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MD. MOKSHED ALI: THE EFFECT OF SELECTED SOCIO-
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS ON DESIRE FOR ADDITIONAL
CHILDREN AMONG COUPLES IN BANGLADESH. ADVISORS:
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The main objective of this study is to examine effects of selected socio-demographic characteristics on desire for additional children among couples in Bangladesh. This study is based on the Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey, 1996-1997. The dependent variable is desire for additional children. The explanatory variables of this study are respondent's residence, religion, education and occupation of husband and wife, media exposure, membership of social organization, sex composition of existing children and number of children. Descriptive statistics has been used to describe the distribution for background characteristics of the couples. Multiple logistic regression has been employed to predict relationship among the dependent and independent variables.

The findings revealed that women who have more daughters than sons are more likely to desire additional children than women who have equal number of sons or daughters, and more sons than daughters. Similarly, the desire for additional children decreases with the increasing number of children. The findings also showed that the desire for additional children is greater among women who live in rural areas, who are Muslims, have no media exposure, are not members of any social organizations and the husbands are educated. Wife's education and occupation and husband's occupation have no significant effects on desire for additional children.