

Empowering the Voiceless Rural Women: A Daunting Task in African Society

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ABSTRACT Illiteracy among the voiceless rural women is widely viewed as the root cause of unemployment and poverty ravaging African society. The purpose of this manuscript is to shed light on the concept of empowering unemployed rural women to sustain their indigenous culture so that they become self-reliant, both socially and economically. These silenced mothers are unable to participate in a wide variety of activities, such as contributing equally to household finances, standing up for their rights and campaigning against social ills. They are forever confined to looking after livestock and walking barefoot over long distances, carrying buckets of water and heavy bundles of fuel wood on their head, with their children on their back. Either by custom or constitution, rural women on the African continent still and inherit property. They are unable to obtain access to credit, attend school, earn an income and get promoted at work, free from discrimination.