Reviewer’s report

Title: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DETERMINANTS OF UNMET NEED FOR FAMILY PLANNING AMONG MARRIED WOMEN IN PAKISTAN

Version: 2 Date: 18 Apr 2019

Reviewer: Gabriela Mejia-Pailles

Reviewer's report:

I think the paper is getting there. The ideas are there, the authors raise some very good and interesting points. However, the written English needs to be proof read. There are still plenty of grammatical and editing errors throughout the document. I have pointed some.

Title: "Socio-demographic Determinants of Unmet Need for Family Planning among Married Women in Pakistan". Better option.

Abstract

The Government of Pakistan: change throughout the text

number of living children

Husband's education

Fear of side effects for using contraceptive methods or Fear of side effects for using contraception or contraceptives

A huge media campaign has been launched to persuade them about: who is them? The G of P? to persuade women/people

But the efforts of the government DO not seem

That's why fear: TOO INFROMAL FOR A SCIENTIFIC PAPER. "Hence, fear of side effects still remains one of the most important reason behind UMNFP." change throughout the text

"UMNFP" YOU HAVE NOT USE THIS ACRONYM BEFORE, it needs to state y what it stands for the first time you use it (abstract)

Main text
I understand you are keen on making the argument that reduction in fertility bring economic development but I think all this should go:

Such programs can have important implication for economic growth and development in different ways. Reduction in fertility decreases dependency ratio, at least in short-run, in the economy. This decreased dependency ratio results in increase in output per capita. It may boost economic growth by bringing an increase in national savings and investment in the economy. Furthermore, as a result of fertility decline, working adults would be able to spend more of their time in productive labor as they need to devote less of their time for child-rearing. Reducing birth rates will be helpful to improve the quality of children because parental investment per child would rise. An increase in parental investment on education and health of their children would improve the quality of human capital. (Brander and Bowrick, 1994; UNPF, 2005; Allen, 2007; Ashraf et al., 2013). Hence, it will enhance economic growth by bringing improvement in the education, human skills, health and productivity of the people (Cleland et al., 2006).

"five Eastern European countries (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Moldova and Ukraine) during the period of 2005-2011." I appreciate you include the countries, but it needs to be redacted accordingly: "Eastern Europe (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Moldova and Ukraine)".

"have been identified in the literature as some of the important factors associated with UMNFP among women"

"the women living in rural areas and the women who have lesser knowledge of methods and availability of contraceptives"

Check English: Women with more number of children were considerably less likely to have non-use of contraceptive methods than women with less number of children
Need to check the grammatical tense, previous sentence is in present tense, but this one is in past tense.

Check English: The common findings in the existing studies are that urban households, in particular, are exposed to small family

Check: use of contraceptive: contraceptives/ contraception

"According to Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey 2012-13, 56% of married women of reproductive age intend to use family planning services but only 35% of them are actually using these services. Thus the prevalence of unmet need for family planning is 21% in the country." Use past tense, you are reporting on what was found by ICF Macro/DHS?

"Hence for our analysis, we have used data of 12,998 women." Redundant

"unemployed." Or not employed= doing hh work?

Need to report results of regression in comparison to the Ref category.

"The odds ratios indicate that UMNFP for limiting goes on to increase with increase in age of the women up to fifth age group and then starts to decrease with an increase in age till seventh age group." Revise English, it is not clear what you are trying to say. Which is the 5th age group? State it.

"middle aged women"? Change the expression. Women in the middle age groups or something along those lines.

Revise English: "Decrease in the likelihood of UMNF, UMNFP for spacing and UMNFP for limiting with increase in education of women indicates that educated women are more likely to
avail family planning services because they may be more informed and hence can have better awareness about these services."

Revise English: "Similarly, education of women makes them more empowered in decision making regarding contraceptive use". The idea is very good, you just need to edit.

Edit "According to our results, the likelihood of UMNFP, UMNFP for spacing and UMNFP for limiting decreases with increase in number of children. It goes on to decrease up till the birth of fourth child and is lowest among the women having four children. After which, it has an increasing trend"

Revise English: "The likelihood of UMNFP has been found to be lower among wealthier households. It can be due to more access to contraceptives and modern family planning methods among richer than poorer. Apart from women's own education, their husband's education can also reduce the likelihood of UMNFP, UMNFP for spacing and UMNFP for limiting because fertility decisions in any household can be a joint decision made by women and her husband."

Revise English: Future research can explore that how these factor can affect the likelihood of UMNFP
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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