

**Spousal Communication Styles and Subjective Social Status as Determinants of Marital  
Harmony among Academic Staff in Colleges of Education in Oyo Town, Oyo State**

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### **Certification**

This is to certify that this research work entitled “**Spousal Communication Styles and Subjective Social Status as Determinants of Marital Harmony among Academic Staff in Colleges of Education in Oyo Town, Oyo State**” was carried out by Seun Olubunmi ATOLAGBE with matriculation number LCU/PG/003173 in the Department of Arts and Social Science, Faculty of Education, Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria.

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## **Dedication**

This research work is dedicated to my entire family members, for their love and encouragement towards the success of this work.

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## **Acknowledgement**

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While the stated organisations and individuals have contributed to this study, I take sole responsibility for any faults identified in the work.

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## Abstract

There is a dearth of empirical studies in the area of spousal communication styles and subjective social status as determinants of marital harmony among academic staff of colleges of education in Oyo State. This study therefore investigated spousal communication styles and subjective social status as determinants of marital harmony among academic staff of colleges of education in Oyo Town. The study employed the descriptive survey research design. The population of 392 male and female academic staff of colleges of education in Oyo Town was sampled. Data were collected using a research instrument with three subscales ( $\alpha=.731$ ). Challenges in marriage may affect the general quality of life and work of colleges of education teaching personnel. Frequency counts, percentages, mean, and standard deviation, were utilised to answer the research questions. Multiple regression analysis was used to test the hypotheses at 0.05 alpha level. The results revealed that: there is a high state of marital harmony among academic staff of colleges of education in Oyo Town; positive communication style is the prevalent style used among academic staff of colleges of education in Oyo Town; spousal communication styles and subjective social status significantly jointly influence marital harmony of academic staff of colleges of education in Oyo Town ( $F_{(2,391)}=2.066$ ,  $Adj.R^2=.105$ ); spousal communication styles ( $\beta=0.096$ ,  $t=1.903$ ) and subjective social status ( $\beta=0.037$ ,  $t=.734$ ) significantly relatively influence marital harmony of academic staff of colleges of education in Oyo Town. It is recommended among others that, periodic intervention by counselling psychologists be implemented for academic staff in order to enhance their communication styles for marital harmony.

**Keywords:** Spousal communication styles, subjective social status, marital harmony, academic staff of colleges of education

**Word count:** 249

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## List of Acronyms

### Abbreviation

### Meaning

ANOVA

Analysis of Variance

FCES

Federal College of Education Special

NCE

Nigeria Certificate of Education

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