

**Gender Inequity in Reproductive Health Decision  
Making and Management: A Study of Rural Women  
of Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India**

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**ABSTRACT** The paper focused to analyze the level of participation of women in decision making regarding their reproductive health and the nature of health care support they receive during pregnancy. The sample was drawn from 335 rural women aged between 25 to 45 years selected from four blocks of Coimbatore *taluk*, Tamil Nadu systematically. Data were collected through direct face-to-face interview method. The findings reveal that husbands' decisions are more valued on reproductive health of the wife than herself. Most women involved themselves in all the household works till the last stage of pregnancy and they were not supplemented with special diet during pregnancy. Women should be given rights to control their reproductive responsibility of conception, spacing and child birth. Imparting life skill education to the girl child during school age is strongly recommended to make them realize their role in decision making regarding their own health.