

## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **A Tribute to Pat Caldwell (1922-2008)**

Pat Caldwell was born in Lansdowne, near Taree, New South Wales in 1922, and died in Canberra in May, 2008, aged 86. She had been married to Jack (John C.) Caldwell for more than 60 years.

Pat's training in Social Anthropology at the University of Sydney in the 1940s stood her in good stead during the many projects she and Jack undertook in Africa and when the 'quasi anthropological approach' became prominent in demography. They first went to Africa when Jack joined the demography program at the University of Ghana in 1962.

Pat's first contributions to academic journals began in 1976 with a joint article with Jack, Helen Ware, and F.O.Okediji on their Changing African Family Project. Other articles with Jack in the same year in the *Journal of Biosocial Science* and in *Population Studies* respectively discussed contraceptive innovation and sexual abstinence amongst the Yoruba. After spending much of the 1980s researching in South Asia, Pat and Jack returned to Nigeria to work with Tunje Orubuloye on the Ekiti study of sexual networking, leading to a rush of publications on HIV/AIDS in the 1990s.

Pat had unique interpersonal skills in quickly establishing rapport with people at all levels in society, all over the world. It was an education to watch her talking with village women, mother to mother, and through her empathy, drawing out confidences on sensitive subjects such as child deaths. As a researcher, varied ideas came to her so quickly that her colleagues really had to pay attention. As a consequence, her insights might initially appear to be tangential to the topic at hand, but would subsequently prove to be an important part of the total picture.

Pat's extensive contribution to the literature relating to various countries ranging from South Africa to Egypt can be found by searching for 'Pat Caldwell' with Google Scholar or by using the following link:

<http://search.live.com/results.aspx?q=pat+caldwell&go=&form=QBRE>><http://search.live.com/results.aspx?q=pat+caldwell&go=&form=QBRE>

*David Lucas and Helen Ware*