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Gender roles in traditional healing practices in Busoga

Isiko, A.P.

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Author: Isiko, Alexander Paul

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STATEMENTS

1. Traditional healing in Busoga society maintains a strong alliance with people's faith, belief, spirit, family support and the web of everyday life.
2. Traditional medicine among the Basoga is practiced within the parameters of the socio-cultural, economic, religious and political constructions of society. These have a major influence on the provision, access and utilization of traditional medicine among the Basoga.
3. Power relations prevalent in traditional healing are a continuum of the wider gender relations and the power forces between women and men. Traditional healing practices are gendered in both their provision and access.
4. The gender differences in traditional medicinal knowledge are associated with the socially constructed and defined roles and responsibilities of women and men in society.
5. Traditional healing and healers are essential elements of the religious traditions of Busoga society.
6. Traditional healing practices are not simply about the treatment of the sick, but also serve to respond to the socio-economic challenges that the Basoga face in their everyday situations.
7. The Basoga think that there is a direct relationship between their socio-political institutions, health and the people's general well-being.
8. In Busoga society, sickness and death cannot happen suddenly and there are no 'natural' causes of sickness and death.
9. Colonialism challenged African perspectives of health and healing, which resulted in an increased invisibility of women in Busoga's institution of traditional healing.

10. The Basoga perceive healing as a process of bringing someone to good health and to bring harmony between the physical and the spiritual world.
11. It is difficult to clearly tell the difference between a witch and a healer
12. Busoga society have an extended greeting in terms of time and it is comprehensive enough for one to inquire about the well-being of the chicken, goats, cows as well as gardens of community members. It should hold the Guinness world record as the longest greeting.
13. My PhD study experience has not only made me grow academically but also physically. I now have grey hair!