Title of Article: Male and Female in Ola Rotimi’s *Our Husband Has Gone Mad Again*: A Sociolinguistic Overview

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Abstract: This paper is a sociolinguistic examination of the presentation of male and female speech in Ola Rotimi’s *Our husband has gone mad again*. The preference for this text amidst several others stems out of its continuous use till-date as a compulsory literature text in all Nigerian schools for more than two decades. It is assumed that for Africa and indeed the world to be an egalitarian society; teachers must find innovative ways of using language to deconstruct sexist literature and helping readers, particularly students, to imagine a world in which there can be genuine equality. The findings from this study revealed that this literary text adopted gender sensitive or inclusive language because it overly recognizes males and females as possessing equal potentials. The paper recommends that writers should adopt gender-sensitive language such as in this text for their literary writings, to prevent their giving a one-sided view of societies. It further suggested that teachers of literature and curriculum planners should find innovative ways of breaking stereotypes where they exist, such as the objective representation of men and women as butting-in and nagging, since both men and women take part in such speech acts.

Key Words: Sociolinguistics, male and female speech, sexist language, literature