AN EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC USE OF CONTRACEPTIVES: THE CASE OF PORT HARCOURT MUNICIPALITY

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ABSTRACT

The ways in which women’s contraceptive behaviour in the urban areas of Nigeria is shaped by the environmental and demographic factors calls for an investigation. Although the importance of contextual influences for contraceptive behaviour is well established in the literature, very little research has been conducted to investigate how behaviours are influenced by demography and environment in Nigeria. This study takes advantage of a unique, prospective work of the Planned Parenthood Federation of Nigeria (PPFN). The goal of this paper is to investigate the environmental and demographic factors in the use of contraceptive among residents of the Port Harcourt Municipality. The survey design was utilized for the study, one research question and three null hypotheses were formulated to guide the study. The population of the study comprised of the client/patient entry register/contraceptive services daily register for client served, for PPFN within the period January 2009 – December 2010. The sample of the study consisted of 1,310 outpatients/clients comprising of 1,271 females and 39 males from 2009 – 2010, as the entire population of the study. The research question and the three null hypotheses were analyzed using simple percentages and chi-square at 0.05 levels of significances. The results show that the contraceptive behaviour is particularly responsive to the environment and the demography of the study area.

Keywords: Environment, Demography, Contraceptives, Nigeria.