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## **Interrogating the Problems of Lone-living among Married Women of Absentee-Spouses in Benin City, South-South Nigeria**

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**ABSTRACT** The paper was designed to investigate the challenges and coping strategies of married women, in Benin City Nigeria, whose husbands have traveled abroad for greener pasture. One-time Survey Design, with the aid of purposive sampling technique, was employed to sample women whose husbands are in abroad among the married women in Benin City for the study. 145 copies of questionnaires were administered and data was analyzed with the aid of simple percentage and frequency counts. Data revealed that the greatest challenge of these women is the problem of playing the role of parent-figures; and this affects decision-making and child upbringing. Loneliness, which generates emotional problems, creates the temptation to seek sexual gratification outside marriage among the women. Hence, individual coping strategies are cultural, socio-economical, psychological and religious. It concludes that constant communication can keep distant partners closer and partially helps the absentee spouse in making meaningful contributions to domestic decisions.