

Fertility and the Influencing Factors among the KolamsK.N. Saraswathy¹, A.M. Elizabeth², M.P. Sachdeva³, and A.K. Kalla³¹*Department of Molecular genetics, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, Jack and Pearl Resnik Campus, 1300 Morris Park Avenue. Bronx, New York 10461, USA*²*Department of population Genetics and Human Development, National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi 110 067, India*³*Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi, Delhi 110 007, India***KEYWORDS** Kolam. Factors Influencing. Fertility. Stepwise Regression Analysis

ABSTRACT An attempt has been made to determine the extent of contribution of various biological and socio-economic factors respectively, when taken together in explaining the fertility variance among the Kolams. The dependent variable is the number of live-born children and the independent variables in the present study are. Present age of the mother, Age at menarche, Age at first conception, Type of marriage, Experience of infant death in any or both of the two birth orders, Family type, Tobacco chewing, Per capita annual income, and Use of birth control measures. All the above mentioned parameters collectively explained up to fifty-five percent of the variance in fertility. Further, each of the above contribution was statistically significant.