

Discordance in Couples reporting of use of modern method of contraception in Nigeria, Zambia and Uganda: Evidence from DHS.

Abstract:

This article utilized datasets from three sub-Saharan African countries-Nigeria, Zambia and Uganda to examine patterns and factors associated with discordance in reporting of current use of modern family planning methods. Results showed that among 8,731 couples in Nigeria, 88% and 8 percent of husbands, compared with 88% and 9% of wives reported no-use and current-use of modern method of family planning respectively, while 12.4% showed disagreement. In Uganda among 1,223 couples, 75% and 19% of husbands, compared with 77% and 18% of wives reported no-use and current-use of modern method of family planning respectively, while 17.9% showed disagreement. In Zambia among 3129 couples, 61% and 32% of husbands, compared with 57% and 35% of wives reported no-use and current - use of modern method of family planning respectively while 23.5% showed disagreement. The article further examined factors predicting disagreements among couples using logistic regression models and Kappa statistics.

The use of modern family planning methods among couples has been established as an effective strategy in prevention of unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections. Evidence from Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) couples' datasets in many African countries confirmed that there was discordance in reporting of use of family planning among monogamous couples. These have many implications: First is about the possibility infidelity and multiple sexual partners; secondly, is its implication for high-risk sexual practices among couples. This article utilized datasets from three sub-Saharan African countries-Nigeria, Zambia and Uganda to examine patterns and factors associated with discordance in reporting of current use of modern family planning methods. The unweighted results showed that among 8,731 couples in Nigeria, 88% and 8 percent of husbands, compared with 88% and 9% of wives reported no use and current use of modern method of family planning respectively, while 12.4% showed disagreement. In Uganda among 1,223 couples, 75% and 19% of husbands, compared with 77% and 18% of wives reported no use and current use of modern method of family planning respectively, while 17.9% showed disagreement. The data from Zambia among 3129 couples, 61% and 32% of husbands, compared with 57% and 35% of wives reported no use and current use of modern method of family planning respectively while 23.5% showed disagreement on use and non use of modern family planning methods.

We examined the influence of independent and intervening variables in couples's discordance in reporting of use of family planning methods. Weights were used in the computation to reflect the national outlook of the findings. The analysis is on-going.