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Feminist Mother in a Hyper-masculine Society

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I AM EKWEFI, HEAR ME

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe

INTRODUCTION

How Ekwefi conducts herself within a hyper-masculine society indicates a feminist ideology because of her sense of identity as a mother and wife, and attempts to fulfill those behavior expectations while also indulging her own agenda

Motherhood Identity

'Nne'

Proper term for 'mother'
Ezinma refers Ekwefi by name

"Death, I implore you"

"May it not happen again"

"Death may please himself"

Names of previously deceased children

Wife Identity

Town beauty
Must pay bride-price
Okonkwo at time was too poor

Anene = 1st Husband
Okonkwo = 2nd Husband
Has three wives, including Ekwefi

Agency

"guns that never [shoot]"
Backtalk
Results in spousal abuse

Chielo abduction
High Priestess = word of god
Ideology vs. Relationship
Lack of consequential abuse from Okonkwo

CONCLUSION

Ekwefi abides to Umuofia's ocial norms, while still prioritizing Ezinma, her daugher, and herselffirst. Life tragedies, cultural restrictions, Ekwefi's choices and how she conducts herself, = balanced, while indulging in her own personal desires and wishes. That balance indicates Ekwefi's feminism ideology while accommodating the hyper-masculine culture.

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Communication Studies

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