Title of Article: (Forthcoming): Socio-Demographic Factors Influencing Fertility in Nigeria: Its Impacts on Population Growth

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Abstract: High fertility has always been associated with people of lower socioeconomic determinants in Sub Sahara Africa. The study examines the socio demographic factors influencing fertility in Nigeria. However, the main objective of this study is to examine the factors affecting fertility and identify major factors that would help reduce fertility in Nigeria. The study was conducted using Nigerian Demographic Health Survey (NDHS, 2008) dataset for women. Frequency tables and regression model was used to analyze the dataset. Three hypotheses were tested in the study. Linear regression was used to determine the effect of age at first marriage on children ever born, logistic regression was used to determine the effect of the various predictor variables on children ever born and contraceptive use. The findings derived from the regression analysis indicated that education is the major factor affecting fertility in Nigeria. This indicates that the higher the level of educational attainment for women, the lower their fertility behavior. The study recommends that awareness of fertility regulation should be created to enlighten Nigerians more on the dangers of high fertility behavior and the importance of contraceptives.