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**UNIT: SOCIAL CHANGE AND SOCIAL WELFARE**

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EXPLAIN HOW SOCIAL CHANGE HAS AFFECTED BOTH MEN AND WOMEN IN AFRICA

Social media in Africa economic has had a profound impact on both men and women are driven by factors such as urbanization,globalization,education,and the influence of media and technology.These changes have reshaped gender roles,family structure,and economic participation,affecting both men and women in distinct but interconnected ways.

1.Economic shifts and employment

* Women:Traditionally confined to household roles,many African women now participate actively in the workforce,a shift accelerated by education and urbanization.

Increased employment opportunities have led to greater financial independence,,although women often still face gender pay gaps and limitations in certain sectors.

* Men:Men who traditionally held the role of primary breadwinner,are also affected as women enter the workforce.

Some men feel the pressure to maintain this role,despite increasing unemployment rates and economic shifts,which has occasionally led to social strains or a re-negotiation of traditional household roles.

2.Educational and Empowerment

* Women:Education has empowered women by providing access to better job oppoturnities,improving health outcomes and increasing awareness of rights.

In many African countries,there has been a push toward gender equality in education,giving women more leverage in decision-making both in households and communities.

* Men:Men continues to benefit from educational advancements,but changing attitudes towards gender equality in educaion mean they increasely share academic and professional spaces with women.

This shift is promoting more collaborative approaches but can sometimes challenge traditional male roles.

3.Political Participation and Social Movements

* Women:Social change has seen an increase in female political leaders and activists across Africa,championing issues from women’s rights to social justice.

Women are more visible in political spaces,though they still face barriers due to longstanding patriarchal norms.

* Men: while men have traditionally dominated politics,social movements promoting gender equality have encouraged more balanced representation.

Some men support these changes,while others feel their roles are being challenged by the push for equal representation.

4.Family Dynamics and Gender Roles

* Women: with more women working,family dynamics are shifting. Women are not only contributing financially but also making household decisions and moving away from strictly traditional roles.

However,men work and family life remains challenging with limited

support systems like childcare.

* Men: Men have experienced shifts in their family roles in parenting and household responsibilities.

While some embrace these changes,others struggles to adapt,leading to tensions over expectations of musculinity and fatherhood.

5.Technology and Media Influence

* Women:Technology has provided women with platforms to share experiences,mobilize for rights,and access educational resources.

Social media,in particular,has been instrumental in building awareness around gender equality.

* Men:Men also engage with new technologies and media,which influence perceptions of masculinity and modernity.

Social media can create pressure for men to conform to modern standards of success,which may differ from traditional roles.

6.Health and Reproductive Rights

* Women: With changing social norms,women have gained more anatomy in reproductive health and family planning.

This shift is critical for those seeking greater control over there lives and family plannning choices,yet reproductive rights vary widely by region

* Men: Men are also increasingly involved in family planning discussions,marking a shift from previous generations where these decisions were often considered womens issues.Social campaigns encouragent to support their partners in health-related decisions.

Overall social change in Africa is creating more interconnected and dynamic society where traditional roles are continually being redefinied.

Although these changes bring challenges,they also open doors for increased collaboration and equality between men and women.

REFRENCES:

* Cambridge Core;JSTOR
* ROAPE