Title: Evaluation of the Factors that Impede Women Entrepreneurs’ full participation in Industrialization in Nigeria.

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Abstract: Entrepreneurship offers tremendous opportunities for women across the world by opening doors to greater self-sufficiency, self-esteem, education, and skills required for industrialization. Hence, women are changing the face of business ownership both locally and internationally. Their involvement in industrialization is becoming significant especially in the area of entrepreneurship. However, their active participation in industrialization in Nigeria has been militated by several factors. This paper is therefore aimed at evaluating these factors so as to proffer possible solutions that will enhance women entrepreneurs’ participation in industrialization in Nigeria. Both primary and secondary sources were used in gathering the data required for the paper. The study surveyed four hundred and fifty (450) women entrepreneurs from three states (Lagos, Ogun and Oyo) in the South-West Nigeria. Questionnaire as the research instrument was administered to the respondents who were randomly selected from the registered list of women entrepreneurs obtained from NACIMMA and some of the Local Government Areas of these States. The findings revealed that among other factors, financial factor and government regulatory policies were identified as the major factors that impede women’s full participation in Nigerian industrialization. Based on these findings, the study recommends that the government, NGOs and international agencies should be committed to the cause of strengthening and encouraging Nigerian women entrepreneurs so as to enhance their active participation in industrialization.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, Women Entrepreneurs, Militating Factors, Industrialization.