Mohamed Abd El-Sattar Zedan, 2005

Sex Preference for Children Upon Fertility and Gender Practices in Egypt.

Parents' preferences for sex of their children has been an important issue in population and social research over the past four decades. The most prevalent types of sex preference observed in less developed countries are a preference for a balanced number of daughters and sons (or at least one child of each sex) and a preference for sons (often together with a balance preference)

Egypt is a country with a strong and persistent attitude for sex preference for sons (Williamson, 1976, Osman, 1990, Ann old, 1992).

Despite the strength of this attitude, contraceptive use levels have more than doubled between 1980 and 2000, from 24 to 56, fertility level has decreased between the two corresponding years by almost from 5.3 births to 3.5 births per woman. (EDHS, 2000).

However, Egypt remains in the fertility transition stage and seeks to decrease the current level of fertility in order to reach to replacement level goal.

So, it is important to examine the extent and determinants of sex preference in Egypt and its impact on fertility and fertility intervening variables. The present study attempts to answer the following research question: - to what extent do Egyptian women prefer sons and or daughters?

- How does Egyptian women's sex preference vary with cultural, social and economic conditions?
- To what extent does sex preference affect fertility?
- To what extent does sex preference affect girls s. Boy children treatment?

The study used the logistic and multiple regression models.