



Newsletter



**FORMAN
CHRISTIAN
COLLEGE**
(A CHARTERED UNIVERSITY)

Population Research Center

Forman Christian College (A Chartered University)

Research Publications

The first publication by Population Research Center (PRC), titled “Empowerment and Intimate Partner Violence in married women of reproductive age: Evidence from Pakistan Demographic Health Survey 2017-2018” was submitted to Journal of Interpersonal Violence in June 2020 and was accepted for publication in November 2020. The Journal of Interpersonal Violence is a peer-reviewed academic journal that focuses on the study of victims and perpetrators of interpersonal violence. It is published by SAGE publications and had an impact factor of 3.064 in 2019. The study was an attempt to identify demographic, household, and women empowerment factors that predicted emotional, physical, and sexual violence in ever-married women of reproductive age (15–49 years, n = 3,965) in Pakistan by performing secondary analysis on Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey, 2017–2018. The analysis was done using SPSS (v.22)

and binary and multivariate logistic regression techniques were performed for analyses. The analysis found that 30.2% of women experienced emotional, 24.1% reported less severe physical, 6.5% experienced severe physical, and 4.3% experienced sexual violence, respectively. The multivariate analysis found that husband’s age, education, wealth, and alcohol consumption were significant predictors of intimate partner violence (IPV). Additionally, womens’ age, education, and number of children also significantly predicted IPV. With respect to empowerment variables, ownership of house was a significant predictor of less severe physical violence, ownership of property significantly predicted emotional violence, and autonomy in household.

PRC’s second publication titled “Institutional environment of old age homes and its relation to adjustment of older adults: Evidence from Pakistan” was submitted to Journal of Aging and Environment in

September 2020 and was accepted for publication in November 2020. Journal of Aging and Environment (formerly known as Journal of Housing for the Elderly) is a peer-reviewed academic journal that focuses on theoretical and empirical research in environmental gerontology. It is published by Taylor & Francis Inc. and had an impact factor of 1.15 in 2018. This study was conducted on a sample of 270 residents, living in old age facilities across Punjab. Results suggested that institutional environment along with number of children and number of visitors was a significant predictor of adjustment of older adults. Interventions such as higher support from staff and residents, autonomy, and engagement can help older adults to adjust better in old age homes.

These research articles will soon be published by respective journals and will be available in research repository at PRC’s official website.

2nd Edition

(September—December 2020)

Highlights

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Violence against women

A report titled ‘The World’s Women 2020: Trends and Statistics’ by Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations presents a troublesome and dreadful picture of violence against women. Globally, 137 women are killed everyday either by an intimate partner or a family member



Research Repository

PRC team searched and explored multiple articles and research reports on following themes: Demographic issues and socio-economic implications, Child health, Child, labor, Child marriage, Women Rights (Health/Social), Family planning and Youth. PRC team took an online and also an on-campus training from I.T department for uploading and managing the research repository. This training was first conducted via Zoom followed by an on-campus at I.T office, where Mr. Shakir Khursid Gill (Senior Manager IT Business Analyst) trained the team in the presence of Director PRC, Dr. Mohammad Vaqas Ali. The complete repository was launched in October.

The digital research repository includes empirical, theoretical, and scholarly material in the form of journal articles, research reports, working papers, and conference proceedings. The repository includes scholarly work done by faculty, staff, and students of FCCU. It also provides research reports of well-reputed national and international organizations. The purpose of the repository is to provide access to the digital content related to population studies to all researchers at one place. The research repository can be accessed through following link:

<http://58.27.197.146:8080/jspui/community-list>

If you want to contribute your published work to PRC’s repository, please email it at prc@fccollege.edu.pk

Themes of research repository are as follows:

- Demographic issues and Socio-economic Implications
- Child Health
- Child Labor
- Child Marriage
- Women Rights (Health/Social)
- Youth
- COVID-19 and Population Studies



Research Proposal

In late October, PRC submitted its proposal for research funding titled “Assessing the impact of illiteracy, physical and psychological health, and psychosocial characteristics on the cognitive development of underage brick layers in Pakistan” to “Spencer Foundation”

The research study will analyze the impact of illiteracy, physical and psychosocial health on child brick workers' cognitive development in Punjab, Pakistan. Research in this area is important as child-workers are deprived of formal education and often endure hazardous and stressful conditions at the workplace. The study has potential to identify which cognitive skills are well developed in school going children as compared to out of school children and vice versa. The study will help identify interventions for improving illiterate child workers' lives and future prospects.

The Spencer Foundation invests in education research that cultivates learning and transforms lives.

Child Labor International Labour Organization (ILO) reports that 16.7 million children in South Asia (5—17 year old) are in child labour, of which 5.8 million are in India, followed by Bangladesh (5 million) and Pakistan (3.4 million).





Panel Discussion on “Demography and its role in understanding the COVID-19 crisis”

PRC organized an online panel discussion titled “Demography and its role in understanding the COVID-19 crisis” on November 24, 2020 from 4 pm to 6 pm in collaboration with Population Council (PC) Pakistan, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Center for Learning and Teaching (CLT) at Forman Christian College (A Chartered University). The Co-Chairs for the panel discussion were Dr. Jonathan S. Addleton (Rector, FCCU) and Dr. Zeba Sathar (Senior Associate & Country Director, PC). The panel comprised of following experts from different countries: Dr. Leiwen Jiang, Senior Associate (PC, New York) and Professor and founding Director of Asian Demographic Research Institute, Shanghai University; Dr. Feng Qiushi, Associate Professor at National University of Singapore, Singapore; Dr. L.J.G. (Leo) van Wissen, Director and Professor, Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, University of Groningen, Netherlands; Dr. Gavin W. Jones, Emeritus Professor in School of Demography, Australian National University, Australia; Dr. Ghulam Mohammad Arif, Former Joint Director, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Pakistan. The event was attended by FCCU’s senior administration, faculty, and staff, and representatives from various national and international organizations also attended the panel discussion.

The event started with the welcoming of Co-Chairs, Panelists, and Participants by Director PRC. Mr. Shuja Waqar (Lecturer, Economics) and Mr. Daud Rafique (Research Assistant, PRC) recited Holy Quran and Holy Bible.

Dr. Addleton in his welcome note felicitated

PRC for organizing this event and termed it as his first public event in FCCU since his joining in September 2020. He discussed the implications of COVID-19 for countries and specifically talked about the effects of the pandemic on international relations.

Following Dr. Addleton’s welcome note, the Panelists were introduced and each Panelist discussed the implications of COVID-19 for 15-20 minutes.

Dr. Sathar in her concluding remarks appreciated PRC for organizing this international event. While discussing the establishment of PRC, Dr. Sathar told the participants that UNFPA and PC after a thorough search for Universities in Pakistan to establish interdisciplinary research centers to further demographic and population research shortlisted FCCU for the purpose due to its keen interest in the agenda in addition to their interdisciplinary programs. Dr. Sathar synthesized the discussion of panelists, presented



Panelists	Topics
Dr. Leiwen Jiang	How COVID-19 may affect population distributions across the US states?
Dr. Feng Qiushi	The impact of COVID-19 on the population, especially the most affected age bracket (later adults)
Dr. L.J.G (Leo) van Wissen	COVID-19 and demography from the European perspective
Dr. Gavin W. Jones	COVID-19 and its impact on reproductive health
Dr. Ghulam Mohammad Arif	Socio-demographic impact of COVID-19 crisis in Pakistan & implications for the developing world





her comments on each topic, and discussed the strengths of each panel for their contribution made to understanding COVID-19.

The event ended with a note of thanks to the participants by Dr. Sikandar Hayat, Dean of Social Sciences. Dr. Hayat acknowledged the efforts of PRC for successfully organizing the event. He appreciated the idea of diversity with respect to speakers from five different countries as it helped the participants to understand the crisis from multi-dimensional, inter-disciplinary, and a global perspective.

The complete event can be assessed from the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEc6sP1sFbY>



PRC team hosting and moderating the event remotely from campus with the help of Center of Learning and Teaching (CLT) and I.T team.





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Population Research Center was established in 2019 to conduct, promote and strengthen inter-disciplinary population studies research in Pakistan. PRC is an independent center that was collaboratively created by the Department of Economics, Statistics, Geography and Sociology and is part of the Faculty of Social Sciences. The main purpose of PRC include providing advanced training to students in population studies, generating and disseminating research on population growth and its impact, and spreading awareness on population related issues.



Designed and Compiled by Ms. Khizra Nasir

