SOCIO-ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF MEN PARTICIPATION IN FAMILY PLANNING.

BY

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Abstract
Despite the position of men in the family and their positive attitude towards family planning, their role and responsibilities in family planning (FP) remains largely ignored. The study examines the socio-economic determinants on men participation in FP using KDHS 2008/2009.

The general objective of the study is to identify the socio-economic determinants of men participation in family planning in Kenya. The specific objectives are: to assess the socio-economic factors that determine men’s participation in family planning in Kenya, to determine various practices of family planning and to assess the effect of men’s engagement in family planning practices on HIV awareness as a household welfare indicator.

In order to address these objectives, a binary probit model and IV regression are applied. The binary probit model is used to determine the socio-economic factors affecting use of contraceptives among Kenyan men. The Instrumental variable technique is used to deal with endogeneity not controlled for in the binary probit model.

The results suggest that education attainment, household wealth, positive attitude towards family planning, preference of male children and professional information on family planning from a health worker are significantly associated with contraceptive use among men. On the other hand, urban residence and perception of HIV infection are negatively associated with contraceptive use.

The study recommends tapping on the culturally and socially accepted decision-making power of men, promoting and encouraging men into higher learning, improving their economic status, creating awareness and sensitizing men on ideal number of children and encouraging men to seek professional information regarding FP from the health provider.