

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH; THE SARVODAYA EXPERIENCE.

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Abstract: It is noted that poverty, which afflicts almost a quarter of its population, is the source of many of the demographic and health problems in Sri Lanka. It is therefore imperative that reproductive health issues are addressed within a broader context of sustainable development, which has a poverty alleviation focus. Since the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in 1994, the focus of reproductive health (RH) has broadened significantly. The fields of population and development have come closer together. This trend has provided the opportunity and mandate for organizations in fields other than family planning, especially those in the voluntary non government sector (NGOs) who see their mandate as development, to enter the reproductive health arena. This paper describes the experience of the Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement of Sri Lanka in the field of reproductive health.