Hello friends.

Great to have you here for another bi-weekly edition of our NFF newsletter.

The Nigerian Feminist Forum condemned the ruling made by Justice Inyang Ekwo of the Federal High court regarding the rights of pregnant unmarried women in the police as it reinforces patriarchy, gender-based violence, systemic inequality and denies policewomen their rights even from the very temple of justice perceived to be the last hope of everyone.

We commended the Nigerian Bar Association for initiating the suit to advocate for gender equity and to challenge the legality of regulation 127 of the Nigerian Police Force Regulations (NPFR) because the said provision contradicts the 1999 constitution and is discriminatory to unmarried police females.

Regrettably, the NPFR stipulates a policewoman must secure permission from the State Commissioner of Police before she can get married to a partner of her choice and should be dismissed if pregnant but unmarried but does not place any restriction on men within the force.

The discriminatory regulation 124, 125, and 127 of the NPFR violate the 1999 constitution considered greater than any institution, arm of government, formation, force, or organization as well as all orders, laws, regulations, manual, training, signals, and directives in Nigeria and even outside Nigeria. And, anything, action or directive even law, that contradicts the constitution is self-destructive and nullified. Since it has declared the equality of men and women, people must be treated equally as no gender, is greater than the other irrespective of religion and tradition.

NFF, as a movement, called on the National Assembly to immediately expunge the discriminations of the NPFR against policewomen, and that the Police Service Commission immediately direct State Police Commissioners to stop all further human rights violations of women in the force on the issue.

Further, the movement called on the Inspector General of Police to recall all suspended and dismissed policewomen on account of this discriminatory provision, as well as the inclusion of more women in decision-making levels of police formations.
In another development, following the hardship occasioned by the nationwide scarcity of premium motor spirit (fuel), the Nigerian Feminist Forum (NFF) learnt her voice to demand its availability and put an end to the hardship on women and girls.

Fuel for a country like Nigeria plays a major role, especially in the face of epileptic power supply which has made business owners resort to it as primary instead of alternative power supply.

The NFF warned that if not addressed immediately, the current scarcity would force thousands of Nigerian women out of business as rising inflation will consume their capital and run them out of business.

We called on the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) to immediately provide fuel across the country while the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) should ensure fuel products are sold at the approved prices nationwide.

On the importation of adulterated fuel, the NFF called for the prosecution of everyone involved and urged the Consumer Protection Council (CPC) to checkmate prices of foodstuff and services to save Nigerian women and girls from exorbitant prices by greedy business people.

That's the end of our newsletter for the week.

Remember, you can reach out to us with questions or suggestions. See you next week.

Cheers!

Angela Nkwo,
Communications Officer

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NFF in the News

Feminist Forum demands end to fuel scarcity and hike

Pregnancy in service: Feminist group demands recall of all dismissed policewomen -
https://authorityngr.com/2022/02/22/pregnancy-in-service-feminist-group-demands-recall-of-all-dismissed-policewomen/

The Secretariat;
Website: www.nigerianfeministforum.org