



UvA-DARE (Digital Academic Repository)

Secret strategies: Women and abortion in Yoruba society, Nigeria

Koster, W.

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

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

General rights

It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations

If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: <http://uba.uva.nl/en/contact>, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

REFERENCES

- Abu-Lughod, L.
1986 Veiled sentiments. *Honor and poetry in a Bedouin society*. Berkeley & Los Angeles: University of California Press.
- Adeokun, L.A.
1983 'Marital sexuality and birth-spacing among the Yoruba.' In: Oppong, C. (ed.) *Female and male in West Africa*, 127-137. London: Allen & Unwin.
- Adetunji, J.A.
1996 'Preserving the pot and the water: A traditional concept of reproductive health in a Yoruba community, Nigeria.' *Social Science & Medicine* 43(11):1561-67.
- Akinyemi, Z., W. Koster-Oyekan, L.O. Dare & S. Parkinson
1996 *Reproductive health of Nigerian adolescents*. Lagos: The Society for Family Health.
- Akinyemi, A. & W. Koster-Oyekan
1998 *Emergency contraception in Nigeria*. Lagos: The Society for Family Health.
- Allen, D.M.R.
2001 'Mchango, menses and the quality of eggs: Women's perceptions of fertility risks.' In: Boerma, J.T. & Z. Mgalla (eds) *Women and infertility in sub-Saharan Africa: A multi-disciplinary perspective*, 223-239. Amsterdam: KIT Publishers.
- Amadiume, I.
1987 *Male daughters, female husbands. Gender and sex in an African society*. London and New Jersey: Zed Books.
- Ardener, S.
1975 'Introduction.' In: Ardener, S. *Perceiving women*, vii-xxiii. London: Dent & Sons.
- Babatunde, E.D.
1992 *A critical study of Bini and Yoruba value systems of Nigeria in change. Culture, religion and the self*. New York: The Edwin Mellen Press.
- Baerends, E.A.
1994 *Changing kinship, family and gender relationships in Sub-Sahara Africa*. Leiden: Women and Autonomy Centre (VENA), Leiden University.

- Barreto, T., O.M.R. Campbell, J.L. Davies, V. Fauveau, V.G.A. Filippi, W.J. Graham, M. Mamdani, C.I.F. Rooney & N.F. Toubia
1992 'Investigating induced abortion in developing countries: Methods and problems.' *Studies in Family Planning* 23(3):159-170.
- Bascom, W.
1969 *The Yoruba of South Western Nigeria*. New York: Holt.
- Bellamy, C.
2000 *The state of the world's children*. New York: UNICEF.
- Bleek, W.
1976 *Sexual relationships and birth control in Ghana: A case study of a rural town* (Dissertation) Amsterdam: Antropologisch-Sociologisch Centrum, Universiteit van Amsterdam.
'Induced abortion in a Ghanaian family.' *African Studies Review* 21:103-120.
- 1981 'Avoiding shame: The ethical context of abortion in Ghana.' *Anthropological Quarterly* 54(4):203-209.
- 1987a 'Lying informants: A fieldwork experience from Ghana.' *Population & Development Review* 13(2):314-322.
- 1987b 'Family and family planning in Southern Ghana.' In: Oppong C. (ed.) *Sex roles, population and development in West Africa*, 138-153. Portsmouth (N.H.): Heineman.
- 1990 'Did the Akan resort to abortion in precolonial Ghana? Some conjectures.' *Africa* 59(4):121-131.
- Bleek, W. & N.K. Asante-Darko
1986 'Illegal abortion in Southern Ghana: Methods, motives and consequences.' *Human Organization* 45(4): 333-344.
- Boerma, J.T. & Z. Mgalla (eds.)
2001 *Women and infertility in sub-Saharan Africa: A multi-disciplinary perspective*. Amsterdam: KIT Publishers.
- Boserup, E.
1997 'The economics of polygamy.' In: Grinker, R.R. & C.B. Steiner (eds) *Perspectives on Africa: A reader in culture, history and representation*, 506-517. Oxford (etc.): Blackwell.
- Brand, S.M.A.A.
2000 *Mediating means and fate. A socio-political analysis of fertility and demographic change in Bamako, Mali*. (Dissertation) Leiden: Universiteit van Leiden.
- Buckley, A.D.
1985 *Yoruba medicine*. Oxford: Clarendon.
- Bulut, A. & N. Toubia
1999 'Abortion services in two public sector hospitals in Istanbul, Turkey: How well do they meet women's needs?' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 259-280. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.

- Burns, A.A., R. Lovich, J. Maxwell & K. Shapiro
 1997 *Where women have no doctor. A health guide for women.* Berkeley CA: The Hesperian Foundation.
- Cadelina, F.V.
 1999 'Induced abortion in a province in the Philippines: The opinion, role and experiences of traditional birth attendants and government midwives.' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 311-320. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.
- Caldwell, J.C.
 1976 'The socio-economic explanation of high fertility: Papers on the Yoruba society of Nigeria.' *Changing African family project series*, Monograph no.1. Canberra: SOCPAC Printing.
- Caldwell, J.C., I.O. Orubuloye & P. Caldwell
 1991 'The destabilization of the traditional Yoruba sexual system.' *Population & Development Review* 17(2):229-262.
- Caldwell, J. & P. Caldwell
 1994 'Marital status and abortion in Sub-Saharan Africa' In: Bledsoe, C. & G. Pison (eds.) *Nuptiality in Sub-Saharan Africa: Contemporary anthropological and demographic perspectives*, 274-295. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Campaign Against Unwanted Pregnancy
 1996 *Abortion in Nigeria, Fact sheets.* Lagos: CAUP
- Carter, A.T.
 1995 'Agency and fertility: For an ethnography of practice' In: Greenhalgh, S. (ed.) *Situating fertility*, 55-85. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Coeytaux, F.M.
 1988 'Induced abortion in sub-Saharan Africa: What we do and do not know.' *Studies in Family Planning* 19(3):186-190.
- Coeytaux, F.M., A.H. Leonard & C.M. Bloomer
 1993 'Abortion'. In: Koblinsky M., J. Timyan & J. Gay (eds) *The health of women: A global perspective*, 133-146. San Francisco: Westview Press.
- Di Domenico, C., L. de Cola & J. Leishman
 1987 'Urban Yoruba mothers: At home and at work.' In: Oppong, C. (ed.) *Sex roles, population and development in West Africa: Policy related studies on work and demographic issues*, 118-133. Portsmouth, NH: Heineman (etc.).
- Djohan, E., R. Indrawasih, M. Adenan & H. Yudomustopo
 1999 'The attitudes of health care providers towards abortion in Indonesia.' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 280-292. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.
- Drews, A.
 2000 'Guardians of the society: Witches among the Kunda and the Yoruba.' *University of Leipzig papers on Africa.* Politics and Economics Series No.31.
- Eades, J.S.
 1980 *The Yoruba today.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- Ebigbola, J.A.
1989 'Education and contraceptive evolution among the Yoruba.' *ODU, a Journal of West African Studies* 36:150-165.
- Ehrenfeld, N.
1999 'Female adolescents at the crossroads: sexuality, contraception and abortion in Mexico.' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 368-386. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.
- Elu, M.C.
1999 'Between political debate and women's suffering: abortion in Mexico.' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 245-258. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.
- Engelkens, E.
1991 'De verwondering van een medicus over de medische antropologie.' *Medische Antropologie* 3(1):128-136.
- Ericksen, E. & T. Brunette
1996 'Patterns and predictors of infertility among African women: A cross-national survey of twenty-seven nations.' *Social Science & Medicine* 42(2):209-220.
- Fadipe, N.A.
1970 *The sociology of the Yoruba*. Ibadan: Ibadan University Press.
- Federal Ministry of Health
1994 *Nigeria country report for international conference on population and development: Cairo '94*. Lagos: Federal Ministry of Health.
- Feyisetan, B.J. & M. Ainsworth
1996 'Contraceptive use and the quality, price and availability of family planning in Nigeria.' *The World Bank Economic Review* 10(1):159-187.
- Figà-Talamanca, I.
1989 'An overview of research methodologies for the study of public health aspects of induced abortion.' In: Coeytaux, F., A. Leonard & A. Royston. *Methodological issues in abortion research*, 12-18. New York: The Population Council.
- Gammeltoft, T.
1999 *Women's bodies, women's worries. Health and family planning in a Vietnamese rural community*. Surrey: Curzon Press.
- Gbadegehin, S.
1991 *African philosophy: Traditional Yoruba philosophy and contemporary African realities*. New York: Lang.
- Gerrits, T., P. Boonmongkon, S. Feresu & D. Halperin
1999 *Involuntary infertility and childlessness in resource-poor countries: an exploration of the problem and an agenda for action*. Amsterdam: Het Spinhuis.
- Gijssels, M., Z. Mgalla & L. Wambura
2001 'No child to send: context and consequences of female infertility in North-west Tanzania.' In: Boerma, J.T. & Z. Mgalla (eds) *Women and infertility in sub-Saharan Africa: A multi-disciplinary perspective*, 203-221. Amsterdam: KIT Publishers.

- Good, B.J.
1994 *Medicine, rationality, and experience. An anthropological perspective.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Green, E.C.
1994 *AIDS and STDs in Africa. Bridging the gap between traditional healing and modern medicine.* Oxford and Boulder: Westview Press.
- Greenhalgh, S. (ed.)
1995 *Situating fertility.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Hallgren, R.
1988 *The good things in life: A study of the traditional religious culture of Yoruba people.* Loberod: Plus Ultra.
- Hardon, A.
1995 'Dealing with ambiguity constructively. Women and the contraceptive pill.' In: Van der Geest, S. (ed.) *Ambivalentiel/Ambiguïteit*, 35-40. Amsterdam: Het Spinhuis.
1997 'Women's views and experiences of hormonal contraceptives: What we know and what we need to find out.' In: *Beyond acceptability: User's perspectives on contraception*, 68-77. Reproductive Health Matters for the World Health Organization.
1998 'Contextualizing reproductive health care.' In: Streefland, P. (ed.) *Problems and potential in international health. Transdisciplinary perspectives*, 121-141. Amsterdam: Het Spinhuis.
- Haynes, J.
1996 *Religion and politics in Africa.* Nairobi: East African Educational Publishers.
- Henshaw, S.K., S. Singh, B.A. Oye-Adeniran, I.F. Adewole, N. Iwere & Y.P. Cuca
1998 'The incidence of induced abortion in Nigeria' *International Family Planning Perspectives* 24(4):156-164.
- Hoch-Smith, J.
1978 'Radical Yoruba female sexuality: The witch and the prostitute.' In: Hoch-Smith, J. & A. Spring (eds) *Women in ritual and symbolic roles*, 245-267. New York and London: Plenum Press.
- Hollos, M. & U. Larsen
1992 'Fertility differentials among Ijo in Southern Nigeria, does urban residence make a difference.' *Social Science & Medicine* 35(9):1199-1210.
- Howson, A.
1998 'Embodied obligation. The female body and health surveillance.' In: Nettleton, S. & J. Watson (eds) *The body in everyday life*, 218-240. London and New York: Routledge
- Huntington, D., B. Mensch & N. Toubia
1993 'A new approach to eliciting information about induced abortion.' *Studies in Family Planning* 24(2):120-124.

Illumoka, A.O.

- 1992 'Reproductive rights: A critical appraisal of the law relating to abortion.' In: Kisekka, M.N. (ed.) *Women's health issues in Nigeria*, 87-105. Zaria: Tamaza Publishing Company.

Imasogie, O.

- 1985 *African traditional religion*. Ibadan: University Press.

Indriso, C. & A.I. Mundigo

- 1999 'Introduction'. In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 23-53. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.

Inhorn, M.C.

- 1994a 'Interpreting infertility: Medical anthropological perspectives,' *Social Science & Medicine* 39(4):459-461.
- 1994b *Quest for conception. Gender, infertility, and Egyptian medical traditions*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Jacobson, J. L.

- 1990 *The global politics of abortion*. Worldwatch Paper 97.

Karanja, W.W.

- 1994 'The phenomenon of 'outside wives': Some reflections on its possible influence on fertility.' In: Bledsoe C. & G. Pison (eds) *Nuptiality in Sub-Saharan Africa: Contemporary anthropological and demographic perspectives*, 194-214. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Köbben, A.J.F.

- 1955 'Wet en werkelijkheid' ('Rule and reality'). In: Köbben, A.J.F. (ed.) *De wereld der mensen. Sociaal-wetenschappelijke opstellen aangeboden aan Prof. Dr. J.J. Fahrenfort*, 125-141. Groningen: J.B. Wolters

Koster-Oyekan, W.

- 1998 'Why resort to illegal abortion in Zambia? Results of a community based study.' *Social Science & Medicine* 46(10):1303-1312.
- 1999 'Infertility among Yoruba women: Perceptions on causes, treatments and consequences.' *African Journal of Reproductive Health* 3(1):13-26.
- 2000 *Fertility regulation among the Yoruba*. Lagos: Adetayo Printing Press.
- 2001 Involving traditional birth attendants in the prevention of unwanted pregnancy, unsafe abortion, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS. Unpublished training report.

Lacey L., V. Adeyemi & A. Adewuyi

- 1997 'A tool for monitoring the performance of family planning programmes in the public and private sectors: an application in Nigeria.' *International Family Planning Perspectives* 23:162-167.

Lamphere, L., H. Ragoné & P. Zavella (eds)

- 1997 *Situated lives. Gender and culture in everyday life*. New York and London: Routledge.

- Larsen, U.
1995 'Trends in infertility in Cameroon and Nigeria.' *International Family Planning Perspectives* 21(4):138-42.
- Lawson, E.T.
1984 *Religions of Africa: Traditions in transformation*. Cambridge: Harper & Row.
- Le Grand, A.
1992 'The abortion pill: a solution for unsafe abortions in developing countries?' *Social Science & Medicine* 35(6):767-776.
- Lin, L., W. Shi-Zhong, C. Xiao-qing & L. Min-xiang
1999 'First-trimester induced abortion: A study of Sichuan Province, China'. In: Mundigo A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 98-116. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.
- Lopez, I.
1997 'Agency and constraint. Sterilization and reproductive freedom among Puerto Rican women in New York City'. In: Lamphere, L. & H. Ragoné & P. Zavella (eds) *Situated lives. Gender and culture in everyday life*, 157-171. New York and London: Routledge.
- Luchok, K.J.
1993 *Social support and women's health during pregnancy and postpartum among the Yoruba of Nigeria*. Ann Harbor: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- MacCormack, C.P.
1982 'Biological, cultural and social adaptation in human fertility and birth: A synthesis' In: MacCormack C.P. (ed.) *Ethnography of fertility and birth*, 1-20. London: Academic Press.
- Maclean, C.M.U.
1982 'Folk medicine and fertility: Aspects of Yoruba medical practise affecting women.' In: MacCormack C.P. (ed) *Ethnography of fertility and birth*, 161-179. London: Academic Press.
- Maguire, P.
1987 *Doing participatory research: A feminist approach*. Amherst: University of Massachusetts.
- Makinwa-Adebusoye, P.
1991 'Pregnancy and abortion among urban youth in Nigeria.' *Etude de la Population Africaine* 6:40-57.
- Makinwa-Adebusoye, P.K. & B.J. Feyisetan
1994 'The quantum and tempo of fertility in Nigeria.' In: Macro International Inc. *Fertility trends and determinants in six African Countries. DHS Regional analysis workshop for Anglophone Africa*, 41-86. Calverton, Maryland: Macro International Inc.
- Makinwa-Adebusoye, P., S. Singh & S. Audam
1997 'Nigerian health professionals' perceptions about abortion practice.' *International Family Planning Perspectives* 23(4):155-161.

Mann, K.

- 1994 'The historical roots and cultural logic of outside marriage in colonial Lagos.' In: Bledsoe, C. & G. Pison (eds). *Nuptiality in Sub-Saharan Africa: Contemporary anthropological and demographic perspectives*, 167-193. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Marshall, G.

- 1970 'In a world of women: Fieldwork in a Yoruba community.' In: Golde, P. (ed.) *Women in the field: Anthropological experiences*, 167-194. Chicago: Aldine Publishing Company.

Matory, J.L.

- 1994 *Sex and the empire that is no more: Gender and the politics of metaphor in Oyo Yoruba religion*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Mayaud, P.

- 2001 'The role of reproductive tract infections.' In: Boerma, J.T. & Z. Mgalla (eds) *Women and infertility in sub-Saharan Africa: A multi-disciplinary perspective*, 71-107. Amsterdam: KIT Publishers.

Mgalla, Z. & J.T. Boerma

- 2001 'The discourse on infertility in Tanzania.' In: Boerma, J.T. and Z. Mgalla (eds) *Women and infertility in sub-Saharan Africa: A multi-disciplinary perspective*, 189-200. Amsterdam: KIT Publishers.

Meursing, K.J.J.

- 1997 *A world of silence. Living with HIV in Matabeleland, Zimbabwe*. Amsterdam: Royal Tropical Institute.

Middleton, J. & E.H. Winter (eds)

- 1963 'Introduction.' *Witchcraft and sorcery in East Africa*, 1-26. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul.

Misago, C. & W. Fonseca

- 1999 'Determinants and medical characteristics of induced abortion among poor urban women in Northeast Brazil.' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 217-227. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.

Molina, R., C. Pereda, F. Cumsille, L.M. Oliva, E. Miranda & T. Molina

- 1999 'Prevention of pregnancy in high-risk women: Community interventions in Chile.' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 57-77. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.

Moore, H.L.

- 1988 *Feminism and anthropology*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Mpangile, G.S., M.T. Leshabari & D.J. Kihwele

- 1999 'Induced abortion in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania: The plight of adolescents.' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 387-403. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.

- Mundigo, A.I.
1999 'Research methodology: Lessons learned.' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 465-476. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.
- Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds)
1999 *Abortion in the developing world*. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.
- Nencel, L.
2001 *Ethnography and prostitution in Peru*. London: Pluto Press.
- Ogunbekun, I., A. Ogunbekun & N. Orobato
1999 'Private health care in Nigeria: Walking the tightrope.' *Health Policy & Planning* 14(2):174-181.
- Okafor, C.B. & R.R. Rizzuto
1994 'Women's and health care providers' views of maternal practises and services in rural Nigeria.' *Studies in Family Planning* 25(6):353-361.
- Oke, E.A.
1996 *Baseline survey of socio-cultural factors affecting attitudes and behaviour on population and family life among the Yoruba*. Final Report. Ibadan: University of Ibadan.
- Okonofua, F.E.
1993 'Clinical consequences of unsafe and induced abortion and their management in Nigeria.' In: Okonofua, F.E. & A. Ilukoma, *Prevention of morbidity and mortality from unsafe abortion in Nigeria*, 7-16. New York: The Population Council.
1996a 'Infertility in Africa: The need for pragmatic intervention.' *Women's Health Forum* 1(2):1-2.
1996b 'The case against new reproductive technology in development countries.' *British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* 103:957-962.
- Okonofua, F.E., C. Odimegwu, B. Aina, P.H. Daru & A. Johnson
1996 *Women's experiences of unwanted pregnancy and induced abortion in Nigeria*. Summary report. New York: The Population Council.
- Okonofua, F.E., U. Onwudiegwu & O.A. Odunsi
1992 'Illegal induced abortion: A study of 74 cases in Ile-Ife, Nigeria.' *Tropical Doctor* 22:75-78.
- Olukoya, A.A.
1987 'Pregnancy termination: Results of a community based study in Lagos, Nigeria.' *International Journal of Gynaecology and Obstetrics* 25(1):41-46.
- Oni, J.B. & F. Oguntimehin
1996 'Conducting qualitative health research: Fieldwork experiences from focus group discussions in rural Ekiti society, Nigeria.' *Health Transition Centre Working Paper no. 2.3* Canberra: Australian National University, National Centre of Epidemiology and Population Health.

Oodit, G. & U. Bhowon

- 1999 'The use of induced abortion in Mauritius: An alternative to fertility regulation or an emergency procedure?' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 151-166. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.

Orubuloye, I.O.

- 1981 *Abstinence as a method of birth control: Fertility and child-spacing practices among rural Yoruba women of Nigeria*. Canberra: Australian National University.

Orubuloye, I.O., J.C. Caldwell & P. Caldwell

- 1993 'African women's control over their sexuality in an era of AIDS. A study of the Yoruba of Nigeria.' *Social Science & Medicine* 37(7):859-872.

Otoide, V.O., F. Oronsaye & F.E. Okonofua

- 2001 'Why Nigerian adolescents seek abortion rather than contraception: Evidence from focus-group discussions.' *International Family Planning Perspectives* 27(2):77-81

Owomoyela, O.

- 1979 'A fractioned word in a muted mouth. The pointed subtlety of Yoruba proverbs.' Paper presented at the twenty-second annual meeting of the African Studies Association, Los Angeles California October 31 - November 3 1979.

Oyewumi, O.

- 1997 *The invention of women. Making an African sense of Western gender discourses*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Paiewonski, D.

- 1999 'Social determinants of induced abortion in the Dominican Republic.' In: Mundigo A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 131-150. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.

Pearce, T.O.

- 1995 'Women's reproductive practises and biomedicine: Cultural conflict and transformations in Nigeria.' In: Ginsburg, F.D. & R. Rapp (eds) *Conceiving the new world order. The global politics of reproduction*, 195-208. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

- 1999 'She will not be listened to in public: Perceptions among the Yoruba of infertility and childlessness in women.' *Reproductive Health Matters* 7(13):69-79.

Peel, J.D.Y.

- 1968 *Aladura: A religious movement among the Yoruba*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Pick, S., M. Givaudan, S. Cohen, M. Alvarez & M.E. Collado

- 1999 'Pharmacists and market herb vendors: Abortifacient providers in Mexico City.' In: Mundigo A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 293-310. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.

Pool, R. & N.R. Washija

- 2001 'Traditional healers, STDs and infertility in Northwest Tanzania.' In: Boerma, J.T. & Z. Mgalla Z. (eds) *Women and infertility in sub-Saharan Africa: A multi-disciplinary perspective*, 241-255. Amsterdam: KIT Publishers.

- Rahman, A., L. Katzive & S.K. Henshaw
 1998 'A global review of laws on induced abortion, 1985-1997.' *International Family Planning Perspectives* 24(2):56-64.
- Razum, O. & A. Gerhardus
 1999 'Methodological triangulation in public health research – advancement or mirage?' *Tropical Medicine & International Health* 4(4):243-244.
- Renne, E.P.
 1993 'Gender ideology and fertility strategies in an Ekiti Yoruba village'. *Studies in Family Planning* 24(6):343-353.
 1996 'The pregnancy that doesn't stay: The practise and perception of abortion by Ekiti Yoruba women.' *Social Science & Medicine* 42(4):483-494.
 1997 'The meaning of contraceptive choice and constraint for Hausa women in a northern Nigerian town.' *Anthropology & Medicine* 4(2):159-175.
- Royston, E. & S. Armstrong (eds)
 1989 *Preventing maternal deaths*. Geneva: World Health Organization.
- Rubin, G.
 1975 'The traffic in women: Notes on the 'political economy' of sex.' In: Reiter, R.R. (ed.) *Towards an anthropology of women*, 157-210. New York: Monthly Review Press.
- Rylko-Bauer, B.
 1996 'Abortion from a crosscultural perspective: An introduction.' *Social Science & Medicine* 42(4):479-482.
- Scott, J.C.
 1985 *Weapons of the weak: Everyday forms of peasant resistance*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Sudarkasa, N.
 1973 *Where women work: A study of Yoruba women in the marketplace and the home*. Ann Harbor: University of Michigan.
- Sunby, J. & A. Jacobus
 2001 'Health and traditional care for infertility in the Gambia and Zimbabwe.' In: Boerma, J.T. & Z. Mgalla (eds) *Women and infertility in sub-Saharan Africa: A multi-disciplinary perspective*, 257-268. Amsterdam: KIT Publishers.
- Tai-hwan, K., J. Kwang Hee & C. Sung-nam
 1999 'Sexuality, contraception and abortion among unmarried adolescents and young adults: The case of Korea.' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the Developing World*, 346-367. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.
- Taiwo, B.A. & T.A. Olunlade
 1998 'Marriage among the Yoruba.' Lagos: Unpublished research report.
- Tan, M.L. & A. Hardon
 1998 'Participatory research on reproductive health. Introduction.' In: Hardon, A. (ed.) *Beyond rhetoric: Participatory research on reproductive health*, 1-8. Amsterdam: Het Spinhuis.

Taylor, S.E.

1986 *Health psychology*. New York: Random House.

Van den Borne, F.

1985 *Uit de school geklapt*. Nijmegen: University of Nijmegen.

Van der Geest, S.

1975 'Appearance and reality: The ambiguous position of women in Kwahu, Ghana.' In: Kloos, P. & K.W. van der Veen (eds) *Rule and reality, Essays in honour of André J.F. Köbben*, 50-65. Amsterdam: Universiteit van Amsterdam.

1994 'Het geheim. Antropologische en medisch-antropologische opmerkingen.' *Medische Antropologie* 6(1):132-155.

1998 'Participant observation in demographic research: Fieldwork experiences in a Ghanaian community.' In: Basu A.M. & P. Aaby (eds) *The methods and uses of anthropological demography*, 39-56. Oxford: Clarendon.

Varkevisser, C.M.

1973 *Socialization in a changing society. Sukuma childhood in rural and urban Mwanza, Tanzania*. Den Haag: CESO.

1995 'Women's health in a changing world. A continuous challenge.' *Tropical & Geographical Medicine* 47(5):186-192.

1998 'Social sciences and Aids: New fields, new approaches.' In: Streefland, P. (ed.) *Problems and potential in international health. Transdisciplinary perspectives*, 71-98. Amsterdam: Het Spinhuis.

Varkevisser, C.M., C. Idawani, M. Yulizer & P. Lever

2002 *Gender, leprosy and leprosy control. A case study of Aceh*. Amsterdam: KIT Publishers (in press).

Ventevogel, P.

1996 *Whiteman's things. Training and detrainning healers in Ghana*. Amsterdam: Het Spinhuis.

Warren, D.M., L. Egunjobi & B. Wahab

1996 'The Yoruba concept of health and well being: Implications for Nigerian national health policy.' In: Fairfax, III F., B.W. Wahab, L. Egunjobi & D.M. Warren (eds) *Alaafia: Studies of Yoruba concepts of health and wellbeing in Nigera*, 4-19. Iowa State University Research Foundation.

World Health Organization

1993 *Abortion. A tabulation of available data on the frequency and mortality of unsafe abortion*, 2nd edition. Geneva: World Health Organization, Maternal Health and Safe Motherhood Programme.

1996 *Studying unsafe abortion: a practical guide*. Geneva: World Health Organization, Maternal and Newborn Health/Safe Motherhood Unit, Division of Reproductive Health (Technical Support).

Zamudio, L., N. Rubiano & L. Wartenberg

1999 'The incidence and social and demographic characteristics of abortion in Colombia.' In: Mundigo, A.I. & C. Indriso (eds) *Abortion in the developing world*, 407-446. London, New York: World Health Organization, Zed Books.

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>Aṣi</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>Ẹbu</i>	black medicinal powder
<i>Ẹda</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>Olorun</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>Orişá</i>	deity
<i>Oruka</i>	ring
<i>Woli</i>	priest in <i>Aladura</i> Church

