Intimate Partners or Community Leaders:
Which men matter most for women’s access to contraception?

November 19, 2019 | 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Couple-based Multi-Sectoral Intervention for Women’s Empowerment

Presenters:
Neetu John, ICRW
Funmi OlaOlorun, University of Ibadan
Context

- Nigeria is the **most populous** country in Africa
- **Gender disparities** in education and work
- **Poor indicators** for girls & women
Causal Pathway

Customary Laws

Gender Norms & Patriarchal Structures → Information & Opportunity Structures → Economic & Social Dependence

Religion

Low Autonomy & Decision-making Power

- economic
- social
- reproductive

Inequitable relationships
Intervention and Study Design
Intervention Design

Cluster randomized control trial: To evaluate the effect of a multi-pronged intervention on equitable gender relationships at the household level.
Sampling Strategy

4 Local Government Areas in Ibadan

Urban (59%)
- Ibadan North
- Ibadan Southwest

Peri-Urban (41%)
- Oluyole
- Akinyele

48 Localities
- Selected in a “serpentine” fashion

48 Enumeration Areas
- Randomly selected
- Couples identified and recruited from household listing
Randomization

Selection of LGAs

Selection of Localities

Ibadan, Nigeria

IBADAN NORTH

AKINYELE

IBADAN SOUTHWEST

OLUYOLE

Ibadan, Nigeria
Mixed Methods Approach

Qualitative

Family planning commodity inventory
Focus group discussions

Quantitative

Baseline & Endline Surveys
Women ages 18-35 years and their partner

309 couples per study arm (total = 1236)
Both partners must consent to be eligible.

Women in polygynous marriages will be eligible if wife co-resides with her husband.
Difference-in-Difference Regression Models:

\[ Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1[\text{Time}] + \beta_2[\text{Intervention}] + \beta_3[\text{Time}\times\text{Intervention}] + \beta_4[\text{Covariates}] + \epsilon \]

- Accounts for baseline levels and existing time trends
- Accounts for clustering at the community level
- Models adjusted for unbalanced co-variates between intervention and control groups
Female Decision-Making & Contraceptive Use
Household Decisions

Gender Socialization

![Bar graph showing decision-making scores for women at baseline and endline across different interventions.](Graph).

Control: Baseline 59.77, Endline 57.48
Gender Socialization: Baseline 55.39, Endline 58.47
Gender Socialization & Financial Literacy: Baseline 57.12, Endline 59.55
Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy & Family Planning: Baseline 58.77, Endline 62.66

* p<0.1; ** p<0.05; *** p<0.01

Women Decision-Making Score

- **Control**: Baseline 59.77, Endline 57.48
- **Gender Socialization**: Baseline 55.39, Endline 58.47
- **Gender Socialization & Financial Literacy**: Baseline 57.12, Endline 59.55
- **Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy & Family Planning**: Baseline 58.77, Endline 62.66

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Financial Decisions

- * p<0.1; ** p<0.05; *** p<0.01

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Baseline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>49.63</td>
<td>53.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender Socialization</td>
<td>48.24</td>
<td>59.72</td>
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<td>50.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy &amp; Family Planning</td>
<td>54.25</td>
<td>59.07</td>
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↑ 7.569*  ↑ 7.786*  ↑ 1.039

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### Husband’s Earnings

Who decides use of man’s earnings? (Women)

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- **Man Alone**
- **Mainly Man**
- **Joint**
- **Mainly Woman**

* p<0.1; ** p<0.05; *** p<0.01
Reproductive Decisions

- * p<0.1; ** p<0.05; *** p<0.01

### Women

- Control: 81.86 (Baseline), 86.28 (Endline)
- Gender Socialization: 79.03 (Baseline), 86.82 (Endline)
- Gender Socialization & Financial Literacy: 84.85 (Baseline), 87.06 (Endline)
- Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy & Family Planning: 81.03 (Baseline), 90.00 (Endline)

### Decision-Making Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Endline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>81.86</td>
<td>86.28</td>
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<td>81.03</td>
<td>90.00</td>
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### Significant Changes

- **Baseline to Endline**
  - Gender Socialization: +3.105
  - Gender Socialization & Financial Literacy: +2.247
  - Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy & Family Planning: +4.604

* Women and Girls at the Center of Development*
Contraceptive Use

- Control: 57.01% at Baseline, 69.72% at Endline
- Gender Socialization: 59.62% at Baseline, 75.86% at Endline
- Gender Socialization & Financial Literacy: 61.17% at Baseline, 72.55% at Endline
- Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy & Family Planning: 71.43% at Baseline, 75.12% at Endline
### Contraceptive Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Control</th>
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<th>Gender Socialization &amp; Financial Literacy</th>
<th>Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy &amp; Family Planning</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does your husband help you obtain a contraceptive method?</td>
<td><img src="chart.png" alt="Chart showing contraceptive support" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>Husband obtain method</td>
<td><img src="chart.png" alt="" /></td>
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- **Baseline**
- **Endline**

- Husband obtain method values are presented for each condition.
- Significance levels indicated:
  - 0.059
  - 0.064
  - 0.087
Male Attitudes
“….the training we had that time we realized that women should be a good team mate or team… you know a team mate let me put it that way in making certain ah practical decisions in making the homes better and I think that is what I will say they should be its one of their roles to be a good teammate to their husbands to make certain and critical decisions that will affect the family positively”

“…so we will now sit down, if I say “this is what I want to do, she’ll say “no let’s do it like this, I’ll say “no let’s do it like this.” We’ll argue about it, at the end of the day, we’ll come to a conclusion; and I found out that any time I have work to do and I say, “oya do it,” she’ll end up doing it even better than I want; so I found out that, you know, involving her in most of the things now is now working out perfectly more than what it used to be before”
GEM Score

Control | Gender Socialization | Gender Socialization & Financial Literacy | Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy & Family Planning

Baseline | Endline

Men

- Control: 31.90, 32.78
- Gender Socialization: 31.40, 33.13
- Gender Socialization & Financial Literacy: 31.36, 32.96
- Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy & Family Planning: 31.12, 33.36

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Attitudes Toward Violence

Justification of Violence (Men)

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<td>0.40</td>
<td>0.21</td>
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<td>0.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy &amp; Family Planning</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>0.29</td>
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Contraceptive Attitudes

Control | Gender Socialization | Gender Socialization & Financial Literacy | Gender Socialization, Financial Literacy & Family Planning

Men

Baseline | Endline

- Baseline
- Endline

* p<0.1; ** p<0.05; *** p<0.01
• Population: 20.7 million (INS, 2018)
• Population under 15: 51.6% (INS, 2017)
• Contraceptive prevalence rate, modern methods: 18% (Modern, Married - PMA2017)
• Children per woman: 7.6 (DHS 2012)
• Religion: 99% Muslim (INS, 2018)
• Rural population: 84% (INS, 2017)
• Socio-cultural factors
  • Conservative religious tendencies
  • Patriarchal
  • Polygamous
Project Overview

- Gender synchronized approach in community gardens
- Men and women community leaders
  - Trained on gender issues, family planning, dietary diversity and techniques interpersonal communication
  - Led community sensitizations in gardens, weddings, naming ceremonies
- Male leader and religious leaders - engagement to create enabling environment for family planning services
  - Religious leaders trained on booklet developed through human centered design from the project TRASNFORM/PHARE RISE, based on Koranic verses and Hadiths supporting the rights of the family, including family planning to responsibly manage a family
  - Led community sensitizations
- 10 control villages, 10 intervention villages
- 8 months of activities
- Pre and post qualitative and quantitative
Results
Results

• Significant changes in family planning
  • Contraceptive method knowledge (90% to 97% | dd=1.3%; p=0.076)
  • Intention to use contraception (31% to 41% | dd= 7.2%, p=0.001)
  • Use of modern contraceptive methods (11.8% to 18.7% | dd=4.7% - p=0.000)
  • Improved couples’ communication (146% to 25.7% | dd=8.3%, p=0.030)

• Fuzzy effects in gender equity
  • Women's participation in decision-making within households has improved
  • Perception of the traditional distribution of roles has not changed much.

• Communication by religious leaders are perceived as sermons. Information coming from them is ‘correct.’

• Many religious recommendations exist regarding dialogue between spouses
THANK YOU!