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Erlend D. Peterson  
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ATTITUDES CONCERNING BIRTH CONTROL AND ABORTION AS RELATED TO  
L.D.S. RELIGIOSITY OF BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

A Thesis

Presented to the  
Department of Sociology  
Brigham Young University

in Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree  
Master of Science

by

Erlend D. Peterson

August 1971

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT

#### OF THE PROBLEM

"A considerable number of every person's attitudes are related to or anchored in one or more social groups."<sup>1</sup> In recognition of the fact that individuals have multiple memberships in groups suggests there may be times when membership groups are in conflict with each other.

A conflict which becomes real in the lives of many people is the decision concerning family limitation. Since 1960 when the birth control pill was introduced on the open market, and with the subsequent liberalization of abortion laws in several states, the topic of family limitation has become even more controversial. At one end of the continuum of controversy are the neo-Malthusians and at the other end are some religious leaders.

The neo-Malthusians are the advocates of Zero Population Growth. They are alarmed over the geometric population explosion which is taking place within the human society. The founding father of "checked" population growth was an English economist

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<sup>1</sup>Harold H. Kelley, "Two Functions of Reference Groups," in Basic Studies in Social Psychology, ed. by Harold Proshansky and Bernard Seidenberg (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., 1965), p. 210.

by the name of Thomas Robert Malthus. His two major postulates were:

First, that food is necessary to the existence of man.

Secondly, that the passion between the sexes is necessary and will remain nearly in its present state...

Assuming then, my postulates as granted, I say, that the power of population is indefinitely greater than the power in the earth to produce subsistence for man.

Population, when unchecked, increases in a geometrical ratio. Subsistence increases only in an arithmetical ratio. A slight acquaintance with numbers will show the immensity of the first power in comparison to the second.

By that law of our nature which makes food necessary to the life of man, the effects of these two unequal powers must be kept equal.

This implies a strong and constantly operating check on population from the difficulty of subsistence. This difficulty must fall somewhere and must necessarily be severely felt by a large portion of mankind.<sup>2</sup>

In 1798 Malthus recognized the problem and claimed that the population was doubling every twenty-five years. Population data have verified the continuation of the growth trend.<sup>3</sup> He described the natural checks on population growth as being "vice and misery" and advocated "moral restraint" or late marriage and abstinence from coitus. Although his remedies are unacceptable for most people, Malthus is the father of modern demographic principles.<sup>4</sup>

Malthus is not the only person who proclaims overpopulation, he is joined by Julian Huxley, Frederick Osborn, Kingsley Davis, Paul Ehrlich, and many others. The emphasis has turned to controlled

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<sup>2</sup> Thomas Malthus, Population: The First Essay (paperback ed.; Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1959), pp. 4-5.

<sup>3</sup> Ralph Thomlinson, Population Dynamics (New York: Random House, 1965), p. 10.

<sup>4</sup> Elizabeth Draper, Birth Control in the Modern World (London: Penguin Books Ltd., 1965), p. 281.

birth, or in the words of Julian Huxley, "We must place meaningful quality above meaningless quantity. There must be a combined effort in both the public and the private sectors towards such a goal."<sup>5</sup>

At the other end of the continuum, a person finds religious leaders who continually quote the Bible and declare that the commandment of the Lord to all mankind is to "multiply and replenish the earth." "Marriage is ordained of God and therefore a couple shirking the responsibilities of parenthood are disobeying the commands of God" is also commonly quoted by some religious leaders.<sup>6</sup>

The Catholic Church's stand on birth control is:

A couple using artificial contraceptive devices at any time is guilty of serious sin because this interferes with nature in a serious way... So serious is this sin that St. Thomas Aquinas considered that the deliberate prevention of conception is, next to the killing of an unborn child, one of the greatest vices.<sup>7</sup>

In nearly all countries the traditional opposition to the birth control movement has been the view that children come as gifts of God, and should be accepted gratefully and unquestioningly. The general feeling has been that to subject the process of reproduction to the will of man is "unnatural" and wrong.<sup>8</sup>

The individual who has membership in two groups with opposing views, both that of the Malthusians with their contentions of "over-population" and the religious leaders with their decrees of "divine

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<sup>5</sup> C. M. Cipolla, The Economic History of World Population (Baltimore: Penguin Books, 1965), p. 115.

<sup>6</sup> Church News Editorial Page, Deseret News, September 18, 1965.

<sup>7</sup> Reverend George A. Kelley, The Catholic Marriage Manual (New York: Random House, 1958), p. 48.

<sup>8</sup> William Petersen, Population (2nd ed.; London: The Macmillan Co., 1969), p. 489.

parenthood," will be highly perplexed. It is such a condition which Karen Horney points out as the cause of neurosis due to "cultural conflict" rather than "cultural compatability" of sanctioned norms.<sup>9</sup>

Religion has always been recognized as one of the complex factors accounting for differences in fertility.<sup>10</sup> In recent years, there has been a decline in the birthrate within the United States (See Table 1), which indicated there may have been a change in the effect of organized religion on its members' attitudes towards family limitation. For example, historically the Roman Catholic Church has forbidden its members to use contraceptive methods for birth control. Recent studies indicate that within the Roman Catholic Church in the United States there is an increased use of contraceptives. The trend seems to point out that the younger the married couple and the higher the amount of education, the greater the probability that the couple will practice birth control by means of contraceptives.<sup>11</sup>

News media have been flooded with articles focusing on the dangers of overpopulation. The concern is not only about food resources, but about environmental pollution. Members of organizations such as Zero Population Growth have spoken out saying, "No

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<sup>9</sup>Karen Horney, "Psychoanalysis Without Libido - Culture and Neurosis," in Varities of Personality Theory, ed. by Hendrick M. Ruitenbeck (New York: E. P. Dutton and Co., Inc., 1969), pp. 111-121.

<sup>10</sup>Wilson H. Grabill, Clyde B. Kiser, and Pascal K. Whelpton, The Fertility of American Women (New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 1958), pp. 279-281.

<sup>11</sup>Charles F. Westoff and Raymond H. Potvin, College Women and Fertility Values (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1967), pp. 58-59.

TABLE 1  
CRUDE LIVE--BIRTH RATES OF SELECTED COUNTRIES

Country	1954	1959	1964	1969
Argentina	25.2	24.0	22.5	21.5
Canada	28.5	27.4	23.5	17.5
Chile	34.3	35.9	35.3	31.9
Denmark	17.3	16.3	17.7	17.8
England (U. K.)	15.7	16.9	18.8	16.6
France	18.8	18.3	18.2	16.7
Italy	18.2	18.3	19.9	17.6
Mexico	45.3	45.6	44.4	42.2
Norway	18.5	17.7	17.7	17.7
Peru	32.3	36.1	33.8	36.9
Sweden	14.6	14.1	16.0	13.5
United States	25.0	24.1	21.0	17.7

<sup>a</sup>Statistical Office of the United Nations, United Nations Demographic Yearbook, 1969 (New York: United Nations Publishing Service, 1970), pp. 260-265.

man has the right to more than replace himself." Feelings are so strong by some that it has even been suggested that there be outright prohibition by law of a couple's right to have more than two children. "In Hawaii, State Senator Nadao Yoshinaga has already introduced a bill requiring compulsory sterilization of every woman after the birth of her second child."<sup>12</sup>

Associated with the control of birth is the subject of abortion. After the liberalizing of the abortion law in the state of New York, there were 16,000 legal abortions performed between July 1, 1970, and September 1, 1970.<sup>13</sup>

Evidence suggests that religion plays an affecting role concerning a person's attitude towards family limitation.<sup>14</sup> Freedman (1962); Kiser (1962), and others who studied the association between socio-economic status and fertility were unable to find compelling correlations, but they were able to point to religious differentials.<sup>15</sup>

In light of the question as to the effect of organized religion, this study constitutes an examination of the attitudes of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (L.D.S.) and their attitudes towards birth control and abortion. This

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<sup>12</sup>"Laws to Limit Family Size," Parents Magazine, Volume 45, October 1970, pp. 58-61.

<sup>13</sup>"Abortion in New York," Time, September 7, 1970, p. 48.

<sup>14</sup>Donald J. Bogue, Further Sociological Contributions to Family Planning Research, Community and Family Study Center (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1970), pp. 312-344.

<sup>15</sup>Ibid., p. 2.

research is an analysis of the attitudes of L.D.S. students at Brigham Young University towards birth control and abortion as correlated to the degree of conformity of religious behavior within the L.D.S. Church.

The Mormons<sup>16</sup> have long been noted for their high fertility. In this case the factor of religion operates within the context of prosperous agriculture. However, it should also be noted that in "Who's Who In America" even the Mormons, presumably mainly urban, have relatively high fertility in comparison with others in "Who's Who In America." In their study of men listed in the 1926-27 edition of "Who's Who In America," Huntington and Whitney found the following average number of children among men reporting the specific religious affiliations and reporting number of children: Jews--2.6, Congregationalists--2.7, Baptist--3.1, Lutherans--3.3, Roman Catholics--3.3, and Mormons--5.3.<sup>17</sup>

A more recent review of "Who's Who In America" (1966-67), indicates an average of 2.5 children for the Baptists and 3.2 children for the L.D.S. Although this shows a decrease for both religious groups, it is significant that the trend is in the same direction and there remains a distinction between religious groups.<sup>18</sup>

Reference group theory explains that individuals seek identification with groups for self-evaluation and self-esteem and behavior tends to be patterned by the environing structures of established

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<sup>16</sup>"Mormons" is the nickname given to members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints because of their canonized acceptance of additional scripture called the Book of Mormon.

<sup>17</sup>Ellsworth Huntington and Leon F. Whitney, The Builders of America (New York: Morrow, 1927), p. 342.

<sup>18</sup>Phillip R. Kunz and Merlin B. Brinkerhoff, "Growth in Religious Organizations: A Comparative Study," Social Science, Vol. 45, No. 4, October 1970.

social relationships and by prevailing cultural definitions.<sup>19</sup> Hyman labeled such groups as "reference groups."<sup>20</sup> When an individual seeks identification with a group, he is motivated to either gain or maintain acceptance. In order to gain acceptance he holds his attitudes in conformity with what he perceives to be the general consensus of the group members.<sup>21</sup> Sherif and Sherif in their studies claim to have found that "the binding rules, values, or standards (of an individual) for his conduct are those of his reference group."<sup>22</sup> Group affiliations and participations, therefore, tend to standardize attitudes for the members of a group.

Sociologists have become increasingly concerned with the importance of religion in understanding behavior in contemporary society. Indeed, Lenski has reported that variables associated with religious group membership exert as much influence on the attitudes and behavior of urban Americans as does position in the social class structure.<sup>23</sup>

Group identification theory predicts that an individual's conformity to the group's standard is correlated to the same degree of attitude conformity. The significance of this study is to measure the consistency of this theory. Therefore, this study predicts that the degree of Church membership behavioral conformity will

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<sup>19</sup> Robert K. Merton, Social Theory and Social Structure (revised and enlarged edition; Glencoe: Free Press, 1957), p. 302.

<sup>20</sup> Herbert Hyman, "The Psychology of Status," Archives of Psychology, No. 269 (1942).

<sup>21</sup> Harold H. Kelley, op. cit., p. 211.

<sup>22</sup> Mauzafer Sherif and Carolyn W. Sherif, Reference Groups: Exploration Into Conformity and Deviation of Adolescents (New York: Harper and Row, 1946), p. 251.

<sup>23</sup> Gerhard Lenski, "The Sociology of Religion in the United States: A Review of Theoretically Oriented Research," Tiré à part de Social Compass, 9 (1962), pp. 307-337, and The Religious Factor (New York: Doubleday and Co., 1953).



correlate to the degree of conservativeness of attitudes concerning birth control and abortion. It is expected that this research will achieve the following objectives: (1) establish that there is a relationship between conservative attitudes towards birth control and abortion and the degree of religiosity, (2) establish that group members allow a difference of attitude concerning the family limitation practices for people outside the membership group, (3) show that attitudes towards birth control and abortion within the religious membership group are particularistic rather than universalistic, (4) show that there is a correlation between a person's attitudes toward birth control and his perception of what his membership group teaches, and (5) show that religious teachings are the most important factors influencing an individual's attitudes towards birth control and abortion.

## CHAPTER II

### THEORETICAL ORIENTATION

#### Attitudes

In man's study of himself, there has always been a primary focus on attitudes. Attitudes are among the most difficult aspects of socialization to understand and yet they seem to be among the most important products of man's socialization. In a series of papers written by Fishbein (1967), he presented a behavior theory approach to the study of attitudes. He conceptualized attitude as a learned mediating evaluative response; and he viewed an individual's beliefs about any given subject in terms of the probability of stimulus-response associations.<sup>1</sup> Another formal definition of the word "attitude" is "the intensity of positive or negative effect for or against a psychological object. The psychological object is any symbol, person, place, or idea toward which people can differ between positive or negative affect."<sup>2</sup>

Mead theorized that an individual's social self is a product of the attitudes of the "significant others" within his environment.

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<sup>1</sup>Kalman J. Kaplan and Martin Fishbein, "The Source of Beliefs, Their Saliency, and Prediction of Attitude," The Journal of Social Psychology (1969), Vol. 78, p. 63.

<sup>2</sup>Barry E. Collins, Social Psychology (Massachusetts: Addison-Wesley Publishing Co.), p. 71.

But Mead lacked preciseness in defining whom he meant as "others," so Merton, in an attempt to clarify his meaning, suggested that it is the "social group to which he (a person) belongs." Group affiliations and participations tend to standardize attitudes for the members of the group.<sup>3</sup> Durkheim's study of suicide was based upon the theory of "collective representations." He recognized the constraining or controlling power that the group's norms or attitudes have over the individual. Deviations from the norms of the group or complete absence of norms leaves the individual in an uncertain, vague, and uncomfortable state. In his complex social world, the person needs guidelines for his behavior. It was from this understanding that Durkheim predicted the rate of suicide in various religious groups. He supposed that the suicide rate would be inversely proportional to the number of norms that defined specific beliefs and made an advantage for the individual. His predictions were verified in his study which supported the theory of "collective representations" upon an individual's personal attitude.<sup>4</sup>

The corner stone of Festinger's theory of social comparison takes into account the content of the attitude in relation to the nature of the relationships between the individual and other group members. Zajonc, in summarizing the concepts of balance, congruity, and dissonance theories, points out that with individuals their "thoughts, beliefs, attitudes and behavior tend to organize themselves

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<sup>3</sup>Robert K. Merton, op. cit., p. 287.

<sup>4</sup>Edward Jones and Harold Gerard, Foundations of Social Psychology (New York: John Willis and Sons, Inc., 1967) p. 332.

in meaningful and and sensible ways."<sup>5</sup> When an individual's attitude is out of alignment with his reference group, interplay of forces begins to operate and this results in uniformity of attitudes or a severance from his reference group. Human beings abhor inconsistency. Reference group theory predicts a pressure toward uniformity will be a positive function of cohesiveness.<sup>6</sup> As members of a group are attracted to each other, the intensity of the attraction will increase the degree of attitude agreement.<sup>7</sup> According to the various balance theories (Adelson & Rosenberg, 1958; Heider, 1958; Osgood and Tannenbaum, 1955; Rosenberg & Adelson, 1960), a subject's evaluation of a concept will depend upon the positive or negative evaluation the person has concerning the source of the information. If the source is from his reference group, the probability is greater that the individual will bring his attitudes into uniformity with the reference group. Tannenbaum and Gengel carried out an experiment to test congruity and attitude change in psychology students at the University of Wisconsin through a "source-concept" test. Results provided support for the generalization of attitude change as a result of the source of communication.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Robert B. Zajonc, "The Concepts of Balance, Congruity, and Dissonance," in Man In His Environment, ed. by Phillip R. Kunz and Spencer J. Condie (New York: Simon and Schuster, Inc., 1970), pp. ZAJ 1A-15A.

<sup>6</sup> Cohesiveness refers to a property of the relationship that exists between two people.

<sup>7</sup> Jones and Gerard, op. cit., p. 341.

<sup>8</sup> Percy H. Tannenbaum and Roy W. Gengel, "Generalization of Attitude Change Through Congruity Principle Relationships," Journal of Personality and Social Psychology (1966), Vol. 3, No. 3, p. 299-304.

Cohen generalizes even further that "everyone will 'conform' under some conditions."<sup>9</sup>

### Religious Group Membership

Realizing that there is an influence of membership groups upon a person's attitude, the question is to what degree an organized religion directs an individual's attitude regarding a given subject. Newcomb found in his Bennington College study that the individual's attitude development was a function of the way in which he related himself to his membership group.<sup>10</sup> Considering that not all members of a religious group are alike in their membership character, Newcomb's study suggests that by measuring the degree of individual identification it will correlate with the degree of conformity on a given set of attitudes.

Religion, as part of a culture, consists of the configuration of definitions which includes beliefs regarding (1) the supernatural and/or (2) high-intensity or top-level value definitions.<sup>11</sup> Definitions of morality, unrighteousness, and badness are part of religion. Basically, religion is learned and is related to the way one lives with himself and others. The influence of religious definitions and/or religious behavior extends to the degree to which it is included

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<sup>9</sup> Arthur R. Cohen, Attitude Change and Social Influence (New York: Basic Books, Inc., 1964), p. 106.

<sup>10</sup> Theodore M. Newcomb, "Attitude Development as a Function of Reference Groups: The Bennington Study," Readings In Social Psychology (New York: Henry Holt and Co., 1952), p. 430.

<sup>11</sup> Glen M. Vernon, Human Interaction (New York: Free Press Co., 1965), p. 358.

in the interactural process.<sup>12</sup> In the example of Durkheim's study, he found the Catholics to have the highest number of rituals and cultural proscriptions and the Jews and the Protestants to have the least. Therefore, the Protestants and Jews, having a less structured social system, were found to have the higher number of suicides.<sup>13</sup> Sociologists have become increasingly concerned with the importance of religion in understanding behavior within contemporary society. Lenski has found in his studies that variables associated with religious group membership may exert as much influence on the attitudes and behavior of urban Americans as does the position in the social class structure.<sup>14</sup>

#### Latter-day Saint Religiosity

The degree to which a person identifies with his religious group can be determined by measurement on a given religious membership religiosity scale. Since this study concerns itself with members of the L.D.S. Church, the literature reviewed related mainly to studies oriented to the same religious group.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>12</sup>Vernon, Ibid. p. 373.

<sup>13</sup>Jones and Gerard, op. cit., p. 332.

<sup>14</sup>Gerhard Lenski, "The Sociology of Religion in the United States: A Review of Theoretically Oriented Research," The Religious Factor (New York: Doubleday and Co., 1963), pp. 307-337.

<sup>15</sup>Other studies using measurement of religious norms for determination of membership religiosity include Bernard Lazewitz, "Some Factors Associated With Variations in Church Attendance," Social Forces XXXIX (May, 1969), pp. 301-309; Louis Bultena, "Church Membership and Church Attendance in Madison, Wisconsin," American Sociological Review, Vol. 14 (January, 1949), pp. 384-389; Gerhard E. Lenski, The Religious Factor (New York: Doubleday, 1961); G. Allport, et. al., "The Religion of Post War College Students," Journal of

Vernon's study of 1955 successfully scaled religious beliefs and participation among Latter-day Saints. Of the 194 respondents, he was able to scale 12 items with a coefficient of reproducibility of .91.<sup>16</sup>

Payne, in his study of the relationship between expressed (L.D.S.) religious involvement, which was identified by behavioral patterns and some economic attitudes of the working class, was able to find a weak but positive correlation.<sup>17</sup> This study was conducted in the city of Provo, Utah, which is predominantly L.D.S. Another Provo study was completed by Brinkerhoff which also scaled L.D.S. behavior patterns. On the eight religious items the Guttman scale produced a coefficient of reproducibility of .85.<sup>18</sup>

Another successful study using a Guttman scale to measure L.D.S. religiosity was the Box Elder study conducted by Reeder in Brigham City, Utah. He sampled nearly 800 L.D.S. residents of the

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Psychology, Vol. 25 (1948), pp. 3-33; Lee G. Burchinal, "Marital Satisfaction and Religious Behavior," American Sociological Review XXII (April, 1957), pp. 306-310; Fred Thalheimer, "Continuity and Change in Religiosity: A Study of Academicians," Pacific Sociological Review, Vol. 8 (1965), pp. 101-108, and Rodney Stark, "Class Radicalism and Religious Involvement In Great Britian," American Sociological Review XXIX (December, 1964), pp. 694-706.

<sup>16</sup>Glen M. Vernon, "An Inquiry Into The Scalability of Church Orthodoxy," Sociology and Social Research, Vol. 39 (May-June, 1955), pp. 324-327.

<sup>17</sup>William Dennison Payne, "The Relationship Between Expressed Religious Involvement and Some Economic Attitudes of Working Class Mormons" (unpublished Masters thesis, Brigham Young University, 1967), pp. 99-103.

<sup>18</sup>David Brent Brinkerhoff, "A Study of the Relationship Between Types of Religious Orientations and Degree of Religious Involvement of L.D.S. Church Members in the Provo Community" (unpublished Masters thesis, Brigham Young University, 1968), p. 32.

city concerning their religious activity. He then validated the respondent's statements in questioning the local L.D.S. Bishop concerning each respondent and his activity. It was found that of the 800 respondents approximately 400 were inactive, 200 were active, but did not hold a church position, and 200 were active and held a church position. Reeder produced a seven-point religiosity scale with a coefficient of reproducibility of .95.<sup>19</sup>

Tapley compared religious experience to L.D.S. Church orthodoxy and found his church orthodoxy dimension amenable to Guttman scaling. The eight-point church orthodoxy scale produced a coefficient of reproducibility of .88.<sup>20</sup>

#### Latter-day Saint Teachings Concerning Birth Control

In order to give validity to the selected statements concerning birth control, only statements which have been given by the First Presidency of the L.D.S. Church have been presented. In 1916 articles concerning birth control were written by general authorities of the L.D.S. Church and published in the Relief Society Magazine.<sup>21</sup> The following year President Joseph F. Smith was quoted in the same magazine as follows:

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<sup>19</sup> William R. Reeder, "Box Elder Study" (unpublished paper presented at Brigham Young University, 1970).

<sup>20</sup> Joel Lane Tapley, "A Study of Religious Experiences as Related to Church Orthodoxy" (unpublished Masters thesis, Brigham Young University, 1969), pp. 16-31.

<sup>21</sup> The Relief Society Magazine was an official publication of the L.D.S. women's organization called by the same name.



I regret, I think it is a crying evil, that there should exist a sentiment or feeling among any members of the Church to curtail the birth of their children. I think that it is a crime whenever it occurs, where husband and wife are in possession of health and vigor and are free from impurities that would be entailed upon their posterity. I believe that where people undertake to curtail or prevent the birth of their children that they are going to reap disappointment by and by. I have no hesitancy in saying that I believe this is one of the greatest crimes of the world today, this evil practice.<sup>22</sup>

The second President of the L.D.S. Church, Brigham Young, said:

There are multitudes of pure and holy spirits waiting to take tabernacles; now what is our duty? To prepare tabernacles for them; to take a course that will not tend to drive those spirits into the families of the wicked, where they will be trained in wickedness...It is the duty of every righteous man and woman to prepare tabernacles for all the spirits they can.<sup>23</sup>

President Joseph Fielding Smith, the current President of the L.D.S. Church made this statement concerning birth control: "When a man and a woman are married and they agree or covenant to limit their offspring to two or three, and practice devices to accomplish this purpose, they are guilty of iniquity which eventually must be punished."<sup>24</sup> In later texts, he goes on to explain that, "It should be understood definitely that this kind of doctrine is not only not advocated by the authorities of the Church, but also condemned by them as wickedness in the sight of the Lord."<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Joseph F. Smith, Sr., The Relief Society Magazine (1917), Vol. 4, p. 318.

<sup>23</sup> Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, Vol. 4 (London: Latter-day Saints' Book Depot.), p. 56.

<sup>24</sup> Joseph Fielding Smith, Doctrines of Salvation (13th ed., Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1966), p. 87.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid., p. 87.

The L.D.S. Church has maintained a constant position concerning the attitude of birth control. Most significant to this research is a letter sent April 14, 1969, to presidents of stakes, bishops of wards, and presidents of missions by the First Presidency regarding birth control. The letter is in full agreement with the First Presidency in 1916 and is as follows:

The First Presidency is being asked from time to time as to what the attitude of the Church is regarding birth control. In order that you may be informed on this subject and that you may be prepared to convey the proper information to the members of the Church under your jurisdiction, we have decided to give you the following statement:

We seriously regret that there should exist a sentiment or feeling among any members of the Church to curtail the birth of their children. We have been commanded to multiply and replenish the earth that we may have joy and rejoicing in our posterity.

Where husband and wife enjoy health and vigor and are free from impurities that would be entailed upon their posterity, it is contrary to teachings of the Church artificially to curtail or prevent the birth of children. We believe that those who practice birth control will reap disappointment by and by.

However, we feel that men must be considerate of their wives who bear the greater responsibility not only of bearing children, but for caring for them through childhood. To this end, the mother's health and strength should be conserved and the husband's consideration for his wife is his first duty, and self-control a dominant factor in all their relationships.

It is our further feeling that married couples should seek inspiration and wisdom from the Lord that they may exercise discretion in solving their marital problems, and that they may be permitted to rear their children in accordance with the teachings of the gospel.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) David O. McKay

Hugh B. Brown

N. Eldon Tanner

Latter-day Saint Teachings  
Concerning Abortion

Until recently, very little was written regarding the L.D.S. policy concerning abortion, although there was a strong implication in church publications concerning the degradation of such practice. Recently, the following statement was issued by the L.D.S. First Presidency:

The question is frequently raised as to the policy of the Church regarding abortions. The following is quoted from a statement recently issued by the First Presidency on the subject of abortion and sterilization. 'We have given careful consideration to the question of proposed laws on abortion and sterilization. We are opposed to any modification, explanation or liberalization of laws on these vital subjects.'

The Church takes the view that any tampering with the fountains of life is serious both morally and physiologically. The Lord's command imposed upon L.D.S. is to multiply and replenish the earth. Nevertheless, there may be conditions where abortion might be justified, but such conditions must be determined in each instance upon the advice of a competent, reliable physician, preferably a member of the Church, and in accordance with the civil laws pertaining thereto.<sup>26</sup>

Religiosity and Attitudes Concerning  
Birth Control and Abortion

Edman has pointed out that where an ecclesiastical organization is highly developed, it is controlling in the lives of the people; in fact, it may be one of the most powerful forces of social life.<sup>27</sup> With the previously mentioned assumption and the realization that religious teachings motivate childbearing, this would suggest

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<sup>26</sup>"Abortion," The New Era, Vol. 1, No. 4 (1971), p. 50.

<sup>27</sup>Irwin Edman, Offenses, Human Traits and Their Social Significance (Massachusetts: Houghton, Mifflin Company, 1920), p. 324.

through the theory of cognitive consistency, (Cartwright, 1949; Crawford, Heredia, and Stocker, 1968; Fishbein, 1963; Rosenberg, 1956; Smith, 1949; Woodruff and Dipesta, 1948) the more an individual is active in his religious faith. Or in the other terms, the higher he measures on a religiosity scale, the more negative his feelings should be concerning birth control and abortion.<sup>28</sup>

Potvin, Westoff, and Ryder conducted a study of factors affecting Catholic wives. They found that the conformity of the Catholic wives correlated with their church magisterium's position on birth control. This study was conducted between 1955 and 1965. It was observed that the proportion of Catholic wives using methods of birth control other than rhythm increased steadily despite the condemnation by Catholic theology of all forms of birth limitation except periodic or total abstinence. Their conclusion in the area of religiosity and conformity is that conformity to church teachings on birth control was positively correlated with conformity to all Catholic norms in general.<sup>29</sup>

With regards to abortion, it is assumed that, since both birth control and abortion deal so closely with childbearing, the same conditions influencing attitudes concerning birth control will be true of abortion.

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<sup>28</sup> Susan M. Stolka and Larry D. Barnett, "Education and Religion as Factors in Women's Attitudes Motivating Childbearing," Journal of Marriage and the Family, Vol. 31, No. 4 (November, 1969), pp. 740-750.

<sup>29</sup> Raymond H. Potvin, Charles F. Westoff, and Norman B. Ryder, "Factors Affecting Catholic Wives' Conformity to Their Church Magisterium's Position on Birth Control," Journal of Marriage and the Family, Vol. 30 (1968), pp. 263-272.

### Research Hypotheses

Other researchers note that attitudes concerning birth limitation vary among religious faiths.<sup>30</sup> The purpose of this research is to examine the degree of variance in attitudes concerning abortion and birth control in reference to "group identification theory" and "reference group theory" as measured by a L.D.S. religiosity scale.

Hypothesis 1: There is a positive relationship between conservative attitudes toward birth control and abortion and one's degree of measured religiosity.

One of the basic assumptions of the L.D.S. religion is that the principles of the Gospel are divine and should be practiced by all mankind alike. A universalistic attitude should therefore prevail by members of a faith who declare their Church to be the only true Church of Jesus Christ.

Hypothesis 2: There will be no significant difference between the attitude toward personal practice of birth control and abortion and the practice sanctioned to others outside the religious group membership.

Actions by themselves do not constitute a rightness or wrongness unless considered in context of the circumstances. Within Christian religion, a basic tenet which is found in the Ten Commandments states that it is wrong to kill a human being. This concept holds true in the majority of the situations, but when the circumstance turns to war the sanction is given to kill the enemy in the line of duty. With the assumption that the rightness or wrongness

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<sup>30</sup>Grabill, et. al., op. cit., p. 279.

of the practice of birth control and abortion is based on the circumstances, the condition of "situational ethics" exists.

Hypothesis 3: Attitudes toward birth control and abortion within the L.D.S. religious membership group are significantly more particularistic than universalistic.

As previously indicated, man abhors inconsistency. Whenever inconsistency exists within the life of an individual there is a strain toward relieving the inconsistency and bringing attitudes into agreement.

Hypothesis 4: There is a significant correlation between a person's attitude towards birth control and his perception of the L.D.S. Church teachings concerning birth control.

Very seldom is an attitude directed by a single source, but rather by a cluster of influences. Lewin's valence theory is frequently diagrammed with vector forces labeling inducements and impedances. Within the Christian world the first commandment given to man by God was to "multiply and replenish the earth."

Hypothesis 5: Of the cluster factors influencing the attitude towards birth control and abortion, religion will be the most significant.

## CHAPTER III

### METHODOLOGY

#### The Research Problem

The development of this research project was motivated by an article which appeared in the Salt Lake Tribune.<sup>1</sup> It stated that a survey had been conducted on the campus at the University of Utah regarding the attitudes of the students concerning the use of birth control in family limitation. The article purported that 76 per cent of the students, when questioned, advocated the practice of birth control. The majority of the students attending the University of Utah (65%)<sup>2</sup> are L.D.S. Assuming a random distribution of respondents and a reliable reporting of the facts, there appears to be an incongruency between the results of the study and what a person would assume when understanding the L.D.S. Church's position on birth control.<sup>3</sup>

The question then arises as to whether religion does or does not exert influence upon a person's attitude concerning family

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<sup>1</sup> Salt Lake Tribune, June 1, 1970.

<sup>2</sup> This was an approximation given by the Dean of Admissions and Records at the University of Utah in April, 1971.

<sup>3</sup> David O. McKay, Church News (September 19, 1965), p. 16.

limitation.<sup>4</sup> Generally accepted is the fact that in order for a religion to exert influence on its members, the members must be committed to the religion. It would, therefore, seem important that a measurement be made of the degree to which members conform to the religious group's behavioral norms. It would also appear logical that the greater the degree of conformity of behavioral norms, the greater will be the degree of conformity to religious attitudes. This research is an attempt to analyze the attitudes of L.D.S. members concerning birth control and abortion as correlated with the degree of conformity of religious behavior within the L.D.S. Church.

#### The Research Design

The data presented in this study were gathered from students who were attending Brigham Young University Fall Semester 1970-71. All students sampled were members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This group was used primarily because of accessibility and secondly because of homogeneity with respect to the L.D.S. Church membership.

A questionnaire was developed by the researcher to examine the hypothesis as previously stated. Relevant to the research, the questionnaire contained three scales as well as other specific items related to the study and pertinent background information on each respondent. The scales included were (1) a birth control attitudinal scale, (2) an abortion attitudinal scale, and (3) a religiosity scale.

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<sup>4</sup>The researcher is including both birth control and abortion under the heading of family limitations.



Prior to mailing the questionnaire, it was reviewed and criticized by faculty, students, and members of the Office of Institutional Research. It was then pre-tested by 40 sociology students attending Summer School. Appropriate changes were made and the same previously mentioned people reviewed the final questionnaire before printing and mailing.

### Sample Design

A simple random sampling<sup>5</sup> of the Brigham Young University studentbody was requested. Since there is no "neat" formula in selecting the sample size<sup>6</sup> the researcher arbitrarily selected the sample size at 2000 due to time and budgetary constraints.

Because of the large universe, a sub-universe was created by arbitrarily selecting a given digit in the randomly assigned studentbody number.<sup>7</sup> This produced a resultant number of 1874 students to whom questionnaires were mailed. Of these, only 64 questionnaires were returned because of incorrect address.

A time limit of one month was allowed for the return of the questionnaires of which the latter two weeks were Christmas vacation. Within five days after the mailing, over 40 per cent of the questionnaires were returned and by the end of the month 52 per cent, or 1021 questionnaires, had been received. Of these

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<sup>5</sup>F. N. Kerlinger, Foundations of Behavioral Research (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., 1967), pp. 854-856.

<sup>6</sup>G. Sjoberb and R. Nett, A Methodology for Social Research (New York: Harper and Row, 1968), p. 150.

<sup>7</sup>The studentbody number, which is a six-digit number, is assigned to a student upon acceptance to the University. The fifth-digit location was selected and "0" was the control number.

1021 questionnaires, 190 had to be discarded due to incomplete responses. An additional 35 questionnaires were discarded due to coding errors in transferring the information from the questionnaire to IBM #555 optical scanner code sheets. This left a total of 795 questionnaires that were analyzed in terms of hypothesis testing.

#### Development of the Research Instrument

The aim of the study was to learn the relationship between L.D.S. religiosity and attitudes concerning birth control and abortion. Although many studies have been done which include scales on L.D.S. religiosity, the researcher was only able to find one study using the variable of birth control attitudes,<sup>8</sup> and no recent studies concerning abortion attitudes were discovered.

A self-administered questionnaire was developed in light of the nature of the questions being asked since Ellis<sup>9</sup> suggests that respondents give more self-incriminating information in a questionnaire than if they were in an interview situation. Secondly, it was also felt that if the questionnaire were anonymous the respondents would be more honest in completing it.

#### Religious Orthodoxy Scale

In selecting a religiosity scale a review was made of the Vernon,<sup>10</sup> Tapley,<sup>11</sup> and Reeder<sup>12</sup> scales. Rather than mixing both

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<sup>8</sup> See Theoretical Orientation Chapter for the details of this study.

<sup>9</sup> Albert Ellis, "Questionnaire Versus Interview Methods in the Study of Human Love Relationships," American Sociological Review, Vol. 12, No. 5 (February, 1947), pp. 541-553.

<sup>10</sup> Vernon, op. cit., p. 327.      <sup>11</sup> Tapley, op. cit., pp. 16-31.

<sup>12</sup> Reeder, op. cit., (unpublished research paper).

TABLE 2  
COMPARISON BETWEEN SAMPLE RESPONDENTS  
TO NON-RESPONDENTS

	Respondents Per Cent	Non-Respondents Per Cent	$\chi^2$
<u>Year in School</u>			
Freshman	26.82	26.78	
Sophomore	21.54	22.71	
Junior	23.67	22.06	
Senior	21.16	20.20	
5th Year	0.46	0.19	(Smirnov)
Non-degree	2.55	2.78	.777
Masters	2.67	4.73	2df
Doctorate	<u>1.13</u>	<u>0.56</u>	$p < .70$
TOTAL PER CENT	100.00	100.00	
TOTAL NUMBER	795	1079	
<u>Marital Status</u>			
Single	79.50	76.09	
Temple Marriage	18.87	21.32	.0056
Civil Marriage	1.26	1.85	2df
Widowed or Divorced	<u>0.38</u>	<u>0.74</u>	$p < .95$
TOTAL PER CENT	100.00	100.00	
TOTAL NUMBER	795	1079	

TABLE 2--Continued

	Respondents Per Cent	Non-Respondents Per Cent	$\chi^2$
<u>Age</u>			
16	0.25	0.19	
17	4.40	3.80	
18	20.25	17.98	
19	14.84	13.72	
20	12.45	11.68	
21	11.32	12.70	
22	10.06	12.05	
23	11.19	9.55	(Smirnov)
24	4.28	4.54	1.994
25	2.64	4.17	2df
26+	<u>6.32</u>	<u>9.62</u>	$p < .50$
TOTAL PER CENT	100.00	100.00	
TOTAL NUMBER	795	1079	

beliefs and behavior as did Vernon and Tapley, the researcher developed a scale similar to the Reeder scale which only measured behavior patterns. In the pre-test the results produced a coefficient of reproducibility of .96 but it was heavily skewed in the four-way division of the Word of Wisdom standard.

Due to the homogeneity of the sample and the screening process of students attending Brigham Young University,<sup>13</sup> it was necessary to group the Word of Wisdom items into one index rather than four sub-indices. It was decided that two additional behavioral items would be added to the scale although these were not included in the pre-test. Therefore, the formulation of the index of religiosity used in this study comprises seven behavioral items.

In the full study, the scale category was dichotomized according to marital status. The coefficient of reproducibility of the seven items was .92 for single students and .93 for married students with the minimum marginal coefficient of reproducibility of .80 for both. Six of the seven items for single students and four of the seven items for married students lay between a 15 per cent and 85 per cent margin of discrimination. By eliminating the items which lay outside the margin of discrimination, the results produced a coefficient of reproducibility of .90 for single students and .94 for married students. The spread of the marginal frequencies on the seven items was sufficient to provide

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<sup>13</sup>Students must agree to live by a Code of Conduct which includes a Word of Wisdom Standard (no smoking, drinking alcohol, tea, or coffee) before being admitted to the University. The pre-test did show that not all were abiding by the code even though they agreed to it.

a full range of scores. This information led to the conclusion that the scales would allow us to consider religiosity as a unidimensional attribute. The detailed results of this analysis are reported in Tables 3 and 4.

Birth Control and Abortion  
Attitudinal Scales

The formulation of the birth control and abortion attitudinal scales were arbitrarily selected. Hypothetical situations ranged the full gamut from simply not wanting children to the extreme of threatening the wife's life. Each hypothetical situation was dichotomized for each respondent to answer concerning a significant other or self and a generalized other.

On the pre-test, measured on a Guttman scale, the coefficient of reproducibility was .98 on birth control and .97 on abortion. Due to these results which were significantly higher than the .90 criterion arbitrarily established by Guttman<sup>14</sup> no changes were made for the final questionnaire.

The scale categories were again dichotomized in the full study according to marital status. The coefficient of reproducibility for the seven items in birth control was .96 for single students and .95 for married students. In regards to abortion the coefficient

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<sup>14</sup>Guttman scalogram analysis is a method by which it can be determined whether or not the attribute in question involves one or several dimensions. Hence, establishing a .90 level of reproducibility allows us to conclude that there are probably no other dimensions involved. See S. A. Stouffer, et. al., "Measurement and Prediction," Studies in Social Psychology in World War II, Vol. 4 (Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton Press, 1950), pp. 77-80.

TABLE 3

GUTTMAN SCALE CRITERIA: INDEX OF BRIGHAM YOUNG  
UNIVERSITY STUDENT ATTITUDES -- SINGLE

	Religiosity	Birth Control	Abortion
1. Coefficient of reproducibility:	.92	.96	.92
2. Range of marginal frequencies:			
(a) Extreme modal frequencies	42% to 96%	5% to 85%	4% to 55%
(b) Response categories between 15 and 85 per cent	6	5	5
(c) Sufficient spread to provide a range of scores	yes	yes	yes
3. Minimum marginal reproducibility:	.80	.80	.80
4. Difference between coefficient of reproducibility and the coefficient of minimum marginal reproducibility:	.12	.16	.12
5. Number of items and response categories:	Seven dichotomous items on each of three scales		
6. Pattern of error:	Random	Random	Random
7. Error to Non-error ratio:			
(a) Number of items having more error than non-error:	None	None	None

TABLE 3--Continued

(b) Item by Item error:

Religiosity Scale

	Response Category	Error	Non-error
Word of Wisdom	(1-4)	1	3
	( 5 )	0	96
Payment of Tithing	(1-4)	6	10
	( 5 )	2	82
Attendance at Church	(1-4)	1	17
	( 5 )	0	82
Individual Prayer	(1-4)	9	25
	( 5 )	4	62
Family Home Evening	(1-4)	5	35
	( 5 )	5	55
Family Prayer	(1-4)	3	50
	( 5 )	9	38
Fasting two meals each Fast Sunday	(1-4)	0	58
	( 5 )	13	29
<u>Birth Control Scale</u>			
Wife's physical health is threatened	(1-3)	2	13
	(4-5)	0	85
Wife's mental health is threatened	(1-3)	5	19
	(4-5)	0	76
To provide spacing of children	(1-3)	8	47
	(4-5)	2	43
Husband is going to college	(1-3)	1	64
	(4-5)	1	34
To prevent additional children after having desired size of family	(1-3)	1	77
	(4-5)	3	19
To insure having no children	(1-3)	3	89
	(4-5)	2	6



TABLE 3--Continued

<u>Birth Control Scale Cont.</u>			
	Response Category	Error	Non-error
To get ahead economically	(1-3)	0	94
	(4-5)	1	5
<u>Abortion Scale</u>			
Baby is unwanted	( 1 )	10	37
	(2-5)	0	53
Mother is unwed	( 1 )	5	41
	(2-5)	6	48
Parents are economically unable to care for baby	( 1 )	2	51
	(2-5)	1	46
Pregnancy from rape	( 1 )	5	65
	(2-5)	2	28
Baby is deformed	( 1 )	4	74
	(2-5)	2	20
Mother is mentally incapable	( 1 )	2	84
	(2-5)	4	10
Necessity to save the mother's life	( 1 )	0	96
	(2-5)	1	3

TABLE 4

GUTTMAN SCALE CRITERIA: INDEX OF BRIGHAM YOUNG  
UNIVERSITY STUDENT ATTITUDES -- MARRIED

	Religiosity	Birth Control	Abortion
1. Coefficient of reproducibility:	.93	.95	.96
2. Range of marginal frequencies:			
(a) Extreme modal frequencies	46% to 98%	5% to 94%	4% to 71%
(b) Response categories between 15 and 85 per cent	4	3	6
(c) Sufficient spread to provide a range of scores	yes	yes	yes
3. Minimum marginal reproducibility:	.80	.80	.80
4. Difference between coefficient of reproducibility and the coefficient of minimum marginal reproducibility:	.13	.16	.16
5. Number of items and response categories:	Seven dichotomous items on each of three scales		
6. Pattern of error:	Random	Random	Random
7. Error to non-error ratio:			
(a) Number of items having more error than non-error	None	None	None

TABLE 4--Continued

(b) Item by item error:			
<u>Religiosity Scale</u>			
	Response Category	Error	Non-error
Word of Wisdom	(1-4)	0	2
	( 5 )	0	98
Payment of Tithing	(1-4)	2	8
	( 5 )	0	90
Attendance at Church	(1-4)	3	10
	( 5 )	3	84
Individual Prayer	(1-4)	6	20
	( 5 )	2	72
Family Prayer	(1-4)	1	29
	( 5 )	3	67
Fasting two meals each Fast Sunday	(1-4)	4	47
	( 5 )	6	43
Family Home Evenings	(1-4)	0	55
	( 5 )	13	32
<u>Birth Control Scale</u>			
Wife's physical health is threatened	(1-3)	3	5
	(4-5)	0	96
Wife's mental health is threatened	(1-3)	5	10
	(4-5)	0	84
To provide spacing of children	(1-3)	4	35
	(4-5)	4	57
Husband is going to college	(1-3)	3	60
	(4-5)	6	36
To prevent additional children after having desired size of family	(1-3)	3	73
	(4-5)	3	21
To insure having no children	(1-3)	2	92
	(4-5)	0	6

TABLE 4--Continued

<u>Birth Control Scale Cont.</u>			
	Response Category	Error	Non-error
To get ahead economically	(1-3)	0	93
	(4-5)	2	5
<u>Abortion Scale</u>			
Baby is unwanted	( 1 )	4	25
	(2-5)	0	71
Mother is unwed	( 1 )	3	32
	(2-5)	2	63
Parents are economically unable to care for baby	( 1 )	0	38
	(2-5)	6	54
Pregnancy from rape	( 1 )	2	68
	(2-5)	1	29
Baby is deformed	( 1 )	3	68
	(2-5)	4	25
Mother is mentally incapable	( 1 )	0	75
	(2-5)	4	21
Necessity to save the mother's life	( 1 )	0	95
	(2-5)	0	5

TABLE 5  
RELIGIOSITY SCALE -- SINGLE

Scale Items	Scale Type (read down)							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Word of Wisdom	SN,NT FO,0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Payment of Tithing	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R	R	R	R	R	R
Attendance at Church	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R	R	R	R	R
Individual Prayer	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R	R	R	R
Family Home Evening	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R	R	R
Family Prayer	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R	R
Fasting two meals each Fast Sunday	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R

SN = Seldom or Never; NT = Now and Then; FO = Fairly Often; O = Often; R = Regular

TABLE 6  
BIRTH CONTROL SCALE -- SINGLE

Scale Items	Scale Type (read down)							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Wife's physical health is threatened	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA
Wife's mental health is threatened	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA
To provide spacing of children	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA
Husband is going to college	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA
To prevent additional children after having desired size family	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA
To insure having no children	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA
To get ahead economically	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA

SD = Strongly disapprove; D = Disapprove; U = Undecided; A = Approve; SA = Strongly approve

TABLE 7  
 ABORTION SCALE -- SINGLE

Scale Items	Scale Type (read down)							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Baby is unwanted	D,U A,SA	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD
Mother is unwed	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD
Parents are economically unable to care for baby	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD
Pregnancy from rape	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD	SD	SD	SD
Baby is deformed	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD	SD	SD
Mother is mentally incapable	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD	SD
Necessity to save mother's life	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD

SD = Strongly disapprove; D = Disapprove; U = Undecided; A = Approve; SA = Strongly approve

TABLE 8

## RELIGIOSITY SCALE -- MARRIED

Scale Items	Scale Type (read down)							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Word of Wisdom	SN,NT FO,0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Payment of Tithing	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R	R	R	R	R	R
Attendance at Church	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R	R	R	R	R
Individual Prayer	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R	R	R	R
Family Prayer	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R	R	R
Fasting two meals each Fast Sunday	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R	R
Family Home Evening	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	SN,NT FO,0	R

SN = Seldom or Never; NT = Now and Then; FO = Fairly Often; O = Often; R = Regular



TABLE 9  
BIRTH CONTROL SCALE -- MARRIED

Scale Items	Scale Type (read down)							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Wife's physical health is threatened	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA
Wife's mental health is threatened	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA
To provide spacing of children	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA
Husband is going to college	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA
To prevent additional children after having desired size family	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA	A,SA
To insure having no children	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA	A,SA
To get ahead economically	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	SD,D U	A,SA

SD = Strongly disapprove; D = Disapprove; U = Undecided; A = Approve; SA = Strongly approve

TABLE 10  
ABORTION SCALE -- MARRIED

Scale Items	Scale Type (read down)							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Baby is unwanted	D,U A,SA	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD
Mother is unwed	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD
Parents are economically unable to care for baby	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD	SD	SD	SD	SD
Pregnancy from rape	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD	SD	SD	SD
Baby is deformed	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD	SD	SD
Mother is mentally incapable	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD	SD
Necessity to save mother's life	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	D,U A,SA	SD

SD = Strongly disapprove; D = Disapprove; U = Undecided; A = Approve; SA = Strongly approve

of reproducibility of .92 for single students and .96 for married students. Only three of the seven items in the birth control scale of married students lay within the 15 per cent to 85 per cent whereas in the other three scales five and six of the seven items are within the designated boundaries. Eliminating the items which lay outside the margin of discrimination coefficients of reproducibility are .95 birth control/single students; .93 abortion/single students; .95 birth control/married students; and .95 abortion/married students. The spread of the marginal frequencies were sufficient to provide adequate distribution. The information leads to the conclusion that the scales allow us to consider the birth control and abortion attitudinal scales as unidimension attributes. The detailed results of this analysis are reported in Tables 3 and 4.

Other Items Included  
in the Questionnaire

With the publicity which has been given the "pill" by the news media, it often appears that birth control and pill are used synonymously. It was, therefore, thought desirable that the individual be given the opportunity to identify the methods of birth control with which he is familiar. It was hoped that this would broaden the individual's thinking as he completed the questionnaire.

Since all of the respondents were L.D.S., a set of statements was included which were direct quotes from L.D.S. leaders. This allowed a measurement of the respondent's perceived understanding of the L.D.S. Church's attitude regarding birth control. Seven of these statements were matched item for item with the

hypothetical situations in the birth control attitudinal scale. This allowed measurement between personal beliefs and attitudes as compared to their perception of L.D.S. teaching.

One additional area was added to the general question as to whether or not the individual felt abortion should be legalized and why. This seemed important in measuring the generalized attitude concerning abortion against the particularistic attitudes identified on the abortion attitudinal scale.

The remainder of the questionnaire dealt with the demographic information such as age, sex, residence, family size, geographical location of home rearing, and level of education. Inasmuch as the pre-test did not verify the major hypothesis, questions on socioeconomic status were included so that if religiosity did not prove to be a significant correlary with birth control and abortion attitudes, perhaps socioeconomic status would.

Due to the length of the questionnaire and the time required to complete it, the questionnaire was designed to give the respondent a variety of methods in answering. In order to increase the response through return mailing, a fictitious sponsoring organization (The Institute for Family Research) was designated and registered with the Utah Secretary of State. For the cost of \$1.00, the researcher is entitled to operate under this name for a period of eight years.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>15</sup>A request was made to use the Utah County Medical Society letterhead for this study. The request was denied on the grounds of excluding the study only to L.D.S.

A cover letter was prepared following a recommended outline.<sup>16</sup> It was printed on a letterhead designed by the researcher using the fictitious name. (See Appendix A) The letter was designed to give the appearance that the questionnaire would remain anonymous. The word confidential was used in place of anonymous.

Each questionnaire was carefully coded and recorded. Since dot codes on the edges of the paper are commonly used and looked for, a systematic code using a four column IBM punch card was used, placing the dots in the body of the letter with the appearance of ink spots.

As each questionnaire was returned in the mail, it was recorded, dated, and the student's studentbody number was placed on it. This allowed the measurement of difference between the respondents and non-respondents. (See Table 2).

#### Statistical Treatment of Data

Guttman, in introducing his unidimensional scalogram analysis, pointed out that his method was not a rigid statistical procedure but merely a method of summarizing a large quantity of data in getting a "picture" at a glance of the configuration of the qualitative data.<sup>17</sup> For this purpose the Guttman scales were used in this study. Since a program was not available for running Guttman scales, the scales were analyzed by hand. Therefore, only

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<sup>16</sup> Good and Hatt, Methods in Social Research (McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., New York, 1952), pp. 176-178.

<sup>17</sup> Louis Guttman, "A Basis For Scaling Qualitative Data," American Sociological Review, Vol. 9 (April, 1944), pp. 139-150.

100 randomly selected questionnaires were used in each scale. Guttman explained that the entire sample need not be used, but that a working sample of 100 taking every nth respondent approximates the necessary conditions for scalogram analysis.<sup>18</sup>

Ordinal assumptions were made with regard to three of the hypotheses, therefore, Goodman and Kruskal's gamma was used as a measure of association. Gamma was conveniently obtained through an "ANSTAT" computer program.

For one hypothesis a median test for matched pairs was used. Due to the matched factors, and the ordinal nature of the data, the requirements of this test were met.<sup>19</sup>

#### Validity and Reliability

Validity of a measuring instrument is complex, controversial, and very important in research.<sup>20</sup> Poor measurement can invalidate any scientific study, although the researcher realizes that it is impossible to have complete validity in the use of the instrument. An instrument is valid if it measures or predicts what it claims to be measuring or predicting.<sup>21</sup> Of the four types of validation suggested by Kerlinger<sup>22</sup> content validation was given precedence

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<sup>18</sup> Samuel Stouffer, Measurement and Prediction (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1950), p. 100.

<sup>19</sup> Herbert M. Blalock, Social Statistics (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 1960), p. 49.

<sup>20</sup> Kerlinger, op. cit., p. 444.

<sup>21</sup> Matilda White Riley, Sociological Research: A Case Approach (New York: Harcourt, Bruce and World, Inc., 1963), p. 250.

<sup>22</sup> Kerlinger, op. cit., pp. 444-459.

upon the strength of Guttman's statement that "'known group validation' consists of beginning with an informal judgement of one or more groups of people with respect to their attitudes."<sup>23</sup>

A major criticism of scalogram analysis is that it is difficult to establish reliability. An instrument is reliable if it consistently measures the same things with different sample populations.<sup>24</sup> A means for determining reliability has been the "test-retest" procedure. This study used a pre-test and then the actual test. However, some degree of reliability was indicated by the use of the Guttman scaling techniques.<sup>25</sup>

#### Methodological Limitations

One primary limitation of a study of this nature is the difficulty in measuring attitudes. Blumer (1955) recommended the abandonment of the concept of "attitude" because it is so ambiguous.<sup>26</sup> Newcomb's criticism of attitude measurement is that the subjects tend to "conceal, distort, or even deceive" their true position -- but, he also claims this is true of all measurement of human behavior.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>23</sup>Stouffer, op. cit., pp. 53-54.

<sup>24</sup>Sjoberg and Nett, op. cit., p. 300.

<sup>25</sup>Louis Guttman, "A Basis For Scaling Qualitative Data," American Sociological Review, Vol. 9 (April, 1944), pp. 139-150.

<sup>26</sup>Milton Rokeach, Beliefs, Attitudes, and Values (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, Inc., 1970), p. 110.

<sup>27</sup>Theodore M. Newcomb, Social Psychology (New York: The Dryden Press, 1952), p. 163.

Due to an oversight on the part of the researcher, the question asking the "desired size of family" was not included on the questionnaire. This additional question bears strong significance in the anticipated behavior of the individuals concerning use of birth control, since it has been discovered that the individual's desired family size (no. of children) is established while the person is young.<sup>28</sup>

A question in the objectivity of the study is in the area of attitudes and behavior since the majority of the subjects were answering questions concerning hypothetical situations. The exception to this is the one area of birth control use as answered by married students. There has long been, and still continues, an argument among sociologists concerning the consistency between attitudes and behavior.<sup>29</sup>

A criticism could be raised of the extreme religious and age homogeneity of the subjects from whom the data were collected. It has already been proven that in a heterogeneity grouping of L.D.S. members, there are distinctions which are significant in correlating attitudes with religiosity. This study is significant in that it attempts to correlate and find differences within a homogeneous grouping, thus several factors are automatically controlled.

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<sup>28</sup>Larry Bumpass, "Stability and Change in Family Size Expectations Over the First Two Years of Marriage," Journal of Social Issues, Vol. XXIII, No. 4 (1967), pp. 83-94.

<sup>29</sup>Kerlinger, op. cit., p. 444.



## CHAPTER IV

### PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS

This research study had two goals. The primary objective was the theoretical aspect in determining if there were a correlation between the degree of religiosity of the respondents and their attitudes concerning birth control and abortion. The secondary objective was a general survey of L.D.S. college students' attitudes in regards to birth control and abortion since information of this type was previously not available.

In Chapter II, the researcher predicted there would be a correlation between the degree of religiosity in the L.D.S. Church and the respondents stand on abortion and birth control. Stolka and Barnett verified in their study that religious teachings motivate childbearing.<sup>1</sup> Not only does religion have direct influences upon the attitude toward childbearing, but also such religious faiths as the Catholic Church have taken a definite stand and have preached the "official teaching" of the church concerning the methods of birth control which may be practiced. Potvin and others found in their study that Catholic wives' conformity to the church's decree

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<sup>1</sup> Susan M. Stolka and Larry D. Barnett, "Education and Religion as Factors in Women's Attitudes Motivating Childbearing," Journal of Marriage and the Family, Vol. 31., No. 4 (November, 1969), pp. 740-750.

on birth control is correlated to the same degree that the individual conformed to all the general standards of the Catholic Church.<sup>2</sup>

#### Attitudes Concerning Birth Control

In constructing items on birth control, the researcher identified seven situations in which the respondent was to indicate the degree of disagreement or agreement concerning his personal practice of birth control in reference to each of these situations. Table 5 summarizes the respondents' answers. It is interesting to note that the most accepted reason for practicing birth control is to protect the wife's physical health when it is threatened. It should be noted that while 86.5 per cent of the respondents approve of the practice of birth control when the mother's physical health is threatened, only 76.6 per cent approve when it is the mental health involved, a difference of 10 per cent. In ranking order, the third most prevalent acceptance given for birth control is to provide spacing of children. In a previous unpublished paper, written by the researcher,<sup>3</sup> it was pointed out that there appears to be a problem of semantics when talking about birth control in the L.D.S. Church. In discussing the topic of family limitation, the use of the words "birth control" seem to have a negative connotation, while the words "family planning" seem to be more acceptable.

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<sup>2</sup>Potvin, et. al., op. cit.

<sup>3</sup>Erlend Dean Peterson, "Birth Control Versus the Mormon Newlywed," (unpublished research paper, Brigham Young University, 1968).

TABLE 11

ATTITUDES CONCERNING BIRTH CONTROL IN  
REFERENCE TO PERSONAL BEHAVIOR

Birth Control When		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Husband is going to college	N %	165 20.8	249 31.3	115 14.5	203 25.5	63 7.9	795 100.00
Spacing of children is desired	N %	145 18.2	183 23.0	111 14.0	265 33.3	91 11.5	795 100.00
Children are not wanted in the marriage	N %	572 72.0	116 14.6	39 4.9	42 5.3	26 3.3	795 100.00
Mother's physical health is threatened	N %	20 2.5	24 3.0	64 8.0	297 37.4	390 49.1	795 100.00
It is desired to get ahead economically	N %	432 54.3	239 30.0	67 8.4	47 5.9	10 1.3	795 100.00
Wife's mental health is threatened	N %	29 3.6	41 5.2	116 14.6	287 36.1	322 40.5	795 100.00
Desired family size is reached and no additional children are wanted	N %	234 29.4	237 29.8	154 19.4	115 14.5	55 6.9	795 100.00

The indications of the respondents, therefore, tend to indicate that there is a moral obligation or religious commitment to having children, but that there is an informal sanctioning in the spacing of the children.

Since the respondents are college students, it is understandable that the fourth reason for approving birth control is education, while the husband is going to college. On the marital status, 31.6 per cent of the single students, 39.7 per cent of the engaged students, 33.5 per cent of the students married in the L.D.S. temple, and 100 per cent of the students married civilly approved the practice of birth control while the husband is going to school. Unfortunately, there were only 10 civilly married students in the responding sample. The data available suggests a significant difference in the attitudes of the students married in the L.D.S. temple and those married civilly. The three remaining areas which received relatively negative acceptance, are (5) birth control practice to prevent having additional children after having the desired size of family; (6) birth control to insure having no children; and (7) birth control to get ahead economically. A composite summarization of the attitudes of the respondents concerning the practice of birth control for the seven situations shows that 48 per cent disapprove, 40 per cent approve and 12 per cent are undecided as to the use of birth control.

More significant than the single student's answers to the questionnaire concerning birth control, since they had to hypothesize what they would do, are the answers given by married respondents. In the study, Table 12 points out that 70 per cent of the married

TABLE 12

B.Y.U. MARRIED STUDENT USE OF BIRTH CONTROL IN  
RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER NATIONAL STUDIES

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Per Cent of B.Y.U.  
Married Couples  
Practicing Birth  
Control

 70.37%

Per Cent of Married  
Couples Practic-  
ing Birth Control  
on National  
Survey

 89.00%

Per Cent of Catholic  
Women Practicing  
Birth Control  
(Including Rhyth)

 78.00%

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<sup>a</sup> Pascal K. Whelpton, et. al., Fertility and Family Planning  
In The United States (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1966.)

<sup>b</sup> Raymond H. Potvin, et. al., "Factors Affecting Catholic  
Wives' Conformity to Their Church Magisterium's Position On Birth  
Control," Journal of Marriage and the Family, Vol. 30 (1968),  
p. 271.

couples have in the past or presently practice birth control. Table 13 indicates the method or methods of birth control being used by the couples.

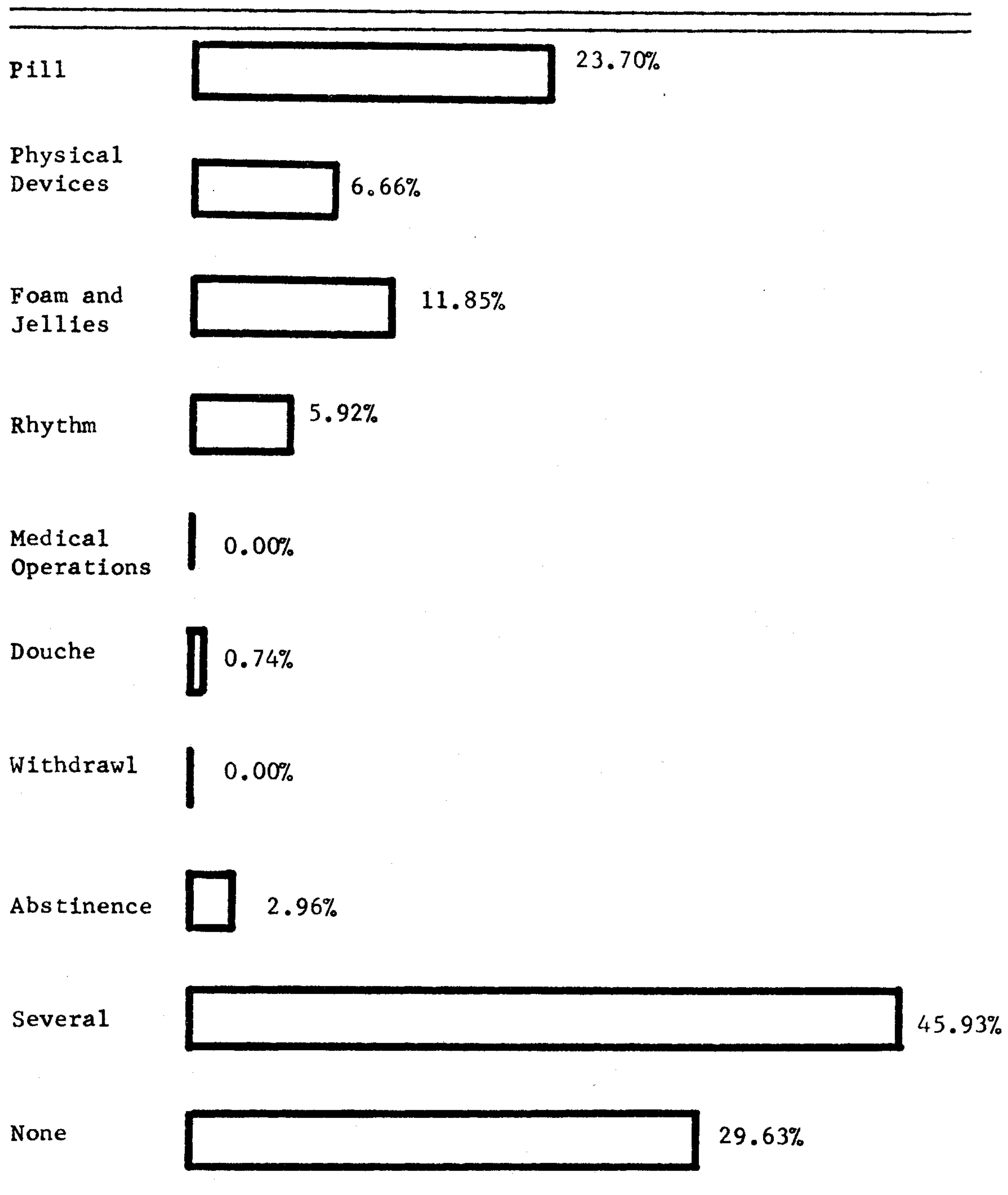
It is significant to note that the average length of marriage for the married couples in this study is 2.25 years. In Potvin's study of Catholic women, he found that 78 per cent of the Catholic women were practicing birth control; however, of the 78 per cent, 25 per cent were practicing the rhythm method only, which is sanctioned by the Catholic Church leaving only 53 per cent practicing birth control using other methods. With this study, 5.9 per cent of the L.D.S. couples were practicing birth control with the rhythm method only, and 3.0 per cent were practicing birth control with abstinence only. This leaves 61 per cent of the L.D.S. couples practicing birth control by methods other than abstinence or rhythm. Table 13 shows that none of the married couples in the study use or have used medical operations or withdrawal as a method of birth control. As would be expected by the amount of coverage which the mass media have given the "pill," it is the most popular single method of birth control. Keeping in mind that the average length of marriage is 2.25 years, most notable on Table 13 is the fact that 46 per cent of the couples have used or do use several different methods of birth control. Unfortunately, information in this study is not available as to whether this has been caused by dissatisfaction or curiosity.

Angrist, as a part of her study,<sup>4</sup> asked the respondents to name the specific birth control methods known to them. She found

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<sup>4</sup>Shirley S. Angrist, "Communication About Birth Control: An Exploratory Study of Freshman Girl's Information and Attitudes," Journal of Marriage and the Family, Vol. 28, No. 3 (August, 1966) pp. 284-286.

TABLE 13

USE OF BIRTH CONTROL METHODS BY  
L.D.S. MARRIED STUDENTS

that all of the students mentioned oral contraceptives and that about half of the students mentioned physical devices and rhythm method. The other methods such as douche, withdrawal, etc., were mentioned but with no consistency. Table 14 indicates the methods of birth control indicated by the respondents in this study. As with Angrist's study, the "pill" or oral contraceptive stands out as being the method of birth control most know by the respondents; in fact, only 2 per cent of the respondents did not mention it. Contrasting Angrist's study is the fact that physical devices, rhythm method and foam and jellies were mentioned more than half of the time. In this study, it is significant that more women identify knowledge concerning each method of birth control consistently, with the exception of medical operation, where more men acknowledged information of this method than women.

Angrist asked freshmen girls where they had received their information concerning birth control. Eighty-five per cent of them indicated that their primary source came through classes in high school and college. Other sources of information which were indicated were close friends or roommates, individual reading, and informal visits with mothers and teachers. In this study, the respondents were asked to rank in order the source from which they received their information concerning birth control. The results on Table 15 indicated that 39 per cent of the respondents received their primary information through individual reading and an additional 21 per cent received their primary information through classes in school. The Church as a source of information and also parents tend to play an insignificant role as sources of information.



TABLE 14  
 KNOWLEDGE OF BIRTH CONTROL METHODS BY  
 L.D.S. STUDENTS--BY SEX

Pill	Men	42.82	
	Women	54.28	
	Total		97.99
Physical Devices	Men	36.62	
	Women	46.84	
	Total		84.40
Foam and Jellies	Men	25.84	
	Women	37.92	
	Total		64.28
Rhythm	Men	33.77	
	Women	42.71	
	Total		77.11
Medical Operations	Men	19.38	
	Women	17.25	
	Total		36.86
Douche	Men	8.17	
	Women	15.09	
	Total		23.77
Withdrawl	Men	7.41	
	Women	9.93	
	Total		17.61
Abstinence	Men	13.20	
	Women	13.44	
	Total		27.17

TABLE 15  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING  
BIRTH CONTROL

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Friends	15%
Parents	9%
Brothers and Sisters	3%
Classes in School	21%
Church	13%
Individual Reading	39%

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### Attitudes Concerning Abortion

With the recent movements toward the liberalization of abortion laws, discussion of abortion has become more common. During the months of June and July, 1970, right after the New York liberalization of the abortion laws, articles concerning abortion appeared in the local newspapers nearly everyday. Also, the popular magazines such as Time and Newsweek, during the summer months of 1970 carried several articles concerning abortion. As a result of the issue, the L.D.S. Church, in their April publication of the New Era, printed the official statement of the Church concerning abortion.<sup>5</sup>

Table 16 reveals the respondents' attitudes toward abortion. It is significant to note that 76 per cent of the subjects approved of abortion in the case of necessity to save the mother's life. Secondly, 38 per cent approved of abortion in the case of pregnancy from rape, 20 per cent approved abortion when the baby is deformed, and 17 per cent approved it when the mother is mentally incapable of taking care of the baby. In all other cases, the approval of abortion is negligible.

In the L.D.S. Church's stand on abortion, they included the statement, "We are opposed to any modification, expansion, or liberalization of laws on these vital subjects" (abortion and sterilization).<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>Op. cit., The New Era, p. 50

<sup>6</sup>Ibid., The New Era, p. 50.

TABLE 16

ATTITUDES CONCERNING ABORTION IN  
REFERENCE TO PERSONAL BEHAVIOR

Abortion When		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Pregnancy from rape	N	154	160	177	168	136	795
	%	19.4	20.1	22.3	21.1	17.1	100.00
Baby is deformed	N	190	234	209	99	63	795
	%	23.9	29.4	26.3	12.5	7.9	100.00
Baby is unwanted	N	490	220	55	22	8	795
	%	61.6	27.7	6.9	2.8	1.0	100.00
Mother is mentally incapable	N	210	231	217	84	53	795
	%	26.4	29.0	27.3	10.6	6.7	100.00
Parents are economically unable to care for the baby	N	420	292	51	24	8	795
	%	52.8	26.7	6.4	3.0	1.0	100.00
Necessity to save mother's life	N	27	24	140	286	318	795
	%	3.4	3.0	17.6	36.0	30.0	100.00
Mother is unwed	N	453	247	61	22	12	795
	%	57.0	31.1	7.7	2.8	1.5	100.00

In asking the question in this study, "Should abortion be legalized?", 22 per cent of the subjects indicated yes, 14 per cent indicated uncertainty, and 64 percent indicated that abortion should not be legalized. Thirty-six per cent of the respondents are not in harmony with the L.D.S. Church's stand on abortion. In giving the reasons for non-legalization, the primary reason indicated was that abortion was regarded the same as murder. This suggests an interesting question as to when the individuals perceive the spirit entering the fetus or body and the conditions by which abortion simulates murder. It is interesting to note that there is no significant relationship between marital status and advocacy of abortion legalization.

In a study done by Rossi,<sup>7</sup> a comparison is made between the attitudes of a cross section of people concerning abortion for stated circumstances and the results on this study. (See Table 17) The L.D.S. attitudes were significantly more conservative than the general cross section of the national study, with the exception of abortion for saving the mother's life.

A composite summarization of the attitudes of the respondents concerning the use of abortion for the seven stated situations shows that 61 per cent disapprove, 22 per cent approve and 17 per cent are undecided as to the use of abortion. These percentages are nearly identical to the percentages expressed in the general question abortion law liberalization.

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<sup>7</sup>Alice S. Rossi, "Abortion Laws and Their Victims," Transaction (Sept.-Oct., 1966), p. 9.

TABLE 17

L.D.S. ATTITUDES CONCERNING ABORTION APPROVAL IN  
RELATIONSHIP TO ANOTHER U.S. NATIONAL STUDY

Situation	Group	Per Cent
Pregnancy from rape	LDS	38%
	Nat.	56%
Baby is deformed	LDS	20%
	Nat.	55%
Baby is unwanted	LDS	4%
	Nat.	15%
Mother is mentally incapable	LDS	17%
	Nat.	No Data
Economically unable	LDS	3%
	Nat.	21%
To Save mother's life	LDS	76%
	Nat.	71%
Unwed Mother	LDS	4%
	Nat.	18%

<sup>a</sup> Alice S. Rossi, "Abortion Laws and Their Victims," Transaction (September - October 1966), p. 9.

### Religious Behavior

Unique to this study is the attempt on the part of the researcher to measure the differences and associations of given attitudes with a homogeneous grouping of college-age L.D.S. Church members. The homogeneous grouping was assured in selecting students attending Brigham Young University since it is owned and operated by the L.D.S. Church. In addition to the basic identification between Church and educational institution, entrance requirements to the institution are based upon the grounds of willingness to live basic behavioral principles of the L.D.S. Church. The primary requirement is the observance of the Word of Wisdom. Although this is a basic requirement for admission, it is noteworthy to observe on Table 18 that there are 6 per cent of the respondents sampled not observing the Word of Wisdom. In addition to the Word of Wisdom standard for admission during the academic school year of 1970-71, attendance at Church meetings has become mandatory. Again, noting on Table 18, there are 16 per cent of the students who do not attend church on a regular basis.

In Table 13 it is indicated that there is a statistically significant relationship between married respondents and single respondents in regards to religious behavior. Married students are more regular in their observance of the Word of Wisdom, attendance at Church, payment of tithing, and fasting for two meals on Fast Sunday. Single students surpass the married students in the observance of individual prayer, family home evening, and family prayer. The only area in which there are statistically significant

TABLE 18  
RELIGIOUS BEHAVIOR

		Seldom or Never	Now and Then	Fairly Often	Often	Regularly	Total
Family Prayer	N	65	106	77	153	394	795
	%	8.2	13.3	9.7	19.3	49.6	100.00
Attendance at church	N	5	20	35	64	671	795
	%	0.6	2.5	4.4	8.1	84.4	100.00
Family home evening	N	59	72	67	167	430	795
	%	7.4	9.1	8.3	21.0	59.1	100.00
Payment of tithing	N	25	21	31	70	648	795
	%	3.1	2.6	3.9	8.8	81.5	100.00
Individual prayer	N	17	50	53	114	561	795
	%	2.1	6.3	6.7	14.3	70.6	100.00
Word of Wisdom	N	7	3	11	27	747	795
	%	0.9	0.4	1.4	3.4	94.0	100.00
Fast two meals each Fast Sunday	N	65	59	76	192	403	795
	%	8.2	7.4	9.6	24.2	50.7	100.00



TABLE 19

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGIOUS BEHAVIOR  
AND MARITAL STATUS

	Word of Wisdom	Attendance at Church	Payment of Tithing	Individual Prayer	Family Home Evenings	Family Prayer	Fasting two Meals On Fast Sunday
Single	92	84	80	72	57	52	44
Married	98	88	89	67	44	47	68
$\chi^2 = 14.675$		df = 6			p < .05		

<sup>a</sup>Based on percentages.

differences in religious behavior and sex is in the behavior of individual prayer. Using the Chi Square probability, the significance is at the .001 level. There is also a statistical significance at the .05 level between sexes in conjunction to fasting two meals on Fast Sunday. Table 20 is concerned with other correlations of the individual's education, number of children in family, geographic location in which the subject was reared and father's income. Out of all of these correlations, none are significant.

Relationship of Religiosity and Attitudes  
Concerning Birth Control

The major hypothesis (Hypothesis 1) has been stated as "There is a positive relationship between conservative attitudes towards birth control and one's degree of measured religiosity." In measuring the association between the Guttman scale type of religiosity and the birth control scale type a gamma correlation of  $-.22$  was found. Therefore, the higher a person measures on the religiosity scale, the lower he measures on the scale in the acceptance of the use of birth control. In a Catholic-Protestant study concerning attitudes regarding family limitation, it was found that in controlling the variable of church attendance, Catholic wives who attended church regularly expressed unqualified disapproval in just about twice the proportion of those attending seldom or never. Protestant wives regularity of church attendance had little relation to family limitation attitudes.<sup>8</sup> As

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<sup>8</sup> Ronald Freedman, Pascal K. Whelpton, Arthur A. Campbell, Family Planning, Sterility and Population Growth (New York: McGraw-Hill Co., 1959), pp. 159-160.

TABLE 20  
 RELATIONSHIPS\* OF RELIGIOUS BEHAVIOR  
 WITH VARIOUS INDICES

	Individual's Education	No. of Children in Family	Geographic Rearing	Father's Income
Family prayer	.02	.08	.01	.06
Attendance at church	.00	.13	-.05	-.08
Family home evening	-.04	.09	-.01	.04
Payment of tithing	.03	.15	-.03	-.05
Individual prayer	-.04	.10	.02	-.01
Word of Wisdom	.07	.02	-.06	-.08
Fast two meals each Fast Sunday	.02	.04	.07	-.04

\*gamma

TABLE 21

RELATIONSHIP OF BIRTH CONTROL ATTITUDES  
AND SPECIFIC INDICES OF RELIGIOSITY

Birth Control	Family Prayer	Attendance at Church	Family Home Evening	Payment of Tithing	Individual Prayer	Word of Wisdom	Fasting two Meals on Fast Sunday
While husband is going to college	.27	.55	.29	.44	.33	.49	.37
Spacing of children is desired	.14	.33	.20	.31	.22	.31	.29
Children are not wanted in the marriage	.33	.53	.23	.52	.32	.60	.35
Mother's physical health is threatened	.20	.33	.18	.26	.17	.22	.13
It is desired to get ahead economically	.32	.58	.31	.49	.40	.63	.41
Wife's mental health is threatened	.14	.32	.17	.29	.20	.24	.13
Desired family size is reached and no additional children are wanted	.23	.45	.28	.44	.34	.44	.27

TABLE 22

THE RELATIONSHIP OF RELIGIOSITY SCALE TYPE  
TO BIRTH CONTROL SCALE TYPE

Religiosity Scale Type	Birth Control Scale Type							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	0	0	3	3	5	4	3	5
1	1	0	6	8	6	6	3	3
2	3	4	10	2	7	8	3	4
3	3	9	14	11	14	15	3	2
4	6	8	38	28	16	13	9	3
5	22	14	52	34	18	13	6	0
6	18	15	70	42	25	12	6	1
7	24	20	59	24	13	12	3	3

$\gamma = -0.22$

with the Catholic wives, the L.D.S. student's attitudes correlated the highest on church attendance, although the correlation drops in the area of commonly approved reasons for birth control such as threatening the wife's physical health and mental health. As was mentioned in the birth control section, the correlation decreased in the area of providing spacing of children, again showing within the L.D.S Church that the members feel it is not right not to want children, but they tend to sanction the use of birth control for spacing purposes. Other areas of correlation of the moderate range is the standard of tithing and of the Word of Wisdom. The other religiosity behaviors fall in the low correlation range.

Table 23 shows correlations of categories other than religiosity with the birth control attitudes. Of these correlations, none are significant. Looking at the correlation of religiosity with birth control attitudes, in general, it appears that the religiosity has a low influence on the attitudes. In comparing the religiosity correlation with correlations other than religiosity, it appears that religiosity has a more significant impact on the birth control attitudes than any other single influence.

#### Relationship of Religiosity and Attitudes Concerning Abortion

The major hypothesis includes that there is a positive relationship between conservative attitudes towards abortion and one's degree of religiosity. As was the case with the correlation of religiosity and abortion attitudes, these same characteristics are found to be true, although to a higher degree of correlation. Attendance at Church

TABLE 23  
 RELATIONSHIPS\* OF BIRTH CONTROL ATTITUDES  
 WITH VARIOUS INDUCES

Birth Control When	Age	Individual's Education	No. of Children in Family	Geographic Rearing	Father's Income
Husband is going to college	-.030	-.066	-.177	.082	.137
Spacing of children is desired	.125	.118	-.070	-.007	.092
No children are wanted in the marriage	-.090	-.083	-.184	.075	.126
Mother's physical health is threatened	.167	.116	-.098	.113	.086
It is desired to get ahead economically	.007	-.057	-.140	.114	.148
Wife's mental health is threatened	.139	.093	-.090	.110	.092
Desired family size is reached and no additional children are wanted	.030	-.005	-.127	.037	.093

\*gamma

TABLE 24  
 THE RELATIONSHIP OF RELIGIOSITY SCALE TYPE  
 TO ABORTION SCALE TYPE

Religiosity Scale Type	Abortion Scale Type							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	11	3	4	3	2	0	0	0
1	18	6	3	4	1	0	1	0
2	15	5	7	3	5	1	5	0
3	29	8	5	10	6	5	6	2
4	36	23	13	17	13	8	9	2
5	41	23	20	28	24	14	7	2
6	32	27	36	31	21	19	20	3
7	28	23	14	21	18	24	26	4

gamma=0.12



is the most significant correlation with abortion attitudes and the Word of Wisdom standard and payment of tithing follow a close second and third. The category of family prayer, family home evenings, individual prayers, and fasting two meals on Fast Sunday fall into the range of low correlation (refer to Table 25 for this information). In comparing Table 25 and Table 26, it is again apparent that, while religiosity does not have high correlation with abortion attitudes, it is much more significant than any of the correlations outside of religiosity. The general correlation of religiosity with abortion attitudes of the Guttman scale type produces a correlation of .22.

Birth Control and Abortion as it  
Relates to Significant Others  
and Generalized Others

The underlying belief of religion is that the divinity of the doctrine taught within the Church is universal and that the practice of such religious tenets are not just an obligation to the individual committed to that faith, but are of best interest to all mankind as a whole. It is from this assumption that hypothesis two asserts that there will be no significant difference between the attitude of personal practice of birth control and abortion and the practice permitted to others outside the religious group membership. Contrary to what was anticipated (See Tables 27 and 28), the study shows that there is a significant difference between the attitude toward personal practice of birth control and abortion and the practice permitted to others outside the religious group membership. The findings suggest a challenge to the basic assumption.

TABLE 25

-RELATIONSHIP OF ABORTION ATTITUDES AND  
SPECIFIC INDICES OF RELIGIOSITY

Abortion When	Family Prayer	Attendance at Church	Family Home Evening	Payment of Tithing	Individual Prayer	Word of Wisdom	Fasting Two Meals on Fast Sunday
Pregnancy from rape	.18	.45	.14	.30	.28	.43	.24
Baby is deformed	.19	.59	.26	.34	.31	.54	.34
Baby is unwanted	.19	.52	.14	.35	.30	.57	.31
Mother is mentally incapable	.18	.44	.13	.33	.25	.34	.25
Parents are economically unable to care for baby	.21	.48	.15	.41	.30	.51	.29
Necessity to save mother's life	.18	.52	.18	.27	.19	.31	.26
Mother is unwed	.25	.51	.18	.34	.32	.44	.34

TABLE 26

RELATIONSHIPS\* OF ABORTION ATTITUDES  
WITH VARIOUS INDICES

Abortion When	Age	Individual's Education	No. of Children in Family	Geographic Rearing	Father's Income
Pregnancy from rape	-.083	-.074	-.109	.039	.141
Baby is deformed	.013	.033	-.069	.061	.047
Baby is unwanted	-.042	-.069	-.051	.079	.170
Mother is mentally incapable	-.016	-.034	-.089	.068	.068
Parents are economically unable to care for baby	-.074	-.064	-.067	.101	.100
Necessity to save mother's life	.102	.075	-.147	.106	.080
Mother is unwed	-.025	-.062	-.036	.077	.148

\*gamma

TABLE 27

MEDIAN TEST FOR MATCHED PAIRS BETWEEN ACCEPTED LDS BEHAVIOR  
AND NON-LDS BEHAVIOR WITH REGARDS TO BIRTH CONTROL

Birth Control Situation	Personal Behavior	Non-LDS Behavior	Row Median
Wife's physical health is threatened	4.48 (-)	4.71 (+)	4.595
Wife's mental health is threatened	4.24 (-)	4.60 (+)	4.420
To provide spacing of children	2.87 (-)	4.01 (+)	3.440
Husband is going to college	2.42 (-)	3.96 (+)	3.190
To prevent having additional children	2.18 (-)	3.95 (+)	3.065
To insure having no children	1.19 (-)	2.95 (+)	2.070
To get ahead economically	1.41 (-)	3.25 (+)	2.330
$\chi^2=7.00$	df=1	$p < .01$	

TABLE 28

MEDIAN TEST FOR MATCHED PAIRS BETWEEN ACCEPTED LDS BEHAVIOR  
AND NON-LDS BEHAVIOR WITH REGARDS TO ABORTION

Abortion Situation	Personal Behavior	Non-LDS Behavior	Row Median
Baby is unwanted	1.31 (-)	1.95 (+)	1.630
Mother is unwed	1.38 (-)	1.88 (+)	1.630
Parents are economically unable	1.45 (-)	1.99 (+)	1.720
Mother is mentally incapable	2.31 (-)	2.83 (+)	2.570
Baby is deformed	2.39 (-)	3.13 (+)	2.760
Pregnancy from rape	2.97 (-)	3.68 (+)	3.325
Necessity to save mother's life	4.22 (-)	4.42 (+)	4.32
	$\chi^2=7.00$	df=1	p < .01

Particularistic or Universalistic Attitudes  
Concerning Birth Control and Abortion

The previous section revealed that the results of this study showed a particularistic attitude by the L.D.S. students concerning the use of birth control and abortion by L.D.S. and non-L.D.S. Parsons has suggested that when the "ego" becomes personally involved within the reference scheme, the object will be judged in particularistic terms. Hypothesis three posed the same question as Hypothesis two except in regards to the use of birth control and abortion within the L.D.S. membership group. A statistical test was not performed comparing given attitudes within categories. A particularistic attitude is verified in the fact that the items scaled on the Guttman unidimensional scale.

Relationship Between a Person's Attitude  
Concerning Birth Control and  
His Perception of the L.D.S.  
Church's Teaching

Keeping in mind the basic assumption of balance theory that a person seeks to reduce dissonance, Hypothesis four predicted that there would be a positive correlation between the individual's personal attitude toward birth control and what he perceives the L.D.S. Church teaches. The findings in the study produced the evidence that there is only moderate correlation between personal attitudes and perceived L.D.S. Church teachings. (See Table 29).

Cluster Factors Influencing Attitudes  
Concerning Birth Control and Abortion

Hypothesis five projected that of the many influences upon the attitudes concerning birth control and abortion that religion

would be the most significant of the ones tested. A statistical test was not run between correlations, but in reviewing Tables 15, 16, 17, and 18, the highest correlations produced are in conjunction with the religious influence. As part of the questionnaire, the respondents were asked to identify the source of greatest influence upon their attitudes concerning birth control and abortion. Fifty-seven per cent of the respondents identified their religious faith having the greatest influence and an additional 19 per cent identified that it ranked second in influence.

TABLE 29

CORRELATION BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL BELIEF AND  
PERCEIVED L.D.S. TEACHING ON BIRTH CONTROL

Birth Control When	Gamma
While husband is going to college	.262
To provide spacing of children	.233
To insure having no children	.358
When wife's physical health is threatened	.470
To get ahead economically	.320
When wife's mental health is threatened	.490
To prevent additional children after desired number	.339



## CHAPTER V

### GENERAL SUMMARY

#### Summary of the Problem

The purpose of this study was to investigate the following questions:

1. Is there a relationship between attitudes toward birth control and abortion and the degree of religiosity of an individual within the L.D.S. Church?
2. Is there a difference of attitudes concerning the practice of birth control and abortion permitted to people outside the L.D.S. membership group?
3. Are the attitudes concerning birth control and abortion within the L.D.S. religious membership group particularistic or universalistic?
4. Is there a correlation between a person's attitudes towards birth control and his perception of what his membership group teaches?
5. Are religious teachings the most significant factors influencing an individual's attitudes concerning birth control and abortion?

The general sociological theory applied in this study was reference group theory with the assumption that individuals seek identification with groups for self-evaluation and self-esteem, and that there tends to be patterned rules, values, and standards for

the conduct of the individual in accordance to his reference group.<sup>1</sup> Coupled with reference group theory, Newcomb, in his Bennington College study, found that an individual's attitude development was a function of the way in which he related himself to his membership group.<sup>2</sup> It was, therefore, suggested that by measuring the degree of behavioral conformity to L.D.S. religious norms a correlating degree of conformity could be ascertained on the given attitudes of birth control and abortion. Questionnaires were mailed to 1,874 students who were enrolled at Brigham Young University Fall Semester 1970. Of the 1,021 questionnaires returned, 795 were used in the analysis of data.

#### Presentation of Findings

In a composite summarization of the attitudes of respondents concerning the factors of birth control for the seven situations indicated, it was found that 48 per cent disapproved, 40 per cent approved, and 12 per cent were undecided as to the use of birth control. Single students' attitudes tended to scale better than married students, as shown in the Guttman scaling where only two items were not within the range of marginal frequency for the single students, but four items were not within the range of marginal frequency for the married students. Married students, therefore, generally identified with the extremes of rightness or wrongness of birth control, whereas single students were more middle-of-the-roaders.

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<sup>1</sup>Sherif and Sherif, op. cit., p. 251.

<sup>2</sup>Newcomb, op. cit., p. 430.

The composite summarization of the attitudes of the respondents concerning the use of abortion, the seven data situation shows that 61 per cent disapproved, 22 percent approved, and 17 per cent were undecided as to the use of abortion. In the scaling of abortion attitudes, the married students tended to be much more conservative in the use of abortion than single students.

With respect to religious behavior of the respondents, there was an extreme homogeneous grouping. It was more apparent among the married students, causing an elimination of three scale items of the seven because of frequency above the 85 per cent limit. It was interesting to note that a greater percentage of married respondents observed the Word of Wisdom, attended church, paid tithing, and fasted two meals on Fast Sunday. On the other hand, single respondents tended to be more active in having individual prayer, family prayer, and family home evening.

Hypothesis One: There is a positive relationship between conservative attitudes towards birth control and abortion and one's degree of measured religiosity. In measuring the general association between birth control and religiosity using the scale types, resulted in a correlation of  $-.22$  and, therefore, verified that the higher a person measures on a religiosity scale, the lower he measures on the scale in the acceptance of the use of birth control. In measuring the association of religiosity with abortion attitudes, again using a summated correlation, produced the result of  $-.12$ . The scale type correlation is inverse to the results produced when measuring specific indicies.

Hypothesis Two: There will be no significant difference between the attitude towards personal practice of birth control and abortion and the practice sanctioned to others outside the religious group membership. The findings, using a median test for matched pairs, show a significant difference between the attitudes concerning the use of birth control and abortion by L.D.S. and non-L.D.S. as being significantly different. In light of this information, the null hypothesis was rejected.

Hypothesis Three: That attitudes towards birth control and abortion within the L.D.S. religious membership group are significantly more particularistic than universalistic. A test of difference was not performed. By reason that the attitude items scaled on a Guttman unidimensional scale verifies that the attitudes are found to be particularistic in nature.

Hypothesis Four: That there is a significant correlation between the persons attitudes towards birth control and his perception of the L.D.S. Church teachings concerning birth control. In computing correlations between the individual's personal belief and the perceived L.D.S. teachings, the correlations ranged from a .23 to .49 showing a weak to moderate correlation in each situation.

Hypothesis Five: That of the cluster factors influencing the attitudes towards birth control and abortion, religious will be the most significant. A statistical test was not run between correlations, but correlations were run between specific attitudes and religiosity plus other various indices. It was found that religiosity correlated higher than the other correlaries, therefore, verifying that although religion is not a high influence upon attitudes

concerning birth control and abortion, it does remain the most significant influence.

### Conclusion

From the findings of this study, it was found that there is a considerable variation of attitudes concerning abortion and birth control among the members of the L.D.S. Church. Reference group theory has helped to explain and identify the trend in attitudes concerning birth control through a measurement of L.D.S. behavioral norms. As was pointed out in Chapter I, there has long been a differentiation between religious groups and their attitudes concerning fertility. This study tends to point out that the attitudes concerning birth control of L.D.S. Church members in general as ranked in conservativeness, places the L.D.S. members not as conservative as the Catholic Church members but not as liberal as the Protestant Church members.

Perhaps one of the problems involved with the BYU students who are members of the L.D.S. Church, not being as unified in their attitudes as perhaps one might expect, could be the result that the L.D.S. Church was not reported as a source of information concerning attitudes. The respondents indicated that 39 per cent used individual reading as their source of information. If the L.D.S. Church is going to have a greater influence on attitudes, a suggestion is made that they either use the already existing primary source of information and prepare reading materials with the L.D.S. Church's influence, or that they re-align the sources of information, placing the L.D.S. Church in a position so that its members will turn to them for information of this nature.

### Limitations

1. The scale items that were used on the religiosity scale were taken from studies that measured L.D.S. religiosity in heterogeneous groups of L.D.S. Since this study dealt with a homogeneous grouping of L.D.S., a refinement of the scale items to be included was needed. This was especially apparent with the married L.D.S. students.

2. Only twenty per cent of the respondents were married couples. It would have been desirable to have a better balance between married students and single students. Also, in the category of married students, nearly the majority of couples were married in the L.D.S. Temple. It appeared from the responses of the ten respondents who were married civilly, that there is a significant difference in attitudes concerning birth control and abortion by students who are married civilly than those who were married in the L.D.S. Temple.

3. The researcher neglected to include in the questionnaire the question asking the "desired size of family" the respondent desired having. By interjecting this question, it places the respondent in a position where it is obvious whether or not the individual is considering family limitation through one means or another.

### Suggestions For Further Research

1. In coding the data in the questionnaire, it was interesting to note that some married couples indicated that they felt it was wrong to practice birth control in order for the husband to go to college and they also felt that the L.D.S. Church taught that

it was wrong to practice birth control while the husband was gaining an education, and yet they indicated that they were practicing birth control. This suggests a dissonance factor existing on the part of the respondent. A further investigation as to how they are reducing this dissonance and the means of justification for their actions would be useful to leaders in the L.D.S. Church in counseling married students concerning the decision that many have to make regarding the use of birth control.

2. The result of the data in testing Hypothesis Two suggested that religious attitudes are not perceived as being universalistic in adherence for individuals not L.D.S. A further investigation of this finding in areas other than attitudes of birth control and abortion is needed. The L.D.S. Church leaders need to be aware of this fact if it is true that the divineness of religious teachings are being perceived as God's will as necessary only to those who have committed themselves to the L.D.S. faith and not having universal implication.

3. This study examined the religious behavior of the respondents and measured the association of attitudes concerning abortion and birth control with it. A reverse of this procedure would prove interesting by identifying the respondents who polarize to the extremes on the attitudes. Then by including a larger number of religiosity items identify those items which are highly significant in association.

4. The data from this study suggest that the respondents are not against the use of birth control as a practice depending

upon the reason and circumstances. One area, particularly, which needs further investigation is concerning the subject of using birth control for the purpose of spacing children.



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**A P P E N D I X   A**

# Institute For Family Research



BETTER UNDERSTANDING  
THROUGH RESEARCH

Dear Student:

Since 1960 when the birth control pill was introduced to the open market and abortion laws in several states were liberalized, these two subjects have become very controversial.

The purpose of the enclosed questionnaire is to examine the attitudes of students in the L. D. S. community, who are parents or who soon may become parents, concerning birth control and abortion.

You have been selected at random to participate in this study by filling out the enclosed questionnaire. It is, therefore, important that we receive your responses. To be of value, the answers must factually represent your feelings. Therefore, by keeping the questionnaire confidential, you can give your frank statement of attitudes. Since your own opinions are desired please indicate your answers before discussing the questions with anyone else.

PLEASE DO NOT SIGN YOUR NAME. After completing the questionnaire, place it in the enclosed return envelope and put it in the mail.

Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Erlend D. Peterson

Director of Research



BIRTH CONTROL AND ABORTION

Please circle the answer which indicates the degree of wrongness or rightness which you feel about the practice of birth control:

concerning both... YOUR personal beliefs and a NON-LDS's personal beliefs

		Strongly disapprove	Disapprove	Undecided	Approve	Strongly approve		Strongly disapprove	Disapprove	Undecided	Approve	Strongly approve
while husband is going to college	(1)	1	2	3	4	5	(8)	1	2	3	4	5
to provide spacing of children	(2)	1	2	3	4	5	(9)	1	2	3	4	5
to insure having no children	(3)	1	2	3	4	5	(10)	1	2	3	4	5
when wife's physical health is threatened	(4)	1	2	3	4	5	(11)	1	2	3	4	5
to get ahead economically	(5)	1	2	3	4	5	(12)	1	2	3	4	5
when wife's mental health is threatened	(6)	1	2	3	4	5	(13)	1	2	3	4	5
to prevent additional children after having desired size of family	(7)	1	2	3	4	5	(14)	1	2	3	4	5

List the methods of birth control with which you are aware:

- (15) \_\_\_\_\_
- (16) \_\_\_\_\_
- (17) \_\_\_\_\_
- (18) \_\_\_\_\_
- (19) \_\_\_\_\_
- (20) \_\_\_\_\_
- (21) \_\_\_\_\_
- (22) \_\_\_\_\_

Rank in the order of importance the sources from which you have received information concerning birth control: ( 1 = most important; 6 = least important)

- (23) \_\_\_\_\_ friends
- (24) \_\_\_\_\_ parents
- (25) \_\_\_\_\_ brothers or sisters
- (26) \_\_\_\_\_ classes in school
- (27) \_\_\_\_\_ church
- (28) \_\_\_\_\_ individual reading

Please circle the answer which indicates the degree of wrongness or rightness which you feel about abortion...

being performed on... YOU or a FAMILY MEMBER and A NON-LDS FRIEND

because of...		Strongly disapprove	Disapprove	Undecided	Approve	Strongly approve		Strongly disapprove	Disapprove	Undecided	Approve	Strongly approve
pregnancy from rape	(29)	1	2	3	4	5	(36)	1	2	3	4	5
knowledge that the baby is deformed	(30)	1	2	3	4	5	(37)	1	2	3	4	5
the baby being unwanted	(31)	1	2	3	4	5	(38)	1	2	3	4	5
the mother being mentally incapable	(32)	1	2	3	4	5	(39)	1	2	3	4	5
parents economically unable to take care of the baby	(33)	1	2	3	4	5	(40)	1	2	3	4	5
necessity to save the mother's life	(34)	1	2	3	4	5	(41)	1	2	3	4	5
mother being unwed	(35)	1	2	3	4	5	(42)	1	2	3	4	5

(43) Do you feel that abortion should be legalized? yes uncertain no  
 (44) What are the reasons for your answer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the answer which best describes the frequency of your religious behavior regarding the following:

	<u>Seldom or Never</u>	<u>Now and Then</u>	<u>Fairly Often</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Regularly</u>
(45) Family prayer	1	2	3	4	5
(46) Attendance at church	1	2	3	4	5
(47) Family home evenings	1	2	3	4	5
(48) Payment of tithing	1	2	3	4	5
(49) Individual prayer	1	2	3	4	5
(50) Observance of Word of Wisdom (tea, coffee, alcohol, & tobacco)	1	2	3	4	5
(51) Fasting two meals each fast Sunday	1	2	3	4	5

Please circle the answer which indicates the degree to which you believe the statement agrees or disagrees with the official LDS Church teachings:

	Strongly Disagrees	Disagrees	Uncertain	Agrees	Strongly Agrees
	1	2	3	4	5
(52) The postponement of children for the purpose of education is condemned	1	2	3	4	5
(53) Proper spacing of children is justified when the health of the mother demands it	1	2	3	4	5
(54) It is contrary to the teachings to prevent the birth of children	1	2	3	4	5
(55) The health of the mother should be of primary concern in the consideration of child bearing	1	2	3	4	5
(56) Limiting the number of children due to financial reasons is an excuse rather than a reason for practicing birth control	1	2	3	4	5
(57) The mental health of the mother should be considered in determining the size of the family	1	2	3	4	5
(58) When a couple agrees to limit their offspring, they are guilty of iniquity which eventually must be punished	1	2	3	4	5
(59) The practice of birth control is a personal matter left to the decision of the couple	1	2	3	4	5

Please RANK the following factors in the order of influence in determining your attitude towards birth control: (1 = greatest influence; 7 = least influence)

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (60) _____ formal education | (64) _____ individual reading |
| (61) _____ family           | (65) _____ economic factors   |
| (62) _____ religion         | (66) _____ health factors     |
| (63) _____ friends          |                               |

- (67) What is your marital status?  Single  Engaged  
 Temple marriage  Civil marriage  Divorced
- (68) ...if married, how many years? \_\_\_\_\_
- (69) List ages of children by sex:
- | no children | male  | female |
|-------------|-------|--------|
| _____       | _____ | _____  |
| _____       | _____ | _____  |
| _____       | _____ | _____  |
| _____       | _____ | _____  |
- (70) Have you and your spouse ever practiced birth control?  
 yes  no
- (71) List any birth control techniques you have used:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- (72) What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_
- (73) What is your sex?  male  female
- (74) Where is your BYU residence?  on campus  
 off campus  
 live with parents
- (75) How many children were there in the family you were raised? \_\_\_\_\_
- (76) How large is the home town in which you were raised?  
 Under 2,499 or rural  25,000 to 99,999  
 2,500 to 4,999  100,000 to 499,999  
 5,000 to 9,999  500,000 to 999,999  
 10,000 to 24,999  one million or over  
 lived in several cities of various sizes
- (77) What is the highest grade or year you have completed in school? \_\_\_\_\_
- (78) What is the highest grade your FATHER completed in school? \_\_\_\_\_
- (79) What is your father's occupation? \_\_\_\_\_ Describe his type  
 of work: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- (80) What is your father's approximate annual income? \_\_\_\_\_

THIS CONCLUDES THE SURVEY.

Thank you kindly for your assistance and cooperation.

**A P P E N D I X   B**

TABLE 30

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGIOSITY  
RESPONSE AND AGE

Religiosity Index		A G E			Total Number
		16 - 19	20 - 22	23+	
Word of Wisdom	SN, NT	1.1	1.4	1.8	11
	FO, O	5.3	5.1	3.4	37
	R	<u>93.6</u>	<u>93.5</u>	<u>94.8</u>	<u>747</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Tithing	SN, NT	4.6	5.4	7.8	46
	FO, O	15.2	11.5	10.6	100
	R	<u>80.2</u>	<u>83.1</u>	<u>81.6</u>	<u>649</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Attendance at Church	SN, NT	3.6	2.7	3.2	25
	FO, O	10.6	15.9	10.6	100
	R	<u>85.8</u>	<u>81.4</u>	<u>86.2</u>	<u>670</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Individual Prayer	SN, NT	6.7	6.4	13.3	67
	FO, O	20.6	22.0	20.6	168
	R	<u>72.7</u>	<u>71.6</u>	<u>66.1</u>	<u>560</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Family Home Evening	SN, NT	13.5	16.3	21.1	132
	FO, O	31.2	29.2	27.5	234
	R	<u>55.3</u>	<u>54.5</u>	<u>51.4</u>	<u>429</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Family Prayer	SN, NT	18.4	24.1	22.0	171
	FO, O	33.0	26.4	26.6	229
	R	<u>48.6</u>	<u>49.5</u>	<u>51.4</u>	<u>395</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Fasting Two Meals on Fast Sunday	SN, NT	14.9	13.6	20.2	126
	FO, O	33.7	36.6	28.9	266
	R	<u>51.4</u>	<u>49.8</u>	<u>50.9</u>	<u>403</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795

TABLE 31

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGIOSITY RESPONSE  
AND INDIVIDUAL'S EDUCATION

Religiosity Index		Individual's Education			Total Number
		HS & Fresh	Soph-Sen	Grad	
Word of Wisdom	SN, NT	1.3	1.3	0.0	10
	FO, O	5.7	4.3	0.0	37
	R	<u>93.0</u>	<u>94.4</u>	<u>10.0</u>	<u>748</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Tithing	SN, NT	6.0	6.0	0.0	46
	FO, O	14.0	12.0	7.4	100
	R	<u>80.0</u>	<u>82.0</u>	<u>92.6</u>	<u>649</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Attendance at Church	SN, NT	4.3	2.6	0.0	25
	FO, O	1.4	13.7	3.7	99
	R	<u>84.3</u>	<u>83.7</u>	<u>96.3</u>	<u>671</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Individual Prayer	SN, NT	7.7	8.5	14.8	67
	FO, O	21.0	21.4	14.8	167
	R	<u>71.3</u>	<u>70.1</u>	<u>70.4</u>	<u>561</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Family Home Evening	SN, NT	15.0	18.0	7.4	131
	FO, O	30.0	28.4	40.7	234
	R	<u>55.0</u>	<u>53.6</u>	<u>51.9</u>	<u>430</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Family Prayer	SN, NT	21.3	21.8	18.5	171
	FO, O	30.7	27.8	22.2	228
	R	<u>48.0</u>	<u>50.4</u>	<u>59.3</u>	<u>396</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Fasting Two Meals on Fast Sunday	SN, NT	16.3	15.8	11.1	126
	FO, O	34.3	33.1	29.6	266
	R	<u>39.4</u>	<u>51.1</u>	<u>59.3</u>	<u>403</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795

TABLE 32

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGIOSITY RESPONSE AND  
NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN FAMILY

Religiosity Index		Number of Children in Family			Total Number
		0 - 2	3 - 5	6+	
Word of Wisdom	SN, NT	1.7	1.1	1.6	11
	FO, O	7.8	4.7	3.6	38
	R	<u>90.5</u>	<u>94.2</u>	<u>94.8</u>	<u>746</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Tithing	SN, NT	11.2	5.6	3.6	46
	FO, O	18.1	14.8	10.7	111
	R	<u>70.7</u>	<u>79.6</u>	<u>85.7</u>	<u>638</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Attendance at Church	SN, NT	7.8	2.3	2.4	25
	FO, O	16.4	14.1	8.7	101
	R	<u>75.8</u>	<u>83.6</u>	<u>88.9</u>	<u>669</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Individual Prayer	SN, NT	13.8	7.5	7.5	67
	FO, O	25.0	21.8	18.7	169
	R	<u>61.2</u>	<u>70.7</u>	<u>73.8</u>	<u>559</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Family Home Evening	SN, NT	19.0	19.7	10.7	133
	FO, O	33.6	30.0	8.3	188
	R	<u>47.4</u>	<u>50.3</u>	<u>81.0</u>	<u>474</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Family Prayer	SN, NT	30.2	22.3	16.7	172
	FO, O	19.8	32.6	26.2	228
	R	<u>50.0</u>	<u>45.1</u>	<u>57.1</u>	<u>395</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Fasting Two Meals on Fast Sunday	SN, NT	24.1	14.1	14.3	124
	FO, O	27.6	25.4	33.3	267
	R	<u>48.3</u>	<u>50.5</u>	<u>52.4</u>	<u>404</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795



TABLE 33

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGIOSITY RESPONSE  
AND GEOGRAPHIC REARING

Religiosity Index		Geographic Rearing			Total Number
		Rural - 24,999	25,000 - 499,999	500,000+*	
Word of Wisdom	SN, NT	1.0	1.0	2.0	10
	FO, O	3.7	5.4	5.0	37
	R	95.3	93.6	93.0	748
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Tithing	SN, NT	6.0	5.1	6.5	46
	FO, O	12.3	12.5	13.1	100
	R	81.7	82.4	80.4	649
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Attendance at Church	SN, NT	3.7	2.4	3.5	25
	FO, O	10.3	14.8	12.1	99
	R	86.0	82.8	84.4	671
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Individual Prayer	SN, NT	8.7	7.4	9.5	67
	FO, O	20.7	22.3	20.0	167
	R	70.6	70.3	70.5	561
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Family Home Evening	SN, NT	17.7	13.9	18.6	131
	FO, O	28.0	31.8	28.1	234
	R	54.3	54.3	53.3	430
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Family Prayer	SN, NT	21.0	22.0	21.6	171
	FO, O	28.3	29.7	9.0	191
	R	50.7	48.3	69.4	433
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Fasting Two Meals on Fast Sunday	SN, NT	17.0	14.5	15.6	125
	FO, O	35.0	33.8	30.7	266
	R	48.0	51.7	53.7	404
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795

\*Transient person included in this category.

TABLE 34

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGIOSITY RESPONSE  
AND FATHER'S INCOME

Religiosity Index		Father's Income			Total Number
		0-11,999	12,000+	No Answer	
Word of Wisdom	SN, NT	1.8	1.4	0.6	11
	FO, O	3.2	6.3	3.7	37
	R	<u>95.0</u>	<u>92.3</u>	<u>95.7</u>	<u>747</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Tithing	SN, NT	6.0	5.7	5.6	46
	FO, O	10.6	15.1	10.5	100
	R	<u>83.4</u>	<u>79.2</u>	<u>83.9</u>	<u>549</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Attendance at Church	SN, NT	3.5	3.4	1.9	25
	FO, O	11.0	16.0	8.0	100
	R	<u>85.5</u>	<u>80.6</u>	<u>90.1</u>	<u>670</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Individual Prayer	SN, NT	9.9	8.6	5.6	67
	FO, O	18.4	22.0	24.0	168
	R	<u>71.7</u>	<u>69.4</u>	<u>70.4</u>	<u>560</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Family Home Evening	SN, NT	17.3	17.7	13.0	132
	FO, O	32.2	28.0	27.8	234
	R	<u>50.5</u>	<u>54.3</u>	<u>59.2</u>	<u>429</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Family Prayer	SN, NT	18.0	22.0	20.4	161
	FO, O	32.5	28.6	22.8	229
	R	<u>49.5</u>	<u>49.4</u>	<u>56.8</u>	<u>405</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Fasting Two Meals on Fast Sunday	SN, NT	16.3	16.3	14.2	126
	FO, O	30.4	36.6	32.1	266
	R	<u>53.3</u>	<u>47.1</u>	<u>53.7</u>	<u>403</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795

TABLE 35

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIGIOSITY RESPONSE  
AND MARITAL STATUS

Religiosity Index		Marital Status			Total Number
		Single	Engaged	Married	
Word of Wisdom	SN, NT	1.5	1.5	1.0	11
	FO, O	1.3	2.9	2.2	13
	R	<u>97.2</u>	<u>95.6</u>	<u>97.8</u>	<u>773</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Tithing	SN, NT	6.1	5.9	4.9	46
	FO, O	4.4	5.9	8.7	44
	R	<u>89.5</u>	<u>88.2</u>	<u>86.4</u>	<u>705</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Attendance at Church	SN, NT	3.3	4.4	2.2	25
	FO, O	3.7	4.4	12.5	46
	R	<u>93.0</u>	<u>91.2</u>	<u>85.3</u>	<u>724</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Individual Prayer	SN, NT	8.5	4.4	9.8	67
	FO, O	6.5	27.9	6.5	66
	R	<u>85.0</u>	<u>67.7</u>	<u>83.7</u>	<u>662</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Family Home Evening	SN, NT	14.6	16.2	22.8	132
	FO, O	7.9	11.8	32.6	111
	R	<u>77.5</u>	<u>72.0</u>	<u>44.6</u>	<u>552</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Family Prayer	SN, NT	24.3	26.5	11.4	171
	FO, O	31.1	4.4	8.7	188
	R	<u>44.6</u>	<u>69.1</u>	<u>79.9</u>	<u>436</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Fasting Two Meals on Fast Sunday	SN, NT	14.9	16.2	18.5	126
	FO, O	9.4	4.4	34.8	118
	R	<u>75.7</u>	<u>79.4</u>	<u>46.7</u>	<u>551</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795

TABLE 36

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BIRTH CONTROL  
RESPONSE AND AGE

Birth Control Situation		16-19	A G E 20-22	23+	Total Number	
Wife's physical health is threatened	SD, D	6.0	7.5	2.8	45	
	U	10.6	7.8	5.1	64	
	A, SA	<u>83.4</u>	<u>84.7</u>	<u>92.1</u>	<u>686</u>	
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0		
		TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Wife's mental health is threatened	SD, D	9.6	9.5	6.9	70	
	U	17.7	14.6	10.1	115	
	A, SA	<u>72.7</u>	<u>75.9</u>	<u>83.0</u>	<u>510</u>	
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0		
		TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
To provide spacing of children	SD, D	48.9	30.2	35.8	305	
	U	14.5	13.9	11.9	108	
	A, SA	<u>36.6</u>	<u>55.9</u>	<u>52.3</u>	<u>382</u>	
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0		
		TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Husband is going to college	SD, D	49.3	52.2	56.4	416	
	U	20.2	10.8	9.6	110	
	A, SA	<u>30.5</u>	<u>37.0</u>	<u>39.5</u>	<u>269</u>	
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0		
		TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
To prevent having additional children	SD, D	58.5	60.7	58.3	471	
	U	23.1	16.9	16.5	151	
	A, SA	<u>18.4</u>	<u>22.4</u>	<u>25.2</u>	<u>173</u>	
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0		
		TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
To insure having no children	SD, D	84.7	86.4	89.9	690	
	U	5.0	5.4	2.8	36	
	A, SA	<u>10.3</u>	<u>8.2</u>	<u>7.3</u>	<u>69</u>	
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0		
		TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
To get ahead economically	SD, D	84.8	83.7	85.3	672	
	U	8.5	8.5	6.4	63	
	A, SA	<u>6.7</u>	<u>7.8</u>	<u>8.3</u>	<u>60</u>	
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0		
		TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795

TABLE 37

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BIRTH CONTROL RESPONSE  
AND INDIVIDUAL'S EDUCATION

Birth Control Situation		Individual's Education			Total Number
		Less HS-Fresh	Soph-Sen	Grad	
Wife's physical health is threatened	SD, D	6.3	5.3	0.0	44
	U	11.0	6.6	0.0	64
	A, SA	<u>82.7</u>	<u>8.8</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>687</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
TOTAL NUMBER		300	464	28	795
Wife's Mental health is threatened	SD, D	10.0	8.6	0.0	70
	U	15.3	13.7	18.5	115
	A, SA	<u>74.7</u>	<u>77.7</u>	<u>81.5</u>	<u>610</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
TOTAL NUMBER		300	464	28	795
To provide spacing of children	SD, D	46.3	38.7	33.3	329
	U	14.7	13.2	7.4	108
	A, SA	<u>39.0</u>	<u>48.1</u>	<u>59.3</u>	<u>358</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
TOTAL NUMBER		300	464	28	795
Husband is going to college	SD, D	46.7	56.0	51.9	416
	U	19.3	10.9	3.7	110
	A, SA	<u>34.0</u>	<u>33.1</u>	<u>44.4</u>	<u>267</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
TOTAL NUMBER		300	464	28	795
To prevent having additional children	SD, D	55.7	61.9	55.6	472
	U	23.0	16.5	18.5	151
	A, SA	<u>21.3</u>	<u>21.6</u>	<u>25.9</u>	<u>172</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
TOTAL NUMBER		300	464	28	795
To insure having no children	SD, D	85.0	88.9	74.1	691
	U	5.3	3.4	11.1	35
	A, SA	<u>9.7</u>	<u>7.7</u>	<u>14.8</u>	<u>69</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
TOTAL NUMBER		300	464	28	795
To get ahead economically	SD, D	83.7	85.3	81.5	672
	U	9.0	7.3	11.1	64
	A, SA	<u>7.3</u>	<u>7.4</u>	<u>7.4</u>	<u>59</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
TOTAL NUMBER		300	464	28	795

TABLE 38

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BIRTH CONTROL RESPONSE AND  
NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN FAMILY

Birth Control Situation	Number of Children in Family			Total Number	
	0 - 2	3 - 5	6+		
Wife's physical health is threatened	SD, D U A, SA	5.2 5.2 <u>89.6</u>	5.6 8.2 <u>86.2</u>	6.0 9.1 <u>85.9</u>	45 64 <u>686</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Wife's mental health is threatened	SD, D U A, SA	10.3 10.3 <u>79.4</u>	8.6 13.4 <u>78.0</u>	8.3 18.3 <u>73.4</u>	70 115 <u>510</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
To provide spacing of children	SD, D U A, SA	33.6 13.8 <u>52.6</u>	42.2 12.9 <u>44.9</u>	43.7 14.7 <u>41.6</u>	329 108 <u>358</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Husband is going to college	SD, D U A, SA	39.7 15.5 <u>44.8</u>	51.1 13.6 <u>35.3</u>	59.9 13.5 <u>26.6</u>	415 110 <u>270</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
To prevent having additional children	SD, D U A, SA	51.7 20.7 <u>27.6</u>	56.2 19.0 <u>24.8</u>	67.5 18.3 <u>14.2</u>	470 151 <u>174</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
To insure having no children	SD, D U A, SA	79.3 6.0 <u>14.7</u>	85.2 5.2 <u>9.6</u>	42.5 3.2 <u>4.3</u>	689 37 <u>69</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
To get ahead economically	SD, D U A, SA	73.3 9.5 <u>17.2</u>	85.0 8.2 <u>6.8</u>	88.5 6.8 <u>4.7</u>	671 63 <u>61</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795

TABLE 39

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BIRTH CONTROL RESPONSE  
AND GEOGRAPHIC REARING

Birth Control Situation		Geographic Rearing			Total Number
		Rural - 24,999	25,000 - 499,999	500,000+*	
Wife's physical health is threatened	SD, D	5.7	6.4	4.0	44
	U	10.0	8.5	4.5	64
	A, SA	84.3	85.1	91.5	687
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Wife's mental health is threatened	SD, D	8.3	8.7	9.5	70
	U	19.7	13.9	7.5	115
	A, SA	72.0	77.4	83.0	610
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
To provide spacing of children	SD, D	43.0	42.9	36.7	329
	U	12.0	13.9	15.6	108
	A, SA	45.0	43.2	47.7	358
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Husband is going to college	SD, D	54.7	51.7	48.7	413
	U	17.0	12.8	10.6	110
	A, SA	28.3	35.5	40.7	271
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
To prevent having additional children	SD, D	64.0	58.8	52.8	471
	U	18.0	16.2	24.6	151
	A, SA	18.0	25.0	22.5	173
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
To insure having no children	SD, D	90.0	86.8	82.4	691
	U	3.3	3.4	7.5	35
	A, SA	6.7	9.8	10.1	69
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
To get ahead economically	SD, D	89.0	84.5	77.9	672
	U	6.3	6.8	12.6	64
	A, SA	4.7	8.7	9.5	59
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795

\*Transient person included in this category.

TABLE 40

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BIRTH CONTROL RESPONSE  
AND FATHER'S INCOME

Birth Control Situation		Father's Income			Total Number
		0-11,999	12,000+	No Answer	
Wife's physical health is threatened	SD, D	8.1	4.0	4.9	45
	U	8.8	6.9	9.3	64
	A, SA	<u>83.1</u>	<u>89.1</u>	<u>85.8</u>	<u>686</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Wife's mental health is threatened	SD, D	10.3	6.6	11.1	70
	U	15.9	12.3	16.7	115
	A, SA	<u>73.8</u>	<u>81.1</u>	<u>72.2</u>	<u>510</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
To provide spacing of children	SD, D	45.6	35.4	43.8	324
	U	11.0	17.1	13.6	113
	A, SA	<u>43.4</u>	<u>47.4</u>	<u>42.6</u>	<u>358</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Husband is going to college	SD, D	56.9	47.1	55.6	416
	U	14.5	14.3	11.7	110
	A, SA	<u>28.6</u>	<u>38.6</u>	<u>32.7</u>	<u>269</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
To prevent having additional children	SD, D	61.8	55.7	62.3	471
	U	19.8	18.0	19.8	151
	A, SA	<u>18.4</u>	<u>26.3</u>	<u>17.9</u>	<u>173</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
To insure having no children	SD, D	88.8	83.7	90.1	690
	U	4.2	5.7	2.5	36
	A, SA	<u>7.1</u>	<u>10.6</u>	<u>7.4</u>	<u>69</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
To get ahead economically	SD, D	88.7	80.0	87.0	672
	U	7.1	10.0	4.9	63
	A, SA	<u>4.2</u>	<u>10.0</u>	<u>8.1</u>	<u>60</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795



TABLE 41

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BIRTH CONTROL RESPONSE  
AND MARITAL STATUS

Birth Control Situation		Marital Status			Total Number
		Single	Engaged	Married	
Wife's physical health is threatened	SD, D	6.5	1.5	4.9	45
	U	9.4	4.4	5.4	64
	A, SA	<u>84.1</u>	<u>94.1</u>	<u>89.7</u>	<u>686</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Wife's mental health is threatened	SD, D	9.6	10.3	6.0	70
	U	15.5	11.8	12.5	115
	A, SA	<u>74.9</u>	<u>77.9</u>	<u>81.5</u>	<u>610</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
To provide spacing of children	SD, D	47.3	35.3	26.1	329
	U	12.7	20.6	13.6	108
	A, SA	<u>40.0</u>	<u>44.1</u>	<u>60.3</u>	<u>358</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Husband is going to college	SD, D	53.2	50.0	50.0	415
	U	15.1	10.3	12.0	111
	A, SA	<u>31.7</u>	<u>39.7</u>	<u>38.0</u>	<u>269</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
To prevent having additional children	SD, D	61.0	64.8	52.2	471
	U	18.1	17.6	22.3	151
	A, SA	<u>20.9</u>	<u>17.6</u>	<u>25.5</u>	<u>173</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
To insure having no children	SD, D	86.1	89.7	87.5	690
	U	4.4	5.9	4.3	36
	A, SA	<u>9.5</u>	<u>4.4</u>	<u>8.2</u>	<u>69</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
To get ahead economically	SD, D	85.3	80.1	83.7	672
	U	7.6	13.2	7.1	63
	A, SA	<u>7.1</u>	<u>5.8</u>	<u>9.3</u>	<u>60</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795

TABLE 42

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ABORTION  
RESPONSE AND AGE

Abortion Situation		A G E			Total Number
		16-19	20-22	23+	
Baby is unwanted	SD, D	87.6	89.5	92.7	713
	U	9.9	6.0	3.2	52
	A, SA	<u>2.5</u>	<u>7.5</u>	<u>4.1</u>	<u>30</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Mother is unwed	SD, D	86.5	89.5	88.1	700
	U	9.2	6.4	6.9	60
	A, SA	<u>4.3</u>	<u>4.1</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>35</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Parents are economically unable	SD, D	89.4	89.8	89.8	713
	U	6.4	6.8	5.1	50
	A, SA	<u>3.9</u>	<u>3.4</u>	<u>5.1</u>	<u>32</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Mother is mentally incapable	SD, D	54.3	57.6	54.6	442
	U	29.8	25.1	25.2	213
	A, SA	<u>15.9</u>	<u>17.3</u>	<u>20.2</u>	<u>140</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Baby is deformed	SD, D	53.6	57.0	49.1	426
	U	27.0	23.4	28.9	208
	A, SA	<u>19.4</u>	<u>19.6</u>	<u>22.0</u>	<u>161</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Pregnancy from rape	SD, D	33.7	41.0	45.4	315
	U	25.5	22.4	16.1	173
	A, SA	<u>39.8</u>	<u>36.6</u>	<u>38.5</u>	<u>309</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795
Necessity to save mother's life	SD, D	6.7	8.8	3.2	52
	U	21.3	16.6	14.2	140
	A, SA	<u>72.0</u>	<u>74.6</u>	<u>82.6</u>	<u>603</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	282	295	218	795

TABLE 43

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ABORTION RESPONSE  
AND INDIVIDUAL'S EDUCATION

Abortion Situation		Individual's Education			Total Number
		HS-Fresh	Soph-Sen	Grad	
Baby is unwanted	SD, D	89.7	89.5	88.9	712
	U	8.0	5.6	7.4	52
	A, SA	2.3	4.9	3.7	31
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Mother is unwed	SD, D	86.0	90.0	81.5	701
	U	9.3	5.8	14.8	59
	A, SA	4.7	4.2	3.7	35
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Parents are economically unable	SD, D	89.3	90.2	81.5	712
	U	6.4	6.2	7.4	50
	A, SA	4.3	3.6	11.1	33
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Mother is mentally incapable	SD, D	54.7	56.4	51.9	442
	U	29.3	25.9	18.5	214
	A, SA	16.0	17.7	29.6	139
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Baby is deformed	SD, D	54.3	53.6	40.7	425
	U	25.7	26.7	22.2	208
	A, SA	20.0	19.7	37.1	162
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Pregnancy from rape	SD, D	33.3	43.6	37.1	314
	U	24.4	20.1	22.2	173
	A, SA	42.3	36.3	40.7	308
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795
Necessity to save mother's life	SD, D	5.7	7.1	3.7	51
	U	19.7	16.2	18.5	140
	A, SA	74.6	76.7	77.8	604
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	464	28	795

TABLE 44

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ABORTION RESPONSE AND  
NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN FAMILY

Abortion Situation		Number of Children in Family			Total Number
		0 - 2	3 - 5	6+	
Baby is unwanted	SD, D	83.6	89.5	92.1	711
	U	8.6	7.3	4.4	52
	A, SA	<u>7.8</u>	<u>3.2</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>32</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Mother is unwed	SD, D	82.8	87.6	90.5	698
	U	7.8	8.2	6.4	60
	A, SA	<u>9.4</u>	<u>4.2</u>	<u>3.1</u>	<u>37</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Parents are economically unable	SD, D	79.3	90.9	92.5	713
	U	13.8	5.9	3.6	50
	A, SA	<u>6.9</u>	<u>3.2</u>	<u>3.9</u>	<u>32</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Mother is mentally incapable	SD, D	46.6	54.6	61.5	442
	U	24.1	29.3	24.6	215
	A, SA	<u>29.3</u>	<u>16.1</u>	<u>13.9</u>	<u>138</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Baby is deformed	SD, D	40.5	54.6	57.5	425
	U	25.9	26.2	26.2	208
	A, SA	<u>33.6</u>	<u>19.2</u>	<u>16.3</u>	<u>162</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Pregnancy from rape	SD, D	33.6	37.9	45.2	315
	U	11.2	23.7	23.0	172
	A, SA	<u>55.2</u>	<u>38.4</u>	<u>31.8</u>	<u>308</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795
Necessity to save mother's life	SD, D	7.8	6.1	7.1	53
	U	13.8	18.0	19.4	142
	A, SA	<u>78.4</u>	<u>75.9</u>	<u>73.5</u>	<u>600</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	116	427	252	795

TABLE 45

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ABORTION RESPONSE  
AND GEOGRAPHIC REARING

Abortion Situation		Geographic Rearing			Total Number
		Rural - 24,999	25,000 - 499,999	500,000+* 199	
Baby is unwanted	SD, D	93.3	88.5	85.4	712
	U	4.7	7.4	8.0	52
	A, SA	2.0	4.1	6.6	31
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Mother is unwed	SD, D	94.0	86.5	81.9	701
	U	4.0	7.8	12.1	59
	A, SA	2.0	5.7	6.0	35
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Parents are economically unable	SD, D	94.3	88.5	83.9	712
	U	3.4	6.8	10.1	50
	A, SA	2.3	4.7	6.0	33
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Mother is mentally incapable	SD, D	61.3	53.4	50.3	442
	U	26.7	28.3	25.1	214
	A, SA	1.2	18.3	24.6	139
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Baby is deformed	SD, D	58.3	50.0	50.8	423
	U	25.7	28.0	24.6	209
	A, SA	16.0	22.0	24.6	162
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Pregnancy from rape	SD, D	44.0	37.2	36.7	
	U	21.0	24.3	19.1	173
	A, SA	35.0	38.5	44.7	308
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795
Necessity to save mother's life	SD, D	5.0	7.4	7.0	51
	U	23.3	12.2	17.1	140
	A, SA	71.7	80.4	75.9	604
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	300	296	199	795

\*Transient person included in this category.

TABLE 46

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ABORTION RESPONSE  
AND FATHER'S INCOME

Abortion		Father's Income			Total Number
		0-11,999	12,000+	No Answer	
Baby is unwanted	SD, D	9.4	84.3	93.2	712
	U	3.5	11.1	4.9	57
	A, SA	<u>2.5</u>	<u>4.6</u>	<u>1.9</u>	<u>26</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Mother is unwed	SD, D	91.5	84.6	89.5	700
	U	5.7	8.9	8.0	60
	A, SA	<u>2.8</u>	<u>6.5</u>	<u>2.5</u>	<u>35</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Parents are economically unable	SD, D	93.6	85.4	92.0	713
	U	3.9	8.3	6.2	50
	A, SA	<u>2.5</u>	<u>6.3</u>	<u>1.8</u>	<u>32</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Mother is mentally incapable	SD, D	60.8	52.0	54.3	442
	U	24.7	25.1	34.0	213
	A, SA	<u>14.5</u>	<u>22.9</u>	<u>11.7</u>	<u>140</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Baby is deformed	SD, D	51.9	52.0	59.9	426
	U	31.1	22.9	24.7	208
	A, SA	<u>17.0</u>	<u>25.1</u>	<u>15.4</u>	<u>161</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Pregnancy from rape	SD, D	43.5	36.0	40.7	315
	U	24.0	20.6	20.4	173
	A, SA	<u>32.5</u>	<u>43.4</u>	<u>38.9</u>	<u>307</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795
Necessity to save mother's life	SD, D	5.7	6.0	8.6	51
	U	20.1	16.3	16.1	140
	A, SA	<u>74.2</u>	<u>77.7</u>	<u>75.3</u>	<u>604</u>
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	283	350	162	795

TABLE 47

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ABORTION RESPONSE  
AND MARITAL STATUS

Abortion Situation		Marital Status			Total Number
		Single	Engaged	Married	
Baby is unwanted	SD, D	88.0	89.7	94.0	712
	U	75.5	8.8	2.7	52
	A, SA	4.4	1.5	3.3	31
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Mother is unwed	SD, D	86.6	89.7	92.4	701
	U	8.3	7.4	4.9	59
	A, SA	5.1	2.9	2.7	35
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Parents are economically unable	SD, D	89.1	91.2	90.2	712
	U	6.8	5.9	4.9	50
	A, SA	4.1	2.9	4.9	33
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.00	100.00	100.00	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Mother is mentally incapable	SD, D	54.9	58.9	56.5	442
	U	26.9	23.5	28.3	214
	A, SA	18.2	17.6	15.2	139
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Baby is deformed	SD, D	53.0	52.9	54.9	425
	U	27.1	27.9	22.8	288
	A, SA	19.9	19.2	22.3	162
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Pregnancy from rape	SD, D	38.3	41.2	42.9	315
	U	22.3	22.1	20.1	173
	A, SA	39.4	36.7	37.0	307
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795
Necessity to save mother's life	SD, D	6.8	8.8	4.4	51
	U	17.5	20.6	16.8	140
	A, SA	76.7	70.6	77.8	604
	TOTAL PER CENT	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	TOTAL NUMBER	543	68	184	795