

9/30/05: *The Joys of Motherhood*, Day 2 Discussion

Characters	Events	Values/Norms
Nnu Ego	Oshia's decision to continue rather than going to work	son's obligations to mother/family
Nnaife	Nnu Ego gives birth many times	emphasis on fertility, even in poverty
	Nnu Ego's death	expectations of a senior wife
	Oshia's return for funeral	connotations of "soldier" and changes in them
	Nnaife trying to kill butcher	are there joy to motherhood?
	Nnaife taking another wife	

- Tribal village sanctuary
 - Nnu ego hides situation in city from father and tribe
- Are there joys to motherhood?
 - Nnu Ego's life is bad, depressing
 - Leads a cursed life
 - Everything that happens takes a turn for the worse
 - 1) With Husband
 - 2) Infertile in village, fertile in city, where it was disadvantageous
- Difference in importance if male vs. female children
 - females raised to "cash in"
 - sons were revered
 - daughters raised to live in same life as Nnu Ego (e.g. inferior education, housework)
- pp.201-202: Possible joy of Nnu Ego is that her sons once had nothing, but now may "rub shoulders with the great men of Nigeria."
- Pg 222: when children leave, Nnu Ego's spirit dies