

A STUDY ON THE DETERMINANTS OF BEHAVIORAL VARIATIONS IN
CONTRACEPTIVE USE BY MALES IN TRIBAL-ORIENTED AND URBAN
AREAS OF THE PUNJAB.

By

Kh.Humail M Koreja

Thesis submitted to the Lahore School of Economics
in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
MPhil Development Studies
2018

Supervised by: Mr. Javed S. Malik

Acknowledgements

I am deeply indebted to my supervisor, Sir Javed Sadiq Malik without whom this paper would not have been possible. I would like to express my gratitude to him for being persistent with me and constantly encouraging me to complete this paper. I want to thank Dr.Ahmed Nawaz and Ms.Faryal for providing their valuable guidance for the quantitative analysis of this study. I would also like to thank my friends, Mariyam Arshad and Nayab Amjad who were a source of constant assistance. Lastly, I want to thank my institution Lahore School of Economics for giving me this opportunity. This work is dedicated as a tribute to Khawaja Ghulam Fareed (R.A), the great Sufi scholar, for his services in literature and academics.

Abstract

The study focuses on identifying the determinants that lead to low contraceptive use among males in Pakistan. It is a comparative study to unveil the behavioral variations in contraceptive use by males in the tribal-oriented and urban areas of the Punjab. The prominent factors studied that have led to low contraceptive use include religious belief, the role of clergy, perception of contraceptives as a risk to health, preference for sons and cultural taboos. The study aims to understand the dynamics of each factor in the two geographic distributions: the tribal-oriented area of Rajanpur and the urban area of Lodhran. The results of the study suggest that male behavior is influenced by multiple factors including religion, education, socio-economics conditions, existing number of children and dissemination of information about family planning. Though the differences are subtle, the data collected and analyzed also suggests that males in an urban area are more inclined towards family planning than those in a tribal-oriented area. However, perception of religious injunctions trump education as a critical factor in the matters of contraceptive use, the promotion of which requires active state policy involving the clergy as key partners in addressing male behavior towards limiting family size.