

## GENDER INEQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN WARRI SOUTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF DELTA STATE, NIGERIA

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### ABSTRACT

The study investigates gender inequality and women empowerment in Warri South Local Government Area of Delta State, Nigeria. Two null hypotheses tested in the study were: there is no significant difference in gender access to education and women empowerment; there is no significant difference in gender participation in governance and women empowerment. Using the survey research design, data were statistically analyzed using the chi-square ( $X^2$ ) with significance level at 0.05. The results showed that a significant difference exists between access to educational services and women empowerment; also, a significance difference exists between participation in governance and women empowerment. The study recommends, among others, that women should be allowed to engage in equal economic activities like their male counterpart outside their home in other to reduce dependency and poverty rate among them. Also women should be allowed to make decisions that affect them. It was concluded that gender inequality is a significant source of women disempowerment.

**Keywords:** Gender inequality, women empowerment, access to educational services, participation in governance.