

PROFILE

I am an experienced lawyer and researcher. Currently a doctoral student at Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, I am researching Canadian-Nigerian bilateral engagements as they relate to women's rights, with the goal of understanding how these interactions impact Nigerian women. I am a firm advocate for gender equality.

LinkedIn: [Link to Adaora Nwajaku's profile](#)

EDUCATION

York University- Osgoode Hall Law School

2019- date

PhD in Law

- Full time doctoral student.
- PhD thesis titled: *Canadian/Nigerian Engagements on Women's Rights: Nature, Attainments, Problems and Prospects.*

The University of Lagos

2016-2017

LL.M. Master of Laws

Modules taken: Law of International Institutions; Comparative Company Law; Energy Resources Law; and Maritime Law.

LL.M. thesis titled: *Sexual violence in African Armed Conflicts: United Nations Peacekeepers.*

The Nigerian Law School, Lagos Campus

October 2013-August 2014

Bachelor of Laws (B.L)

- Modules: Corporate Law Practice, Property Law Practice, Civil Litigation, Criminal Litigation, Law in Practice
- Part of the Pro-bono team carefully selected by the Nigerian Law School's Deputy-Director General and her team to work with the Lagos State Government and Ministry of Justice to provide legal services to indigent residents of Lagos state.

The University of Ibadan

October 2008- August 2013

L.L.B, Second Class Upper Division (2.1)

- Learnt to successfully balance and combine leadership, social and academic responsibilities.
- Delivered the valedictorian speech on behalf of the graduating class.
- L.L.B thesis titled: *The Abuse, The Abused and The Abuser: Domestic Violence and Legal Remedies.*

WORK EXPERIENCE

YORK UNIVERSITY

Teaching Assistant

September 2023- date

- Currently the teaching assistant for the foundational human rights course- *Introduction to Human Rights* - in the Department of Equity Studies, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies.
- Responsible for teaching two classes with a capacity of not less than 50 undergraduate students in an academic year.
- Responsible for grading all tests, assignments and essays of my students.

Teaching Assistant

September 2019- April 2023

- Teaching assistant for the course -*Theoretical Foundations of Human Rights and Equity*- in the Department of Equity Studies, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies
- Responsible for teaching two classes with a capacity of not less than 50 undergraduate students in an academic year, and for grading students' tests, assignments and essays.

Legal Vice-Presidency Intern (2023 Spring Cohort of the Legal Internship Program, Washington DC.)

- Selected to work at the World Bank for a 5-month internship period (plus an additional extension to further contribute to the gender unit's work).
- Based on my research experience and skills, I was chosen to provide support to the Legal Vice Presidency on issues of women's rights and gender related issues, with the primary task of contributing to the promotion of gender equality globally.
- Was part of a select team organising a conference to facilitate and promote women's rights in the Middle East and North Africa region.

AFRICA LAW PRACTICE

October 2017- September 2019

Counsel (Associate)

- Member of legal teams offering legal services and advice to international and local bodies, organisations, and companies.
- Reviewed/ drafted various laws and regulations.
- Attended court sessions in representation of firm's clients.
- Drafted and reviewed court processes, legal opinions, agreements/contracts for business operations internationally & in Nigeria; audited corporate documents for various operations, including oil and gas operations in Nigeria.
- Engaged in corporate/commercial litigation, arbitration preparation for local and international clients.
- Member of due diligence team for companies; and conducted company secretarial services.

Udochi Iheanacho Partnership

2016

Counsel

- Conducted due diligence on lease renewals with a leading Nigerian Telecommunications company.
- Negotiated, reviewed and managed documents and agreements for the firm.
- Represented the firm's clients in court for civil, criminal and other matters.
- Prepared and reviewed court processes and followed up on pending court cases.
- Performed company secretarial functions, including drafting resolutions and minutes of meetings.
- Held private meetings and sessions with clients on behalf of firm's partners.

Taiwo. O. Taiwo & Co

2015

NYSC Counsel

- Represented the firm's clients in court for civil and criminal matters.
- Drafted, reviewed and filed court processes for litigation matters.
- Drafted legal contracts, opinions and other relevant documents for the firm's clients.
- Held and engaged in dispute resolution sessions with clients.

VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE

The Bridge Health Outreach, Lagos

2023- present

- Founding member of a small team dedicated to bridging health service accessibility for indigent Nigerians, especially women and children.
- Provision of health education and publicity through outreaches, partnerships with NGOs.
- Prioritization of access to health services through crowd-sourced health insurance.

The Women's Law Clinic, University of Ibadan

2013

(A Non-Profit Legal Organization Offering Free Legal Services to Indigent Women) Student Clinician

- As a final year law student, I volunteered and helped organize rural field trips to create awareness to indigent women.
- Interviewed and counselled clients during the period.
- Learnt the value of confidentiality and privilege while dealing with clients.

Students in Free Enterprise-SIFE (now ENACTUS)

2009-2013

- Volunteered whilst at the University of Ibadan at SIFE- an international non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring students to improve the world through entrepreneurial action executed through community projects.
- Empowered communities with projects that created jobs for the people.

MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANISATIONS

- Nigerian Bar Association (NBA)
- Law and Society Association (LSA)
- Canadian Association of African Studies (CAAS)
- Childcare Committee, CUPE, York University

LEADERSHIP

- Member, Childcare Committee- CUPE 3903, York University **2022- Present**
- Speaker, Law Students Congress, University of Ibadan **2012-2013**
(First Female Speaker of the Legislative arm of the Law Students Society since the Faculty's inception).
- Deputy Speaker, Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Law Students Congress, University of Ibadan **2009-2012**
- Welfare Secretary, Augustine Nnamani Chamber, University of Ibadan.
- Two-Time Welfare Secretary, SIFE- Students in Free Enterprise (now ENACTUS) **2010-2012**
- Debating Officer II, Senior Literary and Debating Society, FGGC, Owerri, Imo State. **2007**

Workshops and Conferences

- Presenter, Association of Transnational Law Schools - ATLAS AGORA PhD Presentations, 2021
- Participant, National Association of Women in the Law (NAWL) 50th Anniversary Workshop, 2024