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MOHAN GHULE: ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEN IN CONTRACEPTIVE PRACTICES: A STUDY OF MALE TEXTILE EMPLOYEES IN MUMBAI, INDIA. THESIS ADVISORS: PIMONPAN ISARABHAKDI Ph.D, BOONLERT LEOPRAPAI Ph.D. 84 P. ISBN 974-662-940-9.

The study of 530 married men working in textile mills in the central part of Mumbai, India was done in the year 1995, to determine the family size preferences, knowledge, and attitude towards use of contraceptive practices. About half of the men already have three or more living children. About 80 percent of men were aware of at least five contraceptive methods. Most men were interested in learning more about how these methods work. About 90 percent of men favored their wives using contraceptive methods like female sterilization, Cu-T and oral pills.

In general, attitudes towards fertility and family planning were favorable among urban men. Half of them discussed spacing methods and one fourth of them discussed obtaining family planning information. More than one third of men used condoms at some time. Four fifths of them had not thought about male sterilization for themselves. The majority of couples were currently using a contraceptive method, the majority accepted female sterilization and condom. Only a few men among contraceptive users adopted male sterilization. Male sterilization is the least favored and least accepted method. This study found that occupation of the husband, number of living children, additional child wanted, knowledge of contraceptive methods and availability of contraceptive methods as well as spousal communication on family planning issues which include the support of wife's contraceptive use are important factors for couples to practice contraceptives.

It was concluded that married men have a major influence in the family on practicing family planning. For improvement of male or husband's participation in family planning, those associated factors which influence their participation must be taken into consideration.