

children than the higher-income wives—and have used or expect to use some form of contraception to a similar degree.

Despite the fact that 70 percent of poor and near-poor women regarded as in need of subsidized family planning services are white (19, Blake frequently terms the recommended federal effort a “ghetto-oriented family planning program.” She also described the charge of “genocide” which has been leveled by some black militants as “difficult to refute.” However, the desire of black couples for smaller families than are desired by whites—and for smaller families than they are now having—was clearly demonstrated in the 1960 study (12, pp. 41, 38) (see Table 5).

TABLE 3.—NUMBER OF CHILDREN WANTED BY WHITE AND NONWHITE WIVES UNDER 30 YEARS OLD, BY INCOME AND FARM RESIDENCE OF RESPONDENTS, AS SHOWN BY A 1965 STUDY¹

Residence	Family income			
	>\$8,000	\$6,000-7,999	\$4,000-6,999	<\$4,000
Now living on farm.....	3.97	3.12	3.25	3.21
Once lived on farm.....	3.08	3.13	2.99	3.19
Never lived on farm.....	3.13	3.21	3.12	3.06

¹ Unpublished data from the 1965 National Fertility Study, made available by C. F. Westoff.

TABLE 4.—PERCENTAGES (BY INCOME AND FARM RESIDENCE OF RESPONDENTS) OF WHITE AND NONWHITE WIVES UNDER 30 YEARS OLD WHO HAD EVER USED, OR EXPECTED TO USE, ANY FORM OF CONTRACEPTION, AS SHOWN BY A 1965 STUDY¹

Residence	Family income			
	>\$8,000	\$6,000-7,999	\$4,000-6,999	<\$4,000
Now living on farm.....	84	100	85	89
Once lived on farm.....	91	97	95	88
Never lived on farm.....	95	96	93	92

¹ Unpublished data from the 1965 National Fertility Study, made available by C. F. Westoff.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF CHILDREN WANTED BY WHITE AND NONWHITE WIVES, AS SHOWN BY A 1960 STUDY

Couples	Number of children wanted		Percentages wanting 2 children or less	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
White.....	3.1	3.5	41	29
Nonwhite.....	2.7	3.0	55	46

¹ Data from 12, tables 15 and 16.

Substantially the same pattern emerges from the 1965 study, as shown in Tables 6 and 7: significantly higher percentages of nonwhites continue to prefer a family of two children or less, and the proportion of nonwhites approving and using, or expecting to use, some method of fertility control is indistinguishable from that of whites, especially in the prime child-bearing ages.

EXCESS FERTILITY

Serious demographic research has thus documented the disappearance of the traditional socioeconomic and ethnic differentials in fertility aspirations and in attitudes toward fertility control. “Clearly,” as Westoff and Ryder have stated, “the norm of fertility control has become universal in contemporary America” (17a, p. 394). Yet within this general pattern the studies also reveal that