

IMPACT OF RURAL INTERVENTION PROGRAMMES ON WOMEN SOCIAL WELLBEING IN IKWERRE ETHNIC NATIONALITY, RIVERS STATE

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Abstract

This study investigated the impact of rural intervention interventions on the social well-being of women in the Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality of Rivers State. The study was led by three particular aims and three research questions. The study employed a descriptive survey research design. The research was conducted within the geographical boundaries of Rivers State. The study encompassed a population consisting only of women who were also members of community development committees residing in rural villages under the Ikwerre ethnic nationality. The researchers employed the cluster random sampling technique to choose a total of 12 communities within the designated study area. The researchers employed purposive sampling to choose a sample of 10 literate women. Additionally, three individuals from the community development committee were recruited from each of the communities that were included in the study. The overall sample size consisted of 150 participants, consisting of 120 women with educational backgrounds and 30 individuals who were members of the community development committee. The self-designed instrument is titled "The Impact of Rural Intervention Programmes on Women's Social Wellbeing." The instrument underwent a validation process conducted by specialists, and its reliability was assessed using the Cronbach Alpha Method. The reliability coefficient obtained was 0.77 which suggested that the instrument was reliable. The study question was addressed using mean and standard deviation, while hypotheses were tested using a z-test at a significance level of 0.05. The research discovered that the implementation of healthcare intervention programmes, literacy intervention programmes, and socio-economic intervention programmes have a significant impact on the social well-being of women in the Ikwerre ethnic group of Rivers State. The study suggests that it is advisable for the Government to demonstrate a strong dedication to socio-economic intervention initiatives, particularly in rural regions. This intervention aims to mitigate poverty within rural households. Based on the results obtained from this study, it can be inferred that the acquisition of business education skills, including entrepreneurial, managerial, office management, and technology skills, has a significant impact on the level of engagement of youths in community development within Rivers state. It is highly recommended that young individuals should engage in the acquisition of business education skills in order to actively contribute to the growth of their communities.

Keywords: Rural Intervention programme, Women, Social wellbeing

Introduction

The social welfare of women has a crucial role in determining the quality of life within

rural households and communities. Based on the findings of the United States Institute of Peace (2013), social well-being can be defined as the state in which individuals are devoid of deprivation in terms of fundamental needs, while also being able to peacefully cohabit within communities that offer prospects for progress. According to the United States Institute of Peace (USIP), it has been suggested that social well-being can be defined as a final state whereby fundamental human needs are fulfilled, and individuals are capable of peacefully coexisting within communities that offer prospects for progress. Social well-being is defined by the equitable availability and provision of essential services such as water, food, shelter, and healthcare. It also encompasses the provision of primary and secondary education, the repatriation or resettlement of individuals affected by violent conflicts, and the reestablishment of social cohesion and communal life. According to Tegheand and Rendell (2005), the concept of social welfare encompasses five dimensions that pertain to various aspects of social life. These dimensions include:

1. Social acceptance (accepting others as they are)
2. Social actualization (positive comfort level with society)
3. Social contribution (a feeling that one has a contribution to make to society)
4. Social coherence (understanding the social world as predictable comprehensible)
5. Social integration (feeling as a part of the community)

This observation highlights the correlation between an individual's social well-being and their level of acceptance towards others, their comfort within their immediate environment, their contributions to society,

their understanding of societal dynamics and their sense of belonging within the social fabric. The measurement of wellbeing entails a comprehensive assessment of various aspects of life, taking into account individual life events and social contexts that may impact the overall quality of human lives or the unity of society (Teghe & Daniel, 2005).The promotion of social well-being among individuals residing in rural areas can be achieved through the implementation of targeted intervention programmes specifically designed for rural populations. According to Holmes and Jones (2010), there is a growing recognition that implementing rural intervention initiatives in low-income countries can serve as an effective strategy to address poverty and mitigate its exacerbation among disadvantaged populations. Onyishi (2019) defines "rural intervention" as a comprehensive set of public and private initiatives aimed at enhancing the social status and rights of disadvantaged individuals, while concurrently offering income transfers to impoverished populations for the purpose of meeting their basic needs. Rural interventions are commonly employed in nations such as Nigeria as a means to address the pervasive issues of extreme poverty and widespread inequality. Furthermore, the aforementioned technique adeptly addresses the multifaceted nature of poverty inside homes and the overall state of household poverty. According to Onyishi (2019), the aforementioned approach may be interpreted as a systematic method of providing assistance to individuals experiencing poverty by addressing their lack of essential resources, which is primarily attributed to their local surroundings. The primary objective is to mitigate the economic and social susceptibility of impoverished

populations, as well as vulnerable and marginalised cohorts. Specifically, the aim is to assist the impoverished in overcoming the obstacles on the demand side that impede their access to fundamental economic and social amenities (Onyishi, 2019). Programmes of this sort can be implemented by several institutions, including the state, non-governmental organisations, the commercial sector, or through informal, individual, or community-based efforts (Objijiofor, 2016).

The maintenance of good health is a fundamental requirement for all individuals. The provision of health care intervention programmes is a crucial requirement and essential service for a population. A health intervention programme refers to a systematic initiative or policy aimed at enhancing the mental and physical well-being of a population. The objective is to enhance the overall well-being and reduce the prevalence of chronic illnesses within a certain demographic. The overall well-being, both physical and mental of women plays a crucial role in maintaining the stability and harmony within a family unit. This phenomenon can be attributed to the fact that a significant proportion of domestic tasks are mostly undertaken by women. This suggests that the health of a woman might have a direct impact on the well-being of the entire household. The aforementioned principle applies equally to the broader community. It is evident that the conventional rural way of life is likely to have an impact on the physical and emotional well-being of women. Various factors such as geographic barriers, distance, limited transportation options, and insufficient funding have been found to have an impact on the accessibility of medical and mental health treatments (Mulder et al., n.d.). Rural women frequently encounter a range of challenges

encompassing breast cancer, maternity and reproductive health concerns, farm-related hazards and severe accidents. Healthcare intervention is often sought after in rural areas.

According to the World Health Organisation (2012), around 15% of the global population and 19% of individuals residing in developing nations engage in open defecation, indicating the practice of excreting waste in the absence of proper toilet facilities or latrines. In certain rural regions of Nigeria, a significant proportion of the populace engage in the practice of defecating in the River, concurrently utilising it for other domestic activities. The occurrence or escalation of chronic diseases in regions with limited access to healthcare facilities and professionals may be attributed to these acts. The implementation of a health care intervention plan is crucial for women residing in rural regions, as it serves the purpose of delivering health education, providing necessary healthcare facilities, and conducting medical examinations (Selvam, Ashok, & Pratheepkanth, 2019). Healthcare intervention programmes, including the provision of clean water, sanitation infrastructure, health education and maternity interventions, have been found to effectively decrease childhood death rates (Gao, Liu, & Yan, 2014). The healthcare intervention programme aims to provide various services to the community, with a particular focus on women. These services include the collection and documentation of health information, the provision of family healthcare, antenatal, and postnatal care, the care of children under the age of 5, family planning services, immunisations, disease control services, and activities related to environmental health (Aghajanian, Mehryar, Ahmadnia, & Kazeminpour, 2007). According to the authors, an efficient

healthcare intervention should encompass various components such as outpatient care, case identification among referred patients, guidance on monitoring and adherence to treatment schedules for established cases, supervision of family health, disease control, and environmental health activities. Additionally, the intervention should include provision of oral health services, monitoring of basic environmental sanitation (including water sampling if necessary), and assistance to health centres in procuring essential drugs and equipment.

The United Nations asserts that the empowerment of women is essential for the fulfilment of fundamental human rights and plays a crucial role in attaining effective and enduring development outcomes (United Nations, n.d.). According to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID, 2020), the act of allocating resources towards the advancement of women's empowerment possesses the capacity to unleash the inherent capabilities of individuals on a substantial and profound scale. Furthermore, the incorporation of peer women from the community in health and nutrition interventions policies and programmes may lead to improved outcomes, in addition to the programme's good influence on community and home nutrition (Pradhan, Unisa, Rawat, Surabhi, Saraswat, & Sethi, 2020). Women who have been granted authority possess a greater advantage in enhancing the food security of children by increasing the quantity, diversity, and nutritional value of food inside households. In addition, the implementation of health-promoting practices, not only contributes to the reduction of malnutrition among young girls and women in the community, but also leads to a decrease in malnutrition within their own households (Pradhan et al., 2020).

A literacy intervention project is a structured initiative designed to equip individuals with the necessary reading and writing abilities to effectively participate and make meaningful contributions to society. As posited by Asiedu and Oyedeji, as cited in Mbah (2015), functional literacy can be understood as a cognitive instrument that confers individuals with the ability to not just attain proficiency in reading, but also to actively participate in a multitude of activities that yield benefits for both their own development and the broader societal context in which they are situated. Functional literacy is a type of literacy that prioritises the acquisition of practical skills and knowledge that are essential for jobs, careers, or occupations. The issue of illiteracy in rural areas of African countries necessitates the implementation of appropriate interventions. The female population in African nations frequently encounters impoverished circumstances, endures enslavement, and faces marginalisation due to restricted educational opportunities and illiteracy rates (Offorma, 2007; Mbah, 2015). Therefore, it is crucial that literacy projects targeting women go beyond the basic teaching of reading, writing, and computer competencies. When designing an adult literacy course for women, it is important to prioritise usefulness by considering the participants' group dynamics and the specific context of their surroundings or occupation. The programme should strive to effectively meet the collective and individual needs of women, with the ultimate goal of providing them with the essential skills required to become productive and valuable members of their respective societies. According to Ocho (2005), a key rationale for women's education is to ensure the presence of a highly educated household and family. Ocho

provides additional clarification that within this particular context, the term "Educated" covers a broader scope than just enrollment in an educational establishment and the development of fundamental literacy abilities. Rather, it refers to someone who possesses a wide array of attributes, encompassing literacy, discipline, cultural sensitivity, altruism, and active engagement in both familial and societal spheres. Women assume the majority of domestic responsibilities, hence exerting substantial impact on the general ambiance within the household. According to Mbah (2015),

The attainment of sufficient education among women facilitates the process of wealth generation. Esu (2009) asserts that the prosperity of a nation is contingent upon the level of education its populace has attained, with a special emphasis on the significant contributions made by women in the process of nation building. When women receive comprehensive training in functional education, they develop enhanced trade skills that empower them to generate income. According to Mbah (2015), it can be argued that socio-economic intervention can be considered as a component of a literacy intervention project that specifically targets the enhancement of economic capabilities among rural populations. The socio-economic intervention plan seems to contribute to the improvement of the business activities of rural individuals and provides them with exposure to potential opportunities in their local surroundings (Ocho, 2005). The objective of the programme is not to facilitate the introduction of foreign businesses into rural regions, but rather to educate women on various strategies for utilising the resources that are accessible to them.

The purpose of this study is to identify and analyse the problem at hand in order to

provide a comprehensive understanding of the issue.

Rural regions have numerous challenges that impede the social well-being of its residents. Issues include disease outbreaks, childhood mortality, water contamination, conflict stemming from illiteracy, and escalating poverty. A significant proportion of individuals residing in rural areas within the research region are affected by one or more of the concerns that have been identified. Should these challenges remain, it is imperative to acknowledge that our society will experience a profound impact across various domains, as rural inhabitants play a substantial role in ensuring social sustainability. The current inquiry pertains to the potential efficacy of implementing intervention programmes in addressing the aforementioned pressing concerns, particularly among women who comprise a significant proportion of rural populations. In quest to provide answer to the question, the study was carried out to investigate how rural intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to examine how rural intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State. Specifically, the study sought to:

1. Determine how healthcare intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State.
2. Determine how literacy intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State.
3. Determine how socio-economic intervention programmes would

impact on women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State.

Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study:

1. How would healthcare intervention programme impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State?
- 168 How would literacy intervention programme impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State?
3. How would socio-economic intervention programme impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State?

Hypotheses

H₀₁: There is no significant difference between the mean responses of women and CDC members on how healthcare intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State.

H₀₂: There is no significant difference between the mean responses of women and CDC members on how literacy intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State.

H₀₃: There is no significant difference between the mean responses of women and CDC members on how socio-economic intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State.

Methodology

The study used a descriptive survey research design. In Rivers State, the study was conducted among the Ikwerre ethnic groups.

One of the main ethnic groups in Rivers State is the Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, which is made up of people who speak the Ikwerre language. The Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality is composed of four local government areas: Emuohua, Ikwerre, Obio-Akpor, and Port-Harcourt Local Government Areas. All of the study's participants were female and belonged to Ikwerre ethnic nationality's rural community development committees. Twelve settlements in the study area were chosen using the cluster random sampling technique. The next step involves using purposeful sampling to choose three community development committee members and ten literate women from each of the study's participating communities. There were 150 responses in all, 120 of whom were educated women and 30 of whom were community development committee members. The instrument was created by the author and is titled "Impact of Rural Intervention Programmes on Women's Social Wellbeing." Experts validated the instrument, and the Cronbach Alpha Method was used to determine the instrument's dependability. The instrument was deemed dependable based on its reliability coefficient of 0.77. The study topic was addressed using the mean and standard deviation, and the z-test was employed to evaluate hypotheses at the 0.05 level of significance. The 2.50 criterion mean indicates that items scoring 2.50 or more were accepted; otherwise, they were rejected.

Result and Discussion

Research Question 1: How would healthcare intervention programme impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State?

Table 1: Health Care Intervention Program Impact Women Social Wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State

S/N	Items	Women=120			CDC Members=30		
		Mean	S.D	Rmk	Mean	S.D	Rmk
1	Health care intervention programmes improve the quality lifestyle	3.12	0.71	Agree	3.10	0.71	Agree
2	Educates people on the spread of infections and virus in rural communities	3.11	0.82	Agree	3.33	0.77	Agree
3	Provides access to health facilities for women rural inhabitants	3.23	0.72	Agree	3.45	0.61	Agree
4	Provides sensitization for women on post-partum needs to boost their wellness	3.04	0.69	Agree	3.21	0.80	Agree
5	Sensitizes women on the diet/nutrition that are required for their healthy lifestyle	3.11	0.58	Agree	3.02	0.87	Agree
6	Promotes women awareness on precautions to prevent disease outbreaks	3.35	0.60	Agree	3.41	0.66	Agree
7	Healthcare intervention programmes empower women to combat diseases among infants	3.20	0.72	Agree	3.30	0.71	Agree
8	Programmes on health and nutrition expose women to various diets for sustainable household health	3.34	0.67	Agree	3.20	0.63	Agree
9	Health and nutrition programmes improve women nutrition before conception, during pregnancy and after childbirth	3.15	0.62	Agree	3.24	0.74	Agree
10	Provides reproductive health information for women daily health	3.20	0.80	Agree	3.30	0.69	Agree

Grand Mean	3.19	3.26
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Field Survey, 2023

Table 1 presents the findings of a research study examining the effects of a healthcare intervention plan on the social well-being of women belonging to the Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality in Rivers State. The results show that the respondents were actively involved in a community development project, particularly in their capacities as female participants and members of the committee for community development. Based on the criterion mean of 2.50, the respondents agreed that health care intervention programmes would improve the quality of lifestyle (3.12&3.10), educate people on the spread of infections and virus in rural communities (3.11&3.33), provide access to health facilities for women rural inhabitants (3.23&3.45), provide sensitization for women on post-partum needs to boost their

wellness (3.04&3.21), sensitize women on the diet/nutrition that are required for their healthy lifestyle (3.11 &3.02), promote women awareness on precautions to prevent disease outbreaks (3.35 &3.41), healthcare intervention programmes empower women to combat diseases among infants (3.20&3.30), programmes on health and nutrition expose women to various diets for sustainable household health (3.34&3.20), health and nutrition programmes improve women nutrition before conception, during pregnancy and after childbirth (3.15&3.24) and provide reproductive health information for women daily health (3.20&3.30).

Research Question 2: How would literacy intervention programme impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State?

Table 2: Literacy Intervention Programme Impact Women Social Wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State

S/N	Items	Women=120			CDC Members=30		
		Mean	S.D	Rmk	Mean	S.D	Rmk
1	Literacy intervention programme exposes women to various means on economic empowerment available in the community						
2	It increases the rate of literate individuals in the rural areas	3.01	0.71	Agree	3.02	0.82	Agree
3	It increases the level of manpower available in the community	3.33	0.62	Agree	3.17	0.70	Agree
4	Literacy intervention programme could reduce the poverty level of women thereby attaining quality social wellbeing	3.08	0.61	Agree	3.11	0.81	Agree
5	It helps to satisfy the craving literacy and intellectual needs of women	3.30	0.56	Agree	2.98	1.02	Agree
6	Equips women with ability to develop better relationship with their social spheres	2.87	1.02	Agree	3.35	0.72	Agree
7	Literacy programme aids women to contribute immensely to the academic demands of their infants	3.12	0.64	Agree	3.47	0.70	Agree
8	Literacy intervention programme equips women with the ability to take records of	3.10	0.75	Agree	3.34	0.68	Agree

	dues and contributions						
9	Helps to reduce conflicts that rises as a result illiteracy	3.22	0.66	Agree	3.03	0.77	Agree
10	It qualifies women for participation in significant civic responsibilities	3.26	0.73	Agree	3.44	0.82	Agree
Grand Mean		3.13			3.21		

Field Survey, 2023

Table 2 presents the findings of a study examining the effects of a literacy intervention programme on the social well-being of women in the Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, located in Rivers State. With scores of 3.33 and 3.17, the research also shows that the literacy intervention programme has a favourable effect on the amount of labour that is readily accessible in the community. With scores of 3.08 and 3.11, it is also seen as a possible instrument for lowering women's poverty rates and enhancing their general social well-being. Scores of 3.30 and 2.98 demonstrate that the programme meets the intellectual and literacy needs of women. Furthermore, ratings of 2.87 and 3.35 indicate that it gives women the tools they need to create stronger

relationships in their social circles. Additionally, the literacy programme helps mothers considerably contribute to their infants' academic needs (ratings of 3.12 and 3.47). With ratings of 3.10 and 3.34, it also gives women the capacity to keep track of dues and contribution records. With scores of 3.22 and 3.03, the programme is also viewed as a way to lessen disputes that can result from illiteracy. Finally, ratings of 3.26 and 3.44 indicate that it is seen as a prerequisite for women to take on major civic tasks.

Research Question 3: How would socio-economic intervention programme impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State?

Table 3: Socio-economic Intervention Programme Impact Women Social Wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethic Nationality, Rivers State

S/N	Items	Women=120			CDC Members=30		
		Mean	S.D	Rmk	Mean	S.D	Rmk
1	Socio-economic intervention programme empowers women to effectively utilize their time.	3.40	0.42	Agree	3.14	0.75	Agree
2	Equips women with the ability to identify the untapped wealth of the community for their economic benefit.	3.08	1.05	Agree	3.01	0.55	Agree
3	Educates women on the advance methods to do buying and selling.	3.01	0.65	Agree	3.07	0.74	Agree
4	Socio-Economic intervention programme aids women to make prudent use of available resource for home-keeping	2.98	1.00	Agree	3.31	0.61	Agree

5	Provides ideas for women on investment means.	3.45	0.57	Agree	3.58	0.52	Agree
6	Creates avenue to identify opportunities for social economic development.	2.98	0.94	Agree	3.25	0.62	Agree
7	It equips women with skills and abilities to maintain customers and network for new ones	3.01	0.75	Agree	3.45	0.53	Agree
8	Empowers women to meet financial needs in their household.	3.53	0.64	Agree	3.32	0.64	Agree
Grand Mean		3.18			3.27		

Field Survey, 2023

Table 3 presents the impact of a socio-economic intervention plan on the social wellbeing of women in Rivers State's Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality. The socio-economic intervention programme, according to the criterion mean of 2.50, empowers women to make the most use of their time (3.40 & 3.14), gives them the tools to recognise the untapped wealth of the community for their own economic benefit (3.08 & 3.11), teaches them advanced techniques for buying and selling (3.01&3.07), helps them make wise use of the resources at their disposal for home-keeping (2.98 & 3.31), gives them ideas for

investing (3.45&3.58), opens up a channel for identifying opportunities for social economic development (2.98 & 3.25), gives them the ability to maintain customers and network for new ones (3.01&3.45), and empowers them to meet the financial needs of their households (3.53 & 3.32).

Test of Hypotheses

H₀₁: There is no significant difference between the mean responses of women and CDC members on how healthcare intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State.

Table 4: z-test on how healthcare intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State

Respondents	N	\bar{X}	SD	Df	SL	z-cal.	z-crit.	Decision
Women	120	3.19	0.69	148	0.05	0.74	±1.96	Failed to Reject No Significant Difference
CDC Members	30	3.26	0.72					

A summary z-test study of the potential effects of healthcare intervention interventions on women's social wellbeing in Rivers State's Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality is presented in Table 4. The 148 degrees of

freedom study revealed that the z-critical value was 1.96 and the z-cal was 0.74 at the 0.05 level of significance. The null hypothesis was accepted since the z-calculated was less than the z-critical. This

suggests that the mean responses of women and members of the community development committee about the potential effects of healthcare intervention initiatives on the social wellbeing of women in the Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State, are not significantly different from one another.

H0₂: There is no significant difference between the mean responses of women and CDC members on how literacy intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State.

Table 5: z-test on how literacy intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State

Respondents	N	\bar{X}	SD	Df	SL	z-cal.	z-crit.	Decision
Women	120	3.13	0.69	148	0.05	0.55	±1.96	Failed to Reject No Significant Difference
CDC Members	30	3.21	0.77					

Research Data, 2023

A summary z-test study of the potential effects of literacy intervention programme on women's social wellbeing in Rivers State's Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality is presented in Table 4. A 0.05 level of significance was used in the analysis, which revealed that the z-critical value was 1.96 and the z-cal was 0.55 utilising 148 degrees of freedom. The null hypothesis was accepted since the z-calculated was less than the z-critical. This suggests that there is no discernible difference in the average answers

from women and members of the community development committee about the potential effects of literacy intervention activities on the social welfare of women in the Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State.

H0₃: There is no significant difference between the mean responses of women and CDC members on how socio-economic intervention programmes would impact women social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State.

Table 6: z-test on how Socio-Economic Intervention Programmes would Impact Women Social Wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State

Respondents	N	\bar{X}	SD	Df	SL	z-cal.	z-crit.	Decision
Women	120	3.18	0.75	148	0.05	-0.72	1.96	Failed to Reject No Significant Difference
CDC Members	30	3.27	0.62					

A summary z-test study of the potential effects of healthcare intervention interventions on women's social wellbeing in Rivers State's Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality is

presented in Table 4. The 148 degrees of freedom study revealed that the z-critical value was 1.96 and the z-cal was -0.72 at the 0.05 level of significance. The null

hypothesis was accepted since the z -calculated was less than the z -critical. This suggests that the mean replies of women and members of the community development committee about the potential effects of socioeconomic intervention activities on the social wellbeing of women in the Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality, Rivers State, are not significantly different from one another.

Discussion of Findings

Research Question 1 as presented in Table 1 indicated that health care intervention programmes would enhance the quality of life, inform people about the spread of viruses and infections in rural communities, give women in rural areas access to health facilities, raise awareness among women about the need of a healthy diet and nutrition postpartum wellness, and empower them to take precautions against disease outbreaks. Health care intervention programmes also expose women to a variety of diets. Regarding how healthcare intervention initiatives might affect women's social wellbeing in Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality Rivers State, the mean responses of women and CDC members do not significantly differ from one another. The outcome is consistent with the findings of Gao et al. (2014), who claim that over time, programmes aimed at improving health care, such as those that provide access to clean water, sanitary facilities, health education, and maternity treatments, have been shown to lower childhood mortality. The results are consistent with the opinion of Aghahanian et al. (2007), who stated that provision of outpatient care and case finding for referred patients, guidance on monitoring and following up on the treatment plan of established cases, supervision of family health, disease control, and environmental health activities, provision of oral health services, observation of basic environmental

sanitation, and assistance to health centres in the acquisition of necessary medications and equipment are all expected components of an effective health care intervention.

Second, the study discovered that a literacy intervention programme would introduce women to a variety of resources for economic empowerment, raise the proportion of literate people living in rural areas, increase the amount of manpower available in the community, and reduce women's poverty levels in order to achieve high-quality social wellbeing. Additionally, the programme would satisfy women's intellectual needs and cravings for literacy, give them the tools to improve their relationships. The outcome is consistent with Esu's (2009) assertion that a country's wealth is determined by the calibre of education its people have received, especially the women who make significant contributions to nation-building by raising healthy children for the community. The results are consistent with Mbah's (2015) observation that literacy programmes meet the needs of women on an individual and communal level, ultimately providing them with the tools they need to become successful and valuable contributors to their communities.

Finally, the study discovered that a socio-economic intervention programme would enable women to manage their time more effectively, give them the tools to recognise the untapped wealth of the community for their own financial gain, teach them sophisticated techniques for buying and selling, help them make wise use of the resources at their disposal for household chores, give them ideas for investments, open doors to opportunities for social economic development, and give them the skills and abilities to keep existing clients and build new ones. The results are consistent with Mbah's (2015) research,

which shows that women who receive practical education are better equipped to trade and generate money. According to Ocho (2005), who backed up the findings, socioeconomic intervention programmes help rural residents in their business endeavours and introduce them to opportunities in their local community.

Conclusion

The study concluded, based on the findings that, programmes for rural intervention are a dependable way to address problems that are very important to rural communities. Programmes for healthcare, literacy, and socioeconomic intervention in rural areas would have a significant impact on the social well-being of women in the Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality of Rivers State. The rural intervention projects would support women's economic capabilities, improve their functional literacy, and enable them to carry out their civic responsibilities.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study; it was recommended that:

1. The provision of standardised health care facilities and the deployment of additional health staff in rural regions should be undertaken by the government. The provision of necessary resources to ensure access to quality healthcare is imperative for individuals residing in rural areas, as they possess an equal entitlement to such services.
2. Community leaders should actively promote the establishment of literacy projects in rural communities by enlisting the assistance of individuals with expertise and knowledge within the community. This initiative would contribute to the augmentation of the literate workforce within the community.

3. The government ought to demonstrate a steadfast dedication to socio-economic intervention initiatives, particularly within rural regions. This intervention has the potential to mitigate poverty within rural households.

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