

Gender Roles and Norms Factors Influencing Reproductive Behavior among Couples in Ibadan, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT This study established the influence of gender roles and norms factors on the reproductive behaviour among couples in Ibadan. A total of three hundred men and women randomly selected from five different professions in Ibadan constituted the sample for the study. The two instruments used were author-constructed questionnaires with 0.71 and 0.69 reliability co-efficient, respectively. The data obtained were analysed using multiple regression analysis. The results indicated that significant relationships existed between extramarital sexual partners, family size, prenatal care, contraceptive use and breastfeeding and reproductive behaviour but not with birth spacing practices. The results further indicated that a combination of the independent variables significantly predicted reproductive behaviour and relationship. The result therefore, indicates the need for those in the helping professions to design intervention programmes for couples on reproductive behaviour.