PREFACE

Fertility studies have assumed lot of importance as part of demographic and demogenetic studies. However, infertility surveys in populations have not picked up the required momentum despite their being influenced by biomedical, sociological and psychological factors and concern with the wellbeing of the couples in particular and populations in general.

Anthropology as a holistic science plays an important role in matters of ‘infertility’. It can explain the ways in which human biology and culture can affect fertility and the way modern technologies can bring about alleviation to the physiological as well as psychological problems associated with infertility. Moreover, anthropologists have tended to focus on cross-cultural patterns of behaviour and social organization and provide insights into means by which problems can be solved and future trends predicted through social change.

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