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Sexual Relationships and Birthcontrol in Ghana
APPENDIX 4. QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FEMALE ADULTS

NB.1. This questionnaire has been used for female lineage members and the Female Sample.
NB.2. The questionnaire for male adults is largely the same; only questions marked with * have been omitted from the male questionnaire.
NB.3. This is a translation of the original Twi version.

Introduction

The doctors want to know more about the lives of people like you and me so that they can help us better with our problems. I want to ask you a few questions about yourself, your husband and your children. Please, try to answer me as well as you can.

About yourself

1. What is your name?
2. How old are you?
3. What is your home town?
4. Have you ever been to school? Up to which class?
5. What is your occupation?
6. Which church do you belong to?
7. Have you ever lived in a big town? Where?
8. Are you married?
    No □ → Is your husband dead? □ a
    Are you divorced? □ b
    Have you never been married? □ c
    Yes □ → Has your husband completed the marriage customs?
    No □ → Were you married by Ordinance? □ e
    Were you married in church? □ f
    Has your husband informed your family? □ g
    Or has he simply taken you as his mpensa? □ h
    Yes □ d

9. How many times have you been divorced (before you married your present husband)?
About your husband

10. How old is he? (How much older than you?)
11. What is his home town?
12. Has he ever been to school? Up to which class?
13. What is his occupation?
14. Which church does he belong to?
15. Has he ever lived in a big town? Where?
16. How many wives does he have (you included)?

About your marriage and your children

17. How many children have you given birth to?
18. How many are still alive?
19. How often have you been pregnant?
20. How old were you when you became pregnant for the first time?
21. a. Sometimes a woman lives with her family.
   b. Sometimes a woman lives with her husband.
      Which of the two is better?
22. Do you and your husband live in the same house?
   If not, in which town does your husband live?
23. Who is the best person to look after a child when:
   a. he/she is between 0 and 2 years?
   b. he/she is between 2 and 6 years?
   c. he/she is between 6 and 12 years?
24. Do any of your own children stay with someone else? With whom?
25. Do you look after children who are not your own children?
   Who are these children?
26. Do you eat together with your husband?
27. Does your husband sometimes wash his own clothes?
28. Does your husband sometimes help with pounding fufu?
29. Does your husband sometimes carry foodstuffs from the farm?
30. How many children would you like to have? ...Boys and ...Girls.
31. Some people do things so that they get fewer children. Have you
    heard of this?
32. What do they do to reduce fertility?
   a. avoidance   e. loop   i. withdrawal
   b. pills (name) f. diaphragm j. rhythm method
   c. foam        g. tubectomy k. abortion (how)
   d. condom      h. vasectomy l. herbs (name)
33. How did you get to know about these methods?
34. Which of these methods is the best?
35. Which of these methods is the worst?
36. Have you ever talked about this topic with your husband?
37. Have you or your husband ever used any of these methods?
   Yes □ → Which ones?
38. Where did you get (buy) them?
39. No □ → Would you like to try one?
40. Have you ever induced an abortion?
41. If yes, who performed the abortion?
*42. Why do people avoid sexual intercourse during pregnancy?
*43. Why do people avoid sexual intercourse after childbirth?
44. During your last pregnancy, for how many months did you avoid sexual intercourse?
45. After your last childbirth, for how many months did you avoid sexual intercourse?
*45a. After your last childbirth, how many months did it take before you had your first menstruation?
46. How many years interval should there be between the births of children?
47. Explain the reason.
48. Whom do you praise more: - a woman with 3 children
   - a woman with 8 children
49. Why?
50. How many children did your mother bring forth?
51. How many of these grew up?
52. People who get a deformed child sometimes kill the child. Have you ever heard this? Is it good or not good?

Answer to each question: good or not good

53. Some people want to have many children.
54. Some people want to have 6 children.
55. Some people want to have 4 children.
56. Some people want to have 2 children.
57. Some school pupils or unmarried people use medicines to prevent pregnancy.
58. Some married people use medicines to prevent pregnancy.
59. Some school girls induce abortion when they become pregnant.
60. Some married women induce abortion when they become pregnant.
Answer: which of the two statements is most correct

61. a. If you have many children, you have to work very hard to feed and clothe them.
    b. If you have many children they will work for you in the house and on the land.

62. a. If you have many children people will respect and admire you.
    b. If you have only a few children but you can look after them very well, people will respect and admire you.

63. a. If a woman gives birth to many children she will become weak and sickly.
    b. If a woman has many children they will look after her when she becomes old or sick.

Interviewer: Name .................
Date .................
Remarks .................