

Mortality as a Measure of Development: A Cross-Cultural Study from Andhra Populations

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ABSTRACT Mortality control is viewed as the best indicator of population development. An attempt is made to assert this view through a cross-cultural study of Tirupati populations, Andhra Pradesh. The results of the study indicate higher infant (63) and maternal (25) mortality rates occurred in Government Hospital characterized by low income groups and lower infant (13) and maternal (7) mortality rates in private nursing homes characterised by high income groups. The child mortality (21) rate is also high in five rural villages. The mean number of children for family planning user couple is 1.42 while for non-user it is 2.68. Similarly, low mean number of dead children in users (0.03) and in non-users (0.32) of family planning method.