

POWER DYNAMICS AND THE USE OF CONTRACEPTIVES AMONG COUPLES IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

In Nigeria, high contraceptive knowledge has not been translated to high contraceptive usage. Hence, the need for more research that will help in designing necessary intervention programme is important. This study examines power dynamics and contraceptive use among couples in Nigeria using Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey couples' recode dataset for 2003, 2008 and 2013. Three levels of analysis were used in this study. Binary logistic regression model was employed in multivariate analysis. Findings revealed that eleven percent of couples use contraceptives in the 2003 dataset, twelve percent in 2008 and fifteen percent in 2013. This paper also revealed that couples' decision making power and fertility desire have significant influence on contraceptive use in Nigeria ($P < 0.05$). Couples who desire more than two children are less likely to use contraceptive. The study concludes that couples' decision making power and fertility desire are important factors in contraceptive use in Nigeria.