Khan Mohammad. 2005

Levels, Patterns and Determinants of Contraceptive Use and Unmet Need of Family Planning in Pakistan (2001).

In this study, an attempt has been made to investigate some important aspects of contraceptive use behavior and unmet need of contraception among currently married women of reproductive age in Pakistan. Both vicariate and multivariate analysis have been undertaken to see the effect of factors influencing the contraceptive use and unmet need of contraception. The study showed that although knowledge about contraception is nearly universal among married women in Pakistan, there is a wide gap between knowledge and use of contraception. About 40 percent of married women have ever used any contraceptive method in 2001. There is an increasing trend in current use of contraception in Pakistan. About 28 percent of married women were reported as current users of any contraceptive method; among them 20.2% were using any modern and about 8% any traditional method in 2001. For both ever and current use of contraception, the majority of the women start using contraceptives after they achieve their desired family size. Information on fertility related questions is helpful for improving understanding the family planning decision making among Pakistani couples. The husband's desire for fewer children has a greater effect on increasing the likelihood of contraceptive use in Pakistan. Unmet need of contraception is an important concept for designing family planning programs and has important implications for future population growth. The analysis underscores the importance of recognizing that demographic, socio-economic and attitudinal factors that affect the unmet need of women for spacing and limiting differently. Very young women have a greater need to space. Than to limit their births, whereas older women have a greater need to limit than to space. The unmet need for limiting increases with the number of living children. The study also shows that the main reasons for non-use of contraception raised by women need were, fertility related (28. %), natural spacing (13.8%) and side effects (11 %.). Results based on the logistic regression models reveal that among their independent variables, age of women, number of living children, women education, impact of mass media and respondents and her partners' approval of family planning were emerged as the best predictors and have strongly significant effect on all six dependent variables (ever use, current use, intention to use, unmet need for spacing, limiting and total unmet need).