IF THE WIFE SAYS THAT SHE WANTS NO MORE BIRTHS, EVEN THOUGH THE HUSBAND DOES WANT ANOTHER BIRTH, HER SUBSEQUENT PREGNANCY SHOULD BE REGARDED AS UNWANTED

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‘WANTEDNESS’ OF A PREGNANCY

• In terms of sexual and reproductive health and rights, as well as burden of carrying pregnancy.

• If the wife says she wants no more births, her decision should be respected.
PATRIARCHY AND CONTROL OVER WOMEN’S REPRODUCTIVE DECISION-MAKING

- Women’s reproductive coercion.
- Control over women’s reproductive decision-making.
- Lack of negotiation skills
- Fertility control by men
FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMMES

• Most contraceptive methods are developed for individual women.

• Most of the family planning interventions target women.
INTERNATIONAL AGENDA

• ICPD Programmes of Action

• SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls
If women are unable to exercise their reproductive control, there are grave consequences at the micro- and macro levels:

- Fertility level will remain high, with its concomitants, such as:
  - High child mortality;
  - High maternal mortality;
  - Unsafe abortion;
  - Also, women will not be able to participate optimally in the labour force;
  - Household poverty will remain high; and
- Socio-economic development goals for the high-fertility countries will be unattainable.
THANK YOU

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