

Havilah Glo Consulting, Johannesburg South Africa
Online Conference Call for Papers
Theme: Implications of COVID-19 on gender and behaviour in Africa

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We would like to invite you to the above-named conference to be held online because of the Coronavirus pandemic. We shall like to have a virtual gathering to discuss the various ways by which gender and behaviour are being shaped by the menace. It is doubtless that the COVID-19 pandemic, since its outbreak, will not influence human behaviour. There is growing recognition and concern that the coronavirus, including measures to curb its spread, will reinforce existing and also trigger new tensions in Africa's gender and behaviour spheres. While the lockdown/shutdown restrictions and social distancing regulations remain good strategies to limit/curb the spread of the virus, it may also result in a surge in different types of gender-based behavioural issues. Many African households are bound to experience intra-household gendered violence, more negatively skewed against women, kids and more so to the girl-child. Africa in particular, as indicated by an Institute for Security Studies latest report will see more of intra-family/households abnormal, irrational and violent behaviour under the lockdown. The lockdowns have been one of the most accepted measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate its impact on public health in Africa. What this means for many women and girls, however, is the possibility of "horrifying surge" in gender-based violence according to a 2020 United Nations report. This UN report further showed that women are the direct victims of domestic violence and that COVID-19 widens gender inequalities, as women confront the burden of home care, culture restrictions, religious beliefs, and overbearing power of their partners. Thus the coronavirus outbreak places the female folk within a unique and precarious situation.

We expect well-researched papers on the following sub-themes and related topics and issues on gender and behaviour. Abstracts of between 250 and 300 words should be sent to havilahglo14@gmail.com.

Delegates shall pay the sum of N10,000 as Conference fee.

- Theoretical and Empirical construct on COVID-19 pandemic induced gender-based violence
- Behavioural underpinnings of COVID-19 pandemic in Africa
- Risk communication and community mobilization
- Policy issue in the protection of women and girls during COVID-19 pandemic
- Politics of social distancing, lockdowns and self-isolation measures
- Government responses and socio-economic implications of COVID-19 in Africa
- The national and institutional higher education experience of COVID-19 in different contexts; challenges, opportunities and gains, disruptions and responses
- African countries' policies, international research and experience in curbing/control of COVID-19
- Responses from communities in reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic and how these impact on gender (in) equality and behaviour
- Indigenous Knowledge and management of COVID-19 in Africa
- Framework for formulating, evaluating, assessing and promoting gender equality during pandemics
- COVID-19 negative coping strategies prevalent in Africa
- Preparing for future: Post COVID-19 lessons and implications for gender and behaviour.
- COVID-19 induced psycho-social disorder and its effects on women in Africa.
- Gender-based violence and harassment in African homes
- African traditional religion and cultural responses to COVID-19.

Papers of high quality from the Conference will be published in accredited journals such as Gender and Behaviour, African Renaissance and an Edited Book by the Conveners.

Important Dates:

Submission of Abstracts: 15th September, 2020
Notification of Acceptance of Abstracts: 20th September 2020
Submission of Full Papers: 15th October, 2020
Deadline for Registration: 15th October, 2020
Conference Date: 29-30, October, 2020

Conference Venue: Online (Video Conference)

Note: This Conference reduces costs involved in conference attendance. Delegates do not need to spend on travel or accommodation.

Conveners

Dr Kayode Eesuola
Institute of African and Diaspora Studies,
University of Lagos, Nigeria.

Dr TJ Mudau
Institute for Gender and Youth Studies
University of Venda, South Africa