

## **Gender Discrimination and Cultural Anachronisms in African Societies: Implication for Girl Child Education**

By

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### **Abstract**

*Gender disparity has been an issue of concern in contemporary society by virtue of its negative implications for societal growth and development. This is borne out of the fact that disparity on the basis of sex in some cases determines one's position and attainment. In some cultures, and particularly in African culture, this disparity affects the women in such a way that they are counted as nothing or as a tool or as a sex machine who could only be seen and not be heard. As such, the culture of the African people also places restrictions on women to the intent that they the girl child is seen as "bad luck" and to this intent, she is not given any form of education. In some cases, the kind of education given to the girl child is to make her useful in her husband's house. This presupposes that the girl child is often neglected and she undergoes precarious situations and circumstances for her to make ends meet. Unfortunately, this disparity finds cultural and in some cases, religious support which perhaps aggravate the situation of women in the society. It is in this perspective that this paper examines the anachronistic cultural practices which inhibit the position of women in the society with the view to finding solutions to them thereby improving the lot of the girl child.*