



Customary Law and Statutory Jurisdictions in Family Matters: Ghanaian Interfaces

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Abstract

Customary law in Ghana plays a significant role in family matters, often coexisting with statutory laws enacted by the government. The study employs a mixed-methods approach, combining legal case analysis with interviews to explore judicial practices and public perceptions of custom versus statute in familial disputes. In the examined cases from , there was an observed trend where statutory law predominantly governed when it applied directly to family issues, while customary law maintained influence through mediation or community-based resolutions. While statutory laws provide a clear framework for resolving certain family conflicts, they often coexist with customary practices that offer alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and societal values in other cases. Promote public education on the interplay between custom and statute to enhance understanding of legal processes and promote compliance. Encourage judicial training programmes to better integrate both legal systems.

Keywords: *African geography, Customary law, Jurisdictional overlap, Mixed-methods approach, Statutory law, Legal pluralism, African sociology*

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