

**TRENDS IN FERTILITY AND KNOWLEDGE
OF REPRODUCTIVE MARRIED WOMEN
ON CHILD BEARING
IN THINGANGYUN TOWNSHIP, YANGON,
2008**

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**MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH
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ABSTRACT

Fertility is an essential factor of human reproduction. The level of fertility is only tangible through actual human reproduction such as live births. The crude birth rate is a gross measure of the level of fertility. The purpose of the study is to realize the fertility trend and knowledge of reproductive married women on child bearing in Thingangyun Township.

A community based cross sectional descriptive study was done among reproductive married women in Thingangyun Township, Yangon, 2008. Both primary and secondary data were included in this study. Primary data collection was conducted in 6 randomly selected wards during from 1st September 2008 to 31st October 2008. One block was randomly selected from each ward and then by simple random sampling, a total of 150 reproductive women were collected and face to face interviews were performed to them using semi-structured questionnaires. Secondary data collection was based on vital registration and records of township health department by retrospective approach.

Thingangyun is situated in eastern district of the Yangon Division reflecting the urban life. It was also found that nearly all the studied reproductive age married women have general knowledge on fertility such as knowledge on contraception, complications of pregnancy, knowledge on abortion and infertility. It was significantly found that the more educated women have more general knowledge on fertility comparing with less educated women.

The finding of this study indicates that peer group education was the most effective for health education because most of the women got the fertility knowledge from their friends. Moreover, higher educated women have knowledge significantly about fertility knowledge than low educated women; therefore, improving female education is a critical one. Another significant issue is women did not know much about behavior that favors positive and negative outcome of pregnancy. Reproductive health program should give more attention on this issue.