

INFLUENCE OF HUSBANDS' PARTICIPATION IN HOUSEHOLD TASKS ON WIVES' EMPLOYMENT IN KANO METROPOLIS, NIGERIA.

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Abstract

The paper was based on the research conducted on the influence of husbands' participation in household tasks on wives' employment focused on the world of working mothers; the rigors and challenges they face every day in order to fulfil their office and home obligations in Kano metropolis, Nigeria. Some of the research questions were the factors motivating employed wives at work; determine the opinions of employed wives on the performance of specific house hold tasks by their husbands; and the challenges posed to husbands by their performance of non-male household tasks on their wives' input at work. The survey research method was employed. The population of the study was the employed wives in the civil service of Kano metropolis; totalling 6,716. The sample size of 33 was obtained using the proportionate sampling technique. The instrument for data collection was a structured questionnaire which was designed on a four point rating scale. To answer the research questions raised for the study. The mean statistics was used to answer the research questions while Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) and one way Analyses of Variance (ANOVA) were the statistical tools used to test the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. Yearning for improvement of the employed wives' standard of living and family financial status were some of their motivating factor for seeking for employment in the world of work, while age, occupational status and educational attainment of husbands of employed wives affect husbands' direct participation in house hold tasks. However, husbands of employed wives were more involved in relatively male- inclined and less strenuous household tasks. The paper concluded that husbands of employed wives did not make much influence towards their wives' better performance at work. Factors such as type of occupation, position attained, fear of losing respect as the head of the family, personal schedules and fear of being called names by the society restrained husbands of employed wives from participating effectively in household tasks. The paper recommended among others that concerted effort should be made by employed wives to map up strategies (family group meetings, dialogue, couples watch family living movies) of encouraging their husbands to improve on their performance of house hold tasks regard less of their

educational status , age disparity and fear of being called names; home economics curriculum planners should inculcate the idea of male participation in all household activities in both primary and secondary curriculum, while parents should assigned household tasks to their children without gender bias.