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ABSTRACT

The study was carried out to examine the contribution of family planning to socio-economic development in Rwanda, A case Study of Nyarugenge District. Specific objectives were: to identify the contribution of family planning program to socio-economic development in Nyarugenge District, to analyse how population in Nyarugenge perceive family planning program in Nyarugenge District; to explore hindrances that hamper the success of implementation of family planning program in Nyarugenge district and to suggest measures for effective delivery of family planning services in Nyarugenge District. A cross section descriptive survey design was adopted to collect information from respondents on the contribution of family planning on socio-economic development. Quantitative approach using structured questionnaire was applied for data collection. The study covered 86 respondents, male and female above 18 years living in Nyarugenge District. Specific care was taken to converse with the family planning service clients who attended reproductive health services at Gitega health center at the same time conducting this study. Respondents were selected in Nyarugenge District with specific reference to contribution of family planning local units, most especially households’ heads of Gitega health centers in of Muhima District in Kigali city. Muhima District hospital combines 4 health centers under its supervision. In total it serves the entire population of the whole district of Nyarugenge mainly in reproductive health, maternal and child health including family planning. The total population is 1974 clients who attend the family planning program at Gitega health center. The Solven formula was used to have 86 respondents who received systematically the questionnaires or interviewed according to their arrival order at Gitega center. During data analysis, Microsoft Excel was used to summarize, facilitate the description of research findings and understand research findings characteristics. Descriptive statistics were computed by using Microsoft Excel. The majority of the respondents chose to use injectable contraceptives (52.3%), followed by Implants (25.6%) and Pils (12.8%). Most of the reasons given for the preferred family planning method were method related, such as convenient to use for three months (19.7%), cannot forget (28%), few side effects (22.1%) , long term method(8.2%) and easy to use (12.8%) . most people were using FP, this is because of economic depression in the society which made many people to be forced to have a small family size that they will be able to cater for and also protect the mother and children from having health problems. Conclusions are that the future of a country and of human mankind depends on its children, for children to grow into healthy and able adults; they need good food, education, clean environment, clear water and medical care. They need mothers who are healthy and families that can give them care, love and attention. Most people have confidence in the family planning methods being used because of its effectiveness in users and of its contribution to socio-economic development. The recommendations made in the light of above findings were: family planning
unit should be opened throughout the week and weekends till evenings for people to have access to health care planning services. Adequate supplies of contraceptives must be assured for all the people because the rapidly expanding needs in the Rwandan society. Efforts should be made by the government and its partners to improve the quality of knowledge on contraceptive methods.