

# A Study of the Awareness and Involvement of Male Partners in Family Planning Services in Kagoro Community, Kaura LGA, Kaduna State

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Since the 1994 ICPD, family planning has broadened into reproductive health, ensuring access to safe and affordable methods. In Nigeria, however, contraceptive use remains low, mainly due to male dominance in family decisions, especially in the North where cultural and religious norms give men control over reproductive health choices. Despite this influence, men show low involvement in FP. Studying male awareness and participation in family planning in communities like Kagoro is crucial for advancing inclusive reproductive health services that benefit women, families, and society.

**Methodology:** A cross-sectional descriptive study was done among the men in Kagoro village, Kaura LGA, Kaduna State, with a focus on males aged 18 to 60 years. Data were collected using structured questionnaires that covered demographic information, awareness levels, perception of FP methods, and actual contraceptive practices. The data were analyzed using statistical software, IBM SPSS statistical software version 23, and the results were presented in tables and charts.

**Results:** The study found that 90.1% of respondents were aware of family planning, but only 47.1% of respondents regularly use any one form of contraceptive. The commonly used contraceptives among the respondents are condoms (72.9%) and vasectomy (1.2%). There was a noticeable gap between awareness and actual practice. Partners' decisions, side effects, and religion were the major barriers to the use of family planning services, while facilitating factors include educational level, access to healthcare, and gender roles within the community.

**Conclusion:** The study highlights the need for intensified community-based education and sensitization campaigns to bridge the gap between awareness and practice of family planning methods. Addressing cultural and gender-based barriers would significantly enhance the uptake of contraceptive services, contributing to improved reproductive health outcomes.

**Keywords:** Family Planning (FP); Contraceptive Use; Male Involvement; Awareness; Cultural and Religious Barriers; Kagoro, Kaura LGA, Kaduna State

