Title of Article: Culture and Population Growth, Perspective from Developing Countries

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Abstract: Cultural practices influence population growth more than several other factors like social factors. Population growth may be characterized largely by the level of fertility, mortality and migration though the latter is of less magnitude. The paper discusses most of these cultural factors accelerating population growth such as religion, caste and ethnicity, value of children, age at marriage, low status of women, breast feeding duration, polygamy, widow remarriage and improvement in dietary pattern during pregnancy leading to decline in fetal wastage. No doubt socio-economic status such as education, income and occupation influence population growth to some extent and they were also discussed. The paper highlighted few relatively important socio-cultural factors influencing population growth through fertility and mortality for the manipulation of policy interventions.

Key words: Culture, Population Growth, fertility, mortality and migration