

**Gender Dynamics and Reproduction Decision
Making among Rural Families in Orire Local Government
Area of Oyo State, Nigeria**

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ABSTRACT This study investigated the separate and joint roles of marital partners in reproduction decision-making. It was carried out in Orire Local Government Area of Oyo State, Nigeria. The area is largely rural with most inhabitants engaged in agriculture-related occupations. One hundred and fifty married respondents were randomly selected and data procured from them through the administration of validated interview schedule, 148 of which were processed. About 61% were into monogamous marriage. Most respondents (47.9%) were middle aged (31 – 50 years). About 23% had been married for 6 – 10 years. About 27% had no formal education while majority (48%) were full-time farmers. Factors influencing reproduction decision-making included religious injunctions, family income and health Of the mother. Men dominated decision-making in all reproductive issues except on family size and non-use of contraceptives where joint decisions prevailed. It is recommended that couples should be continuously educated on the values of joint decision-making to ensure commitment by both partners Information on family planning issues should be widely disseminated among the rural dwellers.