



AWARENESS ON FAMILY PLANNING AMONG MARRIED ARUNTHATHIAR WOMEN IN SATHYAMANGALAM

KEYWORDS

Children, Family Planning, Social Welfare

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ABSTRACT

The Family Planning Association of India was formed in 1949. The country launched a nationwide Family Planning Programme in 1952, a first of its kind in the developing countries. This covered initially birth control programmes and later included under its wing, mother and child health, nutrition and family welfare. In 1966, the ministry of health created a separate department of family planning. The then ruling Janata Government in 1977 developed a new population policy, which was to be accepted not by compulsion but voluntarily. It also changed the name of Family Planning Department to Family Welfare Programme. Regionally, the proportion of women aged 15-49 reporting use of a modern contraceptive method has risen minimally or plateaued between 2008 and 2014. In Asia it has risen slightly from 60.9% to 61.6%. Further, the researcher found that majority of the married women in sathyamangalam has two children and undergone permanent sterilization. The awareness level about Family planning is reasonably high. Further studies and reflections on its effects towards sustainable development mean empowerment in higher tense and heightened benefits. Family planning is about the creation and enhancement with and for families in need, of locally based activities, facilities and networks, the use of which have outcomes such as alleviated stress, increased self-esteem, social status, modernised competence and behaviour and increased consumption. Increasing knowledge and practice of birth control measures or family planning methods breeds greedy or needy must be a minute thought of true social workers before a wider job in this field of future concern. It is no more a time passing joky act but an urgent call for sincere and strenuous social workers on the sensitive issues. Remember, If not you, who? If not now, when?"

Introduction

The individual and society are closely related. Although individual is endowed with certain biological and mental capacities and potentialities at birth, he soon becomes a social animal. He is indebted to social influences for all that he is or hopes to be. The group relations of the person furnish a major clue to his behavior, whether that behavior is defined as normal or delinquent. According to Elliott and Merrill all types of personal maladjustment represent in one way or another, the inability of the individual to achieve a satisfactory life organization from the point of view of the social definition of his/her social patterns. Therefore, social conformities of this contemporary world construct adversity than ways of admonishment. Its result deviate familial relations and increase children in need of care and protection. Family planning programmes and its awareness is also one that affects the value of child in the primary and secondary institutions of the society.]

Knowledge of family planning and the knock-down of children
Family planning discloses the practice of controlling the number of children. It educates and promotes the methods of birth control projecting its contributions as a good means of personal and social life. An estimated 225 million women in developing countries would like to delay or stop childbearing. In 2005-2006, 10 per cent of all pregnancies were mistimed (wanted later) and 11 per cent were not wanted and not less than 20 per cent of all pregnancies (about 5.6 million) were unwanted and/or unplanned.

Not all such cases are identified or reported. This population strata cannot be neglected though draws poor attention. Mistimed, unplanned types of pregnancies are no talks in a society that wills to receive child. Such societies can never encourage abortions. It is always ready to preserve children with disabilities also and offers the best care. Imagine an adult today born as a child in a society of such culture and the impact that follows. They are worthier for life in abundance. Every society that

sows the seeds of birth control and spread the ways of such family planning reveals the unwelcome sign to every child. Every person who adheres any form of birth control is sure to cultivate and develop hearts and souls undue for children in the family, the basic social institution meant for right and fullest nurture. The world's way is to bet on how many children can be handled emotionally and afforded financially. The decision is then balanced by how many children they feel they can "handle". Selfishness: self-confidence, self-righteousness, self-importance and self sufficiency conceive fruits without nutritional value. Children suffer emotional and physical problems from not feeling wanted. How we need God's perspective!

The family planning programmes are progressive to a great extent. Contraceptive use has increased in many parts of the world, especially in Asia and Latin America. Globally, use of modern contraception has risen from 54% in 1990 to 57.4% in 2014. Regionally, the proportion of women aged 15-49 reporting use of a modern contraceptive method has risen minimally or plateaued between 2008 and 2014. In Asia it has risen slightly from 60.9% to 61.6%, and in Latin America and the Caribbean it rose slightly from 66.7% to 67.0%. The family planning programmes are successful to a great extent in India through the Family Planning Association of India formed in 1949. The country launched a nationwide Family Planning Programme in 1952, a first of its kind in the developing countries. Later with the entitlement as Family Welfare Programme, so called welfare services consumes people.

Family Welfare Programme (FWP) by the Government of India
This is a centrally sponsored programme, for which 100% help is provided by the Central to all the states of the country. The main strategies for the successful implementation of the FWP programme are:

- FWP is integrated with other health services.
- Emphasis is in the rural areas
- 2-child family norm to be practiced
- Adopting terminal methods to create a gap between the

- birth of 2 children
- Door-to-door campaigns to encourage families to accept the small family norm
- Encouraging education for both boys and girls
- Encouragement of breast feeding
- Proper marriageable age adopted (21 years for men and 18 years for women)
- Minimum Needs Programme launched to raise the standard of living of the people.
- Monetary incentives given to poor people to adopt family planning measures.
- Creating widespread awareness of family planning through television, radio, news papers, puppet shows etc.

Arunthathiyars and Family Planning

The Arunthathiyars are one of the marginalised communities in Tamil Nadu. Considered to be the Dalit among Dalits, Arunthathiyars are usually confined to menial jobs including manual scavenging. Only two of every 100 Arunthathiyars are said to be literate. There are several Arunthathiyar children who live without parental care. Children, especially girls, are vulnerable to child labour and even bonded labour due to poverty and their low social standing in the community. Parents very often marry their daughters very young to save expenses and improve the social status of their girls. Among them, the researcher made a basic attempt to study married women in Sathyamangalam, Erode District.

Methods & Material

Non- probability sampling method was chosen for selecting 25 samples. Through convenient sampling technique respondents were taken from M.G.R Nagar, Sathyamangalam, adopting Descriptive Research Design. With a structured interview schedule, the objectives were focused. Objectives of the study

- To find out the level of knowledge towards family planning.
- To find out whether the personal factors influencing the knowledge on family planning.

Results & Discussion

Nearly-half (45%) of the respondents were 25 years and above, Majority (90%) of them are drop outs from school after 10th Std, Maximum (95%) respondents were Hindu by religion, More than half of the respondents (60%) belong to nuclear family system, More than half of the respondents (60%) are getting more than Rs.8000 per month, Majority (61%) of the respondents have 2 children, Majority (63%) of them have undergone permanent sterilization for monetary incentives as well. Therefore, awareness level about Family planning is reasonably high. Further studies and reflections on its effects reviving sustainable development could mean empowerment in higher tense and heightened benefits.

Causes for Family Planning and the Emerging Issues with Way Out

- **No enough resources on earth to provide for a multiply-ing population**

Man has a fear that the earth's resources are insufficient or limited. Our real problem has not been insufficient resources. War, greed, and some false-religious beliefs are our true problems. Famines are mostly due to war and greedy leaders.

As man multiplies he is able to specialize his studies and become much more resourceful. This in turn enables him to make more progress. As to land, we have plenty of land still to live on. We used to live in one of the most densely populated areas on earth. Many people moved down from the mountains to the cities. Yes, we lived up higher (floors up) than we were used to, but life was very livable. When people are polite and

abide by good social laws, everyone can live peacefully together.

- **The world is too evil to bring up children.**

The world is evil; it always has been. This is an area that we need to check our own attitudes. How we start with our children will affect them the rest of their lives. Does no parent think of the safety of his or her child? We all do. But our response is critical. Either we instill an outlook of Faith or of fear into our child's life. Dangers will be present; sometimes it may look worse than before. In most cases the fear is worse than the actual threat. Why seek your child to be a follower or victim of evil before birth? Better, hope that your child can live more good and become a leader of all goodness. Sufficient insight and right foresight aligns desires.

- **Success- worshippers perceive children as burdens or blocks**

Did you ever notice that a certain negative or 'burdensome' attitude is quite common among modern parents, today? They are so busy with their lives and careers, that caring for their children has become a grand hassle. Trendsetters have made people to worship success. Yeah high money-makers, wide earners are over active to win laurels to their self than investing their potentials for wider social welfare. Contemporary world highly applauds the one who has built a multi-storey house but poorly acknowledges the ones who have raised their children to be socially responsible citizens. For some, these origins could arise from their own parents. In fact some of us could be unwanted children.

We can hear our parents groaning about doing all this for us and telling us we were so unappreciative of their hard work. We might even remember words like 'You were a big mistake' or 'Did I ever tell you that we never planned on having you?' These words wound and leave a big scar. People are becoming so busy creating lives of ease, wealth or fame that they don't want to serve others even their own children. Selfishness reigns and ruins.

Social Work in Family Settings

Family service of social agencies has the purpose of preserving healthy family life; the aim of family casework is to assist the individuals in the family to develop their capacities to lead personally satisfying and socially useful lives in the family unit. The social worker with sound knowledge of case work has an important role in improving the relationship within the family. The progress in psychology, psychiatry as well as in natural sciences enables the case worker to recognize difficulties in family life and to find ways of solution. However, social work is not the only source which attempts to help in such difficulties, other professional aid by the physician, the priest, or the nurse might be effective.

Conclusion

People assume that the world is 'over-populated' but never seek God's perspective on this matter. He wants mankind to spread throughout the earth even into the suburbs and countryside and fill the earth with godly-good people. He will be pleased to see the resources that He has provided well used! Should we really adopt the methods of family planning opportunity to limit the number of children? No. The concept or a program of limiting the size of families through the spacing or prevention of pregnancies, especially for economic reasons is termed to be family planning. Centuries back poverty did not stop to receive the birth of a child. Today rate of childlessness is rampantly at increase. Biological factors are excused. Contemporary fact reveals the heart and soul astray. Useful empowerment is the helpful endowment.

A well organized creative person is one whose various social activities are in substantial reciprocal balance. The balanced person diversifies his talents and energies so as to include all of the essential phases of a well-rounded life. Calmly and sensibly he alternates work and play, waking and sleeping, activity and rest.

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