



## Effect of Caste on Fertility- A study

Umeshbhai B. Rana  
M. K. College of Commerce,  
Bharuch, Gujarat (India)

**Abstract:** *One of the Critical Factors affecting population growth is fertility. This paper reveals the effect of caste on fertility in Ahmedabad city, using Primary data through questionnaire. The questionnaires are filled by 150 families. From this study, we observe that there is positive relation between caste and fertility.*

**Keywords:** *Caste, fertility, Family.*

### I. INTRODUCTION

Population is a vital factor in national development. Population Explosion has become a serious problem. The population growth rate is 1.58%. India is predicted to have more than 1.53 billion people by the end of 2030. Every year, India adds more people than any other nation in the world and in fact, the individual population of some of its states is equal to the total population of many countries. India is facing many problems today the foremost being population explosion. The government is trying to solve this problem by so many programmes. The government of India has launched family planning drive in order to solve this problem.

### II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Some studies related to topic are as follow:

- 1) K.S.Shah,(1982), “some statistical aspect of demographic study of Anand town”. This study shows that the ideal number of children depends on caste, social status; education and business of a husband .It also show that the ideal number of children is independent on marriage duration. It was observed that female belonging to high caste group who are more educated and maintain relatively good social status prefer small family.
- 2) Agrawal and Singh,(1975),”Opinion on ideal family size , pragna20 (2), 21 (1) Banaras Hindu University, Banaras”.they have analysed the data on the opinion of female partners relating to ideal family size. According to their study, a member of the high caste family believes that if they have a limited number of children, they can properly look after them. A highly educated person believes that there should be 2 or 3 children in an ideal family, while illiterate people do not agree with this view.
- 3) U.B.Rana. (2014),“Effect of caste on Ideal number of children” This study shows that the ideal number of children depend on caste. According to their study, members of the caste family believes that if they have a limited number of children while lower caste people prefer more number of children in the family.

### III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study effect of caste on fertility.
2. To study effect of low caste and high caste on fertility.
3. To understand that the fertility depends on caste.

### IV. HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY:-

Ho1: There is no effect of caste on fertility.

Ho2: There is no effect of low caste and high caste on fertility.



## V. LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

1. This study is limited to only Ahmedabad City.
2. Efficiency of data depends on respondent.
3. Limitation of statistical tools and techniques are also applied to the study.

## VI. COLLECTION OF DATA

Primary data used for this study through questionnaire. The data of this study were obtained from Ahmedabad City. The following bivariate tables are prepared in order to study the association ship between two factors; caste and fertility.

## VII. TOOLS FOR DATA ANALYSIS

The statistical analysis is carried out by chi-square method.

TABLE-1

CASTE	IDEAL NO. OF CHILDREN		
	LESS THAN 3	MORE THAN OR EQUAL TO 3	TOTAL
LOW CASTE	35	51	86
HIGH CASTE	42	22	64
TOTAL	77	73	150

This table shows low caste families have more number of children and high caste families have less number of children.

Applying Chi-square test,

$$Xt^2 = 5.41$$

$$Xc^2 = 8.82$$

Here,  $Xc^2 > Xt^2$ , so there is an association between caste and number of children.

## VIII. CONCLUSION

From my study it can be said that the fertility depends on caste. It is observed that female belonging to high caste groups who are more educated and maintain relatively good social status prefers small family. The average ideal number of children is 2.73 whereas the number should be between 2 to 3 according to the family planning program of the government.

## REFERENCES

1. Agrawal and Singh, (1975). "Opinion on ideal family size, pragna 20 (2), 211. Banaras Hindu University, Banaras".
2. Agrawal, S.N. (1962). Attitude towards family planning in India.
3. Shah, K.S. (1982). "Some statistical aspect of demographic study of Anand town".
4. Hansraj (1981) fundamentals of demography population studies with special reference to India.
5. Shah, K.S.(1995). Population explosion: (A different view) sublime publication. Jaipur.