

PD-AAP-201



PLANNING A COLLOQUIUM ON
PARENTHOOD EDUCATION AND COUNSELING

AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
International Health Programs
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PLANNING A COLLOQUIUM ON
PARENTHOOD EDUCATION AND COUNSELING

Report Prepared By:
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This assignment was made possible through the joint efforts of Drs. M. Mahran and M. Wahba of Cairo, both fellows of the International Council of Sex Education and Parenthood (ICSEP), and leaders in the field of Family Health and Family Planning, Egypt and Mr. Lennie Kangas, who was at the time planning for this assignment began, Chief of the Near East POP office in Washington and his colleague Dr. Pamela Johnson, who is currently acting chief of the office. The creative brain storming sessions with Dr. Pamela Johnson and Mr. Lennie Kangas produced the title, theme and process for the assignment.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The primary goal of assisting Drs. M. Mahran and M. Wahba of Ein Shams University to prepare for a workshop on Family Life Education was achieved. The theme, content, process, place, professional categories of participants, countries to be represented were discussed and agreed upon in principle.

Consultations were also carried on with Egyptians connected with family health from the public and private sector in Egypt. In addition, reports about rural Egypt were read and discussed with Egyptians working in both training and service facilities.

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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Purpose of Assignment

The purpose of the assignment was to coordinate with the Egyptian Family Health Society, Cairo, Egypt, plans for a family life workshop. The workshop is to involve professional health providers, behavioral specialists, and social scientists working in Egypt, and Arab countries in the region.

The plan included a two week stay in Cairo and areas close by where I could consult and conduct sessions with leaders and specialists in the field of family health in Egypt.

Itinerary

I left the United States on June 12, 1983, arrived in Cairo, Egypt June 13, 1983; checked in at the Shepheard Hotel in Cairo, and remained there until my departure June 27, 1983.

Methodology

The process used to plan for the workshop included face to face meetings, inspection of meeting and workshop facilities, reading AID background reports, and working with AID officials in Cairo.

II. OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS

OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS

Background

My primary function was to consult with Drs. M. Wahba and Mahran, Secretary General and President respectively of the Egyptian Family Health Society, and with officials at the AID, Cairo office, and with others who were recommended by both the officials of the Egyptian Family Health Society and the AID, Cairo office. The purpose of the consultations was to develop plans and recommendations for the Family Life Workshop. Both Drs. Wahba and Mahran are well known to USAID, Cairo, and are highly respected and recognized as leaders in the field of Family Health and Family Planning. They are also members and Fellows of the International Council of Family Health of American University and are interested in developing all levels of educational programs in Egypt to improve family health, family relations, child care, and population concerns. It is anticipated that a Family Life Workshop will bring together, for the first time, specialists in various disciplines concerned with family health and population problems. It is hoped that meaningful dialogue will occur and information about research projects and demonstration programs presented by invited leaders, consultants, and scientists will be exchanged.

Problems and Constraints

There appears to be no problems or constraints in carrying out this project. Leaders from American University in Cairo, Family of the Future, The Ford Foundation, Office for the Middle East and North Africa, the Egyptian Fertility Care Society, Professors from Ain Shams University Hospitals, the regional office of The Pathfinders Fund, and officials from AID office in Cairo spoke freely and thoughtfully about the need to improve family planning services delivery. They spoke also about the need for education in reproductive biology; to develop skills in education and counseling for professionals; and the need to utilize existing networks for delivering family health and family planning as the basis for introducing family life education. Many of those with whom we spoke emphasized the fact that the pharmacists' network is highly accepted by consumers throughout Egypt. The leaders themselves expressed a need for future education along these lines and felt that once a core of interdisciplinary specialists were trained that they in turn could train others both in Egypt and other Arab countries.

Results of the Assignment

Phase II of the assignment involved implementation plans for the Family Life Workshop. The Sonesta Hotel, Cairo, Egypt, was

selected for the conference for May 6th through May 9th. The conference will be co-sponsored by the Egyptian Family Health Society and the International Council of Family Health of American University.

The organizing committee consists of professors M. Mahran, Aziz Khattab, Drs. Wahba and Patricia Schiller. The plans call for 100 persons to attend the four-day workshop. They will consist of educators, physicians, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists, and family planning specialists. Seventy-five of the participants will be Egyptian, and 25 of the participants will be invited from regional Arab countries, and 10 from other Asian and African areas. The budget for the workshop was submitted to both the AID office in Cairo and in Washington for review and approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the workshop be conducted as designed and that it be viewed as a forum for crystalizing opinions and recommendations, and for providing a nucleus for a task force to develop further training programs and materials to implement the recommendations.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

List of Persons Contacted

Mr. Thomas Reese, Head, Population Office, AID, Cairo

Mrs. Constance Collins, Officer, Population Office, AID, Cairo

Dr. M. Wahba, Secretary General, Egyptian Family Health Society

Dr. M. Mahran, President, Egyptian Family Health Society and
Professor, OBGYP, Ains Shams University Hospital

Dr. M. Badr, President, Urological Society of Egypt

Prof. Aziz Kattab, Ain Shams University Hospital

Mrs. Neamat Abou El-Soud, Primary Nursing Care Specialist

Dr. Tarick Aboul Dahab, The Pathfinders Fund, Cairo

Dr. Cynthia Myntti, The Ford Foundation, Cairo

Mr. Effat Ramadan, Director, Family of the Future

Dr. Ezz El Din Osman, Director, The Egyptian Fertility Care
Society

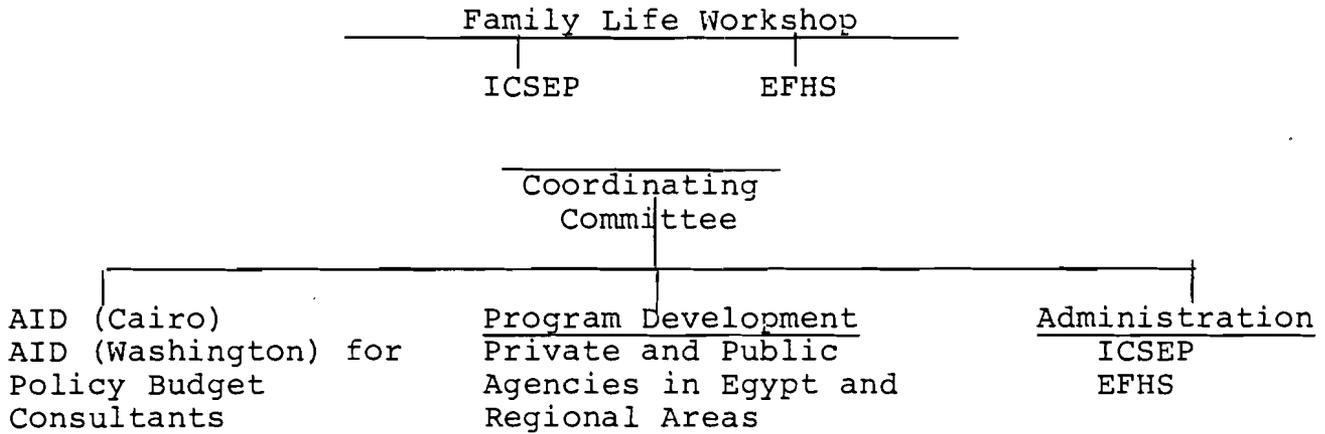
Dr. Saad Gadalla, Professor, Social Research Center, American
University in Cairo

Mr. Bob Higgins, Public Relations Officer, SIS

Mrs. Samia Sadek, President of T.V. Broadcasting

Mr. Fahmi Omar, President of Radio Broadcasting

Appendix B
Organizational Chart for the Workshop



ICSEP = International Council for Sex Education and Parenthood
EFHS = Egyptian Family Health Society

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