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THIS DAY

Style

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019

IBIDUN IGHODALO

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COVER

Many mothers like Ibidun Ighodalo and her husband, Ituah, are now living their dream because they decided to adopt and are now very proud parents of their two precious gifts from God...a boy and a girl! They defied the impossible and made it possible. Ibidun is a living testimony that if you want something bad enough, God will always make a way. **KONYE NWABOGOR** reports...

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From childhood, with fairytales like Cinderella and Prince Charming et al, it has been imbibed in every girl, from a young age, to get married to her Prince Charming and live with her two kids, boy and girl, in their home with the white picket fence. Some women have been able to live out this dream and are living their own versions of 'happily ever after' with a few tweaks here and there. That's life. But in truth, fairytales and realities are poles apart. One is real. The other is not. Yes, some women do get married but perhaps, to the wrong partner. While others who marry their right partners are not fortunate enough to be blessed with the fruit of the womb.

And as we all know, infertility is one of the most difficult and very painful journeys for couples in this situation. Let's not even begin to imagine what the wife goes through with in-laws, society, family and friends with their insensitive comments whether intended to hurt or not. It takes a lot of patience, understanding and love between such couples to survive their unfortunate circumstance.

But the great news is that Adoption is getting more accepted in our society today. This is a welcome relief to couples or individuals who want to fulfill their strong desire for parenthood. The joy of this selfless act knows no bounds and for those who want to embrace adoption, they should, in no way, be discouraged by perceived societal opinions. Ibidun Ighodalo's story hit a chord with me. After, not one, not two, not even seven or eight...but 11 failed attempts at IVF, she took the plunge and adopted her angels, with the support of her loving and patient husband, Ituah. I do hope her story will inspire other women like her to seek the same path because a child you nurture, groom, educate, take care of and love unconditionally knows no other parent but you! The child will love you just as much as you love them. They will call you 'Mama' or 'Papa' because you are the center of their lives just as they are the center of yours!

THISDAY STYLE

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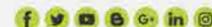
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Scene and be Seen



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FESTUS KEYAMO & CHUKWUMA EKOMARU



J K GADZAMA



OSCAR ONUIGBO



DELE ADESINA



BEN OBI



JOHNNY EGWUNWU

NKECHI & EGBIRI TIE THE KNOT AMIDST FANFARE

Recently the families of Professor Epiphany and Doc Valerie Azinge joined hands with Mr & Mrs Ifegwu and Patience Egbiri as their children Dr Nkechi Azinge PhD, currently Assistant Professor, at Lincoln University England, married her heartthrob Barrister Egbiri Ifegwu Egbiri, Principal Legal Consultant, African Development Bank, ADB, headquarters Abidjan, Ivory Coast. The joyous event took place at Holy Trinity Church, Maitama, Abuja while the reception followed immediately at International Conference Centre, also in Abuja.

It was a creme de la creme affair as dignitaries from both public and private sectors turned up in droves to support the families of the couple. The high caliber event lived up to its status as no stone was left unturned to make the guests comfortable and keep the smiles on their faces. The love struck newlyweds only had eyes for each other as their elated parents watched on. It was truly a wonderful day for family and friends who witnessed the ceremony.



MR & MRS EGBIRI



PARENTS OF THE BRIDE, EPIPHANY & VALERIE AZINGE



PARENTS OF THE GROOM-IFEGWU & PATIENCE EGBIRI



PETER & MARGARET OBI



RABIU KWAKWASO



COSMAS MADUBE



EZENNIC OGBUEH



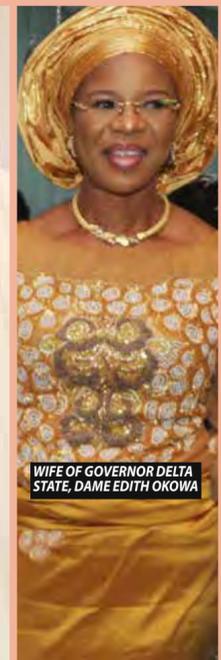
OKWESILIEZE & DOROTHY NWODO



OSITA OGBU



GOVERNOR IFEANYI OKOWA OF DELTA STATE



WIFE OF GOVERNOR DELTA STATE, DAME EDITH OKOWA



CHRIS ONYEMENAN



NNIA NWODO



KEN MOZIA



ADEGBOYE AROWOLO



OLISE AZINGE

Scene and be Seen

STYLE & DESIGN

THISDAY Style
Vol. 22, No. 8788 Sunday, May 19 2019

20 TRENDS

you need to know from the ARISE Fashion Week (II)

Just like that, ARISE Fashion Week has come and gone and as expected, we are taking the time to dissect the trends that already have the sartorial crowd talking. Absorbing so many new collections at one time can be overwhelming, which is why we have had to narrow it down to the 20 trends you need to know. That is of course not to say we have ignored the accessories showcased but we will save that for another time! This is the first half of these Trends, we will feature the second half next week.

BY FUNKE BABS KUFEJI AND KONYE CHELSEA NWABOGOR



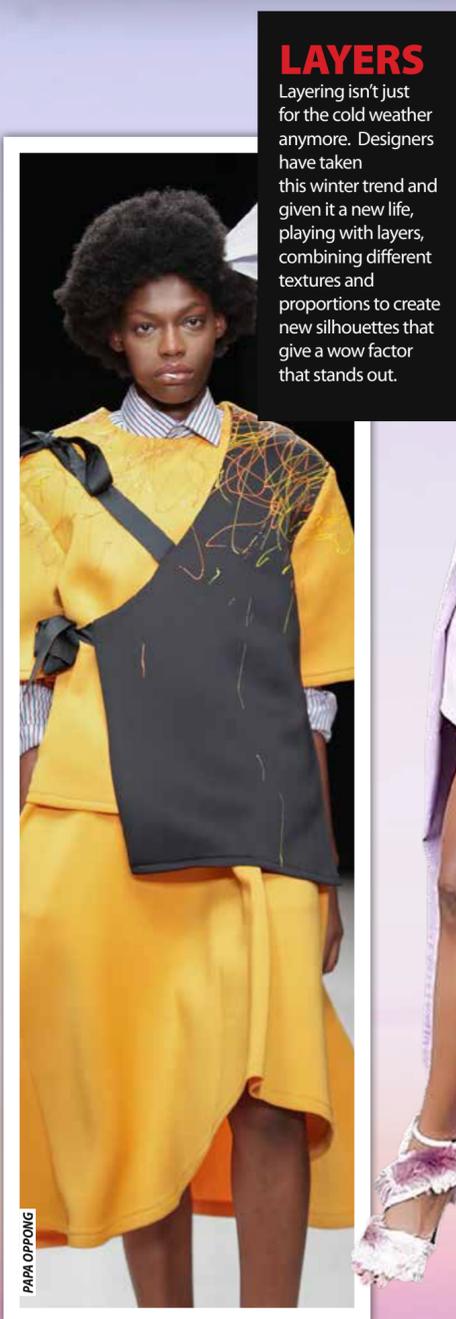
THE LORD'S ACHIEVERS AWARDS

BY FUNKE BABS-KUFEJI

The Lord's Achievers Award, which recently held at the Radisson Blu Hotel in GRA, Ikeja, was a memorable evening of inspiration, fun, and distinction! An initiative of Lord's Dry Gin, the event celebrated outstanding young individuals soaring in different sectors in Nigeria: Health (Dr Chioma Nwakanma), Professional (Abiola Adekoya), Tech (Nkemdilim Begho), Creative (Tosin Oshinowo), Arts (Dotun Popoola), Business (Seun & Seyi Abolaji), and Innovation (Funfere Koroye).

Compered by MCs Jimmie and Helene Paul, the official event started with citations of honorees read by their mentors, who gave further insight on their success journey, which gave invited guests an intimate connection to their personalities and why they were being honoured. In response the honorees gave strong acceptance inspirational speeches.

Admst all this, Lord's Gin ensured everyone had a good time. The hall was tastefully decorated in black and white to depict elegance and timelessness, while incorporating the red elements attuned with the brand. There were portraits of the celebrated achievers with their bios telling stories of their accomplishments. Guests were also treated to a full buffet dinner with fine wines, gin cocktails and more. There was the after-party, where guests partied till early morning.



LAYERS
Layering isn't just for the cold weather anymore. Designers have taken this winter trend and given it a new life, playing with layers, combining different textures and proportions to create new silhouettes that give a wow factor that stands out.





LEATHER

A trend we continue to see on the runway year after year is leather. Leather everything: leather tops, leather jackets, leather skirts, leather pants, leather shorts, leather bags, you name it, we've probably seen it all in leather or at least with leather accents.



TOKYO JAMES

YUKI AKINOSHO

LISA FOLAWIYO

ELIZABETH PAM



METALLICS

Blinding head-to-toe metallic looks are majorly in. The ARISE fashion week runway lit up with shiny metallics. From Deola Sagoe, Yutee Rone to Clan, this shiny fabric took center stage. We definitely agree that it's time to shine bright and stand out in metallics.

CLAN



TITILOLA SOGUNRO



RITA DOMINIC



SHARON OJAA



OZINNA ANUMUDU



KENNETH IZE

POLKA DOTS

We've got the hots for polka dots! The classic print that never seems to go out of style popped up on the runway with award winning Designer, Kenneth Ize showing us how versatile the polka dot can be for both male and female fashion buffs.



ONO BELLO



MO ABUDU



MILLEN MAGESE

TOKE MAKINWA



YUTEE RONEE

RUFFLES

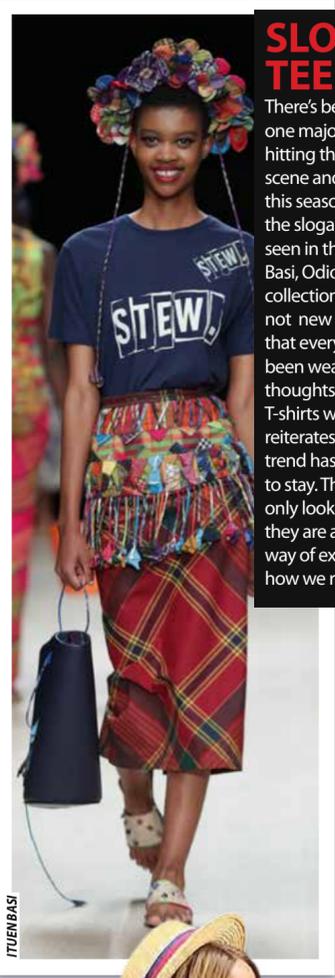
In the past few years, ruffles have asserted their dominance on the runway and are returning as one of the hottest trends on the ARISE Fashion Week runway 2019. You name it, from maxi dresses to mini dress to shirts and pants, ruffles were the added touch that brought designs to life.



SELAM FESSAHAYE

SLOGAN TEES

There's been one major trend hitting the fashion scene and runway this season, and that's the slogan T-shirt as seen in the Ituen Basi, Odion Mimonet collections. It's not new that everyone has been wearing their thoughts on their T-shirts which just reiterates how this trend has come to stay. They not only look cool but they are also a sneaky way of expressing how we really feel.



ITUENBASI



DAMILOLA



ABBYKE DOMINA



FUNMI



OGUGUA OKONKWO



MAIATAFO

VELVET

Velvet continues to capture hearts with the likes of Mai Atafo and more who continually churn out male and female designs in this luxurious lush fabric making it a hot trend on the runway and off.



CHICHI



NOBLE IGWE



CHIOMA IKOKWU



CHINENYE OGUNRO

STRIPES

Every fashion item is getting stripped! Pants, jumpsuits, skirts and dresses. Stripes are ranging in different colours from red to blue and black. Vertical stripes are also popular because they give length and slimness to the body.



KENETHIZE



NIMI NWAFOR



IDIA AISIEN



CHICHI



MOVALOLA

WET LOOK

Fast becoming a fashion staple, the wetlook trend is catching up on the runway and on the streets and fashionistas are embracing it. If you are daring enough to embrace this rock and rolls trend, then Mowalola is just the designer to patronize to rock the wet look trend.



CYNTHIA NWADIORA

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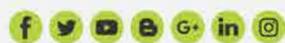
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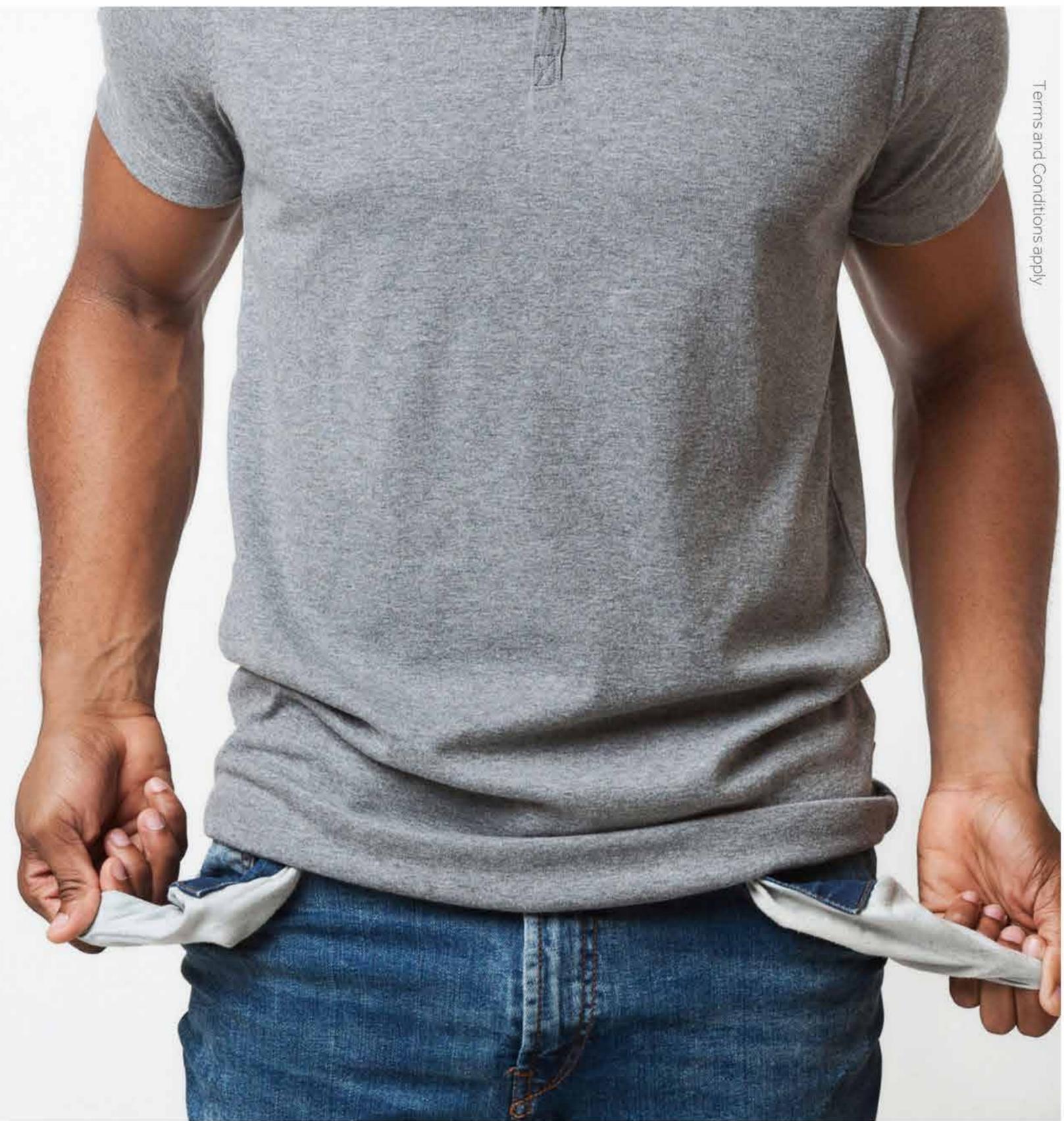


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The dream of every woman, or at least most women, is to get married to a man who would love them and treat her like a queen. A man who would put her first before anything because her happiness is his ultimate pleasure.

*Some women have achieved this dream. And naturally, the next step is for their union and be blessed with fruits of the womb. For some too, this has come to pass. But there are those who have faced challenges and social stigmatization after waiting for years for this much desired gift but are unable to. Many of such women have gone through untold pain and sorrow on this very tough lane. After many failed attempts with IVF, they become despondent and suffer in silence while putting on a brave face to the world. Thankfully, there is an alternative route to such situation and those who have chosen to go that path cannot describe the insurmountable joy such a step has brought into their lives. Many mothers like Ibidun Ighodalo are now living their dream because they decided to adopt and are now very proud parents of their two precious gifts from God...a boy and a girl! They defied the impossible and made it possible. After a decade of childlessness, Ibidun's life has completely changed. She also runs the Ibidun Ighodalo Foundation, built to financially assist women with IVF. There have been several success stories from the recipients. Ibidun is a living testimony that if you want something bad enough, God will always make a way. **KONYE NWABOGOR** reports.*



CELEBRATING IBIDUN IGHODALO

Tell us a few of the many special moments you have shared with your children so far?

The most joyous thing about motherhood is watching the kids grow in different and distinct personalities and the feeling I get when I come home and they run to welcome and hug me. The way they trust you and know they are untouchable coupled with the fact that I didn't know my capacity for love could get even deeper. The sound of 'Mama' is such a powerful one from them.

How different has your life been before and after the arrival of your precious jewels, Keke, your daughter and your son, Zenan?

Motherhood or parenting is one big cycle of sacrifice. Before they came along I could go wherever, do whatever as myself and my husband had a routine and rhythm. But now before I make any decision to travel for work or go anywhere they are my first consideration and I do it with absolute joy. I have also lost my sleep (laughter) having to deal with my toddler at night but I am absolutely enjoying every bit of it. I wouldn't have it any other way.

Do you find yourself wondering what took you so long before taking this plunge? And if so, why did it take you this long?

It's a yes and no question. I do wonder what took us so long to take the plunge but I also do know that we were not ready at that time. We took the plunge when we were absolutely ready and looking back now, it was the time God had ordained. He planned it that way and wouldn't have had it any other way.

Did you initially try other options in seeking the fruit of the womb before finally coming to this decision to adopt?

Oh yes I did, I tried IVF 11 times with one success which I eventually lost. Of course people who wanted to help also tried to make me go through other routes but I couldn't bring myself to do so. I held on to God and I absolutely have no regrets.

Aside from that, some people are not psychologically ready to adopt. Their fear of the unknown seems to hold them back. Why is this?

I think our society and culture play a huge role in making these parents feel this way. There is a stigma attached to adoption. You hear so many funny statements even after adoption like "I pray that you will still carry your own child in your womb" etc. Such statements are highly insensitive and this makes even the bold ones who want to adopt shy away from doing so. The truth is God has given me my babies in the most beautiful way only He can and it doesn't change anything at all. No one wants to be reminded of their seeming incapacities but to them (society), it's an innocent prayer so you take it in good faith but what they don't realize is God had made me a mother in the most beautiful way.

Some say God directs you when you make this choice and that when you see your 'chosen one' you will just know. Is that true? Is that how you felt when you first set eyes on your children?

I do believe God directs in making this decision. On both occasions it was even other people who had called my attention to my babies but upon seeing them, I knew it was destined and only God could have orchestrated it so. My daughter was actually born on my birthday into our orphanage by my husband and he gave her my middle name even all those years back. Sometimes when you do good you never know when that good will come back to you. You reap what you sow. We were only meant to love and look after every child but see how God turned it all around.

There is a pertinent question in our minds, some parents feel the adopted children do not need to know they are adopted while others feel when the time is right, they will tell their children. They feel they owe it to their children to tell them so no one can shock them with such information in case it is mentioned outside their homes. What is your take on this?

It is a difficult one but truth is always best. Just be open and honest. Once you tell a lie you have to keep covering up with lies and that will cause more damage than good. This is the reason why a lot of women pretend to be pregnant, wear moon bump and carry a baby (not theirs, bought or taken) and at the end of nine months, they 'give birth' because



Motherhood or parenting is one big cycle of sacrifice. Before they came along, I could go wherever, do whatever as myself and my husband had a routine and rhythm. But now, before I make any decision to travel for work or go anywhere, they are my first consideration. I have also lost my sleep (laughter) having to deal with my toddler at night.



they would rather keep the truth away from society. It seems easier to let everyone think it's real. But in the long run it doesn't come out right. God cannot be mocked. He sees and knows the truth. My mum always said something to me, no matter how long a lie lives for one day, the truth will always come out. I think it's best to let them know but at the appropriate time. We live in a funny world and it could be used as a means to hurt them at some point in their lives. The best way to avoid them feeling bad or funny is to let them know how they came about and that no matter what, they are my kids for life. With so much love between us, they themselves will argue with you and not believe it.

Now with two children to take care of, how have you been able to balance your heavy work schedule?

I cannot say it's been easy but I have had to try to restructure myself so that I'm there when they get back from school and at the weekends to bond with them and just be around them.

You created a Foundation concerning couples. What is its purpose?

Ibidunni Ighodalo Foundation was birthed in July of 2015. I had been married for nine and a half years at the time and still waiting on the Lord for the fruit of the womb. In the past years, I had tried IVF a number of times and it hadn't worked for me and many times it left me feeling low, sad and unfulfilled. However, one day I said to myself, I will not be down again on this issue. God will do it when and how He wants to. But in that moment, I gave thanks to God for two things, giving me a supportive, amazing, loving husband, my twin and Voltron, my brother-in-law, Asue Ighodalo, my sisters and my brothers who through it all, stood by me and the ability to even have IVF done. I thought



Well I had my fair share of stigmatization from society but honestly, my husband has been a massive pillar of support and in him, I was able to find and draw strength, I couldn't have gone through this journey without him. He was a constant reminder that God had not forgotten me. Ever so patient, so reassuring, so loving and kind.



to myself, there are so many couples out there who cannot afford to go for tests not to talk of getting the IVF procedure done. There and then, I decided that with God's help, I will try to help as many couples as I can who are in this fertility journey and pray that God will put smiles on their faces. It is also a vehicle to raise awareness of the discrimination that comes with infertility from friends, family and the society at large. A place you can hold each other's hands and be strong together, pray together and share their joys and pains. The journey is easier when you know you are not alone.

Is the stigmatization of couples unable to have children one of the most challenging effects of their situation?

It has a serious effect on them physically, emotionally, mentally, financially and really in all areas. They are almost unable to do anything or celebrate any other achievement because society has told them no matter what they do, without kids, they are unsuccessful, it really affects marriages. It brings all sorts of advices and comments and suggestions which sometimes causes more harm than good leaving them bitter, full of regrets and pain.

Did you personally go through some of such experiences and if so, what gave you solace and comfort at such trying times?

Well I did from society but honestly my husband has been a massive pillar of support and in him I was able to find and draw strength, I couldn't have gone through this journey without him. He was a constant reminder that God had not forgotten me. Ever so patient, so reassuring, so loving and kind. My brother-in-law, Asue Ighodalo also showed me support and cheered me on and just loved me without reservations no matter what anyone said or did. My other brother-in-law, Ernest Oji also never ceased to hold Ituah's hand anytime I was down, quietly yet strong. I am blessed with amazing siblings and in-laws. The comfort I got knowing I had this amazing support system was priceless. You know I have many mums and aunts who call me randomly to check up on me, they never know how much those moments meant. Not everyone is as lucky which is why I would ask the society (people and family members), to be kind to couples looking for the fruit of the womb. No one wishes to be in that position. No one. Please be kind

to them. A nice comforting reassuring word will go a long way.

There are some women who would happily adopt...if their partners will accept. But some husbands refuse to budge. After maybe several failed trials of IVF, women see adoption as their next option. What do you advise such couples when faced with this dilemma?

My candid advice to such women is the child must come into a loving and peaceful home. Your husband must be 100% on board for this to happen. Try to understand how he feels and coming to that decision is a hard one for him. But give it time and pray. God will do what only He can do. You would be doing that child a lot of disservice if your husband isn't 100% on board.

How have you been able to raise funds to support your Foundation?

Funding was, and still is, one major challenge but somehow God has sent angels every step of the way to help us and lift our hands because we have more couples than we have finances. We had an anonymous couple who paid for treatment of 20 couples but we had 4100 applications. It is a major challenge. Apart from my husband and I's personal finance, we get donations from friends and family and people I have never met who want to be part of the testimony. When God gives a vision he makes provision. We take it a day at a time by His grace and we help as many couples as we can.

For those who want to adopt, what is the process from beginning to end and how long does the procedure take?

Funny enough the procedure takes about nine months to a year.

We have heard of instances where child and parent don't connect. What advice would you give couples facing such dilemma?

One of the stages in adoption is to actually go to the orphanages where you have seen a child and begin bonding with the child(ren). It is at this stage connections are formed and bonds developed. It is important the process is followed through. This period helps you to decide and see much clearer. Some older kids might be a bit difficult but give it time and give the child time to warm up.

to them. A nice comforting reassuring word will go a long way.

The joy of motherhood apparently knows no bounds. And for those women who want it, they should not be deprived because there are now so many options that enables every woman to have a child if she so desires. That said, what other alternatives are there for those who though childless, will like to play some role in assisting with the welfare of children in motherless homes?

Most orphanages are open to people sponsoring the kids within their homes. It really is a win-win situation. The child's needs gets taken care of by the foster parents and they in turn, have a sense of fulfilment, pride, purpose and joy in doing so. God never forgets the care you show these little ones. They are helpless and can never do anything in return to say thank you. They are God's heartbeat.

One of your photos with your daughter was so profound because she is a mini-you. The resemblance is so striking! Is this just a coincidence?

This is why I said God was at work. Honestly the resemblance between myself and her, my son and his father, is just uncanny. It's almost unbelievable but when God is involved, nothing is really impossible.

How did your daughter feel when she saw her little brother?

Like most older siblings used to being the center of attention, was there a bit of jealousy with the baby to begin with?

She was excited to have a baby brother but as expected, she didn't have all the attention anymore so there was this jealousy which my husband and I had to handle when we noticed. We make sure both children are equally loved so there is no animosity. Now they are inseparable as she can't wait to get back from school to see him as he cries when she is off to school.

You seem to now have a picture perfect union that is blessed with two healthy children. Might you want to add more in future?

I do to the glory of God but I would not minding a few more... (If God wills and my husband agrees... laughter). I personally will not even think about it twice! It has been one of the best decisions of my life.

Coloured Staples First

When taking stock of your wardrobe, stick to the staple colours first. Navy, charcoal, and neutrals are enduring sartorial staples. These staple colours are timeless, versatile, and immune to trends. They're not going out of style this century. They're foundational colours that you can use to contrast with bolder, on-trend colours.



TAVOR GABRIEL



TAIWO OKUNOREN



UBI FRANKLIN

SUIT YOU SIR!

THISDAY Style
Vol. 22, No. 8788 Sunday, May 19, 2019

BY FUNKE BABS-KUFEJI & ISIOMA USIADE

It's time to wave goodbye to the days where navy blue, charcoal grey suits were and only colours available to men wardrobes! Today it's much more acceptable to incorporate more vibrant colours. This just not only breaks you out of a style rut but also places you firmly in a league of dapper men worthy to be called fashionistas. But there's a right way to do colour; and a wrong way to do it. Too much colour and you look like a caricature, too little, you won't get the desired effect.

Here's the breakdown on how to take advantage of colours in your wardrobe, and how to straddle the fine line between not enough and far too much.



NICOY H

Dare it in Bold colours

Bold colours are always so loud and sometimes not easy on the eye but when well done, you can look a million dollars. Just remember to break it in with neutral colours.



DAVIDSON PETITI-FRERE

Beware of The Suit Colour Salad

Sure, it's good to be enthusiastic but too much colour can make you look indelicate, a good rule of thumb is to have one anchor colour and a complementing bolder tone to keep things interesting.



GABRIEL AKINOSHO

Employ Colour Blocking In Your Wardrobe

Tired of the same old tricks? Try colour blocking. It's a bold and dramatic look also play tricks on the eyes. It can make you look taller if you need it, and even leaner if you pick darker tones.



IKECHUKWU OGBONNA

Patterned Suits and mixing it up

Mixing up suits is becoming a fast trend. Don't be afraid to mix patterns and even textures, the trick is to make sure the scale creates enough differentiation so that they work together and stand apart.



LOLU AROKDARE

Go Monotone

A monotone look is also a good way to look dapper. The trick is to make sure you accessorize to give the added oomph.



DENOLA GREY

Use Colours In Suiting Springly

Aim to use small quantities of a bold colour to lift your outfit. It can draw attention to key outfit pieces – a tie, pocket square, or accessory – and add some enlivening contrast to an otherwise dull look.

Shorts!

HOTTEST TREND FOR MEN

As the weather gets hotter, men's shorts are getting shorter. The 1980's inspired short shorts are making a comeback and they come in a variety of colours, patterns and materials. Whether you reserve this look for a beach vacation or don't mind turning a few heads on the high street, shorts are definitely a style staple for the year 2019.

The Fit

By nature, shorts are inherently a comfortable, casual piece of clothing meant to provide freedom of movement while keeping you cool. The fit goes hand in hand with your body shape and the secret is knowing basic proportion rules.

The Colour

Majority of guys keep it simple when it comes to the colour of the shorts. That's why most of them just blend with the crowd. Have fun and throw in a bit of colour, pattern, or print. Try pastel shorts, camouflage print, or even white shorts. If you are more courageous and want to make a statement then patterned or print shorts will work wonders.

The Style

This is where it gets personal. Fashionable shorts come and go every season and style is a matter of knowing what works best for you. Feel free to try on countless looks until you get the one the fits. The style has to emulate your personality, put you in a good light, and give you confidence.

The Belt

With shorts, you need to put the thick heavy belts away as it's time for something light and thin. A leather belt doesn't scream casual wear at all, does it?

The Outerwear

Everything from light blazers to bomber jackets or even shackets will complement a pair of shorts. Match smart or chino shorts with a blazer, denim shorts to a shacket, and twill shorts to a bomber jacket.

The Texture

The material is synonymous with summer suiting as its highly breathable, light and presents a great texture. Whether they are denim, sweat, chinos, smart, cargos, linen or twill shorts, just think flexibility, quick-dry traits.

The Accessories

So far we know just about everything to spot the shorts meant for you, but may we remind you if you want to make your shorts of any texture or textile look super casual then a snapback is the way to go.



Quotes **ARISE** FROM THE FASHION WEEK



Managing models from different ethnicities and various parts of the world at the ARISE FASHION WEEK 2019 was a tasking and exhilarating experience, grateful to the ARISE team for entrusting me with such a huge aspect of their event.
ELOHOR ELIZABETH (MODEL MANAGEMENT)



"It is always a pleasure working with such a dynamic team at ARISE FASHION WEEK. This year my role was to oversee the entire project and build a framework in which all the components operate, seamlessly. From liaising with the creative team and a dynamic set of designers from Nigeria, Africa and the rest of the world to securing the right partnerships with key stakeholders and sponsors, as well as ensuring the overall Fashion Week experience was uplifting and engaging. My duties permeated various department and our team was the core-processing unit of the project. A big thank you to all the amazing people who worked relentlessly on ensuring the event is a success."
BOLAJI ANIMASHAUN, (FASHION PRODUCER/PROJECT LEAD)

"This this the second time I have been to ARISE FASHION WEEK and I must say it's incredible to see variety of talents from across the continent. The quality of craftsmanship and innovation is unbelievable and I can see many of these design shows on catwalks and in the shops of Europe and all over the world."
CARMEN HANNEMANN, PRODUCTION



"ARISE FASHION WEEK should be a platform our local designers to aspire to get on to. The press exposure is very good and this is one fashion show I know has put many local and African designers on the world map of fashion. The only way is up for ARISE FASHION WEEK."
FUNKE BABS KUFEJI (PRESS RELATIONS)



"I found the ARISE FASHION WEEK fantastic, well produced, uniquely inspiring in this growing fashion industry in Africa. They are really putting Lagos on the map. I am excited."
AFUA RIDA (STYLIST)



"Giving upcoming fashion labels the opportunity to make their mark and exposing them to a wider audience while also supporting the bigger brand names as they move up to the next level. Arise Fashion Week is indeed the back bone of the Nigerian fashion industry and all that went down at this year's edition is proof of that."
KONYE NWABOGOR (PRESS RELATIONS)

"Phenomenal! Great show, the mileage for the models and designers cannot be quantified. From last year have we have raised the ante and that's to show you the great platform ARISE provides. This year the designers were very creative with their designs and styling. The whole thing was simply phenomenal."
(CO-CREATIVE DIRECTOR & STYLE CONSULTANT)



"Amazing, every year we get better. I can't wait till next year."
NENESI IBRU (LOGISTICS)



"ARISE FASHION WEEK has given me the opportunity to not only work with local and international fashion designers but also get to understand all that goes into their craft and eventually be a part of their success story. Do I also need to mention the networking opportunities involved? It is indeed a very exciting platform. I can't wait to experience all that 2020 holds."
MOSES EBITE (STYLIST)



"ARISE FASHION WEEK is always an exciting period of the year. I particularly enjoyed discovering fashion brands like Pyer Moss and Salem Fessahaye - whose brand identities were very distinct and interesting to unravel during their shows."
OZINNA ANUMUDU (PRESS RELATIONS)



"I think the whole concept was amazing, it was great to be in one place with all these amazing designers and models from different part of the world but still have this connection to the continent."
SELAM FESSAHAYE (DESIGNER)

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