

REVISION EXERCISE

SUBJECT: SOCIAL STUDIES

CLASS: JSS 3

TOPIC: HARMFUL TRADITIONAL PRACTICES

Harmful traditional practices are those evil cultural practices of old that are mostly committed against women and children which cause pains, sorrow, physical, social and emotional problems.

TYPES OF HARMFUL TRADITIONAL PRACTICES

1. Female spouse sharing: This has to do with sharing female spouses by brothers when the rightful husband is out of town.
2. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) or Female Circumcision: This involve the surgical removal of parts or all of the most sensitive female genital organs for cultural or religious reasons in order to prevent promiscuity sexual immorality) or difficult child bearing.
3. Child or early marriage: This involves giving out children in marriage before age 18. Some are married out even before age ten, which adversely affect the developmental stages of the child.
4. Son preference/ gender inequality: This refers to an attitude or belief that girl child is inferior or lesser in value than the boys.
5. Inhuman treatment the widow (Maltreatment of widows): A widow often the target of abuse, shame and ridicule whenever her husband dies. She is always suspected as having a hand in the death of her husband, which often lead to some evil ritual rites. She may be asked to drink the water used in bathing her late husband's corpse to prove her innocence. Others may have her head shaved, denial of her access to her husband's properties, etc.
6. Widow inheritance: in some customary practices, a widow is inherited by her late husband's brother or close relative.

CONSEQUENCES OF HARMFUL TRADITIONAL PRACTICES

1. Maternal mortality: Most young girls die at child bearing or within the first

year of child bearing due to under age marriages.

2. Infant mortality: this common amongst those practicing FGM and scarification.
3. Disease and infections: HIV/AIDS and other STDs are common amongst people engaging in FGM. Also, Vesico Vaginal Fistula (VVF), which is the rupturing of the urinary bladder by young girls during child bearing, making them to urinate uncontrollably.
4. Humiliation: Most widows suffer humiliation from their in-laws and also, the shame of suffering from VVF by young women.
5. Deprivation of human rights: All harmful traditional practices deprive people of their rights
6. Deprivation of schooling by young people
7. Lack of sexual pleasure by women who have undergone FGM.
8. Sexual abuse and exploitation from adults who marry young girls as wives.