# THE CONCEPT, CORRELATES AND CONSEQUENCES OF UNMET NEED FOR CONTRACEPTION IN ZAMBIA

BY

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#### (389501)

A Doctoral Thesis submitted to the Faculty of Humanities, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa; in fulfilment of the requirements for the award of PhD in Demography and Population Studies

February 2015

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Eunice Ntwala Samwinga Imasiku attended Petauke Secondary School, Zambia. In 1988, she attended David Livingstone Teacher's Training College. After successfully completing the two year primary teacher's course, she began her teaching career in January 1990. Two years later, she enrolled for the degree of Bachelor of Arts with education (Geography Single Major) at the University of Zambia (UNZA) and completed the programme in December 1995. She was admitted to the degree in May 1996. In the same year, she was employed as a teacher of geography at Jacaranda Basic School, Lusaka, Zambia. She was awarded a Master of Science degree (Geography) from UNZA in November 2000. Eunice was appointed as Lecturer III in the department of Geography at UNZA in March 2002. She was promoted to Lecturer II in January 2006. In September 2010, she joined the doctoral programme in demography and population studies at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), Johannesburg, South Africa.

Her thesis, "The concept, correlates and consequences of unmet need for contraception" was supervised by Professor Clifford Odimegwu. The study examined the unmet need for contraception among various sections of the population thereby including adolescents, men and the unmarried, who in most cases are left out. This has resulted in a better understanding of the unmet need for contraception in Zambia as the levels were disaggregated according to unmarried adolescent and adult females, married adolescent and adult females and married adolescent and adult males. Hence, the study established that the level of unmet need for contraception among men is higher than among women. In addition, the study identified the underlying factors of unmet need among adolescent females, adult females, men and women. The study also determined the association between unmet need for contraception and selected reproductive health issues. Furthermore, it developed a regression equation to use in estimating Total Fertility Rate (TFR) if unmet need is satisfied by using TFRs and Contraceptive Prevalence Rates (CPRs) of 86 countries based on recent Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data. This helped to derive estimates that are more up to date than if the study had used the available regression equation which had been developed by using the 1990s DHS data.

While pursuing her doctoral degree, Eunice attended three scholarly writing retreats organised by the Demography and Population Studies Programme and the School of Public Health. She has also presented her research at international and local conferences. She presented a paper on "Unmet need for Contraception among men in Zambia: Implications for Family Planning Programmes" at the 2013 Population Association of America (PAA). She also presented a paper entitled "Unmet need for Contraception in Zambia: A look at Community level Determinants" at the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) Conference. Furthermore, she presented a paper on Gender Dimensions of Unmet need for Contraception in Zambia at the University of the Witwatersrand's 2014 Postgraduate Symposium. She has two publications based on this study: Imasiku, E.N.S. et al (2014), Variations in unmet need for contraception in Zambia: Does ethnicity play a role? *Journal of Biosocial Science*, 46(3):294-315; Imasiku, E.N.S. (2014), Gender Dimensions of Unmet need for Contraception in Zambia, *Gender & Behaviour*, 12(4):5881-5910. Details of the other manuscripts that she has written are included in Appendix E.

Eunice has been a recipient of several awards and grants which include the best Geography Project Report (undergraduate final year) and Wits Postgraduate Merit Award. She was also a recipient of the 2013 Population Association of America (PAA) Travel Grant and the Wits Postgraduate Conference Travel Grant. Moreover, she received the Fhum Mellon Doctorate Completion Grant. Furthermore, she is a CODESRIA Scholarly Writing Workshop Laureate. Eunice intends to continue lecturing at University of Zambia. Since her job as a lecturer revolves around research and dissemination of information, she hopes to use the additional research and analytical skills that she has acquired while at Wits to conduct more research with unmet need for contraception being given priority. Unmet need for contraception still remains an issue of concern in Zambia. The level of unmet need among currently married women has remained at 27% since 1996. There will be a need to examine factors determining the stalling of unmet need for contraception in Zambia. Understanding an issue through research helps policy makers and program managers to come up with effective strategies for addressing the problem.

#### DECLARATION

I, Eunice Ntwala Samwinga IMASIKU, declare that this thesis is my own original work. It is being submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Demography and Population Studies of the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. To the best of my knowledge, it has not been submitted before in part or in full for any degree or examination at this or any other University.



3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2015

# DEDICATION

То

El-Shaddai from whom all blessings flow

and

my dear husband (Kamayoyo) and children (Grace, Eric, Joanna, and Abigail) who have been

a source of inspiration.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

First and foremost, to God be the glory for accomplishment of this work. Indeed, He has been Faithful and made all grace abound toward me during the course of my doctoral studies. Yes, Hosanna in the Highest, through His grace it has been done.

I would like to extend my heart felt appreciation to my supervisor and mentor, Professor Clifford Odimegwu, whose constructive criticisms and encouragement made it possible for me to accomplish this task. Thank you for your support. May God bless you abundantly.

I also want to appreciate the UNZA Management for granting me a Training Contract in order to pursue further studies. A million thanks to my colleagues in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies for the support rendered to me during the course of my studies. Special thanks to those of you who had to shoulder my workload during my absence.

In addition, I am thankful to the University of Witwatersrand's Financial Aid for granting me the Postgraduate Merit Award (PMA) which paid for my tuition fees from 2011-2013. The PMA went a long way in easing my financial burden as the quarterly stipend also assisted in taking care of my upkeep costs. Moreover, I appreciate the Faculty of Humanities Graduate Centre for awarding me the Fhum Mellon Doctorate Completion Grant which enabled me to successfully complete my studies.

I also thank Measure DHS and ICF International for permission to use the 2007 Zambia DHS data set in this study. Moreover, I want to appreciate Professor Jane Menken and the members of staff at the Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado at Boulder for the overwhelming support I received from them during my visit there in the process of

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writing up the thesis. I am also grateful for the assistance offered to me by Dr. A. Bankole in analysing one of my objectives. Special thanks go to Dr. Mushinge Chiponde for the help rendered to me while preparing this work.

I am also grateful to the Wits Demography and Population Studies Programme for the support rendered to me during my studies. Thank you to the members of staff: Dr. Latifat Ibisomi, Dr. Nicole De Wet, Ms. Julia Mamabolo. I am also thankful to my PhD colleagues: Dr. Dorothy Ononokpono, Dr. Sunday Adedini, Bob Elwange, Enock Ngome, Pamela Chirwa Banda and Jeremy Gumbo for making the way brighter by sharing light moments and encouraging one another. Special thanks go to Sunday and Dorothy, 'my brother and sister from another mother'.

My appreciation goes to Wits Seventh Day Adventist Students' Movement (SDASM) for the wonderful fellowship I enjoyed with the brethren. The Sabbath opening programme was a marvellous component of the programmes. It was lovely to come together as we ceased from each week's labour. My sincere thanks to my God given Sister, Annie Msosa. You have been a blessing to me. God richly bless you.

I owe special thanks to the Kasandas (Cynthia and Bwalya) for accommodating me when I first came to Johannesburg. May God richly bless you. Special thanks also go to the Sainis (Jack and Yvonne) for the wonderful fellowship we have had during my stay in Johannesburg. I also thank the Simateles (Mula and Muna) and the Chookas (Godfrey and Phyllis) for the moments we spent together. To all of you and the rest of the Zambian Adventist family in Johannesburg, I say thank you for the brotherly love.

I am deeply indebted to my dear husband, Kamayoyo Eric Imasiku, for the sacrifice he made to support me during my studies. You were my sponsor (Kama Associates) and this shall be for years to come in the records of UNZA that Mrs Eunice N.S. Imasiku was sponsored by Kama Associates. Thank you for letting God speak to you even as we ventured on this mission by faith. Moreover, you did your honest part in managing the home and taking care of the children in my absence. I shall live to appreciate the sacrifice you have made on my behalf. Your being an understanding husband who is interested in seeing me gain higher heights in my career has made it possible for me to come this far. This also answers the question why Kama Associates (an architectural firm) was interested to sponsor me to pursue PhD degree in Demography and Population Studies at Wits. There are few such hubbies. Thank God I am blessed!

My special and heartfelt gratitude also go to my dear children: Grace, Eric, Joanna and Abigail. I appreciate the sacrifice you made during the time when I was away from you. Thank you for being a good boy and girls. Imagine, the first time I left home, Abigail was just 2 and half years old but now she is six years old. You have all been there for her especially in ensuring that she is in time for school. You bring to joy to my life.

Special thanks also go to my parents (Rex and Grace) who have been a source of inspiration and to my young brothers and sisters for their support. Thank you for the sacrifice made by most of you in helping with house chores in my absence. I appreciate your prayers and words of encouragement. Indeed I am so glad that I am part of the Samwinga family. Praise be to God for His Faithfulness to us.

Finally, thank you to all who have in one way or another played a role in helping me come this far. May God who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think reward you, Amen.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
CSO	Central Statistical Office
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IUSSP	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
JSTOR	Journal Storage
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MMD	Movement for Multi-party Democracy
MOH	Ministry of Health
PAA	Population Association of America
PCV	Percentage Change in Variance
PF	Patriotic Front
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAPs	Structural Adjustment Programmes
SEA	Standard Enumeration Area
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TDRC	Tropical Disease Research Centre
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UN	United Nations
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNIP	United National Independence Party
UNZA	University of Zambia
VPC	Variance Partition Coefficient
WHO	World Health Organisation
ZDHS	Zambia Demographic and Health Survey