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Fertility and fontanels : women's knowledge of medicinal plants for reproductive health and childcare in western Africa

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STELLINGEN

Behorend bij het proefschrift:

Fertility and Fontanels: Women's knowledge of medicinal plants for reproductive health and childcare in western Africa

van Alexandra M. Towns

I

Market women from Bénin, far removed from the forest, use more vulnerable species than rural or urban women. (this thesis)

II

In contrast to international maternity morbidity statistics, menstruation and infertility are salient health concerns for women in Bénin and Gabon. (this thesis)

III

Infant folk illnesses are of interest to biomedicine since they may reveal important neglected diseases. (this thesis)

IV

The diversity of medicinal plants on markets throughout Gabon highlights the role of herbal medicine in wealthy African countries with heavily urbanized populations (this thesis).

V

Ethnobotanical studies can provide pre-clinical evidence to support public health recommendations for the traditional use of remedies by local communities (Vandebroek 2013).

VI

Ethnobotanists are uniquely positioned to contribute to the improvement of healthcare in Africa.

VII

DNA barcoding methods cannot replace traditionally trained botanists.

VIII

Ethnobotany has a critical role in keeping the field of botany relevant to society.

IX

Weeds are the most useful and utilized plants for human health.

X

Many worthwhile topics of research fall between traditional disciplines (Nissani 1997).