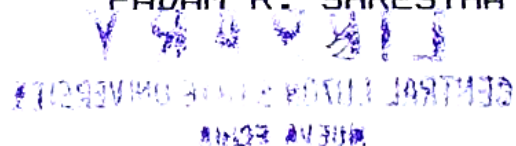


CORRELATES OF LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS
FAMILY PLANNING PRACTICES AMONG RURAL WOMEN IN
MUNOZ, NUEVA ECIJA, PHILIPPINES

PADAM R. SHRESTHA



A thesis submitted to the faculty of the Institute of
Graduate Studies, Central Luzon State University
Munoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines in partial
fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE
(Rural Development)

MAY 1994

This thesis entitled, CORRELATES OF LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS FAMILY PLANNING PRACTICES AMONG RURAL WOMEN IN MUNOZ, NUEVA ECIJA, PHILIPPINES, prepared and submitted by PADAM RAJ SHRESTHA in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of MASTER OF SCIENCE (Rural Development), is hereby accepted.


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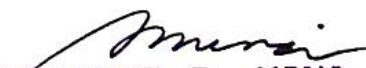
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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The author was born in Dedgaun VDC-7, Nawalparasi Dist; Nepal on April 28, 1961. He is the fourth son of the five children of Mr. Netra Bahadur Shrestha and Mrs. Suku Maya Shrestha.

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He is happily married to Tulasi Devi Shrestha and is blessed with two brilliant daughters, Prabin and Deepa Shrestha.

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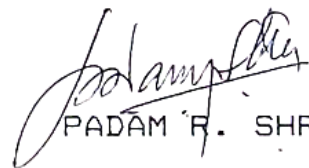
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PADAM R. SHRESTHA

A B S T R A C T

SHRESTHA, PADAM RAJ, Institute of Graduate Studies, Central Luzon State University, Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, May 1994. CORRELATES OF LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS FAMILY PLANNING PRACTICES AMONG RURAL WOMEN IN MUNOZ, NUEVA ECIJA, PHILIPPINES.

Adviser: Dr. Soledad S. Mina

This study focussed on the rural women's level of knowledge and attitude towards family planning and its effect on the accuracy of the practice of different family planning methods.

Among the 18 family planning acceptor barangays in the municipality of Munoz, 50 percent (9) were previously used in the study by Suriyaphon (1993). The sample size of 265 was obtained from five barangays randomly selected from the remaining nine acceptor barangays of Munoz.

Interview schedule was used to gather the necessary data which were analysed using frequencies, percentage, rank, mean and standard deviation and Pearson's Product - Moment Correlation Coefficient.

Results showed that majority of the respondents (56.98%) were young and 58.11 percent married earlier

than the recommended years of 20 to 24. Almost all (78.87%) were engaged in the agricultural occupation and 86.03 percent were Roman Catholics. Most of them (52.83%) reached high school and 85.28 were below poverty line. Most of them had four children.

The level of knowledge of the respondents was high ($X= 3.98$) and their level of attitude towards family planning was also positive ($X= 4.05$)

FPOP and DOH health workers were the most common source in delivering family planning message among the personal channels. Among the mass media channels, it was pamphlets. However, the most effective channel for attitude formation was the personal channels such as clinic personnel, friends and neighbours, and relatives. Pill was the most commonly used family planning method (47.33%) followed by tubal ligation (18.67%). The least used method was Rhythm/calendar (5.33%) method.

Forty three percent of the respondents did not use any family planning methods. The most common reason for not adopting family planning among non-users was the fear of the side effects from the contraceptives (35.65%) followed by the dislike of husbands (25.22 %).

Rated most accurately used family planning methods were IUD ($X=4.86$), tubal ligation ($X=4.47$) and pill ($X=4.09$).

Educational attainment was found positively and significantly related to the level of knowledge. Age and number of children were significantly but negatively related with level of knowledge. On the other hand, education and income were also positively related to the level of attitude. The effectiveness of radio, television, newspaper, comics, pamphlets, clinic and FPOP personnel and group were significantly related to the level of knowledge, while TV and newspaper were significantly related to the level of attitude.

The level of knowledge and the accuracy of the use of family planning methods was significant among pill, IUD, and tubal ligation users. Likewise, level of attitude was significantly related among IUD and tubal ligation users.

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