

# The Reforms of Ghana's Voter Registration from 1992 to Date, The Case of Tolon/Kumbungu District

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**Abstract:-**The success and failure and the acceptance or rejection of the outcome of any election results, rest by and large on the kind of electoral roll used in the said elections. In Ghana, since the inception of the fourth republic, the issue of maintaining a credible voters' register has always remained a challenge to the Electoral Commission of Ghana. This paper looks at reforms introduced by the Electoral Commission of Ghana to improve on Voter Registration exercises. The research was a mix of qualitative and quantitative data collection methods. Both purposive sampling and systematic sampling techniques were used. Again, both questionnaire and interviews were used to gather the data needed. The findings made suggest several important conclusions. It was apparent from the findings that, the voters' register used in the 2008 general elections was bloated with deceased persons' names, minors, multiple registrants and non-Ghanaians. This study had established that, the Biometric Voter Register Technology (BVR) had been able to reduce multiple registrants drastically. Over 90 percent of the respondents had the opinion that the BVR technology should be maintained.

**Key Words:** Reforms, Voters Register

## I. INTRODUCTION

The paper focuses on the introduction of technology by Ghana's Electoral Commission to improve on the Voter Registration. This move became necessary as a result of the numerous problems that previous registration exercises had encountered.

Registration of Voters in Ghana is a constitutional mandate of the Electoral Commission (EC) by the 1992 Constitution. Under chapter seven (7), Article 45 (a) of 1992 constitution mandates the EC to "compile the register of voters and revise it at such period as may be determined by law.

Voter Registration is the process of compiling prospective voters' particulars to produce an Electoral Roll called the Voters' Register. For an election to be free, fair, transparent, credible and incontrovertible there must be a Voters' Register which is complete and acceptable to all stakeholders. This could be possible if the Voter Registration process was free from all challenges.

In 1995 and before the beginning of the 1988/89 registration exercises, registration data was collected in the field. The data was carried to Accra at EC Head Office for a team of over hundred data processing staff to key them into a national database. This was done with difficulty and a lot of delays. Using this procedure, error was very high. In 1995 it would

have been impossible to compile a computerized voters' register by the above traditional means within the six months following registration as required by the electoral laws. As a result, the commission decided to use Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) scanning technology. The OMR technology would allow the Electoral Commission to produce the register within the legal time limit and at a low cost than the traditional method. Still the Voters' Register (VR) was flawed with serious challenges. Still the Voters' Register (VR) was flawed with serious challenges.

## II. A BRIEF LITERATURE REVIEW

To facilitate easy identification of voters as well as eliminating impersonation, the EC in 1994, decided to provide Voter Identification Cards to all registered voters in the ten regional capital cities and ten other constituencies. Voter Identity cards with photographs were issued to voters. All voters in the rest of the country had identity cards with thumbprint. It was understood that where registered voters were issued thumbprint ID cards voters knew one another very well and therefore the likelihood of impersonation would be minimal. With lessons from the 1996 elections, the EC in 2000 decided to replace all thumbprint identity cards with photo to avoid total impersonation. An ultraviolet Security feature was built into the photograph using privately ordered films. The voter identity card bore a unique number, thereby giving every registered voter a corresponding unique number.

In 2004, the EC totally replaced the existing voters' register with a new voters' register with photos on the identity cards and in the voters' register with the view to making the voters' register more credible and acceptable to all stakeholders.

Before 2008 Presidential and Parliamentary elections, stakeholders, particularly the National Democratic Congress (NDC) complained about a bloated voters' register. The register was considered containing names of minors, non-Ghanaians, multiple registered voters and deceased persons. This necessitated the introduction of a Biometric system of registration voters in Ghana.

The introduction of the Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) in 2012 meant that a new Public Elections (Registration of Voters) Regulation was needed for the Electoral Commission to introduce such a technology to register voters. Therefore, C.I. 72 was passed into law by Parliament on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2012. The BVR was to eliminate multiple registrations in the registration process. The process required the applicant to go

the registration centre located in the Electoral Area he/she lived. The applicant would have to provide his/her demographic information which would be captured on a Form 1A by a Registration Officer. He/she took the Form 1A to Data Entry Clerk table for the finger print and photograph to be taken. The information on the Form 1A was inputted into the computer. The final information about the applicant was generated and printed on a Form 1C and a Voter ID card issued to him/her.

In the C.I. 72 regulation (1) sub regulation (1), A person is entitled to have the name of that person included in the register of voters of an electoral area, if that person is (a) a citizen of Ghana; (b) eighteen years of age or above; (c) of a sound mind; (d) resident or ordinarily resident in an electoral area; (e) not prohibited by any law in force from registering as a voter. Sub regulation (2) For the purpose of paragraph (d) of sub regulation (1), a person who is confined in a penal institution located in an electoral area is resident in that electoral area. Sub regulation (3) A person who applies for registration as a voter shall provide as evidence of identification of the following: (a) a passport; (b) a driver's license; (c) a national identification card; (d) a National Health Insurance card; (e) an existing voter identification card; (f) one voter registration guarantee form as set out in Form One of the schedule that has been completed and signed by two registered voters. Sub regulation (4) despite paragraph (f) of sub regulation (3), a registered voter shall not guarantee the identity of more than five persons. Regulation (1) sub regulation (1);(2); (3) and (4) were put in place to ensure that only qualified persons were registered under Ghana electoral laws.

By the introduction of any form of technology into Ghana's Voters' Registration processes, the challenges stated above still came up. At the end of the 2012 Biometric Voters Registration (BVR), the chairman of EC -Dr.Kwadwo Afari-Gyan – stated that the register contained particulars of persons who appeared to be below eighteen (18) years. Through voter education prior to BVR it was made clear to all stakeholders that the BVR machines could not identify persons who were below 18 years, non-Ghanaians but to detect persons who would indulge in multiple registrations.

#### *The Role and Attitudes of Stakeholders in Voter Registration Processes in Ghana*

Trust in democracy is promoted when the voter registration process is open, transparent and allows for the participation of all electoral stakeholders – namely, political parties, civil society organizations (CSOs), the media, security forces, the international community and all potential voters in a country. Importantly, the electoral process should support a culture of dialogue and shared responsibility (Astrid Evrensel p1.)

According to Alioune Cisse and Astrid Evrensel when the opportunity arises to decide on a new voter registration system in a country, there is often political desire to include additional requirements and security features in order to

prevent multiple registrations. These requirements are generally associated with significantly more sophisticated data collection and processing systems, such as automated fingerprint identification and facial recognition systems.

In order to avoid conflict and enhance the legitimacy of the election, particularly in post-conflict countries, the voter registration process has to be inclusive of all key stakeholders, transparent, and well understood by the population (*Report, European Commission – United Nations Development Programme Thematic Workshop Mombasa, 5-9 March, 2012, hosted by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, Kenya.*)

A limited voter registration drive organized by the Electoral Commission from 31 July to 12 August 2008 was widely criticized by all political parties. Both the NDC and NPP claimed the lack of safeguards during the registration exercise allowed the opposing party to inflate the number of names on the register. Both parties also criticized by the Electoral Commission for trying to undermine the process. Poor forward planning, the absence of adequate safeguards and voter education coupled with a lack of resources such as forms and photographic equipment to cope with demand from people wishing to register compounded problems of a tight timeline for the completion of registration. People applied to register for a variety of reasons including individuals wishing to obtain an identification card for general purposes. There was also some confusion as to what constituted double registration as well as overt attempts to undermine the veracity of the register. The latter registrations included intentional double registrations and a large number of minors who registered. There were also incidents of individual candidates and political parties providing transport for their supporters to register with inadequate control mechanisms to screen the eligibility of people who could register at registration centres. Generally the candidates and political parties were perceived by observers to have been too involved in voter registration and the Electoral Commission did not use adequate safeguards to ensure this did not negatively affect the accuracy of the register (*as cited in the European Union Election Observation Mission to Ghana Final Report on the Presidential and Parliamentary Elections, 2008 p14*).

Stakeholders must be informed regularly and their views considered both at the decision-making phase and during the conduct of a voter registration exercise. This will increase stakeholders' support and trust of the overall process and its product – the voters' roll. Primary stakeholders are directly affected by the voter registration process or its outcome. Included in this category are citizens who are eligible to register, the registration authority, political parties and candidates, executive government, legislatures, EMB staff, contractors, electoral dispute resolution and supervisory bodies, the media, observers and monitors, CSOs, donors and assistance agencies, and suppliers and vendors. Secondary stakeholders have an interest but are not directly affected by the exercise. Included in this category are the general public,

academia, international or regional electoral networks and research institutes.

International IDEA identifies a number of areas for interaction, namely: communication; sensitivity; serious consideration of views; equitable treatment; transparency; ethics; respect for human rights; impartiality; and fair resolution of conflict.

The EMB must play a central role in ensuring that stakeholders are appropriately informed. Feedback from stakeholders has to be acknowledged and responded to in the appropriate timeframe. The legislature should seek stakeholder input regarding legislative reform processes, allow stakeholders to participate in briefings on the system and progress made, and create consultative legislative reform mechanisms (Astrid Evrensel pp19-20).

### III. METHODOLOGY

Purposive and systematic sampling method techniques were used for selecting the participants for the study. The political parties' representatives were purposively sampled because they were in key positions in the electoral activities. As major stakeholders in the management of electoral administration, they have information about the challenges confronting the voter registration processes in Ghana. The political parties' representatives were made up of New Patriotic Party (NPP), National Democratic Congress (NDC), Convention People's Party (CPP), and People's Conventional Party (PNC). Creswell (2002) stated that, in purposive sampling, researchers intentionally select individuals and sites to learn or understand a phenomenon. Cohen, Manion and Morrison (2003) cited in Avoke (2005) also assert that purposive sampling enables researchers to handpick the cases to be included in the sample on the basis of their judgment and typicality. In this way, the researcher built up a sample that was satisfactory to specific needs.

However, systematic sampling method technique which provides participants with equal opportunity to be randomly selected was used to select the five (5) Assembly Members; ten (10) Opinion Leaders; ten (10) Males and ten (10) Females from the five electoral areas; ten (10) Unit Committee Members; twelve (12) Registered Political Parties Representatives and twenty (20) registered voters. They were selected at random. The researcher made a head count of three and randomly selected one amongst them. Systematic sampling method was used here because the researcher wanted the sample method to be free from preconception and unfairness.

The research was a descriptive survey through which views and opinions were sampled from registered voters (electorate). This descriptive study describes the patterns of voter registration processes challenges occurrence and other election-related issues by the electorate. The descriptive survey was further considered the most appropriate design for conducting this study since it is the one that deals with things

as they currently are (Creswell, 2003). Again, information gathered from the descriptive research can be meaningful or useful in diagnosing a situation since it involves describing, recording, analysing and interpreting conditions that exist. This research utilized both quantitative and qualitative data collection tools.

This population was the targeted group of people of interest for the study. According to Ary, Jacobs and Rezavieh (2002), population is used to refer to the entire group of individuals to whom the findings of a study apply. It is whatever group the investigator wishes to make inferences about. The entire voter population of Kumbungu District was 39,478 as per the 2012 biometric voter registration exercise carried out from 24<sup>th</sup> March to 5<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

The sample was chosen from the voter population of the following Electoral Areas (EAs) in the Kumbungu District: Gamprisiya; Dalung; Bogu; Gumo; and Zangbalung. The sample size was seventy seven (77) comprising five (5) Assembly Members; ten (10) Opinion Leaders; ten (10) Males and ten (10) Females from the five electoral areas; ten (10) Unit Committee Members; twelve (12) Registered Political Parties Representatives; and twenty (20) registered voters.

Holloway and Wheeler (2002:128) assert that sample size does not influence the importance or quality of the study and note that there are no guidelines in determining sample size in qualitative research. Qualitative researchers do not normally know the number of people in the research beforehand; the sample may change in size and type during research. Sampling goes on until saturation has been achieved, namely no new information is generated (Holloway 1997:142).

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The first category of data collected was through questionnaires. The data collected was analysed using appropriate descriptive statistics which allowed the researcher to use numerical values to represent scores in the sample. According to Borg and Gall (1983) descriptive statistics not only allows the researcher to use numbers but also provides the researcher with data that allow for inferences on the population and directions for answering the research questions. The returned questionnaires were scored and coded for analysis and answering of the research questions. An item-by-item analysis of data was conducted. The percentage of the total sample responding to each question was given. The data was presented according to the responses and/ or the views of the respondents. Numerical scores were assigned to them to indicate possible relationship in responses of the respondents and then frequency lists were drawn. Also, tables were presented with descriptions and discussions of some major aspects that addressed the research questions raised.

**The next category of data collected was through interviews.** The interview data was analysed using content analysis which according to Krueger (1998) is comparing of the words used in the answers of the respondents.

#### IV. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

##### Personal Data

The survey covered the age range of respondents from 20 and above. Seventeen (17) respondents (both males and females) fell within the age bracket of 20-30 representing 22.08%. Twenty seven (27) respondents fell within the age bracket of 31-40 representing 35.06%. Twenty (20) respondents fell within the age bracket of 41-50 representing 25.97%. Thirteen (13) respondents above 51 years of age was the lowest representation with 16.88%. The respondents who had the highest representation in the survey fell within the ages of 31-40 and 41-50 representing 35.06% and 25.97% respectively. These are the active age groups in every socio-political activity in any community in the Kumbungu District.

TABLE 1.0 AGE OF RESPONDENTS

AGE	M	M%	F	F%	M+F	(M+F)%
20-30	10	12.99	7	9.09	17	22.08
31-40	15	19.48	12	15.58	27	35.06
41-50	11	14.29	9	11.69	20	25.97
51+	8	10.39	5	6.49	13	16.88
<b>TOTAL</b>	44	57.14	33	42.86	77	100.00

Source: survey data February, 2018

##### Sex

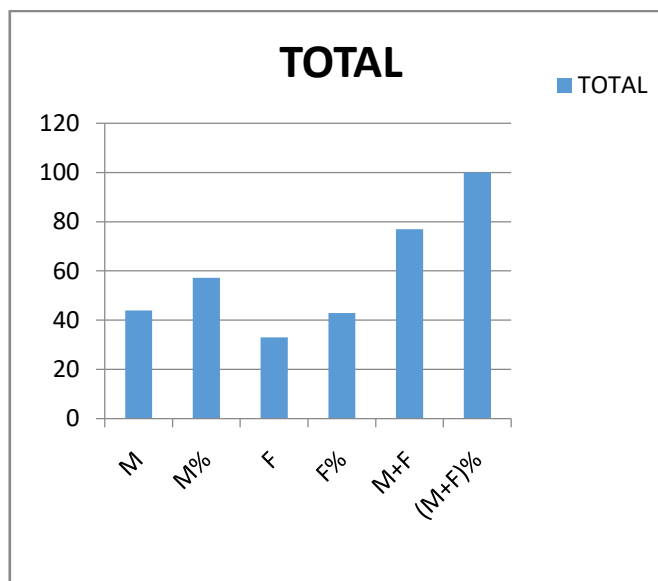
Out of seventy seven (77) respondents forty four were males representing 57.14% and thirty three (33) were females representing 42.86%. Though the female representing was not all that discouraging, the male counterpart had the highest representation.

TABLE: 2 GENDER OF RESPONDENTS

GENDER	M	M%	F	F%	M+F	(M+F)%
<b>TOTAL</b>	44	57.14	33	42.86	77	100.00

Source: survey data February, 2018

Fig. 1: GENDER OF RESPONDENTS



Source: survey data February, 2018

Table 3: CHALLENGES

CHALLENGE	M	M%	F	F%	M+F	(M+F)%
YES	5	8.06	10	16.13	15	24.19
NO	29	46.77	18	29.03	47	75.81
<b>TOTAL</b>	34	54.84	28	45.16	62	100.00

Source: Field data February 2018

##### Issuance of Voter Identification Card (Voter Id Card)

All the respondents said they received their voter ID cards instantly. Of the sixty two (62) respondents thirty five (35) males representing 56.45% and twenty seven (27) females representing 43.55% making a total of 100% received their ID cards on the spot. Though 24.19% went through some BVR challenges they got their voter ID cards on the spot.

##### Happy With BVR Officials at the Registration Centres

The study sought to find out whether the respondents were happy with the work of the registration officials recruited by EC to carry out the BVR exercise. Out of the sixty two

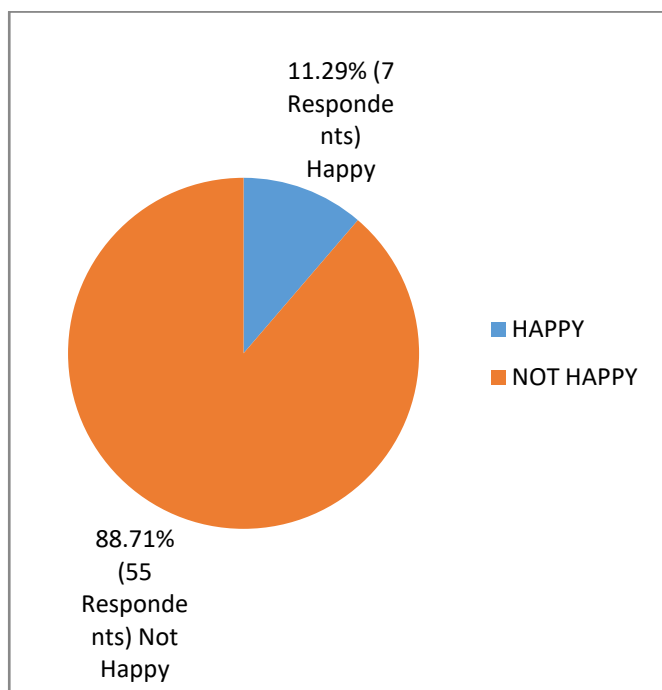
respondents who answered the question only seven (7) respondents representing 11.29% were happy with the work of some the registration officials. Fifty five (55) of the respondents representing 88.71% said they were not happy with the work of some of the registration officials.

Table: 4: WHETHER RESPONDENTS ARE HAPPY WITH REGISTRATION OFFICIALS

RESPONSE	M	M%	F	F%	M+F	(M+F)%
HAPPY	5	8.06	2	3.23	7	11.29
NOT HAPPY	29	46.77	26	41.94	55	88.71
TOTAL	34	54.84	28	45.16	62	100.00

Source: survey data February, 2018

Fig: 2 WHETHER HAPPY WITH REGISTRATION OFFICIALS.



Source: survey data February, 2018

*Respondents Who Were Not Happy With the BVR Officials*

Only one (1) respondent representing 1.82%, out of the fifty five (55) respondents who were not happy with BVR officials, was not happy with the Registration Officer who was in charge of capturing the demographic data of an applicant onto the Form 1A and the leader of the BVR team at a registration centre. This meant that the Registration Officers exhibited a greater level of professionalism at the registration centres. Fifty (50) respondents representing 90.91% were not happy with the work of Data Entry Clerk (DEC) who was in charge of capturing the demographic data captured on the Form 1A into the computer and taking the finger prints and photograph of the applicant. Four (4) respondents representing 2.27% were not happy with the entire BVR crew at the centre.

Table: 5 WHETHER NOT HAPPY WITH REGISTRATION OFFICIALS

NOT HAPPY WITH	M	M%	F	F%	M+F	(M+F)%
RO	0	0.00	1	1.82	1	1.82
DEC	27	49.09	23	41.82	50	90.91
LAMINATOR	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
ALL	2	3.64	2	3.64	4	7.27
TOTAL	29	52.73	26	47.27	55	100.00

Source: survey data February, 2018

*Successfully Going Through the BVR Processes at Centres*

Twenty six (26) of the respondents representing 41.94% said they went through the BVR processes successfully without any challenges. Thirty six (36) respondents representing 58.06% said they went through some challenges such as traveling long distance to the registration centres, delaying at the DEC table before their biometric data was captured.

Table: 6 WHETHER RESPONDENTS FOUND BVR PROCESSES SUCCESSFUL?

RESPONSE	M	M%	F	F%	M+F	(M+F)%
SUCCESSFUL	15	24.19	11	17.74	26	41.94
NOT SUCCESSFUL	19	30.65	17	27.42	36	58.06
TOTAL	34	54.84	28	45.16	62	100.00

Source: survey data February, 2018

*Challenges Respondents Went Through*

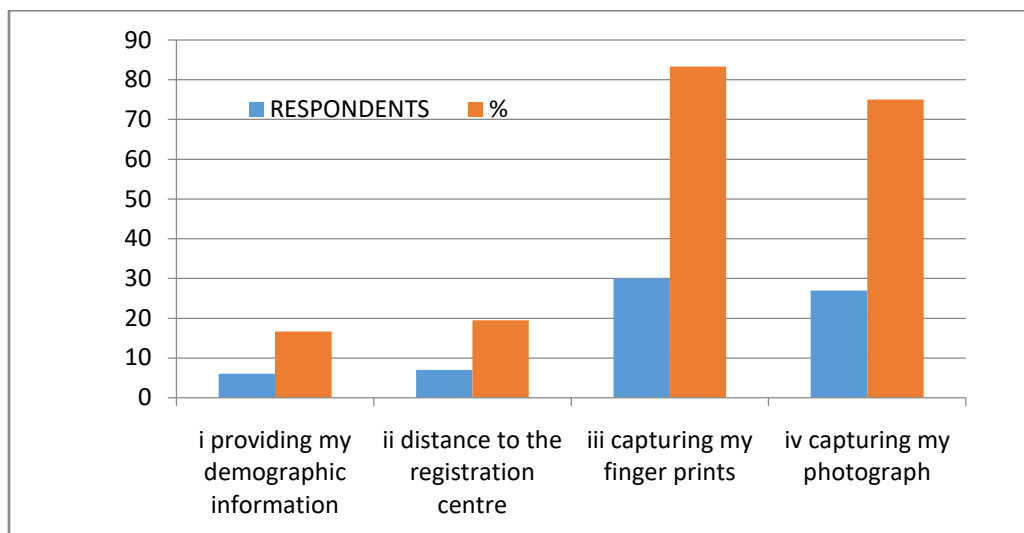
Nineteen (19) males representing 30.65% said they went through some challenges as against seventeen (17) females representing 27.42%. Six (6) respondents (16.67%) out of the thirty six (36) who said were not successful through BVR processes said they went through the challenge of providing their demographic information. Seven (7) (19.44%) out of the (36) respondents said they travelled long distance to the registration centres. Thirty (30) (83.33%) out of the (36) respondents said they went through the challenge of capturing their finger prints and twenty seven (27) (75.00%) out of the (36) respondents went through the challenge of capturing their photographs.

Table: 7 TYPES OF CHALLENGES

CHALLENGES	M	F	M+F	M+F (%)
(i) providing my demographic information	2	4	6	16.67
(ii) distance to the registration centre	3	4	7	19.44
(iii) capturing my finger prints	17	13	30	83.33
(iv) capturing my photograph	10	17	27	75.00

Source: survey data February, 2018

Fig: 3 TYPES OF CHALLENGES



Source: survey data February, 2018

*Shortage of Registration Materials at the Centre:*

*Questions and Answers*

All the sixty two (62) respondents who answered this question representing 100% said they did not experience shortage of any registration material at the registration centre.

Table: 8 QUESTIONS AND THEIR RESPONSES:

S/N	QUESTIONS	SA(F)	SA%	A(F)	A%	U(F)	U%	D(F)	D%	SD(F)	SD%
18	The voters register used in 2008 general elections was bloated with deceased persons' names, minors, multiple registrants and non-Ghanaians.	59	95.16	2	3.23	0	0.00	1	1.61	0	0.00
19	The Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) was able reduce multiple registration in Ghana in 2012.	47	75.81	10	16.13	5	8.06	0	0.00	0	0.00
20	The BVR technology should be maintained in voter registration process in Ghana.	61	98.39	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1.61
21	Party Agents at the registration centres promotes transparency in registration process.	39	62.90	20	32.26	3	4.84	0	0.00	0	0.00
22	Political parties encourage multiple registrations, registration of minors and non- Ghanaians.	30	48.39	9	14.52	5	8.06	6	9.68	12	19.35
23	Registration Officials encourage multiple registrations, registration of minors and non- Ghanaians.	0	0.00	3	4.84	3	4.84	39	62.90	17	27.42
24	Parents encourage multiple registrations, registration of minors and non- Ghanaians.	27	43.55	18	29.03	7	11.29	8	12.90	2	3.23
25	Minors, non-Ghanaians and people who do multiple registration should be prosecuted to as deterrent to others.	19	30.65	20	32.26	4	6.45	1	1.61	18	29.03

Source: survey data February, 2018

**KEY**

S.A.=Strongly Agree; A=Agree; U=Uncertain; D=Disagree; S.D.=StronglyDisagree; F=Frequency; % = Percentages.

Table 8 above, illustrates the responses of opinion leaders, registered voters, political parties' representatives, parents and guardians on voter registration related factors that are likely to contribute to the production of incredible voters register by EC of Ghana. The opinion leaders, registered voters, political parties representatives parents and guardians of the selected EAs in Kumbungu District responded to seven (7) statements for which the following analysis were made. Questionnaire items 18 to 25 were designed to seek the views of opinion leaders, registered voters, political parties representatives parents and guardians on the registration unqualified persons.

From the table, 59 respondents representing 95.16% strongly agreed to the statement that the voters register used in 2008 general elections was bloated with deceased persons' names, minors, multiple registrants and non-Ghanaians as opposed to (0%) who strongly disagreed. Two (2) respondents representing 3.23% agreed with the statement as opposed one (1) respondent representing 1.61%. Interestingly, however, no respondent was uncertain about the statement.

In expressing their views on the statement that sought to find out whether the Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) was able to reduce multiple registrations in Ghana in 2012, it was revealed that majority of the respondents (47 representing 75.81%) strongly agreed and ten (10) respondents representing 16.13% agreed with the statement. That is to say that the Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) was able to reduce multiple registrations in Ghana in 2012. However, five (5) respondents (a representation of 8.06%) were uncertain about the statement.

The third item was to find out whether the BVR technology should be maintained in voter registration process in Ghana. This statement also found majority of the respondents (61 representing 98.39%) strongly agreeable with the statement, as opposed to one (1) respondent representing 1.61% strongly disagreeing with the statement.

As many as thirty nine (39) respondents representing 62.90% strongly agreed with the statement that Party Agents at the registration centres promotes transparency in registration process. Twenty (20) respondents representing 32.26% agreed with the statement while three (3) representing 4.84% were uncertain about the statement. Nobody strongly or merely disagreed with the statement.

There were varying responses to the statement about Political parties encouraging multiple registrations, registration of minors and non-Ghanaians. Thirty (30) respondents representing 48.39% strongly agreed with the statement as opposed twelve (12) respondents representing 19.35% who strongly disagreed. Nine (9) respondents representing 14.52% agreed with statement as against six (6) disagreed respondents representing 9.68%. Five (5) respondents (8.06%) were uncertain about the statement.

Thirty nine (39) respondents representing 62.90% disagreed with the statement that Registration Officials encourage

multiple registrations, registration of minors and non-Ghanaians as against three (3) respondents representing 4.84% who agreed with the statement. Seventeen (17) respondents (27.42%) strongly disagreed. Three (3) respondents (4.84%) were not certain about the statement. Nobody strongly agreed with it.

On the issue about Parents encouraging multiple registrations, registration of minors and non-Ghanaians twenty seven (27) respondents representing 43.55% strongly agreed as opposed to two (2) respondents (3.23%) who strongly disagreed. Eighteen (18) respondents representing 29.03% merely agreed with the statement as opposed to eight (8) respondents (12.90%) who merely disagreed. Seven (7) respondents (11.29%) were not certain about the assertion that Parents encourage multiple registrations, registration of minors and non-Ghanaians. It meant that over 70% of the respondents were of the opinion that Parents encourage multiple registrations, registration of minors and non-Ghanaians.

On the claim of prosecution, nineteen (19) respondents representing 30.65% strongly agreed that Minors, non-Ghanaians and people who do multiple registrations be prosecuted to serve as deterrent to others. Interestingly, eighteen (18) respondents representing 29.03% strongly disagreed with the statement. This showed a very close disagreement. On the other hand, twenty (20) respondents representing 32.26% agreed with the statement as against one (1) (1.61%) who merely disagreed. Four (4) respondents (6.45%) were uncertain about statement. The overall effect was that over 60% of all the respondents was of the view that Minors, non-Ghanaians and people who do multiple registration be prosecuted to serve as deterrent to others.

## V. CONCLUSION

The findings made so far from the study suggest several important conclusions. Seven fundamental issues were raised to solicit the view of respondents on registration of minors, non-Ghanaians and multiple registrations.

It was apparent from the findings that, the voters' register used in the 2008 general elections was bloated with deceased persons' names, minors, multiple registrants and non-Ghanaians.

This study had established that, the BVR technology had been able to reduce multiple registrants drastically. Over 90 percent of the respondents had the opinion that the BVR technology should be maintained.

On the issue of stakeholders' involvement in the electoral processes it was agreed that party agents presence at the registration centres promotes transparency in the processes. Though 88.71% expressed their unhappiness with the work of the registration officials, there was a strong disagreement that registration officials recruited to carry out the registration exercises encouraged minors and non-Ghanaians to register. The DEC was the official a little over 90%, that is, fifty (50) of the respondents were not happy.

However, over sixty (60) percent of the respondents interviewed were of the opinion that parents and politicians encouraged multiple registrations, minors and non-Ghanaians to register as voters.

From the findings there was inadequate voter education on the electoral laws. Most the respondents interviewed did not know the electoral laws that govern some of the electoral activities such as voter registration and elections in general.

Also, the finding revealed that fifteen (15) respondents representing 24.19% out of the sixty two (62) respondents went through some challenges during the 2012 BVR exercise.

A greater number of the respondents 58.06% found the BVR processes not successful. They agreed that challenges were found in the following areas: (i) providing their demographic information; (ii) registration centres far away from their places of abode; (iii) difficulty in getting their fingerprints captured; and (iv) difficulty in capturing their photographs.

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From the findings there was inadequate voter education on the electoral laws. Most the respondents interviewed did not know the electoral laws that govern some of the electoral activities such as voter registration and elections in general.

Also, the finding revealed that fifteen (15) respondents representing 24.19% out of the sixty two (62) respondents went through some challenges during the 2012 BVR exercise.

A greater number of the respondents 58.06% found the BVR processes not successful. They agreed that challenges were

found in the following areas: (i) providing their demographic information; (ii) registration centres far away from their places of abode; (iii) difficulty in getting their fingerprints captured; and (iv) difficulty in capturing their photographs.

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