SOCIO-ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF UNINTENDED PREGNANCIES: A CASE OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN PROVINCES OF KENYA

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ABSTRACT

Unintended pregnancy is one of the greatest contributors of maternal mortality currently estimated at 488 deaths per 100 000 live births with most of these deaths resulting from unsafe abortion. In Kenya, the determinants of unintended pregnancies regionally are poorly understood especially due to lack of data. This study, therefore, sought to establish socio-economic determinants of unintended pregnancy in Central and Western provinces. Data drawn from the 2008-09 KDHS was utilized. Descriptive statistics were used to show study population by different background characteristics. The main method of analysis involved in cross tabulation and logistic regression. Determinants of unintended pregnancy differed in the two provinces. Logistic analysis results indicate that wealth index was significantly associated with unintended pregnancy among women in both Central and Western provinces. Women from the poorest households and those from Western province had increased likelihood of experiencing unintended pregnancy.

Keywords: Family Planning, Pregnancy, Regional Pregnancy Data, Kenya.