HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY:
A CASE STUDY OF TWO ANTE-NATAL CLINICS
IN NAIROBI, KENYA.

BY:
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ABSTRACT

The aim of the study is to establish how socio-economic, demographic and environmental factors relate to maternal morbidity. To do that we have used data collected from Pumwani and Mater Hospital ante-natal clinics in Nairobi, Kenya. The factors investigated included the following independent variables: education, occupation, ethnicity, age at first birth, parity, birth-interval, maternal age, sanitation and water-supply. The dependent variables included: Haemoglobin level and Birth weight of babies, which are the proxies for maternal morbidity. The study is divided into four chapters. The first chapter deals with objectives, hypotheses and the Literature review. Chapter Two discusses the methodology of data collection and data analysis. Chapter Three presents the results of the analysis, and the interpretation of the results from the two ante-natal clinics. Chapter Four gives conclusions and recommendations for further studies. The back matter includes appendices, and a bibliography.

Multiple regression was used as the major technique of data analysis. The analysis revealed that Socio-Economic and Demographic variables entered for Pumwani regression accounted for about 7% variance in Haemoglobin and that age at first birth, Kikuyu ethnic group and years of schooling 9+ years, maternal age, occupation, were significant at .05 level. Birth-weight regression explained about 7% variance and years of schooling 9+ years and Luo ethnic group were significant at .05 level. Socio-economic
variables entered alone for Pumwani regression accounted for about 6% variance in HB and Kikuyu ethnic group, years of schooling 9+ years, others ethnic group and Kamba ethnic group were significant at 0.05 level. Birth-weight regression for socio-economic variables accounted for about 6% variance in birth-weight and years of schooling 9+ years was significant at 0.05 level. For Mater regressions, the socio-economic and demographic variables explained about 6% variance in Haemoglobin and that birth interval 4+ years, years of schooling 1-4 years, age at first birth 14-19 years were significant at .05 level. And the Birth-weight regression accounted for about 4% variance in birth-weight and maternal age 20-34 years was the only variable significant at .05 level.

Socio-economic variables entered alone for Mater regression showed there was no variable significant at 0.05 level. The summary table was rejected hence we could not determine variance. Birth-weight regression for socio-economic variables was rejected hence we do not have results for this.

However, the cross-tabulation results from the two clinics also revealed that Pumwani ante-natal clinic had very high percentages of Haemoglobin <10gm and birth-weight <2.5kg as compared to Mater clinic. This was partly as a result of the existing socio-economic differences of respondents from the two clinics. However, some of the hypothesis were not confirmed. This could be because of omission of environmental, personal illness and nutrition deficiency factors in the regression analysis.