

# ASSESSMENT OF DISCRIMINATION OF FERTILE AND INFERTILE WOMEN IN BIHAR

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## ABSTRACT:

Infertility is commonly defined as the inability to conceive after 12 months of unprotected sexual intercourse. Infertility rate is on rising trend. On average 60-80 million couples in world suffer from infertility every year, among these 15-20 million (25%) are in India alone. By study of WHO 2012, one in every four couples in developing countries is affected by infertility. This increased rate causes a humongous burden to the society. In some part of our country, infertility is linked to an act of god and punishment for sins of the past. The motive of this study was to assess the quality of life among infertile couples; to determine the relationship between various domains of quality of life of infertile couples.

**Keywords:** Socio-Economic characteristics, Demographic characteristics, Health Issues, Fertility quality of life, Infertility.

## Introduction :

The present paper examines whether it is possible to discriminate the sample women as fertile and infertile on the basis of some socioeconomic, demographic and reproductive characteristics and tries to identify the variables that contribute most to the overall discrimination.

The analysis based on 1000 sample women from primary survey, out of these 725 respondents from one specialized infertility clinic in PMCH, Patna and the 275 respondents from the NMCH, Patna. Socio-economic factors considered for the analysis are place of

residence, religion, education of husband and wife, occupation of husband and wife, income of the household and type of family. Demographic and reproductive factors considered for analysis are age at marriage, age at menarche, consanguinity marriage, age difference between husband and wife, reproductive diseases, other diseases, length of menstrual periods, duration of bleeding, pain during periods, urinary tract infection, white discharge and marital duration.

### Socio-Economic Characteristics :

The table 1 represents the percentage distribution of the respondents according to their socio-economic characteristics like religion, education of respondent and husband, income of the household, occupation of the husband and wife and type of family.

**Table 1**

#### Percentage Distribution of Respondent According to Socio-Economic Characteristics.

Socio-Economic Characteristics		Frequency		Percentage
Religion	Hindu	130		47.27
	Muslim	105		38.18
	Christian	40		14.55
	Total	275		100
Type of Family	Nuclear	195		70.91
	Joint	80		29.09
	Total	275		100
Occupation	Respondent	Working	110	40
		Non-working	165	60
		Total	275	100
	Husband	Coole & Others	110	40
		White Coller & Business	140	50.91
		Total	275	100
Education	Respondent	<7	115	41.82
		8-10	90	32.73
		>10	70	25.45

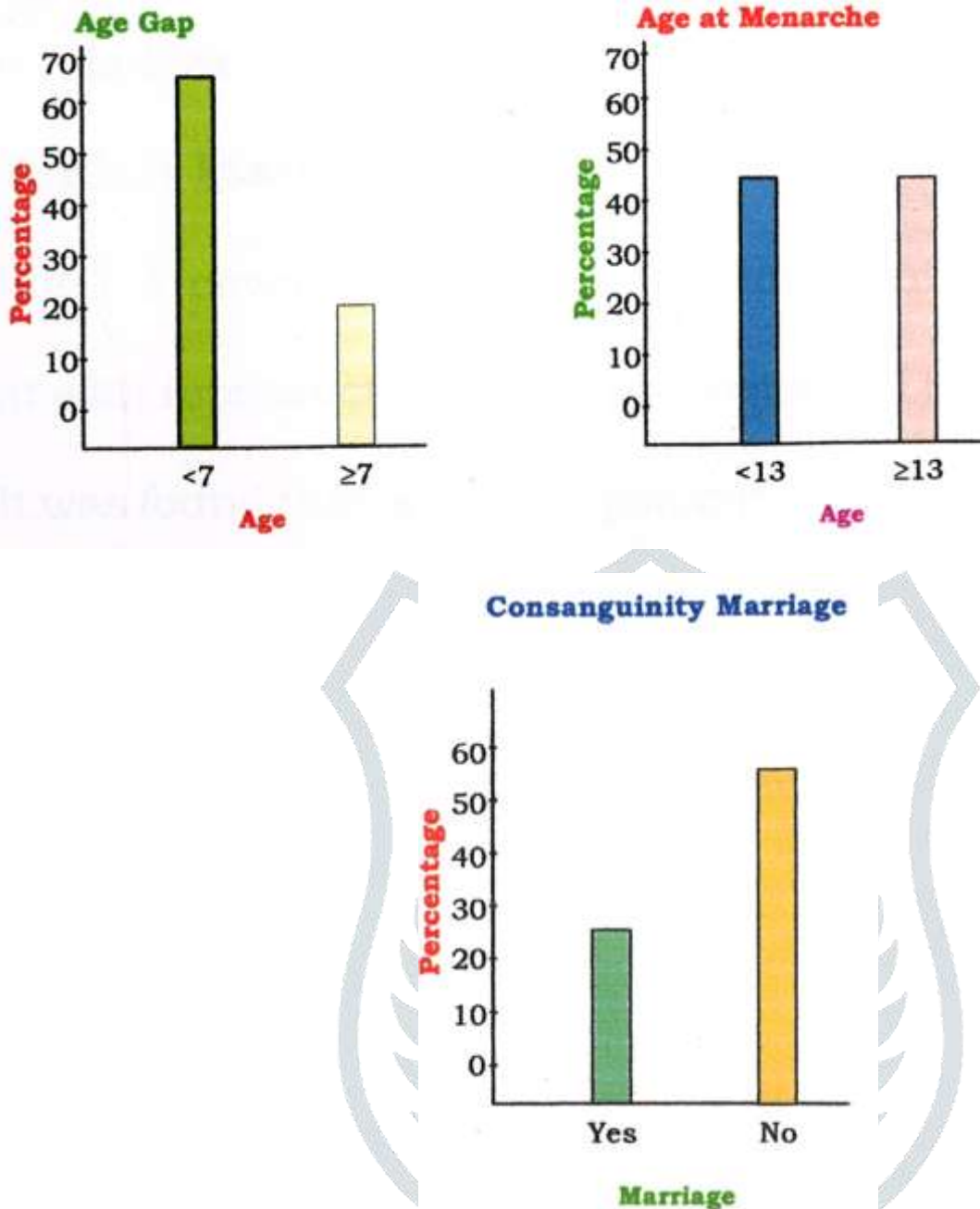
		Total	275	100
	Husband	<7	35	12.73
		8-10	125	45.45
		>10	115	41.82
		Total	275	100
Household Income		<1000	160	58.18
		>1000	115	41.82
		Total	275	100

### Demographic Characteristics :

The table gives the respondent's demographic and reproductive variables like age at marriage, age at menarche, age difference between husband and wife, and consanguinity marriage.



Among the sample women 63.6 percent of women married after 20 years and 36.4 percent got married at age 20 or before. Again it can be observed that 30.9 percent of husband were married at age 25 or after.

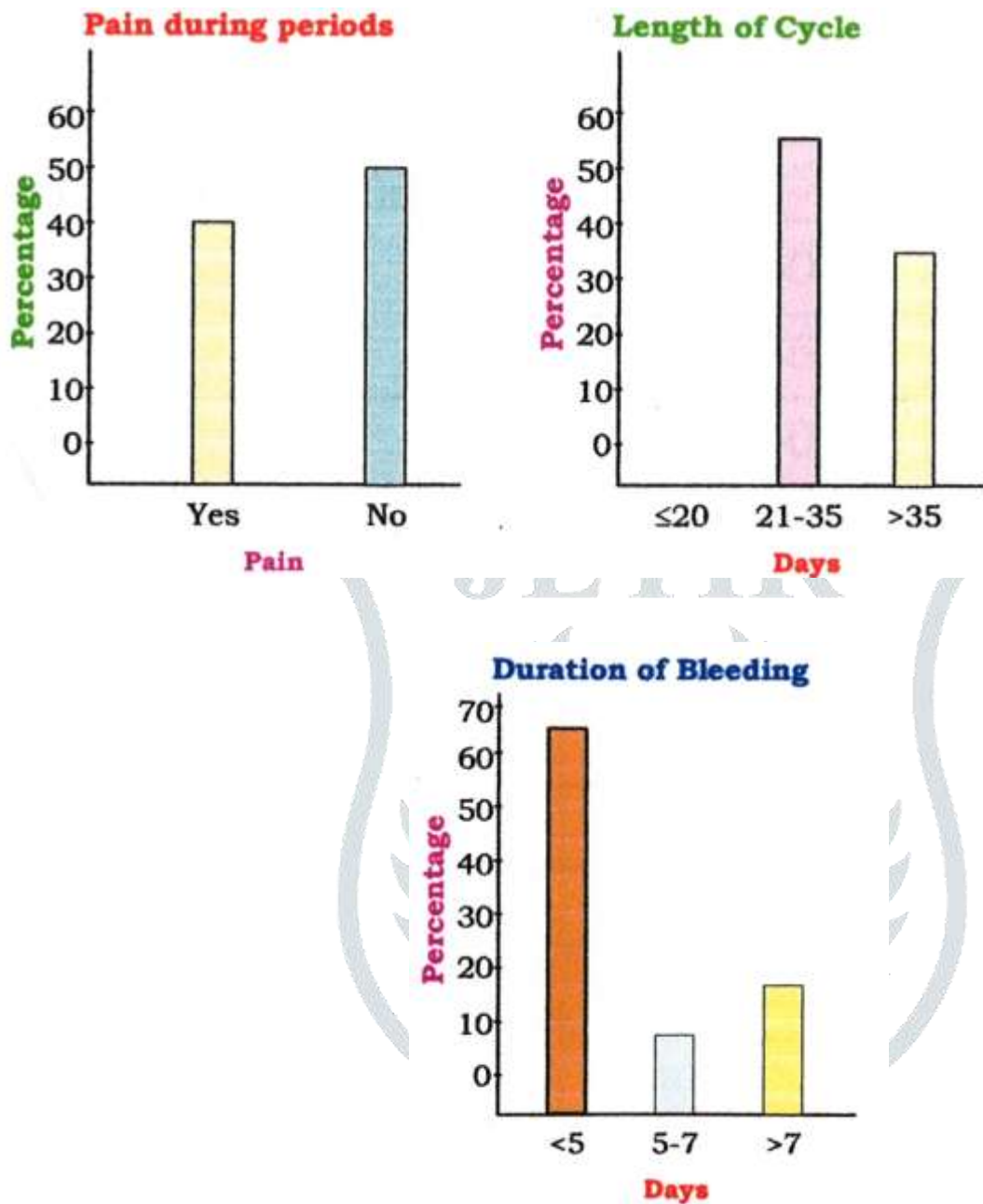


Here it can be clear that 65.5 percent couples had age difference less than 7 years and remaining had more than 7 years difference. About 50 percent women had their age at menarche greater than or equal to 13 years and 50 percent had age less than 13 years at the time of menarche. From the table it is found that, nearly 58 percent respondents were married their close relatives.

### Health Issues :

The table 2 covers the percentage idistribution of the respondent with reproductive health problems and other major diseases. It was found that, about 36 percent of the respondents had

pain during menstruation. Here it can be clear that nearly 38 percent respondent had their menstrual cycle as 21-35 days and other 22 percent had greater than 35 days.



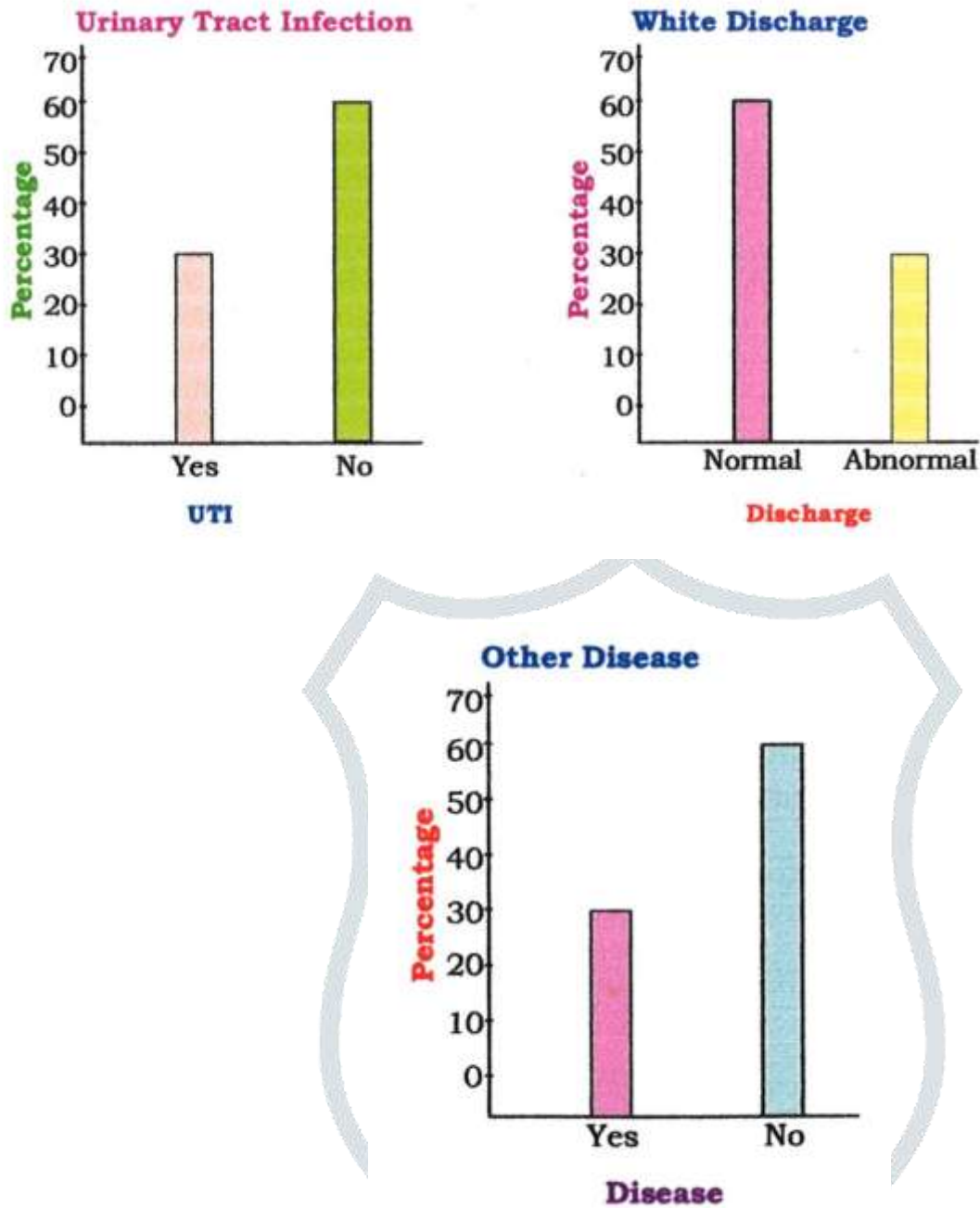
**Table 2**

**Percentage Distribution of Respondent According to Reproductive Health problems and Other Disease.**

Health Problems	Frequency	Percentage
Pain During Periods	Yes	100
	No	175

	Total	275	100
Length of Menstrual Cycle	<20	110	40.00
	21-35	105	38.18
	>35	60	21.82
	Total	275	100
Duration of Bleeding	<5	140	50.91
	5-7	50	30.91
	>7	50	18.18
	Total	275	100
Urinary Tract Infection	Yes	70	25.45
	No	205	74.55
	Total	275	100
White Discharge	Normal	210	76.36
	Abnormal	205	74.55
	Total	275	100
Other Disease	Yes	210	58.18
	No	115	41.82
	Total	275	100

The table observed that 50.9 percent of the respondents had their duration of bleeding less than 5 days, 30.9 percent had duration of 5-7 days and 18.2 percent had duration of menstrual cycle greater than 7 days.



23.6 percent had abnormal white discharge. From the table it is found that nearly 58 percent women reported to have some health problems like diabetes, thyroid, respiratory infection and other health problems.

## Conclusion

This study points at the necessity of specific psychological interventions, presently absent from the public healthcare routine. Secondary infertile cases had better quality of life than the primary infertile cases. Demographic characteristics showed a major impact on the infertility cases.. Making Society aware of not defining infertility as a gender biased view can

help in development of both male and female as an individual as such society norms can lead to imbalance of mind/body, relational and emotional domains of the patients.

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