AJEMATES
African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies
VOL.13 (1), September-December, 2024 https://ajemates.org

IMPACT OF MODERNIZATION ON THE TRADITIONAL KINSHIP/FAMILY SYSTEM IN NIGERIA (A STUDY OF IDEATO-NORTH L.G.A. OF IMO STATE

Onwuchekwe, Joseph Ndubuisi

Department of Political Science Education
School of Arts and Social Sciences
Federal College of Education (Technical) Umunze – Anambra State
08050969927. Email: joeonwuchekwe@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This paper focused on the impact of modernization on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. The study try to find; ways in which the modern technology, social equality and social-cultural development have affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. Survey research design was adopted for this study. Using "Taro Yamane formula', a sample size of (399) respondents were randomly selected, out of (183,260) persons in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. The sample of the study consisted of (7) major towns in the Local Government Area. The breakdown of the study showed that Fifty seven (57) respondents were randomly selected from each of the (7) towns of the Local Government Area. A questionnaire titled Modern Traditional Family System Survey Questionnaire (MTFSSQ), structured in a four-point format was administered for data collection, complemented with interviews and secondary data. In order to ascertain the validity of the instrument for the study, the researchers ensured that the questionnaire covered the research questions of the study and was given to experts for scrutiny. This was pilot tested and a reliability coefficient of 0.80 was obtained. The hypotheses were tested using (PPMCCS) at 0.05 level of significances. The data was collected and analyzed using frequency counts, percentages and mean. Fundamentally, the study found that the modern technology, social equality and social-cultural development have positive impacts on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. It was recommended that the family heads should be encouraged to balance modern technology with family life in order to enhance social development, which is essential. It was further recommended that the government at all levels should strengthen the acts relating to equality and diversity; provide effective legislation for the protection against discrimination of people who possess one or more specific characteristics; projects the basic human rights, as well as principles of equality.

Keywords: Modernization, Traditional family system, Technology, Social equality, Social-cultural development, legislation, discrimination.

AJEMATES
African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies
VOL.13 (1), September-December, 2024 https://ajemates.org

Introduction

Ideato North is a Local Government Area in Imo State, Nigeria. It was created in 1976 as Ideato Local Government, but was later divided into Ideato North, and Ideato South. The Villages belonging to the community of Arondizuogu are located in this area. The administrative headquarters of Ideato North is a Local Government Area is in Urualla. The major towns in this L.G.A. include: Obodoukwu, Akokwa, Uzii, Osina, Akpulu, Umualaoma and Isiokpo. In Ideato North L.G. A. like any other local government, the process of modernization influences society by shaping values of the people through the family, work, and personal orientations (Ugwu, 2019). The changes in cultural values are influenced by factors such as economic and social development, urbanization, education, gender equality, and ethnic diversity. Modernization as a concept denotes the modifications that are experienced in all aspects of human environment, which are meant to suit present circumstances in human society (Ezema, 1998). It refers to the transformed nature of a traditional type of society into a more technologically, sophisticated, and advanced type, associated with industrial society.

No wonder Nweke (2003) argues that modernization is a process in which society becomes more internally differentiated, complex and in which science and technology guide change. Increasing contacts with the outside world has introduced new ideas into African culture. Enveloping idea came with the experience of Trans-Atlantic and Trans-Sahara slavery, colonialism, Christianity and Islam, industrialization and the advancing globalization (Hunter, 1969) influence of foreign ideas, artifacts and religion of Africa is the modernizing effects of kinship/family system in Nigeria. The family and kinship system in Ideato is rooted in the ancestral land which constituted "wealth" of the whole people – the living, the dead and generations yet unborn. The land therein is not only regarded as God's divine gift to the people, but also provided the link between the living and the dead. It is for this reason that the sanctity of land as a source of wealth and the resting place of their ancestors is well preserved. This explains the reasons why the different clan or ethnic groups regard as bases for identity and association (Egwim, 2018). The strong identification of the people in their "place of origin is anchored on their belief and attachment to their ancestors through their land. Altruism is the motto of the traditional people and a sin against one person is considered as a sin against all. These ties were in the ancient communities before the wake of colonialism (Ihejiamaizu, 2002).

Prior to the advent of colonialism, Ideato people were dominantly peasant farmers who depended wholly and entirely on land for their survival (Eze, 2005). Land is communally distributed to individuals through their extended families. While land is held in common, it is worthy of mention that even in the primitive times, crops and wild fruits were not owned or distributed throughout the community. Each man gathers to feed his household. So, reward on land belonged to the individual or family

who performed it as a unit of the society (Akachi, 2017). The impact of technology on family life begins by defining the term "family" and its various meanings. It could also include an overview of how families have evolved throughout history, from traditional nuclear families to modern blended or single-parent households. Additionally, it may be helpful to provide some context for why this topic is important, such as the increasing use of technology in everyday life and its potential effects on family relationships. The history of technology and family life is intertwined with the development of various technological innovations that have shaped our society over time (Olu-Adeyemi, 2012). According to Agukamma (2017), the invention of the telephone allowed families to stay connected across long distances, making it easier for them to communicate and share information. Similarly, the introduction of television brought families together around a common entertainment source, replacing the previous social gatherings around the radio. For him, the rise of personal computers and internet connectivity revolutionized communication within households, allowing parents and children to interact through video calls and instant messaging. Online gaming also became popular among families, bringing people together from different parts of the world.

Technology has also impacted parenting styles, as parents now have access to an array of tools and resources to monitor their child's online activity, set boundaries, and limit screen time. This has led to debates surrounding the effects of technology on childhood development and family dynamics. In all, technology has played a significant role in transforming family life by enabling new forms of communication, entertainment, and interaction while raising concerns about its impact on socialization and well-being (Ikporukpo, 2013). The impact of technology on family life has significantly changed how families communicate. Technology has revolutionized communication by providing various platforms and tools that allow for easy and instant connectivity. With the rise of social media, video conferencing, and messaging apps, families can stay in touch from anywhere in the world. Video calls have become increasingly popular as they provide a more personal connection than text or voice messages. Social media also allows families to share updates and photos instantly, keeping them connected even when apart (Ukaoha, 2018).

However, this increased connectivity has also led to some negative consequences such as cyber bullying and privacy concerns. Technology has had both positive and negative effects on family communication. Increased connectivity refers to the increased ability for people to stay connected with each other through various technological means. One positive impact of increased connectivity is that it allows families who live far away from each other to stay in touch more easily. This can be especially important for families where members are separated by long distances due to work or other commitments. Video

calls and messaging apps have made it easier than ever for people to keep in touch with their loved ones, even if they are oceans apart. However, there are also potential negative consequences associated with increased connectivity. For example, some experts argue that constant connectivity can lead to decreased face-to-face communication between family members, which can ultimately weaken relationships over time. Additionally, social media use has been linked to feelings of loneliness and isolation among some individuals, particularly young people. It is also possible that excessive screen time may interfere with other aspects of family life, such as meal times and sleep patterns (Njoku, 2010).

Changes in social interactions due to technological advancements include increased communication through various forms of digital media such as texting, video calls and social media platforms. Additionally, technology can cause families to spend less time together in person and rely more heavily on virtual communication (Udeagha, 2019). Technology has both positive and negative impacts on family relationships. While it allows for easier communication and connection, it can also lead to a lack of in-person interaction and potentially damage relationships if overused (Odey, 2015). The impact of technology on family life has had significant effects on parenting styles. Technology has made it easier for parents to monitor their children's activities and whereabouts through various tracking devices such as GPS trackers or apps that allow them to check up on their child's location at any time. This has led to an increase in helicopter parenting, where parents are more involved in their child's every move and activity. On the other hand, technology has also given parents new tools to communicate with their children and stay connected even when they are apart. Video chat services like Skype and Face time have allowed parents to keep in touch with their children while they are away at school or traveling. However, this increased communication can sometimes lead to over-involvement by parents, which can negatively affect the child's independence and self-esteem (Ogbonnaya, 2013). The impact of technology on family life has both positive and negative effects on parenting styles. It has made it easier for parents to monitor their children's activities, it has also created a culture of over-involved parenting that can be detrimental to the child's development.

Another area where technology has had an impact on family dynamics is in terms of work-life balance. The availability of remote work options and flexible schedules has allowed many parents to better juggle their work responsibilities with their family commitments. This has led to more equal distribution of household tasks and childcare duties, but it has also created new challenges around setting boundaries and managing screen time. According to Chukwuma (2018), the financial impact of technology on family life can be both positive and negative. Positively according to him, technological advancements have made it easier for families to save money in

various ways. For example, online shopping has become increasingly popular, allowing families to shop around for better prices without having to physically travel to different stores. Additionally, remote work has become more common due to COVID-19 pandemic, which allows parents to work from home and save on child care costs. On the other hand, technology can also lead to increased expenses for families. For instance, the cost of maintaining devices such as smart phones, laptops, and tablets can add up over time. Furthermore, the constant need to upgrade these devices to keep up with new technology can strain the wallet. Another potential drawback is that families may spend less time together if they are constantly engrossed in their screens or devices, leading to social isolation and decreased quality time (Ake, 2018).

On the part of Chukwuka (2018), the impact of technology on family life has several health implications. For him, one major concern is the increasing amount of screen time that families are exposed to. This can lead to sedentary behavior and obesity in both adults and children. Additionally, prolonged exposure to blue light from electronic devices can disrupt sleep patterns, leading to insomnia and other sleep disorders. Another health issue related to technology use is cyber bullying. It can cause emotional distress, anxiety, and depression for those who experience it. Social media platforms have also been linked to the development of body image issues and eating disorders among young people. The excessive use of social media and other digital technologies can contribute to addiction, which can have negative effects on mental health and overall well-being (Chukwuka, 2018).

Legal issues surrounding technology use in families can include concerns related to privacy, cyber bullying, and intellectual property rights. One legal issue that arises is whether parents have the right to monitor their children's online activities. This has been debated in courts across the country, but generally, it is considered acceptable for parents to monitor their children's online activity if they are aware of the monitoring and do not interfere with the child's constitutional rights. Another legal issue is cyber bullying, which occurs when someone uses technology to harass or intimidate another person. Parents may be held liable for their child's actions if they fail to supervise them properly, so it is important for parents to monitor their children's online activity and intervene if necessary. Finally, there are concerns around intellectual property rights, particularly regarding copyrighted material. Parents should ensure that their children understand the rules around copying and sharing copyrighted materials and take steps to prevent infringement (Odey, 2015).

Equality and diversity are essential components of health and social care. Good equality and diversity practices make sure that the services provided to people are fair and accessible to everyone. They ensure that people are treated as equals, that people get the dignity/respect they deserve and that their differences are celebrated. This could be why Ukaoha (2018) observes that equality is particularly important for adults

in need who, because of a disability, illness or their age, are unable to take adequate care of themselves. For him, equality means ensuring everyone in your setting has equal opportunities, regardless of their abilities, their background or their lifestyle. Diversity means appreciating the differences between people, as well as treating people's values, beliefs, cultures and lifestyles with respect. Anti-discriminatory practice is fundamental to the ethical basis of care provision and critical to the protection of people's dignity. Akachi (2017) reminds us that there are four main acts relating to equality and diversity:

- **The Equality Act 2010:** This legislation provides protection against discrimination for people who possess one or more of the nine specific protected characteristics. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. To discriminate against any of these characteristics is a breach of the law.
- **The Human Rights Act 1998** – this legislation outlines the basic human rights and principles of equality. The 'FREDA' acronym helps you to remember what is covered by the Act: Fairness, Respect, Equality, Dignity and Autonomy.
- **The Mental Capacity Act 2005** – notably the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) which aim to help people who lack the capacity to maintain their independence, dignity and the right to freedom. The DoLS aid vulnerable individuals to maintain their right to dignity and equality.
- **The Care Act 2014** – this legislation provides six key principles which should underpin all work with vulnerable adults. This includes ensuring that adults receive support that's personal to them, chosen by them and has their consent.

Social inequality occurs when resources within a society are distributed unevenly, often as a result of inequitable allocation practices that create distinct unequal patterns based on socially defined categories of people. Ogbonnaya (2013) points out that the differences in accessing social goods within society are influenced by factors like power, religion, kinship, prestige, race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, intelligence and class. Social inequality according to him, usually implies the lack of equality of outcome, but may alternatively be conceptualized as a lack of equality in access to opportunity. Egwim (2018) posits that social inequality is linked to economic inequality, usually described on the basis of the unequal distribution of income or wealth in the family and community in general. Although the disciplines of economics and sociology generally use different theoretical approaches to examine and explain economic inequality, both fields are actively involved in researching this inequality. However, social and natural resources other than purely economic resources are also unevenly distributed in

AJEMATES
African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies
VOL.13 (1), September-December, 2024 https://ajemates.org

most societies and may contribute to social status. Norms of allocation can also affect the distribution of rights and privileges, social power, access to public goods such as education or the judicial system, adequate housing, transportation, credit and financial services such as banking and other social goods and services (Udeagha, 2019).

Social inequality is shaped by a range of structural factors, such as geographical location or citizenship status, and is often underpinned by cultural discourses and identities, for example, whether the poor are 'deserving' or 'undeserving'. Understanding the process of social inequality highlights the importance of how society values its people and identifies significant aspects of how biases manifest within society. In simple societies, those that have few social roles and status occupied by its members, social inequality may be very low. In tribal societies, for example, a tribal head or chieftain may hold some privileges, use some tools, or wear marks of office to which others do not have access, but the daily life of the chieftain is very much like the daily life of any other tribal member. Anthropologists identify such highly egalitarian cultures as "kinship-oriented", which appear to value social harmony more than wealth or status. These cultures are contrasted with materially oriented cultures in which status and wealth are prized and competition and conflict are common. Kinship-oriented cultures may actively work to prevent social hierarchies from developing because they believe that could lead to conflict and instability. As social complexity increases, so can social inequality, as it tends to increase along with a widening gap between the poorest and the richest members of society (Ogboyega, 2013).

Social inequality can be classified into egalitarian societies, ranked society, and stratified society. Egalitarian societies are those communities advocating for social equality through equal opportunities and rights, hence no discrimination Agukamma (2017). According to People with special skills were not viewed as superior compared to the rest. The leaders do not have the power they only have influence. The norms and the beliefs the egalitarian society holds are for sharing equally and equal participation. Simply there are no classes. Ranked society mostly is agricultural communities who hierarchically grouped from the chief who is viewed to have a status in the society. In this society, people are clustered regarding status and prestige and not by access to power and resources. The chief is the most influential person followed by his family and relative, and those further related to him are less ranked. Stratified society is societies which horizontally ranked into the upper class, middle class, and lower class. The classification is regarding wealth, power, and prestige. The upper classes are mostly the leaders and are the most influential in the society. It's possible for a person in the society to move from one stratum to the other. The social status is also hereditable from one generation to the next (Ikporukpo, 2013). Social change is a complex and dynamic process that has a profound impact

AJEMATES
African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies
VOL.13 (1), September-December, 2024 https://ajemates.org

on individuals, families, and communities. It refers to the transformation of societal structures, norms, values, and behaviors over time (Odey, 2015). Exploring the various aspects of social change and how it can affect the family, Ugwu (2019) provides strategies for adapting to these changes:

1. **Perspectives on Social Change:**
- **Sociological Perspective:** From a sociological standpoint, social change is viewed as a result of interactions between individuals and larger social systems. It emphasizes the role of social institutions, such as education, politics, and the economy, in shaping societal change.
- **Psychological Perspective:** Psychologists study how social change influences individual attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors. They examine the psychological processes that occur during periods of social change, such as identity formation and coping mechanisms.
- **Anthropological Perspective:** Anthropologists focus on the cultural aspects of social change, exploring how societies adapt to new circumstances and challenges. They examine the impact of globalization, technology, and migration on cultural practices and traditions.

2. Factors Driving Social Change:
- **Technological Advancements:** The rapid development of technology has revolutionized various aspects of society, from communication to work processes. It has led to increased connectivity, automation, and access to information, shaping how we interact and live our lives (Odey, 2015).
- **Globalization:** The interconnectedness of nations and the global flow of goods, services, and ideas have significantly impacted social change. It has facilitated cultural exchange, economic integration, and the spread of ideologies, leading to both positive and negative consequences Chukwuka (2018).
- **Demographic Shifts:** Changes in population size, age distribution, and migration patterns have profound effects on social structures and dynamics. They influence social norms, family structures, and community dynamics, requiring adaptation and adjustment (Agukamma, 2017).

3. Effects of Social Change on Families:
- **Changing Family Structures:** Social change often leads to shifts in family structures, such as the rise of single-parent households, blended families, and same-sex families. These changes can impact family dynamics, roles, and relationships.
- **Work-Life Balance:** Social change has influenced the way we work and the expectations placed on individuals. The increasing participation of women in the workforce, flexible work arrangements, and advancements in technology have reshaped work-life balance and family dynamics.
- **Cultural Values and Traditions:** Social change can challenge traditional cultural values and norms, leading to generational conflicts and identity struggles within families. It requires open dialogue and

understanding to navigate these changes effectively.

4. **Strategies for Adapting to Social Change:**

- **Open Communication:** Maintaining open and honest communication within the family is crucial during times of social change. It allows for the expression of concerns, sharing of perspectives, and finding common ground.
- **Flexibility and Resilience:** Being adaptable and resilient in the face of social change is essential. Embracing new ideas, learning from experiences, and being open to change can help families navigate uncertain times.
- **Seeking Support:** Connecting with support networks, such as friends, extended family, or community organizations, can provide valuable resources and guidance during periods of social change. Remember, social change is an ongoing process, and it is essential to approach it with an open mind and a willingness to adapt. By understanding the various perspectives, factors, and effects of social change, you can better navigate its impact on your family and embrace the opportunities it presents.

Statement of the Problem

Modernization brings about positive changes in the society, such as gender equality in politics. It also leads to economic and social development, which can improve the lives of citizens and bring about new systems of values. Regrettably, a close observation of Ideato North Local Government Area of Imo State shows that, Western acculturation and modernization have negatively impacted on traditional cultural heritages, leading to the abandonment or extinction of cultural practices. Additionally, globalization and modernization have led to changes in spiritual culture and values, which resulted in an anthropological crisis and the implantation of elements of another culture into traditional national culture for which the family is built upon (Ukaoha, 2018). These changes have caused negative transformations in the families and society at large, as well as rise of religious extremism. Therefore, the study hopes to unearth the impacts of these observed negative transformations in the families and society at large.

Purpose of the Study

The general objective of this study is to examine the impact of modernization on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To determine ways in which modern technology affects the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.
2. To examine ways in which modern social equality affects the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.
3. To ascertain ways in which modern social-cultural development affects the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

AJEMATES
African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies
VOL.13 (1), September-December, 2024 https://ajemates.org

Research Questions

Based on the objectives, the following research questions were posed for the study:

1. In what ways has the modern technology affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State?
2. In what ways has the modern social equality affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State?
3. In what ways has the modern social-cultural development affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State?

Research Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated to guide the conduct of the study:

Ho1: Modern technology has no effect on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Ho2: Social inequality has no effect on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Ho3: Modern social-cultural development has no effect on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo.

Research Method

The study adopted a survey research design. The population of the study comprised of all the people in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. Using "Taro Yamane formula', a sample size of (399) respondents were randomly selected, out of (183,260) persons in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. The sample of the study consisted of (7) major towns in the Local Government Area. The breakdown of the study showed that Fifty seven (57) respondents were randomly selected from each of the (7) towns of the Local Government Area. A questionnaire titled Modern Traditional Family System Survey Questionnaire (MTFSSQ), structured in a four likert format was administered for data collection, complemented with interviews and secondary data. In order to ascertain the validity of the instrument for the study, the researchers ensured that the questionnaire covered the research questions of the study and was given to experts for scrutiny. This was pilot tested and a reliability coefficient of 0.80 was obtained. The data was collected and analyzed using mean and standard deviation. The hypotheses were tested using t-test at 0.05level of significances. The decision rule for interpretation of the results of the data analysis was that of a mean score of 2.5 and above, which was regarded as agreed/ accepted while, below 2.5 was disagreed/ rejected.

Presentation of Results

Research Question 1: Do you agree that the modern technology has positively affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State?

AJEMATES
African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies
VOL.13 (1), September-December, 2024 https://ajemates.org

Table 1: Response on Effects of Modern Technology and Traditional Kinship/Family System

Pattern of Response	F	%	X	Points %
Strongly Agreed	135	37.19	540	51.14
Agreed	101	27.82	303	28.69
Disagreed	86	23.69	172	16.29
Strongly disagreed	41	11.29	41	3.88
Total	**363**	**100**	**1056**	**100**

Source: Field Survey Data, 2024.

Mean $= \frac{\sum x}{\sum f} = \frac{1056}{363} = 2.91$

The result in table 1 showed that the calculated mean score of the distribution is 2.87. Since the calculated mean score is above the cut-off point 2.50, we accept that the modern technology had positively affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. The above analysis has shown that 37.19% of the respondents strongly agreed, 27.82% of the respondents agreed, 23.69% of the respondent disagreed and the remaining 11.29% of the respondents strongly disagreed. This implies that majority of the people/respondents believe that the modern technology has positively affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Research Question 2: Do you agree that modern technology helps families to make his daily life easy within his physical environment?

Table 2: Response on Cyber Bullying and Online Safety Technology and Family System

Pattern of Response	F	%	X	Points %
Strongly Agreed	110	30.30	440	42.84
Agreed	120	33.06	360	35.05
Disagreed	94	25.90	188	18.31
Strongly disagreed	39	10.74	39	3.80
Total	**363**	**100**	**1027**	**100**

Source: Field Survey Data, 2024.

Mean $= \frac{\sum x}{\sum f} = \frac{1027}{363} = 2.83$

The result in table 2 showed that the calculated mean score of the distribution is 2.91. Since the calculated mean score is above the cut-off point 2.50, we accept that modern technology helped families to make his daily life easy within his physical environment in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. The above

AJEMATES
African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies
VOL.13 (1), September-December, 2024 https://ajemates.org

analysis has shown that 30.30% of the respondents strongly agreed, 33.06% of the respondents agreed, 25.90% of the respondent disagreed and the remaining 10.74% of the respondents strongly disagreed. The implication is that, majority of the people/respondents believe that modern technology helped families to make his daily life easy within his physical environment in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Research Question 3: Do you agree that social inequality has affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State?

Table 4: Mean Response on social inequality and Traditional Kinship/Family System.

Pattern of Response	F	%	X	Points %
Strongly Agreed	130	35.81	520	49.15
Agreed	110	30.30	330	31.19
Disagreed	85	23.42	170	16.07
Strongly disagreed	38	10.47	38	3.59
Total	**363**	**100**	**1058**	**100**

Source: Field Survey Data, 2024.

Mean $= \frac{\sum x}{\sum f} = \frac{1058}{363} = 2.91$

The result in table 3 shows that the calculated mean score of the distribution is 2.91. Since the calculated mean score is above the cut-off point 2.50, we accept that social inequality had negatively affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. The above analysis has shown that 35.81% of the respondents strongly agreed, 30.30% of the respondents agreed, 23.42% of the respondents disagree and the remaining 10.47% of the respondents strongly disagreed. The implication is that, majority of the people/respondents believe that social inequality had negatively affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Research Question 4: Do you agree that there are equality act for the legislation against discrimination and protection of vulnerable individuals in the family?

Table 4: Mean Response on Equality Act and protection of vulnerable individuals in the family.

Pattern of Response	F	%	X	Points %
Strongly Agreed	140	38.57	560	52.04
Agreed	105	28.93	315	29.28
Disagreed	83	22.87	166	15.43
Strongly disagreed	35	9.64	35	3.25
Total	**363**	**100**	**1,076**	**100**

Source: Field Survey Data, 2024.

AJEMATES
African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies
VOL.13 (1), September-December, 2024 https://ajemates.org

Mean $= \frac{\sum x}{\sum f} = \frac{,1,076}{363} = 2.96$

Table 4 above showed that, the calculated mean score of the distribution is 2.96. Since the calculated mean score is above the cut-off point 2.50, we accept that there are Equality Act for the legislation against discrimination and protection of vulnerable individuals in the family. The above analysis has shown that 38.57% of the respondents strongly agreed, 28.93% of the respondents agreed, 22.87% of the respondent disagreed and the remaining 9.64% of the respondents strongly disagreed. This underscores the fact that majority of the respondents believe that there are Equality Act for the legislation against discrimination and protection of vulnerable individuals in the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Research Question 5: Do you agree that modern social-cultural development has affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State?

Table 5: Mean Response on Modern Social-cultural Development and Insecurity in Nigeria.

Pattern of Response	F	%	X	Points %
Strongly Agreed	119	32.78	476	46.46
Agreed	100	27.55	300	29.56
Disagreed	95	26.17	190	18.72
Strongly disagreed	49	13.50	49	4.83
Total	**363**	**100**	**1015**	**100**

Source: Field Survey Data, 2024.

Mean $= \frac{\sum x}{\sum f} = \frac{1015}{363} = 2.80$

The result in table 5 showed that the calculated mean score of the distribution is 2.83. Since the calculated mean score is above the cut-off point 2.50, we accept that modern social-cultural development had affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. The above analysis has shown that 30.30% of the respondents strongly agree, 33.06% of the respondents agree, 25.90% of the respondent disagree and the remaining 10.47% of the respondents strongly disagree. The implication is that, majority of the people/respondents believe that modern social-cultural development has affected the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Research Question 6: Do you agree that social change is a complex and dynamic process that has a profound impact on

individuals, families, and communities in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State?

Table 6: Mean Response on Social Change and Individuals/Families/Communities

Pattern of Response	F	%	X	Points %
Strongly Agreed	120	33.06	480	46.15
Agreed	113	31.13	339	32.60
Disagreed	91	25.07	182	17.5
Strongly disagreed	39	10.07	39	3.75
Total	**363**	**100**	**1040**	**100**

Source: Field Survey Data, 2024.

$$\textbf{Mean} = \frac{\sum x}{\sum f} = \frac{1o40}{363} = 2.87$$

Table 6 above shows that, the calculated mean score of the distribution is 2.80. Since the calculated mean score is above the cut-off point 2.50, we accept that social change wass a complex and dynamic process that had a profound impact on individuals, families, and communities in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. The above analysis has shown that 32.51% of the respondents strongly agree, 28.10% of the respondents agree, 27.01% of the respondent disagree and the remaining 12.40% of the respondents strongly disagree. This underscores the fact that majority of the respondents believe that social change is a complex and dynamic process that has a profound impact on individuals, families, and communities in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Testing of Hypotheses

Hypothesis one: Modern technology has no effect on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Table 7: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient Statistics

Variable	Mean	R	Decision
Modern technology	2.87	0.88	Sig.
Traditional kinship/ family system			

Table showed that since the calculated value of r, 0.99 is more than 0.5, the researcher accepted the alternative hypothesis and rejected the null hypothesis. Which means that there is significant relationship between modern technology and traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State as; the r

AJEMATES
African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies
VOL.13 (1), September-December, 2024 https://ajemates.org

calculated value is above 0.5, showing that there is significant relationship between the two variables under study. Based on this, the researcher hold that, the modern technology has positive impact on traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Hypothesis two: Social equality has no effect on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Table 8: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient Statistics

Variable	Mean		R Decision
Social equality	2.94	0.99	Sig.
Traditional kinship/ family system			

Table 8 showed that since the calculated value of r, 0.99 is more than 0.5, the researcher accepted the alternative hypothesis and rejected the null hypothesis. Which means that Social inequality had effect on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State as; the r calculated value is above 0.5, showing that there is significant relationship between the two variables under study. Based on this, the researcher, therefore hold that, social equality had little positive effects on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Hypothesis three: Modern social-cultural development has no effect on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State**.**

Table 9: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient Statistics

Variable	Mean	R	Decision
Modern social-cultural development	2.84	0.95	Sig.
Traditional kinship/ family system			

Table 9 showed that since the calculated value of r, 0.95 is more than 0.5, the researcher accepted the alternative hypothesis and rejected the null hypothesis. Which means that modern social-cultural development has effect on the traditional

kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State as; the r calculated value is above 0.5, showing that there is significant relationship between the two variables under study. Based on this, the researcher, therefore hold that the modern social-cultural development has positive effects on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State.

Discussion of Findings

Based on the result from table 1 above, it could be seen that the modern technology had effect on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. Further assessment showed that the modern technology has positive impacts on traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State as; R = 0.88.. This finding is in consonant with Agukamma (2017) who posited that the invention of the telephone allowed families to stay connected across long distances, making it easier for them to communicate and share information. Similarly, the introduction of television brought families together around a common entertainment source, replacing the previous social gatherings around the radio. For Agukamma, the rise of personal computers and internet connectivity revolutionized communication within households, allowing parents and children to interact through video calls and instant messaging. Online gaming also became popular among families, bringing people together from different parts of the world. Technology has also impacted parenting styles, as parents now have access to an array of tools and resources to monitor their child's online activity, set boundaries, and limit screen time. This has led to debates surrounding the effects of technology on childhood development and family dynamics. Supporting the result, Ikporukpo (2013) observed that technology has played a significant role in transforming family life by enabling new forms of communication, entertainment, and interaction while raising concerns about its impact on socialization and well-being. Corroborating the finding, Ukaoha (2018) pointed out that the impact of technology on family life has significantly changed how families communicate. For him, technology has revolutionized communication by providing various platforms and tools that allow for easy and instant connectivity, noting that with the rise of social media, video conferencing, and messaging apps, families can stay in touch from anywhere in the world. Video calls have become increasingly popular as they provide a more personal connection than text or voice messages. Social media also allows families to share updates and photos instantly, keeping them connected even when apart.

The responses from the respondents in table 2 showed that social inequality had effect on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. Additional review showed that social inequality had negative effects on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government

Area of Imo State. For example, Ukaoha (2018) observed that equality is particularly important for adults in need who, because of a disability, illness or their age, are unable to take adequate care of themselves. For him, equality means ensuring everyone in your setting has equal opportunities, regardless of their abilities, their background or their lifestyle. Diversity according to him, means appreciating the differences between people, as well as treating people's values, beliefs, cultures and lifestyles with respect. Anti-discriminatory practice is fundamental to the ethical basis of care provision and critical to the protection of people's dignity. Akachi (2017) reminded us that there are four main acts relating to equality and diversity: The Equality Act 2010, The Human Rights Act 1998, The Mental Capacity Act 2005 and The Care Act 2014.

In line with our result, Egwim (2018), noted that despite these acts, social inequality still occurs when resources within a society are distributed unevenly, often as a result of inequitable allocation practices that create distinct unequal patterns based on socially defined categories of people. This position was supported by Ogbonnaya (2013) was argued that the differences in accessing social goods within society are influenced by factors like power, religion, kinship, prestige, race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, intelligence and class. Social inequality according to him, usually implies the lack of equality of outcome, but may alternatively be conceptualized as a lack of equality in access to opportunity. Corroborating the finding, Egwim (2018) noted that social inequality is linked to economic inequality, usually described on the basis of the unequal distribution of income or wealth in the family and community in general.

The responses from the respondents in table 3 indicated that modern social-cultural development has no effect on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo. Further assessment showed that the modern social-cultural development has positive effects on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State as; R = 0.95. This finding is in conformity with the submission of Odey (2015) who posited that the rapid development of technology has revolutionized various aspects of society, from communication to work processes. To him, it has led to increased connectivity, automation, and access to information, shaping how we interact and live our lives. In support of the result, Chukwuka (2018) stated that the interconnectedness of nations and the global flow of goods, services, and ideas have significantly impacted social change. It has facilitated cultural exchange, economic integration, and the spread of ideologies, leading to both positive and negative consequences. Corroborating the finding, Agukamma (2017) noted that changes in population size, age distribution, and migration patterns have profound effects on social structures and dynamics. They influence social norms, family structures, and community dynamics, requiring adaptation and adjustment. Social change often leads to shifts in family structures, such as the rise of single-parent households, blended families, and same-sex families. These changes can impact family dynamics, roles, and relationships.

Conclusion

The impact of modernization on family life has been significant and far-reaching.

Technology has transformed communication within families, making it easier to stay connected regardless of distance or time constraints. Video calls, instant messaging, and social media platforms have made it possible for families to stay in touch even when they are apart. However, this increased connectivity can also lead to overdependence on technology, which can cause problems such as addiction and cyber bullying. In addition to changing communication patterns, technology has also had an impact on family routines and schedules. With the rise of smart phones and tablets, many people are now able to work from home or remotely, leading to blurred lines between work and personal lives. This shift towards remote work has also led to changes in parenting styles, with some parents finding it more difficult to monitor their children's online activities and ensure that they are not spending too much time on screen.

Recommendations

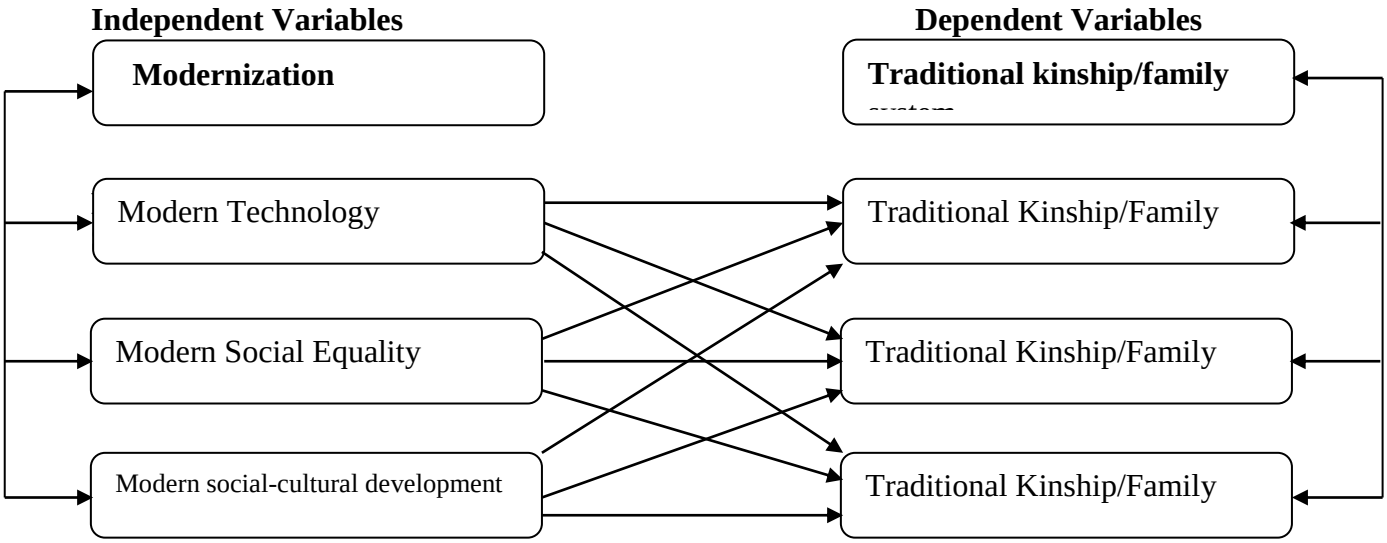
Based on the findings, it was recommended that:

1. Parents should be encouraged to establish screen time limits: Set clear guidelines for screen time and technology use within the family, taking into consideration the age and needs of each family member.
2. The government at all levels should strengthen the acts relating to equality and diversity; provide effective legislation for the protection against discrimination of people who possess one or more specific characteristics; projects the basic human rights, as well as principles of equality.
3. The government as well as the head of families should as a matter of urgency provide strategies for positive changes capable of developing the family.

Contribution to Knowledge

This study has made input to knowledge by examining the impact of modernization on the traditional kinship/family system in Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State. This study has contributed to knowledge by looking at the relationship between modernization and traditional kinship/family system. It also used Ideato-North Local Government Area of Imo State a study which is an input to knowledge. This study has made input to knowledge by using different variables, indices and research method that have not been used by past researches. Furthermore, survey research design was used and data were collected through primary source (questionnaire). The data was analyzed using frequency counts, simple percentage, mean, as well as deduction/inference statistics. Lastly, input to knowledge is offered in the model below:

AJEMATES
African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies
VOL.13 (1), September-December, 2024 https://ajemates.org



Acknowledgement

The author is grateful to Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) of Nigeria for sponsorship of this work.

REFERENCES

Agukamma, S. (2017). Modernization problems in public organizations using Akwa-Ibom public library board as a focal point. *Journal of Nigeria Studies*, 1(1), 56-78.

Akachi, T. (2017). The role of Modernization in the economic development of Nigeria: A comparative analysis (1985-2003). *Journal of Social Sciences*, 2(1), 34-45.

Ake, C. (2018). *Democracy and development in Africa*. Washington DC: The Booklings Institution.

Chikezie, O. (2019). Good leadership and sustainable development in Nigeria. *Journal of Int. Sc*, 3(2), 74-90.

Chukwuka, R. (2018). Modernization and family system in Nigeria. *Journal of Management Review*, 1(1), 23-34.

Egwim, H. (2018). Political leadership and national development using Imo State as a focal point. *Journal of Nigeria Studies*, 1(2), 54-67.

Eze, G.C. (2005). *Contemporary issues in Nigeria history*. Nsukka: Mike Social Publishers.

Gboyega, A. (2013). *Modernization and development: The imperative of local governance*. An Inaugural Lecture in University of Ibadan.

Ikporukpo, C. (2013). Technology and traditional kinship/family system in Nigeria. *International Journal of Social*

Science Research, 2(4), 101-117..

Njoku, D. (2010). *Public finance administration: Emerging perspectives*. Owerri: Kriscona Publishers.

Odey, A.H.. (2015). Traditional kinship/family system in Nigeria. Enugu: Nobel Publishers.

Ogonnaya, C.K. (2013). Corruption and political leadership in Nigeria: The way forward; *International Journal of Education and Research*, 1(11), 10-19.

Olu-Adeyemi, L. (2012). The challenges of democratic governance in Nigeria. *International Journal of Business and Social Science*, 3(5), 23-46.

Udeagha, A.O. (2019). *Principles and process of* modern social-cultural development in Nigeria. Enugu: Janome Enterprises.

Ugwu, G. (2014). Social equality and family system in Nigeria. *Journal of Social Science*, 3(1), 62-78.

Ukaoha, N. (2018). *Will the traditional kinship/family system in Nigeria*? Lagos Nigeria: Heinemann Educational Books.