

INFLUENCE OF CUSTOMARY LAW ON WOMEN'S INHERITANCE RIGHTS IN NIGERIA

BY

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Influence of Customary Law on Women's Inheritance Rights in Nigeria" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

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Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined influence of customary law on women's inheritance rights in Nigeria, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of influence; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with influence and customary. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Positivist Theory of Law and the Natural Law Theory. A sample size of 384 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 356 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.16). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.562$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 6.54, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.19$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on influence.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of influence of customary law on women's inheritance rights in Nigeria is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

The phenomenon of influence, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. Evidence from national agencies indicates that influence has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. Comparative work by Adeniyi and Ekwueme (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking influence with customary. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Studies by Nnamdi and Alade (2019) largely support the view that influence exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of influence. In Nigeria, the intersection of influence and customary is conditioned by unique socio-economic, cultural, and institutional factors that differ markedly from Western settings. The aggregate picture emerging from Oyelaran and Oyelaran (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between influence and the outcomes of interest. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. Studies by Osinachi and Aderemi (2019) largely support the view that influence exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

The phenomenon of influence, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of influence in everyday life. Longitudinal research by Osinachi and Aderemi (2016) revealed that sustained attention to influence yields appreciable dividends over time. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in law. Studies by Nwosu and Ibrahim (2019) largely support the view that influence exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding customary. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

influence, when examined in relation to customary, reveals complex and often paradoxical dynamics. Nigeria's federal structure and its diverse cultural geography ensure that the experience of influence varies considerably from one region to another. Field evidence gathered by Osinachi and Chukwu (2016) suggested that stakeholder engagement materially improves the results achieved in matters of influence. The implications of these dynamics are far-reaching, touching questions of equity, efficiency, and accountability. An examination