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*Citation for published version (APA):*

Koster, W. (2003). *Secret strategies: Women and abortion in Yoruba society, Nigeria* Amsterdam: Aksant

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**List of tables**

- 2.1. Conceptual framework: Factors influencing women's abortion practices – 31
- 2.2. Interviews in the exploratory phase (October 1996-June 1998) – 35
- 2.3. Study locations for interviews with women in the survey phase in Lagos and Epe – 41
- 2.4. Number of women interviewed in the survey phase by study population and location, with number of additional questionnaires on specific topics administered to them – 43
- 3.1. Proportion of women in community survey married, by age group and location – 78
- 3.2. Students' opinions about the value of children (multiple response, N=146) – 90
- 3.3. Communication on sexuality with their parents reported by secondary school students, by sex – 99
- 3.4. Students reporting to have a serious friend and sexual intercourse, by sex – 100
- 4.1. Sources of information for Chapter 4: Abortion, rule and reality – 110
- 4.2. Reasons given by interviewed women for their negative opinions about abortion, by location and marital status – 113
- 4.3. Prevalence of abortion among women in the ANC survey and the community survey, by location and religion – 126
- 4.4. Social characteristics of women who aborted, at time of their abortion (first, subsequent and all experiences) and at time of the interview – 128
- 4.5. Safety of reported abortions, by women's background characteristics – 130
- 4.6. Background characteristics of women who survived abortion and of women who died from abortion – 133
- 5.1. Study populations and sample size for Chapter 5: Abortion by single women – 137
- 5.2. Main reported reasons for abortion by single girls and women, by schooling status – 139
- 5.3. Outcome of coping with unwanted pregnancy of single girls and women, by schooling status – 145
- 5.4. Reasons reported by single women for keeping an unwanted pregnancy – 146
- 5.5. Type of providers for abortion used by single women, by schooling status – 154
- 5.6. Single women who attempted or succeeded with self-abortion, by schooling status – 157
- 5.7. Involvement of others in first and subsequent abortions by single women – 158
- 6.1. Study populations and sample size for Chapter 6: Married women and abortion – 188
- 6.2. Reported reasons for 233 abortions by married women – 192
- 6.3. Abortion providers for 201 abortion experiences of married women – 200
- 6.4. Involvement of others in first and subsequent abortions by married women – 202
- 7.1. Study populations and sample size for Chapter 7: Preventing unwanted pregnancy – 216

- 7.2. Experience with unwanted pregnancy of women in the ANC and community survey (combined), by location – 216
- 7.3. Categorisation of contraceptive methods used in the present study – 218
- 7.4. Contraceptive methods reported to be currently used by women in the community survey who did not want to be pregnant, by marital status and location (multiple response) – 233
- 7.5. Reported current contraceptive use and proportion of users using modern contraception, by women's background variables – 237
- 7.6. Reasons why women discontinued use of modern contraceptives, by method – 239
- 7.7. Contraceptive use before abortion, compared to current contraceptive use by women in the community survey who never had an abortion, by method and marital status – 243
- 7.8. Contraceptive use after abortion, by methods and marital status (multiple response) – 246
- 7.9. Contraceptive use before and after abortion, by category, for first and subsequent experiences of women who had multiple abortions – 247
- 7.10. Summary of reported reasons for non-use of contraception after abortion, by marital status – 248
- 7.11. Women who got contraceptive information from their abortion provider, and started using modern contraception after abortion, by age, education and marital status – 250
- 8.1. Sources of information for Chapter 8: Infertility – 262
- 8.2. Yoruba proverbs to encourage infertile persons, with English translation – 264
- 8.3a. Answers of secondary school students to 'complete the sentence' question on a woman's infertility – 266
- 8.3b. Answers of secondary school students to 'complete the sentence' question on a man's infertility – 266
- 8.4. Time period for past and present infertility problems reported by women in the community survey – 268
- 8.5. Type of infertility presently suffered by women in the community survey, by duration of time they have been waiting to conceive – 268
- 8.6. Type of infertility of women in the infertility survey, by duration of time they have been waiting to conceive – 269
- 8.7. Infertile women's utilisation of infertility treatment providers in the community survey, by location (multiple response) – 277
- 8.8. Infertility clients' source of information about their present provider – 280
- 8.9. Reported reaction of husband and in-laws to infertility of 69 women in the infertility survey – 284
- 8.10. Outcome of first pregnancy of 59 women with secondary infertility in the infertility survey – 292
- 8.11. Outcome of abortion complications of 41 women who came to the hospital with complications, by marital status and childlessness status – 292

- A.1. Profile of women in community survey, by location – 337
- A.2. Profile of women in infertility survey – 338
- A.3. Profile of women in ANC survey, by location – 339
- A.4. Profile of women with complications of induced abortion, interviewed in the hospital – 340
- A.5. Profile of women who died from abortion – 341
- A.6. Profile of interviewed TBAs, by location (in numbers) – 342

### List of figures

- 8.1. Causes of infertility as perceived by Yoruba – 270
- 8.2. Factors contributing to negative reactions of husband and in-laws on infertility of wife – 286

### List of boxes

- 2.1. Networking – 36
- 2.2. Study locations – 38
- 2.3. Research diary – 58
- 3.1. Everyday religion – 69
- 3.2. Supernatural beings – 70
- 3.3. Working for government – 73
- 3.4. Cash – 74
- 3.5. Respect – 94
- 3.6. Sensuality – 97
- 3.7. *Olomo wewe* – 104
- 5.1. Self-induced abortion – 150
- 5.2. Doctor's ambivalence towards abortion – 152
- 5.3. Peers – 159
- 5.4. Clement's chemist shop – 168
- 6.1. Trying to get an illegitimate child acknowledged – 196
- 7.1. Grandmother pregnancy – 225



## Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired immune deficiency syndrome
ANC	Antenatal care
CHAN	Christian Health Association of Nigeria
D&C	Dila(ta)tion and curettage
DFID	Department for International Development
DHS	Demographic and health survey
EVA	Electrical vacuum aspiration
FGD	Focus group discussion
FOMWAN	Federation of Muslim Women's Associations of Nigeria
FP	Family planning
GH	General Hospital
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
IFH	International Family Health
IPAS	International Projects Assistance Services
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
IUCD	Intra-uterine contraceptive device
IVF	In-vitro/vivo fertilisation
JSS	Junior secondary school
LGA	Local Government Area
LIMH	Lagos Island Maternity Hospital
LSHMB	Lagos State Hospital Management Board
LUTH	Lagos University Teaching Hospital
MCH	Maternal and child health
MMR	Maternal mortality ratio
MVA	Manual vacuum aspiration
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OCP	Oral contraceptive pill(s)
PHC	Primary health care
PID	Pelvic inflammatory disease
PPA	Postpartum abstinence
PPFN	Planned Parenthood Federation of Nigeria
PSI	Population Services International
SFH	Society for Family Health
SSS	Senior secondary school
STD(I)	Sexually transmitted disease (infection)
TBA	Traditional birth attendant
TOP	Termination of pregnancy
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VA	Vacuum aspiration
WHARC	Women's Health and Action Research Centre
WHO	World Health Organization

## Glossary

The Yoruba alphabet includes the letters *ɛ*, *o* and *ɛ*; *ɛ* and *o* correspond to the opening vowel sounds in 'bet' and 'not' respectively, *s* is pronounced 'sh'. Yoruba is a tonal language with three pitches: high (´), medium (˘) and low (˙) – these pitches are not always indicated in texts; I also did not include them. Yoruba has no plural form of nouns; by numerals and/or the context of the sentence it has to be deduced whether plural or singular is meant (see also Eades 1980:xiii).

<i>Abiku</i>	spirit child
<i>Agan</i>	barren woman
<i>Agbẹbi</i>	midwife
<i>Agbo</i>	herbal medicinal drink
<i>Airọmọbi</i>	infertility
<i>Ajẹ</i>	witch
<i>Akọ sẹ jaye</i>	destiny
<i>Aladura</i>	spiritual African Christian churches
<i>Aran</i>	worm
<i>Aran ginisa</i>	<i>ginisa</i> worm living in the uterus, which may cause infertility
<i>Asejẹ</i>	medicinal soup
<i>Aşiri</i>	secrets that will cause embarrassment if revealed
<i>Aşisi</i>	sexually transmitted infection – gonorrhoea
<i>Baba</i>	father, address of respect for older men
<i>Babalawo</i>	Ifa priest / traditional spiritual healer / herbalist
<i>Èbu</i>	black medicinal powder
<i>Èda</i>	sperm flowing out of the vagina
<i>Elewe ọmọ</i>	herbalists, mostly women
<i>Emere</i>	wicked spirit
<i>Gbẹrẹ</i>	incision mark with medicine rubbed into it
<i>Idile</i>	patrilineage
<i>Igbadi</i>	waistband
<i>Ifa</i>	major Yoruba deity who is in direct contact with <i>Olurun</i> (Supreme God of Yoruba)
<i>Iju</i>	fibroid (in the uterus)
<i>Iya</i>	mother
<i>Iya abiku</i>	mother of an <i>abiku</i> child or children, mother whose children die young
<i>Juju</i>	magic, charm, spell
<i>Kaun</i>	potash, used in cooking <i>and</i> for self-abortion
<i>Ọba</i>	king
<i>Ogogoro</i>	local gin
<i>Ọkọ orun</i>	spirit husband
<i>Ọlọmọ wẹwẹ</i>	traditional healer specialised in reproductive health, literally: owner of small children
<i>Orişà</i>	deity
<i>Oruka</i>	ring
<i>Woli</i>	priest in <i>Aladura</i> Church

