

MTRA. JESSICA NATALIA NAJERA AGUIRRE
EL COLEGIO DE MEXICO
MEXICO

DETERMINANT OF THE FERTILITY OF THE POOR WOMEN “The reproduction of the poverty”

This work identifies the associated factors to the fertility of the poor women and quantifies the magnitude of its repercussions. The study is done for the Mexican women from 15 to 49 polled years in 1997 by the National Survey of the Demographic Dynamics (ENADID), representative survey to national level, elaborated by the National Council of Population (CONAPO). The question to try to respond is ¿of what group of factors depends the number of children that have the women that live in conditions of poverty? The first supposed one is that the condition of poverty is a determinant that influences strongly in the number of children that have the women along its reproductive life.

The identification of the proportion of poor in a country is not it more important than should be known, since my point of view the importance situates in knowing the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of sector of the population. The identification of the factors that intervene in the decision about the number of children that will have the women in condition of poverty they will throw an useful knowledge for the design of strategies to fight the reproduction of the same poverty. For the purpose of organizing the knowledge of the diverse determinants that interact on the fertility in the developing countries, devised a conceptual framework by the Population Council (1984). Said framework, groups the variables in three groups: Demand of children, Offering of children and Cost of regulation. The demand, refers to the size and the structure of the family that would elect a couple, with dimensions such as the number, kind and espaciamento of the surviving children. The offering, refers the surviving children that spreaded the couples if not to regulate its fertility or the survival of its children, and depends on the natural fertility, which reflect at the same time socioeconomic, cultural, and biological circumstances and, in certain degree, the individual choice. The interaction of the offering and demand determines if a couple desires to have or to avoid a birth. In the event that some measures were taken to avoid it, depends besides how inconvenient or inaccessible are the anticonception and the abortion, this is called Cost of regulation, that includes aspects as the difficulty to obtain information on contraceptive, the distance to a clinic or another family source of planning, religious or moral attitudes and consequences perceived for the health. Besides, not one must leave sideways two questions that govern these three large groups: the nupciality and the social institutions.

The born number of children in poor families is a detonador of the own reproduction of the poverty; in Mexico counts on themselves a great number of persons that are found in this condition, for which is necessary to know which are the reasons by which these women are deciding to have 3 or 4 children on the average, in spite of the conditions in which live. In many countries in poor development, the situation is not clear: the demand can be approached the offering or exceeding it, or is possible that the couples do not establish put effective of fertility, or that be chirped that the regulation of the fertility is too much

difficult, or be not taken into account for nothing. In these companies the fertility this determined mainly by factors of offering and by the results of the natural fertility.

The question is to investigate if these women are having the children that in reality they decide to have or are being obliged to remain in levels of fertility for all the environment that surrounds them, that is to say, that some of the variables that integrate to the 3 groups of determinants not this being supplied and this creating modifications done not desire in the boss of reproduction.

The women studied are the ones that are found among the 15 and 49 years in Mexico in the year 1997, that comply with the condition to have at least a son. The National Survey of Demographic Dynamics (ENADID) was utilized because is considered the most representative national survey with data about demographic, socioeconomic characteristics, conception, maternal health and unions.

The hypothesis presented is: Exists a great discrepancy among the children number ideal of the poor women and the born number of children living due to that the variables of the offering of children and the cost of regulation are being smaller supplied that the children demand variables.

The correct form to confront said hypothesis is doing a Multivaried Regression with the variables of the three groups of determinants of the fertility. A selection of the possible variables was done that will affect the decision about the number of children that the women have. The dependent variable is the born Number of children living; the chosen independent variables are: so great of the locality, line of poverty, level of education, civil state, mortinatos, abortions, ideal number of children, method requested equal to method obtained, present use of contraceptive method, contraceptive method use reason, age to the first union and three interactions: reason of use-if labors or not, method requested = obtained-size of the locality, and= Obtained-type of supplier.

Determination of Poverty. For the definition of women in condition of poverty, the following thing was done: The poverty was measured by the Poverty Line method (LP). I am utilized the Third Threshold of Poverty established by the Technical Committee for the Measurement of the Poverty of the Social Office of the secretary of Development (SEDESOL) established in the year 2002. The Line 3 refers to all those persons whose income is insufficient as to cover the needs of diet, health, education, dress, footwear, dwelling and equivalent, public transportation to \$28.1 and \$41.8 newspapers of the 2000 in urban and rural areas, respectively. Due to that the income of the one that is arranged in the ENADID is alone the monetary income, an accusation of the not monetary income was done, of the value of 24%, result of a simple average among the proportion of the not monetary income reported by the National Survey of Income and Expense of the Homes (ENIGH) of the 1996 s and 1998. The LP 3 went deflated for the year 1997 through the national Index of prices to the consumer (INPC).