



## A STUDY ON ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY PLANNING AND BIRTH CONTROL WITH AGE AND DISTRICTS

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### Abstract

Female feticide is one of the visible violence against women and now this is spreading across the country. Someone has to take action against this crime but is helpless. So, the present study was planned to assess association of family planning and birth control with age and sex ratio. The study was conducted in Uttar Pradesh state with nine districts randomly selected on the basis of sex-ratio i.e. high, middle and low. Fifty respondents were randomly selected from each district. Data was collected by using standardized scale "Family Planning and Birth Control Attitude Scale" developed by Dr. M. Rajamanickam (2005) with four variables (Family Planning, Birth Control, Abortion, and Age of Marriage). Results revealed that majority of female respondents (52%) were in early adulthood (18-40yrs) category while majority of male respondents (52%) were in middle age (41-60yrs) category and vice versa. Equal percentage of male and female (50%) respondents was in all districts of high, middle and low sex-ratio. Results throws light on four variables in which mean value was seen more in family planning variable i.e.-31.19 in middle sex-ratio districts. Mean values in other three variables were i.e. - Birth Control-30.09, Abortion-26.33, and Age of Marriage-30.45. Data further asserted that significant association was found between all variables. (Family planning  $F=9.68$ , Birth Control  $F=3.85$ , Abortion  $F=9.54$ , and Age of Marriage  $F=9.29$ ) and districts of all sex-ratio. In case of age, data further pin pointed that regarding family planning variable; mean value was more (30.90) in middle age group. Mean values in other three variables were i.e. Birth Control-30.10, Abortion-25.81, and Age of Marriage-30.09. Data further reported that significant association was found between all variables. i.e. Family planning ( $t=3.39$ ) Birth Control  $t=3.90$ , Abortion= $5.12$ , Age of Marriage  $t=3.59$ .

*It is concluded that districts with middle sex ratio and middle age respondents were in favor of family planning and birth control.*

**Key words:** Female Feticide, Family Planning, Birth Control

### ***Introduction***

**A**mong many religions in the world, Hindu cultures inculcate a harmonious union of 'men' and women' which is the foundation of the nature itself. The women are identified as 'Prakruthi' and man as 'Purush'. The woman is named as 'Sakthi' and man as 'Shiv'. The concordant union of male and female is manifested in the concept of 'Ardhanareeshwara'. The most serious issue of India is facing the uncontrolled increasing of population. The idea of birth control is of specific concern to the Indian condition. (Gogoi *et al.*, 2017). The women's reproductive privilege-including the right to determine the numeral, duration and interval of her child is completely essential to women empowerment and uniformity. (Nath *et al.*, 2013) Regarding to (State of world population 2012) family planning should be made accessibility to every women and men who needs it so that they can exercise their reproductive health rights, according to which everyone should be able to freely and responsibly decide how many children to have and when that is children "by choice, and not by chance". According to (Kaur *et al.*, 2015) that family planning belongs to practices that help individuals and pair to get certain objectives like to avoid unwanted nativity.

### ***Methodology***

From 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh. Nine districts were randomly selected on the basis of sex ratio. From each sex ratio, districts were purposively selected that is high sex ratio (Devria, Jaunpur, Azamgrar) middle sex ratio (Varanasi, Bhadhoi, Lucknow) and low sex ratio (Jhansi, Banda, Kanpur nagar). From each districts, 50 respondents were taken in which 25 were early age and 25 were middle age which constitute a total sample of 450. Information was also collected and data was analyzed by computing mean, standard deviation and association by Annova test.

### ***Research Findings***

The finding of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been presented under following heads:

## Socio-personal profile

*Table 1: Sex wise distribution of respondents on the basis of their age and districts.*

S.No.	Personal Variables	Male (n=225)	Female (n=225)
1.	Age		
	18-40	108(48.0)	117(52.0)
	41-60	117(52.0)	108(48.0)
2.	Districts		
	High sex ratio	75(33.3)	75(33.3)
	Middle sex ratio	75(33.3)	75(33.3)
	Low sex ratio	75(33.3)	75(33.3)

Data on social personal profile of respondents given in Table 1 depicts that in concern to 18-40 years age group, majority of respondents (52%) were females while in 41-60 years age group, majority of respondents were males (52%) and vice versa. The table further depicts that equal percentage of males and females respondents were taken from districts of all the three sex ratios.

*Table 2: Distribution of respondent's attitude regarding family planning and birth control on the basis of their age.*

Variables	Early age(18-40)	Middle age (41-60)	Total	df=448	
	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	t	P
Family planning	29.04±4.82	30.90±5.55	29.97±5.27	3.39	<0.001
Birth control	28.11±4.79	30.10±5.84	29.10±5.43	3.90	<0.001

Table 2 elaborated a comparative analysis between age groups and variables (family planning and birth control) taken. Most of the respondents of middle age groups were having more mean value in family planning variable (30.90) and significant association was seen between age groups and variables i.e. family planning ( $t=3.39$ ) and birth control ( $t=3.90$ ). The results were in contradiction with results of Renjhen *et al.* (2008) in which women of age group 15- 34 were more aware about family planning and use of contraceptives. Contradiction and similarity was seen in results of Sharma *et al.* (2016) that no family planning methods was used by women of age group up to 20 years while 84.8% women of age group upto 30 years used family planning methods. Similar results were reported by Ehsanpour *et al.* (2010) that women aged 15-49 years referred to Isfahan health centers were current consumers of common contraceptives methods.

**Table 3: Distribution of respondent's attitude regarding abortion and age of marriage, on the basis of their age.**

Variables	Early age (18-40)	Middle age (41-60)	Total	df=448	
	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	t	P
Abortion	21.65±8.32	25.81±9.16	23.76±8.99	5.12	<0.001
Age of marriage	28.45±4.85	30.09±4.88	29.27±4.92	3.59	<0.001

Table 3 explained the comparative analysis between age groups and variables (abortion and age of marriage). Most of the respondents of middle age groups were having high mean value (30.09) and significant association was seen between age groups and both variables i.e. abortion ( $t=5.12$ ) and age of marriage ( $t=3.59$ ). The results were in contradiction with results of Santos *et al.* (2016) in which women between the ages of 34 years having reports of abortion.

**Table 4: Distribution of respondent's attitude regarding family planning and birth control, on the basis of their districts.**

Variables	High sex ratio	Middle sex ratio	Low sex ratio	Total	F=ANNOVA
	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	
Family planning	28.58±5.06	31.19±4.88	30.13±5.56	29.97±5.27	F=9.68 (P=<0.001)
Birth control	28.51±5.13	30.09±5.10	28.71±5.90	29.10±5.43	F=3.85 (P=<0.05)

Table no. 4 represented the distribution of respondent's attitude regarding family planning and birth control on the basis of districts of different sex ratio. As per the mean value of districts of difference sex ratio i.e. high, middle and low, middle sex ratio districts were having more mean value in family planning variable (31.19) and significant association was seen between districts and variables i.e. family planning (F=9.68) and birth control (F=3.85).

**Table 5: Distribution of respondent's attitude regarding abortion and age of marriage, on the basis of their districts.**

Variables	High sex ratio	Middle sex ratio	Low sex ratio	Total	F=ANNOVA
	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	
Abortion	22.58±9.64	26.33±8.52	22.37±8.24	23.76±8.99	F=9.54 P=<0.001
Age of marriage	28.05±4.67	30.45±4.61	29.31±5.21	29.27±4.92	F=9.29 P=<0.001

Table no 5 noted the distribution of respondent's attitude regarding abortion and age of marriage on the basis of districts of different sex ratio. Middle sex ratio districts were having more mean value in the age of marriage variable (30.45) and significant association was seen between districts and variables i.e. abortion ( $F=9.54$ ) and age of marriage ( $F=9.29$ ).

### **Conclusion**

It is concluded that districts with middle sex ratio and middle age respondents were in favor of family planning and birth control.

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