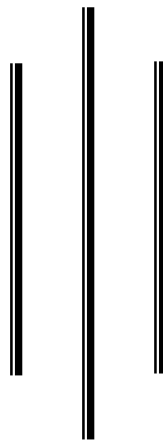


A Study on the Existing Relationship between Poverty and Fertility

By:

Kishor Kumar Rai

**A Dissertation Submitted to
The Central Department of Population Studies Faculty of Humanities
and Social Sciences for the Partial Fulfillment of the Degree of
Masters of Arts in Population Studies**



**Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
June 2011**

DECLARATION

Except where otherwise acknowledged in the text, the analysis in this thesis represents my own original research.

Kishor Kumar Rai

November 2011

RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that the thesis

Submitted by

Kishor Kumar Rai

Entitled

A Study on the Existing Relationship between Poverty and Fertility

is Recommended for External Examination.

Mr. Sunil Kumar Acharya

(Thesis Supervisor)

Date: November 2011

VIVA-VOCE SHEET

We have conducted the viva-voce examination of the thesis

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A Study on the Existing Relationship between Poverty and Fertility

and find that the thesis to be an independent work of the student written according to the prescribed format. We accept the thesis as the partial fulfillment of the requirements for Master of Arts in Population Studies.

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ABSTRACT

This dissertation, "*A Study on the Existing Relationship between Poverty and Fertility*" is performed to examine the relationship between poverty and fertility in Surumkhim VDC. This thesis is based on primary and secondary data. The primary data was collected from the Surumkhim Village Development Committee (ward 1-9), Taplejung district. The secondary data was obtained from Nepal Living Standard Survey and Village profile available from Surumkhim VDC. The objective of this study is to find out the income based poverty and analyze the relationship between poverty and fertility behavior. The result of the study showed income based poverty is higher in study area than national average. Poor households have large household size compared to non-poor households. The study shows poverty and fertility are directly related to each other as the poverty increases the fertility performance increases.

The study found that the households belong to different caste and ethnic groups; population composition observed for Rai 19.4 percent, followed by Limbu 19 percent, Gurung 17.9 percent, Tamang 16.3 percent and other. The total population of the study area was recorded 515 people in 96 households with a woman aged 15-49 was chosen for sampling. Among 515 sample population, 253 males were (49.13 percent) and 262 female (50.87 percent) with average family size 5.52. The sex ratio is found 96.19 which show that female population is relatively larger than male population. Out of 351 population 83.0 percent were found literate and 17.0 percent illiterate yet. The percent of male literate is higher (91.1 percent) than female (75.1 percent) and aged 15 years and above 67.8 percent are married and 29.8 percent are unmarried. The mean CEB is 3.8 children per married man.

In occupation, agriculture 42.1 percent and foreign employer 4.1 percent In the study area, 74.83 percent of household had yearly income below Rs.200,000 (comparing with national average Rs.202,374). Out of 96 households 61.5 percent have food access just for 3 to 6 month. The poor family which they couldn't feed their family throughout the year and they have to borrow the money from businessman with high rate 30 percent of interest and they are compelled to buy household requirements in an expensive cost rate. They had to face three types of disadvantage i.e. first high price in credit in purchasing food items, second high interest (30-36 percent) of debt and low price in selling cardamom to the money lender or businessman. That is one of the reasons of poverty in study area. The mean CEB to a woman was found to higher in poor groups than non-poor groups.

The study showed that income level and fertility are inversely proportion to each other. It is showed that lower the income level higher the CEB. Therefore, poverty is directly related to fertility.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ASFR	Age-Specific Fertility Rate
CBR	Crude Birth Rate
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CDPS	Central Department of Population Studies
CEB	Children Ever Born
CWR	Child-Woman Ratio
DDC	District Development Committee
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFR	General Fertility Rate
GII	Gender Inequality Index
GNI	Gross National Income
GRR	Gross Reproduction Rate
HDI	Human Development Index
HDR	Human Development Report
HPI	Human Poverty Index
IHD	Inequality-Adjusted HDI
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
NLSS	Nepal Living Standard Survey
NPC	National Planning Commission
NRR	Net Reproduction Rate
PAF	Poverty Alleviation Fund
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
TU	Tribhuvan University
TYIP	Three Years Interim Plan
UN	United Nation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VDC	Village Development Committee
WB	World Bank
DNID	Districts of Nepal Indicators of Development
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals

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