FACTORS AFFECTING THE VIABILITY OF WOMEN IN
ENTREPRENEURSHIP: IMPLICATIONS FOR NIGERIA’S OIL
DEPENDENCY

BY

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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY –AFRICA

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A Thesis Submitted to the School of Humanities and Social Sciences in Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirements for the award of Masters of Arts Degree in
International Relations

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY –AFRICA

SUMMER 2017
DECLARATION

I declare that this Thesis is my original work and has not been presented to any other college, institution or university other than the United States International University-Africa

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This Thesis has been submitted for review with my approval as the university appointed supervisor.

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Supervisor

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Signature _____________________ Date _____________________

Ambassador Professor Ruthie C. Rono, HSC

Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs
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ABSTRACT

The main objective of the study was to investigate the factors affecting the viability of women in entrepreneurship as a result of Nigeria’s oil dependency. The study’s specific objectives were to investigate the rise of oil dependency in Nigeria and to determine the factors that led Nigerian women to self-employment, the extent to which women entrepreneurs can make an economic impact and used as a tool for liberate women financially and also how factors such as entrepreneurial training and skill development and government policy affect the success of women’s enterprises in the Nigerian context. The study targeted a population of women entrepreneurs in the Port Harcourt, Rivers State region, and used a stratified random sampling technique to draw a sample of 40 women entrepreneurs and 10 key informants. The study adopted a descriptive research design and used questionnaires to collect data from the respondents and in-depth interviews for the key informants. SPSS and Microsoft Excel were used to analyze the data collected and the findings presented in tables and charts. The findings point to a satisfactory state of affairs with regards to the presence of women entrepreneurs in various strategic sectors. The study also found that training and skill development are crucial in building the capacity of women entrepreneurs to start and sustain a successful enterprise and also for a sustainable livelihood. The study concluded there is need for governmental policies in place, to clearly define the roles of the government, NGOs and protect women in business. The study recommends that the Nigerian government puts in place policies to support women entrepreneurs; that NGOs re-evaluate their intervention measures to cater to the practical and strategic needs of women in local communities, strengthen existing institutions to be more involved in the process, awareness building and improve training and skill development approaches.
Firstly, I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to my supervisor Joan Kimani, for her guidance during my research. Her support and inspiring suggestions have been wonderful for the content of this thesis.

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And my greatest gratitude goes to my friend and sister Utobong Imo Hughes, because without her I would have never started this wonderful experience in Nairobi and who patiently worked with me with my figures and how to go about calculating them. It is only thanks to her that this thesis meets the proper standard. My little sister, no matter where you are in the world, you are always with me.
I am grateful to all the wonderful women I have met along the way and have contributed to the development of my research. In particular I would like to show my gratitude to Miss Tonto Dikeh from the NollyWood Industry, Miss Matopeda Abiola of FrockItRockIt, and Dr. Agada of the National Centre for Women Development.

I would like to thank Oli for his immeasurable patience during this past year of studies. Thank you for believing in me and supporting me.

Finally, my deepest gratitude goes to my family for their steadfast love and unconditional support.
DEDICATION

This Thesis is dedicated to all female entrepreneurs; with all women empowered we succeed.

And to the Almighty God who started a good work in me and was faithful to complete it.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAFCON</td>
<td>National Fertilizer Company of Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN-Women</td>
<td>United Nations Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YALI</td>
<td>Young African Leaders Initiatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-governmental Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>FMWASD</td>
<td>Federal Ministry of Women Affairs of Social Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBO</td>
<td>Community Based Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAP</td>
<td>Structural Adjustment Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPSS</td>
<td>Statistical Package for Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAC</td>
<td>Corporate Affairs Commission</td>
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<td>SMEDAN</td>
<td>Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency of Nigeria</td>
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DEFINITION OF TERMS

Entrepreneurship

The process whereby individuals become aware of business ownership as an option or viable alternative, develop ideas for business, learn the process of becoming an entrepreneur and undertake the initiation and development of a business (Stevenson; 1989).

Entrepreneur

An Entrepreneur is defined as a person who organizes and manages any enterprise, especially a business, usually with considerable initiative and risk (Chigunta; 2002).

Entrepreneurship Training

Teaching or imparting entrepreneurial skills (Axmann; 2004).

Enterprise

Activities carried out by people with a view to making profits (Chigunta; 2002).

Skill

An acquired and practiced ability or a qualification needed to perform a job or certain task permanently. It is a multidimensional concept as most jobs require a combination of skills for adequate performance, ranging from physical abilities to cognitive skills and interpersonal skills (Axmann; 2004).
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CHAPTER ONE

1.0. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Enterprise was a particularly important issue within the fields of economic, social and community development in the 1980s (Bujra: 2004). Even though the focus was exclusively on men which is grossly inaccurate, from the 1990s and into the new century this view on enterprise has taken a dramatic change. This study is aimed towards redressing the balance; demonstrate the potential for entrepreneurship by women, and to encourage young women’s efforts in income generation.

The study further assesses the socioeconomic opportunities open to and taken by women in the Nigerian Society. Previously marriage, children and a productive life in one’s husband’s home was the goal, the dream, and the reality for many Nigerian Women. However over time, many women have developed other objectives. This study discusses women’s use of the alternative discourse of entrepreneurial skill development and explores how these women have used their entrepreneurial skill to move beyond the physical and cultural boundaries posed by society. This study, identifies a number of ways on how women’s choices have been affected by changing economic and political structures, as well as identifying possible ways forward; in relation to projects aimed at educating young women and encouraging self-sufficiency- through the development of entrepreneurial skills and a feature of many ongoing projects.
Over time and as a result of the changes going on in the Nigerian society, young women are beginning to increasingly question their role in economic development against the backdrop of cultural and social norms that hindered young women from being actively involved in enterprise, at least till she had raised a family. This study focuses attention on some of the opportunities that exist for young Nigerian women the skills, aptitudes and resources that they need to mobilize in order to thrive as entrepreneurs. The study will further demonstrate Nigerian Woman’s enormous untapped potential which represents a major positive force for development across the Nation.

Nigerian Women have been engaged in entrepreneurial activities for many centuries (Abiona; 2011), however their contributions have consistently gone unacknowledged. They have produced and bartered goods and exchanged services both in their local communities and surrounding markets (Abiona; 2011). And more often than not, family survival has often depended on women’s enterprising spirit.

Women entrepreneurs have an important and increasing contribution to make to their immediate family budget and to the prosperity of the community. This study identifies a number of serious issues and implications for women entrepreneurs’ in both the rural and urban regions of Nigeria. This definition will hence be utilized in relation to the role played by Nigerian women as entrepreneurs’ and how these entrepreneurial skills have played out towards the move from oil dependency in the Nigerian region.
1.2. STATEMENT OF RESEARCH PROBLEM

Nigeria’s economic fortunes have changed dramatically. Formerly the wealthiest nation in sub-Saharan Africa (excluding South Africa), with tremendous oil reserves and with oil ultimately the source of about 95 per cent of Nigeria’s foreign exchange (Mustapha; 2016), Nigeria has now become one of the poorest of African nations in relation to its debt and available resources. In the mid-80s, the ‘Nigerian’ Structural Adjustment Program was initiated, and the consequences of this policy affected men and women differently. It changed access to specific forms and categories of work, it reduced government services; devaluation, loss of jobs, loss of purchasing power, and threats to not only livelihood but also life (Mustapha; 2016). As a result Women in Nigeria began working towards addressing their own needs, priorities; and also making their own economic decisions (Mrs. Nkechi Florence Okpara, Development Education Centre: 1995) with the hope of reflecting their economic and social importance. This position informed by their experiences living under SAP, and geared women towards change.

1.3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

This research will explore the following research questions.

1. What is behind the rise of oil dependency in Nigeria?
2. What factors led to the emergence of women towards self-employment?
3. What channels can be established as a means for women entrepreneurs, to contribute to women’s rights movement in Africa?
4. How can women’s participation in entrepreneur and skill development be utilized as a means to achieve liberation of women in Nigeria?

1.4. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY.

The general objective of this study is to document, analyze, evaluate and assesses the socio-economic opportunities that are open and have been taken by Nigerian women with relation to using their entrepreneurial skills in developing strategies to cope with economic adjustments and towards economic development and the promotion of self-employment among women. The specific objectives of the study include;

1. What is behind the rise of oil dependency in Nigeria?
2. What factors led to the emergence of women towards self-employment?
3. What channels can be established as a means for women entrepreneurs, to contribute to women’s rights movement in Africa?
4. How can women’s participation in entrepreneurial and skill development be utilized as a means to achieve liberation of women in Nigeria?

1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The development process affects women and men differently. The after effects of colonialism and the secondary position of Third World countries in the world economy exacerbate the effects of sexual discrimination on women. The infiltration of capitalism, leading to the modernization and restructuring of traditional economies, often increases the disadvantages suffered by women as the modern sector takes over many of the economic activities, such as food processing and making of clothes, which had long been the means by
which women supported themselves and their families. A majority of the new and better paid jobs go to the men, but male income is less likely to be spent on the family.

Prior to 1970 it was thought that the development process affected men and women in the same way (Anna Graf William; 1997). Productivity was equated with the cash economy and so most of women’s work was ignored. When it became apparent that economic development did not automatically eradicate poverty through trickle-down effects, the problems of distribution and equality of benefits to the various segments of the population became of major importance in development theory (Giten, S & Caren C: 1985). Research on women in third world countries have challenged the most fundamental assumptions of international development (Lourdes, B; 1987), a gender dimension has also been included in the study of the development process, and has therefore demanded a new theoretical approach.

A great deal of effort is being made in most developing countries to maximize the contribution of women in the developing processes. An approach articulated by third world countries, especially by feminists since the 1980s is mostly aimed towards empowering women through greater self-reliance. This approach has especially worked towards the distinguishing of the needs of women, which have been categorized into practical and strategic needs (Momsen & Kinnard: 1993). Practical needs are those such as food and shelter, which are required by all the family and have been said to be prioritized by women, on the other hand strategic needs are those which can empower women; entrepreneurial skill development, health and training facilitation, etc. These are however difficult to meet because most women, especially the poor have no time to reflect on such needs because of their immediate requirement of seeking satisfaction of their practical needs. Despite the difficulty in establishing program’s to address these strategic needs of women, because they
demand long-term commitments by governments. It is however important because addressing women’s strategic needs is vital if fundamental changes are to occur in any given society.

The Economic crisis in many Third World countries, enhanced by their secondary position in the world economy, has led to reductions in spending on health, education and food subsidies and the impact is heaviest on the women. Which is why it is important to reinforce and empower these women, because when women are able to respond successfully to crises they gain status in the household, in their communities and the society at large, as a result they have gained from learning to work with other women and negotiate successfully with other parties at a national and international level.

1.6. CHAPTER OUTLINE

This research paper is organized into five chapters with individual themes. **Chapter One** gives an introduction to the study, research questions, objectives, problem statement, and significance of the study, hypothesis, and theoretical framework.

**Chapter Two** is a comprehensive literature review. This chapter explores in detail, the literature that was used throughout this study.

**Chapter Three** gives a detailed explanation of the Methodology that will be used to carry out this study. It identifies the methods and strategies that will be applied to ensure accurate and useful information on the topic is collected.
Chapter Four presents the findings of the study in forms of tables, charts and figures and discusses the findings of the study.

Chapter Five discusses the conclusions drawn from the study and makes recommendations.
CHAPTER TWO

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this section is to develop a conceptual framework and come up with assumptions that can be followed through based on insights from authoritative sources and review of previous studies. The section will examine writings of study problems. It is broadly divided into parts, each dealing with the various themes that will run across the study. The first section gives insight to the definition of feminism from various scholars in general while the second part is an analysis of economic feminism and post-structuralism, an overview of women in modern societies. The next section examines the changing roles of women and the following section examines the dependency theory, an analysis of Nigeria’s oil dependency and sheds light on the importance of diversification and growth in Nigeria. The final sections are an analysis of the importance of entrepreneurial trainings effects on the success of women’s enterprises and the importance of government policy and its effects on the success of women enterprises.

This research uses feminism, modernization and dependency theories. These theories used in this study aim to explain equality, power and its distribution in the Nigerian society. Feminism provides an account of how social arrangements of patterned disparity can be internally rational yet unjust. In history, women movements educate communities by holding rallies, workshops and seminars to quickly disseminate messages, empower and encourage women towards self-employment. The dependency theory on the other hand views
underdevelopment in terms of relations between core and periphery states. It places emphasis on external and internal institutional constraints as well as economic development such as; high unequal and imbalanced relations that exists between both parties. In essence, leverage must represent the entire scope of changes by which an entire social system turned to the diverse basic needs and desires of individual and social groups within that system and moves away from a condition of life regarded as materially better.

2.2 FEMINISM

The hypothesis centered on feminism according to Steans, J; 2006, p56 gives insight to the disposition of prejudice in gender and the civics, competency affiliations and sexuality. The hypothesis also contributes an assessment to the social relations that exists in gender; while addressing the inequalities that exists between men and women, as well as the advancement of the franchise of women. According to Steans (2006), the feminist ideology is geared towards addressing the prejudice of women, coercion and desecration. The civics of feminist all over the globe are restricted by the divergence in the hypothesis, as feminism is conceived differently all over, in the 1970 and 80s this led to the labeling of these differences in the feminist ideology: labels of liberal feminist, radical feminist and socialists feminist.

Liberal feminists, seek an end to the exclusion of women from access to modes of empowerment and the under representation of women in the labor market and power. Ticnker, J. A. (2001) points out that liberal feminist seek equality in institutions overtaken by masculinity, and seeks measures to make such institutions more women friendly.
Cultural feminists on the other hand, associate class and gender, where they altercate that a class analysis alone exempts a lot of the experiences of a woman (an example being the 1980s, black women’s rights in the various sectors of the society). Socialist feminists argue particularly that class alone doesn’t explain why women are deemed responsible for productive and family labor, or why the poor are over-represented by women, or why gender inequalities are often executed as violence towards women, and why these negative attitudes towards women continues even after women are fully integrated into their respective societies. Liberal feminist on the other hand seek equal opportunities as men, while others only pursue the establishment of alliances across class lines.

Burchill, S. (2001) defines feminism as an analysis and acknowledgement of patriarchy and male domination, and the intentions in place to address it. According to Burchill, (2001) feminism ideologies are centered on highlighting the significance of women in history, to society and utter mostly to bring about equality between men and women in all ramifications.

Feminism points out the fundamental relationship between gender and power. It emerged as a movement and body of ideas that aims to enhance women’s’ status and power. However the very problems thrown up by this exercise impels a much more open ended recognition that the gender system could have its own logic and search for more satisfactory ways to analyze the interrelationship of the sex-gender system and class. Feminism will generally come in handy when analyzing the widespread economic development transition especially evident in Africa through the post-colonial period and the role played by women in the reshaping of the very core of economic development in Nigeria.
2.3 ECONOMIC FEMINISM/ FEMINIST POSTSTRUCTURALISM

Economic feminism will construct particular meanings of sexual difference, and hence illuminate the limitations of neoclassical economics for women and enable productive interventions into its discourse. Both feminist and non-feminist economic literature on women grew dramatically during the 1970s (Folbre, N; 1997), a fact which may be attributed to the behavior of families, the increased visibility of women in the labor market, and feminist interest in, and pressure on, the discipline following the social revolutions of the 1960s (Groenewegen; 2002). Since this time, historians of economic thought have demonstrated that there is an extensive history of feminist contributions to the economics discipline as well as considerable debate about the role of women in the economy. However the use of ‘feminist economics’ as a label for a recognized field of research within economics is a very recent phenomenon.

It was in 1977 that the term ‘feminism’ and ‘economics’ were first linked, when the Marxist feminist Ann Markunsen published her paper titled ‘Feminist Notes on Introductory Economics’, and wrote of the development of a feminist political economy and the importance of teaching ‘women’s economics’. Other papers making this connection include the paper by Anne Phillips and Barbara Taylor titled ‘Sex and Skill: Notes Towards a Feminist Economics’, which they argued, against conventional Marxists, that capital is not indifferent to sex and that definitions of skills are ‘saturated with sexual bias’ ([1980] 1986: 55); Martha MacDonald’s (1984) paper, ‘Economics and Feminism: The Martha Dismal Science?’, in which she surveyed the way in which women were studied within the economics discipline. She wrote that she was ‘intrigued by the possibility that feminism and
economics can be combined within the discipline and not just left to the sociologists’. She concluded that ‘we are a long way from a feminist economics; (1984: 170; source Groenewegen, P.; 2002).

From these early references it is apparent that feminist economics can be preliminarily defined as an independent research program (rather than, for example, merely an arm of neoclassical labor economics), which has its primary goal as the advancement of understandings of the disadvantaged economic conditions of women. Myra Strober defines feminist economics as ‘a rethink of the discipline of economics for the purpose of improving women’s economic condition’ (1995: source Groenewegen, P.; 2002). Feminist economics have adopted a number of feminist theoretical frameworks and approaches, so that different orientations towards traditional economics can be recognize within the writings which fall under the umbrella of feminist economics.

Early feminist economics relied heavily upon its theorization within radical, socialist and liberal feminist theory. Specifically, so long as the dominant understanding of the social roles of men and women was that they were biologically determined, and hence fixed, it was difficult for women to argue credibly that these social roles were inappropriate or unfair.

Women’s Economic Liberation has been a defining feature in the last century, with millions of women securing their rights in law, entering the workforce and contributing towards economic growth in the 1980s and 1990s (Butt, L. & McKenna, J.; 2010). The 21st Century is characterized by women who are no longer enfranchised and have become fully engaged in the workplace, women leading global corporations and countries, and also building
enterprises of every size. Hence liberation in this study refers to; the set of laws, regulations, practices, customs, attitudes and benefits that allow women to participate, contribute towards their immediate households, community, society and state at large; as entrepreneurs towards a more productive economy or towards sustainable livelihood.

2.4 MODERNIZATION THEORY: WOMEN IN MODERN SOCIETIES

Many recent studies dealing with women have attempted to explain the degree of sexual equality within a particular society: the Nigerian society in this study. Some have integrated their data with a general theory of women’s role in modern society or in social evaluation. But apart from those concerned with revolutionary situations, there have been relatively few attempts to develop a theory to deal with the historical and contemporary changes in women’s position in modernizing societies. Modernization in this study refers to the technological and socio-cultural changes that result from increasing integration into the world market economy. Hence this study will entail a brief discussion of the inadequacies of a common theoretical approach to modernization as it affects women.

Western industrialized nations are thought to be closest to an ideal of modern democratic treatment of women; legal freedoms, specifically the right to run for office in government, and own property, have been cited as evidence of women’s increasing equality in their respective societies and also these spread of certain rights and privileges is taken as evidence of an improvement in women's positions in developing countries (Goode 1963; Benard 1971; source Groenewegen, P.; 2002). Also, the growing participation of women in the labor force, and the use of entrepreneurial skills to earn an income as an index of modernization, has been
taken to imply increasing equality. Goode (1963) and Bernard (1971) in their works have associated the spread of female income earnings with a change to the modern conjugal family and female economic independence from traditional family structures. In contrast, the position of women in traditional societies is depicted as servile, dependent and certainly inferior to that of men. Hence modern changes that bring societies closer to the western pattern and standard are presented as advantageous to women. Raphael Patai, editor of Women in the Modern World (1967:1) made a typical statement of this view:

“Throughout the world women have moved towards greater freedom and have achieved greater equality with men both within and outside the family, in the legal, sexual, social, occupational, economic, political and cultural realms. The old order, which confined women to the home as servants, and helpers to their male counterparts, has been, or is in the process of being, replaced by a new one in which women increasingly undertake to fill many roles within the home, as wives, mothers, and homemakers, and outside it as entrepreneurs, partners and coworkers of men in all types of enterprises”.

Patai’s statement defines two polar alternatives: traditional ‘bondage’ and modern ‘emancipation’. Historically, it is suggested that the relative position of women has improved as a result of modernization, and prospectively this improvement will grow into every developing areas. However this theoretical approach has a number of weaknesses, being that it over simplifies the problem and fails to resolve the supposed tension that arises as a result of the declaration that equality increases with modernization and the recognition that equality is still a long way off in modern society.
2.4.1 THE CHANGING ROLES OF WOMEN

Many studies have shown that the role of women in development, indicate that specialization is a luxury only the better off can afford (Browner, C.H; 1986). It is evident therefore, that women have over the years, developed survival strategies. These strategies have demanded women in various societies, the Nigerian society inclusive to perform a multiplicity of roles in order to be economically independent. Women are everywhere responsible for their households, childcare and personal well-being. The lack of appropriate policies, institutional backing, policies and technologies to protect and encourage women, especially those in developing countries, slows down and in most cases hinders the process towards their emancipation towards being self-dependent individuals and effective entrepreneurs. The multiple roles women perform, as well as the priority their cultures give to their familial responsibilities and expectations, put severe constraints not only on the radius within which they can function but also on the kinds of entrepreneurial activity they can perform or venture into.

Women as entrepreneurs have an important and increasing role towards contributing to towards the family budget and to the prosperity of the community in which they reside in, yet these women encounter so many problems, as a result of the path they have chosen; as self-employed individuals.

2.5 DEPENDENCY THEORY

Dependency theorists tend to be a certain criteria of liberals, anti-colonialists, and/or pro-socialists; who argue that the uneven and unequal development of third world countries is
caused by external factors- namely neocolonialism by first-world governments and the exploitation of cheap labor by multinational corporations that funneled wealth from third to the first world. Dependency theorists refer to this first-world enrichment through third-world exploitation as the “development of under development” (Frank, A.G.; 1966).

Ghosh, B.N; 2001 define dependency as an articulation that explains the incommensurate affiliations between a set of countries. Where one is referred to as the metropolitan and the other the periphery. In this affiliation, the periphery is represented by developing countries; while the metropolitan are developed states. The gimmicks of dependency clarify the causes of economic development and underdevelopment. Where the dependency hypothesis takes into consideration that the social and economic development of periphery states is conditioned by external factors caused the metropolitan states; while pursuing their own development goals and as a result of these affiliations, the less developed states suffer the repercussions.

Development being a multidimensional course of actions that every state strives to achieve the process of development leads to a complete reformation and overhaul in the economic and social conformities within a state. According to Tadora, M. & Smith, S (2003) The process of development denote changes to the institutions, social and administrative framework within a state, attitudes, customs, and beliefs in order to hasten economic growth and reduce significantly inequality.
2.5.1 NIGERIA’S OIL DEPENDENCY

Shell D’archy Petroleum Company of Nigeria, an association of Shell and British Petroleum began exploratory work in the Nigerian region in 1937 (Dickie, R.K.; 1966). The company started drilling activities in Owerri area, and later on oil was discovered in non-commercial quantities in Akata in ONNA local government area of Akwa Ibom State in 1953 (Okoko, A.B & Nna, N.D; 1997). Shell-BP in search of marketable feasible amounts of petroleum discovered oil in Oloibiri, Bayelsa State; near Port Harcourt in 1956 (Dickie, R.K.; 1966). Other important oil wells discovered during the period were in Afam and Bomu in Ogoni; all near Port Harcourt and the production of crude oil began in 1957 & 1960 (Okoko, A.B & Nna, N.D; 1997).

At the ends of the 1950s; non-British conglomerates were given the permission to survey the region for oil resources, which led to the establishment of: Mobil in 1955, Tenneco- 1960, Gulf Oil, Chevron in 1961, Agip- 1962 and Elf in 1962. All these companies sited their operational headquarters in Port Harcourt.

According to the Department of Petroleum Resources; nearly all Nigeria’s reserves are concentrated in and around the Delta of the Niger River, which has been referred to as the most productive oil region in the nation; lying in the coastal Niger Delta Basin a.k.a Niger Delta or the South-South region; where 78 out of the 159 oil fields in Nigeria are located.(NNPC; 1996). Port Harcourt is an oil city, which hosts the operational headquarters of all the oil exploration, exploitation and service companies. There are 2 petroleum refineries, a petro-chemical plant, a fertilizer company (National Fertilizer Company of Nigeria-NAFCON), that also depends on petroleum gas. There are 5 thermal gas turbine
power stations the largest of which is the Afam Power Station; that generates 746 megawatts of power. There are also 2 major sea ports in Port Harcourt: (The Port Harcourt Port and the Onne Sea Port which is specifically dedicated to oil field operations). These ports identified exclude privately owned ones. There are also, over 200 factories and industries serving the oil industry in Port Harcourt, these include machine shops, mud engineering companies, piping fabrication yards, oil vessel fabrication and repair shops, instrumental and control engineering outfits, doping yards and lots more. These oil exploration and exploitation companies, drilling companies, marine companies, ship building and repair (dry docks) all have their headquarters in Port Harcourt, alongside over 300 companies along the Trans-Amadi Industrial Layout, which are not oil production related.

The IMF states that, the Nigerian Economy is densely dependent on the oil sector, which accounts for over 95% of export earnings and about 40% of bureaucratic revenues. However, the loss of the American Market in 2014 due to the impact of shale oil production in America, agitation by militants in the Niger Delta and the low price of petroleum products worldwide led to devastating economic consequences in Nigeria. In the year 2016, Nigeria fell into economic recession from which it is yet to come out. This has necessitated urgent need to diversify the economy and remove it from oil dependency.

The impact of oil on the city of Port Harcourt and its environs are both positive and negative. There is a very large technical workforce in the city; both men and women are into oil and gas activities. Most of the residents of Port Harcourt work in one oil service or the other. As a consequence of the concentration of high level manpower in the city, there are well developed residential estates like the Shell Rumukrushi Residential estate, which was built in 1964. The negative aspect is the pollution that comes with oil exploration, which includes
moral pollution, as well as environmental pollution because of the proximity of oil fields and gas flaring; which results in acid rains and sooty atmosphere. Other negative consequences that accompany the Oil City status of Port Harcourt include: high frequency of armed robbery, kidnapping, prostitution, shortage of accommodations and the development of slums as well as very high cost of living.

2.6. DIVERSIFICATION AND GROWTH

Diversification is necessary for sustainable growth. It entails transforming from an economy based on one commodity to a variety of diversified commodities. Despite the fact that the Nigerian economy has experienced a steadily growth over the last decade, that growth was however as a result of the countries dependence on a natural resource; which is exhaustible in nature and unsustainable (Igberaese, T.; 2013). On the other hand human capital, like skills, talents and the likes are inexhaustible and therefore characterized as sustainable.

Nigeria is primarily dependent on oil as the natural resources for foreign exchange and governmental revenue. However in order to sustain the economic growth of the country over a long-term period, it is necessary for the economy to diversify away from Oil onto other sectors (Igberaese, T.; 2013).

Women got involved in the oil sector. The advent of Seminars, trainings in entrepreneurship and the feminist movement have resulted in women acquiring diverse skills. These skills were applied to the oil industry, but are viable in other sectors of the Nigerian economy (Gordon, O.; 2017). For example; the women Mechanics and Welders, Electricians, Uniform
makers, as well as caterers have set up shops that service the oil industry and other sectors of the economy.

2.7. ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING EFFECTS ON THE SUCCESS OF WOMEN ENTERPRISES

Entrepreneurship development is often considered achievable through the implementation of policies to fuel new venture creation, however, one of the most effective means of developing entrepreneurial skills in any society is through educational programs (Filion, L.J & Dolabela, F.; 2007).

Economic growth heavily relies on entrepreneurship as a driving force and entrepreneurship education and training in particular can open major access routes to prosperity (Kourilsky & Walstad; 1997). Teaching and promoting entrepreneurship is beneficial for society as entrepreneurship can be a possible formula for economic growth (Kourilsky & Walstad; 1997). McMullan, W. & Boberg, A.L. (1991) argue that entrepreneurship training and education is one untapped cost effective, micro-economic tool the government has for developing its local economy.

Entrepreneurship education is critical in helping women to develop entrepreneurial skills, behaviors, attributes and to develop enterprise awareness, to recognize and to appreciate entrepreneurship as a career option. Entrepreneurship training is aimed at developing in women those skills, understanding, competencies and attributes which will equip them towards being innovative, create, identify and most effectively successfully manage personal, community, business and work opportunities, which revolves around working for
themselves. Consequently entrepreneurship education is a way to nurture women entrepreneurs and self-employed women, and to equip women with the adequate skills and attitude required to deal with the changing economic crisis in the world today (Dearing Report; 1997). McMullan, W. & Boberg, A.L. (1991), describes enterprise education as a highly valuable preparation for an evolving economy in which women have to operate in.

According to Olafunke Oladipo, Director UN-WOMEN in the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (2017), women entrepreneurship education has grown strongly throughout Nigeria in the past 5 years. This growth is reflected in the development of many new NGO sector championed entrepreneurship programs and initiatives, as well as the increasing research activities on enterprise education in general. Entrepreneurship education inspires women to start their own business, and equips them for the future; it also has a positive effect on women’s self-assessment and holds their perspective towards entrepreneurship as well as towards their overall aspirations and achievements in life.

2.8 GOVERNMENT POLICY EFFECTS ON THE SUCCESS OF WOMEN ENTERPRISES

Many countries, since the early 90s, have taken up a keen interest in, and have shown commitment to the concept of a policy in recognition of the needs and development of opportunities with regards to women. On the international stage, this interest has been supported via some initiatives by organizations including the United Nations and The Mandela Washington Fellowship, a flagship for Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI).
The scale of the problems facing a large proportion of women in Nigeria make planning and implementing policies and programs a daunting but yet urgent task for the state and non-state actors. Honwana & Boeck; 2005 state that the events women experience that shape, shake, and also the various actions that they have little or no control over pull or push them into various actions. As a result, women find themselves in a situation where they lack convenient space in which to organize themselves towards realizing their potential and meeting their own needs. Women-focused policies and programs are fundamental in defining a suitable path and establishing structures that will enable women use their skills, develop their potential and contribute to the economy and society at large. Well-designed policies have the ability to transform a society to one where women are recognized, supported and encouraged to actively participate in and contribute to national development. These policies are therefore viewed as critical in consolidation and amplifying women’s voices so that wrong assumptions and perceptions that have long persisted can give room to more informed ways of planning and meeting the needs of women.

A national women’s policy is a practical demonstration and declaration of the priority and directions a country assigns to the development of its women. It makes a political commitment to a certain vision and framework for facilitating meaningful participation and development of women. The United Nations Women (UN-WOMEN) (2004) outlines that the value of such a policy; provides an effective means of declaring to the nation the importance of women in national development, it acts as a sign and symbol of the commitment the nation attaches to its women, it challenges and appeals to women to mobilize their resources and participate effectively in national development, appeals to all to give priority attention to women’s concerns, and demonstrates the distinctive and complementary roles of
government, NGOs and women groups in women development, and calls for coordinated effort by the government to promote women’s needs and responses.

In addition to these values, a national policy for women communicates a nation’s vision for its women, by providing clear directions and priorities. It serves as a basis for equitable distribution of government resources to meet the needs of women, particularly the most disadvantaged, and outlines a collective strategy to address problems and issues affecting women. It raises the national profile of women, concerns and aspirations, and those organizations/ institutions specifically committed to their development.

2.9 CONCLUSION

Women make up about half of the Nigerian population and their enhanced status is bound to translate into improvement of the entire Nigerian society. The study discusses feminism and several authors’ points of view towards the theory. It discusses and gives an analysis of the views of economic feminism and feminism post-structuralism, as they relate to the study.

The study limits itself to the Nigerian women and sheds light on the factors affecting the viability of women in entrepreneurship. The study aims to examine the effect of oil dependency on Nigeria’s economic growth, and focus on how natural resources based growth strategies are detrimental to the long-term growth, and unsuccessful for the sustainability of Nigeria. Therefore, pointing out the importance of diversity for economic growth. The data used for the Nigerian oil dependency theory included gross domestic, exporting data, and reports from various indigenous organizations.
There are signs that the study of female entrepreneurship is developing and maturing. Interest in the topic, which has evolved over the past decade, is continuing to grow and it is expected that this new phenomenon will attract more interest from a number of academic disciplines. The available knowledge of women’s proprietors, their motivation, experiences, management styles and abilities will undoubtedly be beneficial to the rest of this study. In addition, there are signs that new research is beginning to build on studies that have been previously done. Therefore confirming the fact that, the process for new research with relevance to the study has begun; and with that methodologies and techniques will be changed, enhanced and strengthened to accommodate more accurate analysis. In terms of research on female entrepreneurs, the possibilities for the future of these women entrepreneurs are many and the outlook seems very promising.

2.10. CHAPTER SUMMARY

This chapter provides a literature review in line with the research objectives. The first section examines the Feminism theory and analysis other feministic views. The following sections provide an examination of the changing roles of women and women in modern society, while analyzing the modernization theory, it further gives an analysis of the Oil situation in Nigeria and examines the importance of diversification for economic growth and finalizes by identifying some factors that affect the viability of women in entrepreneurship in the Nigerian context.
CHAPTER THREE

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The aim of this chapter is to connect the data that was collected with the study objectives and ultimately to its conclusion. The chapter deals with data collection. The chapter details the approach that was used and conditions under which various stages of investigations were conducted, how contacts were established and how the main research instrument (questionnaire) that was used to collect the primary data was designed.

3.1.1 Objectives of the study.

1. What is behind the rise of oil dependency in Nigeria?
2. What factors led to the emergence of women towards self-employment?
3. What channels can be established as a means for women entrepreneurs, to contribute to women’s rights movement in Africa?
4. How can women’s participation in entrepreneurial and skill development be utilized as a means to achieve liberation of women in Nigeria?

3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN

According to Kothari (2008), research design is an arrangement of the conditions for collecting and analyzing data in a manner that aims to combine relevance to the research purpose, hence it can be said to be the structure within which research is conducted. To undertake the study a combination of qualitative and quantitative data was collected.
The study adopted descriptive research. The main objective of descriptive research is the accurate depiction of the characteristics of persons, situations or groups (Kothari; 2008). Kothari (2008) define descriptive research as a non-experimental research design used to observe (and measure) a variable when little conceptual background has been developed on specific aspects of the variables under study. Descriptive methods in qualitative research enable the researcher collect accurate data on and give a clear picture of the phenomenon being investigated. For this study, a descriptive approach was particularly appropriate because an accurate and authentic description of the factors affecting the viability of women in entrepreneurship; implications for Nigeria’s Oil Dependency was required. In addition, descriptive research was adopted because it determines and reports the way things are, in an attempt to describe things as possible behaviors, attitudes, values and characteristics. The descriptive research design entails the process of collecting data in order to answer questions concerning the current status of the subjects in the study. This approach helped the research to accumulate the critical knowledge and solutions to the factors affecting the viability of women in entrepreneurship in Nigeria.

3.3 POPULATION AND SAMPLE DESIGN

3.3.1 Population

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) population is defined as the entire set of relevant units of analysis, or data, which is of interest to the researcher. This study targeted Women Entrepreneurs in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria. Rivers State was the sample site and was used given the fact that Port- Harcourt has in past elevated several sectors of
women entrepreneurs and also programs, both governmental and non-governmental looking into ways of exacerbating women’s entrepreneurial skills; these programs have focused on different sectors of women entrepreneurs, looking into ways of improving their skills towards ensuring the viability of these entrepreneurial skills and livelihood.

3.3.2 Sampling design and sample size

The sampling design that was used was non-probability sampling method, also known as convenient sampling. This non-probability sampling method, specifically purposive sampling, employs purposive and judgmental selection of sample units from a target population. The process of selection provides unequal chance to population units being included in the sample, hence referred to as non-probability sampling.

The choice of this sampling method was due to distance (the researcher was in a different country when the study began and had to collect data in a different country (place of study-Nairobi, Kenya’s distance from population site in Nigeria). The overall population was also not well known and therefore, obtaining a sampling frame was very difficult.

Respondent entrepreneurs were purposively selected, and divided into clusters; nongovernmental organizations and women entrepreneurs (from the fashion, agricultural and skill development sectors) will be used in the research. This cluster was identified through newspaper columns on entrepreneurs, online-social media, and responses from correspondents and were considered for this study because of their experience and knowledge in this field and therefore, provided a clear description of the study that will
enable a procreation of reliable information. The study population comprised of two groups; 40 women entrepreneurs, with regards to obtaining their views and perceptions concerning the topic in consideration, and the second group 10-15 key informants; identified through a purposive snowball approach. The combination of diverse approaches enhanced the chances of getting more reliable data.

3.4 DATA COLLECTION

Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) defines data collection as the process of gathering pieces of information, facts or figures that are necessary for the research process and which can be analyzed to provide useful information from which conclusions may be drawn. A formal data collection process is necessary as it ensures that data collected is both defined and accurate and that subsequent decisions based on the arguments embodied in the findings are valid.

The study embodied the use of questionnaires, with selected response type items to which the participants responded on a five-point Likert scale ranging from (1) strongly disagree to (5) strongly agree (matrix type of questions), with selected response type items to which participants responded to a sample size of 40 respondent in the Port-Harcourt city region; these questionnaires were subject to adaptation from previous questionnaires pertaining to viability in entrepreneurship. And the questionnaire was constructed on the basis of the relevant literature regarding factors of viability in business and entrepreneurship.

The 10-15 key informants from different nongovernmental organizations were interviewed, and interviews were conducted until saturation was reached; these interviews lasted for about
30-40 minutes and recorded for the purpose of transcribing data. An interview guide centered on the factors of viability in entrepreneurship was used to explore, probe and answer the research questions of this study.

3.5 RESEARCH PROCEDURES

An informal item tryout (pilot study) was conducted. This involved administering the questionnaire to a few individuals, representatives of the target population, in small groups. The actual administration of the questionnaire was conducted after using the study sample. This was done after making changes based on respondent’s comments on the format, directions and on individual items. Upon the return of the survey questionnaires data analysis and tabulation were carried out and reported.

The study employed two sampling methods. Purposive sampling and stratified sampling techniques. The schedules for the purposive sample population; key informants were agreed upon with the respective respondents, time, interview guide remained the same for each respondent. In the other hand, the stratified sample population were administered their questionnaires with detailed instructions on how to fill the questionnaire and the questionnaires were not changed and remained the same for each case.

The final step was the analysis of the data. Data analysis was conducted so that the research questions could be answered. The researcher analyzed the data and the results were reviewed and summarized in a manner directly related to the research.
3.6 DATA ANALYSIS

Taking into account the objectives of the study, the methods of data collection employed necessitated appropriate data analysis. The analysis stage was an involving process that converted the raw data to information, thereby enabling meaning attribution.

The data obtained from the respondents was cleaned, coded and analyzed using SPSS V.24 and Microsoft Excel 2013. This enabled the researcher make meaningful interpretation. Quantitative analysis was used for descriptive purposes where numerical data was involved, while qualitative analysis was applied to non-numeric data. Data collected was presented in the form of tables, charts and figures.

3.7 ETHICAL ISSUES

An Introductory letter has been presented to coordinators from 10 Non-governmental organizations in the sample, and a consent form will be filled before carrying out the semi-structured interviews as well, and to ensure that respondents have adequate information and the power of free choice, which will enable them voluntarily consent to or decline to participate.

3.8 CHAPTER SUMMARY

The chapter provides a description of the research methodology that was employed in this study. The chapter outlines the design of the research, the population and sampling design and the data collection method. An outline of the research procedure and the analysis of the
data collected have also been given. Chapter four will present the findings of the study in forms of tables, charts and figures and discuss the findings of the study. While chapter five will discuss the conclusions drawn from the study and make recommendations.
CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 RESULTS AND FINDINGS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This study sought to examine the factors affecting the viability of Women in Entrepreneurship; implications for Nigeria’s Oil Dependency. This chapter presents the data collected from the study. The data is presented in the context of the study’s objectives.

The study targeted 40 women entrepreneurs and 10-15 key informants from governmental and non-governmental organizations in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria. Forty (40) questionnaires were administered to 40 women entrepreneurs based in the region. The response rate was 100 percent and the findings presented are based on feedback obtained from the respondents.

4.2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The information research instrument was designed so as to collect general information on the respondents and their enterprise. The data collected related to age, education level, duration in self-employment, type of business, organizational status of the enterprise and number of employees employed by the enterprise.

4.2.1 Age of the Respondents

The study sought to find out the age distribution of the respondents.
Figure 4.1: Age of Respondents

According to Figure 4.2 above showing age analysis of respondents, 25 percent of the respondents were aged between 18-25 years, 52 percent between 26-35 years and 20 percent were aged between 36-45 years, while another 3 percent were aged over 45 years. The study above revealed that majority of the respondents was aged between 26-35 years.

4.2.2 Level of Education of Respondents

Figure 4.3 below shows the highest level of education the respondents had attained. Fifteen (15) percent had reached university level, 30 percent had attained tertiary level of education, and 43 percent had attained secondary school level, while 13 percent had attained primary school level of education. Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that the majority of the respondents had attained secondary school level of education and above.
4.2.3 Years in Self-employment

According to Figure 4.3 below, showing the number of years the respondents have been self-employed, 7 percent have been self-employed for less than 1 year, 30 percent between 1-3 years, while 28 percent have been in self-employment for 3-6 years, and 35 percent had been self-employed for more than over 6 years. Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that the majority of the respondents had been in self-employment for more than 3 years.
4.2.4 Type of Business Enterprise

Figure 4.4 below shows the results obtained in relation to the type of business the respondents were engaged in. The results show that 42 percent of the respondents were involved in the Provision of Services (make up services, hospitality service; hotels, restaurants, bakeries, eateries, cleaning services), 40 percent of the respondents were mainly engaged in Retail Business (clothing stores, clothing lines, fabric stores), 13 percent indicated that their business was Agricultural based (poultry, livestock, fishery, cold rooms), while 5 percent were engaged in Entertainment (NollyWood Industry, Music Industry). Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that most of the respondents were engaged in Service provision businesses.
4.2.5 Operational Status of Enterprise

The study sought to establish the organization of the respondent’s enterprises.

Figure 4.5: Operational Status of Enterprise
The study found that 48 percent of the respondents operated as sole proprietors, 40 percent as sponsored businesses (NGO/ Governmental championed women entrepreneurial empowerment initiatives), 5 percent as community based organizations, 5 percent as self-help groups and 2 percent as private companies. The study therefore established that majority of the enterprises were sole proprietorships.

4.2.6 Number of Employees

Figure 4.6 below shows the number of employees engaged by the enterprise.

![Number of Employees](image)

**Figure 4.6: Number of Employees**

The results indicate that 82 percent of the respondents employed 5 or less people in their business, 2 percent had between 6-10 employees. 8 percent employed between 11-15 employees while another 8 percent had more than 15 employees. The study established that majority of the enterprises had not more than 5 employees.
4.3 RISE OF OIL DEPENDENCY IN NIGERIA

The first objective of the study was to determine the extents of Nigeria’s oil dependency.

4.3.1 Implications for Nigeria’s Oil Dependency

The study revealed the duration in years of respondents knowledge of the Nigerian oil crisis and its effects on the economy of the nation. Figure 4.7 below shows that 47 percent of the respondents have been following up with the oil situation for 2 years or less, 45 percent have been following up for 3-5 years, 5 percent have been following up for 6-8 years, while another 3 percent have been following up for more than 8 years. The study revealed that majority of the respondents had been actively following up with the Nigerian oil situation and the economy of the nation for not more than 5 years.

Figure 4.7: Update on Nigeria’s Oil Situation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>No. of industries</th>
<th>Workers Engaged</th>
<th>Ownership Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rivers</td>
<td>PLC</td>
<td>Private Ltd</td>
<td>Statutory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.H</td>
<td>2290</td>
<td>45270</td>
<td>1510</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 4.8. Distribution of Industrial Establishments**


**Fig 4.8** is an extract from a large table listing industrial establishments in the various states in Nigeria. Rivers State (PH) has the largest number of Public Limited Liability companies, whose main attraction is the oil industry.

**4.4 MOTIVATION FOR WOMEN TOWARDS SELF-EMPLOYMENT**

Regarding motivation towards self-employment, more than half of the respondents spoke about access to opportunities, improving their livelihoods and that of their immediate family or improving themselves and their community at large, funding to enable women to start their business or to expand/improve an already existing business. A few respondents spoke about empowerment and creating employment for other women. The most prevalent theme raised was the access to income (creating/generating income). The following comments from respondents are some examples that illustrate this point: “to start a business”, “to enable
women generate our own source of income”, “to provide capital so that women can start businesses”, “for sustainability in their lives”, “to improve enterprise knowledge”, “to help create a framework for women in business and how to start a business”, “to uplift standards of living”, “to empower young women and create employment”.

4.4.1 Number of Times Benefits has been obtained from Women Entrepreneurial Empowerment initiatives

The study wanted to establish the number of times respondents have obtained benefits from programs and initiatives geared towards empowering women towards entrepreneurial development.

![Number of Times Benefits has been obtained from Women Entrepreneurial Empowerment initiatives](image)

**Figure 4.9: Number of Times Benefits has been obtained from Women Entrepreneurial Empowerment initiatives**

Figure 4.9 indicates that 70 percent of the respondents had obtained some kind of benefits from women entrepreneurial empowerment projects once, 27 percent twice, while 3 percent
had obtained at least three times. The study established that majority of the respondents have obtained benefits at least one time.

4.4.2 Purpose of Women Entrepreneurial Empowerment Programs/ Projects

The study sought to find out from the respondents, the impacts of such projects/ programs on the women.

![Purpose of Women Entrepreneurial Empowerment Programs/Projects](image)

**Figure 4.10: Purpose of Women Entrepreneurial Empowerment Programs/ Projects**

Figure 4.10 above shows that 55 percent of the respondents used such programs towards sustainable livelihood and development (Krantz, L.; 2001), described sustainable livelihood as livelihood that can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future), while the other 45 percent started a business. The study established that majority of the respondents used these programs to sustain their livelihoods.
4.5 CHANNELS ESTABLISHED FOR WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS, TO CONTRIBUTE TO WOMEN’S RIGHTS MOVEMENTS

The study wanted to find out means through which women entrepreneurs, can contribute to women’s rights movement in Africa. The study found that 20 respondents (50 percent) recommend attending Entrepreneurial training, 16 respondent recommended workshops, and 11 respondents (28%) recommended business development skill training. Only 4 respondents (10%) have no recommendations.

Figure 4.11: Channels of Contribution
4.5.1 Women Rights through Women’s Economic Empowerment

In terms of economically empowering women, the study found that majority of the respondents held a positive opinion of this means of upholding women’s rights. The results are shown in Figure 4.12 below.

Figure 4.12: Opinion about women’s economic empowerment

4.6 ENTREPRENEURSHIP & SKILL DEVELOPMENTS EFFECTS ON THE LIBERATION OF WOMEN IN NIGERIA

The last objective of this study was to determine the extent to which entrepreneurship and skill development affects the liberation of women in the nation.
4.6.1 Women’s liberation before and after Entrepreneurship & skill development

The study wanted to establish if respondents had experienced liberation before and after turning to entrepreneurship and skill development or starting their businesses.

![Liberation before and after Entrepreneurship & skill development](image)

**Figure 4.13: Liberation before and after Entrepreneurship & skill development**

Figure 4.13 above shows that 43 percent of the respondents had some form of liberation before they became entrepreneurs, while 57 percent had not encountered any form of liberation before they became entrepreneurs. After becoming entrepreneurs and starting their business, only 32 percent of the respondents had not experienced any form of liberation. The study established that majority of the respondents had not experienced liberation before and after they became entrepreneurs or started their own business.
4.6.2 Relationship between the Need for Economic Diversity in the Country and Enterprise Development

To gain further insight into the relationship between the need for diversifying the economy/source of income in the country and development of enterprise amongst women, a likert scale was used with statements and two variables. A rating of “Strongly Agree” had a score of 5 assigned to it, “Agree” had a score of 4 assigned to it, “Neutral” had a score of 3 assigned to it, “Disagree” had a score of 2 assigned to it and “Strongly Disagree” had a score of 1 assigned to it.

A weighted mean score was used to interpret the result. A mean score of 5 – 3.5 was taken to mean that the respondents agreed with the item. A mean score of 3.4- 2.6 was taken to mean that the respondents were indifferent to the item. A mean score of 2.5- 1.0 was taken to mean that the respondents did not agree with the item. The results are presented in Figure 4.13 below.

![Relationship between Economic Diversity and Enterprise Development](image_url)
Figure 4.14: Relationship between Economic Diversity and Enterprise Development

The results indicate that the respondents agree that there is a relationship between need for economic diversity in the country and enterprise development. All the items posted a mean score of 3.5 and above.

4.6.3 Government Policy Effects on the success of Women in Entrepreneurship

The study also examined the extent to which government policy would affect the success of women enterprise. To gain further insight into Policy and the success of women enterprise, a likert scale was used with statements on the two variables. A rating of “Strongly Agree” had a score of 5 assigned to it, “Agree” had a score of 4 assigned to it, “Neutral” had a score of 3 assigned to it, “Disagree” had a score of 2 assigned to it and “Strongly Disagree” had a score of 1 assigned to it. A weighed mean score was used to interpret the results. A mean score of 3.4- 2.6 was taken to mean that the respondents had a mixed reaction to the statement. A mean score of 2.5- 1.0 was taken to mean that the respondents did not agree with the statement.
Figure 4.15: Relationship between Government Policy and the success of women enterprise.

The results in Figure 4.15 indicate that the respondents agree that the Nigerian government has prioritized the needs of its women as the item posted a mean score of 3.7, however, the respondents could neither agree nor disagree as to whether there was a relationship between government policy and the success of women enterprise as 7 of the 8 items posted a mean score below 3.4.
4.7 DISCUSSION ON THE FINDINGS OF THE RESEARCH

4.7.1. Oil Dependency in Nigeria

The study established that Nigeria’s Oil Dependency and the struggles associated with this condition has been going on for a while now, majority of the respondents only have knowledge of the situation for not more than five years. This finding is in agreement with the fact that governments need to deploy special focus to create awareness with regards to the funds and economic state of the Nation.

It also established that Nigeria’s economy has for many years been monopolized by the petroleum sector. Oil being the largest source of income in Nigeria, has no doubt mustered a respectable percentage of the country’s GDP. However, the same amount of diligence given to the oil sector, be extended to other sectors that show potential in generating income for the country, there will most definitely be a positive impact on the economic activities in Nigeria.

Over dependency on oil has plague the development of other difference sources of revenue, which can be tapped into, this plague has also affected greatly the Port Harcourt, River State region; because of its large deposits of the oil resource, which makes it a constant attraction and in the long run threatens the social, economic development of the people and state- at both a small and large capacity, therefore leaving the region seriously incapacitated by the oil dependency paradox.

4.7.2 Towards Women seeking self-Employment

The study also found that the main motivator for women towards self-employment was the opportunity to generate funds to carry on business. Self- employment is very attractive to
women who previously lacked income and how to sustainably generate one. The study finding agrees with Myra Strober’s (1995) feminist economics as ‘a rethink of the discipline of economics for the purpose of improving women’s economic condition’. This indicates that entrepreneurship is a very good way to facilitate women’s access to finance, which makes it an appropriate source of economic liberation and income generation.

4.7.3. Factors Affecting the Viability of Women in Entrepreneurship

Women Entrepreneurs in Nigeria are faced with the issue of inadequate funds. It cannot be denied that funds are a major requirement in the startup and for the growth of an enterprise. Women entrepreneurs has constantly lamented over insufficient funds/ capital to startup a business, while the educated women express concerns over the inability and difficulty they experience in securing a loan from a financial institution in order to start up or sustain their businesses.

There is also the factor of poor and in some cases absence and insufficient entrepreneurial and skill development training and acquired knowledge of entrepreneurship. This factor remains a constant barrier to the growth of these women’s businesses, because in order to start up an enterprise they need to have a vast reservoir of knowledge and skill in sales, marketing, management and finances. In Nigeria this deficiency has led governmental and nongovernmental organizations/ institutions to introduce entrepreneurial educational programs and initiatives.

The absence of governmental policies and regulatory measures for entrepreneurs and their businesses, has also negatively affected the establishment of enterprises among Nigerian
women. The absence of policies and measures in place discourages women from venturing into entrepreneurship and investing in the process, owing to the lack of protection for their enterprises and other numerous formalities involved in the establishment of a business, unstable policy environment also affects the growth of their enterprise negatively.

Another factor affecting the viability of women in entrepreneurship in Nigeria IS due to the impotent basic infrastructure in Nigeria, where entrepreneurs face the challenge of their cost management outweighing the profit made from their businesses. An example being the lack of electricity, where businesses owners have to constantly run generators to supply power for their businesses, with the high rate of fuel, the cost of running the business becomes much more than the profit/ income it generates. Such factors cause women entrepreneurs to go out of business within a short period after startup.

Finally, the high level of insecurities in Nigeria, especially in the Port Harcourt, Rivers State region; kidnapping, Militant Insurgencies and threats remains a major problem confronting the establishment and growth of enterprises in the country. Because during periods of unrest in most states women are victimized, hence they tend to play the safe card, in order to avoid harassment, looting, etc women entrepreneurs close down their businesses , while aspiring entrepreneurs remain reluctant to venture into business because of the risks around them.
4.7.3.1 Strategies to Tackling the Factors Affecting the Viability of Women in Entrepreneurship

There is no doubt that the problems confronting the growth and development of women in enterprise are numerous. Haven identified the factors affecting their viability, the need to identifying the possible ways of addressing them is imperative.

The provision of adequate funds to entrepreneurs remains one of the outstanding panaceas to the challenges confronting the establishment, growth and development of Enterprises in Nigeria. Most entrepreneurially minded individuals desire to start a business but the financial constrains hinder them. The Nigerian Government should therefore make accessible loan facilities available to entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs.

The provision of adequate infrastructural base remains a major driving force in ameliorating the plights of Entrepreneurs. When there is reliable and dependable infrastructure on ground, this will serve as a measure in boosting the growth and development of enterprises in the country.

The need to strengthening Entrepreneurship Education across all levels of the nation’s educational sector will surely go a long way in equipping prospective women in entrepreneurship with the necessary entrepreneurial skills and technical knowledge required to establish, grow and develop their businesses.

The Government should put in place the necessary machinery so as to streamline the policies and regulations covering Women Entrepreneurs in Nigeria.
The problem of insecurity in the nation, especially in the Oil producing regions is attributed to many factors. However the Nigerian government should dedicate effective conflict, peace and resolution and she preventive measures to safeguard the livelihood of the people, which would reduce the likelihood of outbreak of violent disputes within the region and also create a sense of ownership, therefore encouraging the habitats of the region to ensure safety.

4.7.4. Women enterprises and their impact on the community

Women’s economic projects must be considered holistically in the sense of looking at them in the context of the wider community; they both have an impact on it and are affected by it. The complex interplay between the formal and informal sectors needs to be understood. As the oil crisis in Nigeria and effects from the 1980’s structural adjustment policies have bitten deeper, the informal sector has become increasingly important in providing for the needs of women. Well-designed projects can contribute to the community in such ways as creating services at affordable prices, and increasing self-employment and community access to products.

On the negative side, women enterprise projects can divide communities through support for one section of the community- the aided group is interested in maintaining their own power. This can lead to antagonism between those in the group and outsiders who feel envious. In addition, external factors such as the political and economic climate, legislation, and policies can profoundly affect an enterprise’s viability.
4.7.5 Gap between men and women: Inequality and Conflict

According to Cramer; 2005, Inequality can institute conflict, the general unanimity that high levels of inequality, and if left uncurbed; agitate conflict. Caprioli; 2005 states that gender inequality in; finances, the labor force, and the social context of healthcare has been relatively amalgamated with conflict. The United Nations Development Program; 2011 Nigerian Human Development Summary of 2008; Shows that conflict is inevitable when there exists a gap between men and women; with respect to livelihood and general well-being.

Figure 4.16 Nigeria’s Human Development Summary by Region showing the Gap between men and women.
Fig. 4.16 above shows that with high-rise of poverty, Northern Nigeria lags in both gender development and empowerment. These outcomes in Southern Nigeria; where Port Harcourt, Rivers State is located compared with the Northern Nigeria, and the characteristics of the rise of conflict in these region suggests the association between gender inequality with conflict, as the regions in Nigeria characterized with gender inequality are more likely to be involved in violent intrastate disputes as a result of the regional inequalities in the sustainability of economic growth in the various regions of Nigeria.

Also in very many cases in Nigeria, women at every level earn less than their male counterparts, this is quite clear that in Nigeria structural barriers have to be removed in order to resolve the financial discrepancy of men and women. As a consequence of this discrimination, Nigerian women are geared towards the approach of empowerment and economic liberation through entrepreneurship; through which they can earn a living. Marrison et al; 2007 point out that the cost of inequality between men and women are numerous; but for the sake of this study these inequalities refer to the gap in opportunities of making a livelihood and therefore these gaps create an atmosphere for conflict, disagreement and disputes.
4.7.6 Channels Women Entrepreneurs Have Established Towards Women’s Rights Movement

Majority of the respondents had benefited from women entrepreneurial empowerment programs only once. This finding agrees with Raphael Patai (1967) on changes that bring societies closer to the western pattern and standards which are presented as advantageous to women. The study found majority of the respondents had, in addition to receiving these trainings and other benefits have been able to enhance their sustainability as entrepreneurs and had a better chance of creating a successful business, business skills, mentorship and create a network support system that works for them.

The study established a positive attitude towards women rights movement in Africa, and established that women entrepreneurs contribute to the action through their better utilization of resources, improved turn over and reduced reliance on public funds. And majority of the respondents agreed that the success of women as entrepreneurs had greatly improved.

4.7.7 Economic Diversity

Economic diversity was found to have brought about a significant increase in the success of nurturing and developing new enterprises. Women know they have an alternative source of finance that is easily accessible and women-friendly terms allow them start, and expand their own business and generate their own income. Improving the business environment in the informal sector is particularly important for the economic diversity of a nation, which is particularly faced by challenges with regards to its dependence on a natural resource. Which agrees with the fact that diversification is necessary for the sustainable growth of a country.
Entrepreneurship as a form of diversified economics has proved to be a continuous success. There is a relationship between need for economic diversity and enterprise development.

Enterprises can be regarded as a means to an end for economic growth; especially for developing economies. This is because of its in-depth labor characteristics, capability to create new and diverse economic and job openings. In Nigeria, it can be said to be a channel for the economic growth of the country and a means to mitigate poverty and create employment opportunities.
Figure 4.17 Framework showing how women in entrepreneurship can lead to diversity in the Nigerian economic activities

**Why women turn to entrepreneurship**

- Unemployment
- To generate an income/financial support
- For the sake of starting up a business
- Favorable market environment
- Pressure from children, relatives
- Loss of husband/bread winner
- Boredom

**How it will lead to economic diversity activities**

- Increase in national income of the country
- Job creation
- Poverty reduction
- Income and wealth creation
- Growth in the non-oil sectors
- Reduced rural migration
- Financial independence, income and wealth distribution

**Factors affecting the viability of women in entrepreneurship**

- Deficient capital
- Defective market research
- Lack of fundamental entrepreneurial and skill development training
- Market competition
- Ignorance in the engagement/employment of the right individuals
- Cost Management versus Profit
- Impotent basic infrastructure to sustain business (both physical and social infrastructure lacking in Nigeria)
- Social/cultural constraints and barriers
- Policy deficiency
Tackling the factors affecting women in entrepreneurship, will lead to diversity in economic through the economic potential of Nigeria and steer it towards independence in industrialization through the use of local manpower, and materials, reduction of unemployment and poverty and facilitate the growth of the non-oil producing sector. As well as ensure the distribution of growth and development in various economically promising sectors (Fig. 4.4 depicts the various sectors women entrepreneurs have occupied), these growth distribution will equally entail the distribution of wealth and income throughout the country. There is also the reduction in the flow of individuals from the rural to urban areas; because when the vast population of most rural areas, being women are gainfully engaged and employed as a result of them turning to entrepreneurship, growing an enterprise, employing the youth and in the long run boosting their national economy (Fig 4.6. shows that 8% of the respondents had more than 15 employees, a percentage that is more likely to increase with the success rate/ stories of women enterprises).

4.7.8 A Program approach: women enterprises in relation to other interventions

Enterprise projects should fit into a wide strategy for democratizing the political and economic climate of the country. They should be designed and supported in such a way as to be an integral part of women’s rights movements and become one more tool in the hands of women for their own empowerment. NGOs have kicked off numerous entry points such as projects centered on community based health-care, literacy and informal education, crèches, improved agricultural techniques and community activities and reach-out programs. These may help identify women’s perceived needs in a more strategic manner. There is need to identify the fundamental underlying problems and look imaginatively at ways of tackling
them, areas that are then identified as particularly important can now be tackled by NGOs through awareness building.

4.7.9 Entrepreneurial, Skill Development & Liberation of Women in Nigeria

Training and skill development on the other hand are very crucial in building the capacity of women entrepreneurs to start and successfully run a business. Women entrepreneurs need continuous training to ensure that they create a lasting impact in their lives and economy at large. Nigeria has a vast and diverse landscape of programs and initiatives in support of self-employment, entrepreneurship and sustainable development.

The study also establishes that, there was a good perception that the Nigerian government has placed priorities on women development and their needs. Various sector policies have been developed under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) frameworks have contributed to the emergence of initiatives and approaches that affect women. Needless to say, women enterprise promotion is a cross sector challenge, with a myriad of public offices and agencies, as well as private stakeholders involved. A strong policy undoubtedly needs to be put in place by the Nigerian government, to protect women’s enterprise; these policies will set out the roles of the Government, NGOs, the private sector, donor agencies and the local community; strengthen existing institutions in order to create a supporting network and develop effective channels through which knowledge, resources required for the good practice of entrepreneurship in women can be enhanced.
4.7.10 Awareness-building

The sense of solidarity and improved self-image felt by women through enterprise can be built on by deliberately incorporating awareness-building components and assisting the women to develop skills such as assertiveness, organizations and leadership. They can then gain a better sense of control over their own lives.

4.7.11 Potential of Women to make economic impact

The Oil Industry looked like an all men affairs, but women have been pushing in every direction. The last but one Minister of Petroleum in Nigeria was a women- Mrs. Allison Madueke. Her presence encouraged women entrepreneurs. And today, we have more women sitting on boards of oil companies (Gordon, O.; 2017). Women have now developed the enterprise spirit and are making economic impact. Fig. 4.3 shows that more than 30% of respondents have been in self-employment for more than six years. These women have gained experience and respect as entrepreneurs and are likely to continue even in an era where oil loses its prominence. They serve as motivation for other women who are embracing entrepreneurship or aspiring to venture into self-employment.

Fig. 4.4 shows that 42% of the respondents are in the service industry. While 13% are into Agriculture. Oil is a wasting economy, agriculture on the other hand is the mainstay of the Nigerian economy and also the diverse sectors identified in the study- commodity/retail, and the service sector. Women are well positioned in all these areas to contribute their quota to the Nigerian economy even after oil. Women are leading the entertainment industry and this has contributed to 5% of the Nigerian GDP (Obhafuoso, P.I.; 2012).
Fig.4.5 Shows that most respondents are sole proprietors. These are not oil dependent enterprises and show a great deal of potential in making a positive impact/contribution to the Nigerian economy even in this era of less dependence on oil.

Sustainable Livelihood and development drive many women into business. 55% of the respondents according to Fig.4.10 had this attraction. Women entrepreneurs are resilient and can cope with and recover from stress and shocks and still maintain or enhance their capabilities and assets now and in the future (Kantz, L.; 2001).

NGOs and Governmental organs who champion Women’s rights movement through their training, skill and business development programs; will promote women’s economic empowerment, which will enable women to compete with men even amidst the dwindling oil economy.

4.8 CHAPTER SUMMARY

This chapter revealed the findings of the study and presented them in the form of tables, charts and figures; it also discussed the findings of the study. Chapter five will discuss the conclusions drawn from the study and make recommendations.
CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter concludes the study drawn from the research questions and gives a recommendation for future studies.

5.2 SUMMARY

The objective of the study was to examine the factors affecting the viability of women in entrepreneurship; implications for Nigeria’s Oil Dependency. The study had the following specific objectives: to discover the rise of oil dependency in Nigeria; identify factors that led to the emergence of women towards self-employment; identify what channels can be established as a means for women entrepreneurs, to contribute to women’s rights movement in Africa; and explore how women’s participation in entrepreneurial and skill development can be utilized to achieve liberation of women in Nigeria.

The study adopted descriptive research design. The population study was women in Entrepreneurship in the Port Harcourt, Rivers State region, a sample size of 40 was selected randomly, and there were 10-15 key informants from governmental and non-governmental organizations. The data was collected by administering questionnaires, containing open ended and closed questions and interviews for the key informants. The data was then analyzed using descriptive statistics and findings and charts. SPSS V.24 and Microsoft Excel 2013 were used as data analysis tools.
The objective of the study was to determine the factors affecting the viability of women entrepreneurs in the Nigerian region, as a fall out of the country’s Oil Dependency, it sought to determine the possibility of entrepreneurship as an economic diversifying agent, but geared towards women’s economic emancipation, empowerment and sustainable livelihood. The study found that Nigeria’s Oil Dependency was not a constraining or binding factor for self-employment, it was however a driver towards the creation of self-employment opportunities. The country’s Oil Dependency proved to be the least of the major viability factors that hindered women’s entry into business, as women are often considered particularly sound investors and a good investment due to their self- sustaining resource nature.

The study also established that entrepreneurship training for women is a highly valuable asset in today’s changing economy in which women operate, therefore making it crucial for the development of entrepreneurial skills, attributes and behavior that ensure economic diversity and sustainable livelihood among women. The study also revealed that the problem facing women in entrepreneurship today require the implementation of policies and more programs to enable, secure, promote and also enable women design their own credible path towards realizing their potential and meeting their financial needs.

5.3 CONCLUSION

Business creation is by no means an easy option. Many women, particularly those lacking appropriate training, background or experience, face obstacles greater than they imagined in their entrepreneurial development process. These include lack of self-confidence, lack of business contacts and recourse to an enterprise tradition, pressing family responsibilities, financial constraints, and an aversion to risk. Existing support has however proved to help
women in enterprise overcome these obstacles, but there’s work to be done with regards to
protecting these women, through policies.

The past decade has witnessed an increase in enterprise creation among women in Nigeria,
either as an attractive option conferring independence, creativity and the opportunity for
personal development or as a sole solution to their financial problems. A new entrepreneurial
culture is quickly developing among Nigerian women, based on the values and strengths of
women, such creativity, flexibility, attention to social and cultural as well as financial goal
achievement of the overall Nigerian woman.

The way forward is a two-way process. On one hand, through the development of financial,
pertaining, enterprise trainings, that inappropriate to the needs of women setting up
enterprises, which would enable them, cope with rising challenges. This also means the
development of women-only provisions; such as governmental policies that will ensure
success and protect their enterprises.

On the other hand, these mechanisms in themselves should serve as levers for change and stir
them towards total economic liberation; this is through enrichment of values, vision and
experiences of the Nigerian women. It is perhaps in the world of entrepreneurship that the
recognition, and value of women’s contribution is most vital to the making of a better
tomorrow in Nigeria.
5.4 RECOMMENDATION

**Policy Orientation:** In most governments; the Nigerian government inclusive, principles of action be it- economic, political, social are being made. Outside the government; in the home front principles are also being made; these policies range from spending in the home, priorities and finances- these policies/ principles all too often, be it in and out of the government are being made by men. These men more often than not see the world through women’s eyes and therefore go a long way in determining the kinds of policies that are in place with regards to women.

Therefore the success of women- both inside and outside the government is highly dependent on the kind of political institutions within which they engage. It is therefore important that women in enterprise be more engaged in representative institutions, which are more accountable to them, their voice, need and their policy visions. Such engagements would go a long way for women entrepreneurs towards creating and obtaining effective public policy; because with policies in place the Nigerian government can be held accountable to women in enterprise. The Public sector at both Federal and State level should greatly consider policies and provocation dedicated to women empowerment.

**Intervention:** It is a well-known fact that NGO intervention with relation to issues affecting women’s practical and strategic needs, reflect their intervention role as saviors, agents of the development process and a source of hope to these women. The innovative understanding of the everyday politics, work and organizational efforts, as well as repository, assistance and social networks of NGOs are helpful or can be said to be a means to an end; when referring to women’s development; in enterprise and the entire development process.
The importance of women’s input to the imminent economic growth of Nigeria needs to be publicized.

Organizations and institutions like; The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (FMWASD) at the federal level, Ministries of Women Affairs at the State level, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) and the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) at the cooperate level, as well as other non-governmental women associated organizations, should be involved in the conception of enterprise in order to give effective support to women entrepreneurs.

This study recommends that further research be conducted to ascertain each one of the identified factors from this study.

Further evaluation studies can be done in subsequent years to see whether, these same factors are affecting the viability of women in entrepreneurship.
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23rd February, 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: RESEARCH INTRODUCTION LETTER - ANDREW-ESSIEN ENO, ETI

We wish to inform you that the bearer of this letter, Andrew-Essien Eno, ETI - student ID No. 622951 is a Masters Student at United States International University (USIU)- Africa, pursuing a Graduate program - Master of Arts in International Relations (MA-IR).

She is currently conducting a Research Thesis on: **Factors Affecting the Viability of Women Entrepreneurs; Implications for Nigeria’s Oil Dependency**, which is in partial fulfillment of the requirement for her to qualify for graduation.

Please, note that any information provided will be treated with confidentiality and at no instance will it be used for any other purpose, other than for this Research Thesis.

Kindly, accord her the desired assistance and contact that undersigned should you have any queries.

Yours Sincerely

[Signature]

Tom S. Onditi Luoeh, PhD
Asst. Professor, English
Dean,
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
United States International University - Africa
P.O. Box 14634 - 00800 - Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya
Phone: 254 - 20 - 3606434 Mobile 0722 747 396
Fax: 254 - 20 - 3606100/101
e-mail: tonditi@usiua.ac.ke
APPENDIX II: AUTHORIZATION LETTER

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
Education Management Div; CM&LA Unit
8TH FLOOR, PHASE III, FEDERAL SECRETARIAT, ABUJA
When replying, please quote earlier reference

DE/PPM&R/34/CM&LA/3
Ref. No. .................................
Date: 26th February 2017

Andrew- Essien Eno Eti
United States International University-Africa
Nairobi, Kenya.

Re: Authority to Conduct Research

Title: Factors Affecting the viability of women in entrepreneurship: Implications For Nigeria's oil Dependency

By: Andrew- Essien Eno, Eti

I refer to your letter date 25th February 2017 in which your institution introduced as a Masters in International Relations student conducting a research thesis. The Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) have acknowledged the topic of your research mentioned above. I hereby grant permission to conduct research in Port Harcourt, Rivers State Nigeria.

My regards to you will the highest esteem.

[Signature]

P.O ADEYEMO (Mrs)
APPENDIX III: IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW GUIDE

I’m conducting a research on “Factors Affecting the Viability of Women in Entrepreneurship; Implications for Nigeria’s Oil Dependency”. Thank you for taking time to participate in this interview session.

1. Please describe your organization/ institution(s) standpoint on the concept/ idea of Women in Entrepreneurship?

2. What activities/ events/ projects/ programs have been conducted by your organization/ institution to enhance financial security, independence and self-reliance for the Nigerian woman?

3. What do you think of the effects of these activities/ events/ projects/ programs towards the viability of women in entrepreneurship, with regards to the liberation of women or promotion of women’s rights movement?

4. Kindly give an example of the form of Liberation extended to these women.

5. Please elaborate the specifics of the oil crisis situation in Nigeria and how it affects the economy of Nigeria and viability of women in enterprise.

6. Is there anything else you believe the Nigerian government/ Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Non-Governmental Organizations can do to enhance and protect women in Entrepreneurship’s viability?

Thank you for your cooperation!
APPENDIX IV: QUESTIONNAIRE

I’m conducting a research on “Factors Affecting the Viability of Women in Entrepreneurship; Implications for Nigeria’s Oil Dependency”. Thank you for taking time to complete this questionnaire. Your response will be treated with absolute confidentiality and will be anonymous. If you have any queries with regards to this questionnaire, kindly contact Andrew-Essien Eno on WhatsApp: +254-733-296-950 or via email: enoleikks@yahoo.com

Background Information

1. What is your age range?

   Below 18 years □
   18- 25 years □
   26- 35 years □
   36- 45 years □
   Over 45 years □

2. Highest Level of education attained (please tick 1)

   Primary Level □
   Secondary Level □
   Tertiary Level □
   University Level □
3. Years in self-employment (*please tick 1*)

- Less than 1 year □
- 1-3 years □
- 3-6 years □
- Over 6 years □

4. What type of business are you engaged in?

.................................................................................................................................

5. What is the operational status of your business (*please tick 1*)

- Sole Proprietorship □
- Private Company □
- NGO/ Government Sponsored □
- Self Help Group □
- Partnership □

Other (please explain).............................................................................................................

6. How many employees do you currently have?

.................................................................................................................................
OIL DEPENDENCY IN NIGERIA

7. How long have you been following up with the Oil Crisis in Nigeria?

0-2 years

3-5 years

6-8 years

More than 8 years

MOTIVATION TOWARDS SELF-EMPLOYMENT

8. What motivated you towards self-employment?

.................................................................

9. Have you participated in any Entrepreneurial Trainings/ Programs/ Initiatives/ Projects?

YES  NO

10. If “YES”, how many times have you benefited from these programs and initiatives geared towards empowering women towards entrepreneurial development?

Once

Twice

Thrice

More than three times
11. To what Purpose are Women Entrepreneurial Empowerment Programs/ Projects?

Start a business  □
Sustainable Livelihood  □
Other  □

Other, please state........................................................................................................................................

...........................................................................................................................................................

CHANNELS ESTABLISHED FOR WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS, TO CONTRIBUTE TO WOMEN’S RIGHTS MOVEMENTS

12. From your knowledge and experience as an Entrepreneur, what channels do you recommend be utilized to contribute towards Women’s Right Movement?

□ Training
□ Skill development
□ Business development
□ Workshop/ Seminar
□ Other (please specify)........................................................................................................................................
13. What is your opinion on the current interventions towards the economic empowerment of women in Nigeria?

☐ Excellent

☐ Very good

☐ Good

☐ Fair

☐ Poor

14. What other interventions would you recommend women in entrepreneurship provide to the economic empowerment of women in Nigeria?

..............................................................................................................................................................

..............................................................................................................................................................
ENTREPRENEURSHIP & SKILL DEVELOPMENTS EFFECTS ON THE LIBERATION OF WOMEN IN NIGERIA

15. Have you experienced any form of liberation as a woman, ‘before’ starting your business or becoming an entrepreneur?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If “YES”

What was the form of Liberation experienced?

.............................................................................................................................
.............................................................................................................................

16. Have you experienced any form of liberation as a woman, ‘after’ starting your businesses or becoming an entrepreneur?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If “YES”

What was the form of liberation experienced?

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.............................................................................................................................
17. Please indicate your degree of agreement with the following statements about the success of economic diversity through enterprise development in Nigeria. Kindly use the following criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly Agree (5)</th>
<th>Agree (4)</th>
<th>Neutral (3)</th>
<th>Disagree (2)</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree (1)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Success of women enterprise development has greatly improved within the last five (5) years</td>
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<td>The resource utilization of enterprise development, projects and programs is more effective than 5 years ago</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turnover from women enterprises has greatly improved within the last five (5) years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entrepreneurship as a form of diversified economics has proved to be a success than it was five (5) years ago</td>
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</table>
Government Policy Effects on the success of Women in Entrepreneurship

18. Please indicate your degree of agreement with the following statements

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Strongly Agree (5)</th>
<th>Agree (4)</th>
<th>Neutral (3)</th>
<th>Disagree (2)</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree (1)</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Nigerian Government has prioritized the development needs of its women</td>
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<td>The Nigerian Government has strengthened its capacity and effectiveness to respond to the needs of women</td>
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<td>The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development has adequately communicated the country's vision for women</td>
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<td>The Ministry of Women Affairs has promoted policies to enhance the participation of women in economic and developmental affairs</td>
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<td>The Federal Government has taken measures to safeguard the rights of women and helped them understand their responsibilities towards the economic development of the nation</td>
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</table>
The Federal Government of Nigeria creates a platform that allows women to meaningfully engage in decision making processes.

The Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development has raised the national profile of women and their needs.

There is need for the creation of proper conditions for women entrepreneurs to empower them.

Thank you for your cooperation!
APPENDIX V: CONSENT FORM

Factors affecting the viability of women in entrepreneurship: implications for Nigeria’s oil dependency.

1. I have read the information presented in the introductory letter about a study being conducted by Andrew-Essien Eno, Eti of the United States International University-Africa. I have had the opportunity to ask any questions related to this study, to receive satisfactory answers to my questions, and any additional details I required.

2. I am aware that the excerpts from the interview/questionnaire may be included in the publications to come from this research.

3. I was informed that if I have any comments or concerns resulting from my participation in her study, I may contact the Dean School of Humanities and Social Sciences, United States International University- Africa at +254-20-3606434 and todinti@usiu.ac.ke

4. With full knowledge of all foregoing, I agree, of my own free will, to participate in this study.

5. I agree to have my interview tape recorded.

Respondent’s Name                               Date                             Signature

____________________________________________________________________

Name of Enterprise/ Organization

____________________________________________________________________

Researcher’s Signature                            Date

____________________________________________________________________