

The Role of Law in the Political Participation of Women in Nigeria

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Certification

This project entitled “The Role of Law in the Political Participation of Women in Nigeria” was carried out by Justina Oluwatosin KUTEYI (LCU/PG/ 001974), in the Department of Private and Business Law, Faculty of Law, Lead City University Ibadan, Nigeria under my supervision.

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Dedication

This research work is dedicated to Almighty God and to my children.

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Abstract

Women political participation in Nigeria politics has been an issue of concern in the Nigerian society at large because women are poorly represented in both elective and appointment positions in the political system. The level of women's involvement in their nation's political activities is a topic that most academic researchers tend to discuss with an engrossed attention and concern. This Paper examined and analysed the international state of laws on women political participation and women's right to political participation under the Nigerian law. The efforts and challenges Nigerian women are experiencing in the political space. It went further to look into the participation of women in the pre-colonial, post-colonial and contemporary Nigerian politics. Citizens of every country, irrespective of their gender, social class or tribe should be able to exercise their civic rights without facing discrimination or being relegated to the background, especially in a democratic country like Nigeria where political participating is believed to be " free zoned " for all qualified citizens regardless of their gender. However, the reverse seems to be the case in Nigerian political system. It also discussed the gender inequality in the country's political system which could be linked to certain cultural and traditional practices that have systematically conditioned and treated women as being inferior to their male counterparts. Finally, the paper pointed out some factors that hinder Nigerian women from actively participating in politics, hence provided some recommendations and measures that could be adopted to enhance the re-integration of women in the Nigerian political system.

Key Words: Women, Politics, Discrimination, Election, Nigeria, Political Participation.

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