



Gender Dimensions in Sub-Saharan African Legal Frameworks: Nigeria's Experience

Chika Nwabisi¹, Osita Anyaoku², Uchenna Okoli¹, Nkem Chime^{1,3}

¹ Covenant University, Ota

² Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria

³ Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto

Published: 15 February 2008 | **Received:** 18 October 2007 | **Accepted:** 25 January 2008

Correspondence: cnwabisi@hotmail.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18882029](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18882029)

Author notes

Chika Nwabisi is affiliated with Covenant University, Ota and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Osita Anyaoku is affiliated with Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Uchenna Okoli is affiliated with Covenant University, Ota and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Nkem Chime is affiliated with Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Abstract

Sub-Saharan Africa is home to a diverse legal landscape where gender dimensions are often underrepresented or inadequately addressed in policy and judicial practices. The study employs a mixed-methods approach combining in-depth interviews with legal experts and stakeholders, document analysis of relevant legislation, and thematic content analysis of court decisions related to gender issues. A purposive sample strategy ensures representation from diverse regions and sectors. A key finding is the persistent gap between formal law and customary practices where women's rights are often overlooked or subordinated in some jurisdictions, particularly regarding inheritance and property rights. For instance, in Yoruba communities, a traditional practice allows men to inherit more than their female siblings. The study underscores the need for comprehensive legal reforms that integrate gender-sensitive provisions into existing laws while acknowledging and integrating customary practices where appropriate. Recommendations include advocating for legislative changes that explicitly address gender disparities in property rights, inheritance laws, and labour regulations. Additionally, promoting public education campaigns to enhance awareness of women's legal entitlements within both formal and customary frameworks.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, Africa, Gender, Dynamics, Law, Socio-Legal Analysis, Qualitative Inquiry*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

Email: info@parj.africa

Request your copy of the full paper today!

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

Submit at: app.parj.africa



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge