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World Development

Volume 19, Issue 5, May 1991, Pages 399-409

Life in a dual system revisited: Urban-rural ties in Enugu, Nigeria, 1961-87

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[https://doi.org/10.1016/0305-750X\(91\)90185-K](https://doi.org/10.1016/0305-750X(91)90185-K)

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Abstract

Urban-rural ties in what then Eastern Nigeria were remarkably strong in 1961-1962, suggesting that urban dwellers lived in a dual system: fully committed to urban life and, at the same time, belonging to the rural community from which they had come. The 1987 replication of a survey carried out in 1961 in Enugu, the largest city in southeastern Nigeria, allows an assessment of changes in urban-rural ties over a generation. The findings of this and other studies indicate the need to distinguish patterns of rural-urban migration and to assess their consequences for the rapidly growing cities of the Third World and their hinterland.



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^— I wish to express my appreciation to Gudrun Ludwar-Ene who collaborated in the direction of the 1987 survey and contributed to the analysis, to John W. Curtis who directed the processing of the survey data and contributed to the analysis, to Eucharia Akpa, Samuel Chukwu, Chukwuemeka Kalu, Julian Meniru, Mackyngs Neziyana, and Theophilus Nwalozie who carried out the interviews, to William G. Flanagan, Ulf Himmelstrand, Katherine P. Moseley, Edward Mere Ntomchukwu, and two World Development reviewers who commented on an earlier draft, and to C. Saskia Gugler who edited that draft.

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