Chapter VI

Government Fertility Policies and Family Planning Behavior

In the preceding chapter, the study probed into the relationship between religious belief and perceived family planning behavior. It also examined the influence of other factors, such as the demographic and socio-economic background and minority consciousness of the respondents on the nature of relationship between religious beliefs (doctrines) and perceived family planning behavior.

In the present chapter, the study will look into the relationship between government fertility control policies and perceived family planning behavior, as well as the influence of selected demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the respondents on such relationship. More specifically, the study is designed to answer the following hypotheses:

1.   Among those who know and agree with the policies that include *cultural value inputs* or *the regulation of population levels* or *on contraception*, there would be significantly more respondents who perceive the influence on their family planning behavior than those who do not perceive any influence.

2.   Among those who know and agree with the policies that include *cultural value inputs* or *the regulation of population levels* or *on contraception*:

    a)   Younger respondents tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than the older respondents;

    b)   Respondents with higher education tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than those with lower education;

    c)   Respondents who are currently working tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than those who are not currently

working;

d) Respondents with higher incomes tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than those with lower incomes; and

e) Urban respondents tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than the rural respondents.

To obtain the data required in response to the hypotheses above, ten government fertility control policies which are directly or indirectly related to fertility control or family planning were chosen for the study. Then the respondents were asked whether they know and agree with said policies, and whether they perceived the same policies to have influenced their family planning behavior.

For a clearer presentation of findings, the ten selected fertility control policies are clustered into four groups based on the relatedness of their substantive contents, namely: (1) constitutional population policies; (2) labor policies with fertility control contents; (3) educational policies with fertility control contents; and (4) population policies directly related to family planning.

Generally, the style of presentation and discussion of findings on the relationship between fertility control policies and perceived family planning behavior is patterned after that of the previous chapter.

Baseline information on the level of knowledge and attitude toward the policies by the respondents who know them are presented below:

A. KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES TOWARD GOVERNMENT FERTILITY CONTROL POLICIES

Constitutional Population Policies

The population policy enunciated in the New Constitution is neither pro-natalist nor anti-natalist in direction. For instance, it has been the policy of the state to consider the customs, traditions, beliefs and interest of national communities in the formulation and implementation of state policies (*policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs*). It is also the policy of the state to be responsible for achieving and maintaining population levels conducive to national welfare (*policy on the regulation of population levels*).

In terms of knowledge, Table 29 below shows that 56.9% and 42.3% of the respondents are knowledgeable about the *policies on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* and *the regulation of population levels*, respectively.

Table 29

Level of Knowledge of Constitutional Population Policies

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY	KNOWLEDGE OF POLICY					
	Know		Don't Know		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Policy on Inclusion of Cultural Values	199	56.9	151	43.1	350	100.0
2. Policy on Regulation of Population Levels	148	42.3	202	57.7	350	100.0

Among those who know the policies, the data indicate that there is a very high positive attitude toward the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* (86.4%) compared to a fair agreement with the *policy on the regulation of population levels* (61.5%.) (Table 30).

Table 30

**Level of Attitude of Respondents Who Know
Constitutional Population Policies**

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY	ATTITUDES TOWARD POLICIES							
	Agree		Disagree		Neutral		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Policy on Inclusion of Cultural Values	172	86.4	17	8.5	10	5.0	199	100
2. Policy on Regulation of Population Levels	91	61.5	14	9.5	43	29.1	148	100

As indicated in the above findings, there is a higher percentage of the respondents who know the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* than the *policy on the regulation of population levels*. This can be explained by the fact that awareness of the former policy does not require adequate background information on the general population control policy of the government. In short, knowledge of the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* may be independent of the IEC campaigns, especially in the Muslim areas where the policy awareness campaign is very weak.

For the respondents' attitudes toward the policies, the study has found that those who know the policies agree more with the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* than with the *policy on the regulation of population levels*. This can be attributed to the prevalent religious belief among the Muslim Filipinos that any means of subduing population or procreation, either explicitly or implicitly done, is against Islam and,

therefore, a mortal sin. On the other hand, the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* appears to be more acceptable to the respondents because it has no clear fertility control content. The same policy also emphasizes the respect for religious beliefs in the formulation and implementation of government policies like those on population control.

Labor Policies With Fertility Control Contents

The government has the power to take action over a wide range of subjects that affect fertility, including labor policies that provide on maternity and child care benefits, and income and social security measures. Hence, under the Philippine Civil Code, the maternity leave benefits for women employees is available only for the first four deliveries (*policy on maternity leave benefits*). Similarly, the revenue law provides that for the heads of the family, there is an additional tax exemptions of 2,000 pesos for each of the four dependents only (*policy on tax exemptions*). In addition, under the Medicare program, the reimbursement for sterilization expenses of GSIS and SSS members is allowed, in order to encourage the adoption of sterilization at no cost to those who will undergo it (*policy on free sterilization benefits*).

The data in Table 31 reveal that among the total respondents, the *policies on maternity benefits, tax exemption, and free sterilization* are known to 33.1%, 21.4% and 13.7%, respectively.

This low level of knowledge of the labor policies with fertility control contents can be largely attributed to the fact that only 16.7% (58) of all the respondents are currently employed. In other words, majority are non-working housewives who are ignorant of these specific policies.

Table 31

Level of Knowledge of Labor Policies With Fertility Control Contents

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY	KNOWLEDGE OF POLICY					
	Know		Don't Know		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Policy on Tax Exemptions	75	21.4	275	78.6	350	100.0
2. Policy on Maternity Leave Benefits	116	33.1	233	66.6	350	100.0*
3. Policy on Free Sterilization	48	13.7	302	86.3	350	100.0

* Total includes "no information" category.

On the other hand, those who know the policies have a positive attitude toward the policies on *tax exemptions* (78.7%) and *free sterilization benefits* (70.8%), while only about 40% agree with the *policy on maternity benefits*. (See Table 32).

Table 32

Level of Attitude of Respondents Who Know the Labor Policies with Fertility Control Contents

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY	ATTITUDES TOWARD POLICIES			
	Agree	Disagree	Neutral	TOTAL
	No. : %	No. : %	No. : %	No. : %
1. Policy on Tax Exemptions	59 : 78.7	10 : 13.3	6 : 8.0	75 : 100
2. Policy on Maternity leave Benefits	46 : 39.7	54 : 46.6	16 : 13.8	116 : 100
2. Policy on Free Sterilization	34 : 70.8	1 : 2.1	13 : 27.1	48 : 100

This major finding can be explained by the fact that respondents perceive the *policy on maternity benefits* to have more direct influence on family planning behavior, especially on those women currently employed than do the *policies on tax exemptions* and *free sterilization*, which apply to both men and women. Although the *policy on tax* exemptions is also an economic disincentive for the promotion of family planning, the *policy on maternity benefits* seems to be more objectionable to the moral conscience of the respondents than the former because it imposes explicit limitations on pregnancy benefits (directly related to child bearing), while the policy on *tax exemptions* only limits the number of beneficiaries who may be exempted from taxation.

Similarly, a higher percentage of the respondents agree with the *policy on free sterilization* than with the *policy on maternity benefits* because of the voluntary nature of the former policy. While the Islamic doctrine prohibits sterilization except

in emergency situations, it can be argued that some respondents do not find the *policy on free sterilization* "oppressive" or "coercive" since it applies only to GSIS and SSS members who voluntarily want to permanently limit the size of their families.

Briefly, since most of the respondents believe that family planning is against their religion and that the *policy on maternity benefits* explicitly discourages the bearing of more than four children, then the respondents have the strong tendency to disagree with it.

Educational Policies with Fertility Control Contents

In order to make family planning a part of a broad educational program, the law was passed in 1973 which provides that the curricula for Grade VI and for third and fourth year high school shall include population education and human sexuality (*policy on population education for in-school-youth*). The law also provides that population awareness and sex education be included in the training program for out-of-school youth (*policy on population education for out-of-school youth*). The law, likewise, provides that applicants for marriage license be required to receive instructions on family planning and responsible parenthood before they are granted their marriage license (*policy on family planning instructions*).

As reflected in Table 33, the respondents have a poor knowledge of the *policies on population education for in-school-youth* (24.6%), *family planning instructions* (16.6%), and *population education for out-of-school youth* (11.7%). This finding implies that majority of the respondents do not know these policies.

Table 33

Level of Knowledge of Educational Policies With Fertility Control Contents

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY	KNOWLEDGE OF POLICY					
	Know		Don't Know		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Policy on Pop. Education for In-School-Youth	86	24.6	264	75.4	350	100.0
2. Policy on Pop. Education for Out-of-School Youth	41	11.7	309	88.3	350	100.0
3. Policy on Family Planning Instruction	58	16.6	292	83.4	350	100.0

The attitude of those who know the policies is fairly positive with 70.7% in agreement with the *policies on population education for out-of-school youth* and *family planning instructions*; more than half (51.2%) agree with the *policy on education for in-school-youth*.

Table 34

Level of Attitude of Respondents Who Know the Educational Policies With Fertility Control Contents

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY	ATTITUDES TOWARD POLICIES							
	Agree		Disagree		Neutral		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Policy on Pop. Educ. for In-School-Youth	44	51.2	31	36.0	11	12.8	86	100

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Table 34 continued...

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2. Policy on Pop.
   Educ. for Out-   : 29 : 70.7: 8 : 19.5 : 4 : 9.8 : 41 : 100
   of-School Youth

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3. Policy on Family
   Planning   : 41 : 70.7: 9 : 15.5 : 8 : 13.8 : 58 : 100
   Instruction

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To summarize, it can be stated that the respondents are ignorant of the educational policy with fertility control contents. This observation can be partly accounted for by the fact that only 41.7% (146) of all the respondents are elementary graduates and over. In addition, very few respondents know these educational policies because they were implemented after the declaration of Martial Law. For instance, those who stopped their formal schooling, either for financial reasons or because they finished college before 1972, may be ignorant still of these policies.

The low level of knowledge for the *policy on family planning instructions* as reported by the respondents can be attributed to the existing marriage custom of the Muslims which does not require the issuance of a marriage license. In Islam, the only legitimate marriage is the one conducted in accordance with Muslim rites and traditions. It follows that only those Muslim couples who were also married by civil rites can be knowledgeable about the *policy on family planning instructions*. But the KAP data show that only three respondents had civil marriages, besides.

It is also indicated by the data that, generally, the respondents who know the policies are in poor agreement with them. This specific finding substantiates most of the respondents' strong opposition to policies supportive of fertility control since their religious belief is against the curtailment of procreation.

Population Policies Directly Related to Family Planning

It is a well-pronounced policy of the government to provide for a national family planning program which respects the religious beliefs of the individual citizens (*policy on family planning*). In line with this policy, the government is also empowered to make available all acceptable methods of contraception, except abortion, to all Filipino citizens desirous of spacing, limiting, or preventing pregnancies (*policy on contraception*).

Only 49.4% of the respondents reported having knowledge of the *policy on family planning*, and 44.6% of the *policy on contraception*. (Table 35).

Table 35

**Level of Knowledge of Population Policies
Directly Related to Family Planning**

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY	KNOWLEDGE OF POLICY					
	Know		Don't Know		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Policy on Family Planning	173	49.4	177	50.6	350	100.0
2. Policy on Contraception	156	44.6	193	55.1	350	100.0*

* Total includes "no information" category.

For those who know the policies, 52.6% agree with the *policy on contraception* and 38.2% with the *policy on family planning*. (See Table 36).

Table 36

**Level of Attitude of Respondents Who Know the
Population Policies Directly Related to
Family Planning**

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY	ATTITUDES TOWARD POLICIES						
	Agree		Disagree		Neutral		TOTAL
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.: %
1. Policy on Family Planning	66	38.2	93	53.2	14	8.1	173:100
2. Policy on Contraception	82	52.6	58	37.2	16	10.3	156:100

The respondents' low level of knowledge of the population policies directly related to family planning is an indication of the inadequacy of the government IEC campaigns in the Muslims areas. Along this line, it appears that much is found wanting in the dissemination of related family planning information and services in the rural areas where outreach projects are completely impotent, if not totally absent. While the KAP data indicate that 95.7% (335) of the total respondents have heard about family planning, the present study has not sustained this observation and the contention that the same respondents are aware of the various fertility control policies of the government.

Moreover, the data also indicate that the respondents who know the policies are generally in disagreement with the policies of the government which directly affect family planning, except those who know the *policy on contraception*, in which positive attitude outweighs negative attitude. This observed low level of agreement with these policies may have been influenced by the respondents' high level of agreement with pro-natalist doctrines (See Chapter V). That is, in one way or the other, poor agreement with selected fertility control policies is influenced by the

respondents' intense emotional attachment to Islam, which they perceive to be diametrically opposed to any form of family planning.

Nonetheless, the results of our analysis suggests that in implementing family planning in the Muslim areas, the government has to consider given religious and traditional Muslim Filipino "folk" beliefs. Aside from the reason that stemmed from religion, the disapproval of family planning could also be accounted for by the fact that in Maranao society, in particular, valued goals such as power, prestige and influence can be acquired and maintained through a large membership in a clan.

Highlights of the major findings on the level of knowledge and attitude toward selected government fertility control policies are briefly summarized below:

1) About one-half of the total number of respondents know the constitutional population policies and those directly related to family planning. However, the rest of the policies are poorly known to majority of the respondents. This problem can be significantly explained by the general low level of socio-economic characteristics possessed by most of the respondents. For instance, only 58 respondents are currently employed and, therefore, only this group may be expected to have knowledge about labor policies with fertility control contents. In addition, less than one-half of the total sample have high school education and over. This educational background information has a significant bearing on the respondents' knowledge of policies with fertility control contents, especially those policies on the population education for in-school and out-of-school youths.

2) Of those who know the policies, the level of attitude towards the same is generally found to be negative, except toward the constitutional population policies and the *policy on contraception*, of which there is a high positive attitude. Disagreement becomes more pronounced in relation to policies in which the level of knowledge of the respondents is noted to be very low.

3) The data also reveal certain consistencies in terms

of the respondents' level of knowledge and attitude toward the policies under study. This may suggest that the sample is very homogeneous; hence, the respondents perceive the policies in a more or less comparable manner. The study findings can also imply the recency of the program in the Muslim areas and the weakness and ineffectiveness of the IEC campaigns that are being launched in the same areas. The findings also manifest the universal tendency of Islam to influence the respondents' level of knowledge and attitudes toward the policies.

From the foregoing data, it can be deduced that three policies have surfaced as the most influential ones, namely, the *policies on inclusion of cultural value inputs, the regulation of population levels,* and *on contraception.* In fact, of the ten policies posed, only these three policies have obtained at least 20% of the total sample (350) stating that they know and agree with the same policies. Furthermore, of those who know these policies, less than 10% disagree with them, except for the *policy on contraception,* with which more than one-fourth disagree.

Accordingly, these findings have justified in part the limiting of discussion and analysis to those respondents who know and agree with the three policies only, viz., *on the inclusion of cultural value inputs,* the *regulation of population levels,* and *on contraception.*

B. PERCEIVED INFLUENCE OF GOVERNMENT FERTILITY CONTROL POLICIES

The most common government strategy for influencing the family planning behavior of the country's population is the formulation and implementation of related fertility control policies aimed at preventing an undesirable growth. For this reason, the study asked the respondents to identify certain aspects of their family planning behavior which are influenced by selected government fertility control policies, if any.

Moreover, the present study will test the relevant hypothesis which states that "among those who know and agree

with the *policies on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* or the *regulation of population levels* or *contraception*, there would be significantly more respondents who perceive influence on their family planning behavior than those who do not perceive any influence." (Chi square values will be indicated only in the discussion and analysis of findings when they are significant.)

Policy on the Inclusion of Cultural Value Inputs

As indicated in Table 37, 64% of those who know and agree with the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* claim no influence on their behavior. With $X^2 = 13.4$, the data show that there is a significant difference between respondents who claim certain influenced aspects of behavior and those who identify no influenced aspect of behavior. This finding also negates the hypothesis since there is a higher percentage of respondents who have not been influenced by the policy compared to those who have been influenced. In other words, the data have confirmed instead the alternative hypothesis. (See Table 37).

Table 37

Respondents' Perception of the Influence of the Policy on the Inclusion of Cultural Value Inputs on Their Family Planning Behavior
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policy)

FREQUENCY AND PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS	PERCEIVED INFLUENCE OF THE POLICY		
	No Aspect Influenced	With Aspect Influenced	TOTAL
Number	110	62	172
Percent	64.0	36.0	100.0
	$X^2 = 13.4$, p $<$ .01		

Of those who claim certain influenced aspects of behavior, *child spacing* (50%) ranks first followed by *limiting number of children* (37.1%). The less influenced aspect of behavior are

delayed marriage, and *contraceptive use* in that order. (See Table 38).

Table 38

Respondents' Perception of the Influence of the Policy on the Inclusion of Cultural Value Inputs on Their Family Planning Behavior, By Aspect of Behavior
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policy)

RESPONDENTS BY ASPECT OF BEHAVIOR	NUMBER	PERCENT
Delayed Marriage	7	11.3
Contraceptive Use	1	1.6
Child Spacing	31	50.0
Limiting Number of Children	23	37.1
TOTAL	62	100.0

Based on the study findings, it can be hypothesized that the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* has a significant influence on perceived family planning behavior since there is a higher percentage of respondents who do not perceive any policy influence on their behavior than those who perceive certain influences.

Furthermore, majority of the respondents who know and agree with the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* did not identify any of the four aspects of behavior as having been influenced because, by content analysis, this policy has no clear substantive content that is positive or negative to the program. It merely reflects the general position of the New Constitution which is neither pro-natalist nor anti-natalist. In effect, majority of the respondents could not easily relate the policy to the aspect of behavior it is expected to influence, e.g., *contraceptive use*. The limited exposure of many respondents to the government family planning program information and services can also account for the high percentage of those who do not perceive any

policy influence on their behavior. In a like manner, the same finding can be attributed to the respondents' negative attitude towards contraception because it is against their religion.

Another related finding is that the most influenced aspects of behavior are *limiting number of children* and *child spacing*; while *contraceptive use* is the least influenced aspect. It appears that from respondents'. point of view, *child spacing* and *limiting number of children* are more acceptable aspects of behavior than *contraceptive use*.

Policy on the Regulation of Population Levels

Among the respondents who know and agree with the *policy on the regulation of population levels*, 34.1% have pointed to "no influenced aspect" of behavior, while a higher percentage (65.9%) have cited one of the four influenced aspects of behavior. With $X^2 = 9.2$, the findings support the hypothesis which says that among those who know and agree with the policy, there would be significantly more respondents who perceive influence on their behavior than those who do not perceive any influence.

Table 39

Respondents' Perception of the Influence of the Policy on the Regulation of Population Levels on Their Family Planning Behavior
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policy)

FREQUENCY AND PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS	PERCEIVED INFLUENCE OF THE POLICY		
	No Aspect Influenced	With Aspect Influenced	TOTAL
Number	31	60	91
Percent	34.1	65.9	100.0
	$X^2 = 9.2$, p < .01		

For the individual aspect of behavior cited by the respondents, *limiting number of children* (46.7%) is cited as the most influenced aspects of behavior. *Child spacing* ranks second with 38.3%. The least influenced aspects of behavior are *delayed marriage* and *contraceptive use* in that order.

Table 40

**Respondents' Perception of the Influence of the Policy
on the Regulation of Population Levels on Their
Family Planning Behavior, By Aspect of Behavior**
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policy)

RESPONDENTS BY ASPECT OF BEHAVIOR	NUMBER	PERCENT
Delayed Marriage	6	10.0
Contraceptive Use	3	5.0
Child Spacing	23	38.3
Limiting Number of Children	28	46.7
TOTAL	60	100.0

In conclusion, it can be argued that the *policy on the regulation of population levels* has a significant influence on the respondents' perceived family planning behavior because it discriminates those who were influenced from those who were not influenced.

Comparatively speaking, the *policy on the regulation of population levels* is shown to have more significant influence on perceived behavior than the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs*. This observation can be attributed to the more definite fertility content of the *policy on the regulation of*

population levels than does the other policy. But this finding should not becloud the fact that the total number of respondents who know and agree with the *policy on the regulation of population levels* and who claim certain influenced aspects of behavior constitute only 17% (60) of the total sample for the present study.

Policy on Contraception

Only 23.2% of the total respondents who know the *policy on contraception* and agree with it claim no influence on their family planning behavior, while 76.8% claim certain policy influence on theirs. (See Table 41). With a chi square value of X^2 = 134.2, the data strongly sustain the study hypothesis which states that among those who know and agree with the policy, there would be significantly more respondents who perceive influence on their behavior than those who do not perceive any such influence.

Table 41

Respondents' Perception of the Influence of the Policy on Contraception on Their Family Planning Behavior (Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policy)

FREQUENCY AND PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS	PERCEIVED INFLUENCE OF THE POLICY		
	No Aspect Influenced	With Aspect Influenced	TOTAL
Number	19	63	82
Percent	23.2	76.8	100.0
	X^2 = 134.2, p < .0001		

The study findings also show that *child spacing* (44.4%) is the most influenced aspect of behavior. *Limiting number of children* (33.3%) ranks second, while *contraceptive use* ranks last. (See Table 42).

Table 42

Respondents' Perception of the Influence of the Policy on Contraception on Their Family Planning Behavior, by Aspect of Behavior

(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policy)

RESPONDENTS BY ASPECT OF BEHAVIOR	NUMBER	PERCENT
Delayed Marriage	5	7.9
Contraceptive Use	9	14.9
Child Spacing	28	44.4
Limiting Number of Children	21	33.3
TOTAL	63	100.0

On the whole, the data disclose that the *policy on contraception* has a significant influence on the respondents' perceived behavior by distinguishing those who perceive certain policy influences on their behavior from those who do not perceive any influence. Furthermore, it also appears that the *policy on contraception* has a more significant influence on perceived family planning behavior than the two previously mentioned policies. But like the *policy on the regulation of population levels*, the perceived influence on the *policy on contraception* has a limited statistical significance, in the sense that only 18% (63) of the total respondents of 350 know and agree with the policy and claim certain influences on their behavior.

Majority of the respondents who know and agree with the *policy on contraception* have mentioned certain influenced aspects of behavior because it has the clearest fertility control content among the three policies under examination; thus, it can

be easily related to either of the four influenced aspects of behavior.

Likewise, the data indicate *child spacing* and *limiting number of children* as the most influenced aspects of behavior, while *contraceptive use* and *delayed marriage* are the least influenced aspects. This specific finding is an indication of the respondents' sensitiveness to *contraceptive use* and their distinct interpretations of the family planning program of the government. In brief, they perceive the family planning program in terms of *limiting number of children* and *child spacing*, which is contrary to the government's own conceptualization of the program as a scientific technique that employs artificial contraceptive technology.

The major significant findings indicated in the foregoing discussion are summarized below:

1)   All the three policies, namely, the *policies on inclusion of cultural value inputs, on the regulation of population levels, and on contraception*, have significant influence on the perceived family planning behavior of respondents who know and agree with the same policies.

2)   The policies with clear fertility control contents such as the *policy on contraception* are shown to have more significant influence on perceived behavior than those policies with no clear fertility control contents like the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs*.

3)   The most influenced aspect of behavior are *child spacing* and *limiting number of children*, while *delayed marriage* and *contraceptive use* are the least influenced aspects of behavior.

C. INFLUENCE OF DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

A similar analytical model used for religious beliefs is also employed in this part of the study to analyze the influence of selected demographic and socio-economic variables (*age at present, education, currently working, total annual income,* and *place of residence*) on the

relation between fertility control policies and perceived family planning behavior. Moreover, as in the previous section of this chapter, discussion and analysis will be focused on respondents who know and agree with the *policies on the inclusion of cultural value inputs*, the *regulation of population levels*, and on *contraception*.

The following specific hypothesis will be tested:

Among those who know and agree with the *policies on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* or the *regulation of population levels* or on *contraception*:

1) Younger respondents tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than the older respondents;

2) Respondents with higher education tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than those with lower education;

3) Respondents who are currently working tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than those who are not currently working;

4) Respondents with higher incomes tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than those with lower incomes; and

5) Urban respondents tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than the rural respondents.

It should be mentioned that in the analysis of the data, chi square values will be indicated only when they are significant.

By Age at Present

Generally, in terms of the perceived influence of the policies on respondents' family planning behavior, there is no significant difference among the *young, average,* and *old* respondents in their perception of influence of the policies on

their family planning behavior (Table 43). Only a slight variance is observed between *older* (77.8%) and *younger* (59.5%) respondents who state that they were not influenced by the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs*, in particular. This finding can be explained by the fact that older respondents are no longer child-bearing; hence, they are expected to be least affected by the policy. However, the relatively small number of respondents who belong to the three categories of age partly accounts for the absence of variance in their perception of policy influence on their behavior.

Table 43

Respondents' Perception of Influence of the Policies on Their Family Planning Behavior, By Age at Present
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policies)

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY AND BY AGE AT PRESENT CATEGORY	PERCEIVED INFLUENCE OF THE POLICIES					
	No Aspect Influenced		With Aspect Influenced		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Inclusion of Cultural Value Inputs						
Young	44	59.5	30	40.5	74	100.0
Average	38	61.3	24	38.7	62	100.0
Old	28	77.8	8	22.2	36	100.0
Subtotal	110	64.0	62	36.0	72	100.0
2. Regulation of Population Levels						
Young	11	25.6	32	74.4	43	100.0
Average	15	41.7	21	58.3	36	100.0
Old	5	41.7	7	58.3	12	100.0
Subtotal	31	34.1	60	65.9	91	100.0
3. Contraception						

Table 43 continued...

Young	:	8	:	16.7 :	40	: 83.3 :	48	:	100.0
Average	:	9	:	34.6 :	17	: 65.4 :	26	:	100.0
Old	:	12	:	25.0 :	6	: 75.0 :	8	:	100.0
Subtotal	:	19	:	23.2 :	63	: 76.8 :	82	:	100.0

* Respondents not reflected in the above table provided "no information" on their actual ages.

Furthermore, the study data disclose no significant difference among respondents belonging to the three age groups in pointing to *child spacing* and *limiting number of children* as the most influenced aspects of behavior. (See Table 44). The least influenced aspect of behavior is *contraceptive use* for respondents numbering from 1 to 7.

Table 44

Respondents' Perception of the Aspect of Family Planning Behavior Influenced by the Policies, By Age at Present
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policies)

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY AND BY AGE AT PRESENT CATEGORY	ASPECTS OF FP BEHAVIOR INFLUENCED BY THE POLICIES								TOTAL	
	Delayed Marriage		Contraceptive Use		Child Spacing		Limiting No. of Children			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Inclusion of Cultural Values										
Young	5	16.7	1	3.3	13	43.3	11	36.7	30	100.0
Average	1	4.2	0	0.0	14	58.3	9	37.5	24	100.0
Old	1	12.5	0	0.0	4	50.0	3	37.5	8	100.0
Sub-Total	7	11.3	1	1.6	31	50.0	23	37.1	62	100.0

Table 44 continued...

2. Regulation of Population levels										
Young	6:	18.8:	1 :	3.1 :	10 :	31.3:	15 :	46.9 :	37 :	100.0
Average	0:	0.0:	2 :	9.5 :	10 :	47.6:	9 :	42.9 :	21 :	100.0
Old	0:	0.0:	0 :	0.0 :	3 :	42.9:	4 :	57.1 :	7 :	100.0
Sub-Total	6:	10.0:	3 :	5.0 :	23 :	38.3:	28 :	46.7 :	60 :	100.0
3. Contraception										
Young	4:	10.0:	7 :	17.5 :	14 :	35.0:	15 :	37.5 :	40 :	100.0
Average	1:	5.9:	2 :	11.8 :	11 :	64.7:	3 :	17.6 :	17 :	100.0
Old	0:	0.0:	0 :	0.0:	3 :	50.0:	3 :	50.0 :	6 :	100.0
Sub-Total	5:	7.9:	9 :	14.3:	28 :	44.4:	21 :	33.3	63 :	100.0

Based on the study findings, it can be concluded that the *age* variable has no significant influence on the relation between the policies, on one hand, and the perceived family planning behavior and the individual aspect of behavior identified by the respondents, on the other.

By Education

As reflected on Table 45, there seems to be a slight variance between respondents with *low* and *high* education in their perception of the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior with a slightly higher percentage of those with *higher* education saying that they have been influenced by the policies over those with *lower* education. However, by using the chi square test, the data show no significant variance in perceiving the influence of the policies on their behavior between respondents belonging to the two categories of education. Those with *high* education perceive more the influence of the policies on their behavior than those with *low* education because the former are expected to have more than the latter a better

conceptualization and comprehension of the policies and their relationships with the four aspects of behavior.

Table 45

Respondents' Perception of Influence of the Policies on Their Family Planning Behavior, By Education
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policies)

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY AND BY EDUCATION CATEGORY	PERCEIVED INFLUENCE OF THE POLICIES					
	No Aspect Influenced		With Aspect Influenced		TOTAL*	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Inclusion of Cultural Value Inputs						
Low	69	71.1	28	28.9	97	100.0
High	41	55.4	33	44.6	74	100.0
Subtotal	110	64.3	61	35.7	171	100.0
2. Regulation of Population Levels						
Low	16	48.5	17	51.5	33	100.0
High	15	29.5	43	74.1	58	100.0
Subtotal	31	34.1	60	65.9	91	100.0
3. Contraception						
Low	12	40.0	18	60.0	30	100.0
High	7	13.5	45	86.5	52	100.0
Subtotal	19	23.2	63	76.8	82	100.0

* Respondents not reflected in the total provided "no information" on their educational attainment.

For the specific aspect of behavior influenced by the policies, Table 46 indicates no significant difference between

those with *high* or *low* education in pointing to *child spacing* and *limiting number of children* as the most influenced aspects of their behavior. Only a slight variance is observed between those with *high* or *low* education in stating that *child spacing* is the aspect of behavior influenced by the *policy on the regulation of population levels*. As expected, *contraceptive use* is the least influenced aspect

Table 46

Respondents' Perception of the Aspect of Family Planning Behavior Influenced by the Policies, By Education
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policies)

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY AND BY EDUCATION CATEGORY	ASPECTS OF FP BEHAVIOR INFLUENCED BY THE POLICIES									
	Delayed Marriage		Contraceptive Use		Child Spacing		Limiting No. of Children		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Inclusion of Cultural Values										
Low	4	14.3	0	0.0	14	50.0	10	35.7	28	100.0
High	3	9.1	1	3.0	16	48.5	13	39.4	33	100.0
Sub-Total	7	11.4	1	1.6	30	49.2	23	37.7	61	100.0
2. Regulation of Population Level										
Low	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	52.9	8	47.1	17	100.0
High	6	14.0	3	7.0	14	32.6	20	46.5	43	100.0
Sub-Total	6	10.0	3	5.0	23	38.3	28	46.7	60	100.0
3. Contraception										
Low	2	11.1	0	0.0	9	50.0	7	38.9	18	100.0

```
--------------------------------------------------------------------
Table 46 continued...
       High      : 3:  6.7:   9 : 20.0: 18 : 40.0:  15  : 33.3 : 45  :100.0
--------------------------------------------------------------------
Sub-Total         : 5: 7.9:   9 : 14.3: 27 : 42.9:  22  : 34.9 : 63  :100.0
====================================================================
```
• Respondents not reflected in the above Table provided "no information" on their educational level.

To summarize the discussion, it can be drawn from the above data that the variable *education* does not significantly influence the relation between the policies and perceived behavior as well as the relation between the same policies and the different aspects of behavior mentioned by the respondents.

By Currently Working

In terms of the perceived influence of the policies on family planning behavior, the data show no significant difference between respondents who are *currently working* and those who are *not currently working* in their perception of the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior. Essentially, the data reject the hypothesis which asserts that respondents who are *currently working* tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their behavior more than those who are *not currently working*. (Table 47).

The study findings indicate that those who know and agree with the policies on the *regulation of population levels* and *contraception*, regardless of whether *currently working* or *not*, tend to perceive more the influence of the policies on their behavior than those who know and agree with the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs*. This can be explained by the observation that those who know and agree with the policies with clear fertility control contents, e.g., *policy on contraception*, can easily relate them to the aspects of behavior they are expected to influence. On the other hand, those who know and agree with policies with no clear fertility control contents, e.g., *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs*, can hardly match such policies with their perceived aspects of behavior.

The study findings indicate further no significant variance between respondents who are *currently working* and those who are *not currently working* in citing the individual aspect of behavior they perceive to have been influenced by the policies. *Child spacing* and *limiting number of children* are still the most influenced aspects of behavior while *contraceptive use* is the least influenced aspect. (Table 48).

Based on the results of the above analysis, it appears that the variable *currently working* has no significant influence on the relation between the policies, on hand, and the respondents' perceived behavior and the specific aspect of behavior cited by the, on the other.

Table 47

Respondents' Perception of Influence of the Policies on Their Family Planning Behavior, by Currently Working
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policies)

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY AND BY CURRENTLY WORKING CATEGORY	PERCEIVED INFLUENCE OF THE POLICIES					
	No Aspect Influenced		With Aspect Influenced		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Inclusion of Cultural Value Inputs						
Respondents						
Currently Working	21	60.0	14	40.0	35	100.0
Respondents Not Currently Working	87	66.9	43	33.1	130	100.0
Subtotal	108	65.5	57	34.5	165	100.0
2. Regulation of Population Levels						
Respondents Currently Working	5	26.3	14	73.7	19	100.0
Respondents Not Currently Working	26	37.1	44	62.9	70	100.0

Table 47 continued...

Subtotal	: 31	: 34.1 :	58	: 65.2 :	89	: 100.0
3. Contraception	:	:	:	:	:	:
Respondents Currently Working	: 4	: 22.2 :	14	: 77.8 :	18	: 100.0
Respondents Not Currently Working	: 15	: 24.2 :	47	: 75.8 :	62	: 100.0
Subtotal	: 19	: 23.8 :	61	: 76.2 :	80	: 100.0

* Respondents not reflected in the total provided "no information" on their current employment.

Table 48

Respondents' Perception of the Aspect of Family Planning Behavior Influenced by the Policies, By Currently Working (Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policies)

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY AND BY CURRENTLY WORKING CATEGORY	ASPECTS OF FP BEHAVIOR INFLUENCED BY THE POLICIES				
	Delayed Marriage	Contracep- tive Use	Child Spacing	Limiting No. of Children	TOTAL*
	No.: %	No.: %	No.: %	No.: %	No.: %
1. Inclusion of Cultural Values	: :	: :	: :	: :	: :
Respondents Currently Working	2:14.3:	0: 0.0:	9:64.3:	3 : 21.4 :	14 :100.0

By Total Annual Income

Among the *low, medium*, and *high* income respondents who know and agree with the policies, the data reveal no significant difference in their perception of the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior. (See Table 49). Percentage analysis and chi square test made on the data do not sustain the hypothesis which state that respondents with *higher* income tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than those with *lower* incomes.

Table 48 continued...

	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Respondents Not Currently Working	5	11.6	1	2.3	18	41.9	19	44.2	43	100.0
Sub-Total	7	12.3	1	1.8	27	47.4	22	38.6	57	100.0
2. Regulation of Population Level										
Respondents Currently Working	4	28.6	0	0.0	5	35.7	5	35.7	14	100.0
Respondents Not Currently Working	2	4.5	3	6.8	17	38.6	22	50.0	44	100.0
Sub-Total	6	10.3	3	5.2	22	37.9	27	46.6	58	100.0
3. Contraception										
Respondents Currently Working	0	0.0	3	21.4	9	64.3	2	14.3	14	100.0
Respondents Not Currently Working	4	8.5	6	12.8	18	38.3	19	40.4	47	100.0
Sub-Total	4	6.6	9	14.8	27	44.3	21	34.4	61	100.0

Table 49

**Respondents' Perception of Influence of the Policies on
Their Family Planning Behavior,
By Total Annual Income**

(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policies)

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY AND BY TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME CATEGORY	PERCEIVED INFLUENCE OF THE POLICIES					
	No Aspect Influenced		With Aspect Influenced		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Inclusion of Cultural Value Inputs						
Low	11	84.6	2	15.4	13	100.0
Medium	41	65.1	22	34.9	63	100.0
High	55	63.2	32	36.8	87	100.0

Table 49 continued...

Subtotal	: 107	: 65.6	: 56	: 34.5	: 163	: 100.0
2. Regulation of Population Levels	:	:	:	:	:	:
Low	: 2	: 40.0	: 3	: 60.0	: 5	: 100.0
Medium ·	: 11	: 37.9	: 18	: 62.1	: 29	: 100.0
High	: 17	: 32.7	: 35	: 67.3	: 52	: 100.0
Subtotal	: 30	: 34.9	: 56	: 65.1	: 86	: 100.0
3. Contraception	:	:	:	:	:	:
Low	: 1	: 50.0	: 1	: 50.0	: 2	: 100.0
Medium	: 7	: 24.1	: 22	: 75.9	: 29	: 100.0
High	: 11	: 22.4	: 38	: 77.6	: 49	: 100.0
Subtotal	: 19	: 23.8	: 61	: 76.2	: 80	: 100.0

* Respondents not reflected in the total provided "no information" on their total annual incomes.

For the individual aspect of behavior mentioned by the respondents, there appears from the data no significant variance by income category among respondents who claim *child spacing* and *limiting number of children*, especially if we consider the actual number of respondents who identified these aspects of behavior. (Table 50).

In summary, the study findings suggests that the variable *total annual income* has no significant influence on the relation between the policies and respondents' perceived family planning behavior. Likewise, it does not significantly affect the relation between the policies and the individual aspect of behavior mentioned by the respondents.

Table 50

Respondents' Perception of the Aspect of Family Planning Behavior Influenced by the Policies, by Total Annual Income
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policies)

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY AND BY TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME CATEGORY	ASPECTS OF FP BEHAVIOR INFLUENCED BY THE POLICIES									
	Delayed Marriage		Contraceptive Use		Child Spacing		Limiting No. of Children		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Inclusion of Cultural Values										
Low	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	50.0	1	50.0	2	100.0
Medium	2	9.1	0	0.0	9	40.9	11	50.0	22	100.0
High	5	15.6	1	3.1	17	53.1	9	28.1	32	100.0
Sub-Total	7	12.5	1	1.8	27	48.2	21	37.5	56	100.0
2. Regulation of Population Level										
Low	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	100.0	3	100.0
Medium	1	5.6	1	5.6	5	27.8	11	61.0	18	100.0
High	5	14.3	2	5.7	16	45.7	12	34.3	35	100.0
Sub-Total	6	10.7	3	5.4	21	37.5	26	46.4	56	100.0
3. Contraception										
Low	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100.0	1	100.0
Medium	1	4.5	1	4.5	10	45.5	10	45.5	22	100.0
High	3	7.9	8	21.1	17	44.7	10	26.3	38	100.0
Sub-Total	4	6.6	9	14.8	27	44.3	21	34.4	61	100.0

By Place of Residence

The data indicate no significant variance between urban and rural respondents in their perception of the influence of the policies on their behavior. (Table 51). This means that the data

reject the hypothesis which states that urban respondents tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their behavior more than rural respondents. This particular finding can be explained to a large extent by the fact that most of the urban respondents included in the study have stayed in Manila from three to four years; hence, they are still very rural in their outlook toward social objects or concepts like family planning.

By policy, Table 51 reveals that a higher percentage of the respondents who know and agree with the policies with clear fertility limitation contents like the *policy on contraception* tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their behavior more than those who know and agree with the policies which are neither pro-natalist nor anti-natalist in contents, such as the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs*. In this regard, it can be inferred that the clearer the fertility control content of a certain policy, the higher the percentage of respondents who will tend to perceive it to have influenced their behavior, over a policy with no clear fertility control content.

Table 51

Respondents' Perception of Influence of the Policies on Their Family Planning Behavior, by Place of Residence
(Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policies)

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY AND BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE CATEGORY	PERCEIVED INFLUENCE OF THE POLICIES					
	No Aspect Influenced		With Aspect Influenced		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Inclusion of Cultural Value Inputs						
Urban	46	68.7	21	31.3	67	100.0
Rural	64	61.0	41	39.0	105	100.0
Subtotal	110	64.0	62	36.0	172	100.0

Table 51 continued...

2. Regulation of Population Levels	:	:	:	:	:	:
Urban	: 19	: 33.3	: 38	: 66.7	: 57	: 100.0
Rural	: 12	: 35.3	: 22	: 64.7	: 34	: 100.0
Subtotal	: 31	: 34.1	: 60	: 65.9	: 91	: 100.0
3. Contraception	:	:	:	:	:	:
Urban	: 4	: 9.3	: 39	: 90.7	: 43	: 100.0
Rural	: 15	: 38.5	: 24	: 61.5	: 39	: 100.0
Subtotal	: 19	: 23.2	: 63	: 76.8	: 82	: 100.0

Likewise, there is no significant variance between *urban* and *rural* respondents in pointing to *child spacing* and *limiting number of children* as the most influenced aspects of behavior. *Contraceptive use*, on the other hand, is still the least influenced aspect of behavior. (Table 52).

In conclusion, it can be advanced that like the other demographic and socio-economic variables already analyzed, the variable *place of residence* has no significant influence on the relation between the policies, on one hand, and the perceived family planning behavior and the specific influenced aspect of behavior cited by the respondents, on the other hand.

Table 52

Respondents' Perception of the Aspect of Family Planning Behavior Influenced by the Policies, by Place of Residence (Based on Those Who Know and Agree With the Policies)

RESPONDENTS BY POLICY AND BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE CATEGORY	ASPECTS OF FP BEHAVIOR INFLUENCED BY THE POLICIES									
	Delayed Marriage		Contracep- tive Use		Child Spacing		Limiting No. of Children		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Inclusion of Cultural Values										
Urban	2	9.5	1	4.8	10	47.6	8	38.1	21	100.0
Rural	5	12.2	0	0.0	21	51.2	15	36.6	41	100.0
Sub-Total	7	11.3	1	1.6	31	50.0	23	37.1	62	100.0
2. Regulation of Population Level										
Urban	4	10.5	2	5.3	11	28.9	21	55.3	38	100.0
Rural	2	9.1	1	4.5	12	54.5	7	31.8	22	100.0
Sub-Total	6	10.0	3	5.0	23	38.3	28	46.7	60	100.0
3. Contraception										
Urban	4	10.3	7	17.9	16	41.0	12	30.8	39	100.0
Rural	1	4.2	2	8.3	12	50.0	9	37.5	24	100.0
Sub-Total	5	7.9	9	14.3	28	44.4	21	33.3	63	100.0

The significant findings on the influence of selected demographic and socio-economic characteristics on the relation between the policies and the perceived family planning behavior are summarized below:

1)   All the five specific hypotheses tested in this part of the study were rejected by the related findings. In general, the data point to the observation that such demographic and socio-economic variables like *age at present, education, currently*

working, *total annual income*, and *place of residence* do not significantly influence the nature of relationship between the policies and perceived family planning behavior, as well as the relation between the policies and individual aspect of behavior identified by the respondents. In short, the major findings of the present study is that respondents do not significantly vary according to certain demographic and socio-economic characteristics in their perception of the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior.

2)   The study findings also indicate that respondents (regardless of their demographic and socio-economic background) who know and agree with polices which have very clear fertility control contents, such as the *policy on contraception*, tend to perceive the influence of the policies on their family planning behavior more than those policies which have no clear fertility limitation contents, like the policy on the *inclusion of cultural value inputs*.

3)   Likewise, the study findings reveal that, among the respondents who know and agree with the policies, irrespective of their demographic and socio-economic characteristics or background, *child spacing* and *limiting number of children* are the most influenced aspects of behavior, while *contraceptive use*, and *delayed marriage* are the least influenced ones. Apparently, this can be attributed to the respondents' strong opposition or negative attitude towards the adoption of contraceptive technology as a means of attaining a desirable family planning behavior, and their abstract interpretation of family planning as dealing more with *child spacing* and *limiting number of children*. In their own perception, such interpretation is less offensive to their moral conscience and more consistent with their desire for family welfare and responsible parenthood.

D. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

As in Chapter V, the presentation of findings in this chapter takes into consideration the following important areas:

1) Knowledge and attitudes toward government fertility control policies;

2) Perceived influence of selected fertility control policies on family planning behavior; and

3) Influence of selected demographic and socio-economic characteristics on the nature of relationship between policies and perceived family planning behavior.

For the respondents' level of knowledge of the policies, the data show that the respondents have a low level of knowledge about government fertility control policies chosen for the study except the constitutional population policies and those directly related to family planning. More particularly, the respondents have registered the highest level of knowledge on the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* which is neither pro-natalist nor anti-natalist in content. This major finding of the study can be explained by the recency of the program in the Muslim areas. In addition, most of the respondents in this study have a very low socio-economic background, i.e., low education and high unemployment.

In the same token, attitudes toward the policies are generally negative, particularly among those who know the same policies, except for the policies which have no clear fertility control contents such as the ones dealing with the *inclusion of cultural values* in the formulation and implementation of policies.

Hence, in terms of the respondents' level of knowledge of and agreement with the policies, the data seem to indicate that the most influential policies for the respondents are the two constitutional population policies and the *policy on contraception*. This significant finding is consistent with an earlier expectation that more respondents can be knowledgeable and agreeable with policies which have no clear fertility control contents because of the recency of the program in the Muslim areas. It also strengthens the study's choice of limiting the discussion and analysis of responses to those who know and agree with the *policies on the inclusion of cultural value inputs*, the *regulation of population levels*, and *on contraception*.

For the perceived influence of the three selected policies on the respondents' perceived family planning behavior, the data confirm the hypothesis which says that among those who know and agree with these policies, there would be significantly more respondents who perceive influence on their family planning behavior than those who do not perceive any influence (except for the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs* in which the alternative hypothesis has been confirmed by the data). This implies that all the three policies under investigation have significant influences on the respondents' perceived family planning behavior.

The data further show that policies with very clear fertility control contents like the *policy on contraception* have more significant influence on perceived behavior than those policies with no clear fertility control contents such as the *policy on the inclusion of cultural value inputs*, by indicating a higher percentage of respondents who perceive certain influenced aspects of their behavior than those who do not perceive any similar influence.

As to the individual aspect of behavior identified by the respondents, the study findings reveal the aspects *child spacing* and *limiting number of children* as the most influenced aspects of behavior. On the other hand, *contraceptive use* is the least influenced one. This finding is based on the respondents' interpretation and understanding of family planning, which differ from the *contraceptive use bias* interpretation of the government. Such findings also disclose the respondents' strong opposition to the adoption of contraceptive technology.

For the influence of the selected demographic and socio-economic variables such as *age at present, education, currently working, total annual income,* and *place of residence* on the nature of relationship between the policies and perceived family planning behavior, the data reveal that, generally, these variables have no significant influence on such relationship. In fact, all the five related hypothesis posed in the study were rejected by the findings which suggests that the respondents do not significantly vary according to certain demographic and socio-economic characteristics in their perception of the influence of the policies

on their family planning behavior.

Given certain demographic and socio-economic variables, the data also indicate that the most influenced aspects of behavior are still *child spacing* and *limiting number of children*, while the least influenced aspects of behavior are *delayed marriage* and *contraceptive use*, in that order. Again, this finding reflects the anti-contraceptive attitude of the respondents and their broader interpretation of family planning as a means of achieving family welfare and responsible parenthood.