



Gender Dynamics in Sierra Leonean Legal Traditions: An African Perspective on Gender Dimensions of Law

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Abstract

Sierra Leone is a sub-Saharan African country where traditional legal systems coexist with modern legal frameworks. Gender dynamics within these traditions have not been extensively studied, highlighting a gap in understanding their impact on contemporary law and society. The analysis is based on qualitative interviews with legal practitioners and community leaders in Sierra Leone, focusing on oral histories and customary laws as primary sources. The findings suggest that integrating traditional gender dynamics into modern legal reforms could enhance the effectiveness and inclusivity of justice systems in Sierra Leone. Legal reform efforts should consider incorporating elements from traditional gender norms, while also ensuring that they do not perpetuate existing inequalities. This hybrid approach can promote more equitable outcomes for all genders within the legal system.

Keywords: *African geography, gender studies, jurisprudence, legal anthropology, sub-Saharan Africa, sociolaw, traditional jurisprudence*

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