



## EDITORS NOTE

This issue<sup>1</sup>, volume 20 of the Journal of Private and Property contains 15 well-researched articles submitted by legal practitioners and law teachers. These articles address diverse contemporary issues in the area of Private and Property law as well as other fields of law.

In the first article, **Okene, Agwor** and **Nyobana** explored the application of Alternative Dispute Resolution in resolving matrimonial disputes in Nigeria. The authors recommended the revision of the Matrimonial Causes Act and the Rules governing marriage proceedings in Nigeria, to include the application of Alternative Dispute Resolution as one of the means of settlement of marriage disputes.

**Frank-Igwe** and **Nwosu** undertook a review of *Abba v Abba Aji*, [2022] 11 NWLR (Pt. 1842) 545. The authors interrogated the rationale behind this decision of the apex court regarding the inherent powers of a state Governor to revoke a certificate of occupancy.

**Nwayanwu** and **Sam** examined electronic land registration and property transactions in Nigeria. The authors examined the extent to which electronic land registration and property transactions have been implemented in Nigeria, and how they have impacted on the Nigerian economy. Nwayanwu and Sam recommended that there should be training and re-training of the staff members of relevant Ministries so as to keep them abreast of latest developments in land registration. The authors also recommended that land registration procedures should be uniform throughout the country.

**Adedokun** examined the deficiencies of the old Copyright Act and the need to introduce a new copyright regime in Nigeria. The author discussed notable changes introduced by the new Copyright Act 2022 and the potential impact of this Act on the protection of online creative works in Nigeria. Adedokun further highlighted areas in which the new Copyright Act could be improved on, particularly as it relates to the liability of social media platforms in Nigeria.

**Azeru-Oziri** and **Okocha** examined the legal protection of the right of a female child to inherit her parents' property in Ikwerre land. They recommended the establishment of a committee that would monitor the implementation of the Rivers State Prohibition of the Curtailment of Women's Right to Share in Family Property Law, 2022.



**Onuoha** and **Nnubia** undertook a legal exposition of the dimensions to the right to strike. The authors distinguished between the right to strike and the freedom to strike and recommended the enactment of a piece of legislation in Nigeria geared towards stopping wrongful dismissal.

**Mbonu, Ekeke-Henry, Diepreye** and **Obinna** explored different aspects of sexual equality and non-discrimination at work, focusing on how these issues manifest in the Nigerian work environment. The authors also assessed the effectiveness of provisions regarding maternity, childcare, health and safety at work, and equal remuneration. The authors recommended the promotion of diversity and inclusion in the workplace, setting targets for women's representation in leadership positions to enhance gender balance and the introduction of family-friendly policies.

**Onu** and **Chindah** examined the practice of industrial democracy in Nigeria. The authors recommended that businesses provide a level playing ground for productive equality where the workforce and the management can work with minimal tension towards achieving the goals of the organisation.

**Akabom-Ita** analysed the legal framework for protection against sexual harassment in the workplace. The author interrogated the potency of these laws and recommended the establishment of effective machineries that will encourage harassed employees to report incidents of sexual harassment without fear of victimisation or reprisals.

**Yagba** examined labour laws in Nigeria on the apprenticeship of persons below the age of 16 years. The author recommended that a statute should be enacted to specifically regulate contracts of apprenticeship in Nigeria. In the alternative, the author suggested that the Labour Act be amended to provide for adequate offences and sanctions for non-compliance with its provisions on apprenticeships.

**Izeowayi** identified barriers that hamper the enforceability of environmental protection in Nigeria. The author argued that a better environmental protection regime is possible in Nigeria if there are stricter penalties for environmental crimes, repeal and amendment of obsolete laws, creation of environmental courts, mitigation of the obstacles of *locus standi*, proper training for enforcement personnel, and effective environmental monitoring, among other things.



**Kpea-ue** examined the Climate Change Act, 2021 vis-a-vis the respect for environmental rights in Nigeria. The author recommended that the provision of section 18 of the Act which empowers the Council to accept gifts of land, money or other property should be amended to state that the Council should not accept gifts that will compromise its enforcement and implementation functions.

**Wigwe** and **Abili** examined the nature of the Single African Air Transport Market. The authors analysed the history, relevance, and legal framework for liberalisation of Africa' s air market, and examined bottlenecks to open skies in Africa. Wigwe and Abili recommended a continuous sensitisation through communication and advocacy by the African Civil Aviation Commission.

**Essang** and **Toby** appraised the legal framework for promoting the utilisation of Public Private Partnership (PPP) for seaport development in Nigeria, United Kingdom and Australia. The authors suggested that PPP involvements in Port development in Nigeria can be encouraged by improving the collection and analysis of data on port development and drawing lessons from other jurisdictions.

**Tijah** and **Ekpa** analysed relevant decisions of the Court of Appeal with a view towards determining the status of successor companies in the electricity supply industry. Observing that conflicting decisions have been given by the Court of Appeal on this issue, the authors recommended that when the opportunity presents itself, the apex court in Nigeria should resolve this issue by adopting the provider/consumer nature of the successor companies as this would expand the scope of protection for electricity consumers.

I recommend this journal to law students, law teachers, legal practitioners and indeed anyone interested in adding to his knowledge of the Law. I trust that you will find reading the articles in this journal worthwhile.

