

THE INFLUENCE OF SOME SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FACTORS  
ON THE FAMILY PLANNING KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND  
PRACTICES OF SELECTED MARANAO HOUSEWIVES:  
URBAN-RURAL CONTRAST

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Master of Arts in Anthropology

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by

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This thesis entitled THE INFLUENCE OF SOME SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FACTORS OF THE FAMILY PLANNING KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES OF SELECTED MARANAO HOUSEWIVES: URBAN - RURAL CONTRAST, prepared and submitted by MISS ROCAYA MADIANDA MAIDAN in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of MASTER OF ARTS IN ANTHROPOLOGY major in APPLIED RESEARCH has been examined and is recommended for acceptance and approval for ORAL EXAMINATION.

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THESIS ABSTRACT

Title : THE INFLUENCE OF SOME SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FACTORS ON THE FAMILY PLANNING KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES OF SELECTED MARANAO HOUSEWIVES: URBAN-RURAL CONTRAST

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Statement of the Problem:

This is a descriptive study designed to ascertain whether the socio-economic and cultural factors influence the selected urban and rural Maranao housewives in their knowledge of, attitudes toward and practices of family planning and thus, seeking answers to the following questions:

1. What is the socio-economic profile of the Maranao housewives in both urban and rural areas?
2. Do urban and rural Maranao housewives know about family planning and its contraceptive methods?
3. What are the attitudes of the urban and rural Maranao housewives toward family planning? What are their reactions with regard to the different family planning methods?

4. Do urban and rural Maranao housewives practice family planning? Do they adopt any family planning methods? What kind of contraceptive methods do they use and how often? Why?
5. Are there any difference between the knowledge, attitudes and practices of urban and rural Maranao housewives toward family planning?
6. Does the socio-economic status of the urban and rural Maranao housewives correlate with their knowledge of, attitudes toward and practices of family planning?
7. Does Islam influence the knowledge, attitudes and practices of the urban and rural Maranao housewives toward family planning?

#### Research Method Used:

Since this is a descriptive study, an interview guide was employed to get reliable information suitable to this study. This interview schedule contained open-ended questions to encourage both urban and rural Maranao housewives to express themselves freely.

A sample survey was carried out in demographic defined areas of Marawi City for the urban and the Municipality of Tamparan for the rural. A cluster sampling procedure was utilized to ensure the representativeness of the 150 (75 urban and 75 rural) respondents.

Furthermore, the measures of central tendency like mean,

mode, percentage and frequency were likewise utilized to describe the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the respondents. The five hypotheses were subjected to statistical testing such as the Chi-Square Test ( $\chi^2$ ) and the Contingency Coefficient (c).

Summary of (a) Findings, (b) Conclusion and (c) Recommendations:

Findings

The findings of this study revealed that both of the urban and rural respondents were in mid-twenties with a mean age of twenty-nine (29) for the urban and twenty-seven (27) for the rural respondents. The average number of children ever born was 5.3 for the urban, while it was 4.9 for the rural respondents. However, there was a decrease on the average number of living children among the urban respondents with only 4.3, while it was 4.8 for their rural counterparts.

With regards to their educational attainment, a majority of the urban respondents were college graduate, while the rural respondents were only high school or college level. Nevertheless, a majority of both the urban and rural respondents were engaged in professional, clerical jobs and other gainful work. The mean income of the urban respondents was ₱719.00 per month, while it was ₱479.00 for the rural respondents. This only shows that urban respondents have an average standard of living than the rural respondents.

As far as the knowledge of family planning is concerned,

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almost all of the urban respondents had heard of family planning and its contraceptive methods, while only few from the rural respondents had heard of it. The most popular contraceptive methods known to them were pills, condom, rhythm and withdrawal. The most frequent sources of information regarding these methods were doctor, friends or neighbors and family planning acceptors.

With regards to their attitudes toward family planning and its contraceptive methods, the urban respondents were evenly divided in their attitudes toward family planning, that is, twenty-seven (27) of them approved while another twenty-seven (27) disapproved of it. Whereas, almost all of the rural respondents had negative attitudes toward family planning, particularly its contraceptive methods.

Although almost all of the urban respondents had knowledge of family planning and that some of them were very open about their attitudes toward family planning, in terms of actual practice, however, both of the urban and rural respondents did not practice family planning. In fact, a majority of both the urban and rural respondents do not want to accept family planning even if it is a way of spacing birth and not to limit the number of children they desired.

#### Conclusions:

The following conclusions are based on the findings drawn from the five (5) hypotheses of the study:

1. That urban Maranao housewives have really more knowledge

about family planning than their rural counterparts. This is because of their exposure to family planning Information, Education and Communication as well as actual family planning programs which are not readily available in the rural areas.

2. That urban Maranao housewives have more positive attitudes toward family planning than the rural Maranao housewives.
3. That there was no difference between the urban and rural Maranao housewives in the family planning practices.
4. The socio-economic status (SES) of the Maranao housewives revealed that:
  - a) That there was no correlation between the age (either young or matured) of the urban and rural Maranao housewives to their family planning acceptance.
  - b) That there is no correlation between the education (college graduate or illiterate) of the urban and rural housewives to their family planning acceptance.
  - c) That there is no correlation between the occupation (either working or non-working) of the urban and rural housewives to their acceptance of family planning.
  - d) That there is no correlation between the income (either high or low income) of the urban and rural housewives to their family planning acceptance.
5. The influence of Islam revealed that:

- a) It is the same for those urban and rural housewives who had knowledge of family planning and its contraceptive methods and those who had no knowledge about it.
- b) It is the same for those urban and rural Maranao housewives who had positive attitudes toward family planning and those who had negative attitudes toward it.
- c) It is the same for those urban and rural housewives who had practiced family planning and those who had not practiced of it.

This study, furthermore, concludes that the socio-economic and cultural factors such as: 1) traditional values, that is, desirability of children; 2) the influence of the religion, Islam; 3) attitudes of the husband toward family planning and its contraceptive methods; 4) side effects of those contraceptive methods; and 5) lack of knowledge regarding the true meaning of family planning, had strongly influenced the family planning knowledge, attitudes and practices of the urban and rural Maranao housewives in general.

#### Recommendations

The following recommendations are hereby made to make the Family Planning Program in Lanao del Sur, particularly Marawi City, successful:

1. Since the present education for family planning in Lanao



del Sur, particularly Marawi City, is not effective, there is a need for the educators, doctors and even motivators to supply more effective materials for more understanding. Hence, the present education does not seem to affect the attitudes and practices of the urban and rural Maranao housewives on family planning.

2. There must be some family planning motivations or strategies and/or approach to encourage the housewives in attending seminars or workshops related to family planning. In these seminars, importance of family planning, its objectives and goals should be lectured to them, especially the Imams and other religious leaders.
3. To convince the Imams and other religious leaders, there is a need of the population educators to present and introduce a Family Planning Program in a manner acceptable to the Muslim-Maranaos complimentary to the teachings of Islam.

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