

African Gender Studies Quarterly



EDITORIAL NOTE

It is with great joy that we introduce this inaugural edition of African Gender Studies Quarterly (AGenSQ), a journal established to provide a dedicated platform for rigorous, interdisciplinary scholarship on gender and its intersections with African societies and the broader Global South. As a quarterly publication, we are committed to fostering critical dialogue and advancing knowledge that is both theoretically grounded and contextually relevant.

In this first issue, we are pleased to present a collection of articles that exemplify the depth and diversity of gender scholarship. The opening paper, "A Biopsychosocial Perspective on Sexual Disorders and Dysfunctions: Implications for Diagnosis and Intervention," offers a comprehensive examination of sexual health through biological, psychological, and sociocultural lenses, emphasizing the need for culturally informed care in African contexts. The authors make a compelling case for destigmatising sexual health discussions and integrating multidisciplinary approaches to treatment.

The second article, "Love in the Digital Age: Rethinking Courtship and Romance in Contemporary Society," explores how technology, shifting gender roles, and evolving social norms are transforming intimate relationships. By examining phenomena such as digital dating, emotional labour, and self-love, this paper illuminates the complex terrain of modern romance and its implications for psychological well-being.

Following this, "Cultural Influences on the Perception, Regulation, and Communication of Sexual Content" investigates the powerful role of media in shaping sexual attitudes and behaviours. Drawing on psychological theories, the authors critically analyse how different media forms from social media to pornography influence sexual socialisation, particularly among young people, and advocate for enhanced media literacy and psychological interventions.

The fourth contribution, "Marriage, Sexuality, and Cultural Norms in Indigenous Nigerian Films: A Comparative Analysis of Yoruba, Hausa, and Igbo Cinema," employs qualitative content analysis to examine how indigenous films reflect and reinforce cultural values surrounding marriage and sexuality. The study reveals persistent gender double standards while noting emergent progressive shifts, demonstrating the pedagogical function of cinema in sustaining or challenging societal norms.

The fifth article, "Political Education and Voters' Behaviour in Nigeria," establishes a strong positive relationship between political education and voter behaviour. Notably, with women constituting 64.5% of respondents, the findings invite critical reflection on gendered patterns of political participation and the need for gender-sensitive civic education approaches.

The sixth article, "Gendered Constructed Strategies in Conflict Resolution: Challenges Faced by Female Secondary School Leaders in Chivi, Zimbabwe," illuminates how gender shapes leadership in educational settings. Through rich qualitative data, the authors identify three distinct gendered strategies employed by female school heads: the

motherly care approach, the relational strategy, and the inclusive gender-sensitive approach.

We believe these articles have been thoroughly reviewed, and the recommendations offered will help to properly formulate effective solutions to identified issues. This inaugural issue has done well by providing a space where both emerging and established scholars alike have engaged to present themes that demand attention and open engagement. We sincerely hope that this collection will not only inform but also invite deeper reflection and continued scholarship on the evolving intersections of gender and its dynamics as they affect Africa and the rest of the third world.

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