

# The Study of Women of Reproductive Status (Working At Education Organization and Housewives and Social-Economic Factors Related In Andimeshk City

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## Abstract

**Introduction:** Our Country, Iran is one of the countries in the world population it has become a social problem. Iran's population growth despite decreased rate in recent years is still relatively high and due to the young population, there is also the possibility of increased population growth in the coming years. This study aimed to assess the reproductive status of working women (in Education and Training Department) and homemaker, and social-economic factors associated with it in Andimeshk city. Including the government's policy of reward and punishment as a means of fertility control in the community can be.

**Methods and Materials:** In this study, research method is survey method and the tool for data collection was questionnaire. The population is composed of all married women of Andimeshk City in the study time, that with confidence level of 95% and using Kerges and Morgan formula, 300 of whom were chosen, which from employed women 150 individuals and housewives the same number were selected separately. To analyze the data collected, software spss was used. In addition, for all the assumptions, significant level of  $\alpha = 0.05$  has been considered.

**Results:** the Pearson correlation coefficient and significance level of 0.05, between fertility of unemployed and employed women, age, education, income, awareness of the consequences of population growth, social-economic status and fertility, there is an inverse relationship.

**Conclusions:** One of the main topics of the population, which plays a major role in the transformation of both the quantity and quality of the population, is fertility. Creating suitable contexts for women's employment in accordance with their needs, talents, natural conditions, the economy and their capabilities, because the greater the level of participation of women in activities outside the home, can be expected it to reduce the fertility.

**Keywords:** fertility, Attitude of women fertility, Awareness and understanding of women, social-economic factors.

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## Introduction

Increase in population, especially since the second half of the twentieth century, is the most important phenomenon of our century. Keep in mind that we along with over 6 billion other people on the planet share and live together in the world, but we compete the resources and the space. However, our main concern is that as the result of increasing world population, a significant amount of resources we will consume in the world. This mass increase of the population, is a figure close to 80 million people a year now. Major international concern is about energy supplies, housing shortages, the spread of the phenomenon of malnutrition and hunger, environmental degradation and so on. In general, it can be said that about 20 percent of the world population is in developed countries and about 80 percent live in developing countries, the high population growth in these countries is considered one of the greatest problems of our age (Jahanfar, 2007; 61). Increasing population growth strongly influences per capita national income and in another hand, the share of national income that should be spent on social and economic development, is devoted to meet the daily needs, including food, health care, housing and education and training and with the current reality this loss is not compensable. In the first decade of the Islamic Revolution, between 1355 to 1365, Iran's population growth rate was very high at about 3.9% per year. Although, in the second decade, between 1365 to 1375 and 1375 to 1385, Iran's population growth rate has declined significantly and is now 1.96% per year. (Moti' Haghshenas, 9:1385) and according to the latest census of year 1390, Iran's population reached to 75 million, 149 thousands and 669 people and its growth rate reached to 1.3 percent per year. Our Country, Iran is one of the countries in the world population It has become a social problem. Iran's population growth Despite decreased rate in recent years, is still relatively high and due to the

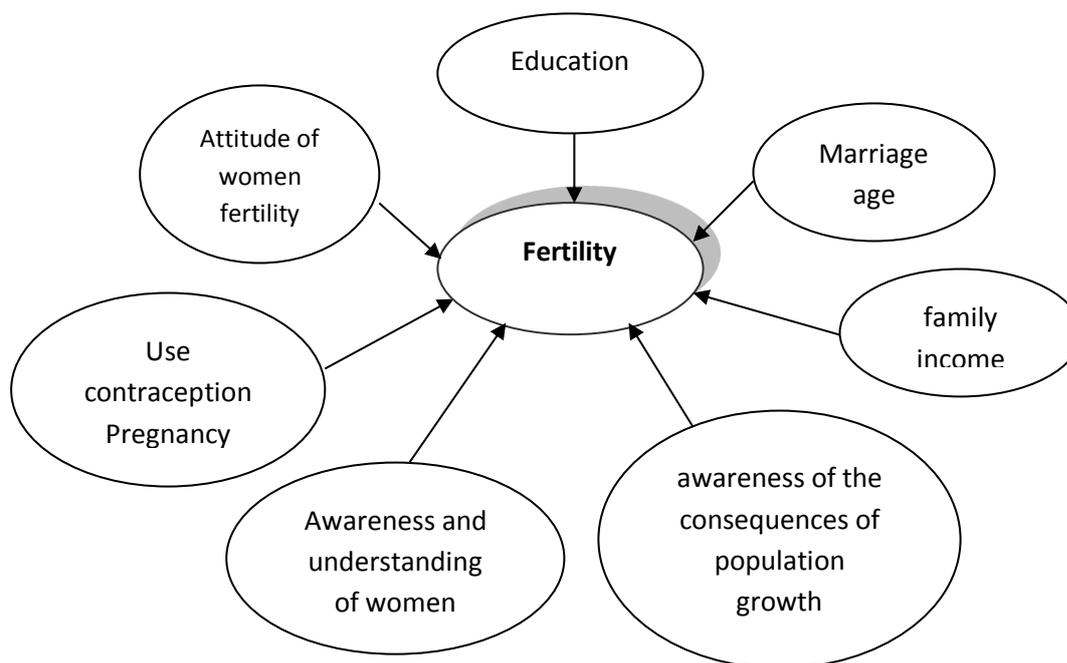
young population, there is also the possibility of increased population growth in the coming years, and now can predict the pressure of population and imbalance between economic growth and population growth will make our people faced with many problems in the next several decades and it will slower down the development rhythm than before, because the state instead of increasing volume of saving of capital, forming capital, the increase in Per capita production and infrastructure investment should provide required services for the economic, social and health needs of the people. Despite the decline in fertility rates over the last few years should not ignore the consequences of population growth in the coming years, primarily because if we consider the lowest estimates on the current rate of population growth (eg, 3% from proposed by Iran registration Organization) again (in the coming years) we will witness a considerable increase populations that meeting their diverse needs will not be without difficulty. Secondly, over the recent years, many people that are born in the early years of Islamic Revolution due to its policy of encouraging births, have reached the age of marriage and childbearing, and this means more fertility and high population growth rates in the future (Ktabi, 1855; 26). Reproduction in any society depending on the governing social, economic and cultural conditions are influenced by certain factors (Hosseini, 2002; 176). Bidarian and Shiri (1388) in their study, the lack of attention or less attention to the social, cultural and value conditions prevailing in society and economic barriers affecting on fertility, are referred to as important factors affecting fertility. In addition, the relationship between age and literacy of women on fertility is well documented in the literature, and many studies have pointed to the relationship (Aref, 2002; Mehryar, 2003; Mitra, 2004; Royer, 2009; Kan & Lee, 2011; Ushie Agba and

Olumodji,2011;Maeder and Cygan Rehm,2012). Results of this research indicate a significant upgrade in levels of women's education and a negative correlation between fertility and levels of women's education. Education through reducing benefits and increase in the costs of children, more attention to the quality of parenting, adoption of new ideas and postpone the birth of the first child after marriage, fertility will be affected. They concluded in their research that modernist values and beliefs and high socio – economic standpoint reduces fertility.(Sadeghi,2003;Dribe,Hacker,Scalone;2012). Recognizing differences or, in other words, the differences in fertility rates can have an effective step towards the design and formulation of population policies and programs, because efforts to bring down the fertility rate will have the greatest impact that the majority of the population to be considered and benefits

are shared. Accordingly, the present study attempts to address these issues, a: how is the fertility Status among women employed in education department compared to other women, B: which factors affect the phenomenon of fertility?

#### Research questions

1. It seems there is a significant relationship between education and fertility.
2. It seems there is a significant relationship between family income and fertility.
3. It seems there is a significant relationship between social- economic and fertility.
4. It seems there is a significant relationship between marriage age and fertility.
5. It seems there is a significant relationship between awareness of the consequences of population growth and fertility.



**Schema1: The relationship between the independent variables and the dependent variable of the research model**

## Methods and Materials

The population of the research is the all women aged 15 to 49 in Andimeshk city. In this study, samples obtained were 263 people who increased to 300 ones. The present sample size, based on the "table of the sample size determination from population size" of Kerges and Morgan (1970) has been determined. Regarding that the objective is measurement of fertility differences between women who work in education department and housewives, the 150 members of both

groups have been selected. For the purpose of choosing samples, a multi-stage cluster sampling method was used. In order to analyze the data in this study, the following statistical methods were used using spss: 1 - descriptive The method such as frequencies and percentages Tables 2 - Inferential Statistics including independent T Test and Pearson correlation. And Cronbach's alpha was used to determine the reliability of the questionnaire (see Table 1).

**Table 1: questionnaire reliability coefficients**

Statistical Indicators	Cronbach's Alpha
Total Questionnaire	0/79
awareness of the consequences of population growth	0/63
Awareness and understanding of women	0/60
Attitude of women fertility	0/67
Use contraception Pregnancy	0/66

## Descriptive findings

Some statistical characteristics of the population Is as follows:

- Frequency distribution and age In terms of employment status

in Housewives group, age(20-30) with a frequency (24 people) approximately 16/0 percent, age (30-40) with a frequency (103 people) approximately 7/68, age(40-50) with a frequency (23 people) approximately 15/3 of the sample belongs to the group of women, age 20 to 30 years with a lot of (6) about 0/4 percent, ages (30-40), with a frequency (94 people), approximately 62/7 percent, age (40-50) with a frequency (50 people), approximately of the sample is allocated.

- Frequency distribution and education In terms of employment status

In homemakers group, the majority of the sample (n = 62), approximately 41.3 percent have diploma educations. In the group of housewives, aged 20 to 30 years, with abundance of (24 people), consist about 16.0% of the sample and in the group of working women, aged 20 to 30

years with a frequency (n = 6) were about 4.0 percent.

- Frequency distribution and family income In terms of employment status.

In Housewives group, the majority of the sample (n = 56), approximately 37.3% have revenues between 300 and 500 thousands Tomeans. And in Group of employed women, the majority of the sample (i.e., n = 99), about 66.0 percent have income over 700 thousands Tomeans. It means that the majority of working women earn over 500 thousand Tomeans.

## Inferential findings

In this section the results of studies based on inferential statistics will be analyzed:

1. It seems there is a significant relationship between education and fertility in homemaker women.

Regarding that the correlation coefficient is 0.195 and significance level is 0.017, there is a significant relationship between both variables, and this relationship will be confirmed at the 0.095 level. That is, the higher level of education of the women, the reduced fertility and higher level of

fertility, indicating a low level of education.

1.1. It seems there is a significant relationship between education and fertility in cultural women group.

Regarding that the correlation coefficient is 0.144 and significance level is 0.048, there is a significant relationship between both variables, and this relationship will be confirmed at the 0.095 level. That is, the higher level of education of the women, the reduced fertility and higher level of fertility, indicating a low level of education.

2. It seems there is a significant relationship between income and fertility in homemaker women.

Regarding that the correlation coefficient is -0.015 and significance level is 0.852, In other words, there is not a significant relationship between family income. That is, family income of the under study area, did not had much effects on the increase or decrease of fertility.

2.1. It seems there is a significant relationship between income and fertility in cultural women group.

Regarding that the correlation coefficient is -0.051 and significance level is 0.533, In other words, there is not a significant relationship between family income and fertility. That is, family income of the under study area, did not had much effects on the increase or decrease of fertility.

3. It seems there is a significant relationship between social-economic situation and fertility in homemaker women.

Regarding that the correlation coefficient is -0.212 and significance level is 0.009, there is a significant relationship between both variables, and this relationship will be confirmed at the 0.095 level. In other words, socio - economic of subjects increase, the fertility rate is reduced and as fertility increases is indicating lower socio - economic situation.

3.1. It seems there is a significant relationship between social-economic

situation and fertility in cultural women group.

Regarding that the correlation coefficient is -0.160 and significance level is 0.046, there is a significant relationship between both variables, and this relationship will be confirmed at the 0.095 level. In other words, socio - economic of subjects increase, the fertility rate is reduced and as fertility increases is indicating lower socio - economic situation.

4. It seems there is a significant relationship between Marriage age and fertility in cultural women group.

Regarding that the correlation coefficient is -0.163 and significance level is 0.046, there is a significant relationship between both variables, and this relationship will be confirmed at the 0.095 level. In other words, the more marriage age for women, also the less reproductive rate.

4.1. It seems there is a significant relationship between Marriage age and fertility in cultural women group.

As it can be seen, the Pierson correlation coefficient is equal to -0.223 and significance level is 0.006. These results indicate that there is a significant relationship between two variables, and this is confirmed in the 0.095 level. In other words, the more marriage age for women, also the less reproductive rate.

5. It seems there is a significant relationship between knowledge of the consequences of population growth and fertility in homemaker women.

Regarding that the correlation coefficient is -0.269 and significance level is 0.001, there is a significant relationship between both variables, and this relationship will be confirmed at the 0.095 level. In other words, there is an inverse relationship between the knowledge of the consequences of population growth and fertility rates in women who work.

5.1. It seems there is a significant relationship between knowledge of the consequences of population and fertility in cultural women group.

Regarding that the correlation coefficient is -0.167 and significance level is 0.041, there is a significant relationship between both variables, and this relationship will be confirmed at the 0.095 level. In other words, there is an inverse relationship between the knowledge of the consequences of population growth and fertility rates in women who work.

### Discussion

One of the main topics of the population, which plays a major role in the transformation of both the quantity and quality of the population, is fertility that these components of course, regarding to existing socio - economic, cultural situations and traditional views has created a lot of the newest motivations and differences, does not bear on the same results.

The findings of the study show that about 41.7 percent of housewives Andimeshk city have high school education. It means that the majority of women of housewives have Less than a high school education, and 58.7 percent of working cultural women have a bachelor's degree. It says that the majority of cultural women have education level higher than bachelor's degree. Age of Housewives at marriage time is under 25 years, but the marriage age of cultural women (working in Education and Training Department) was under 30 years.

The main question of this study was to compare the productivity level of employed and unemployed women which based on independent T test, among productivity level of employed and unemployed women, there are meaningful differences, it means that the majority of housewives during their marriage born less than 7 children, but in cultural women group, approximately 68.7%, born 1 to 3 children. This indicates that majority of cultural women had less than five children born in their marriage time, having fewer births, in other words, the business

entertainment made lower the fertility. In addition, homemaker women have more births.

- There is a significant difference between the performance of unemployed and employed women, it means that cultural working women in ordinary have more birth control than housewives women and homemakers had lower performance in this regard.

- There was a significant difference between the attitude of women working in education department and unemployed ones, it means that, the better attitude toward pregnancy, the less fertility and the better attitudes toward contraception, but no significant difference in terms of awareness of contraceptive tools, and there is no significant difference in terms of awareness of the consequences of population growth, between employed and unemployed women.

In all studies related to reproduction and factors affective on it in different regions of the world, so far no indication that fertility levels among women of more education be more than the less educated women, has not been attained. Educated women have more focus on the quality of offspring than quantity, thus reduced the number of children, they have more time to foster and more education of the children. Moreover, education has been effective in increased awareness and understanding of women contraception Pregnancy methods and provided the ground to better and more effective family planning program. Also creating opportunities for women to work outside the home is effective in decreased birth, spacing observation, change in the attitude of people towards family dimension and number of desired children. Information obtained in this study indicates that there is an inverse relationship between education and fertility. That is, the higher level of education of the women, the reduced fertility and higher level of fertility, indicating a low level of education. The results of present study are in agreement

with Rashidi(1999),Royer(2009), Maeder, Cygan and Rehm(2012) findings about the relationship between education and fertility.

According to Davis and Blake, age at marriage is among social and economic factors that effect on fertility and one of intermediate variables. The results obtained in this study show that there is an inverse significant relationship between age of marriage and fertility, i.e. as marriage age increases, fertility is reduced, and as fertility increases indicating marriage at a younger ages. These findings are consistent with Shapany (2004), findings. In this review, we determined that the family income of the under study area, did not had much effects on the increase or decrease of fertility. Although not without effect, but different modes are presented, in such way that there were families with sufficient income or high income and had increased birth and. In particular that, they didn't had enough education or vice versa, but there were reduced fertility. Therefore, there is not a significant relationship between family income and fertility and this assumption is in agreement with Rashid (1999) and John Kan and Lee(2011) findings in relation to family income and fertility.

According to Runge (1986) this is almost a social - economic law that persons of lower socioeconomic status class, have higher fertility.(Tamin,2000). The results of this study indicate that there is an inverse relationship between the socio - economic and fertility rates. Whatever the socio - economic of subjects increase, the fertility rate is reduced and as fertility increases is indicating lower socio - economic situation. This hypothesis is consistent with (Shapany, 2004; Ali Mandegari, 2005; Dribe, Hacker and Scalone, 2012) findings about the socio - economic situation with fertility.

Libenschtein suggests that in poor communities, people are not aware of the dangers of overpopulation and cannot make decisions about the economic

changes in global and local level. So don't make certain decisions about their reproductive constraints, in the new age of information and knowledge of the most important factors affecting the quality and quantity of life of people of every society, and regarding the expectations, the information obtained in this study show that there is a reverse significant relationship between wareness of the consequences of population growth and fertility, and increased fertility indicating reduced awareness of the consequences of population growth, and findings of present study are in agreement Hosseini's (2002) research findings about the awareness of the consequences of population growth and fertility.

### Conclusions

Fertility is a critical component of a family and continuing generations are located in this direction.

Today, great changes have families in different countries, and high population growth is a feature of all the least developed countries. Iran, like other developing countries, is faced with the problem of over population. From all the above mentioned, it can be concluded that reproduction in any society is influenced by economic, social and cultural factors and findings of present research approves effectiveness of these factors on fertility employed women in education department and housewives in Andimeshk. With regard to the mentioned subjects and research hypotheses, the following suggestions are offered:

1-Creating suitable contexts for women's employment in accordance with their needs, talents, natural conditions, the economy and their capabilities, because the greater the level of participation of women in activities outside the home, can be expected it to reduce the fertility.

2-Regarding the implications of population growth and its problems, it is necessary to raise awareness of people, especially women, justification classes be hold.

3-Holding premarital Justification classes to learn about contraception is recommended.

4-Introducing Tubectomy and vasectomy techniques as the most important methods of contraception.

5-Officials and planners involved in population control and family planning must have information and knowledge necessary in the age structure of the population in each region in order to transmit this information to families that along with the control of the population, successor (renewable generation) be performed as well as the society place not facing with weakness and lack of active force and ultimately the aging population.

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