

March 28, 1984

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MEMORANDUM

TO : DISTRIBUTION
FROM : ST/POP/R, John E. Lawson, Jr. *jl*
SUBJECT : CONTRACEPTIVE PREVALENCE SURVEY REPORT: Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent

Contraceptive prevalence surveys were conducted in Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent in 1981 and 1982. The data, collected from women 15-44 years of age, are presented in the attached report prepared by the Barbados Family Planning Association. Some highlights follow.

ANTIGUA

1. Sample: 943 women, age 15-44
2. Fertility: The average number of children ever born to women aged 40-44 at the time of the survey was 4.4.
3. Desire for Additional Children: Overall, almost one-third (31%) of the women in the sample desired no more children. As expected, older women were more likely to want no more children than younger women. But even among younger women, a high percentage did not want any more children. In fact, nearly 31% of the women in the 25-29 age group wanted no more children.
4. Knowledge of Family Planning Methods: Contraceptive knowledge is widespread in Antigua. More than nine out of ten (93%) of the women in the sample reported knowing at least one method of contraception. Even the youngest women knew about contraceptives: more than eight out of ten (84%) women aged 15-19 reported knowing at least one method. Overall, the most widely known method was the pill (90%), followed by the condom (73%), injection (73%), the IUD (70%), induced abortion (60%), female sterilization (59%), vaginal methods (56%), withdrawal (49%), male sterilization (35%) and rhythm (34%).
5. Use of Family Planning Methods: Almost one-third (31%) of the women (or nearly one-half of "exposed" women) reported that they were using some method of family planning at the time of the survey. The most popular method was the pill (13%), followed by female sterilization (6%), the IUD (3%), injection (3%), the condom (2%), vaginal methods, rhythm, and withdrawal each about (1%). Younger women were more likely to use the pill, older women were more likely to use sterilization.
6. Source of Family Planning Methods: The primary sources of family planning methods were hospitals and health clinics (34%) and drugstores/pharmacies (29%). Other important sources were the Family Planning Association (16%) and private doctors (14%).

DOMINICA

1. Sample: 1,017 women, age 15-44
2. Fertility: The average number of children ever born to women aged 40-44 at the time of the survey was 6.6.
3. Desire for Additional Children: Overall, about one-third (31%) of the women in the sample desired no more children. Like Antigua, older women were more likely to want no more children than younger women. About 30% of the women in the 25-29 age group wanted no more children.
4. Knowledge of Family Planning Methods: Contraceptive knowledge is widespread in Dominica, also. Nine out of ten (90%) women in the sample reported knowing at least one method of contraception. Even the youngest women knew about contraceptives: almost eight out of ten (78%) women aged 15-19 reported knowing at least one method. Overall, the most widely known method was the pill (86%), followed by injection (76%), the condom (76%), the IUD (66%), female sterilization (65%), vaginal methods (37%), withdrawal (36%), induced abortion (32%), male sterilization (28%) and rhythm (25%).
5. Use of Family Planning Methods: More than one-third (37%) of the women (almost two-thirds of "exposed" women) reported that they were using some method of family planning at the time of the survey. The most popular method was the pill (12%), followed by female sterilization (11%), injection (7%), the condom (3%), the IUD (2%), vaginal methods, rhythm, and withdrawal each about (1%). Younger women were more likely to use the pill, older women were more likely to use sterilization.
6. Source of Family Planning Methods: The primary sources of family planning methods were hospitals and health clinics (81%). Other sources were drugstores/pharmacies (8%), the Family Planning Association (6%) and private doctors (3%).

ST. LUCIA

1. Sample: 987 women, age 15-44
2. Fertility: The average number of children ever born to women aged 40-44 at the time of the survey was 6.1.
3. Desire for Additional Children: Overall, nearly 42% of the women in the sample desired no more children, a higher percentage than found in Antigua or Dominica. Like other countries, older women were more likely to want no more children than younger women. Nearly 36% of the women in the 25-29 age group wanted no more children.
4. Knowledge of Family Planning Methods: Contraceptive knowledge is about as widespread in St. Lucia as it is in Antigua. More than nine out of ten (92%) of the women in the sample knew at least one method of contraception. More than eight out of ten (82%) women aged 15-19 knew at least one method of contraception. Overall, the most widely known method was the pill (90%), followed by injection (82%), female sterilization (68%), the condom (63%), the IUD (51%), vaginal methods (43%), withdrawal (35%), induced abortion (34%), rhythm (31%), and male sterilization (23%).

5. Use of Family Planning Methods: About one-third (34%) of the women (or about one-half of the "exposed" women) reported that they were using some method of family planning at the time of the survey. The most popular method was the pill (17%), followed by female sterilization (9%), the condom (3%), injection (2%), the IUD, vaginal methods, rhythm, and withdrawal each about (1%). Younger women were more likely to use the pill, older women were more likely to use sterilization.

6. Source of Family Planning Methods: The primary sources of family planning methods were hospitals and health clinics (54%). Other sources were the Family Planning Association (28%), drugstores/pharmacies (7%), and private doctors (3%).

ST. VINCENT

1. Sample: 987 women, age 15-44

2. Fertility: The average number of children ever born to women aged 40-44 at the time of the survey was 6.4.

3. Desire for Additional Children: Overall, almost 40% of the women in the sample desired no more children, almost the same as St. Lucia. Again, older women were more likely to want no more children than younger women. About 43% of the women in the 25-29 age group wanted no more children.

4. Knowledge of Family Planning Methods: Contraceptive knowledge is virtually universal in St. Vincent. More than 98% of the women in the sample reported knowing at least one method of contraception. Even the youngest women knew about contraceptives; almost 96% women aged 15-19 reported knowing at least one method of contraception. Overall, the most widely known method was the pill (95%), followed by the condom (89%), injection (88%), the IUD (80%), female sterilization (76%), induced abortion (75%), vaginal methods (67%), withdrawal (44%), male sterilization (42%) and rhythm (33%).

5. Use of Family Planning Methods: Almost one-third (32%) of the women (56% of "exposed" women) reported that they were using some method of family planning at the time of the survey. The most popular method was the pill (10%), followed by female sterilization (9%), the condom (7%), the IUD (2%), injection (2%), vaginal methods, rhythm, and withdrawal each about (1%). As elsewhere, younger women were more likely to use the pill, older women were more likely to use sterilization.

6. Source of Family Planning Methods: The primary sources of family planning methods were hospitals and health clinics (54%). Other sources were the Family Planning Association (31%), drugstores/pharmacies (3%) and private doctors (2%).

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