



REPORT ON A SURVEY OF ATTITUDES
OF MARRIED COUPLES TOWARD
FAMILY PLANNING IN THE PUDUPAKKAM
AREA OF THE CITY OF MADRAS, 1958

BY

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

When I proposed to the Government of Madras in June 1958 that an Attitude Survey toward Family Planning in the City of Madras might be useful in the implementation of the Government's Family Planning Programme, they not only readily agreed to the proposal but made a grant towards the cost of the Survey. I wish to record here my thanks to the Government of Madras.

I am particularly grateful to Shri R. A. Gopaldaswamy, I.C.S., Secretary, Department of Health, Education and Local Administration, for his valuable advice in the preparation of the questionnaire and the sampling design. I am thankful to Shri K. Ramachandran, Statistician of the Institute, for his assistance in analysing and tabulating the data and to Mrs. Ann Chandrasekhar who assisted in the scrutiny of the returns and in the supervision of the field work.

MADRAS,
1st November 1958.

S. CHANDRASEKHAR.

PREFACE.

On October 30th, 1957, I took part in inaugurating the Pudupakkam (Pilot Project) of the Madras City Family Planning Propagation Scheme. In pursuance of the scheme, the Corporation of Madras opened Mothers Information Centres and Fathers Information Centres in the Pilot Project area covering approximately one-fifth of Madras City. Workers at these centres have sought personal contact with Fathers and Mothers living in the area and endeavoured to impart instruction in methods of Family Planning.

At the end of about a year of the operation of the scheme, it seemed desirable to arrange for independent enquiry being made by trained social investigators in order to ascertain the extent to which knowledge of family planning has spread among the married couples living in this area. Dr. S. Chandrasekhar, Director of the Institute for Population Studies, undertook this task, organised and carried out a sample survey. The nature of this Survey and its results are set out in this report, which, I am glad to make available to the public.



Minister for Revenue and Health.

FORT ST. GEORGE, MADRAS-9,
27th December 1958.

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SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.

1. *Knowledge of Family Planning.*—(a) Only 67 per cent of wives compared to 87 per cent of the husbands had any knowledge of Family Planning.

(b) Educational status and a knowledge of Family Planning were found to be highly positively correlated.

(c) About 58 per cent of illiterate husbands and 73 per cent of illiterate wives did not have any knowledge of Family Planning. Since a large majority of our population are illiterates, this points to the need for more attention to be given to this segment of the population through methods other than the printed word.

2. *Attitudes toward Family Planning.*—(a) Seventy-five per cent of the husbands and 73 per cent of wives were *for* Family Planning. Twenty-two per cent of husbands and 26 per cent of wives were *against* it. None of the wives was *undecided*. A negligible percentage of husbands were *undecided*. Among both husbands and wives very few were *indifferent*.

(b) The wives were more eager than the husbands to adopt Family Planning. This conforms to trends on this question in all countries as the wives are more concerned with bearing and rearing children.

(c) With increasing age, an increasing percentage of husbands and wives were *for* Family Planning.

(d) Up to four children with increasing number of children, there was a more or less progressive increase in the percentage of women who were *for* Family Planning. After that the percentage declined, possibly because of the presence among them in increasing number of wives who are past the child-bearing age.

(e) Educational status was found to be positively correlated with a *positive* attitude toward Family Planning.

(f) Some among the couples with a very low income, who were *against* Family Planning, held the opinion that an addition of a child meant an addition to the family income since the child would begin earning right from the age of six or so.

(g) Among the Hindus, roughly three out of every four married couples are in favour of Family Planning.

Among Protestant Christians, the proportion is somewhat higher, roughly four out of five.

It is interesting to observe that among Catholic Christians a clear majority of married couples is in favour of Family Planning, the proportion being roughly three out of five.

Muslims come last; the relative proportion in favour of Family Planning being nine out of every twenty married couples. As religious objections are unlikely to be stronger among Muslims than among Catholic Christians, the explanation should probably be sought in a lower average level of education and income among Muslims in this area. As the samples of these three religious groups (other than Hindus) are all small, the foregoing inferences suggested by the figures should necessarily be regarded as tentative.

(h) To most of the husbands and wives, Family Planning meant only *family limitation*. The aspect of *spacing births* does not seem to have received much attention. Family Planning workers should give more attention to this aspect.

3. *Knowledge of Surgical Methods.*—Seventy per cent of the husbands had a knowledge of Vasectomy. Only 58 per cent of the wives had some knowledge of surgical methods. The percentage of wives with a knowledge of Salpingectomy does not exceed 60 in any of the age groups. It is obvious that more attention should be paid to educating the women on Salpingectomy and its implications.

4. *Attitudes toward Surgical Methods of Family Planning.*—

(a) In general, Vasectomy was more popular than Salpingectomy. Nearly 24 per cent of the husbands with a knowledge of Vasectomy were *for* the operation. Nearly 15 per cent of the wives with a knowledge of Salpingectomy were *for* it.

(b) If only those couples, at least one member of which had a knowledge of the surgical method, were considered, it was found that about 26 per cent of the couples were *for* the operation.

(c) Educational attainment was found to be positively correlated with a positive attitude towards surgical methods.

REPORT ON A SURVEY OF ATTITUDES OF MARRIED COUPLES TOWARD FAMILY PLANNING IN THE PUDUPAKKAM AREA OF THE CITY OF MADRAS, 1958.

PART I—PRELIMINARY.

1. Introduction.

It is sometimes said that public opinion is often ahead of Governments. A Government in a democracy is usually and perhaps necessarily slow in appraising the needs and gauging the attitudes of the public on any question, with the result that Governments defer introducing measures or reforms for which the people may be ready. A Government is normally unwilling to go beyond the status quo they inherit in the belief that they should not force innovations and reforms on a supposedly unprepared public. The brief history of our own State and Central legislation during the last eleven years of freedom is an example. However, no Government can be blamed for such a cautious and careful procedure as the Government alone is responsible to the demands of the various elements in a nation's life—sometimes conflicting demands. Therefore, a Government can often go only at the pace set by a dissenting minority group or an obscurantist element in the population.

A way out of this difficulty of not being sure of what the public wants is to institute surveys of attitudes and the measurement of public opinion on important and sometimes controversial questions. (The newspapers are not necessarily reliable guides in this matter for it is difficult to say whether the newspapers are reflecting public opinion or creating public opinion by voicing their own pet prejudices.) Such Attitude Surveys must preferably be carried out by non-official agencies such as a university department or an autonomous research institute which may be expected to be impartial and objective on public issues.

Our country is yet to have organizations, which scientifically assess attitudes and public opinion, such as the American Institute of Public Opinion (popularly known as the Gallup Poll), the

British Institute of Public Opinion and Mass Observation in the United Kingdom, and the Institut für Demoskopie of Allensbach, Germany. These bodies have established a reputation for gauging public opinion on various national and international issues during the last quarter of a century and more. India needs a similar scientific organization for eliciting public attitudes on State and national questions.

2. What is an Attitude Survey ?

An attitude survey or a public opinion poll on economic and social questions is to a limited extent like a referendum in politics. While a referendum is based on the voting of all the people concerned, attitude surveys are based on sampling methods for reasons of economy and saving time. An attitude survey, when properly designed and carried out, with the co-operation of the people concerned, can have the same validity as an economic appraisal based on sample surveys.

A person's attitude as indicating his or her opinion is generally based quite unconsciously on one's experience. And, therefore, an attitude gives an indication of the way in which an individual might tend to act; that is, behaviour is forecast by attitude.

It is important, however, to distinguish between attitudes, opinions, convictions and theory, all of which are ordinarily in popular parlance recorded as "opinion". But there are differences between these terms. An attitude, as observed already, reflects what an individual might do or wants to do about something as a result of his personal, or other people's experiences. "Opinions, on the other hand, arise usually in discussions in the effort of the individual to define and to justify an attitude already defined. Opinions are usually expressed in conventional phrases, and if formulated under attack, are inevitably framed to meet that attack." Opinions, therefore, are usually public opinions, though there are private opinions as well. Such opinions expressed in public may pass into convictions or theories which are merely intelligent rationalizations of one's attitudes or wishes.

Therefore, one must be clear about what is meant by an attitude. In this Survey, an attitude simply means an "opinion" expressed privately and confidentially to a disinterested questioner on his assurance that the answer will be confidential and the

interviewee will be anonymous. Such an opinion expressed privately and not in company to an interviewer for scientific purposes is usually the person's attitude to a problem that normally leads to action.

The attitude of an individual on any question is primarily psychological. The interviewer's question gives the person questioned a chance to think and give expression to his innermost thoughts. It is possible that the individual questioned has not given any previous thought to the subject-matter involved in the question, in which case the answer is spontaneous. On the other hand, there are those who may have given some thought to the problem about which they are questioned and they may give a ready, long-ago thoughtout answer. Whatever the nature of the response, attitudes are a fairly reliable index of mental changes on a matter like Family Planning.

3 Need for the Present Survey.

While Family Planning is an issue of fundamental importance to any civilized country, it is doubly so to our country at our present stage of economic and social development, what with our chronic food problem, persistent low standard of living, relatively high birth and death rates, and unenviable record of morbidity. Though the question of Family Planning has been with us for many years, since the starting of the Neo-Malthusian League in Madras by the late Sir Justice Vepa Ramesam and the late Sir P. S. Sivaswamy Iyer, only in recent years has it assumed considerable importance in our country. In 1951, the Planning Commission in its draft outline of the First Five-Year Plan pointed out frankly that, "A rapidly growing population is apt to become more a source of embarrassment than of help to a programme for raising standards of living. In other words, the higher the rate of increase of population, the larger are likely to be the efforts needed to raise per capita living standards." During the last three years, the Government of India have declared their official policy in favour of Family Planning in the sense of scientific contraception.

Scientific contraception implies (all over the world) such methods as the widely used diaphragm and jelly method (based on mechanical and chemical barriers) as well as surgical methods

of permanent conception control like vasectomy for husbands and salpingectomy for wives. The various State Governments have been trying to implement the Central Government's policy on the promotion of Family Planning. Here again the question of the kind of Family Planning method that should be recommended arises. The State Governments by and large are handicapped in not knowing how much the people know about Family Planning, what the married couples want and what methods (with special reference to surgical methods) they are likely to welcome and endorse, and how far they are willing to go to limit their family size, etc. To find answers to some of these questions, the present Attitude Survey was undertaken by the Indian Institute for Population Studies under the auspices of the Government of Madras.

4 The Design of the Survey.

The Government of Madras, through the auspices of the Corporation of the City of Madras, launched an intensive Family Planning Promotion Scheme in the Pudupakkam area of the City on the 30th of October 1957 and this scheme has been in operation for the last one year.

This intensive Family Planning Scheme has been confined to the following ten divisions of the City as an experimental measure* :—

<i>Division number.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Total population.</i>	<i>Total families.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
37	Royapetta	23,079	3,846
38	Pudupakkam	28,743	4,790
39	Tiruvatteswaranpet	30,430	5,072
40	Chepauk	24,109	4,018
41	Triplicane	26,980	4,497
42	Jam Bazaar	24,888	4,148
43	Mirsahebpet	45,292	7,549
44	Mylapore, North	38,455	6,409
45	Mylapore, South	25,535	4,256
50	Adyar (left of Gandhinagar)	28,700	4,733
Total population ..		296,211	49,368
Percentage of total City population ..		20.7	

* See G.O. No. 2278, Health, Education and Local Administration, dated 1st August 1957, Government of Madras, Fort St. George, Madras.

The City of Madras, which covers an area of 49.29 square miles, had a population of 1,429,374 according to the 1951 Census. The area and the population of the ten divisions where intensive Family Planning has been carried on, according to the 1951 Census, were 9.12 square miles and 296,211 respectively. The estimated 1958 mid-year population of the City was 1,812,694. The area and estimated mid-year population covered by the Corporation Intensive Family Planning Scheme for the ten divisions in 1958 were 9.18 square miles and 3,31,582, respectively.

The Attitude Survey is restricted to these ten divisions of the Corporation where intensive Family Planning work is being carried on. In view of the limited funds and time available, it was decided to interview a random sample of one thousand couples who satisfied the twin criteria of earning a monthly income of two hundred rupees and less and who had at least two living children.

As no "frame" was readily available from which a sample could be drawn easily, a more or less complete list of all the married couples in these ten divisions (with their addresses) whose monthly income did not exceed Rs. 200 a month was drawn up and this constituted the "universe" from which a random sample was drawn on the basis of Tippett's Random Number Tables.

The total number of married couples earning two hundred rupees and less per month in this area was about 42,000 and our sample of 1,000 couples constituted nearly 2.4 per cent of this.

It must, however, be pointed out that no precise definition of the term "average monthly income" was given, as it was thought that such a precise definition might be beyond the comprehension of most of the couples in the low income group. It was left to the respondents to state what their "monthly income" meant to them. In most cases the husband alone was the breadwinner but in cases where the wife also was gainfully employed her monthly income was also included. Sometimes the wife had part-time work or work only for a few months in the year. In all these cases the amount given by the respondent as "average monthly income" was put down.

The major reason for considering only couples with an average monthly income of two hundred rupees and less was, though the limitation of family size was more or less an absolute economic

necessity for them, their housing conditions (lack of privacy, running water, etc.) and their inability to afford expensive contraceptive materials, made their attitude to surgical sterilization as a permanent method of family limitation, important.

The reason for the second criterion that the couple should have at least two children alive was that only couples who have a surviving family of at least this size could be expected to take an active interest in Family Planning and its methods.

5 The Response and Difficulties of Interviewers.

In a survey of this kind dealing with a personal and intimate matter, the interviewers are faced with certain difficulties in eliciting honest responses, and sometimes any response at all. In all interviews there is some element of bias, no matter how carefully the questions are framed and how skilfully and diplomatically they are addressed. When a person who does not know he is going to be interviewed is asked certain questions, he naturally gives imprompt answers. Such answers are not the result of any considered thought. It is possible that a person's considered answers may often be different from ready and unpremeditated answers. When the question relates to attitudes or opinions and not facts, both kinds of answers are of value. In this survey the answers, for the most part, have been ready responses.

The two thousand interviewees may be classified roughly into three groups on the basis of the impressions recorded by the interviewers after each interview.

The first group showed interest in the interview and gave intelligent replies. The second group was characterised by apathy and indifference and the third group showed positive hostility. About eighty per cent belonged to the first group, some fifteen per cent to the second and about five per cent to the third.

The first group, constituting an overwhelming majority, welcomed, and surprisingly enough understood, the need for the survey and even felt flattered that the Government was interested in their attitudes. They were aware of the population problem and the need for some kind of Family Planning in a general way. A majority of this group felt, however, that while they were in favour of

Family Planning, they did not find the methods available or known to them easy or successful. Some did not know where the clinics were and some found the doctors unsympathetic.

The second group, which was apathetic and indifferent, wondered how a survey of this kind, asking personal and foolish questions, would help anyone, particularly the interviewee. According to this group, the business of the Government was to increase the food supply, bring down the price of rice, and generally raise the people's standard of living and not go about preaching Family Planning.

The third group of people, who exhibited positive hostility, had to be persuaded to give answers. To this group, any talk of Family Planning was a sexual matter and therefore vulgar. They objected to young people (all our interviewers were unmarried persons) asking these questions. They were also under the misapprehension that the interviewers were propagandists for birth control. This group was composed primarily of orthodox Hindus and Catholics.

On the whole, the couples displayed goodwill and co-operated with the interviewers. Secondly, the wives as a whole were more responsive than the husbands in the general discussions and to all the questions, and revealed, contrary to popular notions about women's attitudes, considerably less prudery and inhibitions than their husbands. This may be ascribed to the fact that wives are more deeply concerned with the problem physically and emotionally than husbands.

The interviewers were provided with copies of the *Family Planning Manual* to be presented to the couples after the interview. It was found that out of the 1,000 couples interviewed, 140 couples were already in possession of a copy (either in English or Tamil). Most of these husbands said that they had bought the *Manual*.

PART II—RESULTS OF THE SURVEY.

1. Knowledge of Family Planning.

1.1. The survey revealed that most of the husbands and wives in areas where intensive Family Planning work is being carried on by the Madras Corporation, had a knowledge of Family Planning though the knowledge was found to be more common among husbands than wives. Eighty-seven per cent of the husbands

surveyed had some knowledge of Family Planning, while it was only 67 per cent in the case of wives. Table No. 1 below gives the distribution of husbands and wives according to their knowledge of Family Planning :—

TABLE NO. 1.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' and 'wives' by their knowledge of Family Planning.

Serial number and category.	Knowledge of Family Planning.		Total.
	Know.	Don't know.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Husbands	870 (87.0 per cent.)	130 (13.0 per cent.)	1,000 (100.0)
2 Wives	674 (67.4 per cent.)	326 (32.6 per cent.)	1,000 (100.0)

1.2. On an analysis of the knowledge of Family Planning of these husbands and wives according to the level of education they had received, it was found that with increasing level of education there was a progressive increase in the percentage of those who had some knowledge of Family Planning. In the illiterate class, nearly 43 per cent of the husbands had knowledge of Family Planning, while the figure for wives was only 27 per cent. At other levels of education, the percentage of husbands and wives with knowledge of Family Planning was more or less the same. The details are given in Tables Nos. 2 and 3 below :—

TABLE NO. 2.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' according to their knowledge of Family Planning classified by level of education.

Serial number and level of ed. cation.	Knowledge of Family Planning		Total.
	Know.	Don't know.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Illiterates	34 (42.5)	46 (57.5)	80 (100.0)
2 Literates but not Ma-riculates ..	284 (81.4)	65 (18.6)	349 (100.0)
3 Matriculates but not Graduates.	432 (96.0)	18 (4.0)	450 (100.0)
4 Graduates and above	120 (99.2)	1 (0.8)	121 (100.0)
Total ..	870	130	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

TABLE NO. 3.

Number and percentage distribution of 'wives' according to their knowledge of Family Planning classified by level of education.

Serial number and level of education.	Knowledge of Family Planning.		Total.
	Know.	Don't know.	
	(2)	(3)	
(1)			(4)
1 Illiterates	76 (26.7)	209 (73.3)	285 (100.0)
2 Literates but not Matriculates ..	511 (82.0)	112 (18.0)	623 (100.0)
3 Matriculates but not Graduates.	83 (94.3)	5 (5.7)	88 (100.0)
4 Graduates and above	4 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	4 (100.0)
Total ..	874	326	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

1.3. A further analysis by income groups showed that the higher the income, the greater was the percentage of people who had knowledge of Family Planning, though in the case of husbands with no income all the eleven people included in the sample were found to have some knowledge of Family Planning. Tables Nos. 4 and 5 below give the results of the analysis. On a comparison of the two tables, it may be seen that at all levels of income a greater percentage of husbands had knowledge of Family Planning compared to wives.

TABLE NO. 4.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' according to their knowledge of Family Planning by income groups.

Serial number and monthly income.	Knowledge of Family Planning.		Total.
	Know.	Don't know.	
	(2)	(3)	
(1)			(4)
1 No income rs.	11 (100.0)	.. (0.0)	11 (100.0)
2 1-50	84 (58.3)	60 (41.7)	144 (100.0)
3 51-100	272 (83.7)	53 (16.3)	325 (100.0)
4 101-150	207 (97.2)	6 (2.8)	213 (100.0)
5 151-200	296 (96.4)	11 (3.6)	307 (100.0)
Total ..	870	130	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

TABLE No. 5.

Number and percentage distribution of 'wives' according to their knowledge of 'Family Planning' by income groups.

<i>Serial number and monthly income.</i>	<i>Knowledge of Family Planning.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Know.</i>	<i>Don't know.</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 No income	2	9	11
Rs.	(13.2)	(81.8)	(100.0)
2 1-50	33	111	144
	(22.9)	(77.1)	(100.0)
3 51-100	187	133	325
	(57.5)	(42.5)	(100.0)
4 101-150	175	38	213
	(82.2)	(17.8)	(100.0)
5 151-200	277	30	307
	(90.2)	(9.8)	(100.0)
Total ..	674	326	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

1.4. Tables Nos. 6 and 7 below present the results of an analysis of the knowledge of Family Planning of husbands and wives respectively, by religion. The samples are small and so only broad inferences are permissible. The figures indicate that differences in religion do not have any adverse influence on the factor of having knowledge of Family Planning in the case of both husbands and wives.

TABLE No. 6.

Frequency distribution of 'husbands' according to their knowledge of Family Planning by religion.

<i>Religion.</i>	<i>Know.</i>	<i>Don't know.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Hindu	777	110	887
	(87.6)	(12.4)	(100.0)
Muslim	33	8	41
	(80.5)	(19.5)	(100.0)
Christian (Catholic)	39	9	48
	(81.2)	(18.8)	(100.0)
Christian (Protestant)	21	3	24
	(87.5)	(12.5)	(100.0)
Total ..	870	130	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

TABLE NO. 7.

Frequency distribution of 'wives' according to their knowledge of Family Planning by religion.

Religion.	Know.	Don't know.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Hindu	613 (69·1)	274 (30·9)	887 (100·0)
Muslim	17 (41·5)	24 (58·5)	41 (100·0)
Christian (Catholic)	25 (52·1)	23 (47·9)	48 (100·0)
Christian (Protestant)	19 (79·2)	5 (10·8)	24 (100·0)
Total ..	674	326	1,000

2. Attitudes toward Family Planning.

The attitudes of husbands and wives toward Family Planning in its twin aspects of limitation of family size and spacing of children were classified into four categories, namely, "For", "Against", "Undecided" and "Indifferent". The number and percentage of husbands falling under these four categories in general and also by age-groups, by level of education, by the number of living children they have, by income groups and by religion are presented in this section.

2.1. The number and percentage of husbands and wives falling under the four categories "For", "Against", "Undecided" and "Indifferent" are presented in Table No. 8 below :—

TABLE NO. 8.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' and 'wives' by their attitude to 'Family Planning'.

Serial number and category.	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total.
	For.	Against.	Undecided.	Indifferent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1 Husbands ..	753 (75·3 per cent.)	226 (22·6 per cent.)	3 (0·3 per cent.)	18 (1·8 per cent.)	1,000 (100·0)
2 Wives	728 (72·8 per cent.)	260 (26·0 per cent.)	.. (0·0 per cent.)	12 (1·2 per cent.)	1,000 (100·0)

It is seen that about 75 per cent of the husbands and about 73 per cent of the wives surveyed were "For" Family Planning, while about 22 per cent and 26 per cent of husbands and wives respectively were against it. None of the wives surveyed fell under

the category "Undecided", while only a negligible percentage of husbands came under this category. Only a small percentage of husbands and wives were found to be "Indifferent" toward Family Planning.

The results in this table, taken in conjunction with those presented in Table No. 1 before, reveal an interesting fact. *In the case of husbands, though 87 per cent had a knowledge of Family Planning, only about 75 per cent were for it; while in the case of wives, though only about 67 per cent had the knowledge, about 73 per cent were actually for Family Planning.* This is only to be expected since it is the wives, rather than the husbands who are more affected by frequent childbirths.

2.2. An analysis of the attitudes of husbands and wives toward Family Planning by age-groups, the results of which are presented in Tables Nos. 9 and 10 below, show that in the case of husbands (ref. Table No. 9) the percentage who were "For" Family Planning rose rather sharply from about 65 per cent in the age-group 26-30 to about 78 per cent in the age-group 31-35 and thereafter remained more or less stable at about 78 per cent up to 50 years of age. The percentage figures given for ages above 50 years cannot be relied upon since the number in those ages included in the sample happens to be small. Corresponding to the sharp increase in the percentage of husbands who were "For" Family Planning between the age-groups 26-30 and 31-35, there was a rather sharp decline in the percentage who were "Against" Family Planning from about 35 to 20. Thereafter up to 50 years of age, the percentage "Against" Family Planning remained stable around 20. The percentage falling under the categories "Undecided" and "Indifferent" do not command any special attention.

TABLE No. 9.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' according to their attitude to 'Family Planning' by 'Age-groups'.

Age-group (years).	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total.
	For.	Against.	Undecided.	Indifferent	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
20-25	14 (63.6)	7 (31.8)	1 (4.6)	.. (0.0)	22 (100.0)
26-30	89 (61.0)	49 (35.3)	.. (0.0)	1 (0.7)	139 (100.0)

Age-group (years).	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total.
	For.	Against.	Undecided.	Indifferent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
31-35	220 (77.5)	56 (19.7)	2 (0.7)	6 (2.1)	234 (100.0)
36-40	195 (76.8)	53 (20.9)	.. (0.0)	6 (2.3)	254 (100.0)
41-45	160 (77.3)	43 (20.8)	.. (0.0)	4 (1.9)	207 (100.0)
46-50	68 (79.1)	18 (20.9)	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	86 (100.0)
Above 50	7 (87.5)	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	1 (12.5)	8 (100.0)
Total ..	753	226	3	18	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

In the case of wives (ref. Table No. 10), with advancing age up to 40 years there was more or less progressive increase in the percentage who were "For" Family Planning and a corresponding decrease in the percentage who were "Against" it. *No wife was "Undecided" on this question and very few were "Indifferent"*. The percentage figures given for the age-group 41-45 years should be taken with reserve since the sample size in that age-group is rather small.

TABLE NO. 10.

Number and percentage distribution of 'wives' according to their attitude to 'Family Planning' classified by 'Age-group.'

Age-group (years).	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total.
	For.	Against.	Undecided.	Indifferent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Less than 20	11 (52.4)	9 (42.9)	..	1 (4.7)	21 (100.0)
20-25	168 (66.4)	85 (33.6)	..	.. (0.0)	253 (100.0)
26-30	279 (75.4)	87 (23.5)	..	4 (1.1)	370 (100.0)
31-35	157 (74.4)	49 (23.2)	..	5 (2.4)	211 (100.0)
36-40	103 (78.6)	26 (19.8)	..	2 (1.6)	131 (100.0)
41-45	10 (76.9)	3 (23.1)	..	.. (0.0)	13 (100.0)
46-50	.. (0.0)	1 (100.0)	..	.. (0.0)	1 (100.0)
Total ..	728	260	..	12	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

2.3. The analysis of the attitudes of husbands and wives toward Family Planning by parity (the number of children they have borne) is an important one. The results of an analysis of the data collected in this survey are presented in Tables Nos. 11 and 12 below :—

TABLE NO. 11.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' according to their attitude to 'Family Planning' by number of children alive.

Number of children alive. (1)	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total. (6)
	For. (2)	Against. (3)	Undecided. (4)	Indifferent. (5)	
2	234 (63·8)	124 (33·8)	2 (0·5)	7 (1·9)	367 (100·0)
3	191 (79·2)	45 (18·7)	1 (0·4)	4 (1·7)	241 (100·0)
4	140 (85·4)	20 (12·2)	.. (0·0)	4 (2·4)	164 (100·0)
5	100 (84·7)	18 (15·3)	.. (0·0)	.. (0·0)	118 (100·0)
6	45 (76·3)	12 (20·3)	.. (0·0)	2 (3·4)	59 (100·0)
7 and above ..	43 (84·3)	7 (13·7)	.. (0·0)	1 (2·0)	51 (100·0)
Total ..	753	226	3	18	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

TABLE NO. 12.

Number and percentage distribution of 'wives' according to their attitude to 'Family Planning' by number of children alive.

Number of children alive. (1)	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total. (6)
	For. (2)	Against. (3)	Undecided. (4)	Indifferent. (5)	
2	230 (62·7)	134 (36·5)	.. (0·0)	3 (0·8)	367 (100·0)
3	179 (74·3)	59 (24·5)	.. (0·0)	3 (1·2)	241 (100·0)
4	135 (82·3)	26 (15·9)	.. (0·0)	3 (1·8)	164 (100·0)

Number of children alive.	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total.
	For.	Against.	Undecided.	Indifferent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
5	97 (82·2)	21 (17·8)	.. (0·0)	.. (0·0)	118 (100·0)
6	47 (79·7)	11 (18·6)	.. (0·0)	1 (1·7)	59 (100·0)
7 and above ..	40 (78·4)	9 (17·6)	.. (0·0)	2 (4·0)	51 (100·0)
Total ..	728	260	..	12	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

It may be seen from the two Tables that up to 4 children, the higher the parity the greater was the percentage of both husbands and wives who were "For" Family Planning and the smaller the percentage who were "Against" it: In the case of husbands with 4 children and more, the percentage who were "For" Family Planning remained more or less at a stable level, though rather unaccountably it fell by 8 per cent in the case of husbands with 6 children living. The increase in the percentage who were "Against" Family Planning from about 12 in the case of husbands with 4 children alive, to about 15 and about 20 respectively in the case of husbands with 5 and 6 children living is a little difficult to explain.

In the case of wives (ref. Table No. 12) a more or less similar pattern was observed. The percentage of wives who were against Family Planning is seen to increase from about 16 in the case of those having 4 children living to about 18 and 19 respectively in the case of those having 5 and 6 children living.

2.4. Tables Nos. 13 and 14 below present the results of an analysis of the attitudes of husbands and wives toward Family Planning by level of education. On a comparison of the two Tables, it may be found that at all levels of education except in the case of 'Matriculates but not Graduates' class, where the percentages are about the same, a consistently greater percentage of wives compared to husbands were "For" Family Planning. Taken separately,

the Tables show that with increasingly higher levels of education, the percentage who were "For" Family Planning increased more or less progressively in the case of both husbands and wives. Incidentally, the tables also serve to highlight the importance of paying more attention to the education of women.

TABLE NO. 13.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' according to their attitude to 'Family Planning' classified by level of education.

Serial number and level of education.	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total.
	For.	Against.	Undecided.	Indifferent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1 Illiterates	38 (47·5)	42 (52·5)	..	..	80 (100·0)
2 Literates but not Matriculates.	242 (69·3)	97 (27·8)	2 (0·6)	8 (2·3)	349 (100·0)
3 Matriculates but not Graduates.	362 (80·4)	78 (17·3)	1 (0·2)	9 (2·1)	450 (100·0)
4 Graduates and above.	111 (91·7)	9 (7·5)	..	1 (0·8)	121 (100·0)
Total ..	753	226	3	18	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

TABLE NO. 14.

Number and percentage distribution of 'wives' according to their attitude to 'Family Planning' classified by their level of education.

Serial number and level of education.	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total.
	For.	Against.	Undecided.	Indifferent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1 Illiterates	151 (53·0)	133 (46·6)	..	1 (0·4)	285 (100·0)
2 Literates but not Matriculates.	503 (80·7)	110 (17·7)	..	10 (1·6)	623 (100·0)
3 Matriculates but not Graduates.	70 (79·5)	17 (19·8)	..	1 (1·2)	88 (100·0)
4 Graduates and above.	4 (100·0)	0 (0·0)	..	0 (0·0)	4 (100·0)
Total ..	728	260	..	12	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

2.5. The attitudes towards Family Planning of husbands and wives by income groups are presented in Tables Nos. 15 and 16 below :—

TABLE NO. 15.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' according to their attitude to 'Family Planning' by income groups.

Serial number and monthly income.	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total.
	For.	Against.	Undecided.	Indifferent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1 No income	7 (63.6)	4 (36.4)	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	11 (100.0)
RS.					
2 1-50	81 (56.3)	62 (43.1)	1 (0.6)	.. (0.0)	144 (100.0)
3 51-100	232 (71.4)	85 (26.2)	.. (0.0)	8 (2.4)	325 (100.0)
4 101-150	163 (77.5)	40 (18.8)	1 (0.4)	7 (3.3)	213 (100.0)
5 151-200	268 (87.3)	35 (11.4)	1 (0.3)	3 (1.0)	307 (100.0)
Total ..	713	226	3	18	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages,

TABLE NO. 16.

Number and percentage distribution of 'wives' according to their attitude to 'Family Planning' classified by income groups.

Serial number and monthly income.	Attitude to Family Limitation.				Total.
	For.	Against.	Undecided.	Indifferent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1 No income	6 (54.5)	5 (45.5)	.. ..	.. ..	11 (100.0)
RS.					
2 1-50	72 (50.0)	70 (48.6)	.. ..	2 (1.4)	144 (100.0)
3 51-100	218 (67.1)	103 (31.7)	.. ..	4 (1.2)	325 (100.0)
4 101-150	163 (76.4)	47 (22.2)	.. ..	3 (1.4)	213 (100.0)
5 151-200	269 (87.6)	35 (11.4)	.. ..	3 (1.0)	307 (100.0)
Total ..	728	260	..	12	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

Since the number falling in the "no income" group in the above two tables is small, not much reliance could be placed on the percentage figures given for this group.

Before proceeding to interpret the two Tables, it is of interest to take note of a piece of background information. In the case of married couples with a monthly income of Rs. 50 or less, it was found that a number of them were of the opinion that an addition of a child to the family meant an addition to the income of the family since the child would begin earning right from the age of six or so. This opinion was held by even some couples who were getting a monthly income of Rs. 51 to Rs. 100. If this information is taken in conjunction with the fact that generally these people with a monthly income of less than Rs. 100 happen to be the least educated in the society, the figures in the tables are not at all surprising. The progressive increase in the percentage of both husbands and wives who were for family limitation could perhaps be traced to the fact that income at this level is positively correlated with level of education.

2.6. Tables Nos. 17 and 18 below present the break up of husbands and wives by religion according to their attitudes toward Family Planning :—

TABLE NO. 17.

Frequency distribution of husbands according to their attitude to 'Family Planning' by religion.

<i>Religion.</i>	<i>For.</i>	<i>Against.</i>	<i>Undecided.</i>	<i>Indifferent.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Hindu	686 (77·3)	181 (20·4)	3 (0·3)	17 (2·0)	887 (100·0)
Muslim	19 (46·3)	21 (51·2)	..	1 (2·5)	41 (100·0)
Christian (Catholic) ..	28 (58·3)	20 (41·7)	..	..	48 (100·0)
Christian (Protestant) ..	20 (83·3)	4 (16·7)	..	..	24 (100·0)
Total ..	753	226	3	18	1,000

TABLE NO. 18.

*Frequency distribution of wives according to their attitude to
'Family Planning' by religion.*

<i>Religion.</i>	<i>For.</i>	<i>Against.</i>	<i>Undecided.</i>	<i>Indiffe- rent.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Hindu	662 (74.6)	213 (24.0)	..	12 (1.4)	887 (100.0)
Muslim	18 (43.9)	23 (56.1)	..	..	41 (100.0)
Christian (Catholic) ..	29 (60.4)	19 (39.6)	..	..	48 (100.0)
Christian (Protestant)..	19 (79.2)	5 (20.8)	..	..	24 (100.0)
Total ..	728	260	..	12	1 000

Among the Hindus, roughly three out of every four married couples are in favour of Family Planning.

Among Protestant Christians, the proportion is somewhat higher, roughly four out of five.

It is interesting to observe that among Catholic Christians a clear majority of married couples is in favour of Family Planning, the proportion being roughly three out of five.

Muslims come last; the relative proportion in favour of Family Planning being nine out of every twenty married couples. As religious objections are unlikely to be stronger among Muslims than among Catholic Christians, the explanation should probably be sought in a lower average level of education and income among Muslims in this area. As the samples of these three religious groups (other than Hindus) are all small, the foregoing inferences suggested by the figures should necessarily be regarded as tentative.

3. Knowledge of Surgical Methods of Family Planning.

3.1. A knowledge of the surgical methods of Family Planning was found to be fairly common among husbands and wives, though in the case of husbands nearly 70 per cent had a knowledge of

Vasectomy, while only 58 per cent of the wives knew about Salpingectomy. The distribution of husbands and wives according to their knowledge of the surgical methods of Family Planning is presented in Table No. 19 below :—

TABLE No. 19.

Number and percentage distribution of husbands and wives according to their knowledge of the surgical method of "Family Planning".

		<i>Know.</i>	<i>Don't know.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Husbands	.. .. .	704 (70.4)	296 (29.6)	1,000 (100.0)
Wives	.. .. .	581 (58.1)	419 (41.9)	1,000 (100.0)

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

3.2. An analysis of the husbands' knowledge of Vasectomy by age groups is presented below in Table No. 20 :—

TABLE No. 20.

Number and percentage distribution of husbands according to their knowledge of Vasectomy classified by age-groups.

<i>Serial number and age group (years).</i>	<i>Knowledge of Vasectomy.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Know.</i>	<i>Don't know.</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 20—25	13 (59.1)	9 (40.9)	22 (100.0)
2 26—30	89 (64.0)	50 (36.0)	139 (100.0)
3 31—35	205 (72.2)	79 (27.8)	284 (100.0)
4 36—40	187 (73.6)	67 (26.4)	254 (100.0)
5 41—45	137 (66.2)	70 (33.8)	207 (100.0)
6 46—50	69 (80.2)	17 (19.8)	86 (100.0)
7 Above 50	4 (50.0)	4 (50.0)	8 (100.0)
Total	704	296	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

The percentage of husbands who had a knowledge of Vasectomy is found to increase progressively with age, up to 50 years. (Though in the age group 41—45 there is a sudden drop in the percentage figure.) This is natural considering the results of Table No. 9 of

section 2 of this report which showed that there was a progress increase in the percentage of husbands who were for Family Planning with increase in age.

3.3. A similar analysis in the case of wives is presented in Table No. 21 below :—

TABLE NO. 21.

Number and percentage distribution of wives according to their knowledge of Salpingectomy classified by age-groups.

Serial number and age group (years).	Knowledge of Salpingectomy.		Total.
	Know.	Don't know.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Below 20	12 (57.1)	9 (42.9)	21 (100.0)
2 20—25	151 (59.7)	102 (40.3)	253 (100.0)
3 26—30	216 (58.4)	154 (41.6)	370 (100.0)
4 31—35	116 (55.0)	95 (45.0)	211 (100.0)
5 36—40	77 (58.8)	54 (41.2)	131 (100.0)
6 41—45	9 (69.2)	4 (30.8)	13 (100.0)
7 46—50 .. .. .	.. (0.0)	1 (100.0)	1 (100.0)
Total ..	581	419	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

The percentage of wives with a knowledge of Salpingectomy is found to be more or less stable around 58 per cent up to 40 years of age. The percentage shows a sharp increase to about 69 per cent in the next age group 41–45 years, but not much reliance could be placed on this figure since the number in the sample from this age group was as small as 13.

Comparing Tables Nos. 20 and 21, it may be seen that at all comparable ages, the percentage of husbands with a knowledge of Vasectomy was more than the percentage of wives with a knowledge of Salpingectomy.

3.4. Table No. 22 below presents the distribution of husbands according to their knowledge of Vasectomy by level of education :—

TABLE NO. 22.

Number and percentage distribution of husbands according to their knowledge of Vasectomy classified by level of education.

Serial number and level of education.	Knowledge of Vasectomy.		Total.
	Know.	Don't know.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Illiterates	6 (7.5)	74 (92.5)	80 (100.0)
2 Literates but not Matriculates.	192 (55.0)	157 (45.0)	349 (100.0)
3 Matriculates but not Graduates.	394 (87.6)	56 (12.4)	450 (100.0)
4 Graduates and above ..	112 (92.6)	9 (7.4)	121 (100.0)
Total ..	704	296	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

It is found that a knowledge of Vasectomy was highly positively correlated with the level of education of the husband. From a mere 7.5 per cent in the case of ' Illiterates ' the percentage with knowledge of Vasectomy shoots up to 55 per cent in the case of " Literates but not Matriculates ", to about 88 per cent in the case of " Matriculates but not Graduates " and to over 92 per cent in the case of " Graduates and above ".

3.5. Table No. 23 below presents a similar distribution of wives according to their knowledge of Salpingectomy classified by level of education :—

TABLE NO. 23.

Number and percentage distribution of wives according to their knowledge of Salpingectomy classified by level of education.

Serial number and level of education.	Knowledge of Salpingectomy.		Total.
	Know.	Don't know.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Illiterates	70 (24.6)	215 (75.4)	285 (100.0)
2 Literates but not Matriculates.	435 (69.8)	188 (30.2)	623 (100.0)

Serial number and level of education.	Knowledge of Salpingectomy.		Total.
	Know.	Don't know.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
3 Matriculates but not Graduates.	72 (81.8)	16 (18.2)	88 (100.0)
4 Graduates and above	4 (100.0)	.. (0.0)	4 (100.0)
Total ..	581	419	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

Here again, the same pattern as in Table No. 22 emerges. A knowledge of Salpingectomy was certainly positively correlated with level of education. However, on a comparison of Tables Nos. 22 and 23, it may be found that in the case of "Illiterates", a greater percentage of wives knew about Salpingectomy compared to greater percentage of husbands who knew about Vasectomy.

4. Attitudes towards Surgical Methods of Family Planning.

4.1. The attitudes of husbands and wives to Vasectomy and Salpingectomy respectively, the study of which was an important aspect of this survey, were classified into five categories, namely, "For", "Not now", "Against", "Undecided" and "Indifferent".

The category "Not-now" included all those husbands and wives who were for resorting to the surgical methods of Family Planning, not immediately but at a later stage. The category "For" included all those who had either already undergone the operation or were ready to undergo it immediately. The other categories are self-explanatory.

Table No. 24 below gives the distribution of husbands, according to their attitudes to Vasectomy classified into the five categories mentioned above:—

TABLE NO. 24.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' by their attitude to 'Vasectomy'.

Attitude to Vasectomy.					Total.
For.	Not now.	Against.	Undecided.	Indifferent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
136	32	780	44	8	1 000
(13.6 per cent.)	(3.2 per cent.)	(78.0 per cent.)	(4.4 per cent.)	(0.8 per cent.)	(100.0)

Taking the first two categories "For" and "Not now" together, it may be seen that roughly 17 per cent of the husbands were for undergoing Vasectomy. If, instead of taking all the 1,000 husbands as the base, we take the 704 husbands who had a knowledge of Vasectomy as the base, the percentage who were "For" goes up to about 24. This calculation is only proper since we can't expect husbands who did not have a knowledge of Vasectomy to agree to undergo the operation.

As before, if we take the 704 husbands who had a knowledge of Vasectomy as the base, the percentage that were "Against" this operation works out to be about 69 instead of the 78 per cent with all the 1,000 husbands as the base.

4.2. A similar analysis of wives according to their attitudes towards Salpingectomy is presented in Table No. 25 below :—

TABLE NO. 25.

Number and percentage distribution of 'wives' by their attitude to 'Salpingectomy'.

<i>Attitude to Salpingectomy.</i>					<i>Total.</i>
<i>For.</i>	<i>Not now.</i>	<i>Against.</i>	<i>Undecided.</i>	<i>Indifferent.</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
70	20	894	9	7	1,000
(7.0 per cent.)	(2.0 per cent.)	(89.4 per cent.)	(0.9 per cent.)	(0.7 per cent.)	(100.0)

Taking the "For" and "Not-now" category together, it may be seen that 90 out of the 1,000 wives or 9 per cent were for undergoing Salpingectomy. As in the case of husbands, if we consider the number of wives (581) who had a knowledge of Salpingectomy as the base, the percentage who were "For" goes up to about 15 per cent, and those who were against comes down to about 82 per cent, since all the 419 wives who did not have a knowledge of Salpingectomy were against it.

4.3. Comparing Tables Nos. 24 and 25, Vasectomy is found to be more popular than Salpingectomy. This is possibly because of the reason that Vasectomy compared to Salpingectomy is a minor operation.

However, an important point should be noted here. Since family limitation would become a *fait accompli* even if one of the members of a married couple agrees to undergo the appropriate operation, it is necessary to take a couple as a unit and study their attitudes. Table No. 26 below gives the results of such an analysis :—

TABLE NO. 26.

Number and percentage distribution of ' couples ' by their attitude to 'Surgical Method' of 'Family Planning'.

<i>Serial number and category.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Percentage.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
1 Couples at least one member of which was 'for' the operation.	171	17.1
2 Couples who were 'for' the operation later (<i>Not now</i>).	20	2.0
3 Couples both members of which were <i>against</i> operation.	743	74.3
4 Couples both members of which were 'indifferent'.	7	0.7
5 Other couples	59	5.9
Total ..	1,000	100.0

} 19.1 per cent.

Taking the first two categories "For" and "Not now" together, it may be seen that a little over 19 per cent of the 1,000 couples surveyed were for limiting the size of their families through surgical methods. Nearly 74 per cent of the couples were "Against" resorting to surgical methods and a negligible percentage were indifferent. The category "Other Couples" in Table 26 includes all those couples—nine of the members of these couples were "For" the operation—the members of which held conflicting opinions.

If we consider the 742 couples in each of which at least one member had a knowledge of the surgical method of Family Planning, as the base, the percentage of couples who were for the operation would be about 26.

4.4. It is of interest to study the attitudes of husbands and wives towards Salpingectomy by age-groups, by parity, by level of education, by income groups and also by religion. The results of such analyses are presented in sections 4.4 to 4.13.

Table No. 27 below gives the distribution of husbands by age-groups according to their attitude to Vasectomy.

TABLE NO. 27.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' according to their attitude to 'Vasectomy' by 'Age-groups'.

Age-group (years).	Attitude to Vasectomy.					Total.
	For.	Not now.	Un- decided.	Against.	In- different.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
20-25 ..	1 (4.5)	1 (4.5)	1 (4.5)	19 (86.5)	.. (0.0)	22 (100.0)
26-30 ..	13 (9.4)	9 (6.4)	4 (2.9)	113 (81.3)	.. (0.0)	139 (100.0)
31-35 ..	50 (17.6)	15 (5.3)	18 (6.3)	200 (70.4)	1 (0.4)	284 (100.0)
36-40 ..	44 (17.3)	5 (2.0)	10 (3.9)	191 (75.2)	4 (1.6)	254 (100.0)
41-45 ..	19 (9.2)	2 (1.0)	10 (4.8)	173 (83.6)	3 (1.4)	207 (100.0)
46-50 ..	9 (10.5)	.. (0.0)	1 (1.1)	76 (88.4)	.. (0.0)	86 (100.0)
Above 50 ..	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	8 (100.0)	.. (0.0)	8 (100.0)
Total ..	136	32	44	780	8	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

Taking the "For" and "Not now" categories together, it may be seen, that from the lowest age-group 20-25 years to the age-group 31-35, there is a progressive increase in the percentage who were "For" Vasectomy. There is a slight drop in the percentage in the next age-group 36-40 after which the percentage falls rather sharply up to 50 years of age. Since the number in the sample in the age-group above 50 years happens to be small, no reliance can be placed on the percentage figures given for this group. The drop in the percentage who were for the operation in the age-groups 41-45 and 46-50 may be due to one of the two

following reasons: Either the husbands might have been afraid of the operation on health grounds; or they might have felt it unnecessary since they were fairly old. In fact, some of the husbands above 40 years told the interviewers during the conduct of the survey that they did not expect to have any more children even though they had had their last child only a few months before the date of the survey.

4.5. The results of a similar analysis in the case of wives is presented below in Table No. 28:—

TABLE NO. 28.

Number and percentage distribution of 'wives' according to their attitude to 'Salpingectomy' by 'Age-groups'.

Age-group (years).	Attitude to Salpingectomy					Total.
	For.	Not now.	Un- decided.	Against.	In- different.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Less than 20	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	20 (95.2)	1 (4.8)	21 (100.0)
20—25	12 (4.7)	15 (5.9)	3 (1.3)	223 (88.1)	.. (0.0)	253 (100.0)
26—30	29 (7.8)	4 (1.1)	3 (0.8)	331 (89.5)	3 (0.8)	370 (100.0)
31—35	24 (11.4)	1 (0.5)	2 (0.9)	181 (85.8)	3 (1.4)	211 (100.0)
36—40	5 (3.8)	.. (0.0)	1 (0.8)	125 (95.4)	.. (0.0)	131 (100.0)
41—45	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	13 (100.0)	.. (0.0)	13 (100.0)
46—50	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	.. (0.0)	1 (100.0)	.. (0.0)	1 (100.0)
Total	70	20	9	894	7	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

It is significant to note that almost all the wives in the age-group less than 20 years were against Salpingectomy. The percentage who were "For" the operation (taking "For" and "Not now" categories together) in the case of the next three higher age-groups

remained more or less stable at about 10 per cent. In the age-group 36-40 only about 4 per cent were for the operation. Not much importance could be attached to the age-groups above 40 years since the sample size in those age-groups happens to be small.

It is also interesting to note that nearly 80 per cent of the wives who were for the operation a little later ("Not now" category) were in the age-group 20-25 years.

4.6. The distribution of husbands by the number of surviving children and their attitudes towards Vasectomy are presented below in Table No. 29 :—

TABLE No. 29.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' according to their attitude to 'Vasectomy' by number of children alive.

Number of children alive.	Attitude to Vasectomy.					Total.
	For.	Not now.	Un-decided.	Against.	In-different.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
2	30 (8.2)	25 (6.8)	10 (2.7)	300 (81.7)	2 (0.6)	367 (100.0)
3	30 (12.4)	3 (1.2)	13 (5.5)	192 (79.7)	3 (1.2)	241 (100.0)
4	27 (16.5)	1 (0.6)	6 (3.6)	129 (78.7)	1 (0.6)	164 (100.0)
5	29 (24.6)	2 (1.7)	8 (6.8)	78 (66.1)	1 (0.8)	118 (100.0)
6	10 (16.9)	.. (0.0)	2 (3.4)	46 (78.0)	1 (1.7)	59 (100.0)
7 and above.	10 (19.6)	1 (2.0)	5 (9.8)	35 (68.6)	.. (0.0)	51 (100.0)
Total ..	126	32	44	780	8	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

Except in the case of husbands with six children alive, an increasing trend of the percentage of husbands who were for the operation is visible with an increase in the number of children. Correspondingly, a decreasing trend is visible in the percentage of

husbands who were against the operation with the increasing number of children, though here again in the case of husbands with six children alive, the percentage "Against" Vasectomy records an increase over the previous figure of 66 per cent. The percentage who were undecided also is found to increase gradually with the increase in the number of children alive.

4.7. Table No. 30 below gives the distribution of wives by their parity and attitudes towards Salpingectomy:—

TABLE NO. 30.

Number and percentage distribution of 'wives' according to their attitude to 'Salpingectomy' by number of children alive.

Number of children alive.	Attitude to Salpingectomy.					Total.
	For.	Not now.	Un-decided.	Against.	In-different.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
2	11 (3.0)	14 (3.3)	1 (0.3)	338 (92.1)	3 (0.8)	367 (100.0)
3 .. .	18 (7.5)	2 (0.8)	3 (1.3)	216 (89.6)	2 (0.8)	241 (100.0)
4	14 (8.5)	1 (0.6)	3 (1.9)	145 (88.4)	1 (0.6)	164 (100.0)
5	16 (13.6)	2 (1.7)	.. (0.0)	100 (84.7)	.. (0.0)	118 (100.0)
6	6 (10.2)	.. (0.0)	1 (1.7)	51 (86.4)	1 (1.7)	59 (100.0)
7 and above.	5 (9.8)	1 (1.9)	1 (1.9)	44 (86.3)	.. (0.0)	51 (100.0)
Total ..	70	20	9	894	7	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

As in the case of husbands, here also an increasing trend in the percentage who were "For" Salpingectomy is visible with an increasing number of children. However, a comparison of Tables Nos. 29 and 30 shows that at all level of parity the percentage of husbands who were for Vasectomy exceeds the percentage of wives who were for Salpingectomy.

4.8. The results of an analysis of the attitudes of husbands to Vasectomy classified by level of education is presented in Table No. 31 below :—

TABLE NO. 31.

Number and percentage distribution of 'husbands' according to their attitude to Vasectomy classified by level of education.

Serial number and level of education.	Attitude to Vasectomy.					Total.
	For.	Not now.	Against.	Un-decided.	In-different.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 Illiterates ..	6 (7.5)	..	74 (92.5)	..	..	80 (100.0)
2 Literates but not Matriculates.	34 (9.7)	7 (2.0)	296 (84.8)	9 (2.6)	3 (0.9)	349 (100.0)
3 Matriculates but not Graduates.	72 (16.0)	19 (4.2)	327 (72.7)	28 (6.2)	4 (0.9)	450 (100.0)
4 Graduates and above.	24 (19.8)	6 (5.0)	83 (68.6)	7 (5.8)	1 (0.8)	121 (100.0)
Total ..	136	32	780	44	8	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

It may be observed from the Table that the higher the level of education, the greater was the percentage of husbands who were "For" Vasectomy and the lower the percentage who were "Against" it.

4.9. Table No. 32 below presents a similar analysis in the case of wives :—

TABLE NO. 32.

Distribution of 'wives' according to their attitude to Salpingectomy classified by level of education.

Serial number and level of education.	Attitude to Salpingectomy.					Total.
	For.	Not now.	Against.	Un-decided.	In-different.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 Illiterates	6 (2.1)	..	276 (96.8)	..	3 (.1)	285 (100.0)
2 Literates but not matriculates.	54 (3.7)	16 (2.6)	543 (87.2)	6 (0.9)	4 (0.6)	623 (100.0)
3 Matriculates but not Graduates.	10 (11.4)	4 (4.5)	71 (80.7)	3 (3.4)	..	88 (100.0)
4 Graduates and above ..	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	4 (100.0)	..	..	4 (100.0)
Total ..	70	20	894	9	7	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

It is a little surprising to find that all the four wives who were in the " Graduates and above " groups were against Salpingectomy. Otherwise, with higher levels of education a greater percentage of wives are found to be " For " the operation. It is probably because the graduate wives can use mechanical and chemical contraceptives successfully.

4.10. The results of an analysis of husbands by income groups according to their attitude to Vasectomy is presented in Table No. 33 :—

TABLE NO. 33.

Number and percentage distribution of ' husbands ' according to their attitude to Vasectomy by Income Groups.

Serial number and monthly income.	Attitude to Vasectomy.					Total.
	For.	Not now.	Against.	Un- decided	Indifferent.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
No income. RS.	1	0	10	0	0	11
	(9.1)	(0.0)	(90.9)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(100.0)
1-50 ..	10	2	129	1	2	144
	(6.9)	(1.4)	(89.6)	(0.7)	(1.4)	(100.0)
51-100 ..	40	6	270	8	1	325
	(12.3)	(1.8)	(83.1)	(2.5)	(0.3)	(100.0)
101-150 ..	35	10	146	18	4	213
	(16.4)	(4.7)	(68.5)	(8.5)	(1.9)	(100.0)
151-200 ..	50	14	225	17	1	307
	(16.3)	(4.6)	(73.3)	(5.5)	(0.3)	(100.0)
Total ..	136	32	780	44	8	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

Leaving out the " No income " group, number in which is rather small, it is found that the percentage of husbands who were for Vasectomy increases with increasing income. In the case of income groups Rs. 101-150 and Rs. 151-200, the percentage who were " For " remained more or less constant at about 21 per cent. If we remember the fact that in the lower income groups (1-50 and 51-100) couples felt that additions to their family meant additions to the income of the family, the low figures in these income groups are not surprising at all. It is also interesting to note that the percentage " Undecided " is higher in the case of the Rs. 101-150 and Rs. 151-200 income groups

4.11. Table No. 34 below presents a similar analysis as in Table No. 33 in the case of wives :—

TABLE NO. 34.

Number and percentage distribution of 'wives' according to their attitude to Salpingectomy classified by Income Groups.

<i>Serial number and monthly income.</i>	<i>Attitude to Salpingectomy.</i>					<i>Total.</i>
	<i>For.</i>	<i>Not now.</i>	<i>Against.</i>	<i>Un-decided.</i>	<i>In-different.</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 No income ..	2	..	9	..	..	11
Rs.	(18·2)		(81·8)			(100·0)
2 1—50 ..	1	2	140	..	1	144
	(0·7)	(1·4)	(97·2)		(0·7)	(100·0)
3 51—100 ..	25	4	291	2	3	325
	(7·4)	(1·4)	(89·5)	(0·7)	(1·0)	(100·0)
4 101—150 ..	10	6	192	3	2	213
	(4·7)	(2·8)	(90·1)	(1·4)	(1·0)	(100·0)
5 151—200 ..	32	8	262	4	1	307
	(10·4)	(2·6)	(85·3)	(1·3)	(0·4)	(100·0)
Total ..	70	20	894	9	7	1,000

NOTE.—Figures in brackets are percentages.

The same increasing trend with increasing income, as in the case of husbands, in the percentage figures who were for Salpingectomy is visible, though in the income group Rs. 101—150 there is a small drop in the percentage. The figures given in the "No income" group cannot be much relied upon.

4.12 and 4.13. The classification of husbands and wives by religion according to their attitude towards Vasectomy and Salpingectomy respectively are presented in Tables Nos. 35 and 36 below :—

TABLE NO. 35.

Frequency distribution of 'husbands' according to their attitude to Vasectomy by religion.

<i>Religion.</i>	<i>For.</i>	<i>Not now.</i>	<i>Un-decided.</i>	<i>Against.</i>	<i>In-different.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Hindu ..	130	31	40	678	8	887
Muslim ..	4	..	2	35	..	41
Christian (Catholic).	1	..	..	47	..	48
Christ an (Protestant)	1	1	2	20	..	24
Total ..	136	32	44	780	8	1,000

TABLE No. 36.

Frequency distribution of 'wives' according to their attitude to Salpingectomy by religion.

<i>Religion.</i>	<i>For.</i>	<i>Not now.</i>	<i>Un- decided.</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>In- different.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Hindu ..	64	19	8	789	7	887
Muslim ..	5	..	..	36	..	41
Christian (Catholic)	1	..	..	47	..	48
Christian (Protestant).	..	1	1	22	..	24
Total ..	<u>70</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>894</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1,000</u>

Among Muslims, Catholic Christians and Protestants Christians, a very large majority were opposed to surgical methods of family limitation. The influence of religion on these attitudes is striking.

In the case of Hindus, however, it must be stated that out of the 678 husbands and 789 wives who were against "operation" for limiting the size of their families, more than 40 per cent gave "fear of after effects" of the operation as their reason, while only about 25 per cent had religious objections. It is possible that out of the 40 per cent who gave "fear" as the reason for their opposition to surgical methods, some may agree to undergo the operation if sufficient proof of the harmlessness of the operation is given them.

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