

Title of Article: Family Planning Policies and Strategies for Developing Countries

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Abstract: Due to gap in understanding the policies vis- a-vis its effective translation, as a result of differential perception and implementation of family planning programmes the paper was evolved which stresses the need to look at family planning in a more holistic manner via a systems model developed by Mahadevan et al.1992. The paper looked at core areas of policy issues such as political leadership, goal and commitment; decentralized policy and programmes; community participation and support; status of mothers; survival of the child and social security for old people. Based on the above the paper discussed few plausible strategies for effective strengthening of family planning. Such strategies include increasing status of women and development of mothers' clubs and other women's organizations, improvement in health and status of women through formal and informal means , different types of incentives and disincentives, communication and population education to children and youth and expansion of service facilities in an acceptable pattern. Finally, the paper conclude that holistic approach to dealing with family planning policies in developing countries will make family planning programme vibrant and not static as it makes way for ongoing research, experiences of developing the programme and the change in priority in development which culminate in programme re-strategize leading to success of family planning programmes.

Key words: Holistic approach, family planning, strategies and community participation