

CURRICULUM VITAE: OKECH-OWITI

Bio-data

- Date of Birth: September 9, 1953
- Marital Status: Married, with three children

Post-secondary Academic History

- 1978-80: University of Nairobi: Master of Laws (LL.M.) (1983)
- 1978: Kenya School of Law: Diploma and Certificate of Admission to the Roll of Advocates of the High Court of Kenya (1978)
- 1974-77: University of Nairobi: Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) (Second Class Honours) (1977)

Working experience

- Currently Acting Dean, School of Law, University of Nairobi (since 2005), Senior Lecturer, Department of Public Law, School of Law, University of Nairobi (since 1992) and Consultant in a variety of areas as summarised below (since 1996)
- 1984-92: Lecturer, Department of Commercial Law, Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi
- 1982-84: Legal Officer, Inspectorate Section, Headquarters, Ministry of Co-operative Development, Nairobi
- 1981-82: Provincial Legal Officer, Western Province, Ministry of Co-operative Development, Kakamega

Publications

- 1989: 'Regulating Technology: The Case of Computers in Kenya', in **Juma, Calestous and Ojwang', Jackton B. (eds): Innovation and Sovereignty: The Patent Debate in African Development** (Nairobi, ACTS)
- 1989: 'The S.M. Otieno Case: Some Socio-legal Issues', in **Ojwang' J.B. and Mugambi, J.N.K. (eds): The S. M. Otieno Case: Death and Burial in Modern Kenya** (Nairobi, Nairobi U.P.)
- 1989: 'Contract Farming and Out-grower Schemes in Kenya: Case Studies', with Ayako, A.B. Makanda, D.M., Mwabu, G.M. and Awiti, L.M., **Eastern African Economic Review** (August) 4-14
- 1990: The Rights of an Employee in Kenya (Nairobi, Oxford U.P)

- 1991: 'The Lawyer in Society', in Kibwana, Kivutha, Ndiritu, Emilius M., and Rukwaro, George K. (eds): Law Curriculum Development in an African context: The Kenyan Experience (Nairobi, Faculty of Law, U.o.N)
- 1992: 'Research Methodology: Research on Gender (Women's) Issues and Law', in WLEA, **Women and Law in East Africa** (WLEA Publications) 105-123
- 1992: **Elections and Us/Uchaguzi na Sisi** (Nairobi, Legal Education and Aid Programme of the Kenya Adult Education Association (LEAP-KAEA)
- 1993: 'Reflections on Poverty, Legal Structures and Democracy and their Implications for Adult Education', in Convergence, Volume XXVI, No. 1, 1993 5-15
- 1993: 'Law of Contract', in Friedrich Ebert Foundation and Central Organisation of Trade Unions: The Industrial Court: A Course Book for Trade Unionists (Nairobi, FEF/COTU) Chapter 2
 - 'Labour Laws', *ibid.*, Chapter 3
 - 'Communication in Court, *ibid.*, Chapter 10
 - 'Mock Trials and Court Visits', *ibid.*, Chapter 11
- 1994: 'Law, Ideology and Development: Dialectics or Eclectics at Play?', in **Yash Vyas, Kivutha Kibwana, Okech-Owiti and Smokin Wanjala (eds): Law and Development in the Third World** (Nairobi, Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi)
- 1994: 'Learning as a Participatory Process in Kenya: One Experience in University Pedagogy', **UNLJ** No. 1, 1994 152-159
- 1994: 'Issues and Alternatives in Education For All in Kenya: Adult Literacy' in **ActionAid-Kenya: Sustainable Development: Proceedings of an NGO symposium** (Nairobi, ActionAid-Kenya)
- 1994: (with Kivutha Kibwana): Good Governance and Accountability in Kenya: The Next Step Forward (Nairobi, Claripress)
- 1995: 'Research Strategies on Gender and Law', in Janet Kabebiri-Macharia (ed): **Women, Laws, Customs and Practices in East Africa: Laying the Foundation** (Nairobi, WLEA), 1-18
- 1995: 'Civic Education for Political Participation: A Case Study of a Kenyan NGO's Efforts', **UNLJ** No. 2, 1995
- 1995: 'Legal Research for Public Awareness: A View', **UNLJ** No. 3, 92-102
- 1995: 'The Role of NGOs in Human Rights Education: Lessons from Kenya', in **The Kenya Adult Educator**, Vol. 2 No. 2, 7-19
- 1996: (with Kivutha Kibwana and Smokin Wanjala) The Anatomy of Corruption in Kenya: Legal, Political and Socio-economic Perspectives (Nairobi, Claripress), 32-92

- 1997: (with William Mbayi) 'Public Order and Preservation of Public Security Law', in Smokin Wanjala and Kivutha Kibwana (eds): **Democratization and Law Reform in Kenya** (Nairobi, Claripress)
- 1997: **The Electoral Environment in Kenya: A Research Project Report** (ed) (Nairobi, Institute for Education in Democracy)
- 1997: 'Law, Consumer Protection and Education', **The Kenya Adult Educator**, Vol. 3, No. 2, 21-33
- 1997: 'Civic Education Methodology', in Maria Nzomo (ed) **Civic Education: A Field Companion** (NCSW Civic Education Series, No. 2) (NSCW, Nairobi) 1-13
- 'Human Rights', *ibid.*, 24-34
- 1998: **Report on the 1997 General Elections in Kenya** (ed) (Nairobi, Institute for Education in Democracy, Catholic Justice and Peace Commission and National Council of Churches of Kenya)
- 2001: 'Human Rights Situation in Kenya: Co-statement', in Victoria Walter and Debbie Betts (eds), **Safeguarding Human Rights in Eastern Africa** (FES, Kampala), 77
- 2001: **Gender Dimensions of Politics, Law and Violence in Kenya** (ed, with Jane Mbugua, Kamau Mubuu and Njeri Karuru) (WLEA(K))
- 2001: Donor Lending Conditions in Africa (ed) (Nairobi, FES and NSE)
- 2001: **Making Informed Choices: A Handbook for Civic Education** (with Lawrence Mute, Geoffrey Njeru, and Peter Wanyande) (Nairobi, Civic Education for Marginalised Communities (CEDMAC), Constitution and Reform Education Consortium (CRECO), Ecumenical Civic Education Programme (ECEP) and Gender Consortium (GC))
- 2001: **Making Informed Choices: A Trainer's Manual for Civic Education** (Nairobi, Civic Education for Marginalised Communities (CEDMAC), Constitution and Reform Education Consortium (CRECO), Ecumenical Civic Education Programme (ECEP) and Gender Consortium (GC))
- 2003: **Enhancing the Electoral Process in Kenya: A Report on the Transition General Elections 2002** (Nairobi, Institute for Education in Democracy)

Paralegal Training Booklets

- 1993: Labour Law and Relations
- 1993: Communication Theory and Skills
- 1993: Social Science Research for Paralegal Workers
- 2003: The Law Relating to Associations: A Reference Summary
- 2004: Human Rights

Unpublished Papers (From 1995)

- 1995: 'Pitfalls of the Adversarial System in Criminal Justice'
- 1995: 'Punishment in Kenya: Theory and Practice'
- 1995: 'The Death Penalty: Which Way Kenya?'
- 1996: 'Child Labour Legislation in Kenya: A Review'
- 1995: 'Criminal Law in Kenya: A Critique'
- 1998: 'National Legal Services Scheme: A Concept Paper on General Legislative Principles'
- 1999: 'A Concept Brief on Methodologies of "Mass" Civic Education for Constitutional Review'
- 1999: 'Communication Strategies for Civic Education for Constitutional Review'
- 2001: 'National Child Labour Policy' (Review for Ministry of Labour and Manpower Development, Kenya)
- 2002-: Study and Development of a Legislative Framework for Harmonisation of Social Security Legislation in East Africa (under the auspices of the East African Community)
- 2002-3: Study and Development of a Framework for Harmonisation of Labour Policy and Legislation in East Africa (under the auspices of the East African Community)

Research Monographs

- 1994: 'Women and Labour Law in Kenya: Proposals for Reform', in Kibwana, K. and Okech-Owiti: **Women, Law and Autonomy: Target Areas for Reform** (CLARION Research Monograph No. 6 of 1994)
- 1994: Report of the Proceedings of the Country Methodology Workshop, with Njeri Karuru and Njeri Muhoro (editors) (Women and Law in East Africa (Kenya) (WLEA (K)), (May)
- 1994: Pilot Study on Inheritance Laws and Practices: Report of the Mombasa Research Team, with Violet Mavisi and Njeri Karuru (editors) WLEA (K) (June)
- 1995: Report of the Pilot Study on Inheritance Laws and Practices in Kenya, with Patricia Kameri-Mbote, Winnie Mitullah, and Kamau Mubuu (editors) WLEA (K))
- 1995: Land Tenure System in Historical Perspective: Land Law and 'Land Clashes' in Kenya (September)
- 1996: **Child Labour Legislation in Kenya: A Review** (June)
- 1997: **A Report of Pilot Study on Women in Marriage and Property Management**, with Njeri Karuru, Wambui Kiai, Jane Mbugua, Winnie Mitullah and Kamau Mubuu (eds) (Nairobi, WLEA (K))
- 1999: **Women in Marriage and Property Management** (ed) (Nairobi, WLEA (K))

- 2000: **Needs Assessment on Gender-based Violence Against Women**, with Winnie Mitullah and Njoki Ndung'u (Nairobi, WLEA (K))

Book Reviews

- 1992: **Literacy, Law and Social Order**, by Edward W. Stevens, Jnr (N.I.U.P., de Kalb III.) in *Convergence* Vol. XXV, No.1, 1992

Consultancies

In the last eleven or so years, I have engaged in a number of consultancies revolving around needs assessments and strategic planning, curriculum and materials development, participatory development of constitutions and establishment of community associations, establishment of trust funds for financing community initiatives/projects, compilation and editing of reports, evaluations, studies/research and development of national and regional policy and legislative frameworks. Examples include:

Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning

- 1998: Facilitated a Needs Assessment Survey Design, Report-writing and Planning Workshop for the Organisation for the Survival of Illaikiapiak Indigenous (maasai) Group Initiatives (OSILIGI), a community-based organisation based in Mukogodo Division, at Dol Dol
- 2000: Facilitated Strategic Planning Workshop for the Catholic Diocese of Kitui
- 2000: Conducted a needs assessment on gender-based violence and produced a report, *Needs Assessment on Gender-based Violence Against Women* (with Winnie Mitullah and Njoki Ndung'u (Nairobi, WLEA (K))
- 2004: Facilitated a Strategic Planning Workshop for the Catholic Diocese of Nakuru

Curriculum and materials development (those from 2000)

- 2001: (Under the auspices of the National Civic Education Programme (NCEP)): *Civic Education Curriculum* 1996: Joint Facilitator in a Ministry of Health *Distance Education Materials Writers' Workshop*
- 2001: Development of a Sourcebook and Guide for the National Civic Education Programme together with other writers under the auspices of PricewaterhouseCoopers

- 2001: Development of a Handbook for Parliamentarians on Children in Situations of Armed Conflict for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- 2001: Editing of Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper District Consultations Reports together with other editors for the Ministry of Finance
- 2002: (Under the auspices of the Paralegal Support Network (PASUNE): Re-working and editing of the National Curriculum for Paralegal Training

Participatory development of constitutions and establishment of organisations

- 1999-2002: Facilitated a series of participatory workshops for discussing and formulating trade union recommendations for reform of the national economy, constitution and labour laws, and reform of trade union constitutions, including the model trade union constitution. The workshops were held in Eldoret, Kakamega, Kisumu, Nakuru, Nyeri, Embu, Mombasa and Nairobi
- 2001: Facilitated a series of workshops for development of constitutions for Youth and Community Groups under the auspices of St. John's Community Centre, Pumwani, Nairobi
- 2001-2002: Participatory development of constitutions and establishment of fifteen community-based non-governmental organisations for Keiyo, Marakwet, Kajiado and Laikipia Districts under the auspices of Semi-Arid Rural Development Programme (Keiyo and Marakwet Districts) (SARDEP/KM)

Establishment of trusts and trust funds for financing community initiatives/projects

- 2002-3: Development of Legal Frameworks and Instruments, and Registration of District Community Development Funds as Trusts in Keiyo, Marakwet, Kajiado and Laikipia Districts under the auspices of SNV
- 2003-4: Participatory development of the Legal Framework and Instruments, and Registration of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP's) Africa 2000 Plus Network (A2+N) Trust

Compilation and editing of reports (those from 2000)

- 2003: Compiled and edited *Enhancing the Electoral Process in Kenya: A Report on the Transition General Elections 2002* (for the Institute for Education in Democracy, Nairobi)
- 2005: Compiled and edited *On Becoming A Global Citizen: Proceedings from the Conference on Non-formal Education and Global Action* (for the Danish Training Centre for International Co-operation (MS-TCDC))

Evaluations

- Since 1995, I have facilitated more than twenty participatory monitoring and evaluation workshops and conducted over five substantive evaluations on behalf of/for a variety of organisations, including the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) (Kenya), the Centre for Legal Education and Aid Networks (CLEAN), Research and Civic Awareness Programme (RECAP), Citizen's Coalition for Constitutional Change (4Cs), Institute for Education in Democracy (IED), Catholic Diocese of Kitui Development Office, Women's Network Centre (Mombasa) and Organisation for the Survival of Illaikiipiak Indigenous (Maasai) Initiatives (OSILIGI) Archdiocese of Kisumu Department for International Development (DFID) MS Kenya South Consulting Education Centre for Women in Democracy

Studies/research and development of national policy and legislative frameworks

- Apart from teaching social science (including legal) research methodology at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, at the School of Law, University of Nairobi, I have participated in a number of research projects involving both desk and field research. They include research on human rights and human rights education, access to justice, women and legal autonomy, women and inheritance, women in marriage and property management, gender-dimensions of politics, law and violence, criminal justice, corruption, labour law, child labour, social security policy and legislation in East Africa and land law and land clashes.
- 2006: Currently working with the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to develop a framework for a National Legal Education and Aid Pilot Programme
- 2006: Currently conducting a survey on Anti-Corruption Agencies on behalf of the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs

Studies and development of regional (East African) policy and legislative frameworks

- 2002-3: Study and development of a legislative framework for harmonisation of social security legislation in East Africa under the auspices of the East African Community
- 2002-: Study and development of a framework for harmonisation of labour policy and legislation in East Africa under the auspices of the East African Community

Facilitation of workshops

- Since 1995: Has facilitated more than fifty participatory paralegal, civic and voter education training, monitoring and evaluation and planning workshops on behalf of a variety of organisations, including the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) (Kenya), the Centre for Legal Education and Aid Networks (CLEAN), Research and Civic Awareness Programme (RECAP), Citizen's Coalition for Constitutional Change (4Cs), Institute for Education in Democracy (IED), Catholic Diocese of Kitui Dev't Office (CDKDO), Women's Network Centre (WNC), Organisation for the Survival of Illaikiapiak Indigenous (maasai) Initiatives (OSILIGI), Action-Aid, St. John's Community Centre and Soweto Urban Development/Community Initiatives Trust (SUDA/COMMIT)

Current work

- 2006: Currently working with the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to develop a framework for a National Legal Education and Aid Pilot Programme
- 2006: Currently conducting a survey of all governmental anti-corruption agencies under the auspices of the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to develop a framework for a National Legal Education and Aid Pilot Programme

June 2006