

**CONTRACEPTIVE BEHAVIOR OF ESTATE WORKERS IN SRI LANKA: A STUDY OF NUWARA
ELIYA DISTRICT.**

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Abstract: This paper examines the contraceptive behaviour of Estate workers in Sri Lanka based on a survey data (2002) covering one hundred families living in Kabaragala Estate, Nuwara-Eliya District. The main objective of this paper is to find out whether there is a nexus between spouses' awareness to use any contraceptive methods (modern and traditional) and the selected demographic factors identified as main driven forces of contraceptive usage among Estate workers. This paper employs two Logit models to examine the hypothesized relationship mentioned above. One is for spouses who have ever used any contraceptive methods in their lifetime and the other is for spouses who use any contraceptive methods currently. Even though results reveal a weak relationship between variables considered in the study, it confirms that all the hypothetical directions from demographic explanatory factors to contraceptive usage among Estate spouses exist. The main finding of this paper is that the higher tendency to use any contraceptive method among Estate spouses is risen only after adding an additional kid to their families. This may be a considerable matter as a family in the Estate sector has relatively a higher average kid ratio and as their low average age at marriage could result a higher fertility performance coupled with longer period of marital life in their reproductive span.