



HON. JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE FOUNDATION

LEGAL EDUCATION | RESEARCH | CHARITY INITIATIVE



www.umezulikefoundation.org

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Hon. Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation was formed to honor the legacy of Justice Innocent Azubike Umezulike, OFR, FCIRB, FIIAN. At the time of his death, he was an acclaimed Professor of Land and Property law, authored over 25 books and the longest serving Chief Judge in Southern Nigeria.

FOUNDATION PRINCIPLES

- To Honour Hon. Justice Prof. Innocent Azubike Umezulike, OFR, FCI Arb, FIIAN in our works, and to promote his outstanding legal portfolio.
- To assist in the development of a more progressive society through education of children and adults.
- To promote excellent legal research, especially in areas of property and land law.

- To network nationally and internationally with like-minded organisations and foundations
- To promote a peaceful resolution of legal issues, and policies relating to the objectives of the Foundation.
- -To promote sound legal initiatives through research, lectures, seminars, workshops and media.

OBJECTIVES

- To promote the landmark and cerebral works of Hon. Justice Prof. Innocent Azubike Umezulike OFR, FCI Arb, FIIAN on Property Law, Land Law and Conveyancing.
- To assist in the advancement of education, legal studies and research in Property Law and Land Law.
- To promote the protection of Human Rights by ensuring individuals and organizations with legal needs understand and know how to use the law to secure stability and action.

- -Our goal is to create positive impacts in the life of people, law scholars, lawyers and academics through granting access to a world-class Law Library, Legal Research Centre, educational aid, and also through Seminars, Legal Workshops and Lectures.
- To provide a reliable platform based on legal research and sound infrastructure, for educational, community and international activities.
- To provide a reliable platform based on legal research and sound infrastructure, for educational, community and international activities.
- -To liaise and partner with other organizations working to promote education, legal studies and research.
- -To implement “The law in Schools Program”. The law in schools program will expose young adults to the rudiments of the law, so they can know their rights, assess their rights and seek effective ways of redress when wronged.



MISSION

- Ensure that all legal scholars and lawyers through our facilities and programs are well equipped to get the necessary skills and knowledge that would support their development.
- -Effectively promote critical legal research in the area of law to add value to individuals and persons in Nigeria and diaspora.
- -Build a progressive nation by positively investing into the education of children, youths and adults. Ensuring that all willing and able to embark on an educational journey will be supported, mainly but not limited to legal studies.

- -We recognise that the law plays a crucial role in maintaining a civil society, economic development and democracy. We will, therefore, endeavor to be a source and resource of distinctive empowerment for legal scholars and lawyers.
- Our charitable purpose is to promote the advancement of education, legal education and the study of the law in all its divisions by developing and implementing legal and socio-legal learning programs for legal scholars, lawyers and academics.

THE FOUNDATION DELIVERS ITS MISSION THROUGH ITS FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS INCLUDING:

- Law Library
- Legal Research Centre
- Annual Lectures
- Law Workshops
- Law Seminars
- Educational Grants and Funding
- Charitable and Humanitarian Initiatives

2022 IMPACT STORY

INTERNSHIP AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



The internship and mentorship program is targeted at enabling law students acquire requisite knowledge and tips on issue of law and legal practice.

This is in line with the objectives of the Foundation to assist in the advancement of education, legal studies and research. Applications to the Cohort 1 of the Foundation's Internship/mentorship program was made open in April with over 100 applications from law students across law faculties in Nigeria.

The Cohort 1 program duration was from the 11th to the 31st of May 2022 for three weeks comprising of three sessions with seasoned resource persons. **The topics were as follows :**

- **Week 1:** Understanding facts and principles of law, the law students perspective
- **Week 2:** Essentials of Law Undergraduate and Bar Finals Exam
- **Week 3:** Effective Legal Advocacy for law students.

Tests followed after each session to evaluate comprehension of what was taught and certificates given to all interns that successfully concluded the program.

Awards were given to the Most Outstanding Mentee/Intern, Miss Victoria Imoh and Best in Post Test Mr Samuel Onya Ugwu. Awardees were given cash prizes of N5000 each, complementary copies of two of Hon Justice Innocent Umezulike's books- ABC of Contemporary Land Law in Nigeria and A Chronicle of Leading Judgments as well as the Foundation's customized jotter and pen. The video of the award ceremony is up on the Foundation's youtube channel.

NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION



The National Moot Competition is another platform through which the organization assist in the advancement of legal education, legal studies and aid legal research. The Foundation partners with law faculties across Nigeria to expose law students to the rudiments of law and legal practice.

The 2022 edition of the National Moot Court competition was the first Virtual National Moot Court Competition in Nigeria and out of the pool of law faculties, four were selected. The qualifying law faculties were, University of Benin, University of Nigeria, University of Uyo and University of Ilorin. It was a keenly contested moot court competition. After the first round the finalists were University of Nigeria and University of Benin with University of Nigeria (Team Diamond) finally emerging as the Winner and also the Best Researcher while University of Benin (Team Ruby) emerged as 1st runner up.

HON JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE ANNUAL NATIONAL ESSAY COMPETITION

The National Moot Court Competition 2022 increased engagement among law students especially during this period of strike action nationwide, created platform for inter-schools competition, enhanced their Advocacy and research skills. The award ceremonies were held on the 11th and 12th of October 2022 at University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus and University of Benin respectively.

Law Faculty UNEC ably represented by her students went home with a winner cash prize of 250,000, book donations, award plaques and certificates.

Uniben law faculty ably represented by her student went home with the 1st runner up cash prize of 100,000, book donations, award plaques and certificates.

**HON. JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE ANNUAL
ESSAY COMPETITION
FOR LAW STUDENTS**

WINNERS
FOR THE 2022 ANNUAL ESSAY

1 **BRANHAM-PAUL CHIMA**
(University of Benin- 400I)

2 **ADEYEYE JOSHUA**
(University of Lagos- 400I)

3 **OKUNEYE WURAOLA TOMIWA**
(Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ogun
State - 300I)

EMAIL: submissions.hjiuf@gmail.com
| admin@umezulikefoundation.org

WEBSITE: www.umezulikefoundation.org

The Annual National Essay Competition is a legacy project in honor of Hon Justice Innocent Umezulike.



HON. JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE
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HON JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE ANNUAL ESSAY
COMPETITION 2022

BRANHAM PAUL CHIMA
(UNIVERSITY OF BENIN- 400L)



FIRST
POSITION

WEBSITE

www.umezulikefoundation.org



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HON JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE ANNUAL ESSAY
COMPETITION 2022

JOSHUA ADEYEYE
(UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS- 400L)



SECOND
POSITION

WEBSITE

www.umezulikefoundation.org



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HON JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE ANNUAL
ESSAY COMPETITION 2022

OKUNEYE WURAOLA TOMIWA
(OLABISI ONABANJO UNIVERSITY, OGUN STATE – 300L)



THIRD
POSITION

WEBSITE

www.umezulikefoundation.org

This project assists in the advancement of education and qualitative research amongst undergraduate law students particularly in the area of land/property law. It will help cultivate and improve skills such as writing, critical thinking and research amongst our next generation of lawyers which will be invaluable to them in life and career. It is also a pathway to forge partnerships between the foundation and law faculties across Nigeria.

The 2022 Annual Essay began with a call for submissions in July and all the universities in the 4 geo-political zones in Nigeria were duly represented through the submissions of their students. After the essays were evaluated by a team of competent judges, Paul Branham Chima from University of Benin emerged 1st position with a cash prize of N100,000, Joshua Adeyeye of University of Lagos emerged 2nd position with a cash prize of N50,000 and Wuraola Tomiwa of Olabisi Onabanjo University took the 3rd position with a cash prize of N20,000.

INNOCENT PROJECT



HON. JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE FOUNDATION

THE INNOCENT Project

The Innocent Project is Africa's first charity expedition, an initiative built on the power of relationships with other NGOs and businesses to address prevalent issues in certain communities across the African continent.

Because we believe, Every Child Counts;

'INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE MEANS INVESTING IN OUR CHILDREN'

Do you know that with **N2000** you too can support our Innocent Back to School Project in order to enable us reach more children with a back pack, water bottle and exercise book **this September 2022** ?

TO GIVE, SEND YOUR DONATIONS TO
ZENITH BANK: 1016608475
Hon. Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation

Contact: admin@umezulikefoundation.org OR Call: 08091936777

The Innocent Project is Africa's first charity expedition, an initiative built on the power of relationship with other NGO's and businesses to address prevalent issues in certain communities across the African continent.

It is backed up by a mantra that we believe that every child counts; investing in children is investing in our future.

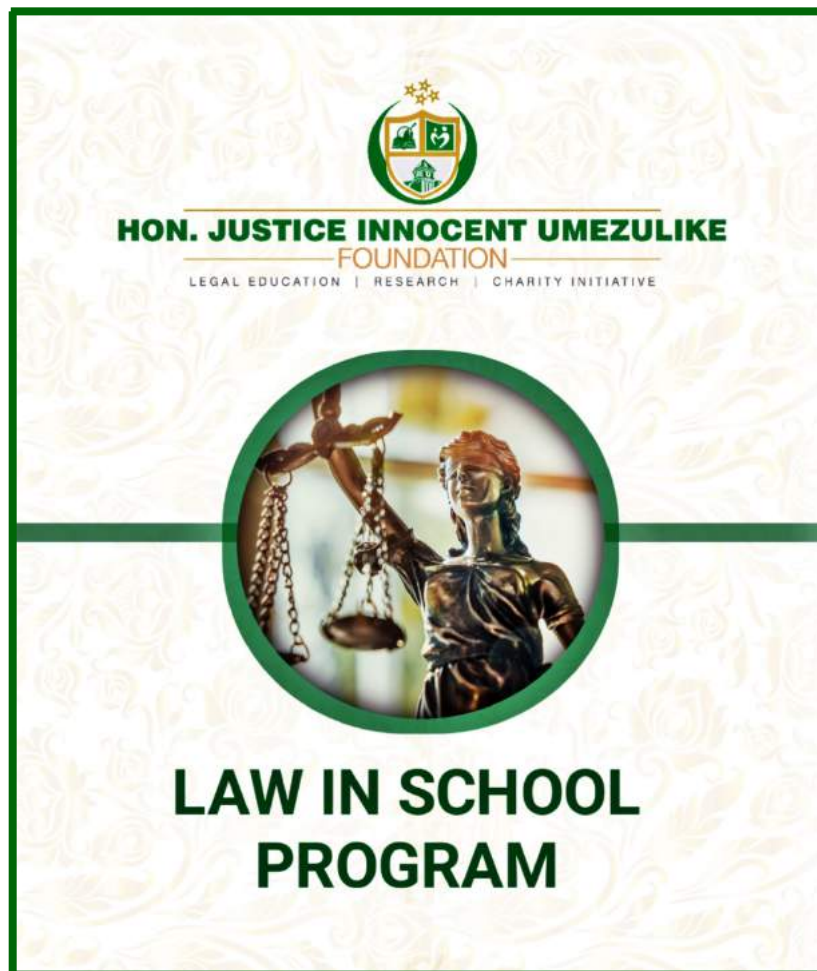
The Batch 1 of the Innocent Project (Back to School Project) held on the 8th of September (International Literacy Day 2022) at Ifite Community Primary School, Ezineri, Mgbidi, Agwu Local Government of Enugu State. All the pupils in that school were provided with school bags, water bottles and writing materials to aid their learning. Light refreshments were also given to the pupils that day.

The Head Teacher, pupils, their parents and members of the community expressed their sincere gratitude to the Foundation for the timely intervention in the lives and education of these indigent pupils. Ezineri village with over 1000 indigenes were greatly impacted by this project that aided the education of her own.

The Foundation in turn expresses its profound gratitude to the donors and partners whose generous contributions made this charity expedition a success.



LAW IN SCHOOL PROGRAM



We are proud to be the FIRST pioneers of this grassroots approach to legal education. The program targeted at exposing young adults to the rudiments of the law so that they can know their rights, access it and seek effective ways of redress when wronged was held in Brightland International Academy with about 150 students from the Junior and Senior classes present.

It was an interactive session in addition to the teaching as students were given room to ask questions on issues about the law.

They were all given pamphlets containing the facts about the law and Fundamental Human Rights. Students that got correct answers to questions and contributed to the class were given prizes of the Foundation's customized exercise books, water bottle and school bag. The Principal Mrs Joy Amoba as well as the Teachers expressed their gratitude to the Foundation for the impact the program had on their students.



Hon Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation 2022 Annual Lecture

HON. JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE FOUNDATION

Presents

HER ANNUAL LECTURE ON
EMERGING TRENDS IN REAL ESTATE PRACTICE: PROPERTY TECHNOLOGY

Prof Gozie Ogbodo
Dean, Faculty of Law Godfrey Okoye University

Barr Ruth Soronnadi
Moderator

Dr Charles Dioha ESQ
Keynote Speaker

11th November 2022 11AM

VENUE: PETER MBAH LAW AUDITORIUM, GODFREY OKOYE UNIVERSITY

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The 2022 Annual Lecture provided a platform for the advancement of legal education and empowerment for legal scholars. It held at the law faculty of Godfrey Okoye University on the 11th of November.

The theme was on 'Emerging Trends in Real Estate Practice: Property Technology' with the Guest Lecturer being Dr Charles Uzoma Dioha. Additionally, Godfrey Okoye University Law Faculty Library as a result of hosting the lecture received a generous donation of copies of two of His Lordships books- 'ABC Of Contemporary Land Law In Nigeria' and 'Hon Justice Innocent Umezulike: A Chronicle of Leading Judgements'.



HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS TO FLOOD VICTIMS



The Abaegbu Umuoba Anam community in Anambra West Nigeria ravaged by floods lost cassava crops earlier planted which is an invaluable source of feeding & livelihood.

The Foundation provided cassava stem bundles to enable the flood victims grow their food, sell to make money & take care of their families.

The Community Head, Mr Sylvester Nnaluo along with other residents were so grateful to the Foundation for the unexpected supply of choice cassava stems as this is the season to plant such and they had limited resources to get them having lost a lot earlier. With this they will not just be able to plant then harvest for food but also to sell and take care of their families.

Special thanks to the LGA Chairman Dr Anslem Onura and Mr Chiduo Ajani an indigene for facilitating the success of this project



SPECIAL DAYS COMMEMORATED IN 2022

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY- MARCH 8, 2022

INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY, 2022

HON. JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE
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PANEL DISCUSSION ON:

*WOMEN IN LAW PRACTICE BREAKING
BIAS TO BECOME: Dynamics of women
in the legal profession, challenges
and successes*

Wednesday 23
MARCH
2022

Venue: Zoom Live!
2pm

Moderator
Barr. Rachael Obodo-Obunseli
Head of Legal & Research /Acting Deputy Director
Hon. Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation

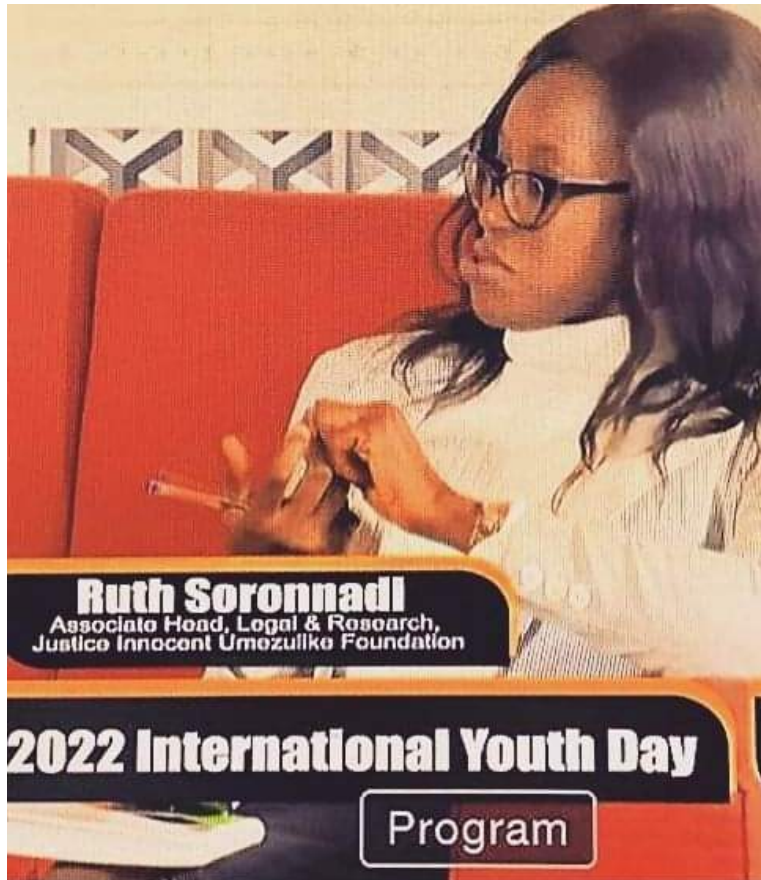
Panelist
Jessica Ogechi Megbele LL. M, LL. B, BL
Chief State Counsel, Delta State Ministry of Justice
& Chairperson, International Federation of Female
Lawyers FIDA, Warri, Delta state Nigeria.

Panelist
Onwuesiama Ebele Frances LLB, BL,
LLM., MCArb.
President Customary Court in Anambra
State

The International Women's Day 2022 on 'Breaking the Bias' was commemorated by the Foundation with a webinar that involved a panel discussion on: 'Women in Law Practice Breaking the Bias to Become: Dynamics of Women in the legal profession, challenges and successes.

The panelists were Jessica Ogechi Megbele LLM, LLB, BL (Chief State Counsel, Delta State Ministry of Justice and Chairperson FIDA, Warri, Delta State and Onwuesiama Ebele Frances LLB, BL, LLM, MCArb (President Customary Court Anambra State).

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY 2022 (AUGUST 12)



The Foundation's Associate Head of Legal and Research Barrister Soronnadi (first left) appeared on Anambra Broadcasting Station (ABS TV) to discuss the importance of young peoples participation in decision making process and how to create intergenerational solidarity for all ages.

INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2022



In line with the Foundation's commitment to quality education she commemorated the International Literacy Day 2022 on the 8th of September with the Batch 1 of the Innocent Project at Ifite Community Primary School, Ezineri, Mgbidi, Agwu Local Government of Enugu State. All the pupils in that school were provided with school bags, water bottles and writing materials to aid their learning.

Light refreshments were also given to the pupils that day.



The Head Teacher, pupils, their parents and members of the community expressed their sincere gratitude to the Foundation for the timely intervention in the lives and education of these indigent pupils. Ezineri village with over 1000 indigenes were greatly impacted by this project that aided the education of her own.

INTERNATIONAL SEPSIS DAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

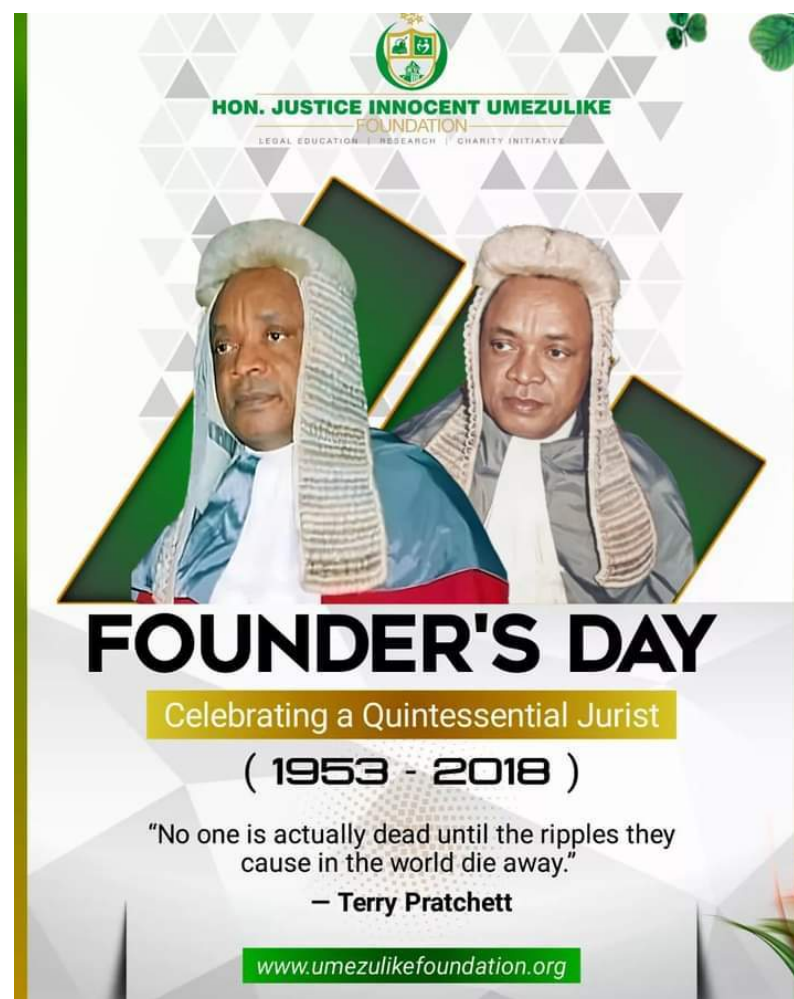


Sepsis Awareness @ 92.9 FM


The Foundation is presently the first and only Foundation in Africa committed to research, preventive advocacy, partnerships and interface with International Organizations on this deadly medical condition Sepsis.

On International Sepsis Day, the Associate Head of Legal and Research, Barr Ruth Soronnadi was on air (Coal City FM, 92.9FM) to discuss this health condition and create awareness about it.

FOUNDATION DAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2022




This was commemorated in celebration of the post humus birthday of the Quintessential Jurist, Hon Justice Innocent Azubike Umezulike OFR, FCIRB, FIAN for whom the Foundation to promote his legacy was formed.



HON. JUSTICE INNOCENT UMEZULIKE
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Presents

FOUNDER'S DAY QUIZ



(An online quiz in honor of the legacy of Hon Justice Innocent Umezulike an erudite scholar, jurist & Professor of Land & Property Law)

21st SEPT 2022

MODALITIES:

1. Questions will be posted on all our social media platforms by **11am** on the Founder's Day (**21st September**)
2. Deadline to answer the questions is by **12pm (1hour)**
3. Answers to the questions should come in a single comment on either our Facebook or LinkedIn page and you are allowed only one entry
4. The first three correct answers will win cash prizes of **N10,000** upon submission of Student ID from an accredited university in Nigeria
5. Winners will be announced on all our social media platforms by **2pm**

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FOUNDER'S DAY Quiz

WINNERS

1. Quareebat Ibrahim (LinkedIn)
2. Ogonna Chiamaka (Instagram)
3. Chisimdi Ezoguine (Facebook)

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In addition to online celebration of his legacy, the Foundation through her Associate Head of Legal and Research had an interview with Coal City FM, 92,9FM on the life and works of the Jurist. Equally, still to promote his legacy and commitment to excellent legal education and research an online quiz was held for undergraduate students and cash prizes were given to winners of the quiz competition.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AMONGST WOMEN AND GIRLS (IDEVAWG)

To mark the International Day of Elimination of Violence Amongst Women and Girls (IDEVAWG), the Foundation's Associate Head of Legal and Research – Barrister Ruth Soronnadi paid a courtesy visit to the Ministry of Gender Affairs and Social Development.

The Ministry of Gender Affairs and Social Development Commissioner, Hon Princess Peace Nnaji and the Director of Administration and Supply/ Acting Permanent Secretary, Dr. Mrs Okenwa Uzoechina welcomed the Foundation warmly and had a productive discussion on partnership to achieve greater protection for women and young girls.

The Ministry also acknowledged the foundations diligence in preserving the legacy of the legal luminary and applauded our efforts in being part of advocacy to end gendered violence on all its forms.

DO YOU KNOW ?

Since the pandemic began...

- 45% of women reported that they or a woman they know has experienced a form of VAWG
- 7 in 10 women said they think that verbal or physical abuse by a partner has become more common
- 6 in 10 felt that sexual harassment in public spaces has worsened.

Source: UN Women (2021)

UNITE: ACTIVISM TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS !

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF
ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST
**WOMEN
AND GIRLS 2022**

**NOV.
25th**

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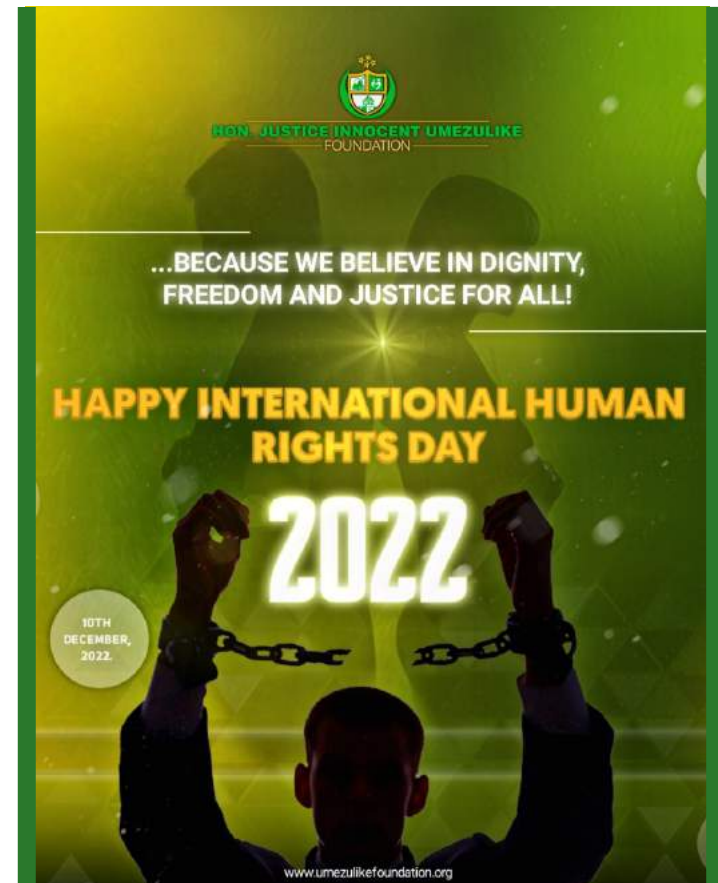
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

In addition to an online campaign, Hon Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation was invited by the National Human Rights Commission, Anambra State for a Roundtable Discussion as part of the 16 Days of Activism on Elimination of All Forms of Violence Against Women and Girls and in Commemoration of International Human Rights Day.

Other Stakeholders in addition to the Hon Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation present include the Nigeria Bar Association(NBA), FIDA, NAPTIP (National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and Other Related Matters), Joint Association of Persons with Disabilities, National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN), Enugu-ukwu Widows Association, Gender Perspective and Development Center (GSPCDC), Campaign for Democracy, Davina Care Foundation, a media personnel.

It was a productive discussion on what Gender Based Violence is, ways in which it occurs, causes, laws/policies against it and solutions. Questions were equally asked by some participants on some of the issues discussed.

Special thanks to the NHRC State Coordinator, Anambra Barr Obinna Maduforo for the invitation. He also commended the Foundation for her impact so far and looks forward to more partnerships going forward.



IMPACT TESTIMONIES



Samuel Onya Ugwu (University of Benin)

I want to register my undiluted and affirmed appreciation to your Foundation, Hon Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation for the immense good works and overwhelming programs in the legal profession and most especially to the law students. It has been a great time for me since I got to know your foundation through the virtual Mentorship/Internship program organized during the month of May. I was a beneficiary of that internship and I want to say Thanks to your efforts and wish you more wisdom and strength to carry on the legacy of our late Hon. Chief Justice Innocent A. Umezulike.

Branham Paul Chima (1st Position Winner of HJIU Annual Essay 2022)

"I consider it a privilege to have been given the opportunity to participate in the Hon. Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation Annual National Essay Competition 2022. I am indeed glad to have emerged the winner of this year's version. Lord Denning MR opined in *UAC v Macfoy*, 'one cannot put something on nothing and expect it to stand'. Without there being an essay competition in the first place there would not have been a winner; it is on this premise that I say a big THANK YOU to the Foundation. Since on Thursday (the 25th of August 2022) when I was informed of my winning, the conviction in me to always work hard has been strengthened. I feel happy and grateful to have emerged the winner. Thank you, again.

OVirginus Nnaji (Facebook)

The most progressive Foundation I have ever seen. Looking forward to partnering with you soon in reaching out to the less privileged ones in Nigeria

Joshua Adeyeye (2nd Position Winner of HJIU Annual Essay 2022)

I applaud Hon. Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation for this opportunity. The choice of topic for the essay competition is apt because it broadened my horizon on the controversies surrounding the nature of land rights within the context of the Land Use Act 1978. Furthermore, one of the endearing features of this essay competition is that the Foundation adhered strictly to the timeline. This is highly commendable. In short, this essay competition will forever etch an indelible mark in my memory.

Victoria Imoh Udoh (400 level Law Student, University of Nigeria Enugu Campus (UNEC))

I am so elated and grateful to the Hon. Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation for this opportunity to learn, grow and be taught by professionals. I must say a big thank you to the team who put together this program and their intentional efforts and contribution to the growth of Law students in Nigeria. These past weeks of Internship/Mentorship have been nothing but amazing!"

Okuneye Wuraola Tomiwa (3rd Position Winner of HJIU Annual Essay 2022)

Am tremendously pleased to be selected to receive this award. I consider myself lucky to have received this prize from you. I hope to continue doing my best in the future. I am so delighted to be received this award as this is my very first Essay Competition attempt and I am glad I was able to clinch the third position out of over hundred submissions. Indeed little beginnings should not be despised. It brings me self-confidence and the urge to have more commitment in preparation for competitions. I feel more compelled and encouraged to work harder and improve in my Essay write ups. I am particularly grateful to God for his grace my life, because this success was achievable through Him alone. Thank you Hon. Justice Innocent Umezulike Foundation.

Chukwuemeka Chima (Facebook)

The most impactful Foundation presently in Africa

THE FOUNDATION WELCOMES PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT FOR A MORE IMPACTFUL 2023.

DONATE FOR A GOOD CAUSE.

Financial Donation: Hon Justice
Innocent Umezulike Foundation

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NIGERIA

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UNITED KINGDOM

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