

Consanguinity in Population of Quetta (Pakistan): A Preliminary Study

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KEYWORDS Balochistan. Ethnic Variations. Prenatal Deaths. Postnatal Deaths. Abnormalities

ABSTRACT Analysis of 171 families (542 pregnancies) suggest that 85.38 percent marriage occur within caste and major part of marriage partners are 1st cousins (26.90%), within sub-ethnic group (23.39%) or within ethnic group (25.15%). Incidence of prenatal death (abortion, still birth) increase with consanguinity. Overall lethal effect is high in Baloch (23.97%), medium in Pathan and Jat (10-11%) and low in Araeen (4.77%) ethnic groups. The average age at marriage (27.49, 21.85 years), mean time taken for first pregnancy (1.60 years) and number of children per couple (2.54) are not significantly different in different ethnic groups, marriage types, or origins. A gradual increase in age at marriage and a decrease in time taken for first pregnancy and number of children with the increasing economic status is recorded. There is a high correlation between ages of marriage partners.