

**AN ASSESSMENT OF FERTILITY PREFERENCE BY WORK STATUS
AMONG WOMEN IN NIGERIA.**

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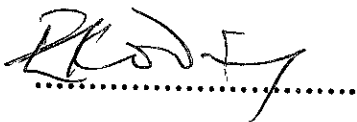
**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEMOGRAPHY AND SOCIAL STATISTICS, FACULTY OF SOCIAL
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AND SOCIAL STATISTICS.**

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that OKUNUGA OLUWADAMILOLA, of the department of Demography and Social Statistics, Faculty of Social Sciences, carried out a Research on the topic “**An Assessment of Fertility Preference by Work Status among Women in Nigeria**” in partial fulfillment of the award of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria under my supervision.

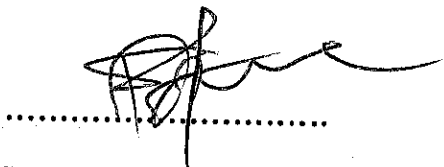


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DEDICATION

The project is dedicated to my father in heaven, God Almighty, the author and finisher of our faith who by his grace foreknew, predestined and made this work a success and for seeing me through my academic years. And to my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Okunuga for their love, care and support throughout the program.

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the assessment of fertility preference by work status among women in Nigeria using data obtained from the National Demographic and Health Survey from 2013. The adopted design is an exploratory research design which is aimed to provide in-depth investigation into the research problem and provide solutions to some research questions. The study was conducted among married women in their reproductive ages, 15-49 years of age in Nigeria. The sample size will be 33,385 women aged 15-49 years; the sample design for this study is nationally representative and covered the entire women population residing in non-institutional dwelling units in the country. This study was carried out using stata 14.0. The independent and dependent variables were compared at three levels, univariate using percentages, bivariate using cross tabulation and chi-square and multivariate using binary logistic regression. From the chi-square test, the relationship between fertility preference which is the dependent variable, and the independent variable which is women work status is statistically significant, we can then conclude that there is a significant relationship between women work status and fertility preference. Therefore, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis. This study also revealed that the relationship between women wealth index and fertility preference is statistically significant, we can conclude that there is a significant relationship between women wealth index and fertility preference. Therefore, we reject the null and accept the alternate hypothesis. The binary logistic regression result also shows that there is a significant influence of women work status on fertility preference in Nigeria. The study therefore recommends that government should teach the importance of empowering women folks in relation to national building and transformation towards ensuring equal right and sustainable development of the country by engaging more women in labour activities. Programs should be organized and included in government policies to improve the wellbeing and welfare of women not only in northern region, but also to the nation at large for it will indirectly influence the fertility preference of women in Nigeria. In conclusion, women work status should be top priorities in all policy formulations and design in government and private sectors so as to influence fertility preference in Nigeria.

Keywords: Fertility preference, work status, Nigeria.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Overtime, women participation in labor market has increased tremendously across the world, especially in the European countries (developed countries), while their fertility behavior reduces drastically (Del Boca, 2002). In Africa, especially in Nigeria, we can really say women participation in labor market increased but not up to that of the European countries.

In recent time, fertility increase has been witnessed mostly in the developing countries, in which the fertility preference of women in these countries increased. This has hindered equal demographic dividend in the countries due to high fertility. Due to this fact, most developing countries now put up population policy to affect the size, composition and distribution of population. In assessing fertility preference, it has been noticed that changes in work status of women in Nigeria directly affect their fertility preference. It also influences the desire of women to engage in labor market (Lesthaeghe and Willems 1999). Evidence has shown that high fertility has adversely influenced the socio-economic, demographic and environmental development of developing countries such as Nigeria (Getu and Alemayehu, 2008). Nigeria total fertility rate as at 2013 is 5.5 percent (NPC, ICF International, 2013), there is no signal that a sustainable decline is visible soon (Iheyinwa et-al, 2016). In 2013, nineteen percent of married women in Nigeria want no more children or have been sterilized, while thirty-three percent want to have another child within two years (NPC, ICF International, 2013). Evidence has shown that there has been one percent increase in fertility preference among Nigeria women with eighteen percent in 2003 and nineteen percent in 2013 (NPC, ICF International, 2013). The implication of this is that more fertility will be recorded in Nigeria if fertility preference of women does not reduce. It has been

recorded that sixty-two percent of married women is currently employed in Nigeria, while it ranges from forty-six percent in North-East to seventy-four percent in South-west (NPC, ICF International, 2013). With this, it is necessary to assess various factors that influence fertility preference by work status in Nigeria.

1.1 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In Nigeria, women are seen as disadvantage compared to men when referring to both education and employment. Women in Nigeria are predominantly engaged in agriculture and are less likely to engage in professional, technical, and managerial fields than men (NPC, ICF international 2014).

In recent political structure of Nigeria, women have not yet attained meaningful robust representation in terms of employment, and engagement in labor market. Although, there have been meaningful slight changes when it comes to employing women in labor force and their engagement in active work in Nigeria over the years. This occur as a result of the cultural and religious beliefs held at time past that women duty is to give birth, take care of the home, cook and be the object of sexual pleasure for their husbands. This thereby limits their representation in active labor force market and also hinders them for participating in professional occupation except agriculture. (NPC, ICF international 2014) showed that in 2013, only 7 percentage of women are employed in professional, technical or managerial positions, while 61 percentage of women are engaged in sales and services, while others work in agriculture. The disadvantages of engaging women in professional, technical, managerial, or managerial positions in Nigeria are much. The few that happens to hold any position are being criticized or frustrated by their male counterparts. This trend has continued in Nigeria and has been witnessed in all sectors, even political positions.

However, across regions, women in southeast, south, and south west have higher employment in professional, technical, managerial, skilled, and manual than in north central, northeast, northwest women. While north central, northeast, northwest women have higher employment in agriculture than southern women. Meanwhile, women involvement in labor market has influence on their fertility preference. It is known that education limit child bearing, while occupation and active engagement in labor market also reduces the desire to have more children. Problem still persist in Nigeria when referring to fertility preference. Among Nigerian women, relatively southern women desire no more despite their low fertility behavior when compared to the northern part of the country but very low number of women in the northern part of Nigeria wants no more children. Being aware of the high number of living children and total fertility rate of northern women, yet relative low number of women desired to limit their child bearing. Despite the fertility behavior of northern women, large number of women still desire to have more children even when they had already given birth to more than six children.

Another problem identified is that about half of all women in Nigeria, consider having six or more children as being ideal (NPC, ICF international 2014) and large family size is desirable. In the present world, where most women in the developed countries never wanted more than 2 children or even never wanted any child, is where Nigerian women consider having large number of children as been ideal. Consequently, the number of maternal mortality is high in Nigeria compared to other developed countries because of large number of children, untimed pregnancies, short birth spacing and unmet contraceptive use. That is why there is high number of infant mortality, child mortality and maternal mortality. Other associated problems linked to high fertility among women in Nigeria are death of adolescent mother and fetus, urinary tract problem for women ages 15 to 19 and risk of life for older women of 45 to 49 years, abortions and many more.

If women participation in work force is not increased especially engaging them more in professional, managerial and technical field in Nigeria, their fertility preference will not reduce and the implication of this is that they continue to have more children when they are not engaged in labor activities that takes more of their time, efforts, strength and skills.

1.2 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- 1) What is the pattern of fertility preference by work status among women in Nigeria?
- 2) To what extent does work status influence fertility preference among women in Nigeria?
- 3) What other factors influence fertility preference among women in Nigeria?

1.3 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1.3.1 General Objective:

1. To access the influences of work status on fertility preferences among women in Nigeria.

1.3.2 The specific objectives are

1. To examine the pattern of fertility preference by work status among women in Nigeria.
2. To examine the influence of work status on fertility preference among women in Nigeria.
3. To determine the influence of other factors on the relationship between work status and fertility preference

1.4 Hypotheses Testing

H0: There is no significant relationship between fertility preference and work status among women in Nigeria.

H1: There is significant relationship between fertility preference and work status among women in Nigeria.

1.5

JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

To justify this study, this study seeks to provide answers on the influence of work status on fertility preference among women in Nigeria. This study will make attempt to access the relationships and also examine the influence of independent and dependent variable.

There has been various patterns of fertility preference among women in Nigeria. These patterns differs among regions. The fertility preference of women in Northern region is quite different from that of women in Southern region. The essence of this research is to shed light to the difference in fertility preference. This patterns also differs by work status. To examine the influence of work status on fertility preference, women who are working are identified to have different fertility preference than those women are not working.

This study will make attempt to shed more light to it and also to tell us the level at which they differs in regards to place of residence and other necessary variables.

This research is necessary to shed more light on the level of fertility preference so as to influence decision making and policy formulation by government organisations. Furthermore, the study is necessary in which it shows the employment status of women in Nigeria and their level of active involvement in labor activities. This is impedient to influence policy on providing employment for women, providing social security programmes and also the category of women who are employed and not employed so as to influence adequate planning involvement in government budget.

Finally, the the project is necessary to access the level of women empowerment in the country. This is so because women work status is known as major part of empowering women. This will guide government decision on setting up empowerment programmes for women especially, in the Northern region where if low empowerment has been recorded. This project will be instrumental

for national development.

1.5 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Fertility preference: Fertility preference is defined as the desired for more children. This is necessary to determine those women who desired to have more children, those who did not decide (i.e. undecided), those women who want no more children, those who have been sterilized or are in fecund. Fertility preference in this study seeks to access if women want more children or want no more. It is an indicator of women preference to children.

Work status: Work status is defined as the status of being working or not working. The work status is an indicator of women actively involved in labor activities. Although, it is an indicator of employment status and act of engaging in a form of economic activity.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 INTRODUCTION

Overtime, many scholars have attempted to measure the relationship between fertility preference and work status among women in Nigeria. Although, many reviewed literatures made attempt to synergize both variables among regions, sub-regions in Nigeria. Among all, NPC, ICF international 2014 findings review gave way to so many findings and results of fertility preference of women in Nigeria as a whole. According to the findings of the research, it was revealed that Nineteen percent of currently married women in Nigeria want no more children or have been sterilized, while 33 percent want to have another child within two years. Also, it was revealed that the desire to stop childbearing among currently married women has changed only minimally over the past decade (18 percent in 2003 and 19 percent in 2013). Furthermore, currently married women report an ideal family size of 7.1 children, a decrease of 0.2 children since 2003. Other findings include that the overall Nigerian women have about one child more than the number they want (NPC, ICF international 2014). This implies that the total fertility rate of Nigeria is 5.5 children per woman which is 15 percent higher than it would be if all unwanted births were avoided (NPC, ICF international 2014). As stated by (NPC, ICF international 2014), Information on fertility preferences is of considerable importance to family planning programs because it allows planners to assess the desire for children as well as the extent of unwanted and mistimed pregnancies. Data on fertility preferences also indicate possible future fertility trends (NPC, ICF international 2014). It was also discovered that fertility preference has impart on women engaging in labor activities. The level of women work status is highly determined on their fertility preference. I.e. the type of work a woman engaged in determines the fertility preference and also

their fertility behavior. This has been the pattern in Nigeria as work status determines fertility preference. The aim of this literature review is to examine critically those past academic works that has been done in respect to the topic, and to access their individual and collective options and conclusions of how fertility preference affect work status.

2.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

This section provides background knowledge of other research on fertility preference and work status especially in Nigeria. It focused specifically on researching the relationship that exists between women fertility preference and work status. By so, I examine if the desire for child bearing, ideal family size will change if women engage more in work or labor activities in Nigeria.

2.1.1 Fertility and Women's Work Status in Nigeria

It was observed that the decline in fertility and the growth in women's labor market participation in most developing countries, especially Nigeria has been one of the most important economic and demographic events of the last decades.

Only in recent years, the fertility preference decision is viewed in an economic scenario as the opportunity cost of level of income from work status. I.e. the amount of income generated by the family act as the basis of deciding the number of children to be born (Becker 1964, Willis 1973).

On one hand, unemployment growth among women may contribute to delay child birth and consequently total fertility. Other risks are related to the lower stability of unions, while on the other hand, potential mothers are facing an increased risk of becoming single parents, with the economic and social disadvantages this often brings. Consequently, both changes in fertility preference and changes in employment (work status) of women in Nigeria are related to an increased emphasis on individual independence and to the desire of women to be attached in a

more permanent way to the labor market (Lesthaeghe, Willems 1999).

(Becker, Lewis 1973, Willis 1973) said increase in income may reduce fertility if the income elasticity for the quality of children is sufficiently greater than the quantity.

More recently fertility and labor market participation decisions have been recognized as the joint result of the maximization of household expected lifetime utility under wealth and time constraints in a dynamic context. The desired participation status and the desired number of children depend on the whole sequence of price and wages and on the variety of characteristics reflecting preferences. The two types of decisions are therefore simultaneous in the sense that they are the solution to a common constrained maximization problem (Cigno (1991), Rosenzweig and Wolpin (1980), Hotz et al. (1988)). Finally, most recent directions of the economics of the family have analyzed the limitations of traditional models based on a unitary approach where household income is pooled. Empirical analyses of fertility and women's labor supply have dealt with household behavior as the results of interactions between the family members. In fact, it seems that fertility as well as women's labor supply is the object of a bargaining process between the spouses (Del Boca 1997, Schultz 1998). An understanding of the relationship between fertility and labor supply is critical to a number of policy debates. Recent analyses have analyzed the relationship between labor market participation and fertility considering not only the effect of prices and incomes and the household characteristics but also several aspects of the labor market and the social service system (the child care system, part time, unemployment, and parental leave) (Del Boca 2002, Bratti 2000, Pasqua 2003). During the Empirical studies, it was found that the increase in the proportion of parents at work has stimulated an intense debate concerning the importance of factors affecting work and fertility preference. Several research has shown a strong association between part time opportunities and career perspectives, while parental leave has

shown important impact on women's labor market attachment and wages (Bardasi and Gornick 2000). Given the high rates of participation of women in the labor market another important concern regards the impact of the growth of mothers' employment on children welfare (Ermisch and Francesconi 2001, Ruhm 2002). Also, the result shows that even married women who do not work tend to limit their family size, at least in part due to the characteristics of the labor market. Because entry-level positions are so hard to find, many children live at home until they find their first "stable" employment. Thus the labor market indirectly imposes large fertility costs on families even when the mother does not work; thus the structure of the labor market both directly and indirectly acts so as to discourage fertility. It encourages women not to leave the labor market when they have young children but to maintain continuous attachment with negative implication on fertility.

2.1.2 THE DETERMINANT OF LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION AMONG WOMEN IN NIGERIA.

Female labor participation has been relatively stagnant from 2004 till present and it is therefore important to investigate the current determinants of female labor participation (Iweagu, 2012). However, we note that cultural and traditional beliefs are the main forces behind husband's willingness to permit their spouses to work and this motivated the researcher to investigate the determinants of labor force separately in urban and rural sectors of Nigeria.

According to Iweagu, (2012), a major problem confronting Nigeria and other African countries is how to sustain a stable growth in output (Collier and Gunning, 1999). This preoccupation is important due to declining state of the country's per capita income with the growing number of the female population. It shall therefore be to the nation's advantage to increase the level of female

participation to boost total output in today's competitive world. Iweagu, (2012). Indeed, income inequality in Nigeria is high and not favoring the women, females lose a large proportion of their lifetime income by taking time out of the workplace to have children according to Ogwumike et al (2006). Although, women have shown a continued interest in employment in the state civil service, men continue to out-number them. By population, the potential female labor force in Nigeria is 50 per cent though the actual figure ranges between 31 and 36 per cent in both the public and private sectors of the economy (Salaam, 2003; Africa Action, 2003). At the higher administrative and managerial levels, the figure is even smaller.

The Logit result for female participation in urban areas shows that there are so many differences in urban female determination of labor force from the rural. Strangely, while the factors that prove to be the determinants of female labor participation in rural areas are not those that determine those in the urban areas. In the urban areas age proves to be a very serious determinant of female labor participation according to the results which was not the case in the urban areas.

It concluded that the Nigerian government has an objective to, improve on female representation nationally and primarily this impact must be felt in the labor market (Iweagu,2012). Researchers, policy analyzers, policy makers, and policy implementers should take this into consideration when designing policies to improve labor force participation, thereby reducing unemployment rate in the country.

2.1.3: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Catherine Hakim's "preference theory", fully developed in the monograph "work-lifestyle choices in the 21st century" (Hakim,2000) is a new sociological theory with the aim of better explaining current changes in modern societies for women with respect to two main lifecycle patterns: fertility

and employment. Emphasizing the importance of cultural factors as the key to explaining recent changes in family formation and fertility patterns occurred in all modern industrialized societies, Preference Theory regards lifestyle preferences and values as the principal determinants of women's fertility choices and outcomes. Preferences obviously act shaping also men's decisions, but "attitude shave an especially strong impact on women's behavior because women have genuine choices to make regarding employment versus home-making" (Hakim 2002: 432). According to Hakim, in modern industrialized societies women are heterogeneous and this heterogeneity should be considered explicitly in the explanation of behavior and in the design of public policies. More specifically, different "types" of women are identifiable as far as their lifestyle preferences with respect to the tradeoff between family and work are considered. The idea is that, within an industrialized country, the distribution of women between the three groups is roughly symmetric. On the two tails, both accounting for 10% to 30% of the total, there are, respectively, family oriented and career oriented women, while the great majority, between 40% and 80% of the total, are defined "adaptive women". Preference Theory provides a detailed description of the three types' identities. Being family oriented means regarding family life and children as the main priorities in life, thus, deciding not to work, at least unless economic needs require entering the labor market. When these women obtain high levels of education, this can be interpreted as a means to earn a better position on the partnership market and, more generally, to earn some kind of cultural capital. Being career oriented, on the other hand, means giving value to a life devoted to work, either in paid employment or in the public arena. Career oriented women strive for achieving a high level of education, and they stay frequently unmarried and/or childless. Finally, adaptive women have no prevailing preference orientation. They usually want to "get the best of both worlds", combining work and family. Adaptive women are therefore fully in the middle of

the tradeoff between family and work career. The group of adaptive women usually includes also women with unplanned future, who aim at catching opportunities toward career or family when either one of the two shows up, or when public policies change in favor of one extreme group or the other. Women in this group usually achieve education and qualifications as an insurance policy and usually quit working or move to part time work after a birth. This is the category that researchers usually refer to when they consider women in a given society as belonging to a homogeneous group.

According to Preference Theory, the three lifestyle orientations have originated within a new scenario that results from five historical changes: the contraceptive revolution, the equal opportunities revolution, the expansion of white-collar occupations, the creation of jobs for secondary earner and, finally, the increasing attention paid on personal values and preferences when individual choices are made. In other words, the emergence of this new scenario can be seen as a result of the Second Demographic Transition, as outlined by Lesthaeghe and van de Kaa in a series of contributions.

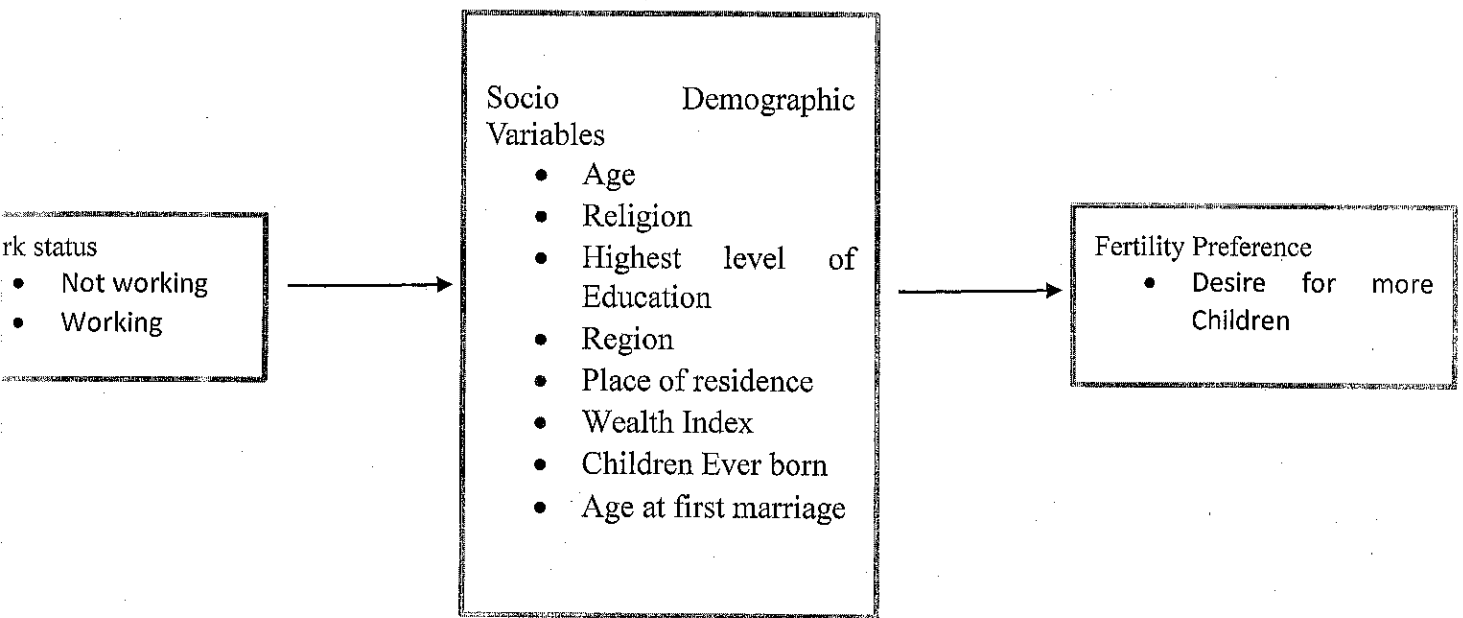
2.1.4 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The figure below is the diagrammatic illustration that depicts the relationship between socio-demographic characteristics, dependent and independent variables. It makes an attempt to explain how the dependent variable and independent influence each other. The independent variable (Women work status) uses occupation to determine the relationship and how it influence fertility preference. Indices use to test fertility preference is desire for more children.

The link shows how the variables are related. The extent a woman works depends on fertility preference. The more the actively involvement of women in labor, the lesser the fertility behavior

and preference should be. This therefore depicts how the two variables linked together and showed the relationship between them.

Figure1: Conceptual Framework for Women works status and Fertility preference.



CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

3.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the methodology applied in this study. The research design, study location, study population, sample size and sampling procedure, variable description and measurements, methods of data collection and analysis are presented below.

3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

The adopted design is an exploratory research design which is aimed to provide in-dept investigation into the research problem and provide solutions to some research questions.

3.2 STUDY LOCATION

The study was conducted in Nigeria, West Africa. Nigeria lies on the west coast of Africa between latitudes 4°16' and 13°53' north and longitudes 2°40' and 14°41' east (NPC, ICF International, 2014). Nigeria has six geo-political zones which include: North-central (FCT-Abuja, Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Niger, Plateau, and Nassarawa), North-East (Adamawa, Borno, Bauchi, Gombe, Yobe, and Taraba), North-West (Jigawa, Kano, Kebbi, Katsina, Kaduna, Sokoto and Zamfara), South-South (Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross-Rivers, Delta, Edo, Rivers), South-East (Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, Imo), and Southwest (Ekiti, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun, and Oyo)

3.3 STUDY POPULATION

The study was conducted among the married women in their reproductive ages, 15-49 years of age in Nigeria. The study population allowed specific indicators to be calculated for each of the six zones, 36 states, and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. Administratively, Nigeria is divided into states. Each state is subdivided into local government areas (LGAs), and each LGA is divided into localities. In addition to these administrative units, during the 2006 population census, each

locality was subdivided into census enumeration areas.

3.4 SAMPLE SIZE AND SAMPLING PROCEDURE

Sample size will be 33,385 women aged 15-49 years. Sample Design for this study is nationally representative and covered the entire women population residing in non-institutional dwelling units in the country. The survey used a sampling frame, the list of enumeration areas (EAs) prepared for the 2006 Population Census of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, provided by the National Population Commission as posit by (NPC, ICF International, 2014). The 2013 NDHS sample was selected using a stratified three-stage cluster design consisting of 904 clusters, 372 in urban areas and 532 in rural areas.

3.5 DATA COLLECTION METHODS

For the purpose of this study, secondary data were used. The secondary data were gotten from Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey, 2013. Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) is a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development and implemented by ICF Macro. (NDHS 2013 report sheet) DHS data are cross-sectional, nationally representative household sample surveys. Data for currently married women were extracted from the data of all women aged 15-49. Currently married women were analyzed using descriptive and analytical statistical techniques.

3.6 MEASUREMENT OF VARIABLES

DEPENDENT VARIABLE: Fertility Preference, was measured using desire for more children.

It includes those that desire to have more children and does that don't desire to have more.

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE: Based on past studies, the following women characteristics were selected as independent variable: work status, Religion, place of residence, Age, Highest Educational level, region, household wealth Index, Age at first marriage, children ever born.

3.1 Table for Variables and Measure

S/n	Variable	DHS measure	Measure for analysis
1.	Work Status	Not working Working	As Used in DHS
2.	Age at first marriage	Less than 20 20-29 30-39 40+	As used in DHS
3.	Age	15-24 25-34 35+	As used in DHS
4.	Desire for more Children	No more desire Desire more	No more desire Desire more
5	Children Ever Born	No children 1-4 children 5 and above children	As used in DHS
6.	Wealth index	Poor Average Rich	As used in DHS
7.	Region	North Central North East North West South East South South West	As used in DHS
8.	Place of residence	Urban Rural	As used in DHS

9.	Religion	Christian Islam Traditional Other	Christian Islam Traditional Others
10.	Highest Educational level	No education Primary Secondary Higher	As used in DHS

3.7 METHODS OF DATA ANALYSIS

Stata 14.0 was used for data analysis. The Independent and dependent variables were compared. Analysis was conducted at three levels: (i) univariate using percentages, (ii) bivariate using cross tabulation & chi square, and (iii) multivariate using: logistic regression.

Univariate analysis: It involved taking the percentage distribution and frequency count of the women characteristics, and other relevant variables.

Bivariate analysis: It involved the use of chi-square table and cross tabulation to analyze the relationship between dependent variables and independent variables and other relevant variables.

Multivariate analysis: It involved the use of binary logistic regression to analyze the effect of each dependent variable on independent variable and other relevant variables

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS.

4.0 Data Presentation and Analysis of results

This section examines the socio demographic attributes of respondents such as their age, educational status, wealth index, religion, place of residence etc. and focuses on the presentation of the results of data analysis of the research work on assessment fertility preference by work status among women in Nigeria. Also presented are the independent variables which include: work status, children ever born, age at first marriage, wealth index etc., while the dependent variable also includes fertility preference. The socio-demographic variables, independents variables and dependent variables are presented below. The independent variables are tested with dependent variable to access the relationship that exists between them. This produces the univariate results, bi-variate results, and also the multi-variate result.

4.1 Univariate Analysis

Table 4.1.1 presents results of univariate analysis conducted. The Table shows the percentage distribution of socio-demographic characteristics among women in Nigeria.

FOR RESEARCH QUESTION 1: What is the pattern of fertility preference by work status among women in Nigeria?

Table4.1: percentage distribution of the selected population

NAME OF VARIABLES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
RELIGION		
Christian	17,935	46.99
Islam	19,860	52.04
Traditionalist	358	0.94
Others	10	0.03

Total	38,163	100.00
PLACE OF RESIDENCE		
Urban	16,090	42.16
Rural	22,073	57.84
Total	38,163	100.00
HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL		
No education	14,454	37.87
Primary	6,599	17.29
Secondary	13,632	35.72
Higher	3,478	9.11
Total	38,163	100.00
RESPONDENTS AGE		
15-24	14,225	37.28
25-34	12,384	32.45
35-44	8,189	21.46
45+	3,365	8.82
Total	38,163	100.00
REGION		
North Central	5,408	14.17
North East	5,641	14.78
North West	11,668	30.57
South East	4,390	11.50
South- South	4,798	12.57
South West	6,258	16.40
Total	38,163	100.00

DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN		
Desire more	31,090	81.47
No more desire	7,073	18.53
Total	38,163	100.00
WORK STATUS		
Not working	14,524	38.06
working	23,639	61.94
Total	38,163	100.00
CHILDREN EVER BORN		
No children	11053	28.96
1-4 children	15900	41.66
5 and above children	11210	29.38
Total	38,163	100.00
WEALTH INDEX		
Poor	14290	37.45
Average	7309	19.15
Rich	16563	43.40
Total	38,163	100.00
AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE		
Less than 20	20680	71.08
20-29	7755	26.66
30-39	634	2.18
40+	24	0.08
Total	38,163	100.00

RELIGION

From the above table, out of the total percentage recorded, women who practice other forms of religion had the lowest percentage of 0.03% than those women who practiced Christian, Islam religion etc., while those women who practice traditional religion had the second to the lowest percentage of 0.94%. Women who practice Christian religion had higher percentage than those women who practiced traditional and other forms of religion; they had 46.99 %, while those women who practiced Islam religion had the highest percentage of 52.04%. This shows that only two religions (Christian and Islam) dominate in Nigeria with Islam religion having the highest percentage.

PLACE OF RESIDENCE

From the table above, it can be deduced that women who lived in the urban areas had the lowest percentage of 42.16%, this indicates that 42% of women in Nigeria lived in the urban areas. While those women who lived in the rural areas had 57.48%. They have the highest percentage recorded than those women who lived in the urban areas. This is an indication that large number of women lived in the rural areas in Nigeria; while those living in the urban places are lower in comparison.

HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

From the above table, women who had higher educational level had the lowest percentage of 9.11%, This indicates that few percentage of women had the opportunity to have higher education in Nigeria. Furthermore, women who had primary educational level had 17.29%, they had higher percentage recorded than those women who had higher education. This indicates that women who attained primary educational level are larger than those women who had higher educational level in Nigeria. This revealed the level of autonomy of women to assess education in Nigeria. Also, those women in Nigeria who had secondary level of education had 35.72%. They had higher

percentage than those women with primary and higher educational level in Nigeria. Women with no educational qualification had the highest percentage of 37.87%. They had slightly higher percentage than those women who attained secondary educational level. This shows that large numbers of women did not go to school or do not have any form of formal education in Nigeria. This may be as a result of the cultural and religious factors associated with women subordination of Nigeria.

RESPONDENTS AGE

From the study, it was revealed that women who are in the reproductive ages of 45 and above have the lowest percentage of 8.82%, they had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 9% of women are in the reproductive age of 45 and above. Furthermore, while those women in the reproductive ages of 35-44 years have 21.46% which is higher than the percentage of women in 45+ years, this indicates that 21% of women are in the reproductive age of 35-44 years in Nigeria. Also, young women in the reproductive ages of 25-34 years have 32.45%. This is higher than that of those women in other ages aside that of the 15-24 years of age. Women in the reproductive age of 15-24 years have the highest percentage recorded in the study with 37.28 %. These women are usually called younger women. This revealed that younger women had the highest percentage recorded in the study.

REGION

From the above study, it can be deduced that women who are in the South- East region of Nigeria had 11.50%. They had the lowest percentage recorded than other women in other regions. This indicates that out of all the regions in Nigeria, women are fewer in south- East than other regions. Also, women who are in the South- South region of Nigeria had 12.57%. They had higher percentage than those women in south East Nigeria. This indicates that out of the regions in

Nigeria, women who are in south- south are more than women in south East region. North-Central region have higher percentage of women with 14.17% than women in South East and South- South. Out of the Northern region in Nigeria, women in North- Central had the lowest percentage recorded. While those from the North-East region have an increased percentage higher than that of the North-Central region with 14.78%. Their percentage are higher than those in South-South, South –East and North-Central region. Furthermore, women who are in South-West Nigeria had 16.40%. They had higher percentage than those women in South-South, South –East, North-Central and North-East region. Out of the Southern region of Nigeria, women in South-West had higher percentage than others while also they had higher percentage than those women in Northern region except North-West. Finally, those women from the North-Western region of Nigeria have the percentage of 30.57%. This shows that North-Western region of Nigeria has the highest percentage of women, and that region is the most populous region in Northern Nigeria.

DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

From above table, the result showed that those women who no more desire for children had 18.53%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 19% of women in Nigeria desire for no more children. Also, those women who desire for more children had 81.47%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who no more desire for more children. This indicates that large chunk of women in Nigeria desire for more children.

WORK STATUS

From the table above, the result revealed that those women who are not working in Nigeria had 38.06%. They had the lowest percentage recorded than those women who are working.

Furthermore, those women who are working in Nigeria had 61.94%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who not working. Furthermore, this indicates that large chunk of women in Nigerian are working.

CHILDREN EVER BORN

From the table above, the result revealed that those women who had no children had 28.96%. They had the lowest percentage recorded than other women. This indicates that in Nigeria, 29% of women do not have any children born to them. Also, those women who had 5 and above children had 29.38%. They had higher percentage than those women who had no children. While those women who had 1-4 children had 41.66%. They had higher percentage than other women who had no children or had 5 and above children. This indicates that 42% of women in Nigeria had 1-4 children.

WEALTH INDEX

From the table above, the result revealed that those women who are at average wealth index had 19.15%. They had the lowest percentage recorded than women in the poor and rich status. This indicates that 19% of women are at average level of wealth in Nigeria. Also, those women who are poor had 37.45%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who are in the average level. This indicates that women who are poor are larger than women who their wealth index is average in Nigeria. Finally, those women who are rich had 43.40%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who are poor and average. This indicates that large percentage of women are rich in Nigeria.

AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE

From the table above, it was revealed that those women who married at the age of 40 years and above are 0.08%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that no woman in

Nigeria had her first marriage at the age of 40 years and above. Also, those women who had their first marriage at 30-39 years had 2.18%. they had higher percentage than those women who don't get married at the age of 40 years. This indicates that only 2% of women in Nigeria had their first marriage at the age of 30 -39 years. Furthermore, women who had their first marriage at the age of 20- 29 years had 26.66%. They had higher percentage than those women who had their first marriage at 40 years and above and 30-39 years. Although, at this age, it was believed generally that a woman should get married in Nigeria. This indicates that 27% of women had their first marriage at the age of 20-29 years. Finally, those women who had their first marriage at the age less than 20 years had 71.08%. They had the highest percentage recorded than other women. This indicates that very large chunk of women had their first marriage at the age less than 20 years in Nigeria.

4.2 Bivariate Analysis

This section presents the bivariate analysis of the relationship between women work status and fertility preference with the results of chi-square test of association.

FOR REASEARCH QUESTION 2: To what extent does work status influence fertility preference among women in Nigeria?

Table 4.2.1: percentage distribution of work status by fertility preference

VARIABLE NAME	DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN			CHI-SQUARE AND P-VALUE
	DESIRE MORE (%)	NO MORE DESIRE (%)	TOTAL (%)	
CURRENTLY WORKING				
NO	13395 (92)	1,188 (8.2)	14,583 (100)	
YES	17,426 (73.9)	6,148 (26.1)	23,574 (100)	X ² =1900
TOTAL	30,821 (80.8)	7,336 (19.2)	38,157 (100)	PR=0.000

FOR CURRENTLY WORKING BY DESIRE FORMORE CHILDREN

From the above table, the result revealed that those women who are not currently working but desire for more children had 92%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 92% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children are not working. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who are not working but do not desire for more children had 8.2%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 8% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children are not working. Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria that currently working and desire to have more children had 73.9%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 74% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children are working. Also, those women who are currently working but do not desire to have more children had 26.1%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 26% of women in Nigeria do not desire to have more children and are working. Finally, the total percentages of women who desire for more children in Nigeria are 80.8%. They had the highest percentage recorded. This indicates that 81% of women in Nigeria desire for more children in Nigeria. While the total percentage of women who do not desire to have more children are 19.2%. They had lower percentage than those women who desire for more children. This indicates that 19% of women do not desire to have more children in Nigeria. Chi-square test of association shows that there is a significant relationship between women work status and desire for more children in Nigeria ($X^2= 1900$ and p-value 0.000). Furthermore, this shows that women work status relate to desire for more children.

FOR RESEARCH QUESTION 3: To determine the influence of other factors on the relationship between work status and fertility preference.

Table 4.2.2: Percentage of Fertility Preference by Women Characteristics

VARIABLE NAME	DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN			CHI-SQUARE AND P-VALUE
	DESIRE MORE (%)	NO MORE DESIRE (%)	TOTAL (%)	
RELIGION				
CHRISTIAN	14956(76.7)	4547 (23.3)	19503 (100)	
ISLAM	15,613 (85.4)	2,678 (14.6)	18,291 (100)	X2=488.4208
TRADITIONALIST	241(69.1)	108 (30.10)	349(100)	
OTHERS	11 (78.6)	3 (21.4)	14(100)	PR=0.000
TOTAL	30,821 (80.8)	7,336(19.2)	38,157(100)	
PLACE OF RESIDENCE				
URBAN	12,045 (79.1)	3,191(20.9)	15,236(100)	X2=48.2052
RURAL	18,776(81.9)	4,145 (18.1)	22,921(100)	PR = 0.000
TOTAL	30,821(80.8)	7,336(19.2)	38,157 (100)	
HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL				
NO EDUCATION	11,022 (81.8)	2,454 (18.2)	13,476 (100)	
PRIMARY	4,845 (69.5)	2,124(30.5)	6,969 (100)	X2= 775.7947
SECONDARY	12,045 (85.5)	2,051 (14.6)	14,096 (100)	PR = 0.000
HIGHER	2,909 (80.5)	707 (19.6)	3,616 (100)	
TOTAL	30,821 (80.8)	7,336 (19.2)	38,157 (100)	
RESPONDENTS AGE				
15-24	14,001(98.1)	272(1.9)	14,273 (100)	
25-34	11,025 (90.6)	1,151 (9.5)	12,176 (100)	X2= 13000
35-44	4,895 (59.6)	3,315 (40.4)	8,210 (100)	PR = 0.000
45+	900 (25.7)	2,598 (74.3)	3,498 (100)	
TOTAL	30,821(80.8)	7,336 (19.2)	38,157 (100)	
REGION				
NORTH-CENTRAL	4,808 (78.10)	1,280 (21.0)	6,088 (100)	
NORTH-EAST	5,467 (84.6)	996 (15.4)	6,463(100)	
NORTH-WEST	8,324 (87.7)	1,169 (12.3)	9,493(100)	X2=698.4498
SOUTH-EAST	3,319 (75.8)	1,059 (24.2)	4,378 (100)	PR = 0.000

SOUTH-SOUTH	4,676 (79.1)	1,233 (20.9)	5,909(100)	
SOUTH-WEST	4,227 (72.6)	1,599 (27.5)	5,826 (100)	
TOTAL	30,821 (80.8)	7,336 (19.2)	38,157(100)	
AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE				
LESS THAN 20	15307 (76)	4776(23.78)	20083(100)	
20-29	5654 (72)	2199(28)	7853(100)	X ² =55.0550
30-39	482(77)	144(23)	626(100)	PR = 0.000
40+	22(73.33)	8(26.67)	30(100)	
TOTAL	30,821(80.8)	7336(19.2)	38157(100)	
CHILDREN EVER BORN				
NO CHILDREN	10929(97.42)	290(2.58)	11219(100)	
1-4 CHILDREN	13550(86.84)	2053(13.16)	15603(100)	X ² =0.0069
5 AND ABOVE CHILDREN	6342(55.95)	4993(44.05)	11335(100)	PR = 0.000
TOTAL	30821(80.77)	7336(19.23)	38157(100)	
WEALTH INDEX				
POOR	11596(83.82)	2238(16.18)	13834(100)	
AVERAGE	6202(79.24)	1625(20.76)	7827(100)	X ² =130.1476
RICH	13023(78.95)	3473(21.05)	16496(100)	PR = 0.000
TOTAL	30821(80.8)	7336(19.2)	38157(100)	

FOR RELIGION BY DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

From the above table, the result revealed that those women who practiced Christian religion but desire for more children had 76.7%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 77% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children practiced Christian religion. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who practiced Christian but do not desire for more children had 23.3%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 23% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children practiced Christian religion. Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria that practiced Islam religion and desire to have more children had 85.4 %. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children and those Christian women who desire for more children. This indicates that 85% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children are

practiced Islam religion. Also, those women that practiced Islam religion but do not desire to have more children had 14.6 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 15% of women in Nigeria that practiced Islam religion do not desire to have more children. Furthermore, the result revealed that those women who practiced traditional religion but desire for more children had 69.1%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 69% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children practiced traditional religion. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who practiced traditional religion but do not desire for more children had 30.10%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 30% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children practiced traditional religion. Also, the result revealed that those women who practiced other religion aside from the above listed ones but desire for more children had 78.6%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children, those women who practiced traditional religion, Christian religion that desire for more children. This indicates 79% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children practiced other religion. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who practiced other religion but do not desire for more children had 21.4%. They had the lowest percentage recorded than those women who practiced Christian and traditional religion but do not desire for more children. This indicates that 21.4% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children practiced other religion. Finally, the total percentages of women who desire for more children in Nigeria are 80.8%. They had the highest percentage recorded. This indicates that 81% of women in Nigeria desire for more children in Nigeria. While the total percentage of women who do not desire to have more children are 19.2%. They had lower percentage than those women who desire for more children. This indicates that 19% of women do not desire to have more children in Nigeria. Chi-square test

of association shows that there is a significant relationship between women religion and desire for more children in Nigeria ($X^2= 488.4208$ and p-value 0.000). Furthermore, this shows that women religion relates to desire for more children.

FOR PLACE OF RESIDENCE BY DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

From the above table, the result revealed that those women who are living in the urban areas but desire for more children had 79.1%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 79% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children are living in the urban areas. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who are living in the urban areas but do not desire for more children had 20.9%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 21% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children are living in the urban areas. Furthermore, those women in Nigeria that are living in the rural areas and desire to have more children had 81.9%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 82% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children are living in the rural areas. Also, those women who are living in the rural areas but do not desire to have more children had 18.1%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 18% of women in Nigeria that do not desire to have more children and are living in the rural areas. Finally, the total percentage of women who desire for more children in Nigeria are 80.8%. They had the highest percentage recorded. This indicates that 81% of women in Nigeria desire for more children in Nigeria. While the total percentage of women who do not desire to have more children are 19.2%. They had lower percentage than those women who desire for more children. This indicates that 19% of women do not desire to have more children in Nigeria. Chi-square test of association shows that there is a significant relationship between women place of residence and desire for more children in Nigeria ($X^2= 48.2052$ and p-

value 0.000). Furthermore, this shows that women work status relate to desire for more children.

FOR HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL BY DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

From the above table, the result revealed that those women who had no educational level but desire for more children had 81.8%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 82% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children had no educational level. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who had no educational level but do not desire for more children had 18.2%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 18% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children had no educational level. Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria that had primary educational level and desire to have more children had 69.5%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 70% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children had primary educational level. Also, those women that had primary educational level but do not desire to have more children had 30.5 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 31% of women in Nigeria that had primary educational level do not desire to have more children.

Furthermore, the result revealed that those women who had secondary educational level but desire for more children had 85.5%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 86% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children had secondary educational level. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who had secondary educational level but do not desire for more children had 14.6%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 14.6% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children had secondary educational level. Also, the result revealed that those women who had higher educational level but desire for more children had 80.5%. They had higher percentage recorded

than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 81% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children had higher educational level. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who had higher educational level but do not desire for more children had 19.6 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 20% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children had higher educational level. Finally, the total percentages of women who desire for more children in Nigeria are 80.8%. They had the highest percentage recorded. This indicates that 81% of women in Nigeria desire for more children in Nigeria. While the total percentage of women who do not desire to have more children are 19.2%. They had lower percentage than those women who desire for more children. This indicates that 19% of women do not desire to have more children in Nigeria. Chi-square test of association shows that there is a significant relationship between women educational level and desire for more children in Nigeria ($X^2=775.7947$ and p-value 0.000). Furthermore, this shows that women educational level relates to desire for more children.

FOR RESPONDENTS AGE BY DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

From the above table, the result revealed that those women who are at reproductive ages of 15-24 years but desire for more children had 98.1%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 98% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children are at reproductive ages of 15-24 years. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who are at reproductive ages of 15-24 years but do not desire for more children had 1.9%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 2% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children are at reproductive ages of 15-24 years. Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria that are at reproductive ages of 25-34 years and desire to have more children had 90.6%.

They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 91% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children are at reproductive ages of 25-34 years. Also, those women that are at reproductive ages of 25-34 years but do not desire to have more children had 15.4 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 15% of women in Nigeria that are at reproductive ages of 25-34 years do not desire to have more children.

Furthermore, the result revealed that those women who are at reproductive ages of 35-44 years but desire for more children had 59.6%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 60% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children are at reproductive ages of 35-44 years. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who are at reproductive ages of 35-44 years but do not desire for more children had 40.4%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 40% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children are at reproductive ages of 35-44 years. Also, the result revealed that those women who are at reproductive ages of 45+ years but desire for more children had 25.7%. They had lower percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 26% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children are at reproductive ages of 45+ years Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who are at reproductive ages of 45+ years but do not desire for more children had 74.3%. They had the higher percentage recorded than those women who are age 45years + but desire for more children. This indicates that very large chunk of women at age 45 years + in Nigeria do not desire for more children finally; the total percentages of women who desire for more children in Nigeria are 80.8%. They had the highest percentage recorded. This indicates that 81% of women in Nigeria desire for more children in Nigeria. While the total percentage of women who do not desire to have more children are 19.2%. They had lower

percentage than those women who desire for more children. This indicates that 19% of women do not desire to have more children in Nigeria. Chi-square test of association shows that there is a significant relationship between respondents age and desire for more children in Nigeria ($X^2=13000$ and p-value 0.000). Furthermore, this shows that women respondents age relates to desire for more children.

FOR WOMEN REGION BY DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

From the above table, the result revealed that those women who are at North- Central but desire for more children had 78.10 %. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 78% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children are at North- Central. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who are at North- Central but do not desire for more children had 21.0 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 21% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children are at North- Central. Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria who are at North- East and desire to have more children had 84.6%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 85% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children are at North- East. Also, those women who are at North- East but do not desire to have more children had 15.4 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 15% of women in Nigeria who are at North- East do not desire to have more children. Furthermore, the result revealed that those women who are at North- West but desire for more children had 87.7%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 88% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children are at North- West. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who are at North- West but do not desire for more children had

12.3%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 12% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children are at North- West.

Also, the result revealed that those women who are at South- East but desire for more children had 75.8 %. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 76% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children are at South- East. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who are at South- East but do not desire for more children had 24.2 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 24% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children are at South- East. Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria who are at South- South and desire to have more children had 79.1%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 79% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children are at South- South. Also, those women who are at South- South but do not desire to have more children had 20.9 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 21% of women in Nigeria who are at South- South do not desire to have more children. Furthermore, the result revealed that those women who are at South -West but desire for more children had 72.6%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 73% of women in Nigeria that desire for more children are at South -West. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who are at South -West but do not desire for more children had 27.5%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 28% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children are at South -West. Finally, the total percentages of women who desire for more children in Nigeria are 80.8%. They had the highest percentage recorded. This indicates that 81% of women in Nigeria desire for more children in Nigeria. While the total percentage of women who do not desire to have more children are 19.2%. They had lower percentage than those women who desire for more

children. This indicates that 19% of women do not desire to have more children in Nigeria. Chi-square test of association shows that there is a significant relationship between women region and desire for more children in Nigeria ($X^2= 698.4498$ and p-value 0.000). Furthermore, this shows that women region relates to desire for more children.

FOR AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE BY DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

From the above table, the result revealed that those women who their age at first marriage is less than 20 years but desire for more children had 76%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 76% of women in Nigeria that their age at first marriage is less than 20 years' desire for more children. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who their age at first marriage is less than 20 years but do not desire for more children had 23.78%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 24% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children had their age at first marriage less than 20 years. Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria that their age at first marriage is 20-29 years and desire to have more children had 72%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 72% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children that their age at first marriage is 20-29 years. Also, those women that their age at first marriage is 20-29 years but do not desire to have more children have 28%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 28% of women in Nigeria that their age at first marriage is 20-29 years do not desire to have more children.

Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria that their age at first marriage is 30-39 years and desire to have more children had 77%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 77% of women in Nigeria who desire to

have more children that their age at first marriage is 30-39 years. Also, those women that their age at first marriage is 30-39 years but do not desire to have more children had 23 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 23% of women in Nigeria that their age at first marriage is 30-39 years do not desire to have more children. Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria that their age at first marriage is 40 years+ and desire to have more children had 73%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 73% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children that their age at first marriage is 40 years+. Also, those women that their age at first marriage is 40 years+ but do not desire to have more children had 27 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 27% of women in Nigeria that their age at first marriage is 40years+ do not desire to have more children. Finally, the total percentages of women who desire for more children in Nigeria are 80.8%. They had the highest percentage recorded. This indicates that 81% of women in Nigeria desire for more children in Nigeria. While the total percentage of women who do not desire to have more children are 19.2%. They had lower percentage than those women who desire for more children. This indicates that 19% of women do not desire to have more children in Nigeria. Chi-square test of association shows that there is a significant relationship between respondent age at first marriage and desire for more children in Nigeria ($X^2= 55.0550$ and p-value 0.000). Furthermore, this shows that women respondents age at first marriage relate to desire for more children.

FOR CHILDREN EVER BORN BY DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

From the above table, the result revealed that those women who had no children but desire for more children had 97.42%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not

desire for more children. This indicates 97% of women in Nigeria who had no children desire for more children. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who had no children but do not desire for more children had 2.58%. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 3% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children had no children. Furthermore, those women in Nigeria who had 1-4 children and desire to have more children had 86.84%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 87% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children had 1-4 children. Also, those women who had 1-4 children but do not desire to have more children had 13.16 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 13% of women in Nigeria who had 1-4 children do not desire to have more children. Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria who had 5 and above children and desire to have more children had 55.95%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 56% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children had 5 and above children. Also, those women who had 5 and above children but do not desire to have more children had 44.05 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 44% of women in Nigeria who had 5 and above children do not desire to have more children. Finally, the total percentages of women who desire for more children in Nigeria are 80.8%. They had the highest percentage recorded. This indicates that 81% of women in Nigeria desire for more children in Nigeria. While the total percentage of women who do not desire to have more children are 19.2%. They had lower percentage than those women who desire for more children. This indicates that 19% of women do not desire to have more children in Nigeria. Chi-square test of association shows that there is a significant relationship between children ever born and desire for more children in Nigeria ($X^2= 0.0069$ and p-value 0.000). Furthermore, this shows that women children ever born relate to desire for more children.

FOR WEALTH INDEX BY DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN

From the above table, the result revealed that those women who are poor but desire for more children had 83.82%. They had higher percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates 84% of women in Nigeria who are poor desire for more children. Also, out of the percentage recorded, women who are poor but do not desire for more children had 16.18 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 16% of women in Nigeria that do not desire for more children are poor. Furthermore, those women in Nigeria who are at average wealth strata and desire to have more children had 79.24 %. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 79% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children are at average wealth strata. Also, those women who are at average wealth strata but do not desire to have more children had 20.76 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 21% of women in Nigeria who are at average wealth strata do not desire to have more children. Furthermore, more, those women in Nigeria who are rich and desire to have more children had 78.95%. They had the highest percentage recorded than those women who do not desire for more children. This indicates that 79% of women in Nigeria who desire to have more children are rich. Also, those women who are rich but do not desire to have more children had 21.05 %. They had the lowest percentage recorded. This indicates that 21% of women in Nigeria who are rich do not desire to have more children. Finally, the total percentages of women who desire for more children in Nigeria are 80.8%. They had the highest percentage recorded. This indicates that 81% of women in Nigeria desire for more children in Nigeria. While the total percentage of women who do not desire to have more children are 19.2%. They had lower percentage than those women who desire for more children. This indicates that 19% of women do not desire to have more children in Nigeria. Chi-square test of

association shows that there is a significant relationship between women wealth index and desire for more children in Nigeria ($X^2= 130.1476$ and p-value 0.000). Furthermore, this shows that women wealth index relates to desire for more children.

In conclusion, the result revealed that there is a significant relationship between women work status and fertility preference in Nigeria.

4.2.3 Test of hypothesis

H₀: There is no significant relationship between women work status and fertility preference in Nigeria.

H₁: There is a significant relationship between women work status and fertility preference in Nigeria.

Decision

From the chi-square test, the relationship between women work status and fertility preference is statistically significant ($X^2=1900$, PR = 0.000). We can conclude that there is a significant relationship between women work status and fertility preference. Therefore, we reject the null and accept the alternate hypothesis.

This study also revealed that the relationship between women wealth index and fertility preference is statistically significant ($X^2= 130.1476$, PR = 0.000). We can conclude that there is a significant relationship between women wealth index and fertility preference. Therefore, we reject the null and accept the alternate hypothesis.

The above chi-square test only reveals association, to further test the hypothesis for this study with regard to magnitude and direction of association between women wealth index and fertility preference in Nigeria, multivariate analysis using logistic regression was conducted. The results are presented in the next section.

4.3 Multivariate analysis

The multivariate analysis using logistic regression was done to show the strength and the direction of the relationship between independent variables and dependent variables. The results are presented in odds ratios, associated p-values and confidence interval.

Table 4.3.1 DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND ALL INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

This table shows the strength and the relationship between desire for more children and all independent variable.

This table is represented as model 2. **DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN**

DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN	ODD RATIO MODEL 1 (95% CONF. INTERVAL)	ODD RATIO MODEL 2 (95% CONF. INTERVAL)
WORK STATUS		
NO WORKING	1(RC)	1(RC)
YES WORKING	3.98***(3.72-4.25)	1.06 (0.97-1.16)
RELIGION		
CHRISTIAN		1(RC)
ISLAM		0.48***(0.43-0.53)
TRADITIONALIST		0.71***(0.52-0.98)
OTHERS		1.45(0.35-6.00)
PLACE OF RESIDENCE		
URBAN		1(RC)
RURAL		0.86***(0.79-0.94)
LEVEL OF EDUCATION		
NO EDUCATION		1(RC)
PRIMARY		1.20***(1.08-1.34)
SECONDARY		1.25***(1.11-1.42)
HIGHER		1.31***(1.11-1.54)
AGE		
15-24 AGE		1(RC)
25-34 AGE		4.23***(3.40-5.26)
35-44 AGE		20.58***(16.52-25.65)
45+ AGE		110.25***(87.36-139.15)
REGION		
NORTH-CENTRAL		1(RC)
NORTH-EAST		0.52***(0.45-0.59)
NORTH-WEST		0.31***(0.27-0.35)
SOUTH-EAST		0.89***(0.77-1.03)
SOUTH-SOUTH		0.73***(0.64-0.83)
SOUTH-WEST		1.40***(1.25-1.59)
COUPLE WEALTH INDEX		

POOR AVERAGE RICH		1(RC) 1.14***(1.02-1.27) 1.29***(1.14-1.44)
AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE LESS THAN 20 YEARS 20-29 YEARS 30-39 YEARS 40+ YEARS		1(RC) 0.59***(0.54-0.64) 0.23***(0.19-0.29) 0.10***(0.42-0.26)
CHILDREN EVER BORN NO CHILDREN 1-4 CHILDREN 5 AND ABOVE CHILDREN		1(RC) 1.64***(1.30-2.06) 4.64***(3.67-5.86)

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND WORK STATUS (MODEL 1)

From the above table, with odd ratio (OR=3.98, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women who are working are more likely to desire more children than those women who are not working. This showed that there is significant influence of work status on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 3.72 and 4.25)

INTERPRETATION OF MODEL 2

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND WORK STATUS

From the above table, with odd ratio (OR= 1.06, $P > |z| = 0.221$) the result revealed that those women who are working are more likely to desire more children than those women who are not working. This showed that there is no significant influence of work status on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.221$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.97 and 1.16)

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND RELIGION

From the above table, with odd ratio (OR= 0.48, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women who practiced Islam religion are more likely to desire more children than those women who practiced Christian religion. This showed that there is significant influence of religion on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.43 and 0.52). Furthermore, with odd ratio (OR= 0.71, $P > |z| = 0.036$) the result revealed that those women who practiced traditional religion are more likely to desire more children than those women who practiced Christian religion.

This showed that there is significant influence of religion on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.036$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.52 and 0.98). Finally, with odd ratio ($OR = 1.45$, $P > |z| = 0.611$) the result revealed that those women who practiced other religion are more likely to desire more children than those women who practiced Christian religion. This showed that there is no significant influence of religion on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.611$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.35 and 6.00).

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE

From the above table, with odd ratio ($OR = 0.86$, $P > |z| = 0.001$) the result revealed that those women who lived in the rural areas are more likely to desire more children than those women who lived in the urban areas. This showed that there is significant influence of place of residence on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.001$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.79 and 0.94).

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND LEVEL OF EDUCATION

From the above table, with odd ratio ($OR = 1.20$, $P > |z| = 0.001$) the result revealed that those women who had primary educational level are more likely to desire more children than those women who had no education. This showed that there is significant influence of level of education on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.001$, 95% Conf. Interval of 1.08 and 1.34). Also, from the above table, with odd ratio ($OR = 1.25$, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women who had secondary educational level are more likely to desire more children than those women who had no education. This showed that there is significant influence of level of education on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 1.11 and 1.42). Finally, the above table, with odd ratio ($OR = 1.31$, $P > |z| = 0.001$) the result revealed that those women who had higher/post-secondary educational level are more likely to desire more children than those women

who had no education. This showed that there is significant influence of level of education on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.001$, 95% Conf. Interval of 1.11 and 1.54).

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND AGE OF RESPONDENTS

From the above table, with odd ratio ($OR = 4.22$, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women in their reproductive ages of 25-34 years are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in their reproductive ages of 15-24 years. This showed that there is significant influence of level of respondents age on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 3.40 and 5.26). Furthermore, with odd ratio ($OR = 20.58$, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women in their reproductive ages of 35-44 years are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in their reproductive ages of 15-24 years. This showed that there is significant influence of level of respondents age on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 16.52 and 25.65). Finally, with odd ratio ($OR = 110.25$, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women in their reproductive ages of 45 years+ are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in their reproductive ages of 15-24 years. This showed that there is significant influence of level of respondents age on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 87.36 and 139.15).

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND REGION

From the above table, with odd ratio ($OR = 0.52$, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women are in North-East are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in North-Central. This showed that there is significant influence of level of region on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.45 and 0.59). Also, with odd ratio ($OR = 0.31$, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women are in North-West are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in North-Central. This showed that there is significant

influence of level of region on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.27 and 0.35). Furthermore, with odd ratio ($OR = 0.89$, $P > |z| = 0.110$) the result revealed that those women are in South-East are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in North- Central. This showed that there is no significant influence of level of region on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.110$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.77 and 1.03). Furthermore, with odd ratio ($OR = 0.73$, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women are in South-South are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in North- Central. This showed that there is significant influence of level of region on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.64 and 0.83). Furthermore, with odd ratio ($OR = 1.41$, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women are in South-West are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in North- Central. This showed that there is significant influence of level of region on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 1.25 and 1.59).

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND COUPLES WEALTH INDEX

From the table above, with odd ratio ($OR = 1.14$, $P > |z| = 0.015$) the result revealed that those women who are at average wealth index are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in poor wealth index. This showed that there is significant influence of level of wealth index on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.015$, 95% Conf. Interval of 1.03 and 1.27). Furthermore, with odd ratio ($OR = 1.29$, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women who are rich are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in poor wealth index. This showed that there is significant influence of level of wealth index on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 1.14 and 1.44).

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE

From the table above, with odd ratio (OR= 0.59, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women who had their age at first marriage at 20-29 are more likely to desire more children than those women who had their first marriage at less than 20 years. This showed that there is significant influence of level of age at first marriage on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.54 and 0.65). Furthermore, with odd ratio (OR= 0.23, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women who had their age at first marriage at 30-39 are more likely to desire more children than those women who had their first marriage at less than 20 years. This showed that there is significant influence of level of age at first marriage on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.19 and 0.29). Furthermore, with odd ratio (OR= 0.10, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women who had their age at first marriage at 40+ are more likely to desire more children than those women who had their first marriage at less than 20 years. This showed that there is significant influence of level of age at first marriage on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.42 and 0.25).

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND CHILDREN EVER BORN

From the result above, with odd ratio (OR= 1.64, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women who had 1-4 children are more likely to desire more children than those women who had no children. This showed that there is significant influence of children ever born on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 1.30 and 2, 06). From the result above, with odd ratio (OR= 4.64, $P > |z| = 0.000$) the result revealed that those women who had 5 and above children are more likely to desire more children than those women who had no children. This showed that there is significant influence of children ever born on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.000$, 95% Conf. Interval of 3.67 and 5.86).

4.3.3 Test of hypothesis

H₀: There is no significant relationship between women work status and fertility preference in Nigeria.

H₁: There is a significant relationship between women work status and fertility preference in Nigeria.

Decision

FOR WOMEN AUTONOMY AND CEB

The logistic regression result revealed that there is significant influence of women work status on fertility preference in Nigeria, therefore, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This study examined women work status and fertility preference in Nigeria. This chapter presented summary of findings, conclusion and recommendations drawn from the result of the study.

5.1 Summary and Discussion of Findings

The study analyzed data obtained from national demographic and health survey (NPC, ICF international, 2014). The sample size was 38163 respondents.

Univariate analysis in this study was carried out using tables of frequency and percentage distribution to describe the background and demographic characteristics of respondents. **Bivariate analysis** was done using the chi-square table (χ^2) and cross tabulation to analyze the relationship between independent variables and the dependent variable.

Furthermore, logistic regression model was used for the multivariate analysis to analyze the effect of all independent variables on the dependent variable.

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND WORK STATUS

The findings revealed that those women who are working are more likely to desire more children than those women who are not working. This may be due to the reason some of them have few children due to the talks their job demands. Women who had 1 or 2 children in Nigeria and continues with her job may desire to have another 1 or 2 since she is also busy with work. This showed that there is significant influence of work status on fertility preference in Nigeria. Furthermore, form the second model, this showed that there is no significant influence of work status on fertility preference in Nigeria with ($P > |z| = 0.221$, 95% Conf. Interval of 0.97 and 1.16)

Some reason may have caused this.

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND RELIGION

Form the multivariate level, the result revealed that those women who practiced Islam religion are more likely to desire more children than those women who practiced Christian religion. This is visible and can be attributed to the religious believe of the Islam faithful that their doctrine permits a man to marry more than one wife, with this doctrine, husbands that desire to have more children will be forced to have another wife if the original wife cannot produce up to the man's expectation. This has attributed to women desire for more children so as to impress their husbands or not to allow him marry another wife. Although, the result showed that there is significant influence of religion on fertility preference in Nigeria. The result also finds that those couple that practiced traditional religion more likely to desire more children than those women who practiced Christian religion. This showed that there is significant influence of religion on fertility preference in Nigeria. At the bivariate level, the findings revealed that those women who practiced Islam had the highest percentage of those that desire more children, while women who practiced traditional religion had the highest percentage of those that do not desire more children in Nigeria.

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE

The result revealed that those women who lived in the rural areas are more likely to desire more children than those women who lived in the urban areas. Definitely, the livelihood in rural areas in Nigeria gives them room to desire for more children since they don't engage in stressful work or occupation like those women who live in urban. This showed that there is significant influence of place of residence on fertility preference in Nigeria. At bivariate level, those women who lived in the rural areas desire for more children, while those women who lived in the urban areas do not desire for more children in Nigeria due to the stressful condition of livelihood that characterized

the urban areas.

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND LEVEL OF EDUCATION

The result revealed that those women who had primary educational level, secondary educational level, higher/post-secondary educational level are more likely to desire more children than those women who had no education. This showed that there is significant influence of level of education on fertility preference in Nigeria. This negates the researchers thought. Originally, the researcher thought, those women who had no education should desire for more children, but contrary is what was observed from the research. At the bivariate level, it was observed that those women who had secondary education had the highest percentage of women who desire for more children in Nigeria, while those women that had primary educational level do not desire for more children

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND AGE OF RESPONDENTS

The result revealed that those women in their reproductive ages of 25-34, 35- 44, and 45 years+ years are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in their reproductive ages of 15-24 years. This showed that there is significant influence of level of respondents age on fertility preference in Nigeria.

FOR DESIRE FOR MORE CHILDREN AND REGION

The result revealed that those women are in North-East, North-West, South-East, South-South, South-West are more likely to desire more children than those women who are in North- Central. This showed that there is significant influence of level of region on fertility preference in Nigeria. also, it can be deducing that women in north west Nigeria has the highest percentage of those that desire for more children, while south-south women had the highest percentage for those that desire for more children, while 21% of north central women do not desire for more children, and 27% of south –west women do not desire for more children.

IMPLICATION OF WOMEN WORK STATUS ON FERTILITY PREFERENCE

As it has been noticed that work status is significant to fertility preference. The outcome of the result at bivariate level revealed some shocking truth. It was observed that women who are engaged in labor activities still desire to have more children. If this continues, the fertility rate of the country will continue, hence, there will be a low productivity in the aspect of labor engagement due to the reason because they will take some time off for their maternity which will have a resultant effect on the outcome of the production level of the country and general labor productivity. If more women who engage in labor activities still desire for more children, there is possibility of raising maternal mortality due to the continuous increase in child birth. Also, works will be held at ransom due to the consistent leave of women who are supposed to fully engage in labor activities, companies will be faced with the issue of recruiting more workers who could take their position when they leave, this will result to increase in company expenditure by recruiting more /new staff and leaving the company at the risk of losing targeted market due to the consistent maternity leave of women. On the negative impact of the result outcome, those women who are not working had the highest percentage of those that desire more children. The implication of this is that the fertility level may increase in a geometric progression as stated by Reverend Thomas Malthus. These women are not working, yet they desire more children. The implication is of two way things, first, it has effect on country's population, and secondly, it has a negative implication on the labor/work force outcome in the country. These women do not engage in any work, the number of children they tend to produce will be higher because they are not engaged. This will double the country's population and may result to higher density, increased crime rate, raising of poverty, degradation of environmental and natural resources in quest for life sustenance or means of survival, and many more. All negative effect witnessed as a result of high population may be

witness if large percentage of women do not engage in effective, productive labor activities and yet they still desire to have more children. On the other hand, the labor force ratio will be low when compared to other countries. When large of women do not engage in labor activities, sure there may be rise in demands of labor, low general output produce by the few workers due to the stress and pressure of the work on them, there may be production of sub-standard product due to the constrain of inadequate labor force. Also, there may be high un-employment which may result to over dependency on those few who are actually working, and if this is noticed, there will be low savings and investment, which may increase the poverty circle of the people and results to low standard of living in the country.

5.2 CONCLUSION

This study examined the relationship between women work status and fertility preference in Nigeria. It was found out that there is a significant relationship between women work status and fertility preference in Nigeria.

Also, there is a significant relationship between employment status, religion, place of residence, educational status, respondents age, region, children ever born, wealth index, and even age at first marriage on fertility preference.

5.3 RECOMMENDATION

Women work status has been noticed to have a significant effect on fertility preference, although in this part of the world (Nigeria), women are being marginalized and were not really empowered. If women engagement in labor activities is optimized in the country, certain level of progress will be achieved in term of women empowerment, community building and overall development of the

country. This is so because any country that refuses to engage their women folk will end up using up the men folk until their marginal return begins to diminish, thereby producing 1/3 of their potential. This impedes the country's development and retards the growth and development of such country. Below are my recommendations for theoretical and practical purposes based on the findings of this study:

1. Additional research is needed on the influence of women engagement in work and fertility preference Nigeria, and also across all the regions in Nigeria starting from 2019. This will also amplify our understanding on the level of women engagement in certain region like northern and also across all other regions in Nigeria. This research is based on the NPC, ICF INTERNATIONAL 2014 data set which new research should be done to access the trends at which there is women work status in the country so as to guide the government in their decision making and all other organizations that needs the data.
2. Government should teach the importance of empowering women folks in relation to national building and transformation towards ensuring equal right and sustainable development of the country by engaging more women in labor activities.
3. Programs should be organized and included in government policies to improve the well-being and welfare of women not only in northern region, but also to the nation at large for it will indirectly influence the fertility preference of women in Nigeria.
4. Different public and private support measures and programs should be organized to empower women and girls especially in northern (North-Western Region) Nigeria were large chunk of them desire more children.

In conclusion, women work status should be top priorities in all policy formulations and design in government and private sectors so as to influence fertility preference in Nigeria.