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Perspectives on Cultural Contexts of Friendship and Sexual Relations: The Nigerian Experience.

The problematics of building appropriate frameworks for explaining and defining the cultural contexts of friendship and sexual relations cannot be completely isolated from the dominant ideology of patriarchy in Africa. A woman is culturally positioned as a sex object whose interests and feelings are largely determined by the culturally accepted norms and practices.

The study is therefore set to examine conceptual issues in friendship and sexual relations with a view to forging appropriate linkages and evolving alternative paradigms. The study will also identify those cultural inhibitions, particularly in Nigeria, that define the social boundaries of friendship and sexual relations. In effect, both secondary and primary sources of data shall be employed. For the purpose of generating primary data, the study shall be restricted to south-western part of Nigeria using interview method and focus group discussions (FGDs).

It is expected that the study will create more vistas and open further windows for repositioning the theoretical and empirical understanding of friendship and sexual relations.