# ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDIATORY ROLE OF WOMEN ORGANISATIONS IN MANAGING CONFLICTS IN KAURA AND SANGA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS, KADUNA STATE

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**Abstract**

This paper focused on assessing the role women organizations play in mediating conflicting parties in Kaura and Sanga Local Government Areas of Kaduna State from 2010-2015. The objective of the paper is to assess the effusiveness of the role of women organizations in conflict mediation and the challenges faced by them in mediating conflict in Kaura and Sanga LGAs. The study is anchored on the Liberal Feminist theory. The paper adopted the mixed method approach with one hypothesis tested. Data were collected using questionnaire and interview on the role of women in mediating conflict. Data collected were analyzed using statistical tools of percentages and spearman rank correlation. The result of the analysis established that women organizations have been recognized by the government and have been effective in mediation of conflict in Sanga and Kaura LGAs. However, the organizations are constrained by socio-cultural factors and resource constraints. In line with the findings of the study, it was recommended that government should assist the organizations with facilities and financial aid. There is also the need for societal orientation to enhance the spirit of women participation as philanthropy and volunteerism in conflict management for a more peaceful society.

**Keywords:** Conflict, conflict mediation, conflict management, women organisations, liberal feminist theory.

## Introduction

The world has been marred by several conflicts. Various communal, ethnic as well as international conflicts have occurred from time immemorial and they include the World War I and II, and the Cold War among others. The World War I

was between the periods 28th July to 11th of November 1914; the major combatants were France, United Kingdom, United States of America, Russia, Germany, e.t.c. During this war millions of lives and property were lost (United State Institute of Peace, 2008).

Nigeria experienced various conflicts: civil war, religious crises and various communal crises. They include Nigerian-Biafran civil war 1967-1970, Inter-communal conflicts in Nigeria like; the Ife-Modakeke crises in Osun state and Zagon Kataf crises of 1992 in Kaduna state inter-alia. The government of Nigeria as well as different civil societies have developed strategies in managing the different conflicts in Nigeria (Clark, 2009).

Kaduna state in particular has witnessed several ethno-religious conflicts such as the 1987 Kafanchan violence, Zangon Kataf of 1992, 2000 Sharia riots, 2002 miss world riots, and the deadly post-election violence in Kaduna state in 2011 others are the mass killings in Zonkwa, violence in Kafanchan, the destruction of Matsuga, attacks in Gidan Mafa and ethnic-cleansing of rural Fulani- (Human Right Watch, 2013). Conflict in Kaduna state have continued unabated. Most recent examples are the Tabar 2011, Chikum, communal bloodletting in 2013, which spread to Attakar village in Kaura local government (between Fulani and Attakarum) (Daily trust, 2014). Conflict has the effect of shaking societies, and one common element is that it often takes women from traditionally conservative role in managing conflict to a more exposed and formal role in managing conflict. It has led to the exposure and bringing into limelight women participation in key policy issues.

There is now a strong body of international laws and norms which relate generally to women's equality and empowerment. The need for women's participation in peacemaking and peacekeeping hasbeen recognized by the international community through United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, 2000. UNSCR 1325 is primarily concerned with international peace and security, and recognizes the following long-neglected facts: that women and men (and girls and boys) have a different experience of war, both as combatants and noncombatants. Both also have different roles, views and needs regarding arrangements to stop violent conflict, recover from it and prevent its recurrence (Prentice, 2012).At the global level, women have long been active in peace and disarmament issues. Individually and in groups, women have lobbied for the goal of disarmament. During the First World War, nearly 1,200 women from warring and neutral countries came together to protest against the conflict, and formed the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF).

Various women organisations in Nigeria, both Faith Based and Civil Society now partake in managing conflict. In Kaduna state, Faith Based Groups under the umbrella of Women Interfaith Council, such as Federation of Muslim Women of Nigeria (FOMWAN), Matan Zumunta, Muslim Sisters Organisation, Girls are

been streamlined into managing conflict. Women, both individuals and groups are been invited by Kaduna State Government as members of Peace and Security Committee under the umbrella of JNI- Jamaatu Nasiril Islam and CAN- Christian Association of Nigeria. In 2011, a judicial commission of enquiry was set up which had notable Nigerians and women as members. Also a committee was set up headed by Gen Martin Luther Agwau (Rtd) by Gov Nasir El-Rufai titled "Committee to Stamp out Attacks on Southern Kaduna Communities" had women as members- (Report of the committee to stamp out incessant attacks in Southern part of Kaduna. November 2015). Women organisations in Kaura and Sanga local governments are not left out in the struggle to ensure peace and security in their various communities, through sensitizing of the people on peaceful coexistence.

In Nigeria, the inclusion of women organisations in managing conflict has been a bone of contention. On the general note, women are willing to play vital role in managing conflict like their counterparts in other parts of the world. Women are the main custodians of peace in the home, school and the society at large. This is because, they are more tolerant regarding differences in society which leads to peace and conflict resolution- (Agunyi, 2012).Although few women organisations play minor role in managing conflict, this seems not to be enough because of the hindrances they face politically, socially, culturally and religiously. According to Nwoye (2006), for many years, the strategic role of women in conflict resolution in contemporary Africa has been confirmed to be ignored. Her review suggests that the attitude is ill-advised since women contributions in such a venture had never been in doubt as it was indeed women who led the way in many instances of conflict resolution processes in Africa.

Nigeria as member of the United Nations adopted the UNSR 1345 (2000), taking a look at the reoccurring conflicts in Kaduna most especially Kaura and Sanga LGAs. In spite of several years of conflict management in Kaduna State, conflicts have continued to manifest, be it on boundary issues, land tussle, religious, chieftaincy matters, political, cultural or economical. How effective has been the mediatory role of women in managing conflict in Kaura and Sanga LGAs of Kaduna state?

The objective of the study is to examine the effectiveness of mediatory role of women organisations in conflict mediation in Kaura and Sanga LGAs of Kaduna state. The study also seeks to identify the challenges faced by women organizations in conflict mediation in Kaura and Sanga Local Government Area of Kaduna Satate. The hypothesis (H0) postulated for the study states that there is no significant relationship between mediation by women organisations and conflict management in Sanga and Kaura LGAs in Kaduna state.

## Literature Review and Theoretical Framework

### Concept of conflict

Conflict is defined as the pursuit of incompatible interests and goals by different groups. Armed conflict is the resort to the use of force and armed violence in the pursuit of incompatible and interests and goal. The worse forms of conflict include mass murder and genocide against unarmed civilians. (Best: 2012).Conflict can be analysed from the angle of violence, this school of thought believes to properly understand conflict it has to be violent. There are three systems or databases to study conflict on this path and they are explained below:

The Interdisciplinary Research Programme on the causes of Human Right Violation in Leiden University Holland as cited by Tar (2014) states that conflict exist in five stages

i. Peaceful Stable Situation (PSS): this is the situation where there is high level of stability in a nation or area.
ii. Political Tension Situation (PTS): a nation where there is the presence of high tension influenced by politics, example is Nigeria. There have been increasing social and political cleavages, growing level of systematic strength that is structural injustice, the domination of a group over another.
iii. Violent Political Conflict (VPC): The tension has escalated from minimum strain to high scale political crises, there is the occurrence of political violence e.g. people are challenging the legitimacy of the national government. This usually happen when the central government is controlled by certain section of the people.
iv. Low Intensity Conflict (LIC): the presence of open hostility and armed conflict among fractional groups but the level of death or causalities is still low. This can be measured by death of person 100- 999 persons per year.
v. High Intensity Conflict (HIC): there is open warfare, mass destruction, and high number of death and displacement of people. This can be measured by death of a 1000 persons and above by year.

### Women and Conflict Mediation

Mediation is a process of ending conflict; it is an act of peacemaking. Peacemaking can be seen or referred to the activity aimed at ending or stopping conflict, it is a process carried out when conflict is on-going, and it is a means of conflict resolution. Mediation or sometimes referred to as third party intervention, refers to the intervention of a third neutral party to negotiate for peace (Ramsbotham, 2011). A mediator is seen as a peace facilitator. Mediation involves different agencies at different level of conflict. Mediators can be

indigenous groups or international facilitators, they can be governmental or non-governmental and faith based organisations. Although some people see third party or mediators has been powerless in conflict but this has been proved wrong, as third parties have changed the communication as well as the behaviour of conflict by sometimes using carrot and stick method-(Ramsbotham,2011).

For better understanding of how mediation and mediator works one might adopt Track diplomacy, as discussed by Ramsbothan (2011). In mediation, there are basically four Track diplomacy and they are Track I, Track II, Track III and Multi Track diplomacies: Track I is also referred to as traditional mediation; it involves just the state in mediation. Example is the use of ministries and agencies of government. Track II is a type of mediation that involves the use of non-state actors including international organisations in conflict. Track III involves the use of non-governmental organisations, faith based organisations as well as civic organisations. Multi Track is a mediation group developed by United Institute of Multi Track diplomacy, it involves the combination of the above three Track actors. Example is the Harvard Centre of Negotiation, Institution of Multi Track Diplomacy, African Union e.t.c.

Women are not novice in the peace process, studies (Conaway,2005, Kosongo,2013, Ngongo-Mbede, 2003 & USAD,2008) have proven that women have and will continue to play vital role in conflict management either as formal or informal groups as combatant or noncombatants. Mediation by African women can be seen starting from the family level, elder sisters take the task of consoling, soothing and settling disputes among younger ones, mediation in village and community levels taking Cameroon as example the society gives the paternal aunt a great position in settling conflict. The paternal aunts are responsible for reconciling individuals involved in conflict ( Ngongo-Mbede,2003) This is not peculiar to Cameroon women but other traditions and societies around the globe. Kasongo(2013), cited from Davidheiser that gender in mediation presents two conflicting positions, on one hand 'it is asserted that the gender of the participants significantly affected behavioral variation in negotiation' it indicated that North American male and female mediators conceptualize their roles and responsibilities, and therefore the mediation process, in a dissimilar fashion.

In the West, the presence of women in work force was significant to Industrial revolution, World War 1, in the same era African women in position of Queen mother in countries like Ghana, Egypt, Rwanda, and Nigeria (Queen Amina of Zazzau) e.t.c. have also proved their worth in royal decision making and public policy (Mbili (1988) as cited by Kosongo (2013). However today women in African societies are not allowed to assume role of leaders, they are not allowed to participate in mediation and conflict resolution. Kosongo, (2013) further indicated that in the modern Egyptian government women are not allowed to mediate disputes even as petty judge or become a head of village who will mediate

quarrels and conflict, This was not so in the traditional Egyptian era, when the likes of Queen Cleopatra ruled because women were seen as more compassionate in resolving conflict and as such they were subjugated in conflict management.

In Colombia, various women organisations or groups during 1980s and 1990s pressured the government. Their pressure was pivotal to the engagement of peace talks in 1999. These groups still existed after the peace talks to ensure peaceful resolution. Sri Lankan women like Visaka Dharmadasa who conveyed messages from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eedan (LTTE) to government during peace talk when the LTTE refused to talk to the government. She further organised a group called 'Mobilizing Mothers for Peace' and they urges the government and LTTE to stop violence and embrace peace-building activities- Women and Conflict: A report by USAID.

The inclusion of women as facilitators of peace by United Nations and other international bodies have been of immense help looking at Afghanistan as an example, the United Nations, United States and World Bank as well as other driven civil societies, media addressed women's right and needs as critical component in rebuilding a country. Thus six participants (out of the 60) participants of UN-led negotiators in Bonn in 2001 were women. - Conaway 2005

**Review of Empirical Studies**

Nwoye (2006) conducted a study on the role of women in peace-building and conflict resolution in African traditional societies: a selected review, Nwoye study is a review of people mainly African female novelist who wrote from African feminist perspective, her work was mainly on peace in traditional African societies, which she pointed out that war is not just the absence of peace but also encompasses freshness, health, wellbeing, harmony, calm and tranquility. Also, the culture of peace was implanted through responsive upbringing and socialization undertaken by the mother. Women command important positions in conflict resolution rituals and membership of peace in Africa, as they have been put into effective use in old Africa e.t.c. She believes that peace can be inculcated into children at tender age via myths, proverbs, songs, stories e.t.c. Nwoye stated ways in which women resolute conflict and promote peace, but however, she failed to discuss the challenges women undergo in the process of achieving peace in Africa. Her recommendation are traditional, although her work is a review of African traditional societies, it failed to consider the fact that society is been influenced by lot of factors; the African societies are been influenced by Western ideologies, policies and programs and all these has changed the mode of operation in Africa. Also the study gave recommendations on promoting peace but how such recommendations will be achieved was not clearly stated.

The role of African women in peace building and conflict resolution: a case of Burundi was a study carried out by Agbalajobi (2009); the study gave an insight on the root cause of Burundi conflict between the majority Hutus and minority Tutsi, which lead to loss of thousands of lives and destruction of properties. This study highlighted the challenges faced by Burundi women in their quest to participate in peacebuilding, the important role they played as peace negotiators and educators in both family and society and particularly during the implementation of 2000 Arusha peace agreement. The study indentifies women's needs that must be met to stimulate post-conflict resolution and peace building and to enact well informed planning, policymaking, and action to build the culture of peace in Africa. It further suggested ways to integrate gender in conflict resolution so that Burundi women voices can be heard. Although the study has contributed to body of knowledge, it however, streamlined in importance to Burundi women only, the study failed to acknowledge that it can help in the inclusion of other women across the globe to participate in conflict resolution. Also that peace is not just needed in Africa but in other continent, so women all over should be included in conflict resolution to ensure and build the culture of peace.

**Theoretical Framework**

This study is anchored on the Liberal feminist theory. Many writers prior to Wollstonecraft (1759-1797) such as **Rousseau** (1712-1778), had explicitly argued that men and women were by nature not merely different in kind but different in "natural rank," with women being weaker physically, intellectually, and emotionally. Afew philosophers, such as Locke (1632-1704), had argued that the sexes should receive the same education and that they shared equal rights and responsibilities with respect to their children. The historical roots of liberal feminism can be traced back to liberal tradition of the 17th and 18th centuries with its emphasis on social justice and creation of a good and just society, supported by a system of human right. (sage.pub.com/view/encyc-of-case-study-research/n192.xml)

Liberal Feminist theory arose from social contract theories of 16th and 17th centuries. It is based on the values of rationality and reason, liberty and equality. Liberal feminist believe that women and men are equal and have same capacity and ability, and thus women have right to the same opportunities as men. Affirmative action, reproduction rights legislation, educational reforms and equal opportunity legislation represent important liberal feminist programmes that have attempted to ensure that women and other minority groups are not systematically disadvantaged. Liberal feminist wish to achieve gender equality by working within a system rather than overthrowing the system (media.scc.locrious.edu/.../...).

The Feminist theory was applied in a study conducted by Samkange, (2015) on the Liberal Feminist Theory: Assessing its applicability to education in General and Early Childhood Development (ECD) in particular within the Zimbabwean Context. The liberal feminist theorists have contributed to women advocacy, in terms of laws and policies; regarding education and employment, although not much have been done in terms of decision, policy making, the UNSCR 1325 (2000) advocates for women participation in peace process by all nations but little is been done in the peace making and peacebuilding by women. The liberal Feminist theory states that women should be given equal opportunity in legislation and affirmative action, which is related to the subject studied. The women organisations in Kaura and Sanga Local Government Areas of Kaduna State must be recognized by law in conflict management process, although these women organisation actions are been supported by government and other non-governmental bodies, this however is not enough, they should be recognized stakeholders in decision making in conflict mediation process like their counterpart in other countries, not just as members of committees but as managers holding key strategic positions in such committees. Women organisations should also be recognized in peacekeeping process, even though they partake in peacekeeping but not mostly as combatant, this should not be the case, women for instance in Rwanda have shown they can be good as both combatant and noncombatant. The Affirmative Actions as postulated by the theory conform to the above.

**Research Methodology**

The study adopts the use of Survey Research design using questionnaire and interview. The choice of Sanga and Kaura LGA is on the basis of frequently of the occurrence in the area.

The population for this study comprises of members of women organisations (FOMWAN, Matan Zumunta), the people of Sanga and Kaura local governments, Red Cross and SEMA staff. It is not possible to cover the entire population so sampling has to be applied to arrive at our sample size. A sample size of 383 was arrived at Krejcie and Morgan table.

This research adopted the stratified sampling technique; this is due to the fact that population under study is known. The choice of this technique was basically to avoid bias or absence of systematic variance. The stratified sampling method is adopted to ensure that each stratum of the population is represented in the sample size and this guarantee that the opinion of population is represented.

The study used both the primary and secondary data. The primary sources of data are firsthand information collected by the researcher from the field. The two major instruments used in generating these data for the purpose of this

study are questionnaire and interview. Through these, both qualitative and quantitative data were captured. The use of questionnaire is justified on the bases of its reliability, economical, ease, preserving anonymity and lower rate of reactivity. The questionnaires were structured in both open and close ended question.

Also in order to obtain more information, the researcher conducted structured interview focused on head of women organisations who are directly involved in managing conflict, head of SEMA, Red Cross and the local government security committee. The use of interview is justified on the basis that it helps in further investigation, as it is more capturing. It complements the questionnaire and enables the researcher to investigate further, unlike the questionnaire if too lengthy might get boring.

The use of documented data or information was also adopted. The study used secondary sources of data and they include information from textbooks, journals and articles on gender and women in conflict, newspapers write up on conflict in Nigeria, Kaduna, as well as Sanga and Kaura LGAs, and internet materials such as Panel reports by United Nations, ECOWAS, DPMF, and United State Peace Institution. Others include official publications of Governmental and Non-Governmental organizations.

A total number of 384 questionnaires were administered to all categories of the respondents (stakeholders). The questions on the questionnaire elicited responses from the respondents on the role of the women in managing conflict. The questionnaires were provided for the respondents which are members of the women organizations. The responses of the respondents was measured based on five point Likert scale of strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree and undecided; and very effective, effective, ineffective very ineffective and undecided.

However, a total of 12 interviews were conducted. The interviewees were strategically selected from the key stakeholders in conflict management in the two local governments. The interview responses was coded as Respondent 1 to represent women organisations view, Respondents 2 to represent the views of Traditional rulers in both local governments, Respondent 3 represents the views of other organizations (SEMA and Red Cross Society).

The study adopts the Spearman rank order correlation as inferential statistical tool to test the hypothesis using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). The choice of this tool is justified on the ground that it measures the relationship between the variables. The choice of SPSS was also justified on the basis of it accuracy as compare with manual computation.

The decision rule states that: hypothesis should be rejected at 0.05 level of significance at the determined degree of freedom ($d_f$), if the computed value is greater than the critical value, the hypothesis is to be accepted, but if otherwise reject hypothesis.

## Discussion and Findings

### Women organisations role in mediating conflict in Kaura and Sanga LGAs

It is stated in literatures that women organisations play an effective role in mediation of conflicting parties, thus the study seek to ascertain how effective their role are? To get vital information we asked the following questions.

**Table 1. Recognition of women in conflict mediation**

| | Matan Zumunta | | FOMWAN | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Options | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent |
| Strongly agree | 193 | 88.13 | 68 | 78.16 | 261 | 85.3 |
| Agree | 5 | 2.28 | 3 | 3.45 | 8 | 2.6 |
| Undecided | 8 | 3.65 | 7 | 8.05 | 15 | 4.9 |
| Disagree | 6 | 2.74 | 4 | 4.60 | 10 | 3.3 |
| Strongly agree | 7 | 3.20 | 5 | 5.75 | 12 | 3.9 |
| Total | 219 | 100 | 87 | 100 | 306 | 100.0 |

Researcher's Survey, 2016.

Table1 indicates that 85.3% of the total responses strongly agree that women Organisations are recognised by Government as an effective stakeholder in conflict mediation, while 8 responses representing 2.6% of the total responses agree on the assertion. However, 4.9% of the total responses remain undecided in their view. More so, 10 respondents representing 3.3% of the survey disagree on the assertion while 3.9% strongly disagree. In view of these, we can accept with the assertion that Women Organisations are recognised by government as an effective stakeholder in conflict mediation. However, the result of our interviews from Respondent 2 and 3 revealed that government support to women organizations in relation to conflict management is very minimal. They were not taken by government as core stakeholders in conflict management but mere volunteers.

**Women Organisations Play an Effective Role in Mediating Conflict Parties in Conflict**

**Table 2 Effectiveness of Women Organisation in Conflict Mediation in Kaura and Sanga Local Government Areas.**

| | Matan Zumunta | | FOMWAN | | Total | | IDPs | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Options | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent |
| Very effective | 61 | 27.85 | 56 | 64.37 | 117 | 38.2 | 41 | 51.9 |
| Effective | 66 | 30.14 | 23 | 26.44 | 89 | 29.1 | 21 | 26.6 |
| Undecided | 18 | 8.22 | 5 | 5.75 | 23 | 7.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Ineffective | 53 | 24.20 | 3 | 3.45 | 56 | 18.3 | 11 | 13.9 |
| Very ineffective | 21 | 9.59 | 0 | 0.0 | 21 | 6.9 | 6 | 7.6 |
| Total | 219 | 100 | 87 | 100 | 306 | 100.0 | 79 | 100.0 |

Researcher's Survey, 2016.

Table 2 shows that of the 306 responses, 117 accounting for 38.2% accept the assertion that women organisations play very effective roles in mediating conflict parties in conflict; however 29.1% of this survey believes the role of women organisations to be effective in mediating conflict parties in conflict. While 7.6% remain undecided in their opinion. However, 56 respondents (18.3%) believe women organisations are ineffective in mediating conflict parties in conflict and 6.9% assert that women organisations are very ineffective in mediating conflict parties in conflict. The Table also shows that 51.9% of the responses are of the view that women organisation members play very effective role in mediating conflicting parties, while 26.6 % of the respondents expressed that their role is effective in mediating conflicting parties. Nonetheless, those that remained undecided in their view stood at 0% of the entire responses. 13.9 % of the respondents are of the view that women organisations are ineffective in mediating conflicting parties and 7.6% responses strongly disagreed on the assertion.

Based on the interviews conducted in the Local Government Areas of study, Respondent 2 revealed that women organizations are involved in conflict mediation through humanitarian dialogue. They are involved because of their role in socialization process in every society. From this poll, we can accept the assertion that women organisations play an effective role in mediating conflict parties in conflict.

**Do you agree that women Organisations have the Required Skills in Mediating Conflict in these Areas**

**Table 3 Possession of Conflict Mediation Skills by Women Organisation in Kaura and Sanga Local Government Area of Kaduna State**

| | Matan Zumunta | | FOMWAN | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Options | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent |
| Very effective | 39 | 17.81 | 32 | 36.78 | 71 | 23.2 |
| Effective | 151 | 68.95 | 38 | 43.68 | 189 | 61.8 |
| Undecided | 3 | 1.37 | 2 | 2.30 | 5 | 1.6 |
| Ineffective | 20 | 9.13 | 12 | 13.79 | 32 | 10.5 |
| Very ineffective | 6 | 2.74 | 3 | 3.45 | 9 | 2.9 |
| Total | 219 | 100 | 87 | 100 | 306 | 100.0 |

Researcher's Survey, 2016.

From Table 3 shows that 23.2% of the total responses strongly agree that women Organisations have the required skills in mediating conflict in these areas, while 61.8% of the respondents agree with assertion and the undecided in their view with this assertion stood at 1.6% of the entire responses. However, 10.5% of the respondents disagree with the assertion. Whereas, 2.9% of the respondents strongly disagree that women Organisations have the required skills in mediating conflict in these areas. However, it indicates that women organisations have the required skills in mediating conflicts in these areas.

**Table 4: Test of Hypothesis**

| | | | Mediation | Conflict Management |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Spearman's rho | Mediation | Correlation Coefficient | 1.000 | .983** |
| | | Sig. (2-tailed) | . | .000 |
| | | N | 306 | 306 |
| | Conflict Management | Correlation Coefficient | .983** | 1.000 |
| | | Sig. (2-tailed) | .000 | . |
| | | N | 306 | 306 |

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Based on the results computed above, it could be observed that the nature of the relationship between mediation by women organization and conflict management is positive in Sanga and Kaura Local Government Areas . This is because, the Spearman Correlation Coefficient value is positive (0.983 and P< 0.01). Specifically, the relationship is positively very significant at about 98% (positive) relationship strength.

Based on the data presented, interpreted, and analysed the study came out with the following findings:

i. The study found out that women organisations were very effective in mediating conflicting parties in conflict in Kaura and Sanga LGAs. This is because of the position they occupied in the society, as mothers they play a prominent role in socialization process.
ii. The study revealed that women organisations were faced with challenges in carrying mediation role. They do not have adequate resources to partake in conflict management, lack of effective government support, and socio-cultural factors. These factors among others have limited the role of women in mediation.

**Conclusion and Recommendation**

In line with the agitation for gender equality through affirmative action, it led to the adoption of UNSCR 1325 (2000) where all member nations should involve women and girls in peace process or initiative. However, the study has empirically proven that women organisations have play very important role in mediating conflicting parties although they can still perform better if given the opportunity.

i. Women organisations are key in ensuring effective mediation of conflicting parties but nonetheless more needs to be done. This can be ensured by government fostering contact with local women organisations by inviting them to relevant meetings, events, and conferences in both formal and informal meetings and also in implementing the agreed solutions to the problem. To ensure the above government should support the affirmative action that is adaptation of quota system to guarantee women's political participation in post conflict transition. Women should be allowed to hold more public offices so that they can do better as research shows that women are leading efforts to promote good governance at all levels- Conaway. In line with this, women should be visible among leadership operations as ambassadors, commissioners, head of committees, Peace and Conflict Resolution Departments among others.
ii. Departments and commissions of Peace and Conflict Resolution should help in providing specialized training and also promote women participation in peace and security. They should provide specialized training in conflict resolution, thereby providing them with implementation tools, mechanism and best practices in security measures. To ensure more effective participation of women in conflict management, government should strengthen her offices devoted to

*women and conflict management matters. Women organisation members* should be provided with specialized training in conflict resolution or management. The study suggested for further study on role of women organisations on the settlement of internally displaced persons in conflict affected areas.

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