

**KNOWLEDGE OF FEMALE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN
GOVERNMENT TERTIARY INSTITUTION IN OGUN STATE TOWARDS USE
OF CONTRACEPTIVES AS ANTIDOTE OF INFLATION**

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Abstract

This paper examines the Knowledge of Female Undergraduate students in Government Tertiary Institution in Ogun State towards the use of Contraceptives as antidote of inflation. Population of the study comprised all the female undergraduate students in Government Tertiary Institution in Ogun State. Purposive simple random sampling technique was adopted to select two hundred respondents who are female students in tertiary institutions in Ogun State. Three null hypotheses were constructed to guide the study and were all rejected in favour of the alternative hypotheses. It was discovered that adequate knowledge of contraceptives could reduce the rate of inflation in the society. Among recommendations given was that curriculum planner should ensure that school curriculum incorporate practical teaching methods in the use of contraceptives in related areas. So also, government should encourage the use of contraceptives through the use of mass media among young female adults in society.

Keywords: Inflation, Contraceptive, Unwanted pregnancy, Reproductive health, Health.

Introduction

Inflation may be described as a continuous rise in the prices of various goods and services across different sectors of the economy over a particular period of time (Ibitayo, 2020). This economic situation caused the entire populace to lose their purchasing power as a consumer. One of the major causes of inflation is a great demand pull that occurs when the demand for goods and service in the economy exceeds the economy's ability to produce them. It is observed that sudden increase in population of certain category of people in the economy can trigger inflation which could have a negative consequence on the entire health of the community. In the same vein, the larger the proportion of young adults in the total population, the higher the inflation. The knowledge about contraception empower women to make informed decisions about their reproductive health and future. This knowledge can help them avoid unintended pregnancies and better manage their financial resources. By preventing unintended pregnancies, access to contraception can help women avoid the significant financial burden associated with raising a child, allowing them to focus on their education and career goals. Investing in women education and reproductive health is crucial for breaking the cycle of poverty. By providing access to contraception and empowering women to control their fertility, we can create a more equitable and prosperous society. This research examines the knowledge of female undergraduate students in Government Tertiary Institution in Ogun State towards the use of contraceptives as antidote of inflation.

Statement of the Problem

This paper examines the knowledge of female undergraduate students of Government Tertiary Institution in Ogun state towards use of contraceptives as antidote of inflation. The rising cost of living, fueled by inflation, disproportionately impacts women, particularly those navigating the

complexities of higher education. While access to contraceptives is crucial for reproductive health and general wellbeing, the financial burden and other socio-cultural factors like religion and culture can be a significant barrier for female undergraduates.

This creates a complex situation where the need for contraception clashes with the economic realities of inflation, potentially leading to unintended pregnancies and further financial strain

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study is to examine the knowledge of female undergraduate students in Government Tertiary Institution in Ogun State towards the use of contraceptives as antidote of inflation.

Hypotheses

- Female Undergraduate Students in Government Tertiary Institution in Ogun State do not have significant knowledge of adequate use of contraceptives.
- There is no significant difference between adequate use of contraceptives and socio-cultural factors like Religion and Culture among Female Undergraduate Students in Government Tertiary institution in Ogun State.
- Adequate knowledge of contraceptives will not be significantly perceived by Female Undergraduate Students in Government tertiary Institution in Ogun State as antidote of inflation

Methodology

The research design for this study was a descriptive survey method. The population of the study comprised all the female Undergraduate Students in Government Tertiary Institution in Ogun State. The sample for the study was two hundred female students of tertiary institution selected at random with a purposive simple random sampling technique.

Research Instrument

The research instrument use to collect the data for the study was a modified likert scale questionnaire. It required the respondents to answer strongly agreed (SA), Agreed (A), Strongly Disagreed (SD), Disagreed (D) to the statement contained in the questionnaire. The questionnaire items were drawn from variable contained in the research hypotheses with reliability value of 0.73.

Administration of Research Instrument

Two hundred copies of the questionnaire forms were produced and administered to the respondents used for the study. Two research assistants were deployed to tertiary institutions selected using purposive simple random sampling methods. The two hundred questionnaire forms were returned and used for the analysis of data for the study.

Data Analysis

The chi-square statistical analysis with the alpha level at 0.05 were used to test the hypotheses formulated for the study.

Hypotheses 1: Female Undergraduate students in Tertiary Institution in Ogun State do not have significant knowledge of adequate use of contraceptives.

Table 1: Contingency table on knowledge of adequate use of contraceptives

Respondents	N	Cal val (x)	Df	Table val (x ²)	Level of significance	Decision
SA – 357	1000	103.3	3	7.812	0.05	Rejected
A – 272						
D – 264						
SD – 107						

X² value = 103.3, table value 7.812, df 3, P<0.05

The result from table 1 showed that the calculated value of 103.3 at a degree of freedom of 3 is greater than the critical value of 7.812 at 0.05 alpha level of significance. Based on this result, the null hypothesis which stated that Female Undergraduate students in Tertiary Institution in Ogun State do not have significant knowledge of adequate use of contraceptives was rejected.

Williamson (2009) stressed that people with higher levels of education are more likely to have better knowledge of contraceptive than less educated people. This confirmed the findings that female of tertiary institutions has adequate knowledge of the use of contraceptives as supported by Tien (2010). Bamisaye (1989) emphasized that knowledge stimulates the development of our intellectual and physical abilities and competence.

Hypotheses 2: There is no significant difference between adequate use of contraceptives and socio-cultural factors like religion and culture among Female Undergraduate students in Tertiary Institution in Ogun State

Table 2: Contingency table on adequate use of contraceptives and socio-cultural factors

Respondents	N	Cal. Val. (x)	Df	Table val (x ²)	Level of significance	Decision
SA – 200	1000	55.4	3	7.812	0.05	Rejected
A – 322						
D – 260						
SD – 158						

X² value = 55.4, table value 7.812, df 3, P<0.05

The result from table 2 showed that the calculated value of 55.4 at the degree of freedom 3 is greater than the critical value of 7.812 at 0.05 alpha level of significance. Hence, the null hypothesis which stated that there is no significant difference between adequate use of contraceptives and socio-cultural factors like religion and culture among Undergraduate Female students in Tertiary Institution in Ogun State was rejected. Avong (2012), Wusu(2010) and Trip (2005) were all in agreement that socio-cultural factor like religion and culture has strong influence on the use of contraceptives among female.

Hypothesis 3: Adequate knowledge of contraceptives will not be significantly perceived by Female Undergraduate students in Tertiary Institution in Ogun State as antidote of inflation.

Table 3: Contingency table on adequately knowledge of contraceptives as perceived as antidote of inflation

Respondents	N	Cal val (x)	Df	Table val (x ²)	Level of significance	Decision
SA – 358	1000	46.99	3	7.812	0.05	Rejected
A – 256						
D – 248						
SD – 138						

X² value = 46.99, table value 7.812, df 3, P<0.05

The result from table 3 revealed that calculated value of 46.99 at degree of freedom of 3 is greater than the critical value of 7.812 at 0.05 alpha level of significance. Therefore, the null hypothesis which stated that adequate knowledge of contraceptive will not be significantly perceived by Female Undergraduate students in Tertiary Institution in Ogun State as antidote to inflation was rejected.

Rosners (2014) supported this claim that contraceptives are devices that prevent pregnancy and could be used to reduce population by extending adequate knowledge of its usage to people in the community. Trusell and Reymond (2012) also supported this claim that contraceptives usage will go a long way to reduce birth which will also make the population to decline.

Conclusion

Adequate knowledge of the use of contraceptives no doubt is seen as a tool to combat inflation in the society in particular and the nation in general. A significant number of females who are young adults found in tertiary institution claim to be aware but not having adequate knowledge of the use of contraceptives. Socio-cultural factors influence their knowledge about the use of contraceptives with a negative impact on their sexual lives. This effect could also result to population explosion and inflation that affects the general well-being of the society at large.

Recommendations

- School management should ensure that reproductive health related courses are taught by qualified academic personnel.
- School management should ensure that adequate orientation is given to students on use of contraceptives to avoid unwanted pregnancy.
- Curriculum planner should ensure that school curriculum incorporate practical teaching on the contraceptives in related areas.
- Government should encourage the use of contraceptives among young female adults in the society through the use of mass media.
- Provision of information about contraceptives should be encouraged by health information providers and should include places to access contraceptives without embarrassment

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