

From the Editor

Dear readers of int.WOJDE

Welcome to the seventh issue of the Women Online Journal of Distance Education, int.WOJDE as being Volume: 2 Number: 4, for the year of 2013.

In this issue 3 articles are published, by 3 authors from 3 different countries as being Bengaldesh, Malaysia and Nigeria. In addition, very useful and interesting report is published too in this issue. In other hand we placed one success story from Anadolu University.

Our first article, entitled as "Eve Teasing, Tears of The Girls: Bangladesh Open University Towards Women Empowerment", written by Dr. Zobaida AKHTER, from Bangladesh Open University, Bangladesh, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA. She mentioned in her article that many young girls of Bangladesh are curtailed from education, which is their basic right due to eve teasing. Parents are afraid of their daughter's honor, family and social prestige, so ensure the safety of the daughters; sometimes they take the decision to withdraw their daughters from schools and colleges. Most of the time this type of occurrence like eve teasing happen when girls were in the way to educational institutions. In our country most of the people are devoid of their basic rights and they are considered as the disadvantaged group. The fruits of technology and modernity are the subject of enjoyment of the privileged class of the society.

So the Open University is the bridge of information among the disadvantaged people based on their needs, culture, environment and economic status. Promoting open and distance learning is a crying needs especially in the context of Bangladesh where more than 60% of total population is illiterate and living below poverty line. Their main objective of BOU is to reach the unreached. From the empirical study, it has been found that women are benefited mostly from BOU. They are other disadvantaged groups of women who are economically, socially, geographically and culturally disadvantaged. The aim of this article is to examine the role that open and distance learning how it plays in providing access to secondary education for girls in Bangladesh giving emphasis on overcoming physical mobility and social security problem of the young girl due to eve teasing.

The second article is from malaysia, on "Female Learner Teancity in Open Distance Learning Success: Life History of Sharan, Fuziah And Aleena As Open Distance Learners", which is written by Associate Professor Hisham DZAKIRIA, from Universiti Utara Malaysia, Sintok, Kedah Darulaman His paper argues about the despite the provision for better access, flexibility, and convenience, Open Distance Learning still remain a challenge to some students.

This article presents the life history of 3 female ODL learners in the state of Perlis, Malaysia in their pursuit to complete their ODL programs. Specifically, the study explored the phenomenon of female learners' tenacity in ODL among female adult learners.

The qualitative research focused on questions pertaining to learners' tenacity and perseverance in ODL and investigated the factors supporting or hindering perseverance that have influenced the learners. Longitudinal interviews with the three participants conducted over 72 months (six years) commencing 2005 revealed the complexity of variables affecting the learners' study completion. Findings suggested that multiple responsibilities, insufficient interaction with course tutors, technology, and coursework

ranked highest as barriers to female learners' tenacity to ODL success. Strong motivation to complete degrees, engagement in the learning community, and appreciation for the improved accessibility and flexibility of an ODL completion option facilitated the learners' tenacity.

The third article is published on Gender Difference, Administrative Opportunities and Effectiveness of School Principals: Implication for Planners which is written by Sunday O. ADEGBESAN, from Training and Research Fellow, National Institute for Educational Planning, and Administration (NIEPA), Ondo, NIGERIA. Sunday mentioned that in the School Administration and management, like in any other human and social endeavor, human resources are made up of men and women who play the most important role, either as actors or as recipients. For any society to be harmonious and balanced, the gender representation needs to be taken into consideration. It ensures therefore that none of the two sexes should be left behind in the management of the school system.

Gender as we understand does not refer to the biological differences of sex, which are natural. It rather refers to social constructs, created social meanings, norms and practices that regulate the relationships between men and women in a given society and at a given time. Gender relations refer to such cultural elements that are contextually and historically dependent. In the light of this understanding, it follows that any development process that aims at creating a space for all people, men and women, to realize their potentials and improve the quality of their life in ways that are sustainable and protective of the Earth's life support systems, men and women must be partners in progress in the creation as well as in the enjoyment of rights, duties, services and goods, Men and women should be real partners.

This study looked into gender differences, administrative opportunities and effectiveness of principals in secondary schools in the Ijebu division of Ogun State. The study population consisted of all the principals and teachers of secondary schools, in both urban and rural areas, in the division, from whom a total of 180 respondents were randomly selected as sample. Four null hypotheses were tested using the Principal Questionnaire (PQ) and Teachers Rating of their Principals (TRP) developed and validated by the researcher.

Only one of the null hypotheses was rejected. The remaining three hypotheses were accepted. The results show a significant gender difference in administrative opportunities in secondary schools in both rural and urban areas. However, there was no gender difference in the administrative effectiveness of principals, irrespective of the location of schools whether in rural or urban areas.

Appropriate recommendations and conclusions were drawn based on these findings in order to build an educational system that reflects and projects an equitable, harmonious and gender-balanced Nigerian society.

In this issue, we are publishing a very good and useful research report for you which is conducted anonym on "Building Support for Gender Equality among Young Adolescents in School: Findings from Mumbai, India". Report is mentioned increasing recognition is that to reduce gender inequality – a goal fundamental to improving a country's overall health and development-programs must start with youth. Yet there has been limited engagement of both girls and boys during early adolescence to challenge and shift gender norms that contribute to girls and women having less worth, opportunities and decision-making ability than boys and men.



Hülya EKER is placed in "Success story" section in this issue who is working Anadolu University by complete her degrees at Anadolu University and Sakarya (Adapazari) University as being online student. She mentioned that how she was felt herself when she was online student."

Dear intWOJDE readers to receive further information and to send your recommendations and remarks, or to submit articles for consideration, please contact int.WOJDE Secretariat at the below address or e-mail us at intwojde@gmail.com

Hope to stay in touch and wishing to meet in our next Issue on 1st of January 2014

Cordially,

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