



Gender-Based Violence In Edo State: The Role Of The Police As Canvassed In IWD 2022

**Dr. Natalia
Kanem Receives
Honorary
Doctorate
Degree From
UNIBEN**



**WHARC
Founder
Receives
Award Of
Excellence**



**The African Journal Of
Reproductive Health
Announces Monthly
Publication Of Its Issues
For The Year 2022!**



- Female Genital Mutilation As A Plague To Women's Social And Reproductive Health
- WHARC Appoints New Staff

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Brief Introduction

Women's Health and Action Research (WHARC) is a well-known non-governmental, non-profit organization established in 1993 with Headquarters in Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria. The Centre is a registered legal entity with the Corporate Affairs Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. It consists of a multi-disciplinary team of professionals and researchers working together to improve the knowledge and the policy environment for advancing the social development of women and youth in sub-Saharan Africa.

Our Vision

WHARC vision seeks to create a world where all people are treated with equal respect and dignity and where women and young adolescents have equality and access to basic reproductive health information and services.

Our Mission

WHARC mission is grounded in a deep love of humanity and a belief in equality and dignity for all people. WHARC work is to improve the reproductive health and social wellbeing of woman and adolescents in Africa so they can lead productive, fulfilling lives and provide a healthy future for their children. Through its cutting edge research, WHARC educates women, youth, community gatekeepers and policymakers about sexual and reproductive health, and advocates for policy change at the local, state and federal level. WHARC also provides current and effective reproductive health services for adolescent girls in Africa.

Till date, WHARC has conducted formative and intervention research that engages and documents the socio-cultural determinants of women's health, thus providing data for developing policies and programs for scaling up best practices relating to women's health in Nigeria and African. In particular, WHARC's niche is to use the results of research to build public health awareness and to advocate for policy changes involving critical sexual and reproductive health issues in Nigeria.

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EDITORIAL MESSAGE

I warmly welcome you our highly esteemed Readers to the 2022, Volume 1 Edition of Women's Health and Action Research Centre (WHARC) Nigeria Newsletter. On behalf of the Editorial Board, I sincerely apologize for the seemingly prolonged interlude between the last edition and the current one. This edition promises to be enlightening, educative, informative and exciting. No doubt, WHARC has seen momentous events in preceding years and most recent times. Contained in this edition are a variety of activities, programmes, documentations, research and service delivery in sexual and reproductive health challenges, which were carried out and geared towards promoting the health and social well-being of women and adolescents in Africa.

To be included in this Newsletter as usual are feature articles, appointments, promotions, interviews and other refreshing, edifying and informative write-ups, and lots more.

Special thanks to God Almighty for wisdom and guidance. Deep appreciation goes to The Executives of WHARC led by our Amiable and Distinguished Chief Executive Officer, Professor Friday Okonofua and the Staff of WHARC for making this Newsletter a reality.

I enjoin you to please sit back, relax and enjoy the first edition of WHARC Newsletter for the year 2022. Enjoy yourself!

From the Communication Officer,
Epiphany Ogheneworo Diakpomrere.



Cerhi Holds Workshop On Research Priorities In Reproductive Health

By

Diakpomrere, Ogheneworo Epiphany

Centre of Excellence in Reproductive Health Innovation (CERHI) on Tuesday 18th January, 2022 held a One-day workshop at the Theatre Hall 2, CERHI, University of Benin (UNIBEN), tagged "Workshop on Research Priorities Agenda Setting in Reproductive Health." The workshop was targeted at Learned Fellows from all disciplines of human endeavor, Staff and Students of the University of Benin, and Virtual Participants within and outside Nigeria. The CERHI Research Coordinator, Dr. Rose Ugiagbe, opened the workshop. In his welcome address, the UNIBEN Leader of CERHI, Prof Friday Okonofua, stated that CERHI is a research centre dedicated to promoting issues in reproductive health. Prof Okonofua went on to appreciate the efforts of the different presenters of key research ideas

and encouraged them to develop innovative research concept notes capable of proffering solutions to the numerous challenges in reproductive health. Encouraging the Researchers, he said, "you cannot be short of challenges to be addressed; everyday new ones come up. Describing the problem has been over flogged, but finding the root causes has not been done so well." Research Ideas featured in the presentations include; Research Priorities for Endometriosis in Research Restricted Countries by Dr. Uche A. Menakaya; COVID19 and Perinatal Mortality by Dr. Loretta Ntiomo (Virtual Presenter); Access to Primary Health Care by Women and Children by Dr. Bola Ekezue and lastly, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Maternal Mortality by Dr. Eli Sukarime. Present at the workshop were Former Deputy Vice Chancellor (DVC) Academic (UNIBEN), Prof. Michael Aziken, Immediate Past Director

Centre for Gender Studies UNIBEN - Prof. (Mrs.) Evelyn Uwa Edosomwan, Representative of Head of Department (Cross-Section of Participants at the Workshop)

(HOD), Sociology - Dr. Greg Igbinomwanhia, Programme Coordinator CERHI - Prof. (Mrs.) Akhere Omonkhua, Epiphany Diakpomrere (WHARCs Communication Officer), Henrietta Efe (WHARCs Programmes Officer, M.SC and PhD Students of CERHI, Undergraduate level students of UNIBEN, amongst others. CERHI has been in existence since December 2014. It is a world bank supported project in UNIBEN aimed at providing high quality training and applied research for professionals, needed to tackle the complex reproduction, population problems plaguing Africa and beyond. The workshop extended, expanded and enlarged frontiers of discussions on the essence of research in reproductive health.



Group Photograph with Participants at the Workshop)



Cross-Section of Participants at the Workshop

Gender-Based Violence in Edo State: The Role of the Police as Canvassed in IWD 2022

By
Diakpomrere, Ogheneworo Epiphany

The month of March is usually the landmark of celebrations of women. One of such landmarks of celebration took place on March 8th 2022, being International Women's Day (IWD). As part of activities to celebrate the 2022 IWD, Women's Health and Action Research Centre (WHARC) in partnership with Centre of Excellence for Reproductive Health Innovation (CERHI) organized a Public Lecture on the role of the police in tackling gender based violence in Edo State, which held at Dr. Natalia Kanem

Event Hall in the premises of WHARC. Present at the occasion were The Speaker of the Event – Mr. Philip Aliya Ogbadu (Edo State Commissioner of Police) who was ably represented by DSP Magdalene Idemudia (Officer-in-Command (O.C), Gender Unit, State CID).

The O.C Gender Unit, reiterated the witty fact that gender based violence is a phenomenon which affects both male and female especially gender based crimes. She stated categorically that the police has roles to play in arresting and prosecuting persons who commit gender based violence offences such as rape, defilement and

indecent assault, amongst others. She advised those who suffer gender based violence and the general public to speak up by reporting to the police for appropriate actions to be taken.

The Chairperson of the occasion, Honorable Justice Akomolafe Tinuade Wilson (Retired Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal), opined that "Both women and men experience gender based violence, but that the majority of victims are women and girls." She proceeded to commend WHARC for the giant strides it has made in helping to improve the reproductive health and social well-being of women, youth, and adolescents in Africa and



Participants at the WHARC IWD Public Lecture 2022

called for an end to violence against women through concerted collective efforts by the various stakeholders.

Other Dignitaries present at the event include the First Lady of Edo State – Her Excellency, Mrs. Betsy Bene Obaseki, ably represented by Dr. Georgina Eromonsele; The Chief Judge of Edo State – Hon. Justice Joe Acha, ably represented by Hon. Justice Joy Okeaya-Inneh; and Mr. Urowayino Eyinnisan, representative of the former first lady of Edo State and Founder Idia Renaissance – Chief Mrs. Eki Igbiniedion; The SUG President UNIBEN – Mr. Foster Amadin and Miss ECOWAS MBGN 2021 – Miss Lydia Okojie. The IWD public lecture also had in attendance representatives of students from Idia Girls College and UDSS, Staff of WHARC and CERHI, Learned Fellows from all disciplines of human endeavor, and Virtual Participants within and outside Nigeria.

A highpoint of the event was the presentation of awards were presented to seven (7) deserving persons in honour of their immense contributions towards tackling gender based violence in Edo State. Commenting on the Lecture, The Executive Director of WHARC– Dr. Wilson Imongan expressed the need for everyone to be enlightened on the menace of gender based violence and encouraged everyone to lend their voices towards eradicating it.

On her part, the Programme Coordinator, CERHI – Vivian Onoh noted that the lecture is an educative and enlightenment programme meant to enlighten people about gender



DSP Magdalene Idemudia, O.C. Gender Unit, State CID; speaking at the Public Lecture



Mr. Foster Amadin (SUG President), displaying his Award

based violence, as well as encourage victims to report GBV cases to the police. Indeed, it is a remarkable truth that lessons derived from the Public

Lecture would continue to serve as a springboard to dealing with gender based violence issues in not just Edo State, but in Nigeria and globally.



Rtd. Hon. Justice Tinuade Wilson speaking at the Public Lecture

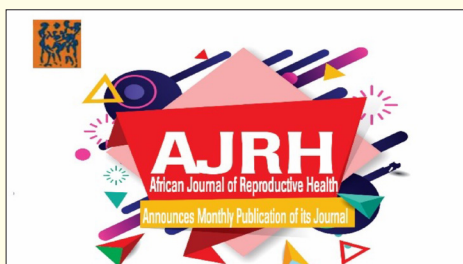
Innovating For Maternal And Child Health In Africa (Imcha) Special Edition Published!



The Innovating for Maternal and Child Health in Africa (IMCHA) collaborates with the African Journal of Reproductive Health (AJRH), Africa's leading indigenous journal in reproductive health, to produce a special edition featuring the work from IMCHA grantees. The purpose of this special edition is to document the impact of the Initiative and contribute to the uptake of research evidence into policy and practice to improve women and children's health in Africa and other regions. We are particularly interested in documenting achievements, challenges and lessons learned regarding the journey from implementation research to uptake of findings into policy and practice. Example of topics are: documenting how successful project interventions were scaled; reflecting about embedding a decision-maker as a co-principal investigator, and more broadly about how to successfully engage decision-makers; or exploring the role that HPROs and regional organizations can play in uptake of research findings into policy and practice. These are not mutually exclusive. The special edition (AJRH Volume 25 Number 3s) can be accessed via the website link <https://ajrh.info/index.php/ajrh/issue/view/111>

The African Journal Of Reproductive Health Announces Monthly Publication Of Its Issues For Year 2022!

The African Journal of Reproductive Health (AJRH) is a multidisciplinary and international journal which started in 1997. The journal focuses on publishing original research, comprehensive review articles, case reports and commentaries on reproductive health. It strives to provide a forum for both African and Foreign Researchers working in Africa to share findings in all aspects of reproductive health and to disseminate innovative, relevant and useful information on reproductive health throughout the continent. To date, the journal has published 26 volumes, 93 issues, and 1,412 articles. The AJRH has open access in several websites including PubMed, AJOL and AJRH while full text is published at <http://www.ajrh.info>. It is also abstracted in Ulrich's periodical feminist, Periodical African books publishing records and in 10 other indexing and abstracting bodies.



Twenty-six years of continuous publication of a scientific international journal coming from sub-Saharan Africa and soaring – surely, a huge success deserving of multiple accolades and

commendations. Not only has the journal performed exceptionally well, it has exceeded the reservations of critics who had doubted its sustained delivery, given the proclivity for journals from African countries to fall apart soon after they are established.

The global reach and scientific impact of the AJRH have surged. Initially published twice a year, the journal evolved to a tri-annual publication in 2002, quarterly publication in 2009, and then to a bimonthly publication in 2021. In view of the high quality articles currently being submitted to the journal on a weekly basis, the editorial board of the journal has decided that only a monthly publication schedule will enable the journal meet the expectations of its clientele. Therefore, since January 2022, the AJRH has been published every month, and with a renewed and rejuvenated management team, we are confident that the journal will continue to do better. The management of the AJRH is proud that the journal has reached the accelerating phase of its development. Going forward, the journal will pursue high levels of achievement with a determination to accomplish higher ranking in the global ranking of high impact journals.

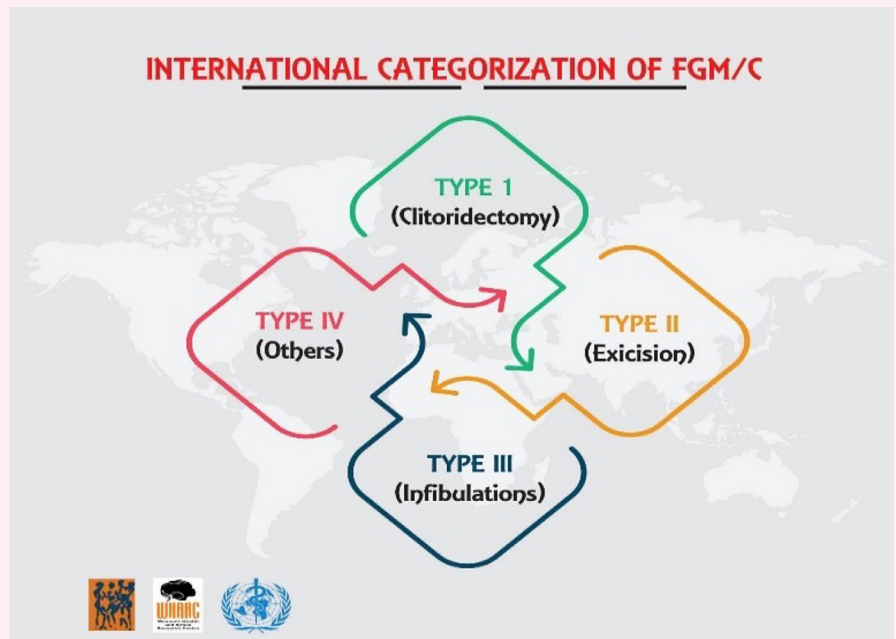
Female Genital Mutilation As A Plague To Women's Social And Reproductive Health.

By

Sanyaolu, Oluwatosin Demilade
(Corp Member at WHARC)

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) also known as Female Genital Circumcision (FGC) involves the cutting of part or all of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs whether for cultural or non-therapeutic reasons. The practice of FGM can be classified into four types according to WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA; Type I involves the cutting of a part or all of the clitoris, Type II involves cutting the inner lips of the vulva plus the clitoris, Type III involves the cutting of all the external genitalia, fusing up the raw edges of the vulva (leaving a very small opening for the passage of urine and menstrual blood) and the stitching of the vagina opening (infibulation). This Type of FGM is practiced on a smaller scale in parts of Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Nigeria and Mali while Types I and II accounts for 80-85% of all FGM worldwide, although the proportions may vary greatly from country to country. Type IV is an unclassified type of FGM. It includes pricking, piercing or incision of the clitoris or vulva; cutting of the vagina, scrapping of surrounding tissue around the clitoris; introducing herbs to the vagina with the aim of tightening.

In 1993, Nigeria recorded 40% of Nigerian girls that were circumcised. In Nigeria, Types I and II are common



in the south-western part, among the Yoruba's and the Ibibios in the East. Type III can be found among the Igbos in Imo state and girls from Edo and Delta states. It is also practiced by Hausa (Moslems) in the North. Type IV is also practiced among Hausa's such as the Gishiri cuts (cuts into the front and back walls of the vagina).

FGM is a deeply rooted traditional practice which is however a form of violation against girls and women's rights. It has very serious physical and psychological consequences which adversely affect their sexual and mental health. When girls are cut;

- They are at immediate risk of haemorrhage, shock, serious injury and infections which may lead to death sometimes. The people that perform the cutting on the girls use

unsterile tools that have been used for multiple girls, thereby leading to the spread of blood infections such as HIV.

- There are other serious health problems attached to FGM such as cysts, other tissue damage and infertility problems.
- They experience painful urination for a while after they might have performed the cutting, painful menstruation and painful sexual intercourse. In the case of infibulation, they might have to reopen to enable sexual intercourse and childbirth.
- Can cause life threatening childbirth complications because the scar tissue may not stretch enough to accommodate a new born making delivery very painful. Prolonged delivery can occur and a caesarean



section will have to be performed to give birth. Therefore, countries with high levels of the practice of the FGM have the highest rate of maternal mortality in the world.

- Psychologically, it affects the mental health of victims. They may suffer anxiety, depression, memory loss, sleep disorders and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). FGM causes sexual dysfunction in young women as they worry, thereby putting stress on their marriages.

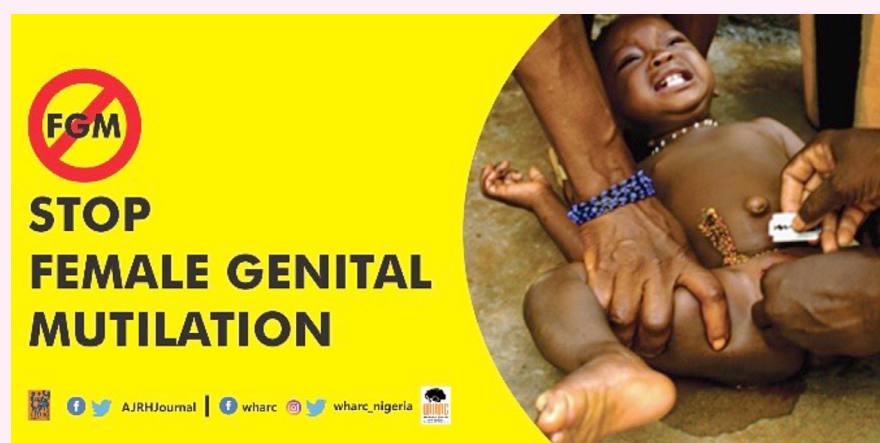
The practice of FGM is very painful, harmful and dangerous to girls and women's health and it is also a violation of their human rights. The heart of this article is to put a total end to the practice of FGM and other practices that undermine the social and reproductive health of women and girls. We encourage women's groups in Nigeria to stand up strongly against FGM. Even though a federal law has been passed against it since 2015, many people still practice it. The eradication of FGM will provide clear evidence that positive transformation can be achieved in our society that is dominated by male-oriented values. This will serve as a gateway to the eradication of other practices that are

harmful to girls and women's social and reproductive rights, as well as general good health and well-being.

The effects of WHARCS public education on FGM provide more convincing evidence for more opposers on its practice, as Community members openly called for an end to the practice. This universal and United call spurred a coalition of NGOs in the state, spearheaded by WHARC to push a bill for the abandonment of FGC in the State House of Assembly. During the debate, a large segment of the population attended and voiced support which led to its passage and its later affirmation in 2001. The then Commissioner of Health in Edo State showed commitment and

supported the dissemination of FGM Law by inaugurating a 10-member multisector committee to lead the implementation of the law aimed at eradicating FGM/C practice in the state. In addition, WHARC was invited to be a key partner and member of the FGM elimination committee. Furthermore, 27 key stakeholders representing senior government officials of Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women Affairs, Local Government Health Officers, The Judiciary, Police, Community and Religious Leaders, Civil Societies, including the media, held a consultative forum to develop plans of action on the role each of the constituencies will play to enforce the law. More Community education and open discussion is needed to enable members of the community come to terms with the harmful effects of FGC, the abuse of human rights and complications (Psychological, Sexual Disorders, Obstetrics, gynecological, and infertility issues) that occur from FGC.

Speak up against FGM offenders. FGM offenders must be punished under the law. Protect the girl child today!!! Join the campaign today, Spread the tidings of the ills of FGM. Together we can stop this barbaric practice!!!



WHARC Appoints New Staff

As part of the need to fulfill the mandate of WHARC, certain administrative gaps needed to be filled to strengthen the organization and accelerate growth and development. Our desire is to recruit capable and innovative staff, who would join us in achieving our mission and vision. Over the past two (2) years, some staff were employed. They are:



BLESSING AKHIGBE (Female).

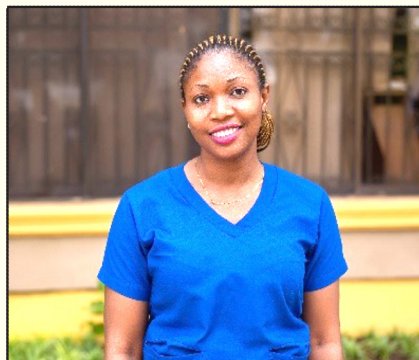
She is presently the Chef at the Academy Guest House and Events Centre. She holds a ND in Hospitality Management from Auchi Polytechnic, Auchi, Edo State. AKA "Belle first", her outmost goal is to optimally satisfy guests with exquisite and finger-licking delicacies.

GRACE ADEBOLA AKHUMERE (Female).



She presently occupies the position

of Receptionist II in the Academy Guest House and Events Centre. She holds a ND in Business Administration and Management from the then Edo State Institute of Technology and Management, now Edo State Polytechnic, Usen; and a (HND) in Marketing from Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, Ondo State. Her outmost aim is to make the guest house warm and comfortable for guests



GLORY AYEMOBA (Female).

She is presently a Registered Nurse in Abel Guobadia Specialist Hospital. She holds a Degree in Registered Nursing from the School of Nursing, UBTH. Her goal is to achieve the set goals of the AGSH and WHARC in general through teamwork and hard-work. Miss Glory joined the services of WHARC on January 12th, 2022.

ELIZABETH ONESHIORULA DANIEL (Female).



She is the Internal auditor / Investment officer in WHARC. Elizabeth has 3 years working experience in the finance and investment sector. She hails from Etsako East Local Government Area of Edo state, Nigeria. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree (BSc) in Banking and Finance from the university of Benin, Benin-city Edo state, Nigeria. She has certifications in Human Resource Management and Investment Intelligence and Human Capital Development. She is proficient in the use of Microsoft Office software, and she is passionate about learning and personal development. Her goal is to ensure proper financial control in all of WHARC subsidiaries at all times, and to identify potentially productive business/investment opportunities

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available in and to WHARC. Miss Elizabeth joined the services of WHARC on January 3rd, 2022.

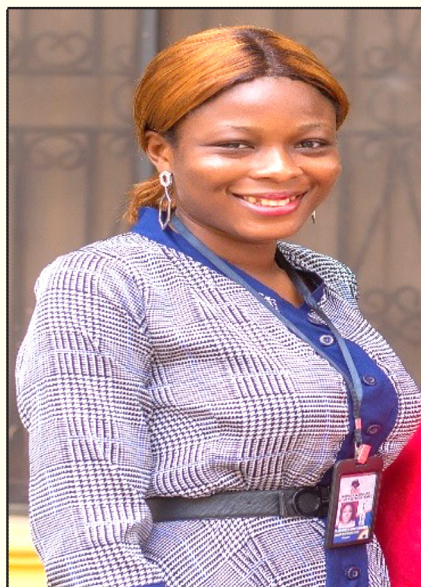
EPIPHANY OGHENEWORO DIAKPOMRERE (Female).



She is the Communication Officer in WHARC. Miss Epiphany holds a Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communication from the University of Benin, Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria, and is currently undergoing a Master's Degree Programme in the same Department. Her hobbies include writing, influencing and motivating people, and surfing the internet. She is proficient in the use of Microsoft Office Application Packages, Corel Draw and Paint. She was part of a National sensitization programme on Female Gender Stigmatization Reduction, a Radio Programme organized by Women's Friendly Initiative (WFI), Abuja for UNIBEN, Ekehuan Campus Students in June, 2017. Her

responsibilities at WHARC includes establishing and maintaining effective relationship with internal and external publics, as well as online audiences. She is charged with developing, writing, editing and distributing marketing contents for WHARC and its subsidiaries on the Website page, blog and all viable social media handles. She equally writes annual reports; as well as WHARC Forum/Newsletter. Her passion is to work assiduously and use every medium of communication to effectively reach out to the public in order to promote and fulfill the core mandates of WHARC. Miss Epiphany joined the services of WHARC on January 17th, 2022.

HENRIETTA OSAYUWAMEN EFE (Female).



She is presently the Assistant Youth Programmes Officer in WHARC. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sociology and Anthropology from the University of Benin. Other Certificate

Henrietta has include CompTia A+, Customer Service Relation (CSRM), Health Safety (HSE 1,2&3). With training in Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standard Enhancement (SPESSE). She is an inspiring young woman with great interests in humanity and female folk's development and empowerment. She is a one-time Secretary of Edo Women Founders of Entrepreneurs (EWFE). She organizes programmes such as public lectures in WHARC. Her goal is to create sustainable, impactful programs which will be beneficial to the public at large, especially youths; while fostering the goals and missions of WHARC. She has good communication skills and loves critical thinking. Miss Henrietta joined the services of WHARC on January 17th, 2022.

ISA EHIDIAMEN (Male).



He is presently a Graphic Artist/Typesetter in WHARC. He holds a M.Sc. (Ed.) in community Health Education,

WHARC Appoints New Staff

from the University of Benin, Nigeria. and a B.Sc. (Ed.) in Health Education from the Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Edo State, Nigeria. He is a Researcher who loves to improve human health for the betterment of the society. His goal is to create awareness on Women's Health and Domestic violence through digital graphic and visual designs, as well as, disseminating crucial general health information through AJRH, WHARC, as well as other National and International print/broadcast media. Isa is experienced in health education, Research, health programmes planning, advocacy and implementation. He has worked with the World Health Organization (WHO) as a field data collector, vaccine accountability officer, independent monitor/Supervisor on immunization programmes, mobilization officer and as a Recorder during the COVID19 Mass Immunization Programme at local government team level. He is also skilled in project management, data entry and analysis using Statistical Package for Data Analysis (SPSS). Mr. Isa joined the services of WHARC on November 2nd, 2021.

SARAH OROBOSA EHIGIE



(Female).

She is presently a Registered Nurse in Abel Guobadia Specialist Hospital. She holds a Degree in Registered Nursing from Igbinedion School of Nursing, IUTH, Okada, which she bagged in 2020. Her goal is to give quality the Nursing care to the patients and contribute her quota to the growth and development of the clinic. Her hobbies are watching movies and singing. She is proficient in the use of Microsoft Word. She is a critical thinker, who loves working with people. Miss Sarah joined the services of WHARC on January 24th, 2022.

NURSE SIFON UDOH IDONG

(Female).



She is a trained Auxiliary Nurse at Abel Guobadia Specialist Hospital. She bagged a degree in Auxiliary Nursing from Oyem's B Memorial Hospital in 2015. Her goal is to render excellent services to patients and do her best to make AGSH a household name

in the mouths and ears of Benin City Residents and beyond. She is proficient in the use of Microsoft Office and Corel Draw. She has excellent written and oral communication skills. She enjoys cooking, watching Nigerian movies, and enjoys solemn places. Nurse Sifon joined the services of WHARC on 16th May, 2022.

EFE IYIKE (Male).



He is presently the Administrative Secretary to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in WHARC. Efe hails from Ovia North East Local Government Area in Edo State. He holds a ND/HND in Public Administration from Federal Polytechnic, Auchi. He has worked with Blessworld Foundation International as a Loan Officer. His goal is to assist in enhancing proper administrative procedures in line with global benchmark best practices and WHARC's overall mission in promoting

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the social wellbeing of women, children and adolescents through research, documentation and training in reproductive health. He has interests in Gospel Music, and Agriculture. He joined the services of WHARC on June 16th, 2021.

FATIMA KUDUS (Female).



She is presently the Administrative Assistant to the Deputy Executive Director in WHARC. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biochemistry from Ambrose Alli University,

Ekpoma, Edo State. Other Certificates she has are:

Basic First Aid Certificate (NRIS), Computer

Appreciation and Internet Utility. She is trained in

Sustainable Procurement,

Environmental and Social Standard Enhancement (SPESSE). Her goal is to

organize activities at the centre and assist WHARC to

achieve its set goals in any way she can. She is

proficient in Microsoft Office. She is an event planner

and is as well into catering. Miss Fatima joined the

services of WHARC on November 2nd, 2020.

LILIAN CHIOMA OZOADUCHE



(Female).

She is currently the Editorial Assistant of African Journal of Reproductive Health (AJRH), published by WHARC.

She has worked as an Assistant Programme Officer in WHARC. She is a native of Nimo in Njikoka Local

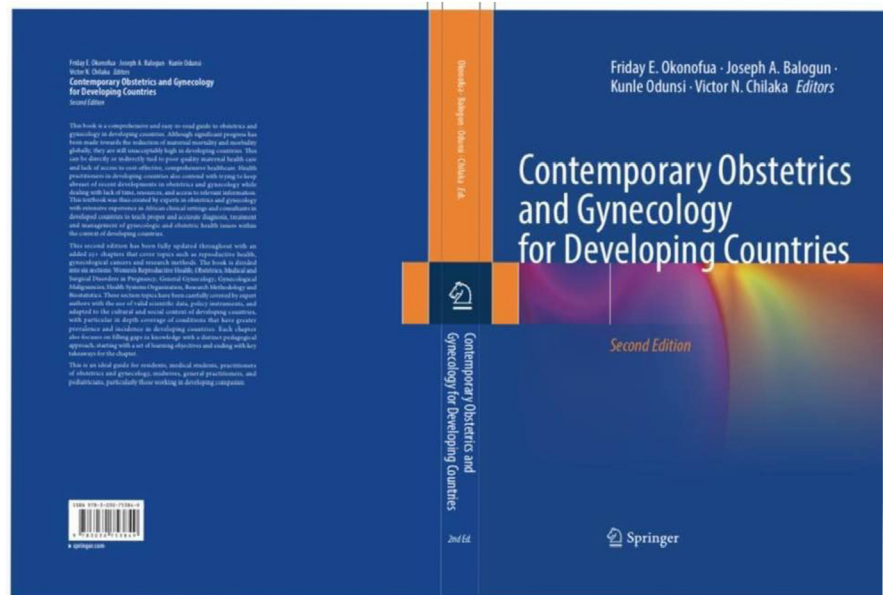
Government Area of Anambra State, Nigeria. She obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Microbiology from Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Uli, Anambra State, she was among the best ten (10) graduating students in the Department of Microbiology. She also has a Master of Science degree in Environmental and Public Health Microbiology, of University of Benin, Benin City, Edo State. She further has a certification in Health, Safety and Environment with the Joint Professional Trainings and Support International Limited. Ozuaduche is also a chartered member of the Nigeria Institute of Management (NIM). She loves athletics, solving puzzles, volleyball, watching visual health programmes, carrying out research and watches beauty tips. Her goal is to let the world know the value of the vulnerable in the society and promote possible measures that can be taken to curb sexual violence against women through the support of WHARC/AJRH. Miss Chioma joined the services of WHARC on September 23rd, 2021.

Thus, one can authoritatively state that in the past two (2) years, WHARC has recruited an avalanche of very dynamic and professionally trained staff and has amply qualified human resources and potentials to drive/achieve its vision/mission per excellence.

Springer Publishes The Contemporary Obstetrics And Gynaecology For Developing Countries Textbook (2nd Edition)

It's pleasing to announce that Springer has published the second edition of the Contemporary Obstetrics and Gynaecology for Developing Countries. The first edition of the textbook was published in 2005. Since then, several groundbreaking discoveries and innovations have taken place in the discipline, including within the context of developing countries. The widespread enthusiasm with which the first edition was received and the opportunity to incorporate the suggestions of numerous readers and stakeholders, justify the publication of the second edition. Many countries in the developing world continue to witness some of the most daunting clinical scenarios relating to reproductive health, obstetrics and gynaecology and women's health. It is beyond doubt that these challenges and scenarios require specific and novel methods differing from those applied in other parts of the world. It is therefore necessary and appropriate to devote a specific textbook, and to enable the development of approaches and methodologies to address these challenges; which has been the pivotal goal of springer.

The Editors of this textbook possess rich scientific backgrounds, with years of clinical practice, research and service delivery in many parts of the developing world. As such, they are conversant with some of the drawbacks in educational delivery and pedagogy which continue to feature in the curricula of many



undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. In particular, there remains a deficit of skills, clinical orientation, and broad-based practices that limit the ability of graduates to deal with contemporary challenges connected to women's health and its related components in the region. Some of these deficits include poor linkage of science to service delivery, misalignment of competencies to patient and population needs, poor inter-professional teamwork, narrow technical focus without broader contextual understanding of a practitioner's role in the health system, the predominance of a hospital-based orientation at the expense of public health (especially with respect to reproductive health and primary health care), and weak understanding of the importance of leadership and business in firmly positioning the discipline

within societal infrastructure, which have undeniably retarded the levels of distinctions achievable in the field.

The need to address these deficits has therefore guided the development of this second edition of the textbook. The volume now comprises 70 chapters written by a multi-disciplinary team of 80 authors. Apart from updating information on specific topics in obstetrics and gynaecology. They have expanded the sections on sexual and reproductive health, and gynaecological oncology. These are two key areas that currently generate intense interest in most of the developing world. The Authors have also incorporated chapters that were missing in the first edition, especially those related to research methodology,

CONTINUE ON P16

Springer Publishes The Contemporary Obstetrics And Gynaecology For Developing Countries

CONTINUE ON P15

epidemiology, biostatistics, physical therapy, health management, human rights and the legal context of obstetrics and gynaecology. The additional topics provide readers with a single integrated resource which contextualizes the interconnections between different concepts and principles that underpin the practice of the discipline in the region.

In summary, this second edition of Contemporary Obstetrics and Gynaecology for Developing Countries will be an exciting and essential textbook for undergraduate and postgraduate students in obstetrics and gynaecology, public health, health economics, nursing, physical therapy, reproductive health, demography, medical sociology, gender studies, and related fields in many parts of the developing world, especially sub-Saharan Africa. According to the Authors, this textbook is currently the most comprehensive, detailed, and multi-disciplinary of its kind in the region. It will be of use for researchers, programmers, development workers and women's advocates in the developed world who have research interests or conduct health promotion activities in the developing world. The published textbook can be accessed via the website link - <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-75385-6?noAccess=true>

WHARC PROMOTIONS



Name:

Mrs. Judith Otesiri Obaseki

Former Position:

Assistant Managing Editor, AJRH/
December, 2020 – November, 2021

Promoted to:

Managing Editor, AJRH

Date of Promotion:

December, 2021. Mrs. Obaseki joined the services of WHARC on 20th January, 2017, as a Business Center Assistant. Hearty congratulations on your promotion by Management and from all of us.



Name:

Mr. Karl Eromosele Eimuhi

Former Position: Managing Editor,
AJRH/December, 2020 – November,
2021

Promoted to: Senior Managing Editor,
AJRH

Date of Promotion: December,
2021. Mr. Eimuhi joined the services
of WHARC on 5th June, 2017,
as an Editorial Assistant. Hearty
congratulations on your promotion by
Management and from all of us.

F R U I T

CORNER

Benefits Of Mango Fruit



Mango is an oblong, sweet fruit of a tropical tree etymologically called Mangi Fera Indica. Mangoes are loved by almost everybody, but not all individuals eat this fruit. They are tasty, nutritious and offer a number of health benefits. In discussing the nutritional facts of mangoes, the nutrition benefits associated with a 165-gram piece of a mango is here analyzed.

NUTRITIONAL BENEFITS

1. **CALORIES:** the calorie content in this proportion is 107. Out of this, the calories from fat are about 4. Others include Carbohydrate (101) and proteins (2.8). overall, it is a moderate source of calorie.
2. **PROTEIN:** it contains about 0.8 grams of protein which is about 2% of the daily value.
3. **CARBOHYDRATE:** It contains about 28.1 gram, 3 grams of dietary fibers and 24.4 grams of sugar content.
4. **MINERALS:** it contains calcium, iron, phosphorus, sodium magnesium, potassium, copper, zinc and selenium in varying quantities.

BODY BENEFITS

- a. **ANTI-AGEING:** the anti-oxidants present in Mango help delay the onset of skin ageing and pigmentation. Its consumption helps protect the skin from skin cancer.
- b. **EXFOLIATES THE SKIN:** it can be used to prepare an exfoliating mask. Blend ¼ of a peeled mango, 2 spoons of whole milk, powdered almonds, used to massage your face and neck, then rinse with warm water, after application for about 5minutes.

- c. **TREATMENT OF ACNE:** the juice of this fruit can serve as an excellent stringent that could remove acne. Boil a slice of raw mango in water and use this water on your face as an acne remover.
- d. **TREATMENT OF HAIR LOSS & GREY HAIR:** the oil from the mango seed is a great source of fatty acid, vitamins and minerals. It contains great moisturizing properties as well. You simply remove the outer coat of the mango seed and add them to a jar of coconut, sesame or mustard oil and place this jar in sunlight for a few days. This is said to make the hair long, black, thick and prevent hair loss if frequently used.
- e. **PREVENTS AND FIGHTS CANCER:** the anti-oxidants in mango help prevent breast cancer, prostate cancer, colon cancer and leukemia.
- f. **IMPROVES SIGHT:** the high level of Vitamin A or retinol contained in this fruit helps to protect eye sight.
- g. **INCREASES METABOLIC RATE:** like oranges and paw paws, mangoes help to improve digestion due to its rich fibre content. Fibres are known to help in bowel movement which in turn helps in cutting metabolic rate. Increase in metabolic rate helps in cutting down stomach flab and is very good for people on diet.

Mangoes are available in large amounts during its peak season and can be bought at a reasonable price. Mangoes are not only pleasing to the taste buds, but great for your health too. Have you had a Mango recently? Try one today!

(Some parts of the information was curled from links Google Blog)

Assistant Youth Programmes Officer Unveils Plans

In this exclusive interview with Miss Henrietta Osayuwamen Efe, Assistant Programmes Officer, Youth (WHARC). She gives a tip of the iceberg into her immediate and subsequent plans/programmes for the quarter/year.



Kindly tell us about the Programmes Unit in WHARC.

It is all about carrying out research and implementation of projects.

What are the challenges of Youths in Edo State?

They are numerous. When we talk about youths, it cuts across both genders. It would be difficult to outline the challenges of youths in Edo State without engaging and

interacting with the youths. Hence, the WHARC youth forum which will be relaunched soon. However, from my personal observation, the major challenges of youths evolve, involve and devolve around peer pressure – youths go into cybercrime all in a bid to make money because a friend, neighbor, or family member has made it out of the blues. The pressure is all-encompassing – from family, school, neighborhood, church, etc., leaving

our youths threatened on every side.

Please throw some light into the WHARC Youths Forum.

It is a part of WHARC which focuses on youths and adolescents in the society, using Edo State as case study. Like the old saying goes, "The Youths are leaders of tomorrow". The WHARC Youth's Forum sets out to assist youths to head in the right direction while understanding their journey, with

great mentoring assistance which WHARC readily provides. It's thus majorly about providing guidance and counselling.

Using WHARC as an example, what are the needs for programs in a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO).

NGO's thrive on programmes. NGO's are more swift to respond to issues than the Government. Hence, programmes are the springboard for conveying the dividends of NGOs to the public, thus providing necessary assistance to the publics and society at large. To have better interaction with members of the community where these NGO's are located, programs are necessary.

How have previous programs organized by WHARC been beneficial to the public?

Since I assumed duty in January, 2022 we have only had one programme. It was a public lecture to mark International Women's Day,

2022. The lecture was about the role of the police in tackling gender based violence (GBV) in Edo State. At the end of the programme, people knew about issues of GBV, the involvement of the Police and how there are great sanctions for offenders. Through this program, a new mindset was formed. People were encouraged to speak up if they are encountering any form of gender based violence and were told about the police being first responders and centres that have been established for victims, like the Vivian Centre, created by Edo State Government. They became aware that the sanction for GBV is life imprisonment after trial. Through the interactive questions and answers segment, I could tell that a lot of questions bothering the minds of secondary school students who were invited and other participants were answered.

What are your challenges?

Yes, challenges are part of the things that make programmes interesting. While preparing for the public lecture,

there were challenges. But, the sweet part of it was we were able to overcome those challenges.

What programmes are currently ongoing?

We are putting modalities together to conclude the implementation of the UNFPA projects in June. We have others outlined in other quarters for this year. Another programme is at hand to mark the International Day of Action for Women's Health on May 28th, 2022.

What are your goals for WHARC as an Assistant Youth Programmes Officer?

One of my major goals is to work towards re-launching the WHARC Youths Forum and to see it running. Other goals I have involved being part of being part of other projects and activities in WHARC that would not only make them successful, but explore and extend their benefits for youths generally.



OPINION POLLS

- **Have you ever suffered any form of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), or do you know anyone who has?**
- **What are the Causes of GBV?**
- **How do you think victims can cope with GBV?**
- **How can GBV be eradicated?**

For me, NO. I have never experienced such or met anyone who was a victim of GBV.

Bad Parental upbringing and peer pressure can cause it. A child who is well trained cannot mingle with bad friends that can influence them negatively. Parents should set good examples for their children and restrict some movies that depict violence.

No idea because I have never experienced such or met anyone who was a victim of GBV.

Serious punishment for offenders like life imprisonment should be meted out, and enlightenment of the general public should be done on the negative effects of GBV.

--- **Mrs. Judith Obaseki** ---

YES, I have experienced such.

Insecurity - some men and women are not secure in their relationship with their partner, sometimes low self-esteem comes to play. Mental health – most Nigerians are not mentally okay; some people suffer from mental health

which affects their relationship with people. Home videos, Social media and celebrities sometimes influence people to do what they see. People are influenced by what they see others doing.

The person should leave such environment, if it is a relationship be it marriage, he or she should quit. The public should be educated on the harmful effects and repercussions of GBV on victims.

The Government should provide health facilities for her citizens to check their mental health status. Continuous education on GBV in places of worships, educational institutions and all works of life would help.

--- **Ozoaduche, L. Chioma** ---

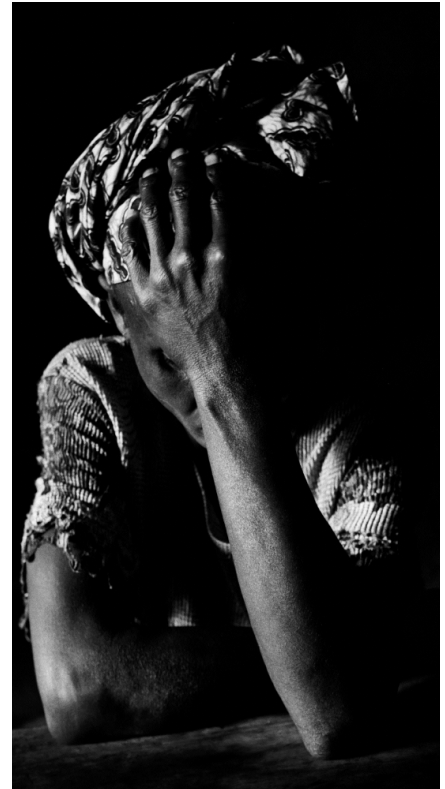
For me, I have never suffered any form of GBV.

Lack of understanding and mutual respect.

Depending on the level of violence, when the violence is extreme, it is impossible to cope. If it is not extreme, it might be possible to cope by mutual respect.

It can be eradicated by creating awareness on the effects of GBV. People should be educated on issues that trigger domestic violence and punishment should be meted out on offenders.

--- **Isa Ehidiamen** ---



I don't know anybody that has suffered gender based violence.

Irresponsibility is the cause. Anybody abusing anyone sexually, verbally or physically is simply irresponsible.

Anyone facing any form of gender based violence in marriage or relationships can choose to walk away. In other places such as work, he or she can report to the appropriate authorities.

Lots of awareness on the issues of GBV should be done on its forms, and effects.

--- **Christopher Oladiran** ---

OPINION POLLS

Yes, I know someone who has experienced such.

Uncontrolled emotions, level of education, stereotypical way of thinking, income levels, socio-cultural beliefs, drug abuse are some of the causes of gender based violence.

All hope is not lost. Creating coping mechanisms to ease them of the trauma can help them cope or overcome the abuse. They can choose to share their experiences with people through group discussions, public awareness lectures and gender based violence campaigns.

I believe stringent laws should be enacted by the Legislative arm of Government and measures should be provided to ensure strict adherence to the enacted laws. There should also be public awareness campaigns on the dangers and effects of GBV. Offenders of GBV crimes should be severely punished to serve as deterrent to others.

--- Eimuhi, E. Karl ---

I have not experienced Gender based violence, but I know people who have suffered such.

Culture is a contributive cause of the scourge called GBV. Our society has moulded the minds of men to feel they are superior to women. Inferiority complex is another cause. Some men and women feel less than themselves and see others greater or better than themselves which could result in picking on them in a bid to intimidate or silence them.

When they notice they are being treated violently, they need to give that relationship space. That space would

enable the person understand that you have a problem with the way you are being treated.

Through awareness and sensitization of the general public on the dangers of GBV.

--- Iyike Efe ---

No, I have not suffered gender based violence, neither do I know anyone who has.

I think poverty is the cause. For instance, in a marriage, if a husband and his wife are on equal financial levels, there might be no need for verbal or physical assault. Also some people are intimidated by others because they feel less than them or envy them for one reason or another.

Hmmmmn, speaking from a Christian perspective, they need to know God and surrender their lives to him. That way they can cope.

Laws should be put in place to punish Gender based violence offenders.

--- Ajayi ---

For me, No.

Ego is a main cause of gender based violence. I will advise him or her to have confidence and leave that environment, or talk to a counselor or a trusted friend.

When we humans tend to believe that we are all equal or the same irrespective of whatever we have that is more than others, then GBV can be eradicated.

--- Eleazer Joy ---



The infographic features a red handprint logo with the text "STOP GENDER BASED VIOLENCE" and logos for UNFPA and WHARC. The main text reads: "Immediate visit for healthcare services and preservation of evidence is essential after sexual or physical violence." Below this, it says "For More Information: Connect With TEXT4LIFE" and provides contact numbers: "DIAL *347*161#" and "CALL +234 17006126".

Mental Health Of Women



By
Ozoaduche Chioma Lilian

According to World Health Organisation (WHO), Mental health includes subjective well-being, perceived self – efficacy, autonomy, competence, intergenerational dependence, and self-actualization of one's intellectual and emotional potential.

Kumaraswamy and Azizab (2007), see mental health as an individual's evaluative response to various aspects of life, including cognitive and emotional reactions. Thus, the happiness or satisfaction with life derived in the workplace, family, income and health of a woman is important.

Several studies have shown that low self-efficacy was suggested to be a good predictor of low mental health and vice versa. Self-efficacy is the belief in one's capabilities to organize and

execute the course of action required to manage a prospective situation such as an abusive relationship, sickness, etc. (Aboagye, 2018).

Mental competence is the basis for many activities in life. A woman who loses her ability to make decisions and control her life due to illness, advanced age, an accident, abuse and neglect should undergo a mental competency test.

Female children whose parents have mental health problems are more likely to have similar problems too in adulthood. Also, a review on intergenerational approaches to improving health and wellbeing states that intergenerational practice is effective in reducing stereotyping and ageism between generations, improving the health and wellbeing of older people; and reducing loneliness and social exclusion – particularly among older people.

Lastly, the mental health of a woman is promoted by positive thoughts and emotions such as joy, interest, contentment and love; while negative thoughts, stress and unpleasant emotions such as fear, anxiety, or depression, can damage her health. (Health and wellness, 2010).



WHARC Founder Receives Award Of Excellence

As part of activities to mark the 46th and 47th Convocation Ceremony of the University of Benin, Benin City, Edo State, Wednesday 24th November, 2021 was a day scheduled for the UNIBEN Heroes Award/Excellence and Productivity Awards. Amongst the many recipients of the Excellence and Productivity Awards, was our very own Dear Chief Executive Officer and Founder of the Women's Health and Action Research Centre (WHARC) - Professor Friday Okonofua. Eulogizing Professor Okonofua, the Vice Chancellor - Professor Lilian Imuentiyan Salami described him as "a man with a big heart and humility". The programme of events heralding the convocation ceremony kicked off on Monday 22nd November, 2021 and ended on Saturday 27th November, 2021.

In attendance were the Chancellor of UNIBEN - Tor Tiv, Prof. James Ortese Iorzuu Ayatse and Pro-Chancellor



L-R: The VC, UNIBEN – Prof. L. I. Salami; Distinguished Prof. Friday Okonofua and his amiable Wife – Mrs. Pat Okonofua

of UNIBEN – Olorogun Sunny Kuku, staff and students of the University of Benin and invited guests including former Governor of Edo State – Chief John Odigie Oyejgun, Rev. and Mrs.

Matthew Okpebholo, amongst others. Indeed, hard work pays. From all your Staff and well-wishers at WHARC, Congratulations on this well-deserved award Sir.



L-R: Mrs. Pat Okonofua and Professor Friday Okonofua shortly before the Award Presentation



Some Friends and Well-wishers present at the Award Ceremony

Dr. Wilson Imongan Bestowed With Award Of Honour

WHARC's Executive Director, Dr. Wilson Imongan recently received a well-deserved award as a "distinguished Alumnus" of the University of Ibadan, from Professor Moses Momoh, who was the Chairman of the award ceremony organized by the University of Ibadan Alumni Association, Edo State.

From all of us at WHARC, we heartily say Congratulations Sir.



L&R: Prof. Moses Momoh presenting Dr. Wilson Imongan his award



Dr. Natalia Kanem in an obviously elated mood

Dr. Natalia Kanem Awarded Honorary Doctorate Degree From Uniben

In appreciation of her immense leadership and illustrious advocacy on sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality, Dr. Natalia Kanem was awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree by The University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria held on Saturday, 27th November, 2021, as part of activities to mark the 46th and 47th Convocation Ceremony. The occasion was graced by dignitaries including top government officials, The Executive Governor of Edo State – Mr. Godwin Nogheghase Obaseki, Academics, Religious and Political Leaders, Civil Society Organisations, amongst others.

The conferment of honorary doctorate degree on Dr. Natalia Kanem was done by Prof. Lilian Salami (Vice Chancellor, University of Benin). Present at the ceremony was Prof. Friday Okonofua (Director of Research and Programs, WHARC); Prof. Racheal Snow, Population and Development Branch, United Nations Population

Fund (UNFPA); Dr. Wilson Imongan (Executive Director, WHARC); Prof. Akhere Omonkhua, AREF Leader, Centre of Excellence in Reproductive Health Innovation (CERHI) amongst others. A reception party was later held at the Banquet Hall of the University of Benin where guests were treated to sumptuous meals, choice drinks and good music by the Benin traditional dance troupe whose performance thrilled both celebrant and guests.

Dr. Natalia Kanem is currently the Executive Secretary - United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). She has more than 30 years of strategic leadership experience in fields of preventive medicine, public and reproductive health, social justice and philanthropy. She is the fifth Executive Director of UNFPA since the Fund became operational in 1969.

From all of us at WHARC, Congratulations to a wonderful icon on her meritorious award.

Women Can Succeed: If Given Equal Rights

By

Epiphany Ogheneworo Diakpomrere

WOMEN and girls have constantly been treated with relegation, subordination, suffered belittlement and subjugation due to religious, cultural, social, and geographic factors. In a typical Nigerian Patriarchal culture, women are seen solely as Wives, Mothers, Sisters, and Daughters and not anything significant. They struggle for self-definition, determination and recognition in the face of powerful patriarchal contending forces. Some due to culture and religion are secluded to home keeping and building only. Women are faced with a multiplicity of challenges with marriage, child bearing, female genital mutilation/circumcision, denial of fundamental rights such as education, etc., subjected to child marriage, diverse reproductive health issues, career ambush, prevented from participating in politics, subjected to girl child labour, domestic violence, forced prostitution, etc., to mention but a few – all of which lead to objectification, relegation, disempowerment and commodification of women.

The root of the domestication and humiliation of women could be found in cultural/traditional norms; it is the suffocating character of tradition which greatly disserves women. Women of all kinds and colors, without exaggeration, have experienced low self-esteem and the humiliation of sexual objectification in one form



or the another. Throughout history, women have always struggled for equality, respect, recognition and the same rights as men. This has been mostly due to patriarchy, an ideology in which men are superior to women and have the right to rule and lord over women. A popular cliché proudly declare that it is a man's world, but I doubt if humanity has critically considered how the world would be without the female gender? In some cultures, if a woman loses her husband she becomes an object of ridicule, mockery and shame; she is subjected to all kinds of rituals, all in a bid to prove that she has no involvement in her husband's death, her hair which is usually regarded as her glory is shaved, she is made to wear black mourning clothes and maintain a sad and repugnant aura. Years of sweat, labour and toiling together with her husband are suddenly lost with his passing, her joint properties are seized from her,

her children have to be withdrawn from school due to inability to pay school fess, sometimes she is almost abandoned and homeless. How about the girl child who is prevented from going to school because she is not a male child? What about the woman whose husband refuses to visit the gym, but has instead turned his wife into a punching bag? Imagine the vortex of physical, mental, verbal and sometimes sexual assaults and tortures she receives even just as a job seeker, student, wife, entrepreneur, just trying to find a niche to survive in a male dominated society. So many have been frustrated into quitting their jobs, dismissed for fabricated crimes, coerced into doing the biddings of those in whose hands the "Yam and Knife are held". Can I pause and just ask a question at this point? Is being born a female a crime? Being female makes us one no less than male. On the contrary, a consideration, reflection

Women Can Succeed: If Given Equal Rights

on a few notable female personalities, nationally and internationally, such as The Late Mrs. Dora Akunyili, (Former Minister of Information and Communication, and Director General at the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC)), Mrs. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (First female minister of finance, now Director-General of the World Trade Organisation (WTO)), Chimamanda Adichie (an award winning writer), Mo Abudu (a seasoned media personality, Late Professor Grace Alele Williams (first female Vice Chancellor in Nigeria and a great Mathematician), Dr. Natalia Kanem (UNFPA Executive Director, an advocate for sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality). Loudly demonstrate that women are imbued with same potentials as men and can be high flyers in any sector,

if not relegated and restricted by a barbaric, uncouth and obnoxious male chauvinistic system.

This is a clarion call to everyone (male and female) to jettison restrictive cultural and traditional beliefs and practices which are detrimental to the mental health and well-being of women, because they are retarding our national growth and overall productivity.

Common sense denotes that a seamless collaboration between the sexes is the panacea and sine qua non required for overcoming the myriad social, political, economic, religious, etc., challenges bedeviling our modern society.

It is pertinent to state as a warning,

that the female cannot for much longer be cocooned and confined to the frenzied testicles of a hallowed, hollow patriarchal domination system.

The veil of male hegemony is already being broken. It is time for men to quit the women relegation game under whatever guise honourably, before a momentous movement for women's liberation would take the bull by the horns and smatch it in a debacle. Women are set to take charge having been abused and denied of their fundamental rights and privileges for too long. Don't get caught in the waves. You will remember that I indeed warned you. Support a woman and girl child today and always. You will be glad you did.

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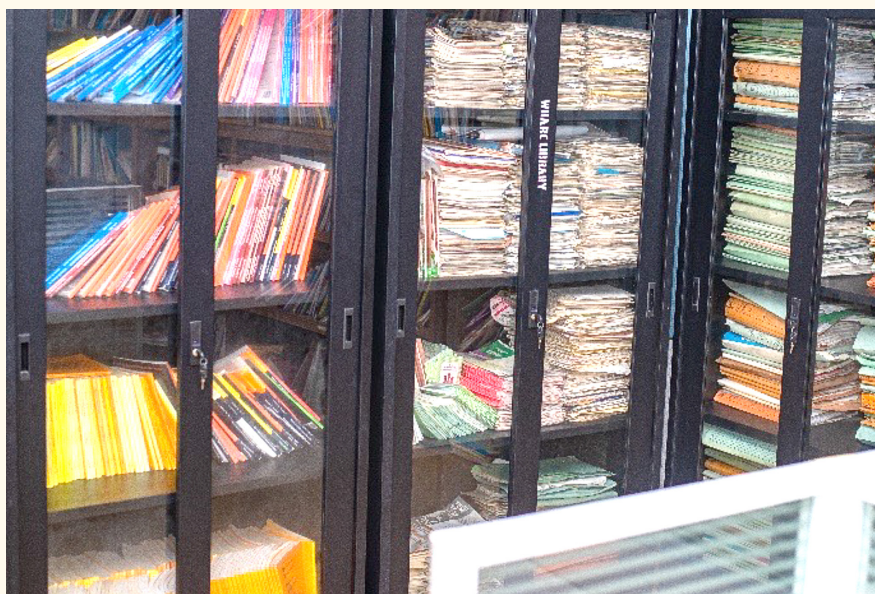
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- Books on Family Planning Methods and Practice, Family Planning Handbook for Health Professionals, Regulating Menstruation, Reproductive Health and Human Rights, Women Health and Empowerment, Amanuensis on the Right to Health in Nigeria etc.
- Compact discs (CD) in various aspects of Women's Health and Social Determinants of Health.

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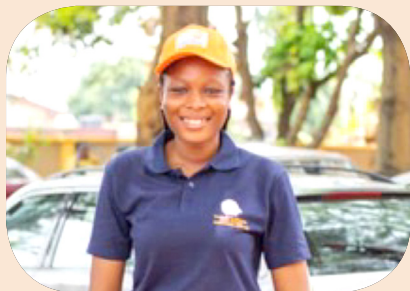
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Birthdays



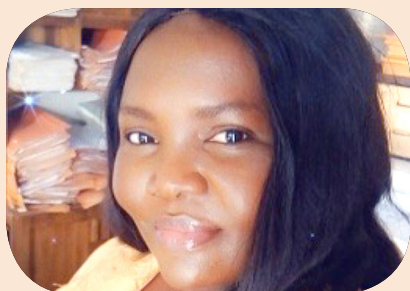
NAME: Henrietta Osatohanmen Efe
POSITION: Assistant Programme Officer (Youths)
DATE OF BIRTH: March 21st



NAME: Mrs. Patience Okonofua
POSITION: Deputy Executive Director
DATE OF BIRTH: February 25th



NAME: Prof. Friday Okonofua
POSITION: Chief Executive Officer, WHARC
DATE OF BIRTH: April 14th



NAME: Mrs. Judith Obaseki
POSITION: Managing Editor, AJRH
DATE OF BIRTH: May 7th



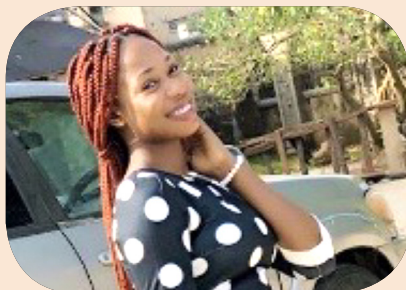
NAME: Karl Eromosele Eimuhi
POSITION: Senior Managing Editor, AJRH
DATE OF BIRTH: April 23rd



NAME: Efe Iyike
POSITION: Administrative Secretary to the CEO
DATE OF BIRTH: April 13th



NAME: Joy Nomamiukor
POSITION: Marketing Officer
DATE OF BIRTH: June 23rd



NAME: Grace Adebola Akhumere
POSITION: Receptionist II, Academy Guest-House
DATE OF BIRTH: June 8th



NAME: Isa Ehidiemen
POSITION: Graphic Artist and Typesetter
DATE OF BIRTH: January 29th

Weddings

With overwhelming joy, we congratulate Mr. Innocent Ibeka who got wedded to his heartthrob - former Miss Glory Dapo, on Thursday 10th February, 2022, at Ministry of Interior (Federal Marriage Registry), at 10:00am. A lavish reception was held at Dr. Natalia Kanem Event Hall, Igue-Iheya, Benin City, where guests were treated to mouthwatering meals and assorted drinks. The Traditional Wedding ceremony had earlier held at Okpella Awuyemi, The Zaiki of Imienoko compound – Chief Festus at Etsako East LGA, Edo State.



(L-R Mr. Innocent and Mrs. Glory Ibeka)

Staffs of WHARC, friends and relatives of the Bride and Groom graced both glamorous occasions.

Mr. Innocent Ibeka is a dutiful and committed staff of over 8 years at WHARC, he is also the Personal Assistant (PA) to Professor Friday Okonofua (President/Founder, WHARC).

From all Friends and beloved ones including WHARC Staff, we say congratulations and happy married life to Mr. and Mrs. Innocent Ibeka.



(Photo speak: Some staff of WHARC at the Reception Party)



(What fantastic dance steps by the Couple)

Upcoming Events

Women's Health and Action Research Centre (WHARC) In Partnership with Centre of Excellence for Reproductive Health Innovation (CERHI) And Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC). Invite You, The General Public to A One-Day Workshop, in Commemoration of The 2022 International Day of Action for Women's Health. Scheduled to hold on Saturday May 28th, 2022, Time: 10am,

Venue: Dr. Natalia Kanem Event Hall, Km 11, Benin-Lagos Expressway, Igue-Iheya, Benin City, Edo State. Keynote Speaker: Professor Lawrence Omo-Aghoja, Special Guest of Honour: HE, Mrs. Betsy Bene Obaseki, Edo State First Lady, Chairman: Professor Christiana Okojie. Theme: Leaving No Woman Behind In Access To Reproductive Health Services. See you there...!!!



WOMEN'S HEALTH AND ACTION RESEARCH CENTRE (WHARC)
In partnership with
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INNOVATION (CERHI)
And
NIGERIA CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL (NCDC)
INVITE THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO THE
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH 2022 WORKSHOP
THEME:
LEAVING NO WOMAN BEHIND IN ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES
KEY NOTE SPEAKER:
PROF. LAWRENCE OMO-AGHOJA
DISCUSSANTS
DR. BETA EDU
(Commissioner for Health, Group River State)
DR. OBARISIAGBON
Executive Secretary (EDPHCA)
DR. CHINWE OCHU
(Director of Prevention and Programs NCDC)
CHAIRMAN
PROF. CHRISTIANA OKOJIE
SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOUR
LADY BETSY OBASEKI
FIRST LADY OF EDO STATE
There will be free medical services for the general public
GABRIEL GUOBADIA
SPECIALIST HOSPITAL
START 8:00AM
STOP 10:00AM
DATE:
28th MAY
2022
TIME:
10am
prompt
VENUE: Natalia Kanem Event Hall (Women's Health And Action Research Centre, Km11, Benin-Lagos Expressway, Igue-Iheya, Benin City, Edo State)

WHARC Mourns Mrs. Roseline Ujoh



Late Mrs. Roseline Ujoh

Street, beside Markson Filling Station, Ovbiogie, Off New-Lagos Road, Benin City, Edo State. A grand social dance was held in her honor on Friday 22nd April, at the Precious Palm Royal Hotel, in Benin City.

Until her death, she was a devout Mother, Sister and Grandmother.

Staff of WHARC wishes the family the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss. May her gentle soul rest in peace.



The Eldest Sister to the CEO and Founder of WHARC, Mrs. Roseline Awheliansebho Ujoh is dead. Mrs. Roseline died after a brief illness in Benin City, Edo State.

Mrs. Roseline Awheliansebho Ujoh was born 72 years ago to the family of Okonofua from Esan Central Local Government Area of Edo State. She was laid to rest on Thursday 21st April, 2022 at her residence – No. 54, Emiranwen



Wharc Attends NAS – GBV End Of Project Workshop



(The Executive Governor of Edo State, Governor Godwin Obaseki and the First Lady, Mrs. Betsy Obaseki, with the SSG, Religious Leaders and some Government Officials)

Women's Health and Action Research Centre (WHARC) was among other civil society organisations invited to attend the End of Project Workshop organized by the Edo State Gender Based Violence Management Committee (GBMC), on Tuesday June 14th, 2022, at the New Festival Hall, Government House, Benin City, Edo State.

Also in attendance were Top Government Officials, The Executive Governor of Edo State – His Excellency, Mr. Godwin Obaseki, Her Excellency,

the First Lady of Edo State, Mrs. Betsy Obaseki, who is the Chairperson of the GBMC, Commissioners, Permanent Secretaries, Religious Leaders; including the Chief Imam, Benin Central Mosque, Edo State - Alhaji Abdulfatah Enabulele and the Chairman of the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN) - Bishop Oyenude Kure, Traditional Rulers, and Civil Society Organizations.

In her welcome address, The First Lady of Edo State, Her Excellency, (Mrs.) Betsy Bene Obaseki, who

is the Chairperson Edo State GBV Management Committee welcomed all attendees and as assured every one of her efforts to end GBV in Edo State. According to the First Lady, the fight against gender-based violence is a fight to save lives as the actions of perpetrators of GBV, destroy destinies of victims. She encouraged victims of GBV to speak up and not be ashamed or afraid. She also sternly warned accomplices of perpetrators of GBV of the VAP Law, that they will be joined in the case with the accused.

**ICRW Special
Edition
In-progress**

The International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) is currently processing a special edition on Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Social Change in Africa, published by the African Journal of Reproductive Health (AJRH).

[https://www.ajrh.info/public/journals/1/INFORMATION_TO_AUTHORS_\(REVISED_new\).pdf](https://www.ajrh.info/public/journals/1/INFORMATION_TO_AUTHORS_(REVISED_new).pdf).

<https://www.icrw.org/>

Wharc Attends NAS – GBV End Of Project Workshop

In his Address, to declare the workshop open, Governor Godwin Nogheghase Obaseki reiterated his commitment to the fight against gender-based violence in the state. He enlightened the participants about the establishment of the Vivian Centre where free legal, health and counselling services are rendered to victims. According to him, Edo has made adequate budgetary provision to sustain the fight, we are putting in place the institutional arrangement with buildings and facilities to ensure we succeed in this fight. He appealed to the Inspector General of Police (IGP) to use his office to ensure that investigations are concluded and perpetrators of Miss Uwaila Omozuwa's death are prosecuted. In his concluding statements, he appreciated the contributions and supports by the West African Office of the Ford Foundation, Professor Friday Okonofua and the Nigerian Academy of Science, for the support accorded Her Excellency, The First Lady of Edo State to accomplish her giant strides in the fight against Gender Based Violence in Edo State.

Resource Persons took turns to refresh the minds of participants about the overview of programmes and activities discussed during training. Feedback, lessons learnt and experiences were shared, the way forward to ensuring continuity of all programmes and activities were



(Overview of Attendees seated at the workshop)



(L-R: Bishop Oyenuke Kure having a Chat with the First Lady, Mrs. Betsy Obaseki, after the Donation of operational vehicles to the GBMC)



(L-R: Mrs. Barbara N. Osobajo, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Development and Gender Issues (MSDGI) presenting copies of the GBV Training Manual and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) of GBV Prevention and Response to WHARC's Communication Officer, Miss Epiphany Diakpomrere, who represented WHARC at the Workshop)

practically discussed. Afterwards, a film produced on the GBV Project, was aired, it comprised of themes such as the need for Parental Guidance, Proper home training, Peer group influence, Resilience, Justice, and the roles of the Police, the Judiciary, Agencies, Centres or NGOs and other Government Parastatals dedicated to the course of GBV victims like the Vivian Centre. It is indeed a must-watch for people of all strata's.

The climax of the workshop was the formal launch and presentation of the GBV Training Manual and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) of GBV Prevention and Response to all Attendees, and the donation of operational vehicles to the Gender Based Violence Management Committee (GBMC).

P U Z Z L E

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THANK YOU PUNISHMENT WELL-BEING CONSENT ICE GENDER VIOLENCE SOCIAL RAPE NAPKIN OBJECTIFICATION
 NEONATAL AVAIL ANDROLOGY DENIAL CLICHÉ MATERNAL PINCH REPRODUCTIVE EMPATHY NICHE PENALTY HEALTH
 EMOTION EVENT FATAL REACH WOMEN MENTAL EXPERTISE LIFE EARTH FEMINIST COMBO UNCOUTH TRADITION BELIEF
 CHAUVNIST OBNOXIOUS BARBARIC ACTION SYMPATHY AWARENESS SENSITIZATION UBIQUITOUS ENLIGHTENMENT
 BOUT BANE EDUCATION SILENCE PERPETRATORS CLINIC WHARC ABUSE RISE CITE TOLERANCE ENTICE SUBJUGATION
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 EFFICACY LOATHE SINK GLOTTIS EGO COY SCORE ZEALOUS WILL FOETUS PENALTY PATRIACHAL GOVERNMENT WATCH
 PRIDE LITTLE ACRUE OFFEND GOLD EVENT



WHARC

**Women's Health
and Action
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