

## **SOCIOLOGICAL IMPEDIMENTS THAT LEADS TO INACCESSIBILITY OF WOMEN ATTENDING OPEN DISTANCE LEARNING (ODL) IN NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA (NOUN), EKITI-STATE BRANCH**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This paper meritoriously sets out to explore and provide an up-to-date picture on sociological impediments that lead to inaccessibility faced by women attending ODL in their quest to study, specifically at the National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN) Ekiti-State, Branch. Proportionate sampling technique was used to select three hundred (300) respondents from part 1-4 based on their physical appearance at the centre premises and their claims, evidence presented (Student Identification Card) that they were students of NOUN. The study adopted descriptive research design.

The main data collection technique used for the study were questionnaire and structured by researcher titled "Sociological Impediments on Inaccessibility of Women Attending Open Distance Learning Questionnaire (SIIWAODLQ)" and validated by experts at Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti and experts in Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council, Abuja for vetting and clarity. The response from that vetting (both parties) became the basis for restructuring and reviewing questions that provided useful answers to the study. Reliability coefficient of 0.78 was derived after using Spearman Brown prophecy formula technique. Tables, frequencies and simple percentage were the key descriptive statistics used to analyse demographic information and Research question 1. Mean score of 2.50 above was used to analyse Research question 2 and present the findings while linear regression (SPSS) was used to test the Hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance.

Finding revealed that Institutional, Situational and ICT were significant to the sociological impediments that lead to women inaccessibility on ODL in the covered area of study, because all were above 0.05 level of significance. The findings of the study will be utilized instrumentally and theoretically in informing policy directives by public universities presently involved in ODL programmes at large.

**Keywords:** Open Distance Learning, institutional, situational, women, ICT, Education, NOUN.