male respondents, 581 or 75.6 per cent of them believed that those who turned out to register in 2008 were eligible and 185 or 24.1 per cent of the total male respondents believed that they were not eligible. With the female respondents also, 517 or 78.3 per cent of them alleged that they were eligible and 138 (20.9 per cent) alleged that they were not eligible.

Of the respondents who were of the view that those who registered in 2008 were eligible, 26.8 per cent (297) of them were in the 20-29 age groups, 20.6 per cent (228) were in the 30-39 age range and only 4 per cent (44) were in the 19 and below range. On the other hand, for the 325 respondents who said they were ineligible, majority of them, 89 (27.4 per cent), were in the age group 20-29 and the least number of respondents were in the 19 and below age group with 15 (4.6 per cent) respondents.

3.4 Success of the Registration Exercise

To 1,085 or 75.3 per cent of respondents, the registration exercise was successful whereas 344 or 23.9 per cent thought otherwise. Only 11 or 0.8 per cent could not say whether the registration exercise was successful or not.

When respondents were asked to give reasons why they thought the registration exercise was successful, very important reasons were given and these include the following:

- The registration was peaceful and the process was fast.
- There was effective information dissemination and education which resulted in high turnout.
- Eligible people registered and there were no malpractices.
- Election officials coordinated effectively and were responsible.

Of the 1,085 who were of the view that the registration exercise was successful, 401 (27.8 per cent) said it was successful because it was a peaceful and fast process. Another 338 (23.5 per cent) said eligible people registered and there was no malpractices. This was closely followed by 221 (15.3 per cent) respondents who said effective information dissemination and education resulted in high turnout. Just some few respondents, 58 (4.0 per cent) were of the view that election officials coordinated effectively and were responsible.

A cross tabulation with respondents who said eligible people registered and there were no malpractices with eligibility of those who registered in 2008 depicts that 310 (91.7 per cent) of respondents who said eligible people registered were also of the view that those who registered in 2008 were eligible. It was only 27 (8.0 per cent) respondents of those who said eligible people registered were of the view that most of those who turned out to register in 2008 were ineligible.

On the other hand, the reasons below were given by respondents who believe the registration exercise was not a successful:

- Ineligible people registered.
- The registration exercise was not peaceful.
- Insufficient time and logistics resulted in long queues which deterred people from registering.
- Centers were not easily accessible.
- Low turnout.
- The registration process was cumbersome.

A cross sectional analysis of the success of the registration exercise by region revealed that all the regions had over 65 per cent of its respondents asserting that the registration exercise was successful.

Northern Region had 148 (88.1 per cent) respondents declaring the registration exercise was successful.

An analysis of the success of the registration exercise with the age of the respondents shows that 42 (70 per cent) of respondents aged 19 and below said the registration exercise was a success and 17 (28.3 per cent) of them said it was not successful. All the age categories had over 70 per cent of respondents affirming that the registration exercise was successful.

A study of the success of the 2008 registration exercise with the educational background of respondents indicates over 50 per cent of respondents within the various educational categories were of the view that the registration exercise was a success.

The table 3.3 gives the eligibility of those who registered in 2008 as against the success of the 2008 registration exercise.

Table 3.3: Cross Tabulation of Success of the 2008 Registration Exercise With Eligibility of ThoseWho Registered in 2008

·	Success of the 2008 Registration Exercise				
	Yes	No	No Response		Total
Eligibility of Yes	958	143	6		1107
those who reg- No	122	201	2		325
istered in 2008 No response	5	0	3		8
Total	1085		344	11	1440

Out of a total of 1107 respondents who agreed that those who turned out to register were eligible, 958 (86.5 per cent) of them agreed that the registration was a success whereas 143 (12.9 per cent) did not agree that the registration was successful.

In contrast, out of 325 respondents who believed the registered voters in 2008 were ineligible, 122 (37.5 per cent) said the registration was successful whereas 201 (61.8 per cent) said it was unsuccessful.

3.5 NCCE's Contribution Towards the Registration Exercise

As a way of assessing NCCE's role towards election 2008, it was important to find out from the respondents if the NCCE provided any information to them on the registration exercise. The chart below shows that out of the 1,440 respondents, 1,057 or 73.4 per cent said 'Yes', they have received some kind of information from the NCCE and 376 or 26.1 per cent said 'No' they had not received any information from the NCCE on the registration exercise. Seven or 0.5 per cent respondents did not respond to this question.

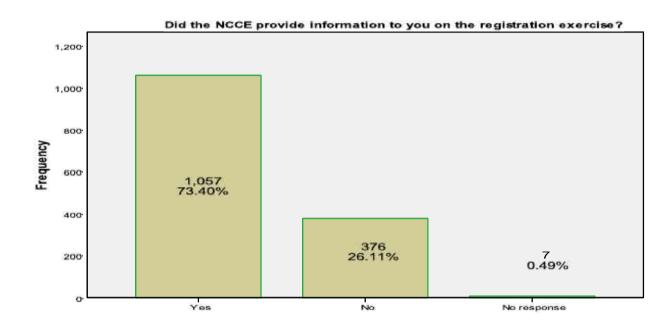


Figure 3.2: Did the NCCE Provide Information to You on the Registration Exercise

Looking at the NCCE's contribution towards the registration exercise across regions, all the regions with the exception of the Upper East had over 50 per cent of the respondents within the region responding 'Yes' to the question; did you receive any information from NCCE on the registration exercise. 56 (58.3 per cent) of respondents in the Upper East Region responded 'No'. Of the total number of respondents who said 'No' 14.9 per cent of them were from the Upper East Region.

Respondents who said the NCCE did provide information on the registration exercise were further asked to mention one means the NCCE used to provide information on the registration exercise. A high number of them, 372 (32 per cent), said it was through public announcement or direct communication. This was closely followed by those who said durbar, 287 (27 per cent). Some of the respondents however, received the information through posters/handbills/stickers, and they formed 205 or 19.4 per cent. Respondents who chose media were 124 (11.7 per cent) and drama 72 (6.8 per cent).

A look at the highest chosen means of information on the registration exercise across regions shows that all the regions with the exception of Upper West Region chose public announcement. The lowest chosen means was drama among all the regions. The Upper West Region had durbar as the highest means of information chosen by the respondents.

3.6 Exhibition of Voter Register

The electoral laws of the Electoral Commission of Ghana states that "The Commission shall not later than six months from the end of the registration period compile a provisional register of voters for each polling division stating the name, age and sex of each person whose application for registration at that division was accepted". (*Electoral Laws*, 2008, page 215).

The exhibition exercise therefore took place throughout the country from October 5 to 11, 2008. In order for the exhibition exercise to be effective, all registered voters were expected to verify their name and particulars on the provisional voter's register for any anomalies to be corrected before the voting day. The exhibition of the voters register is therefore an important procedure in the election process. It is for this reason that respondents were asked if they did check their name and centre during the exhibition exercise. The results are presented in table 3.4 below.

Bv

	Frequency	Percentage	
Yes	1,251	86.9	
No	181	12.6	
No Response	8	0.6	
Total	1,440	100	

A regional analysis of the results showed that over 70 per cent of respondents in all the regions did check their names and centre during the 2008 exhibition exercise.

Respondents who did not check their names and centre during the 2008 exhibition exercise assigned a number of reasons for not doing so and among them were that:

- They forgot.
- They were busy.
- They had no knowledge of the exhibition exercise.
- They travelled.
- Duration of the exercise was short.
- Long distance to the exhibition centre.

Of the 181 respondents who did not check their names and centre during the exhibition exercise, 55 (30.4 per cent) respondents gave the assertion that they had travelled while 11 (6.1 per cent) of them said the duration of the exercise was short. Some respondents gave other reasons as being sick.

It was therefore prudent on our part to find out from the respondents if they did receive information on the exhibition exercise on time. Out of the 1,440 respondents interviewed, 1,237 (85.9 per cent) said yes, they did receive information on the exhibition exercise on time. 188 (13.1 per cent) said no and 15 (1.0 per cent) gave no response to this question.

Table 3.5: Cross Tabulation of Did You Check Your Name and Centre During the 2008 Exhibition Exercise as Against Did You Receive Information on the Exhibition Exercise on Time

Did You	Did You Receive Information on the Exhibition Exercise on Time				
Check Your		Yes	No	No re	esponse Total
Name and Centre Dur-	Yes	1131	114	6	1251
ing the 2008	No	102	74	5	181
Exhibition	No response	4	0	4	8
Exercise	Total	1237	188	15	1440

Table 3.5 shows a cross-tabulation of respondents who checked their names and centre during the 2008 exhibition exercise as against those who received information on the exhibition exercise on time. From the table, of those who received information on the exhibition exercise on time, 1,131 (91.4 per cent) of them checked their names and centres during the exhibition, whereas 102 (8.2 per cent) of them did not check their names and centres during the exhibition exercise.

On the other hand, out of the 188 respondents who did not receive information on the exhibition exercise on time, 144 (60.6 per cent) of them did check their name and centre during the 2008 exhibition as compared to 74 (39.4 per cent) who did not check their name and centre during the 2008 exhibition exercise.

3.6.1 Institutions that Provided Information on the Exhibition Exercise

For the exhibition exercise to be effective, voters must to be educated on why they have to take part in the process, and for this we considered it necessary to find out from our respondents the various institutions they did receive information from about the exhibition exercise.

	Frequency	Percentage
Electoral Commission	563	39.1
NCCE	578	40.1
Civil Society Organization	24	1.7
Political Parties	225	15.6
Media	309	21.5
None	35	2.4
Any Other	34	2.4

Table 3.6: Institutions That Provided Information on the Exhibition

From table 3.6 above it can be perceived that as many as 578 (40.1 per cent) of the respondents mentioned the NCCE as the institution that provided information on the exhibition exercise, and this was closely followed by respondents who said the Electoral Commission, 563 (39.1 per cent). Respondents who mentioned Media were 309 (21.5 per cent), Political Parties were 225 (15.6 per cent) and Civil Society Organization 24 (1.7 per cent). To 35 (2.4 per cent) respondents, no institutions provided information

about the exhibition exercise. Among the "any other" given by respondents was the Information Services Department.

3.6.2 Success of the Exhibition Exercise

Respondents were to indicate whether the exhibition exercise was a success or not. One thousand, one hundred and eighty-six (82.4 per cent) of respondents were of the opinion that the exhibition exercise was successful and 239 (16.6 per cent) said it was not a success. Fifteen or 1 per cent of respondents however did not respond to this question.

Among the reasons given by respondents who said the exhibition exercise was a success were the following:

- Anomalies were corrected.
- It was peaceful.
- Registered voters had their names in the register.
- Effective information dissemination and education resulted in high turnout.
- Officials coordinated effectively and were responsible.
- Exhibition centre's were easily accessible.
- There were no long queues as enough time was given for the exercise.

For the respondents who said the exhibition exercise was unsuccessful, the reasons assigned included:

- Many anomalies marred the exercise at several centers.
- Not much education and information was provided.
- Inaccessible centers.
- Low patronage.
- Insufficient time.

CHAPTER 4 Voter Education

4.0 Introduction

Elections are a major characteristic feature of multiparty democratic systems by which governments are appointed into office. The key principle underlying the Ghanaian political system is the fact that every adult citizen has the right to participate in electing the people to govern them. Although Ghanaians have gone through four successful elections, voter education was still very essential to ensure more success and improvement in both the system and the process. This chapter therefore focuses on voter motivation, success of the elections, voter education, institutions involved in the education, types of education, materials used and the effectiveness of the education.

4.1 Voting in Election 2008 and Motivation to Vote

A critical look at the results revealed that a large majority of respondents, 1,384, representing 96.1 per cent voted in the 2008 elections as against a slim minority of 54 (3.8 per cent) who did not vote. This is indicated in figure 4.1 below.

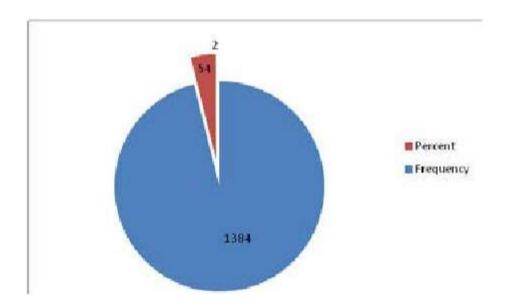


Figure 4.1: Voting in the 2008 Elections

This reflected in the regional distribution which also revealed that no region recorded below 90 per cent of the respondents who voted in the election. In the Upper West Region, 71 respondents voted out of 72 representing 98.9 per cent followed by Northern Region which recorded 165 (98.2 per cent) votes out of 168 registered voters. Ashanti Region had 216 respondents who were registered voters and had as many as 212 (98.1 per cent) people voting. Brong Ahafo, Central and Eastern regions had the same proportion of 95.8 per cent of respondents who voted. Greater Accra Region which registered the lowest proportion, 91.1 per cent of voters, had only 14 respondents who did not vote. Analyzing the results of respondents who voted against age, it was discovered that the 60+ age category had over 90 per cent of

the respondents voting. It would be thought that the aged who are 60 years and above would not be very much interested in politics and would therefore not turn out in their numbers to vote, however out of 173, 168 (97.1 per cent) voted. Further, the category of 19 years and below who were new entrants into the adult voter population had as many as 57 of the 60 respondents (95.0 per cent) voting in the elections.

The respondents when asked why they voted as many as 635 (44.1 per cent) indicated that they voted because it was their civic responsibility. The next highest of 403 (28.3 per cent) just wanted to take part in electing the people to govern them. It is gratifying to know that Ghanaians are conscious of their civic responsibilities, if people will vote because they see it as their civic responsibility. It is also an indication that the NCCE is making significant impact and progress in her work.

Out of the 54 respondents who did not vote, 22 (1.5 per cent) travelled during the period so they could not vote. The others, 6 (0.4 per cent), felt their single vote would not have any impact on the results and the same proportion of respondents lost their identification cards (ID) cards. A very insignificant proportion of 5 (0.3 per cent) had lost interest in elections whiles 11 (0.8 per cent) were indisposed.

The question to be asked is; why will people lose interest in elections and others travel during such an important national assignment, and others will not make the effort to replace their lost cards before the elections. A single vote could indeed have a significant impact on election results as was witnessed in the 2008 elections where the result was quite close. The difference between the candidates of the NDC and NPP was only 40,586 representing (0.43 per cent). The NDC candidate, Professor John Evans Atta Mills, had 4,521,032 (50.02 per cent) and the NPP candidate Nana Akufo-Addo had 4,480,446 (49.77 per cent) It should be noted that this trend of people losing interest in elections is likely to continue and voter turnout could decline drastically if politicians do not deliver on their campaign promises. The NCCE and other stakeholders also have a herculean task of increasing the level of civic awareness for the citizenry to note that voting at elections is not only a right but a responsibility and also disabuse their minds of such ideas.

4.2 Voter Education for Election 2008

4.2.1 Institutions that most Impressed upon the Voters to Vote

Various institutions and organizations, governmental and nongovernmental, prior to the elections embarked upon massive voter education to sensitise the citizenry to turnout in their numbers to vote and to ensure peaceful election. The survey therefore sought to find out the institutions that impressed upon them most to vote. The results presented in table 4.1 show that 537 (37.3 per cent) of the respondents were impressed by the NCCE. A little below a third 439 (30.5 per cent) mentioned political parties, 266 (18.5 per cent) were impressed by the Electoral Commission and Civil Society was stated by 38 (2.6 per cent). Quite a substantial number of respondents 82 (5.7 per cent) were not influenced by any institution to vote.

	Frequency	Per cent
Electoral Commission	266	18.5
NCCE	537	37.3
Civil Society Organisations	38	2.6
Political Parties	439	30.5
None	82	5.7
Any Other	60	4.2
No Response	18	1.3
Total	1440	100.0

On regional basis Ashanti and Eastern had the same number of respondents, 87 (16.2 per cent) who were educated on the need to vote by the NCCE. The next highest number of respondents was from Volta, 77 (14.3 per cent) followed by Western and Brong Ahafo region which registered 73 and 50 respondents respectively. The region with the highest number of respondents who mentioned political parties was Ashanti with 78 (17.8 per cent), followed by Northern, 68 (15.5 per cent) and Greater Accra, 50 (11.4 per cent). The rest had below 50 respondents.

Also, all the regions had below 50 respondents mentioning the Electoral Commission. Further, with the exception of the Central and Greater Accra regions which had 24 and 21 respondents respectively, the rest did not record above 15 respondents who were impressed by any institution. For Civil Society Organizations, only Northern Region reported above 10 respondents. The rest had below ten.

A cross tabulation of institutions that impressed respondents against educational background revealed that a sizeable proportion of respondents, 192 (35.8 per cent), with basic educational qualification were impressed by NCCE. Following closely was those with tertiary, 180 (39.8 per cent), and no formal education 80 (29.3 per cent).

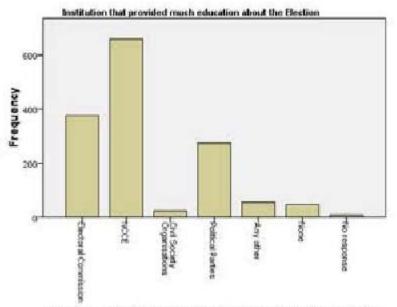
Respondents who were impressed by political parties across the entire education categories were over 100, with the exception of those with no formal education but could read and write, and tertiary education categories which registered below 100 respondents.

In relation to the Electoral Commission, respondents with basic education and secondary qualification had the same number of respondents, 99 (37.2 per cent), who were highly impressed by the Electoral Commission. Respondents with tertiary and secondary education were the only categories that had above 10 respondents, 12 (31.6 per cent) and 11 (28.9 per cent) respectively, who were for Civil Society Organizations. Those with secondary education registered 25 respondents representing the highest category who did not mention any institution.

4.2.2 Institutions that Provided Much Education

It was also very important to assess the performance of the institutions that were involved in the voter education. Thus when the question, "Which institution did you gain much education from about the elections" was put to respondents, the results as depicted in figure (4.3) below shows that out of 1440 respondents 659 (45.8 per cent) had much education from NCCE, a little over a quarter, 377 (26.2

per cent) mentioned Electoral Commission while political parties was stated by 274 (19.0 per cent) respondents. Only 22 (1.5 per cent) mentioned Civil Society Organizations.





Data from the regions showed that almost all the regions had many of the respondents saying the NCCE gave much education. Eastern Region reported the highest number of respondents 106 (16.1 per cent) followed by Ashanti Region, 92 (14.0 per cent), Volta Region, 85 (12.9 per cent), and Western Region, 79 (12.0 per cent), with Upper West Region having the least of 26 (3.9 per cent) respondents

The region with the highest number of respondents who said they had much education from the Electoral Commission was Northern Region with 56 representing exactly a third, 33.3 per cent of the respondents in the region as against Upper East which recorded the least number of respondents 16 (4.2 per cent). Regarding Political Parties it was only Ashanti Region which had above 56 (25.9 per cent) respondents. The rest were below a quarter and no region reported above 10 respondents for Civil Society Organizations.

All the age groups, with the exception of 19 and below and the aged (60+) had over 100 respondents indicating that much education was given by NCCE. Another institution which was highly identified among the age categories was the Electoral Commission. Again only the below 19 and the aged category were below 50 respondents. The adolescents were the age group which had the highest figure of 107 (28.4 per cent). Close to 30 per cent of the adolescents 78 (28.5 per cent) claimed much education was given by the Political Parties. The next was the young adult (40-45) group with 68 (24.8 per cent). The rest were below 60 respondents. Indeed, no age category reported above 10 respondents for Civil Society Organizations. This seems to suggest that educational programmes by the various institutions should be designed to target both the adolescents and the aged.

Institution that provided much education about the Election

Evidently, the educational programmes of the various institutions targeted both the literate and nonliterate. It was noted that respondents of all the educational categories were very high above 100 for NCCE except for those with no formal education but could read and write 21 (3.2 per cent) and those with tertiary education 79 (48.2 per cent) who registered below 100 respondents.

The next highest responses went to the Electoral Commission, 377. Again only respondents with no formal education but could read and write and those with tertiary qualification had below 50 respondents of 10 (2.7 per cent) and 45 (11.0 per cent) respectively the rest had over 50 respondents.

Political Parties respondents with secondary education qualification topped the educational category with 92 (33.6 per cent) representing a little above a third. Respondents with no formal education but could read and write had the least number of respondents 11 (4.0 per cent). Among the entire educational category none had beyond 10 respondents mentioning Civil Society Organizations.

4.3 NCCE's Voter Education in Election 2008

During the four elections before 2008, the NCCE implemented extensive voter education programmes which contributed to their success. In 2008, NCCE again planned and implemented many voter education activities towards the success of the Presidential and Parliamentary Elections.

The NCCE undertakes voter education as part of its broader mandate of carrying out civic education for good democratic governance. The commission embarked on vigorous voter education to sensitize the public to the need to vote and ensure peaceful elections. It was therefore essential to find out how respondents perceived the performance of the commission.

4.3.1 Materials Used by NCCE in the Voter Education

During the voter education, the commission used various materials to enhance the understanding of participants and indeed over 50 per cent of the respondents 1003 (69.7 per cent) confirmed they received such educational materials, while 434 (30.1 per cent) never received any materials. These details are captured in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: Materials Most Useful to You

Materials Most Useful to You			
	Frequency	Percent	
Leaflets/Handbills	235	16.3	
Posters	717	49.8	
Stickers	67	4.7	
Any Other	8	.6	
Not Applicable	398	27.6	
No Response	15	1.0	
Total	1440	100.0	

From the regional data, Volta reported 110 (76.4 per cent) of the respondents confirming that they received materials from the NCCE. The rest of the regions also had over 100 respondents confirming this. Only Central, 57, and Upper East, 49, registered below 60 per cent of its respondents.

The survey also sought to uncover the materials that were most useful to the respondents. It was realized that almost half of the respondents 717 (49.8 per cent) saw the posters to be most useful. Another substantial number of 235 (16.3 per cent) mentioned leaflets/handbills and the rest 67 (4.7 per cent) felt it was stickers.

This statistics is not surprising because posters have large prints with pictures which is visible and speaks for itself and could be pasted at conspicuous places and is more likely to attract attention. Leaflets/ handbills on the other hand have smaller characters which one would need some time to read and with a literacy rate of 65 per cent it is clear that these would not be as useful as posters.

The stickers are also colourful and quite educative but it is likely to be preferred by drivers who would affix them on their cars and a few people who paste them on their doors. This should therefore inform the NCCE as to the educational materials that would be most preferred by the public in their educational programmes.

It was deduced from a cross tabulation of usefulness of the materials against region that posters once more were the materials found to be most useful to respondents in all the regions. It was only Upper West and Upper East regions which had below 40 respondents as shown in table 4.3 below. The rest of the regions recorded above 50 respondents.

				Mater	rials Mos	st Usef	ul to You		
Region	Leaflets/Har	ndbills P	osters	Stick	ers Any	Other 1	Not Applica	able No Respon	se Total
Ashanti	57	71	6	1	81	0	216		
Brong Ahafo	15	92	5	0	32	0	144		
Central	5	50	1	1	63	0	120		
Eastern	26	83	12	2	43	2	168		
Greater Accra	35	80	4	1	48	0	168		
Northern	28	106	7	1	24	2	168		
Volta	22	88	2	0	30	2	144		
Upper East	7	22	21	0	45	1	96		
Upper West	19	38	0	1	13	1	72		
Western	21	87	9	1	19	7	144		
Total	235	717	67	8	398	15	1,440		

Table 4.3: Election Materials Most Useful to the Respondents by Region

Subsequently, leaflets/handbills were also quite useful to respondents from the regions. The region with the highest number of interviewees who were enthused about this material was Ashanti Regions, 57 (24.3 per cent). The Central and Upper East regions however recorded less than 10 respondents.

Stickers were the least useful as no region registered above a quarter of respondents, opting for this material.

Interestingly, with the educational qualification of respondents posters were again found to be most useful across the entire educational categories with the utmost number of respondents coming from the basic education category 267 (37.2 per cent) followed by the secondary category 206 (28.7 per cent), the next category was those with the no formal education 129 (18.0 per cent) The least respondents were those with no formal education but could read and write, 27 (3.8 per cent).

Other materials most preferred among the educational category were leaflets/handbills. Respondents with secondary education topped with 90 (38.3 per cent) respondents and the least respondents were those with no formal education but could read and write, 5 (2.1 per cent).

Again across all the educational categories, none had above 30 respondents mentioning stickers.

It would be expected that the literates and highly educated would have found handbills and leaflets most useful compared to the others, but this was not the case. Could this be a confirmation of the idea that Ghanaians are not a reading public? The details of the above analysis are shown in table 4.4.

Table 4.4 Cross Tabulation of the Materials Most Useful to the Respondents With the Educational Background of the Respondents

		Educatio	onal Back	ground of R	espondents			
	No	No No Formal Basic Secondary Tertiary Any					No	Total
	Formal	Education (1	Education (Middle/ (SSS, Trg. Institution Oth-				Re-	
	Educa-	(but can	Primary/	Col., Voc.	(Poly.,	er	sponse	
	tion	Speak/ Write	JSS)		Univ.,			
				Etc.)				
		English and/			Etc.)			
		or Vernacular						
Leaflets/Handbills	26	5	70	90	42	1	1	235
Posters	129	27	267	206	81	3	4	717
Stickers	20	5	12	26	4	0	0	67
Any Other	2	0	2	3	1	0	0	8
Not Applicable	93	14	135	119	35	1	1	398
No Response	3	0	2	8	1	0	1	15
Total	273	51	488	452	164	5	7	1440

4.3.2 Methods Used by NCCE in the Voter Education

Various methods were used by the NCCE in the educational programmes, such as drama, durbar, street/ mobile announcement, cinema shows and media programmes as already mentioned above. It was considered necessary to ascertain the views of respondents on the method that was most useful. Out of a total of 1,440 respondents 528 representing 36.7 per cent thought durbars were most useful. The other methods were mobile/street announcement, 484 (33.6 per cent), media programmes 315 (21.9 per cent), Drama 125 (8.7 per cent) and public fora and talks, 72 (5.0 per cent). It is quite amazing that cinema, which is a form of entertainment, was not appreciated much as only 50 respondents felt it was useful. This should inform the NCCE on the method to use to be more effective in their work.

Examining the statistics of the methods most useful to respondents against their educational level, a substantial number of respondents across all the levels saw durbar to be most useful. Of the 528 respondents who were appreciative of this method, as many as 190 (36.0 per cent) were those with basic education, followed by secondary, 164 (31.1 per cent) and no formal education, 102 (19.3 per cent) with the lowest being respondents with no formal education but could read and write, 16 (3.0 per cent).

Mobile/street announcements normally have wider coverage and reach many people. It was thus not surprising when most of the respondents perceived it to be useful. It was mentioned by 484 respondents across the entire educational divide. The no formal, basic and secondary categories reported over 100 respondents while the rest had below 40 respondents.

Media programmes were mentioned by a substantial number of respondents. The main category of respondents, 120 (38.15 per cent), who mentioned it had secondary education qualification. Exactly a third of those with basic education 105 (33.3 per cent) followed. It is bizarre that respondents with tertiary education who would have been more interested in media programmes were only 50 (15.9 per cent).

In the view of respondents, the drama programmes were not really useful. Only 125 respondents saw it to be of any importance. 43 (34.4 per cent) with secondary education who were in the majority thought it was useful. The rest of the categories registered below 40 interviewees. This is also strange because drama, a form of entertainment, should have been appreciated by most people. This calls for a re-examination of the drama programmes put up by the NCCE.

The programme respondents found least useful among the educational groups was cinema. The educational category with the highest proportion of respondents was basic education with 21 (42.0 per cent). The others had below 15 respondents.

Regarding programmes undertaken by the NCCE in the districts, the bulk of the respondents more than half, 807 (56.0 per cent), mentioned public lecture. The next highest was radio talk shows, 470 (32.6 per cent). Drama followed with 176 (12.2 per cent) respondents and cinema, 84 (5.8 per cent), while 132 (9.2 per cent) had no idea of programmes undertaken in their area.

The regional distribution indicated that all the regions had a good number of respondents; over 50 testifying that public lectures were undertaken in their districts. Another programme that was extremely acknowledged was radio talk shows. However, it was Eastern Region which reported the highest number of respondents of 85 (18.1 per cent) with Upper West Region having the lowest of 9 (1.9 per cent) respondents. The regions with high figures for Drama were Ashanti Region 34 (19.3 per cent), Northern Region, 33 (18.8 per cent), and Brong Ahafo Region, 31 (17.6 per cent). The rest had 30 and below respondents with Upper East Region having the least of 2 (1.1 per cent). For Cinema, apart from Eastern and Northern regions which reported 24 and 20 respondents respectively no other region recorded above 20 respondents. When respondents were asked to assess the extent to which the programmes were informative, analyses of their views are as follows:

4.3.3 Public Education

As many as 384 (26.7 per cent), which is over a quarter representing majority of the respondents said public lectures were informative to a large extent. Three hundred and thirteen (21.7 per cent) rated it to be informative but to some extent, while 39 (2.7 per cent) indicated that it was not informative at all. This was unanticipated since with public lectures people have the opportunity to ask questions to clarify issues for a better understanding which is not the same for the other programmes.

It was also noted that the bulk of the respondents with basic education 149 (38.8 per cent) rated the public lectures to be informative to a large extent.

Respondents who felt it was informative to some extent again were those with basic education, 102

(32.6 per cent), exactly a third 11 (33.3 per cent) of the no formal education category said it was only to a small extent, while 15 (38.5 per cent) with basic education said it was not informative.

4.3.4 Radio Talk Shows

A considerable proportion of respondents 227 (15.8 per cent) were of the view that the radio talk shows were to a large extent informative. A little below this figure, 217 (15.1 per cent), felt it was informative to some extent, 85 (5.9 per cent) could not rate the programme and a few, 13 (0.9 per cent), said it was not informative.

In terms of educational level, the highest proportion of respondents who felt the radio programmes were very informative were those with basic education qualification, 91 (40.1 per cent), followed by those with secondary education 62 (27.3 per cent).

Similarly, the secondary, 79 (36.4 per cent), and basic, 73 (33.6 per cent) education categories were those in the majority who thought these programmes were quite informative.

4.3.5 Drama

Drama was another programme acknowledged by a large number of 136 respondents, representing 9.4 per cent, who felt it was highly informative. A small proportion of 58 (4.0 per cent) respondents said it was to some extent informative, while 6 (0.4 per cent) indicated that it was informative but only to a small extent with 1 (0.1 per cent) saying it was not informative at all.

The same patterns of low responses were noted in the educational level analysis. The highest proportion of respondents came from the secondary level category with 56 (41.2 per cent) and lowest from those with no formal education but could read and write category 4 (2.9 per cent) who were of the opinion that it was informative to a large extent. 18 (31.0 per cent) in the secondary category said it was to some extent informative which was the highest followed by the no formal 16 (27.6 per cent) and secondary (22.4 per cent) groups. The rest had less than 10 respondents for this rating and no category had above 10 respondents who thought it was to a small extent informative.

4.3.6 Cinema

Cinema had the lowest responses for all the ratings. The highest proportion of respondents who said it was informative to a large extent were only 56 (3.9 per cent), while 31 (2.2 per cent) said it was informative to some extent and 6 (0.4 per cent) felt it was not informative.

The same pattern was noted with the educational level figures. Across the educational categories it was only those with basic education who had above 20 respondents 26 (46.4 per cent) rating it to be very informative, the rest were less than 30 per cent. The highest, to some extent, informative rating was 11 (35.5 per cent) of the basic education group. Both the secondary and no formal education categories had the same proportion of 2 (33.3 per cent) respondents which were in the majority who did not see the cinema programmes to be informative.

4.3.7 Important Sources of Information

The survey further enquired about the three most important source of information on the voter education, from the result presented in table 4.5 below, it was discovered that the first most important sources of

information identified by majority of respondents 1,264 (87.8 per cent) was radio programmes. The next most important source of information was television as noted by 928 (64.4 per cent) respondents. 779 (54.1 per cent) indicated public lectures as the third most important source of information.

Table 4.5: Sources of Information

Sources of Information	Frequency	
Radio	1,264	
TV	928	
Public Lecture	779	
Mobile/Street Announcement	696	
Print Media	235	
Cinema Vans	234	

The regional analysis revealed that across the entire country Radio programme was identified as the number one most important source of information with the exception of Upper West and Upper East regions. The second programme perceived to be an important source of information for five regions; that is the Ashanti, Central, Eastern, Greater Accra and Volta regions was TV. The third was public education which was noted by six regions which are Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Central, Eastern, Volta and Upper West regions. This analysis is shown on table 4.6 below.

Sources of Information	Regio	1								
	Ashan	ti Brong Ahafo	Cen- tral	East- ern	Greater Accra	North- ern	Volta	uUpper East	Upper West	Western
TV	165	76	83	122	132	11	102	20	43	75
Radio	200	129	103	145	143	153	130	70	65	126
Cinema	30	3	22	39	26	45	17	7	19	26
Print Media	32	17	28	26	47	14	26	8	8	29
Public Lecture	119	82	62	89	47	96	92	60	51	81
Mobile/Street Announcement	97	97	51	81	80	74	1	77	67	71

Table 4.6: Cross Tabulation of Sources of Information by Region

Similarly, Radio programmes were the most important sources of information noted across all the educational categories. It is followed by TV identified by basic, secondary and tertiary categories, while mobile/street announcement was the option for the no formal education and tertiary categories. The results are shown in table 4.7.

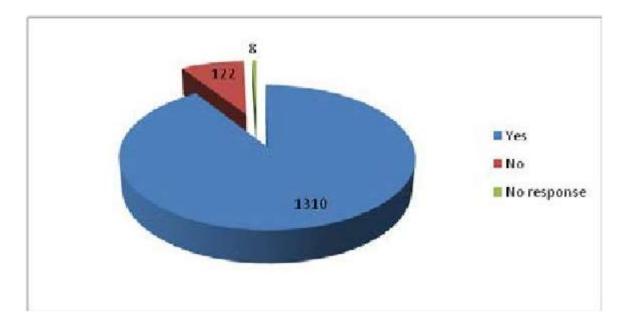
Sources of Information	Educational H	Background				
	No Formal No Formal Education But Read/			Basic Secondary Tertiary		
	Education W	rite English				
TV	144 24		328 2	298 128		
Radio	226	44	441	397	144	
Cinema	51	11	86	70	16	
Print Media	29	7	50	92	56	
Public Lecture	157	30	226	251	67	
Mobile/Street Announcement	161	28	246	189	63	

Table 4.7: Cross Tabulation of Sources of Information Against Educational Background

4.4 Success of the Elections

With the massive and vigorous education on peaceful elections it was imperative to find out the views of respondents on how successful or peaceful the elections had been. It was discovered from the details presented in figure 4.3 that 1,310 respondents representing 91.0 per cent were of the view that it was peaceful while a very slender minority of 122 (8.5 per cent) thought otherwise.

Figure 4.3: Success of the Elections



Further, a considerable number of respondents, 630 (43.8 per cent), were of the opinion that the elections were free of malpractices to some extent while 601 (41.7 per cent) felt it was free of malpractices to a large extent. Another 131, representing 9.1 per cent of them thought it was only to a small extent free of malpractices. On the other hand a few 68 (4.7 per cent) did believe it was marred by several anomalies.

After going through four successful elections it is clear that Ghanaians are making much progress in their democratic dispensation over the years and it is expected that the coming years would see much more improvement.

CHAPTER 5 Collaboration and Role of Institutions

5.0 Introduction

Elections form an integral part in the growth and development of democracy. Apart from the NCCE and the EC, there were other organizations that facilitated the success of the December 7, 2008 elections. The chapter examines the role and collaborative effort of the NCCE, Electoral Commission and Political Parties and other key players with regard to voter education, declaration of election results and acceptance of results.

5.1 Collaboration Between NCCE and EC for Effective Voter Education

The study sought to establish the collaboration between the NCCE and EC for effective voter education.

	Frequency	Percentage	
Very Effective	209	14.5	
Effective	464	32.2	
Somewhat Effective	204	14.2	
Not Effective	230	16.0	
Don't Know	314	21.8	
No Response	19	1.3	
Total	1440	100	

Table 5.1: Rating Collaboration Between the NCCE and EC for Effective Voter Education

Table 5.1 indicates that the highest response given by 464 (32.2 per cent) of the respondents shows that the collaboration between NCCE and EC for effective voter education was effective.

A total of 209 (14.5 per cent) of respondents described the collaboration between the NCCE and EC for voter education as very effective; 204 (14.9 per cent) also said it was somewhat effective.

On the other hand 314 (21.8 per cent) of respondents said 'Don't Know' when asked to rate the collaboration between the NCCE and EC for voter education. This means that they could not rate the collaboration or simply knew nothing about it. Also 230 (16 per cent) said it was not effective; whilst 19 (1.3 per cent) gave 'No Response'.

The overall picture indicates that of the 1440 respondents who rated collaboration between the NCCE and EC for effective voter education, 877 (60.9 per cent) agreed that there was some effectiveness. They however differed on the extent of the effectiveness.

A total of 563 (39.1 per cent) did not agree that collaboration was effective. 230 (16 per cent) said the programme was not effective and 333 (23.1 per cent) said 'Don't Know' or gave no response meaning

they could not rate its effectiveness. This indicates that some progress was made when the NCCE and EC collaborated for effective voter education. However, there is definitely room for improvement.

		S	ondents		
		Male	Female N	o Response	Total
Rating Collaboration Between	Very Effective	127	79	3	209
the NCCE an EC for Effective	Effective	246	217	1	464
Voter Education	Somewhat Effective	121	83	0	204
	Not Effective	130	97	3	230
	Don't Know	136	174	4	314
	No Response	9	10	0	19
Total		769	660	11	1,440

 Table 5.2: Cross Tabulation of Rating the Collaboration Between the NCCE and EC for Effective

 Voter Education with Sex of Respondents

A cross tabulation of the sex of respondents and rating collaboration between the NCCE and EC for effective voter education presented in table 5.2 above indicates that 769 (53.4 per cent) of the respondents were male, 660 (45.8 per cent) female, 11 (8 per cent) respondents didn't indicate their sex.

Of the respondents who rated the collaboration as very effective, 127 (60.8 per cent) were males, 79 (37.8 per cent), females and for 3 (1.4 per cent), their sex was not indicated.

With regard to the respondents who rated the collaboration effective, 246 (53 per cent) were males, 217 (46.8 per cent) females and the sex of 1 (2 per cent) was not indicated. Of 204 who rated the collaboration for voter education somewhat effective, 121 (59.3 per cent) were males and 83 (40.7 per cent) females. The not effective rating had 130 (56.9 per cent), males, 97 (42.2 per cent), females and the sex of 3 (1.3 per cent) not indicated. For the respondents who said don't know, 136 (43.3 per cent) were males, 174 (55.4 per cent) females and the sex of 4 (1.3 per cent) not indicated. The 'No response' rating had 9 (47.4 per cent) males and 10 (52.6 per cent) females.

It is interesting to note that more males rated the collaboration between the NCCE and EC for effective voter education to be very effective, effective, somewhat effective. More females gave a 'don't know' or 'No Response' answer when asked to rate the collaboration.

5.1.1 Rating Collaboration Between the NCCE and EC for Effective Voter Education and Educational Background of Respondents

It is indicated that 488 (39.9 per cent) of respondents who rated the collaboration between NCCE and EC for effective voter education had their highest educational attainment to be basic/middle/primary and JHS level. The next group of 452 (31.4 per cent) had secondary level to be their highest educational attainment.

Another 273 (19 per cent) had no formal education, 164 (11.4 per cent) had tertiary education. Also 51 (3.5 per cent) had no formal education but can speak or write English, 5 (0.3 per cent) mentioned

an education category either than those listed and 7 (0.5 per cent) gave 'No response' to the question.

The purpose of the study is to improve the work of institutions especially NCCE in voter education. In the light of this the respondents were asked how they expected the NCCE and EC to collaborate for effective voter education.

	Frequenc	y %
Organize Joint Voter Education	983	68.3
The Two Organizations Should Meet Regularly to Review their	128	8.9
Programmes and Activities		
Set up a Board Which Would Meet Regularly on Voter Issues	28	1.9
Do not know much on the work NCCE	12	0.8
There is No Need for them to Collaborate Since They Perform Different	28	1.9
Functions		
Any Other	155	10.8
Don't Know	12	0.8
No Response	87	6.0
Total	1440	100

Table 5.3: Expectations of Collaborations Between NCCE and EC

The table indicates that 983 (68.3 per cent) of the respondents said that the NCCE and EC should organize joint voter educational programmes. Again 128 (8.9 per cent) of the respondents wanted the two organizations to meet regularly to review their programmes and activities. Another 28 (1.9 per cent) of respondents recommended that they should organize workshops for their staff; 28 (1.9 per cent) did not see the need for the collaboration since they performed different functions.

Another 12 (0.8 per cent) said they did not know much about the work of NCCE. Some respondents, 155 (10.8 per cent), gave an 'Any other' response, 87 (6.0 per cent) gave 'No response' while 2 (0.8 per cent) said 'Don't know'.

5.1.2 A Cross Tabulation on the Rating of Collaboration Between the NCCE and the EC for Effective Voter Education Against Expectations On How the NCCE and the EC Need to Collaborate for Voter Education

This looks at the cross tabulation on the rating of collaboration between the NCCE and the EC for effective voter education against the Expectations of the collaboration between the NCCE and the EC for voter education.

The respondents who said they expected the NCCE and EC to organize joint voter educational programmes were 983 (68.3 per cent). The respondents in this category gave various responses to the level of effectiveness of collaboration. The analysis indicates that 129 (13.1 per cent) said the collaboration between NCCE was very effective, 350 (35.6 per cent) described it as effective, 141 (14.3 per cent) described it as somewhat effective, 164 (16.7 per cent) said it was not effective, 188 respondents (19.2 per cent) said they simply don't know and 11 (1.2 per cent) gave No response.

The respondents, whose expectation of collaboration between the NCCE and EC was that the organizations should meet regularly to review their programmes, were 128 representing (8.9 per cent).

In this category of respondents 43 (33.6 per cent) rated the collaboration as very effective, 42 (32.8 per cent) described as effective, 14 (10.9 per cent) described as somewhat effective, 13_(10.2 per cent) said it was not effective, 15 (11.7 per cent) said don't know and 1 (0.8 per cent) gave 'No response'.

The respondents who said they expected the NCCE and EC to collaborate by organizing workshops for their staff were 28, representing (1.9 per cent). From this category of respondents 4 (14.3 per cent) said the collaboration was very effective, 10 (35.7 per cent) described it as effective, 4 (14.3 per cent) said it is somewhat effective, 3 (10.7 per cent) felt it was not effective, 6 (21.4 per cent) said 'Don't know' and 1 (3.6 per cent) gave no response.

A total of 28 (1.9 per cent) respondents expected the NCCE and EC in their collaboration for voter education to set up a board which would meet regularly on voter issues. This category rated the collaboration between the NCCE and the EC for voter education as follows: 1 (14.3 per cent) described it as very effective, 4 (57.1 per cent) said the collaboration was effective, 1 (14.3 per cent) described it as somewhat effective, nobody described it as not effective from this group, 1 (14.3 per cent) said 'Don't know'.

The respondents that said they did not know much about the work of the NCCE were 12 representing (0.8 per cent). Of this category of respondents none described the collaboration as very effective, 2 (16.7 per cent) said it was effective, 1 (8.3 per cent) said it was not effective and 9 (75 per cent) said they 'Don't know'.

Some 28 (1.9 per cent) respondents in stating the expectations of collaboration between the NCCE and the EC said there was no need for the two organizations to collaborate since they performed different functions. Of this category, 5 (17.9 per cent) of the respondents described the collaboration as effective, 3 (10.7 per cent) said it was somewhat effective, 34 (50 per cent) said it was not effective, 5 (17.9 per cent) said it was not effective, 5 (17.9 per cent) said 'Don't know' and 1 (3.6 per cent) respondents gave No response.

A total of 124 gave an 'Any Other' response either than the listed expectations. Of these 19 (12.3 per cent) said the collaboration for voter education was very effective, 39 (25.2 per cent) described it as effective, 3 (10.7 per cent) somewhat effective, 26 (16.8 per cent) said not effective, 37 (23.9 per cent) said don't know.

5.2 Roles NCCE Should Play During the Declaration of Results

The declaration of election results is an important aspect of the electoral process. There is the need to inform citizens, political parties and the nation as a whole to be law abiding, tolerant and have a peaceful co-existence during and after the elections.

It is in this light that the respondents were asked what role they expected the NCCE to play during the declaration of election results.

Table 5.4: Expected Role of NCCE During Declaration of Results

	Frequency	Per cent
Educate All Stakeholders, Particularly the Media, Political Parties and the	767	53.3
Public on the Need to be Tolerant and Law Abiding During the Period		
NCCE Should Have Representatives at the Various Polling Centers	247	17.2
NCCE Should Keep the Public Adequately Informed on the Constitutional	224	15.5
Provision Concerning the Declaration of Results		
NCCE Should be Neutral as they Have No Role to Play	40	2.8
Any Other	104	7.2
Don't Know	17	1.2
No Response	41	2.8
Total	1,440	100

A total of 767 (53.3 per cent) respondents said that the NCCE should inform all stakeholders particularly the Media, Political Parties and the citizenry on the need to be tolerant and law abiding during the election period.

Also 247 (17.2 per cent) of respondents said that the NCCE should have representatives at the various polling centre's. Another 244 (15.6 per cent) of respondents indicated that the NCCE should keep the public adequately informed on constitutional provisions concerning the declaration of results. Of the 1,440 respondents 104 (7.2 per cent) mentioned expected roles not listed. These included; NCCE should be part of the declaration and that NCCE should educate the public to accept results.

A few respondents, 40 (2.8 per cent), said the NCCE should be neutral, since the NCCE did not have a role to play with regard to the declaration of election results. Also 17 (1.2 per cent) said 'Don't know'. This meant they did not know whether the NCCE had a role to play in the declaration of results; 41 (2.8 per cent) gave no response to the question.

Majority of respondents, 1238 (86 per cent), could identify the expected roles of the NCCE during the declaration of results.

Of the remaining 202 (14 per cent) respondents, 40 (2.8 per cent) felt the NCCE had no role to play in the declaration of results. Another 104 (7.2 per cent) mentioned other roles; 41 (2.8 per cent) of respondents gave no response to the question and 17 (1.2 per cent) did not know what role the NCCE was expected to play.

The NCCE has a task of informing the dissenting citizens of its expected role in declaration of election results.

5.2.1 NCCE'S Roles in Election 2008

		Did Role	the NCCl es	Total	
		Yes	No No	Response	
Expected Role of NCCE During the laration of results	Educate All Stakeholders, Particularly Dec- the Media, Political Parties and the Public on the Need to be Tolerant and Law Abiding During the Period	319	421 27		767
	NCCE Should Have Representatives at the Various Polling Centers	80	162	5	247
	NCCE Should Keep the Public Ad-9 equately Informed on Constitutional Provision Concerning the Declaration of Results	4	124	6	224
	NCCE Should be Neutral as they Have no Role to Play	17	14	9	40
	Any Other	26	73	5	104
	Don't Know	1	8	8	17
	No Response	5	17	19	41
Total		542	819	79	1440

 Table 5.5: Cross tabulation Showing Expected Role of NCCE During the Declaration of Results as

 Against Whether the NCCE Did Play Such Roles

A cross tabulation between the NCCE's expected roles and whether the NCCE played such roles in 2008 produced the results shown in table 5.5. The respondents who said the expected role of NCCE during the declaration of results was to inform all stakeholders particularly the media, political parties and the public on the need to be tolerant and law abiding during the election period were 767, representing 53.3 per cent of the 1,440 respondents. A cross tabulation on this expected role of NCCE and its performance in election 2008 indicates that 319 (41.6 per cent) said 'Yes' meaning the NCCE performed this role in the 2008 elections. Another 421 (54.9 per cent) said 'No' indicating NCCE did not perform the role in the 2008 election; 27 (3.9 per cent) of them gave 'No response'.

The respondents who answered that the expected role of the NCCE was to have representatives at the various polling centers were 247 (17.2 per cent). In this category 80 (32.4 per cent) said 'Yes' meaning the NCCE played this role in the 2008 election whilst 162 (65.6 per cent) said 'No' they did not play this role in the 2008 election. 5 (2 per cent) gave 'No response'.

The respondents who said the expected role of NCCE was to keep the public adequately informed on constitutional provisions concerning the declaration of results were 224 (15.6 per cent). In this category of respondents 94 (42 per cent) said 'Yes' the NCCE performed this role in 2008 election, 124 (55.4 per cent) said 'No' the NCCE did not perform this role and 6 (2.7 per cent) gave 'No Response'.

The respondents who said the expected role of the NCCE was to be neutral as they had no role to play were 40 (2.8 per cent). In this category 17 (42.5 per cent) said 'Yes' the NCCE performed this function in 2008 election, 14 (35 per cent) said 'No' the NCCE did not play this role and 5 (4.8 per cent) gave 'No response'. The respondents who mentioned other expected roles not listed totalled 104 (7.2 per

cent). In this category, 26 (25 per cent) said 'Yes' to NCCE performing its role in 2008, 73 (70.2 per cent) said 'No' indicating these were not played in 2008 election and 5 (4.8 per cent) gave no response.

On the whole the respondents who said 'No' were 819 representing (56.9 per cent) and No response 79 (5.5 per cent). Together these, 898 (62.4 per cent) respondents, said the NCCE did not play any role in the declaration of election results in 2008. The NCCE would therefore need to put in more efforts to achieve better results in future elections.

5.3 Acceptance of Election Results

Institutions that deal with elections, particularly those responsible for making sure that result are accepted include NCCE, Political Parties, Electoral Commission, CODEO and the Media.

These institutions were listed and respondents were asked to rank which three they considered most important and responsible for making sure the election results are accepted.

Table 5.6: Ranking of Institutions

Institution	Frequency	%
Electoral Commission	1312	91.1
NCCE	1048	72.8
Political Parties	950	66
Media	646	44.9
CODEO	224	15.6
Any Other	13	0.9
No Response	127	8.8

The ranking of the institutions as shown in table 5.6 indicates that the Electoral Commission emerged as the first most important institution with 1,312 (91 per cent) of respondents choosing it as an institution responsible for making sure election results are accepted. This may be due to the fact that the Electoral Commission is the institution which has been mandated to conduct elections in Ghana.

The NCCE was considered the second most important institution with a responsibility to make sure results are accepted with as many as 1,048 (72.8 per cent) of respondents choosing NCCE. The Political Parties with 950 (66 per cent) was declared the third most important institution for ensuring the acceptance of results.

The Electoral Commission is responsible for conducting election. It is not surprising that respondents considered the EC as most important when it comes to declaring election results. The NCCE has the role of informing citizens on elections. It has a role to ensure a successful and peaceful election. This probably made respondents feel they were the second most important institution when it came to declaration of results.

The Political Parties are involved in compilation and collation of election results and have representatives at polling stations all over the country to ensure that this is done in a fair manner. This may be the reason why they are considered the third most important institution to ensure that results are accepted.

5.3.1 Roles NCCE Should Play Towards the Acceptance of Election Results

The study sought to find out what roles Respondents think NCCE should play towards the acceptance of election results.

	Frequency	%
NCCE Should Have Representatives at the Various Polling Sta-	115	8.0
tions to Attest to the Credibility of the Results		
NCCE Should Educate Stakeholders on Peace, Tolerance and Acceptance of Results	848	58.9
Much Education Should Be Done to Ensure Parties Tolerate Each	252	17.5
Other After Acceptance		
NCCE Should Educate Media Houses to be Extra Cautious in Announcing Results	17	1.2
NCCE Should Feed the Public With Information on Issues Going	94	6.5
on During the Election Period		
Any Other	62	4.3
Don't Know	16	1.1
No Response	36	2.5
Total	1,440	100.0

As can be seen, table 5.7 indicates that 848 (58.9 per cent) of the respondents said NCCE should inform the stakeholders on peace, tolerance and acceptance of results. Another 252 (17.5 per cent) indicated that more education should be given to ensure that parties tolerate each other to ensure acceptance of results.

A category of respondents 115 (8 per cent) said the NCCE should have representatives at the various polling centres to ascertain the credibility of results. Also 62 (4.3 per cent) gave other responses such as NCCE should be part of declaration. 18 (1.1 per cent) said don't know and 36 (2.5 per cent) gave 'No response'.

Out of the 1440 respondents interviewed, 1,326 (84.9 per cent) told us what roles they thought the NCCE should play towards the acceptance of election results. However, 114 (15.1 per cent) respondents could not mention the roles. This points to the fact that the NCCE does have a role to play in the acceptance of results. The NCCE needs to strengthen its performance with regard to this role and provide more information and education on the acceptance of election results.

CHAPTER 6 Field Experience of Research Assistants

6.0 Introduction

Research Assistants were invited from selected districts from all the ten regions for training to undertake the survey exercise. At the training, they were taken through the approaches to the survey. Among these approaches, they were tasked to write a report at the end of the exercise. The report was to capture the reaction of the respondents to both the questionnaire and to the research assistants. They were also employed to take note of other issues outside the questionnaire, noteworthy issues, of economic, political, and social matters that impacted on the lives of the people.

6.1 General Procedures Adopted

Research Assistants in selecting the household used the Random Walk method with a sampling gap of three in rural areas and five in urban areas. The sampling point and day's code were also used in selecting the household. Where members of the household were absent, the research assistants' moved on to the next household.

The sampling points used for the survey were in public places like the mosques, office of the assembly man, churches, and the chiefs' palace. The respondents' selection Kish Grid system was used in selecting a particular member of the household to be interviewed. Where the person to be interviewed is not available, the next person on the selection grid is interviewed. Research Assistants administered an average of eight questionnaires a day.

6.2 Difficulties in Adopting Procedures Selected

The research generally was successful but the criteria used in selecting the respondents did not ensure a gender balance. This is because in some areas the selection resulted in more men than women whereas in others more women than men.

In some parts of the Northern Region, where most of the respondents were farmers and had gone to harvest their crops; it was difficult getting them using the sampling gap since most of the houses were empty.

6.3 Response to the Questionnaire

Research assistants generally acknowledged the warm reception received from respondents. The traditional reception of offering water to visitors was accorded them. Some of the respondents expressed their appreciation of the fact that their houses had been beneficiary of previous survey exercises.

However, others were reluctant to co-operate with the research assistants for various reasons. Some saw the exercise as preventing them from going to their farms. Some said that when others like the NGOs came around they gave them gifts. They suspected that the exercise was to expose them for taxation by government. As a matter of fact they expected the research assistants to give them money

to solicit their co-operation. For the disappointments they have had from politicians, and not knowing the political persuasion of the research assistants, their co-operation was not forthcoming

On the religions perspective, some respondents mistook the Research Assistants to be Jehovah Witnesses. Once they did not belong to this sector, they withheld their co-operation.

Nonetheless, with the training given to the research assistants they were able to handle the developments and carried out the exercise successfully.

6.4 Noteworthy Issues

6.4.1 Politics

Majority of respondents were disenchanted about the behaviour of politicians. They claimed that it was only when elections were around the corner that they see the politicians with all kinds of promises to get their mandate. After elections, they hardly see these politicians. Their refusal to fulfill their promises has made some respondents unwilling to participate in future elections.

6.4.2 Economic / Infrastructure

There was complain about the decline in their conditions of life. High costs of living, lack of employment were some of the conditions that plagued their lives. They called on the government to take legal and punitive action against all manner of persons who in various ways caused the economy to decline thereby affecting them negatively.

Another line of complain by the respondents was about the obvious lack of provision of essential needs like water, health, roads, and the increasing cost of goods and services.

A few of them appealed to the government to get them their District Chief Executives so that their concerns could be addressed.

6.5 Difficulties

6.5.1 Difficult Terrain

Vast areas of some districts make distances between electoral areas long. With increasing cost of fares, and in some areas lack of transportation made movement of research assistants very difficult.

The identity of research assistants posed a problem to most respondents. As mentioned earlier they were mistaken for Jehovah Witnesses or as Property Rate Collectors, and therefore were reluctant to corporate. NCCE Staff need ID Cards for future assignments.

A reasonable number of respondents found it difficult to recapitulate developments during the 2008 elections. Much time was therefore spent on the exercise.

The roles of NGOs among the population seem to cause serious problems for our Research Assistants. These NGOs often give these people money and other gifts each time they engaged them. This development constituted the basis upon which demand for money was made on our research assistants. A way must be found to address this development.

Some respondents were often not found at home. They were often either gone to work in the case of the urban areas, or to the farm in the rural communities. Research assistants therefore had to make two or more call-backs to their homes.

6.6 Suggestions

The Research Assistants saw the exercise as a huge success. A number of suggestions were put forward to improve upon future surveys.

It is the suggestion of research assistants that they be provided with waterproof files in future surveys. The weather these days has become unpredictable and therefore there is the need to guard against bad weather.

Training periods should be increased to allow adequate time to imbibe all what is taught. Besides, more than one research assistant should be trained to make room for unforeseen events, like sickness etc.

Increasing cost of living should be taken into consideration when research assistants are to be sent to the field. This issue varies from region to region and from district to district, and should be captured in the budget in future assignments.

The constant reminder of inadequate resources in our district offices cannot be over emphasized. Movement is an important factor in civic education and therefore, general appeal has been made for at least a motorbike for each district.

Finally, training venue should be rotated from region to region. This development will enable some of them to know the country well.

CHAPTER 7 Conclusion

The survey to assess NCCE's role in the December 2008 Presidential and Parliamentary elections was undertaken in November 2009 to provide scientific data to guide NCCE's Voter Education activities in year 2010 and beyond. Development Partners and other Stakeholders are also expected to find the information usable.

From the survey's findings, it can be concluded that the NCCE played an important role towards the 2008 Registration of new voters. Almost thirty per cent (428) of respondents said they first heard about the 2008 registration of new voters from the NCCE. This compared favourably with the almost forty-five per cent (646) of respondents who chose the Electoral Commission as their first source of information about the registration exercise.

The registration exercise itself was a success. More than 1,107 (70.6 per cent) of respondents perceived that the new voters who turned out to register were eligible, and as many as 1,085 (75.3 per cent) of respondents stated that the registration exercise was a success.

Happily, NCCE's contribution towards the success of the registration exercise is not limited to the fact that some respondents first heard about the exercise from the NCCE. As many as 1,057 (73.4 per cent) of respondents confirmed receiving information from the NCCE on the registration exercise. Also, 578 (40.1 per cent) of respondents said the NCCE provided them information on the exhibition of the Voters Register. The NCCE, therefore, contributed to the success of the exhibition of the voters register as well.

On voter education towards elections, the survey's findings confirm that it is a shared responsibility with the NCCE as the lead institution. Five hundred and thirty-seven (37.3 per cent) of respondents chose NCCE as the institution that most impressed upon them to vote. The Political Parties were next in line, followed by the Electoral Commission. The NCCE was again chosen by 659 (45.8 per cent) of respondents as the lead institution that provided much information on the elections. The Electoral Commission came second followed by Political Parties. The need for collaboration amongst the three bodies cannot be over emphasized.

Almost seveny per cent (1,003) of respondents confirmed receiving educational materials from NCCE during election 2008. That thirty per cent (434) never received any materials is a wake up call to the Commission to improve upon its materials distribution strategies. In general, posters were said to be the most useful material, followed by leaflets and handbills.

On methods and their usefulness, Durbars and Mobile Street announcements were the two leading ones, follwed by Media programmes. Drama came next. Cinema was cited as the least useful method. The survey findings establish that Radio is the most important source of information, followed by Television with Public Lectures coming third.

Majority, 877 (60.9 per cent), of respondents were satisfired with the collaboration between the NCCE and the EC for Voter Education during the 2008 elections. A significant number of 563 (39 per cent) were however dissatisfied with the collaboration. On expectations for the future, 983 (68.3 per cent) of respondents want the NCCE and EC to organize joint voter education programmes.

Majority, 1,242 (93.2 per cent), of respondents expect the NCCE to play some role during the declaration of results, with education of stakeholders to be tolerant seen as the most important role. It is instructive to note that less than half of respondents who expect the NCCE to play various roles during declaration of results agreed that NCCE played those roles during election 2008.

Similarly, as many as 1,048 (72.8 per cent) of respondents chose NCCE as the second most important institution with a responsibility to ensure that results are accepted. The first institution in this regard is the EC. NCCE is expected to educate people on peace and tolerance towards the acceptance of election results.

REFERENCES

- 1. Constitution of the Republic of Ghana (1992)
- 2. Republic of Ghana, Electoral Laws by Electoral Commission of Ghana (2008)

APPENDICES

Sampled Constituencies (60)

Ashanti Region

- 1. Sekyere Central
- 2. Amansie West
- 3. Ejisu Juaben
- 4. Kwabre
- 5. Offinso
- 6. Obuasi Municipal
- 7. Asante Akim North
- 8. Atwima Nwabiagya
- 9. Kumasi Metro

Brong Ahafo Region

- 1. Jaman South
- 2. Asutifi
- 3. Tain
- 4. Dormaa Municipal
- 5. Techiman Municipal
- 6. Atebubu

Central Region

- 1. Upper Denkyira West
- 2. Gomoa East
- 3. Assin South
- 4. Awutu Senya
- 5. Cape Coast Metro

Eastern Region

- 1. Birim South
- 2. Afram Plains
- 3. Akuapem South
- 4. Atiwa
- 5. Kwahu West
- 6. Yilo Krobo
- 7. Suhum-Kraboa-Coaltar

Greater Accra Region

- 1. Accra Metro
- 2. Dangme East
- 3. Dangme West
- 4. Ga East
- 5. Ga West
- 6. Tema Metro
- 7. Adentan

Northern Region

- 1. Saboba
- 2. Central Gonja
- 3. Tamale Metro
- 4. Bole
- 5. Nanumba South
- 6. East Mamprusi
- 7. Sawla-Tuna-Kalba

Upper East Region

- 1. Bawku Municipal
- 2. Builsa
- 3. Garu-Tempane
- 4. Talensi-Nabdam

Upper West Region

- 1. Sisala East
- 2. Lawra
- 3. Nadowli

Volta Region

- 1. Keta
- 2. South Dayi
- 3. Krachi
- 4. Hohoe
- 5. Kadjebi
- 6. Akatsi

Western Region

- 1. Bia
- 2. Ahanta West
- 3. Nzema East
- 4. Bibiani
- 5. Jomoro
- 6. Wasa Amenfi West

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CIVIC EDUCATION

QUESTIONNAIRE

TITLE: ASSESSMENT OF NCCE'S ROLE IN ELECTION 2008

(PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT YOUR RESPONSES WILL BE TREATED WITH UTMOST CONFIDENTIALITY. CONSEQUENTLY YOU NEED NOT PROVIDE YOUR NAME)

NAME OF INTERVIEWER.....

PLACE OF INTERVIEW.....

DIST./MUN./METRO.....

REGION.....

DATE OF INTERVIEW.....

SECTION A SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

1

1. Sex:				
	i. Male	ii	i.	Female
2. Age:				
	i. 19 and below	ii	i. 20	0-29
	iii. 30-39	i	v. 4	0-49
	v. 50-59			vi. 60 +
3. Educ	cational Background	(Highest Attain)	mer	nt):
	No Formal Education			
				in English and/or vernacular)
	Basic (primary, midd	· -		-
	Secondary (SSS, Trg.	5		
v. '	Tertiary Institution (p	oly, univ. Etc.)		
vi. 4	Any Other (please spe	cify)		
	mation			
4. Occu	-	: Earna an/ Eisham		_
		ii. Farmer/ Fisher		
	Teacher/Lecturer			
	Frader/ Businessman		-	-
V11	I.Any Other (Specify)			
5. Mari	tal Status:			
c, man				

i. Single ii. Separated iii. Widowed iv. Married v. Divorced vi. Other.....

6. Religious Affiliation:

i. Christian..... ii. Muslim.....

iv. Any Other (Specify).....

iii. Traditionalist.....

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SECTION B REGISTRATION AND EXHIBITION OF VOTER REGISTER

7. When did you	u become a registered voter?		
i. Before 20	00 ii. 2000	iii. 2002	
iv. 2004	v. 2006	vi.2008	
8. From which i 2008?	institution/body did you first o	obtain information on the registration exe	ercise in
i. Electoral (ii. NCCE	Commission		
iii. Civil Soo iv. Political	ciety Organizations Parties		
v. Any other vi. None	r (specify)		-
9. In your opinieligible?	on, would you consider most	of those who turned out to register in 200	08 as
i. Yes	ii. No		
10. If No, Why? i. Underage ii. Double R iii. Non Citiz iv. Any Othe	egistration zens		
11. Was the 200 i. Yes)8 registration exercise as suc ii. No	cessful as it should be?	
12. Give reason	s for your answer		
13. Did you rec i. Yes	eive any information from NG ii. No	CCE on the registration exercise?	
i. Drama iii. Posters/h		ou receive such information. Public Announcements	
v. Media	vi. None		
i. Yes	ii. No	ng the 2008 exhibition exercise?	

16. If No, why?	
i. I forgot	
iii. I had no know	ledge of the exhibition exercise
	e exhibition was too short
	to the exhibition centre
	pecify)
vii. 7 my outer (sp	<i>w</i> ony)
•	nformation on the exhibition exercise on time? i. No
i. Electoral Comr iii. Civil Society v. Media	nese institutions did you receive the information about the exhibition exercise? nission ii. NCCE Organizations iv. Political Parties vi. None
10 Waatha anhibitia	
	on exercise a success?
i. Yes i	i. No
	·
11	SECTION C
_	<u>SECTION C</u>
_	VOTING AND VOTER EDUCATION
•	he 2008 presidential and parliamentary elections? i. No
22 If yes give one r	eason for your answer?
	ty to be in power
• 1	electing leaders for the country
_	-
	ibility
IV. Any other	
i. Had travelled	Q. 21 is No, give the reason for your answer?
ii. Could not locate	e the Polling station
iii. Loss of interest	in elections
iv. Felt my single v	vote would not influence outcome of elections
	n electoral register
	D card
	ason
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
· · · - <i>j</i> · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

 24. Which Institution impressed upon you most to vote? i. Electoral Commission ii. NCCE iii. Civil Society Organizations iv. Political Parties v. None vi. Any other 25. Was the election generally peaceful? i. Yes ii. No
26. Was the election free of malpractices?i. To a large extentii. To some extentiii. To a small extentiv. Not at all
 27. Which institution did you gain much education from about the election? i. Electoral Commission ii. NCCE iii. Civil Society Organisations iv. Political Parties v. Any Other
28. Did you receive/see any materials concerning voters' education from NCCE?i. Yes ii. No
 29. If yes, which of the materials were most useful to you? i. Leaflets/Handbills ii. Posters iii. Stickers iv. Any Other.
30. Which of the methods used by NCCE in the voter education was most useful to you?i. Dramaii. Durbariii. Mediaiv. Cinemav. Mobile/Street Announcementvi. Any other
 31. Which of these programmes were undertaken by the NCCE in your district towards the December 7th, 2008, general elections? i. Drama ii. Radio Talks iii. Cinema iv. Public lectures v. Any other vi. Don't know
32. Were the programmes informative?i. To a large extentii. To some extentiii. To a small extentiv. Not at all
 33. Choose the three most important sources of information on voter education in your area. i. TV ii. Radio iii. Cinema Vans iv. Print media v. Public lecture vi. None vii. Mobile/Street Announcement

SECTION D COLLABORATION AND ROLE OF INSTITUTIONS

34. How do you rate the collaboration between the NCCE and EC for effective voter education?

i. Very effective ii. Effective iii. Somewhat effective iv. Not effective

v. Don't know

35. How do you expect the NCCE to collaborate with the EC for effective voter education?

i. ii.

36. What roles do you expect NCCE to play during the declaration of election results?

i. ii. **37.** Did the NCCE play such roles in election 2008? i. Yes ii. No 38. Which three most important institutions do you think is responsible for making sure that results are accepted? (Rank in order of importance). ii.Electoral Commission i. Political Parties iii. NCCE iv. CODEO v. Media v. Any other

39. What roles do you think the NCCE should play towards the acceptance of election results?

i..... ii.