



In Nigeria, almost 50% of women will be married before their 18th birthday. Women have less access to education than men (41% are literate, while 61% of men are). Yet, a greater proportion of Nigeria's sporting success is attributable to women, both in terms of impact and results. In spite of this, there has been an almost systematic neglect of women in sports in Nigeria.

After all the media interviews, it was time for the three women of the Nigerian bobsled team to get on the ice at the Pyeongchang Olympic Games. At first, it did not go so well, as their first trial runs left them in last place. But then, they have attracted less because of their medal chances and more for their aim to break barriers and "to help women, the country, the continent," as the team's captain and driver, Seun Adigun of Houston, put it.



Despite being all born in the United States, the Nigerian bobsled team, have sought to ensure their message resonates in the country and continent they represent.

"Having young girls and women in general be able to see us on the screen and know that we have done this and it's doable" is extremely important, Onwumere said. She said she hoped that girls born and raised in the homeland of her parents would realize that even if they come from a country without snow or ice, they could still learn to compete in a winter sport. "This is something that will help the sport, something that will help women, the country, the continent," she said, "and those things keep me grounded and keep me able to handle it."

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