

GLOBALIZATION AND FEMINISM IN BENIN METROPOLIS

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
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CERFITICATION

We, the undersigned, certify that this research work was carried out by **OKHAI EMMANUEL OGENAKOGHIE** of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Benin. It is adequate in scope and quality for the partial fulfillment of the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc) in Sociology and Anthropology.

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(Head of Department)

DEDICATION

To the memory of Mama Lucy Odede Asekomhe, for being the best I could have ever wished for. And with loads of gratitude and appreciation to Engr. Kenneth Otoakhia Asekomhe.

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My foremost sincere and most profound appreciation goes to God Almighty for making this a reality and for preserving me throughout my stay in this University.

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May we always remember.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Title Page | I |
| Certification | II |
| Dedication | III |
| Acknowledgement | IV |
| Table of Contents | V |
| Abstract | VI |

CHAPTER ONE : INTRODUCTION

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1.1. Background of the Study | 1 |
| 1.2. Statement of the Problem | 4 |
| 1.3. Research Problems | 5 |
| 1.4. Objectives of the Study | 5 |
| 1.5. Significance of the Study | 6 |
| 1.6. Scope of the Study | 6 |
| 1.7. Definition of Terms | 7 |

CHAPTER TWO : LITERATURE REVIEW

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 2.1. Introduction | 8 |
| 2.2. Overview of Literature | 8 |

| | |
|---|----|
| 2.3. Positive Implications of Globalization of Feminism ----- | 9 |
| 2.4. Negative Implications of Globalization of Feminism ----- | 10 |
| 2.5. Gender equality in Benin ----- | 11 |
| 2.6. Status of women in Benin Metropolis ----- | 12 |
| 2.7. Theoretical Framework ----- | 13 |

CHAPTER THREE : METHODOLOGY

| | |
|---|----|
| 3.1. Introduction ----- | 19 |
| 3.2. Research Design ----- | 19 |
| 3.3. Area of the Study ----- | 19 |
| 3.4. Population of the Study ----- | 20 |
| 3.5. Sample Size and Sampling Technique ----- | 20 |
| 3.6. Instrumentation ----- | 20 |
| 3.7. Method of Data Collection ----- | 21 |
| 3.8. Method of Data Analysis ----- | 21 |

CHAPTER FOUR : DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

| | |
|--|----|
| 4.0. Introduction----- | 22 |
| 4.1. Socio - Demographic Characteristics ----- | 22 |
| 4.2. Presentation of Results ----- | 27 |

4.3. Discussion of Findings ----- 40

CHAPTER FIVE : SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Summary ----- 43

5.2. Conclusion -----45

5.3. Recommendations ----- 45

REFERENCES ----- 46

QUESTIONNAIRE ----- 52

ABSTRACT

The whole world has been shrunk from a global large to global tiny such that local happenings are formed as a results of events that occurs many miles away. Feminism which is the belief in the social, economic and political equality of sexes has also be globalized. This study focused on understanding Globalization and Feminism in Benin Metropolis ; how both concepts are intertwined and how they play out in the City ; to make this possible, four research questions were raised to examine the objectives of the study. Based on the findings of the study, it has been revealed that globalization has less positive impact than negative impact on women. On the positive impact, it has provided women with employment and also women's right are established. The negative impacts is that is has caused as shown by the study is that is has caused role conflict among women in the home and it has also make women loose cultural value. The study also reveal that women are not given equal opportunities with men and they are not fully represented in politics in Benin Metropolis. Respondents agree that oppression of women in the society is caused by patriarchal norm. Some recommendations were proffered.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Globalization is the language of the decade. From the newspaper to scientific journals, the term is use in relation to everything. Be it movie making or unemployment. To say that there is nothing gender about it, is false (Ferree and Tripp, 2006). Indeed this is the period of 'liberal triumphalism' that follows the event of the 1990s that ushered in global capitalism. Globalization is nothing but global capitalism of which it current phase is sexualized, gendered and feminized, same way feminism has been globalized (Aniche, Efanafor and Offordum, 2017). Globalization of Feminism indicated the defense of insightful issues within the core issues championed by the Third World Women at the Mexico Conference of 1975 which includes vicious circle of gender bias, oppression and asymmetry that increase domination of patriarchal hegemony (Obiora, 1997).

Regionally, Mojubaolu O. Okome in her monograph entitled: Globalization, Feminism and Power; An African Perspective (2003) argued that the presumed benefits of globalization does not extend to African women and other women of the Third World which is a very serious business. Most African women feel the exchanges of globalization that ranges from work opportunities available to them are either low paid or paid overwork to increase gap in the locale of employment such that African women either settle for any low paying job available in their home country following

lack of foreign direct investment in African countries, or move abroad where there are good paid jobs. Even at that, most often end up with care giving jobs (Okome, 2003).

Nationally, the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, section 42 (as amended) prohibits discrimination based on sex. However, the extent to which this is applied is affected by customary and religious laws (Anyogu and Arinze-Umobi, Ibid). While Aluko (2010) noted that in Nigeria, the gender norms of women centre around submissiveness, virginity and faithfulness in marriages; that of the men is around polygyny, early sexual activity, independence, violence, risk-taking, power and control. A thorough look at this only reveals low status of women. But has anything changed? What has globalization contributed to the status quo?

Aniche, Efanafor and Offordum (2017) explained globalization to be a process and not an end state of a condition. Derived from the word - 'Globe' and interpreted to mean bringing the world into a global village. Globalization mainly deal with the integration of people into uniform culture via opening of borders, and free movement of capital, labour, technology, good, services and further reinforced through the instrumentality of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). This is a liberal perspective and anchored on modernization theory (Igwe, 2002; Onuoha, 2004). Asobie (2001) takes the Marxist perspective when he defined globalization as the "universalization of capitalism through deregulation of economy, privatization of public sector and liberalization of trade and capital". Also on his part, Anthony Giddens (2008) in his paper 'Consequences of Modernity' defined "globalization as the

intensification of social relations throughout the world, linking localities in such a way that local happenings are formed as a result of events that occurs many miles away and vice versa”. This illustrates the spread of cultural traits and elements across national borders brought by globalization. On the other hand, Feminism can be defined as a belief in the social, economic and political equality of the sexes (Aniche, Efanafor and Offordum, 2017). Feminism tends to challenge the systemic inequalities that women allegedly face. Feminism argues the misconception that gender inequality is natural. Feminism discusses the equation of masculinity and feminality. Feminism is not the same as sexism and work in favour of equality and not female superiority (Wibben, 2004).

Conclusively, globalization of Feminism is simply an extension of feminism to a global level. The concept refers to series of interrelated frameworks use to observe, analyze and interpret the manifestation of gender inequality either at the international setting or in a daily living with the global capitalist society (Ali, Coute , 2000; Lotz, 2003; Aniche, Efanafor and Offordum, 2017). To Ngwaimbi (2011), globalization in the above sense, is the driving force of global feminism whose goal is to quicken the liberation of women globally. This is the reality of our world today. How is globalization shaping feminism and feminism shaping globalization in Benin Metropolis? What is the status of women in Benin City in this globalized time? The study “Globalization and Feminism in Benin Metropolis” is aimed at x- raying the

interplay of the concepts in Benin City and environs and the social drama of globalization and feminism in Benin Metropolis.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Globalization and feminism are very common themes of discussion and analysis these days. They have become a major concern of thinkers on development and those connected with development policies in government. That the benefits that come with globalization do not extend to African women and other third world women is a base and a guide line for this study. The benefits globalization brings are job creation and expansion beyond borders. Most African women are either not allowed to travel out in the name of work or they settle for low paying jobs. This also can be attributed to cultural barrier or mass illiteracy among African women. The kind of jobs opening at home in Africa is not same with the ones in Europe. Job opening for women in Africa is either the women overworks for high pay or settle for low pay. This is a problem and we are asking, how does this play out in Benin metropolis?

Moreso, the problem of low status of women in this part of the world has posed another issue that will begin to make us question globalization and feminism in Benin metropolis. African societies doesn't subscribe to gender equality. Women are informally educated to be subservient and docile. Also, African women gender norms centre around submissiveness, virginity and marriages and that of men encourages taking control and daring. With this kind of socialization, how does the African

woman or Benin woman tells her husband about feminism and women rights? These problems identified calls for great concern.

1.3 Research Questions

Based on the issues discussed in the statement of the problem, the following research questions are raised:

The general research is: What is the impact of globalization and feminism in Benin metropolis?

Specific questions are:

- i. In what way has globalization of feminism impacted women positively and negatively in Benin metropolis?
- ii. Is there equality of gender roles in Benin metropolis in contemporary times?
- iii. What is the status of women in Benin metropolis in globalized world?

1.4 Objective of the Study

The main objective of this study is: to ascertain the impact of globalization and feminism in Benin metropolis. Specific objectives are:

- i. To ascertain how globalization of feminism has impacted women positively and negatively in Benin metropolis.
- ii. To identify if there is equality of gender roles in Benin metropolis in globalized world.
- iv. To identify the status of women in Benin metropolis in globalized world.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The value of this work cannot be overemphasized. Firstly, it contributes to available literature on the subject matter and chart new path for research. For example, while globalization and feminism are old concepts (in relation to their usage), they play out in Benin metropolis is entirely novel or new. This study furnishes us with ample information on how globalization is feminized in Benin metropolis. If not for study like this, one will not even think that every aspect of life in Benin metropolis is sexualized and gendered and that globalization contributes to that. For example, sex tourism is one way globalization is sexualized. Speculation even has it that Benin ladies are taken to Italy for sexual exploitation.

Secondly, it appraises us with numerical and factual data of how gender equality plays out in Benin and establishes the status of women. One could easily think that since Benin metropolis is a city in a third world country, certainly women status will be low. But in Benin history, we have had great women of power, for example, Queen Idia of Benin Kingdom who played a pivotal and remarkable role for the survival of the kingdom even before the kingdom made any serious relationship with the West. So, what is actually the status of women in Benin metropolis in global times? Is there gender equality in Benin metropolis? Hence, the need for this study.

1.6 Scope and Delimitation of the Study

This study is about globalization and feminism in Benin Metropolis. It covers the conceptual impacts each have in another in Benin metropolis. The study is aimed

at looking at how globalization of feminism has impacted women positively and negatively in Benin metropolis. The study also examines gender equality in Benin metropolis and the status of women in the metropolis.

However, secondary data from this study cannot be generalized to other parts of Nigeria, Africa and the world. This is because data is sourced from the Benin metropolis, Edo State, Nigeria alone. Hence, findings may not be applicable to other parts of Nigeria. Paucity of data and time constraints are the other factors that contribute to the inadequacy of this study.

1.7 Definition of Terms

The following terms appeared more frequently in this study:

- i. **Globalization:** This is mainly the integration of people into a uniform culture through the opening of borders and allowing for free movement of capital, labour, technology, goods and services via the instrumentality of information and communication technology (Igwe, 2002).
- ii. **Feminism:** This is the belief in the social, economic and political equality of sexes (Aniche, Efanafor and Offordum, 2017).
- iii. **Metropolis:** This refers to a cluster of interconnected cities with a definable central region from which the metropolis claims its name (Okolocha, 2019).

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter will be structured into six (6) parts: The overview of literature, positive impacts of globalization on women, negative impacts of globalization on women, liberal feminism in the metropolis, postmodern feminism in the metropolis, theoretical framework and conclusion.

2.2 Overview of Literature

Ngwainbi (2011) argued that globalization is the driving force behind global feminism and the main aim is to accelerate women liberation globally. But globalization is more than a decade old. So, the question is: Has globalization successfully propelled the liberation of women globally? Or as Aniche, Efanafor and Offordum (2017) would ask: “Has the negative impact of globalization (on women) outweighs the positive impact”? The answer is rooted on available literature on the subject. But whether the answers are adequate and encompassing is another issue.

The general concern of liberal feminism is whether there is equal right for men and women. Liberal feminism advocate for women empowerment so as to have equal role with men in the society. But again, is this the case in Benin City? Postmodern feminism believes that there is no single universal truth about feminism and can be wholly defined. There is no one true story that gender is not much as an identity term or social structure but rather in it discourse, issue like gender inequality can be

exhaustively explained (Sylvester, 1994; Jackson and Jones, 1998; Steams, 1998; Hooper, 2001; Vermani, 2007; Anichie, Efanafor and Offordum, 2017; Vaipei, 2018).

Acker (1990) and Standing (1999) argued that the general impact of globalization is that of rising unemployment rate and that in some quarters, it had risen to the level of women's. However, there are positive and negative impacts of globalization (Anichie, Efanafor and Offordum, 2017). To Subhalakshimi (2012), the most common positive impact of globalization is increase employment for women. But it is my own opinion that whether the negative outweighs the positive depends on which side of the global divide one is on (Global South or Global North?) What are the impacts on women in Benin Metropolis?

2.3 Positive Implications of Globalization of Feminism

While Subhalakshimi (2012) noted that the commonest positive impact of globalization is increase employment for women, Sarkor (2007) asserted that globalization had created more work opportunities for women especially women who are professionals in the emerging media of information technology and service industries. In other words, globalization which has broken the barrier in communication, had created jobs especially in the IT and service sectors which more women can be said to be gainfully employed. For example, more women can be seen in media houses like the Independent Television and Radio (ITV), Benin. Without globalization, this would have been a little impossible. Sarker (2007) also notes that through globalization, women's rights have been added as human rights.

Furthermore, Bacchus (2005) opined that globalization had created more autonomy or independence for women. This can be observed in terms of making money and being in control of their own wages. This is indeed a departure from the traditional gender roles where women were only useful for house works and child bearing. Now, we can talk of independent women in marriages and who now have a say in the number of children they want to bear. But again, is this the true story or reality of the day in the Benin metropolis?

2.4 Negative Implications of Globalization of Feminism

Having discussed the above positive impacts, it may appear that globalization is always rosy or all time positive. But that is not true; at least, not in the face of modern globalization. It was on this note that Mitter and Efendioglu (1999) and (2000) argued that women face major challenges in the face of rapid urbanization as a result of rapid changes in the world economy. Such that many feminist scholars argue that the negative side to globalization is much more than the positive sides comparatively. In other words, there is more disadvantages to globalization than advantages (Mitter, 2000; Bacchus, 2005).

Sarkor (2007) opined that the semi-skilled and unskilled women have lost power over their lands due to less of traditional livelihood and sustainability. This equally means that the not-so-much literate women and the non-literate women have lost out since they cannot get modern jobs and be integrated and have also lost their traditional values gotten through agriculture. It is like saying that they cannot go back

to the land and cannot also be meaningfully employed. To be more blunt, Federici (2000) noted that poverty of women in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific is not as a result of poorly implemented policies or transitory phenomenon as often times claimed by the World Bank but as a result of integration into the world economy. Hence, women's material well-being has fallen greatly, gender inequality on the high side due to globalization; also is the "Feminization of Poverty" and women marginalization (Anichie, Efanafor and Offordum, 2017). Globalization has also further widened the class difference among women (Acker, 1990; Standing, 1999). So, also, nothing has been differential in the sexual division of paid labour (Raddiffe, 1999; Thorin, 2001). Like I asserted earlier, whether these negatives outweigh the positive now depends on where one is on the global divide. What is the reality in Benin Metropolis?

2.5 Gender equality in Benin

The goal of liberal feminism is to secure equal rights and access to economy and education for women (Anichie, Efanafor and Offordum, 2017). In other words, liberal feminism focus on empowering women and giving them equal opportunity with men in the society in terms of politics and work as a way of ensuring complete gender equality between men and women (Egho and Aniche, 2011). The argument here is that there are many great men and women out there. Some of these women even do better than their male counterparts. Their gender is not shown in their behaviour. Therefore,

if women are empowered, they will make their own contributions and nothing will hinder them (Anichie, Efanafor and Offordum, 2017). In Benin metropolis, a lot of women are doing exploits due to the fact that they have been empowered. In the University of Benin for example, the current Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Lilian I. Salami is doing exploit in the office. Her gender does not get in the way of anything and she is no less below poor with her predecessors who were males. Benin history even points to a powerful woman in the Benin Kingdom long before the actual or constant romance with the West.

2.6 Status of women in Benin Metropolis

To postmodern feminist, there is no universal template or woman's experience that can be used as a template for understanding the world. Postmodern feminism criticizes liberal feminism on the ground of their enlightenment project, essentialist view and western middle class bias (Steams, 2003; Burkie, 2017). Postmodernist ideas of warfare are that even in war, women are not bystanders or victims but participate actively in a system of warfare tied to both genders. Also, that women not only play the role of nurses, doctors, journalists but also the role of wives, mothers and girlfriends at the home fronts. Furthermore, the stories of military forces should not omit the roles of prostitution in their base nor should we discuss diplomacy without the stories of diplomat's wives (Enloe, 1989; Egboh and Aniche, 2011).

In the Benin metropolis, the above is evident. A lot of women participate actively either at the war at home or the one outside. In our communities, we have women who take leading roles and set exemplary leadership. At home, they battle domestic conflict as wives and mothers. Howbeit, the story so far regarding the date of women in global times is not a surest one. Hence, to this end, I can agree with scholars like Bacchus (2005) and Mitter (2000) when they argued that the negative impact of globalization outweighs the positive impacts. What is the reality in Benin metropolis? What is Globalization and Feminism in Benin metropolis like?

2.7 Theoretical Framework

This study will adopt two (2) theoretical standpoints. The first is the Diffusionist viewpoint to explain how globalization and feminism spreads in general and how it gets to Benin metropolis in particular.

According to Obaro (2019), diffusion theory is that sociological and anthropological theory that gives account of how aspects of culture - language, music, myths, religion, beliefs, artistic traditions, social organization, technological ideas- spread through time from one society to another. Also, Haviland, Prins, Walrath and McBride (2011), define diffusion as how ideas, customs or practices spread from one culture to another. Culture spreads either through trade, migration, war or other contact. It is true indeed that globalization or global capitalism was not born in Africa. Infact, industrial revolution that ushered in capitalism did not even occur in Africa

(Okolocha, 2019), same with feminism (unAfrican). How then did they get into Africa and Nigeria? European presence in Nigeria dates as far back as 1472.

Joas Affonso d'Aveiro is usually regarded as the first Portuguese to arrive Benin in 1485. However, there is another reference to Roy de Sequeira coming in 1472 (Bleke, 1975). Whoever, may have arrived first, there is no dispute, however, that the Portuguese were the first Europeans to reach Benin City, the Kingdom capital. They made their entry to the ancient city of Benin through the route of the Ugboton Port. The Portuguese, on getting to Benin were highly impressed with what they saw. These men who back in their places were used to the narrow confines of the walls and the small towns of Europe were fascinated by the spaciousness of the "great city of Benin" and this made a powerful impression on them. This indeed confirmed that there was a state of far greater consequence than the petty chiefdoms which they were used to seeing on the coast (Bradbury, 1937). They were well received by Oba Ozolua, who subsequently agreed that the Chief of Ugboton should accompany them to Lisbon so that he could learn more about the ways of the Whiteman (Ryder, 1962). The choice of the Chief of Ughoton could be attributed to two main reasons. The first reason was because of the importance of his village as the location of "port" of Benin and the second which was one of the first immediate entry point/contact point of European trade, and, most important was his status as the Edaiken, the heir to the throne. The visit of the Chief of Ugboton to Portugal marked the beginning of a long lasting relationship between Benin Kingdom and the Portuguese. This visit culminated

in the establishment of diplomatic relations, which was immediately followed by trade. They quickly started trading brass and copper for pepper, cloth, ivory and slaves. The Portuguese found a ready market for brass ingots, often made in the form of bracelets called "manillas", and in the 1490s a Portuguese trader wrote that Benin copper bracelets were more highly prized than brass ones.

Through constant interaction with the West, their cultures, ideas, technology are spread into all parts of the country. Benin metropolis isn't immune to such diffusion. For example, same way you can see new apple laptop designed in the USA, coupled and assembled in China, (an indicator of global economy in borderless trade), is the same way we can talk about feminists and feminist movements here in Benin metropolis. In other words, through the process of diffusion, feminism is encultured and globalized. In preindustrial times, no one was talking about feminism because status of women was limited to traditional roles of women. Benin City had early European contact as far back as the 15th century (contact with the Portuguese). Today we also have the presence of multinational companies in Benin such as Coca-Cola, Guinness, 7up etc. These are indicators that globalization has gotten to Benin. Feminism too only got possible in Benin metropolis by diffusion.

The second theory for this study is the Dependency Theory. This theory was propounded by Theotonio Dos Santos, a Brazilian economist (Nov 11, 1936 - Feb, 27, 2018). He defined dependence as "a situation in which the economy of certain countries is conditioned by the development and expansion of another economy to

which the former is subjected” (Dos Santos 1970, P.231). This means that the economy of most third world countries are still very much tied to that of their former colonial masters in what is today known as ‘neocolonialism’ as it was evident in the case of Niger Republic and France before the coup of July 26, 2023. But this is not always true as most countries has lost control of their former colonies to USA which now have virtually control over most LDCs. The theory expresses “subordination”, the idea that the development of a country is directly linked to the development of other countries ; the development is not brought upon by pre - capitalistic conditions but rather by the patterns of capitalistic development of the countries together with it’s assertion into the capitalist system by imperialism.

We will also be taking the view point of Andre Gunder Frank whose thesis: The Development of Underdevelopment we find relevant here. A.G Frank’s opinion of dependency theory is a concept of global economic relation characterized by exploitation and domination by the more powerful countries on the less powerful. A.G Frank, a leading dependency theorist, suggests that lack of development in countries is occasioned by the Western nation's deliberately under-developing them. Frank went further to argue that there exist a system of global capitalism where core nations such as the USA, France, Germany, Spain and UK are profiteering from peripheral nations or what we call the Less Developed Countries (LDCs). The LDCs are kept perpetually dependent and underdeveloped because the core nations depend on them for raw materials and markets for their finished products. This system of exploitation existed

throughout the period of unequal trade between the Europeans and the Benin kingdom and through slavery to colonialism and today through western domination of the international trading system. Globalization or global capitalism is simply an extension of Western spheres of influence globally; through multinational corporation, the Western nation's still hold the LDCs under siege and this is evident in the activities in global pillage of resources in the exploitation and expropriation of surpluses and capital flight from the host countries (LDCs) to home countries. Feminism is also a Western idea and it seems a problem when you don't buy the idea. Before Western powers came scavenging on Africa, women in Africa even with their low statuses were not complaining and there was peace as well. The waves of feminism is also driven by globalization and can be traced to the Beijing Conference of 1995 with the formal declarations of the social, political and economic rights and equality with men. This was to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and the support of women by member states. The lack of foreign direct investment that has deepened labour gap between men and women is also occasion by globalization cause with the free flow of goods and services through open borders, most women who were handcraft in textiles making has stopped their handiwork thereby relying more on foreign prints from other countries and this has subsequently led to the collapse of textile industries in the country. Furthermore, the drive of global capitalism by western countries has led most third world nations into the privatizing of public corporations that were meant to render services to the people, thereby upholding profit making over

the welfare of the people. Whether globalization is a blessing or a curse is dependent on one's viewpoint.

Conclusively, globalization cannot be reversed but we can change the direction of the wheel to redirect the impact. For example, we can attempt breaking the chain of dependency as suggested by Franz. The 'local white legs' as used by Franz Fanon can be tamed. We can break the 'weakest links' in the chain of dependency.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This section is structured into six (6) parts: research design; area of the study; population of the study; sample size and sampling technique; instrumentation; method of data collection; method of data analysis.

3.2 Research Design

This study will adopt a causal design. The study of causality will help us to understand the relationship between globalization and feminism in Benin metropolis. Also, a causal design will help us to determine the cause-effect relationship between the variable of interest. To understand the impact of globalization on women in Benin City or the impact of feminism on women, a causal design is best.

3.3 Area of the Study

This study will be carried out in the Benin City area of Edo State, Nigeria. Benin City is the fourth largest city in Nigeria and the capital of Edo State (Encyclopedia Britannica, 2020). Benin City is situated approximately 40 kilometers north of Benin River and 320 kilometers by road and East of Lagos. Benin City is the centre of Nigeria's Rubber industry and also rich in oil production (International Rubber Study Group, 2020). Specific area for this study is in Ugbowo area of Benin

City consisting the University of Benin community, Ekosodin, Adolor community and Uselu areas.

3.4 Population of the Study

The population for this study will consist an adult literate population of both workers and students around Benin City metropolis. This is to ensure that respondents have basic knowledge of what globalization and feminism is. The population of Benin City as at 2023 is 1,905,000 (World Population Review)

3.5 Sample Size and Sampling Technique

The sample size for this study is 100. The sample will be collated using cluster sampling of the probability sampling technique. Cluster sampling will be useful since we are looking at a large population and also to get respondents from the different areas forming the metropolis.

3.6 Instrumentation

The instrument for collecting data will be questionnaire. The questionnaire here is useful since we are dealing with a literate population. The question will consist of close and open-ended questions to guide response and also allow respondents air their views. Section A of the questionnaire will give us the socio-demographic characteristics of our respondents. Section B will be on positive impact of globalization on women. Section C is on negative impact of globalization. Section D

and section E will be on liberal feminism and postmodern feminism respectively. A total of 25 questions in all (5 questions from each section)

3.7 Method of Data Collection

The questionnaire will be administered and returned by hand and with the help of two (2) research assistants to enable all areas being captured.

3.8 Method of Data Analysis

Both descriptive and inferential statistics will be used in the study. Frequency table and percentage will be used for the interpretations. Data will be analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) software.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter deals with the data presentation, data analysis and discussion of the findings of the study. It will be discussed under the following sub-headings:

4.1: Socio-Demographic Characteristics (N = 100)

Table 4.1a : Age

| Variables | | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| Age | 16-20 | 13 | 13.0 |
| | 21-25 | 14 | 14.0 |
| | 26-30 | 15 | 15.0 |
| | 31-35 | 21 | 21.0 |
| | 36-40 | 20 | 20.0 |
| | 40 and above | 17 | 17.0 |
| | Total | 100 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents based on age. The table shows that respondents from age 16-20 were 13%, those who were 21-

25 constituted 14%, 15% were 26-30, 21% were 31-35, 20% were 31-35 while those who were 40 and above constituted 17%

Table 4.1b : Sex

| Variable | | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-----------------|--------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Sex | Male | 39 | 39.0 |
| | Female | 61 | 61.0 |
| | Total | 100 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents based on gender. The table shows that 39% of the respondents were male while 61% female,

Table 4.1c : Educational Qualifications

| Variables | | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Educational level | None | 8 | 8.0 |
| | Primary | 9 | 9.0 |
| | Secondary | 9 | 9.0 |
| | OND/HND | 21 | 21.0 |
| | B.Sc | 42 | 42.0 |
| | M.Sc | 5 | 5.0 |
| | Others | 6 | 6.0 |
| | Total | 100 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents based on educational level. The educational level of respondent shows that 8% had no degree, 9% had primary certificate, 9% had secondary, 21% had OND/HND, 42% had B.Sc, 5% had M.Sc while 6% indicated others.

Table 4.1d : Occupation

| Variables | | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Occupation | Unemployed | 12 | 12.0 |
| | Self employed | 61 | 61.0 |
| | Other | 27 | 27.0 |
| | Total | 100 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents based on occupation. The occupation of the respondent shows that 12% were unemployed, 61% were self-employed while 27% indicated others.

Table 4.1e : Religion

| Variables | | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Religion | Christianity | 80 | 80.80 |
| | Muslim | 3 | 3.0 |
| | Traditionalist | 17 | 17.0 |
| | Total | 100 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the socio-demographic characteristics based on religion of respondents, it shows majority 80% were Christian, 3% were Muslim while 17% were traditionalist.

Table 4.1f : Marital Status

| Variables | | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Marital status | Single | 43 | 43.0 |
| | Married | 35 | 35.0 |
| | Divorce | - | - |
| | Separated | 2 | 2.0 |
| | Total | 100 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the socio-demographic characteristics based on marital status of respondents.

4.2: Presentation of Results

Research Objective 1: Positive Impacts Of Globalization On Women

Table 4.2.1 : Do you agree that globalization has increased employment for women?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|---|-----|---------|---------|
| 1 | Do you agree that globalization has increased employment for women? | 100 | 87(87%) | 13(13%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

From the above table, it shows that 87% of the respondents agree that globalization has increased employment for women while 13% indicated no.

Table 4.2.2 : Do you agree that through globalization, women’s rights are established?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|--|-----|---------|---------|
| 2 | Do you agree that through globalization, women's rights are established? | 100 | 82(82%) | 18(18%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows that 82% of the respondents agree to the assertion that through globalization women’s rights are established while 18% disagree to the assertion.

Table 4.2.3 : Do you agree that globalization (contact with western culture) has an impact in women in Benin Metropolis?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|--|-----|---------|---------|
| 3 | Do you agree that globalization (contact with western culture) has an impact in women in Benin Metropolis? | 100 | 73(73%) | 27(27%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The table shows that 73% agree that globalization (contact with Western culture) has an impact on women in Benin Metropolis while 27% of the respondents disagree.

Table 4.2.4 : If yes, how?

| S/N | Item | Thematic response |
|------------|--------------|--|
| 4. | If yes, how? | i. It has affected the way of life of women. ii. Global pressure on improving women's right. iii. It has exposed women to better ways and etiquette. |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the thematic responses of the respondents who agree to the assertion that globalization (contact with western culture) has an impact on women in Benin Metropolis.

Table 4.2.5 : Do you agree that the increase in women independence in Benin Metropolis has positive impact on marriages ?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|--|-----|---------|---------|
| 5 | Do you agree that the increase in women independence in Benin Metropolis has positive impact on marriages? | 100 | 71(71%) | 29(29%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows that 71% of the respondents agree that the increase in women independence in Benin Metropolis has positive impact on marriages while 29% disagree.

Table 4.2.6 : If yes, how?

| S/N | Item | Thematic response |
|-----|--------------|--|
| 6. | If yes, how? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. It makes the women know their rights in the home ii. It promotes equality, communication and shared decision making iii. Benin metropolis strengthens marriages through empowerment |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the thematic responses of the respondents who agreed to the assertion that the increase in women independence in Benin Metropolis has positive impact on marriages.

Research Objective 2: Negative Impacts Of Globalization On Women

Table 4.2.7 : Do you agree that globalization has more negative impacts on women in Benin Metropolis?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|---|-----|---------|---------|
| 7 | Do you agree that globalization has more negative impacts than positive on women in Benin Metropolis? | 100 | 65(65%) | 35(35%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows that 65% of the respondents agree that globalization has more negative impacts than positive on women in Benin Metropolis while 35% disagree.

Table 4.2.8 : If yes, how?

| S/N | Item | Thematic response |
|-----|--------------|--|
| 8. | If yes, how? | i. It has altered traditional roles and creating economic disparities ii. It has made women lose cultural value iii. It has caused role conflict among women in the home |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the thematic responses of respondents who agree to the assertion that globalization has more negative impacts than positive on women in Benin Metropolis.

Table 4.2.9 : Do you agree that globalization has caused inequality amongst women in modern times?

| S/ N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|---------|--|-----|---------|---------|
| 9 | Do you agree that globalization has caused inequality amongst women in modern times? | 100 | 75(75%) | 25(25%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows that 75% of the respondents agree that globalization has caused inequality amongst women in modern times while 25% disagree.

Table 4.2.10 : If yes, how?

| S/N | Item | Thematic response |
|-----|--------------|---|
| 10. | If yes, how? | i. it has given job to some women while other women are jobless ii. It has widened the gap between women who have access to education and those who don't. |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The table shows the thematic responses of respondents who agree that globalization has caused inequality among women in modern times.

Table 4.2.11 : Do you agree that globalization limit traditional livelihood in women?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|--|-----|---------|---------|
| 11 | Do you agree that globalization limit traditional livelihood in women? | 100 | 67(67%) | 33(33%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows 67% of respondents agree that globalization limit traditional livelihood in women while 33% do not agree.

Research Objective 3: Liberal Feminism

Table 4.2.12 : Do you agree that women are given equal opportunities with men in Benin Metropolis?

| S/ N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|---------|---|-----|---------|---------|
| 12 | Do you agree that women are given equal opportunities with men in Benin Metropolis? | 100 | 12(12%) | 88(88%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows that among the 100 respondents, 12% agree that women are given equal opportunities with men in Benin Metropolis while 88% disagree.

Table 4.2.13 : If yes, how?

| S/N | Item | Thematic response |
|-----|--------------|---|
| 13. | If yes, how? | i. Through legal reforms and gender equality initiative |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The tables shows the thematic responses of respondents who agree that women are given equal opportunities with men in Benin Metropolis

Table 4.2.14 : Do you agree that globalization has caused inequality among women in modern times?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|--|-----|---------|---------|
| 14 | Do you agree that globalization has caused inequality among women in modern times? | 100 | 74(74%) | 26(26%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

From the above table, 74% of the respondents agree that globalization has caused inequality among women in modern times while 26% disagree.

Table 4.2.15 : Do you agree that women are fully represented in politics in Benin Metropolis?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|--|-----|---------|----------|
| 15 | Do you agree that women are fully represented in politics in Benin Metropolis? | 100 | 17(17%) | 83 (83%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

From the above table, it shows that 17% of the respondents agree that women are fully represented in politics in Benin Metropolis while 83% disagree.

Table 4.2.16 : If yes, how?

| S/N | Item | Thematic response |
|-----|--------------|---|
| 16. | If yes, how? | i. Because the male folk still see women as vulnerable with low IQ ii. In the political arena, since it is a male dominated arena, some women feel intimidated iii. They are subjected to home responsibilities |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the thematic responses of respondents who agree that women are not fully represented in politics in Benin Metropolis

Research Objective 4: Postmodern Feminism

Table 4.2.17 : Do you agree that women should be given responsibilities as men despite gender roles?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|--|-----|---------|----------|
| 17 | Do you agree that women should be given same responsibilities as men despite gender roles? | 100 | 49(49%) | 51 (51%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows that 49% of the respondents agree that women should be given same responsibilities as men despite gender roles while 51% disagree.

Table 4.2.18 : Do you agree that globalization causes role conflict to women at home?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|--|-----|---------|---------|
| 18 | Do you agree that globalization causes role conflict to women at home? | 100 | 83(83%) | 17(17%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows that 83% of the respondents agree that globalization causes role conflict to women at home while 17% of the respondents disagree.

Table 4.2.19 : Do you agree that globalization increased exploitation of women by men?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|---|-----|---------|---------|
| 19 | Do you agree that globalization increased exploitation of women by men? | 100 | 23(23%) | 77(77%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows that 23% of the respondents agree that globalization increased exploitation of women by men while the 77% disagree.

Table 4.2.20 : If yes, how?

| S/N | Item | Thematic response |
|-----|--------------|---|
| 20. | If yes, how? | i. Promote gender inequality ii. Through gender based violence |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table shows the thematic responses of respondents who agree that globalization increased exploitation of women by men

Table 4.2.21 : Do you agree that oppression of women in the society is caused by patriarchal norm?

| S/N | Item | N | Yes | No |
|-----|---|-----|---------|---------|
| 21 | Do you think that oppression of women in the society is caused by patriarchal norm? | 100 | 73(73%) | 27(27%) |

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The above table show that 73% of the respondents agree that oppression of women in the society is caused by patriarchal norm while 27% disagree.

4.3 Discussion of findings

Based on the results obtained from analyses of data collected, the following findings were made:

From research question one, the study shows that globalization has increase employment for women and with globalization the right of women are established. This findings is inline with Subhalakshimi (2012), who states that the most common positive impact of globalization is increase in employment for women. The study also shows that globalization has an impact in women in Benin metropolis. The respondents noted that it has affected the way of life of women, global pressure on improving women's right and it has exposed women to better ways and etiquette. This study is in line with the recent appointment of seven women in the ministerial list by President Tinubu who promised to increase women's representation in government to at least 35% of all government positions. The study shows that increase in women independence in Benin Metropolis has positive impact on marriages as there is a uprising involvement in politics by women in the Metropolis ;women now take interest in contesting for electoral positions. In response to this the respondents noted that it makes the women know their rights in the home, it promotes equality, communication and shared decision making, and strengthens marriages through empowerment in Benin metropolis.

From research question two, which is the negative impacts of globalization on women, the study shows that globalization has more negative impact on women in the Benin Metropolis. As argued by many feminist scholars that the negative side to globalization is much more than the positive side comparatively. (Mitter, 2000; Bacchus, 2005) The respondents noted that it has altered traditional roles and created economic disparities, it has made women lose cultural value and it has caused role conflict among women in the home. The study also shows that globalization has caused inequality among women in modern times and this is related to Acker (1990) and; Standing, (1999), whose study states that globalization has further widened the class difference among women.. In line with this respondents noted that it has given job to some women while other women are jobless and it has widened the gap between women who have access to education and those who don't. The study also shows that globalization limit traditional livelihood in women.

From research question three, the study shows that women are not given equal opportunities with men in Benin Metropolis and globalization has indeed caused inequality among women The study also shows that women are not fully represented in politics in Benin Metropolis. Women's capacity to contribute to society is also hindered because of their gender. The respondents noted that Because the male folk still see women as vulnerable with low IQ, in the political arena, since it is a male dominated arena, some women feel intimidated and they are subjected to home responsibilities. This study is opposed to that of Anichie, Efanafor and Offordum,

(2017), who argued that women make their contribution to the society without being hindered by their gender.

From research question four, the study affirms that women shouldn't be given same responsibilities as men despite gender roles. It also shows that globalization has caused role conflict to women at home. This is inline with Enloe, (1989); and Anichie, (2011) who argued that women play role like nurses, journalist but also the role of wives and mothers in the home front.. The study also shows that exploitation of women by men is not caused by globalization and the oppression of women in the society is caused by patriarchal norm.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary

The study focused on understanding “Globalization and Feminism” in Benin Metropolis; to make this possible four research purpose were raised to examine the objectives of the study. The study reviewed related literature from other authors as regard to Globalization and Feminism in Benin Metropolis..

Descriptive survey research design which is a non-experimental method was adopted for the study. Cluster sampling technique was used to select one hundred (100) accessible respondents in University of Benin. The instrument for data collection was an open ended and close ended questionnaire; it was a self-designed instrument, built around the research question and was validated by the researcher. The study was a one time data survey i.e the researcher distributed questionnaires to the respondents and retrieved the questionnaire same day, The data collected for the research question was analyzed using simple percentage.

Based on the findings of the study, it has been revealed that globalization has less positive impacts than negative impacts on women. On the positive impact, it has provided women with employment and the social, political and economic rights of

women are established. The negative impacts as shown by the study is that it has caused role conflict among women at home and it has also make women loose cultural values which has also made impact on the women ins Benin Metropolis. The study shows that increase in women independence in Benin Metropolis has positive impact on marriages through women knowing their rights in the homes, empowering women economically and promoting shared communication and decision making.

Despite the aforementioned positive aspect of globalization, the study also shows some negative side of globalization on women and the society at large. The study shows that globalization has altered traditional roles and created economic disparities, it has made women lose cultural value and it has caused role conflict among women in the home. The study also shows that globalization has caused inequality among women in modern times and limited traditional livelihood on women

The study reveals that women are not given equal opportunity with men and they are not fully represented in politics as a result of their gender. The study further shows that women should not be given same responsibilities with men. Globalization expose women to play multiple roles like being nurses, journalist etc, and at the same time play a mother role, hence creating role conflict on women. Lastly, the study also shows that exploitation of women by men is not caused by globalization and the oppression of women in the society is caused by patriarchal norm.

5.2 Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, it has been revealed that globalization has less positive impact than negative impact on women. On the positive impact, it has provided women with employment and also women's rights are established. The negative impacts is that it has caused as shown by the study is that it has caused role conflict among women in the home and it has also made women lose cultural value.

The study also reveals that women are not given equal opportunities with men and they are not fully represented in politics in Benin Metropolis. Respondents agree that oppression of women in the society is caused by patriarchal norms.

5.3 Recommendation

Based on the findings and conclusions derived from the study the following recommendation was made:

1. Women should be given opportunity in the society and should be fully represented in politics in Benin Metropolis.
2. The Government and Non Governmental Organisations should encourage and organise women empowerment programmes in the society especially in Benin Metropolis.

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**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
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QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Respondent,

LETTER OF CONSENT

I am a student of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Benin, Benin City. This research project entitled: "**Globalization and Feminism in Benin Metropolis**" is purely an academic exercise in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) degree programme in Sociology and Anthropology.

I humbly solicit your kind cooperation in filling the questionnaire as all responses supplied will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

Thanks for your anticipated cooperation.

Yours faithfully

Okhai Emmanuel Ogenakoghie
Student/Researcher

SECTION A: SOCIO - DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENT

Instruction: Please tick [] where appropriate.

1. Age: 16-20 [] 21 -25 [] 26 -30 [] 31 -35 [] 36 – 40 [] 41 - 45 [] 46 and above []
2. Sex: Male [] Female []
3. Educational Qualifications: None [] Primary [] Secondary [] OND/HND [] B.Sc. [] M.Sc. [] Others []
4. Occupation: Unemployed [] Self-employed [] Employed [] Others []

5. Religion: Christian [] Muslim [] Traditionalist []
6. Marital Status: Single [] Married [] Divorced [] Separated []

SECTION B: POSITIVE IMPACTS OF GLOBALIZATION ON WOMEN

7. Do you agree that globalization has increased employment for women? Yes []
No []
8. Do you agree that through globalization, women's rights are established? Yes [] No []
9. Do you agree that globalization (contact with Western culture) has an impact in women in Benin Metropolis? Yes [] No []
10. If yes, how? _____
Do you agree that the increase in women independence in Benin Metropolis has positive impact on marriages? Yes [] No []
11. If yes, how? _____

SECTION C: NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF GLOBALIZATION ON WOMEN

12. Do you agree that globalization has more negative impacts than positive on women in Benin Metropolis? Yes [] No []
13. If yes, how? _____
14. Do you agree that globalization has caused inequality amongst women in modern times? Yes [] No []
15. If yes, how? _____
16. Do you agree that globalization limit traditional livelihood in women? Yes []
No []

SECTION D: LIBERAL FEMINISM

17. Do you agree that women are given equal opportunities with men in Benin Metropolis? Yes [] No []
18. If yes, how? _____
19. Do you agree that women are fully represented in politics in Benin Metropolis? Yes [] No []

- 20. Do you agree that women's capacity to contribute to society is hindered because of their gender?
- 21. If yes, how? _____

SECTION E: POSTMODERN FEMINISM

- 22. Do you agree that women should be given same responsibilities as men despite gender roles? Yes [] No []
- 23. Do you agree that globalization causes role conflict to women at home? Yes [] No []
- 24. Do you agree that globalization increased exploitation of women by men? Yes [] No []
- 25. If yes, how? _____
- 26. Do you think that oppression of women in the society is caused by patriarchal norm?
Yes [] No []

Thanks for your cooperation!