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GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Theme:
Break the Bias, Close the Gender Gap in Politics, Leadership & Development

ABSTRACTS & PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY 7TH - THURSDAY 8TH JUNE, 2023

UNIVERSITY OF CALABAR, NIGERIA

GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

THEME
Break the Bias, Close the Gender Gap in Politics, Leadership & Development

DATE: Wednesday 7th - Thursday 8th June, 2023

VENUE: University of Calabar, Calabar - Nigeria

TIME: 10:00am (GMT+1)

CONFERENCE LOC
Dr. Bassey Anam
Institute of Public Policy & Administration
University of Calabar - CRS

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Faculty of Law, Mzumbe University,
Mzumbe-Morogoro-Tanzania

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GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

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DAY ONE: **Wednesday 7th June, 2023**

Conference Briefing via Google Meet   - 10:00am - 10:30am

Online Visual Presentation via Google Meet   - 10:30am - 1:00pm

WhatsApp Video Presentations   - 3:00pm - 4:00pm

DAY TWO: **Thursday 8th June, 2023**

Conference Briefing via Google Meet   - 10:00am - 10:30am

Online Visual Presentation via Google Meet   - 10:30am - 1:00pm

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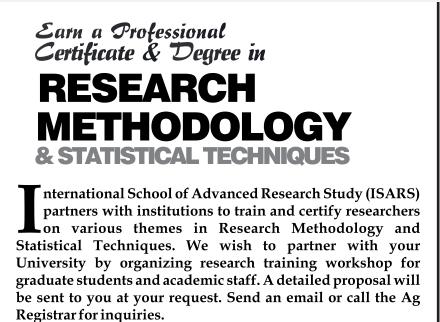Given this day 22nd February, 2019 at the University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

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Conference
Abstracts

Effects of Computer Assisted Instruction and Textbooks Utilisation on College of Education Students' Academic Achievement in Mathematics in Sokoto State Nigeria

Bashiru Aliyu Gada

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A b s t r a c t

This study compared the Effect of Computer Assisted Instruction (CAI) and textbook utilisation on Students' Performance in mathematics in year two students of shehu Shagari college of education Sokoto State, Nigeria. The study was conducted with four research objectives and four research questions were asked while four null hypotheses were formulated and tested at $p < 0.05$. This study was conducted in the Shehu Shagari college of education Sokoto with a sample size of 195, using quasi-experimental design. The bio-data of the respondents was analyzed with the use of frequency and percentage while mean and standard deviation was used to answer the four research questions. All the four null hypotheses were tested at 0.05% level of significance using t-test. A t-test of independent sample was used to compare the performance of students taught using Computer Assisted Instruction (CAI) method with the performance of the group taught using only mathematics textbook utilisation method. The findings of the study among others revealed a significant difference in the post-test performance scores of students taught Mathematics with the use of computer assisted instruction when compared with those taught using the mathematics textbook utilisation method of instruction; that there was no significant difference in the performance of male and female students taught Mathematics with the use of computer assisted instruction. The first, third and fourth null hypotheses were rejected because the t-value was more than the p-value and the second null-hypotheses were retained as the t-value was less than the p-value. The study concluded that students perform better and score higher in Mathematics given test when taught using CAI enhanced method. Based on the conclusion, the study recommended that teachers and students in the colleges of education as well as other levels of education should imbibe the use of CAI method of teaching since it enhances students' performance in courses of study.

Keywords: *Computer-Assisted Instructions, Textbooks Utilisation, Mathematics and Mathematics Academic Achievement*

Analysis of the Factors Influencing Technical Efficiency in Integrated Crop-Livestock Farming System in Kaduna State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study was conducted to determine the best efficient integrated crop-livestock farming system in Kaduna state, Nigeria. Primary data were obtained through structured questionnaire and interview schedule. A multi-stage sampling procedure was employed to select 7 LGAs (Ikara, Kubau, Kudan, Lere, Soba, Sabon-Gari and Zaria) purposively in stage I for prevalence of integrated crop-livestock farming, 28 villages were selected purposively also for the same reason in stage II while at last stage 78 crop-livestock farmers were randomly selected. Descriptive statistics and Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) were used to achieve the objective of this study. Results of the socio-economic characteristics revealed that about 92% of the integrated crop-livestock farmers were found to be male with mean age of 44 years and household size of 7 persons per farmer. Results from the DEA showed that the mean total efficiency, pure efficiency and scale efficiency were found to be 0.75, 0.87 and 0.82, respectively. The DEA results further revealed that farmers can reduce the quantity of farm size, labour, seed, fertilizer, manure and agrochemical inputs by 1.6, 11.6, 15.8, 5.9, 32.3 and 23.8%, respectively. Furthermore, the findings revealed that 19.9, 30.19 and 65.11% of farmers operated at optimal, sub-optimal and super-optimal scale, respectively. Tobit regression model used to determine factors influencing technical efficiency established that coefficients of age (0.0210), marital status (0.0016), household size (0.0616), education level (- 0.1247), farming experience (0.1412), extension contact (-0.2548) and cooperative membership (-0.1102) were statistically significant variables at different level of probability. There should be synergy between crop and animal scientists; extension agents and agricultural economists to bring into bearing the needs for farmers to imbibe integrated crop-livestock farming to achieve optimum level of efficiency.

Keywords: *Crop-livestock, Integration, Efficiency, Data envelope analysis (DEA), Nigeria*

Effect of Insecurity on Agricultural Productivity in Nigeria

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A b s t r a c t

In most recent time, Nigeria has been witnessing a consistent raise on insecurity which has negatively affected agricultural productivities' as well as the lives of the citizens. Using an Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) method, this study empirically investigates the linkage between insecurity and agricultural productivity in Nigeria during the 40 years period from 1981 to 2021. The empirical findings indicated that population growth, gross fixed capital formation, insecurity, unemployment rate, inflation rate and foreign direct investments are negatively affected by the growing level of insecurity and therefore, retarded agricultural output in the short and long-run. In reverse, improved health services, government expenditure on education, government spending on agriculture, positively correlated with agricultural productivity and, therefore, stimulated agricultural output in the long and short run. Therefore, the study suggests that policy makers should, in order to increase agricultural outputs, provide a conducive enabling environment capable of discouraging insecurity, and providing job opportunities for the teeming population. Keywords: Insecurity- Agricultural output- Bound test to co-integration-Banditry- Agricultural spending.

Keywords: *Effect, Insecurity, Agricultural Productivity, Nigeria*

4

Public Health Expenditure and Health Outcomes in Nigeria

Bolaji Eunice Kehinde
Department of Economics,
Federal College of Education, Zaria

A b s t r a c t

The study looks into how public health spending affects health outcomes in Nigeria as measured by infant mortality and life expectancy at birth using autoregressive distributed lag model. The results demonstrate that there is a long-term, stable link between public health spending and health outcomes. The outcomes also demonstrated that raising public health spending raises life expectancy and lowers newborn death rates. While per capita income in Nigeria has negligible impact on health results, the urban population and HIV prevalence rate have a substantial impact on health outcomes. According to the results, spending on public health for enhancing health outcomes in Nigeria, it is still essential.

Keywords: *Health Spending, Infant Mortality, Life Expectancy, Per-capita Income, Bound Test*

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Mainstreaming Gender Equality in Nigeria's Fourth Republic: Implications for Democratic Governance

Ibrahim Ahmed Ladi, PhD
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Federal College of Education, Zaria

Abstract

One of the sources of inequality in the world is millennia of patriarchy. We live in a male-dominated world with a male-dominated culture. Nigeria is a signatory to several regional, international protocols and conventions on the protection of the rights of women, particularly in the areas of politics. Yet, women continue to be marginalized and under-represented in the political and electoral process. The low representation of Nigerian women in prominent positions in government is worrisome, in spite of the vital roles they play during elections. It is against this background that this paper attempts to address issues in the context of democratic governance and pursuit of gender equality in Nigeria's Fourth Republic. This study adopts Feminist Theory as its theoretical framework which is a useful analytical tool in explaining the inequality of women to men and their subsequent subordination and marginalization in the political and electoral process in Nigeria. The method of data collection is documentary. The data collected were analyzed using tables, frequency and percentages. The findings show that specific factors such as culture, patriarchy, poverty, violent nature of politics in Nigeria, rejection, isolation and unhealthy attitude from mainly the men undermine gender equality in democratic governance in Nigeria. Getting women into the mainstream of public office and the bureaucracy also is a vital part of engendering local governance. The study recommends the need for modification of behavior by raising awareness of gender equality concerns and inclusive government where both men and women enjoy equal opportunities.

Keywords: *Women, Gender, Gender Equality, Democratic Governance, Development*

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Mainstreaming Gender-Equality and Combating Gender-Based Violence in Nigeria for the Attainment of National Development

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[1]*Department of Political Science, Federal College of Education, Zaria*
[2]*Department of Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution,*
National Open University of Nigeria

Abstract

This paper examines the mainstreaming of gender-equality and combating the menace of gender- based violence for the attainment of national development in Nigeria. This paper adopts frustration-aggression theory to interrogate the conundrum. Gender-based violence occurrences have become worrisome and alarming despite numerous efforts to curb the menace through policies, laws, and penalties, the menace has been on the rise. The violence had far-reaching consequences on the victim's physical, mental, sexual and emotional wellbeing. There is an urgent need to tackle the menace of gender-based violence with a view to mitigating and eradicating the scourge and catalysing national development. The method of data collection in this paper is documentary and method of data analysis is descriptive. This paper identified patriarchal system, religious beliefs, cultural beliefs, perception of women as submissive, lack of awareness, poverty, weak enforcement of laws, stigma, out-of-school children and culture of silence. This paper recommends women empowerment, domestication and implementation on conventions, gender-equality, girl-child education, aggressive public awareness and advocacy interventions and implementation of policies with strict consequences for offenders.

Keywords: *Women, Gender-equality, Gender-based violence, Development, National development*

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Prevalence of Sexual Harassment on Female Students in Tertiary Institutions in Sokoto State: Implication for Psychotherapy

Aminu Hussaini

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Abstract

The prevalence of sexual harassment menace in the tertiary institutions in Nigeria is annoying and needs serious attention. This vices in educational school of learning is not limited to Sokoto state, Nigeria but it is a global issue. It is against this backdrop that this paper tried to ascertain the remote causes and consequences of this evil on female students in Sokoto state. The paper adopted survey research design. Research advisors table for determining sample size was used in selecting 233 unit of analysis across 3 tertiary institutions in state. Three research objectives were drawn with three corresponding research questions. Students Sexual Harassment Questionnaire (SSHQ) was used and the data collected was then subjected to descriptive statistical analysis. The study revealed that only less than ten percent of the female students in tertiary institutions in Sokoto state have experienced sexual harassment and they equally indicate that lecturers and administrative staff are the leading culprits of sexual harassment. Similarly, majority of the respondents opined that revealing dress attitude is responsible for sexual harassment while also majority of the respondents illustrated that compelling female students for sexual harassment activities is major nature of sexual harassment. Likewise, majority of the respondents agreed that sexual harassment have academic, social and health implications such as poor academic performance, loss of esteem, contracting sexually transmitted infections among others. The study concluded by recommending that the government and other stakeholders should fully initiate and implement psychotherapy centers in addition to sexual harassment preventive policies in schools.

Keywords: *Sexual harassment, Female student, Tertiary institutions, Psychotherapy*

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Boko – Haram Insurgency and Trends in the Violent Victimisation of Women by Security Forces in Northeast Nigeria

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Abstract

Boko – Haram insurgency has caused the loss of many human lives and untold suffering to many people in north east Nigeria. The violent victimisation of women is one of the devastating consequences of the conflict. This paper examined trends in the violence perpetuated against women by security forces. The purpose is to contribute to the existing few studies in the extant literature detailing the violent atrocities of the security forces against women. There are already extensive studies on the nature of violence perpetuated against women by insurgents. This paper adopted documentary and descriptive methods to gather and analyse the relevant data. Since the emergence of the insurgency in 2009, civil society reports shows that many women have been killed, displaced, raped and subjected to sexual violence at the hands of security forces. Besides, women are forcefully conscripted for defense purposes and engaged in forced marriages and labour by elements of the security forces and Civilian Joint Task Force (Civilian JTF). This pattern of violence against women is compatible with available evidence of gender-related violent behaviour committed in most armed conflicts in Africa. The violence underlines the perception of women as symbols and objects of war by security forces. The paper argued that women vulnerability to violence in the insurgency is made worse by the entrenched culture of gender discrimination, economic hardships and illiteracy in north east Nigeria. Many women victims of the violent onslaughts are stigmatised by the society, psychologically traumatised and economically backward. The paper suggested, among others, that government intervention in addressing the underlying causes of the insurgency and gender-related socio-economic, cultural and political factors promoting the societal discrimination of women is crucial to tackling the problem of violence against women. Also, the government should treat, with utmost urgency, the rehabilitation and reintegration of the victims of the conflict-related violence.

Keywords: *Boko – Haram, Insurgency, Nigeria, Security Forces, Violence, Women*

Interrogating Gender and Sustainable Economic Development: Issues and Challenges in Nigeria

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Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba

Abstract

The sustainable development goals (SDGs) aim to transform our world without exclusion of any form of discrimination or colour bar subscription. They are a call to action to end poverty and inequality, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy health and prosperity. Drawing heavily from the aforementioned intellectual standpoint, it is imperative to domesticate our discussion around gender and sustainable economic growth in Nigeria. Gender refers to abnormal systems roles and relationship that exist among men and women that are neither scientifically nor biological determined but constructed and reinforced by sociocultural, political, religious, and economic context. This absurdity has created some relative inequality in some African societies. Gender inequality has to do with the complex social relationships between males and females in relations to political power sharing and economic preferences associated with them. The thrust of this paper however, is that, beyond certain acclaimed and selected biological differences, all other difference between men and women are socially constructed and have no logical interference. The aim of this paper is to reconstruct certain cultural beliefs systems that inhibit economic development and promote equality. Finding shows that inequality has created more challenge. We adopt structural-functional and relative deprivation, rising expectation and aggression theories. We recommend that extreme poverty, inequality and unemployment would reduce if equality is promoted in Nigeria.

Keywords: *Gender, Sustainable Development, Politics, and Inequality*

Gender Inclusiveness in Educational Technology and Learning Experiences of Girls and Boys in Sokoto State Nigeria

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A b s t r a c t

The use of technology in tertiary Education is an important aspect of the current curriculum and the teacher's pedagogy. Learning supported by Computers is supposed to be motivating the students and I, therefore, assumed to have positive effects on learning experiences and results. However, the questions remain whether these motivating effects are equal for all students. Although the gender gab in the use of Technology and knowledge about it has diminished, there are still indication that the Use of Technology in Education affect girls and boys differently. The present empirical Study focusses in the relationship between the inclusiveness of educational tools and the learning experiences of girls and boys. The results show that gender Scrips are embedded in educational tools, which are reimpose in classroom practice and affect learner experiences. A greater inclusiveness of the tools appears to improve the participation of students, enhances positive attitude toward learning and technology, and improved the learning effect as reported by girls and boys. Girls especially tend to benefit from the inclusiveness of educational tool.

Keywords: *Gender Inclusiveness, Educational Technology, Learning Experiences, Girls and Boys*

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Socio-Political Marginalisation as Threat to Security and Development in Nigeria

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A b s t r a c t

Marginalisation, whether social, economical, cultural or political is no doubt a major threat to peace and security anywhere it is practiced on the globe. Many a times, political office holders in crises ridden parts of the world like Nigeria, Somalia, Myanmar, and the Middle East, blame their inabilities to deliver what they understand as dividends of democracy on the spate of physical violence or crises ongoing in their respective states. What they however fail to understand is the fact that marginalisation which the state consciously or unconsciously promotes, is most responsible for the insecurities that incapacitates them from delivering genuine democracy dividends to the people. Therefore, this paper which focuses on Nigeria as a case study, lays emphasis on socio-political marginalisation such sexism, cronyism, nepotism and elitism as the root cause of insecurity and underdevelopment and establishes the link between it and inability of the political office holders to deliver genuine democratic dividends to their people. Adopting the frustration aggression theory, and using information derived from a variety of secondary sources, the work concludes that: insurgency, militancy, vandalism, kidnapping and armed robbery which undermines national security and democracy and development are all a corollary of the psychological violence that are being suffered by a very large segment of the populace including youths and the womenfolk. Hence, this discourse opines that unless these excluded parts of the population are made to enjoy the rule of law, equality of opportunities, political and economic empowerment, freedom and education which are the actual dividends of democracy, the state will not only remain insecure, but its democracy will continue to be threatened by so many legitimacy crises which will perpetuate underdevelopment.

Keywords: *Socio-political marginalisation, Threat, Democracy, Security, Development*

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China – Nigeria Relations: Prospects and Challenges

[1]**Akubo, A. Aduku,** [2]**Yakubu, Adejo Umoru,** [3]**Odiji, Okpanachi Linus &** [4]**Adaji Abdul**

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[4]*Department of Public Administration, Prince Abubarkar Audu University, Anyigba Kogi State*

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A b s t r a c t

The study is centred on China- Nigeria Relations. China has developed a great interest in the African economy for a long time. However, in the last decades, the interests have crystallized into practical action in terms of direct involvement and investment in several African countries such as Sudan, Nigeria, Angola, Cameroon, and others. Recent dimension and nature of economic and socio- political interactions between the two countries demand a careful and detailed analysis with a view to establishing its potential impact on the economies, socio-political and diplomatic engagements. China-Nigeria Relation spans a wide spectrum of areas: politics, trade, investment, aid, technology, science, culture, education, health and military. The growing economic ties between China and Nigeria require detailed analysis to determine the prospects and challenges so as to ascertain the benefits on both sides. The study is descriptive in nature, and depended largely on secondary sources, it adopts qualitative analysis using content analysis (thematic themes) as the main anchor. The study highlight prospects and challenges of their relations. The prospects are: adequate infrastructure in Nigeria through China's financial resources, ability to do quality work at a fast rate, simplification of their access to capital, strengthen infrastructure, revive the agricultural sector, china provide trade not aid, Nigerians could borrow from Chinese character of discipline, purposeful leadership and deliverability, China's investment focus on agriculture, light industry, machinery, infrastructure, construction, information technology and tourism will be added impetus to Nigerian Economy. Nigeria may gain from technical assistance and scientific cooperation. The Challenges are: Domestic firms may lose as a result of lack of competitiveness, trade imbalance, stifles technological transfer, tax evasion, slave wages, poor working conditions, transfer pricing, Economic inequality, uncoordinated leadership and policy. Strong pressure must be placed on Nigerian leaders to effectively balance Chinese engagement to maximize growth and opportunity.

Keywords: *China, Nigeria, Economy, Relations, Trade, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).*

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Women and Poverty Reduction: Alleviating Poverty Through Arts, Culture

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Federal College of Education, Zaria

A b s t r a c t

Cultural activities are increasingly noted as drivers of meaningful economic development of any nation. This area is gradually gaining recognition in the development strategy of a country in the area of poverty reduction for women in Nigeria. This paper discusses the role of Arts and Culture as an antidote to poverty reduction or alleviation in women and youth, shows direct effect on social and economic growth in achieving poverty reduction; suggests how to promote empowerment of women in achieving poverty reduction and full employment integration.

Keywords: *Arts, Culture, Women, Poverty Reduction / Alleviation*

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Diversities, Identities and Conflicts in Africa

[1]**Odiji, Okpanachi Linus** & [2]**Akubo Aduku Alex**
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A b s t r a c t

Diversity refers to the plurality of identity groups that inhabit individual countries. While diversity may be a source of creativity and positive growth, when poorly managed, diversity often becomes a source of unhealthy competition, conflict and instability. Identity refers to real or imagined markers that social groups attribute to themselves or to others in order to set themselves apart from others and to distinguish others from one another. Ethnic identities are widely seen as facilitating and sometimes inducing violent conflict. By one account, conflicts over "identity" account for more than 70% of the civil wars started between 1960 and 1999. Ethnic conflicts are perceived to be particularly conducive to large-scale violence such as ethnic cleansing and genocide. Numerous other conflicts have occurred throughout much of the continent causing unknown numbers of casualties. In addition, the conflicts have precipitated various other gross human rights violations, huge social dislocations, and economic ruin in many countries. The economic leakages occur in various forms including disproportionately high military and security expenditures, destruction of property, and disruption of economic activity. This study is descriptive in nature and depends heavily on secondary data. There is a set of intervening variables between diversity and conflicts in Africa that needs to be interrogated: to unravel the nature of the connection between them and, in particular, to discern the linkages between how identities get mobilized and politicized and how this relates to the level of conflict. The dynamic character of identity formation, mobilization processes, and of the shift from identity-diversity to conflict suggests that interrogation must of necessity be contextual and historical, if we are to capture the ebbs, flows, nuances and changes that are involved.

Keywords: *Africa, Ethnic conflicts, Diversities, Identities, Plurality*

Diversity Management and Electoral Conflicts in Africa

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A b s t r a c t

African countries are plural and diverse societies. The continent's political geography has been shaped by its history, and shows diverse groups, communities, regions and societies that were not necessarily coterminous, forcibly merged together, accentuating the plurality of Africa's social formations. Constructed on an authoritarian political infrastructure, the colonial era's model of governance had implications for state society relations. Very few countries or societies in Africa are completely homogeneous. Their diversity relates to the broad range of associational or group relations that individuals are organized in or the certain identity markers, including ethnicity, language, race and religion, they are classified by. Electoral Conflicts in many African countries have often wore the toga of political conflict but in disguise fan the embers of ethnic or tribal conflicts. When leaders and followers have adopted a mindset of narrow minded loyalty to own cultural and/or ethnic identity, and of hostility to the identities of 'others', reciprocal intolerance, antagonism and conflict are bound to follow, elections are central to democratic transition and help to democratically manage diversity in four main ways—participation, representation, leadership rotation and fulfillment of local needs and aspirations. This study is descriptive in nature and depends largely on secondary data. This study reveals that, Understanding and resolving the challenges of conducting free, fair and transparent elections in Africa and promoting inclusiveness, participation, respect for diversity and violence-free elections that are necessary for engineering democratic stability and consolidation on the continent is a catalyst to diversity management. Diversity as a resource for governance and development then becomes a political liability among acute electoral deficits. Switching this liability to an asset so that elections promote social cohesion, grant political legitimacy and manage diversity is a herculean task.

Keywords: *Diversity Management, Electoral Conflicts, Africa*

Political and Socio-Economic Issues in the West Africa Sub-Region: The Place of Gender

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Abstract

The paper reviewed the Political and socio-economic issues in the West Africa sub-region .It examines the role which humanities could play in resolving these issues. The review is appropriate considering the political and economic setbacks witnessed in the West Africa sub region recently. The sub-region had witnessed resurgence in military coups in Mali (2020, 2021), Guinea (2021) and Burkina Faso (2022), Guinea Bissau (2022); it had witnessed setbacks to political reforms that undermined electoral integrity, inclusiveness and legitimacy. The political reforms undertaken by political leaders had favored unconstitutional retention of power, exclusion or disqualification of key political opponents from contesting for power. On the other hand, the sub-region had witnessed the spread of extremist terrorist groups and the massive deterioration of security in the Sahel region and in the North East of Nigeria. In addition, tension and conflicts have taken a drastic turn for the worse in the sub-region couple with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic that had brought human suffering, uncertainty, and major economic disruption. The paper addresses the historical context, trajectories, and drivers of current issues that impacted on governance dynamics and the sustainability of social, economic and political processes in the sub-region. Major recommendations on the way forward were proffered.

Keywords: *Political and Socio-Economic Issues, West Africa Sub-Region, Place of Gender*

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Female-Child Education in North Eastern Nigeria: Challenges and Prospect to Sustainable Development

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Abstract

Available literatures demonstrate a comprehensive analysis on the Marginalization and discriminating activities of Female Child, but less attention was giving on the barriers preventing the educational development of a female Child in the North-eastern region of Nigeria. This study examines the challenges of female child education and advocates a better ways to tackles the high rate of gender inequality, socio-cultural cum political barriers preventing the development of girl-child education in the North-eastern region of Nigeria. In its methodology, the study adopted the descriptive survey and secondary sources of information that have been well expounded on extant literature. However, The study revealed that, the problems facing female-child education in the North-eastern region of Nigeria is not far from poverty, early marriage, cultural and religious misconceptions, government neglect and the recently insecurity occasioned by Boko Haram insurgency are issues that has bedevilled the Female-child education in the region. Reports indicate that while over 10.5 million Nigerian children of school age are out of school, the North-eastern region alone has 39.8 percent of that number, which are mostly female. This situation, no doubt, poses a dangerous threat to socio-economic development as well as the security of the region. The study recommends among other things that, government, non-governmental organizations, parents, traditional and religious leaders should join hands in the enlighten campaign for the benefits and need to educate a female-child. It is in this regard that the nation can achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Keywords: *Female-Child, Education, Sustainable Development, Nigeria*

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Internal Population Displacement and Women's Poverty Reduction in North-East Nigeria

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Abstract

This study examined the impact of displacement on women poverty level in North east region of Nigeria. The northeastern Nigeria has been ravaged by insurgency and communal violent conflicts that have resulted to internal population displacement of women and the girl-child in their thousands. These internally displaced women (IDW) were forced to live their places and socio-economic activities to seek refuge in safer communities and camps. The IDWs who were predominantly small scale farmers and petty-traders that depend on cultivation of crops and low income trade for their livelihoods found themselves in stiff struggle for means of survival. The study adopted qualitative methodological approach of data collection. A purposive sampling was used to select 15 informants based on characteristics such as: displaced women who were having multiple streams of income before displacement, house wives, beneficiaries of humanitarian support and those that have adopted different strategies for survival and to reduce their poverty level. The findings show that displacement exposes women to psychological trauma and socio-economic hardship such as starvation, unemployment, social discriminations, sexual harassment, diseases, child labour, and social exclusions which increase their poverty status. In order to restore hope of survival and reduce poverty level, the displaced women were not only depending on the inadequate aids from government and NGOS, but adopted strategies such as small scale farming, begging, hawking, cooperative work, among others. The study recommended that direct empowerment be given to IDW to enable them secure quality life and restore their various or other viable occupation after resettlement.

Keywords: *Displacement, Internally displaced women (IDW) survival, Poverty reduction*

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Impact of Entrepreneurship on Poverty Reduction Among Women Entrepreneurs in Kaduna State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study examines the impact of entrepreneurship on poverty reduction among women entrepreneurs in Kaduna State, Nigeria. Structured questionnaire was used to collect data from 336 respondents who are specifically into online businesses. The respondents were chosen from Kaduna North, Kaduna South and Zaria Local Government Areas through three stage stratified random sampling technique. 250 questionnaires were returned which represent 74 percent response rate. Data was analyzed using descriptive analysis. Key finding revealed that 95% of respondents indicate live above the poverty rate. The study recommends that government should train more women in the use of ICT, provide startup capital for women.

Keywords: *Impact of Entrepreneurship, Poverty Reduction, Women Entrepreneurs*

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Insecurity and the Implications for Girl-Child Education in North-West Nigeria

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Abstract

The rate of insecurity in Nigeria in recent times is alarming. After the Nigerian civil war of 1967, the country has not been exposed to high magnitude challenge until this democratic dispensation where all major security threats have become a recurring decimal. This paper attempts to examine the trajectory of insecurity and its attendant implications on the education of the girl-child in North-west geopolitical zone of Nigeria. Security shows that banditry as one of the dimension of insecurity affecting the region has caused displacement of citizens in their thousands, different lives affected; socio-economic structure of communities devastated and as well as a major distortion in their educational structure. Among the categories of people affected is the girl-child whose level of education has been backward and affected by socio-cultural factors. The north-west geopolitical zone has been suffering from out-of school girl syndrome where the girls are exposed to various socio-economic activities at the expense of their studies. Notable in the region also, is the challenge of early marriage. In spite of this major setback in the education of the girl-child, insecurity in a consequential way, increase the education gap and skewed negatively. The study further discovered that with the increasing level of insecurity, it implication will further widen the gap of gender inequality in the country. It is therefore recommended that to close gender gap in education in the North-west region of Nigeria, the plight of the girl-child in the communities affected by insecurity should be given political and economic humanitarian attention.

Keywords: *Insecurity, Banditry, and Girl-child Education*

Minority Rights & National Cohesion in Nigeria: The Role of the Media

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A b s t r a c t

There are ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities in most… countries. Nigeria represents the best and worst of what African states offer the world. It is a mosaic of over 250 different ethnic groups and languages enriched as a crossroads between various forms of Christianity, Islam, and indigenous beliefs, and Western, Arab, and native influences. Social disharmony and distrust breeds conflict and crisis in societies. This study is descriptive in nature and depends largely on secondary data – Documents, reports, periodicals, journals, published and unpublished works, Magazines and Newspapers, Documentaries and internet sources. The place of the media is central and essential in galvanizing national cohesion. National cohesion as a vital process ensures that diverse entities that make up a society are brought into a unifying mix. This helps to blur the lines that polarize people, create distrust, and amplify the ones that act as unifying factor. This does not imply that groups should discard their distinct characteristics; rather it should be employed as a unifying force. This study reveals that increased attention to minority rights in Nigeria can help engender national cohesion.

Keywords: *Nigeria, Minority Rights, Media, National Cohesion, Social disharmony*

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Socio-Cultural Factors and Women Political Participation in Zaria Local Government Area of Kaduna State: An Assessment

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Abstract

The population of women and the rate at which they participate in the political process particularly during electioneering campaigns and elections in Zaria Local Government Area of Kaduna State in particular and the country at large is undoubtedly high; this however, is inversely proportional to the number of appointive and elective political positions that finally gets allotted to them. This unfortunate situation was not unconnected to the socio-cultural factors such as women seclusion (Purdah), home management responsibilities, etc., all of which combine to bring about the alienation and systematic marginalization of women in country's political space (Zaria inclusive); thus denying them of their equitable share of representation in terms of securing elective and appointive positions both at local, state and national levels of governance; with attendant consequences on the achievement of democratic good governance. It is based on this premise that this paper sets out to examine the impacts of Socio-Cultural Factors on Women Political Participation in Zaria Local Government Area of Kaduna State. To achieve this, documentary analysis of some extant literature related to the topic were reviewed. The paper revealed that in spite of the high level of women's participation and contribution in the political process through grassroots voter mobilisation, voting and untiring support they gave to political aspirants of their respective political parties, women's occupation of elective and appointive political positions in the study area was very low. The paper found that socio-cultural factors coupled with women's inferiority complex were widely considered as factors militating against women's occupation of elective and appointive political positions in the study area. Hence, the paper recommends among others that beyond issuing free party nomination forms to female political aspirants by the APC and the PDP, women in the study area should be empowered and supported in a sustainable manner to be able to overcome the myriad challenges of socio-cultural factors among others, which hinders them from participating actively in the political process in the study area.

Keywords: *Socio-Cultural Factor, Political Participation, Women, Women Political Participation*

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Gender Barriers to Financial Inclusion in Southwest Nigeria

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A b s t r a c t

This study identifies the gender barriers to financial inclusion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) owners in Southwest Nigeria. The primary data was used and data were drawn from 409 MSMEs owners. Descriptive statistic was used to identify and compare gender barriers in financial inclusion among MSMEs owners. This study reveals that more male respondents use formal financial services than female respondents with a gender gap of 11.3%. However, the reverse is the case for informal financial services, more female business owners use informal financial services than their male counterparts. There is also a wide gender gap (13.1%) in accessing credit or bank loans from formal financial institutions. Out of those that are financially excluded in the study sample, females have the larger percentage. The findings from the study reveals that the major gender barrier to financial inclusion in the study states was lack of required collateral by female business owners. Study recommends that the stakeholders need to develop appropriate products and services within the scope and reach of female business owners. Formal financial services providers should influence female business owners at all levels to sensitise and educate them on the need to be formally included.

Keywords: *Gender, Financial inclusion, MSMEs, Barriers, Financial services*

Art as an Awareness in Education and Training of Women for Self-Development in Nigeria

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Abstract

Arts have long been considered part of the human effective experience and needed by our young people as a medium for safe expression, communication, exploration, imagination, cultural and historical understanding. This research will critically look at the role of craftwork and its motivation on women creativity in our country Nigeria, and attempt to highlight and examine the problems across the craft works, investigate challenges and prospects to Nigerian hand craft, encourage women about the role played by art teachers in Nigeria and examine how art and craft helps the women in developmental goals. This research also aims at establishing a better understanding of craft produce in different factors, at different parts of the country, the quality of a good craft, problem of art development in Nigeria with quality of Education and the relevance of art criticism. Finally, it showed the art and craft careers in education and some problems facing the teaching of craft work in Nigerian schools, and also recommends ways of setting solutions and awareness in education and training of women for self-development in Nigeria.

Keywords: *Art, Awareness, Education and Training, Women, Self-Development*

Women and Political Participation in ECOWAS Region: An Emphasis on Nigeria and Ghana

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A b s t r a c t

The lack of political engagement among women is worrisome and troubling. Due to this, women are unable to fully contribute politically to the development of the ECOWAS region, with a specific focus on Nigeria and Ghana. Empirical investigations have demonstrated that women in positions of responsibility are considered to be diligent and decisive. Therefore, the study's main objective is to identify the particular causes of women's low political engagement. In order to offer suggestions on how to improve women's political engagement, it studies how women participate in politics. To do this, Documentary research using both content analysis and descriptive were generated from secondary data. According to this study, several women who ran for important political posts either didn't have the support of the males or were perceived as less capable of serving as leaders. Additionally, a number of legislators, particularly the men, rejected a request for a law promoting gender equality and said it would empower women. In order to dispel the pervasive myth that politics is only for males, it is advised that both men and women be sensitized. In order for women to compete well with males in politics, they should also be given more economic and educational authority.

Keywords: *Women and Political Participation, ECOWAS Region*

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Women's Participation in Decision-Making in the Government of Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study examined the status of women's participation in decision-making in the government of Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. The period of the study covered 1999 – 2013. The study was necessitated by the gross under-representation of women in decision-making realm in the government of Akwa Ibom State. Two research questions and two null hypotheses were developed to guide the study. Survey research design was adopted for the study. The universe population for the study was 3,902,051 made up of women across the three Senatorial Districts of Akwa Ibom State which included: 1,354,215 women from Uyo Senatorial District, 1,220,053 from Eket Senatorial District and 1,327,783 from Ikot Ekpene Senatorial District. Stratified sampling technique was adopted to select 585 women across the three Senatorial Districts of the State. The Stratified sampling technique was adopted to give equal representation of the participants in the study. Data was gathered through primary and secondary sources. The primary sources were Interview and questionnaire, while the secondary source comprised textbooks, journals, magazine internet materials, etc. The questionnaire was a five-point rating scale of Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Undecided (UD), Disagree (D) and Strongly Disagree (SD) with corresponding values of 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1 respectively. The data collected were analysed using analysis of variance (ANOVA) at $p \leq 0.05$ levels of significance using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) 16 package. The level of women's participation in decision-making in the government of Akwa Ibom State was low and marginal. Domestic factors, economic factors and socio-cultural factors were the challenges of women's participation in decision-making in the government of Akwa Ibom State. The study recommended among others, that there should be supportive network and prospective role models to women through the identification of aspirants and pairing them with established women politicians, playing mentoring role and providing capacity building training to young or aspiring female politicians, reduced women multiple responsibilities at home so that they can have time to be relevant in the society, helping to build confidence in women, increased women representation in legislative bodies, organizing public campaign and enlightenment to politically educate and re-orientate the public about the need to support women participation in decision-making of governance.

Keywords: *Women, Participation, Decision, Governance, Akwa Ibom State*

Impact of Girl Child Education on Socio-Economic Development in Borno State, Nigeria

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Abstract

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) have greatly bestowed a lot to the development of human being in recent years. STEAM is greatly transforming the activities in our societies on a daily basis, the impacts are felt very much in education. Many girls around the country are being deprived the right to quality education. In Northern Nigeria, girls are excluded from decision-making processes and community involvements because of the gender norms that define their primary functions as wives, mother and "there place in the kitchen". This, thereafter, hinders them the control over many areas of their lives. This study examined the impact of Girl Child education in socio-economic development as well as the factors militating against Girl Child education and the need for gender disparities and inequalities to be reduced to the barest minimum in Maiduguri, Borno state. In this light, the study adopted questionnaire and survey method for data collection, simple frequency distribution and percentage rate were used to analyze the collected data from schools. Educating girls play vital role in improving social and economic activities for herself, the family and the society. The needs to invest in girls' education are substantial. The inability to address the issue will further widen the gender gap in education and this can be attained by giving Girl Child education proper attention.

Keywords: *Girl-Child, Education, Economic, Social, Development*

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Impact of Human Capital Development on Poverty Reduction on Economic Growth in Nigeria

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A b s t r a c t

The aim in this research work is to examine the impact of human capital development on poverty reduction on economic growth in Nigeria. The scope of the study will cover 43 years to yield 43 data points per variable from 1980 to 2022. The Autoregressive Distributed Lag Model (ARDL) Model will be employed in the analysis of the data. Interest in this research area stems from the observed slow rate of Nigeria's economic growth partly due to low school enrolment of women and majority of the workforce are unskilled especially given the failure of government policies and incentives over the long run period.

Keywords: *Human Capital, Development and Poverty Reduction*

Note