

# Gender and marital status as correlates of psychosocial well-being of informal caregivers of children with physical disability.

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# Presentation Outline

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## INTRODUCTION

- Informal caregivers are family members, friends, and neighbours who give unpaid care to a family member needing care.
- Caregiving to children with disability in Nigeria tilts towards informal caregiving
- ▶ Women are far more likely than men to assume the role of unpaid caregiver.
- ▶ Although men also provide assistance, female caregivers may spend as much as fifty percent (50%) more time providing care than male caregivers
- ▶ Studies have also shows that single caregivers experience more negative aspects of caregiving than spousal caregivers
- ▶ The gender differences are consistent with the fact that women more often tend to be a primary caregiver and more emotionally involved in the care recipient's situation
- ▶ In Nigeria, there are more women caregivers than men and in most cases right from when a child is discovered to be with disability, the care of such child fall heavily on the mother
- ▶ Burden and strain of caregiving expose caregivers to negative health outcome that affect their overall well-being.
- ▶ Well-being is one's condition of physical, cognitive, emotional, social, and spiritual state of health.

# Methodology

- ▶ Research approach
  - Expost facto research design that utilised quantitative method
- Sample size and Selection
  - Probability and non- probability sampling technique was used to select 815 informal caregivers who participated in the study
- Data collection method
  - Questionnaires were administered on informal caregivers that were accessed through their physically challenged children
- Data analysis
  - Statistical package for social science (SPSS) was used to analyse the data collected using T-test and One way Anova

# Major Findings

**Table 1: Showing gender difference in Psycho-social well-being of informal caregivers**

<b>SEX</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>p</b>
MALE	352	70.51	8.00	805	-32.920	< .05
FEMALE	455	56.51	3.76			

The table above shows the difference in psycho-social well-being of male and female caregivers of children with disability. The t-test result is obtained at -32.920 while the obtained p-value is greater than 0.05 level of significance. The result implies that gender determines psycho-social well-being of informal caregivers of children with disability. Men have a significant higher level of well-being than their female counterparts.

# Major Findings

**Table 2: Showing marital status difference in Psycho-social well-being of informal caregivers**

	<b>SS</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>MS</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>p</b>
Between Groups	2542.886	2	1271.443	15.670	< .001
Within Groups	65235.421	804	81.139		
Total	67778.307	806			

The result in table 2 shows that there is a significant marital status difference in the psycho-social well-being of caregivers of children with disability. Married respondents have significantly higher level of well-being than both single and divorces.

# Major Findings

**Table 3: One way Anova showing multiple comparison of psycho-social well-being of informal caregivers by marital status**

(I) Marital Status	(J) Marital Status	Mean Difference (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.
MARRIED	SINGLE PARENT	3.46309*	.81328	.000
	DIVORCED	5.48464*	1.32564	.000
SINGLE PARENT	MARRIED	-3.46309*	.81328	.000
	DIVORCED	2.02156	1.46617	.168
DIVORCED	MARRIED	-5.48464*	1.32564	.000
	SINGLE PARENT	-2.02156	1.46617	.168

Table 3 show a further analysis of multiple comparison between married, single and divorces. The result show that married respondents reported significantly more psycho-social well-being than both the single and divorces 3.46309\*. There was however, no significant difference in the psycho-social well-being of the single -3.46309\* and divorced -5.48464\* caregivers of children with disability.

# Conclusion

- ▶ Gender determines psycho-social well-being of informal caregivers of children with disability. Men have a significant higher level of well-being than their female counterparts.
- ▶ There is a significant marital status difference in the psycho-social well-being of caregivers of children with disability.
- ▶ Married respondents have significantly higher level of well-being than both single and divorces.



# Recommendations

- ▶ Family Centered Approach program that recognizes that the well-being of informal caregivers is crucial to the well-being of children with physical disabilities should be put in place
- ▶ The program should give consideration to the uniqueness of family type such as single, separated and divorced families
- ▶ Emphasizes that in most cases the family is the one constant factor in the life of a child.
- ▶ Must builds on a family's existing strengths and recognize that the family's informal social support network is a primary resource for meeting the family's needs.
- ▶ Should strengthens parents' and family's ability to promote the child's development.
- ▶ Must encourage partnership between professionals such as psychologists, nurses, and social workers and caregivers.

Thank you

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