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## 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 *s*; *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>Orişá</i>	deity
<i>Oruka</i>	ring
<i>Woli</i>	priest in <i>Aladura</i> Church

