

EDITORS' NOTE

Filipino women provide the primary focus of this issue. This focus is contained in the articles dealing with the changes in the status of Filipino women, with the determinants of their age at marriage, with their fertility as related to infant and child mortality, and also to rural-urban migration.

King and Domingo provide the broad strokes encompassing the changes in the status of Filipino women through two generations. Viewed in terms of rising educational levels, later age at marriage, and greater labor supply, future improvements on the status of the Filipinas is definitely assured.

Focusing on the Cagayan Valley women, Sarmiento tackles variables based on Dixon's FAD (feasibility, availability, and desirability) model. She concludes that the availability and desirability factors are important as determinants of the age at first marriage, while the feasibility factor is not.

De Guzman searches for new evidence on the interrelationships of infant or child mortality and fertility. Using the physiological, child replacement, and insurance effects of child mortality on fertility as a starting point of discussion, he concludes that the replacement hypothesis is supported by the data for the women aged 40-49 years. Again this article looks into the important role of women in the relationship between infant and child mortality, on the one hand, and fertility, on the other.

Cabegin considers ever-married women between 15 and 49 years who were married in 1983 or who had been married at some time previous to the survey. In this article, the concern of the author is the interaction between rural-to-urban migration of a woman and fertility. The important finding of this study is that only after a period of at least fifteen years of exposure to an urban environment that migrants exhibit a moderate decline in fertility.

This wealth of Philippine data shows unequivocally that policy makers and implementors should pay sufficient attention to the important contribution of women to the demographic, and, consequently, the development trends in the country.

Madigan's *Demographer's Perspective* contains insights as to why the concerns of Philippine demography took the course they did. Morada, Morada and de Guzman, in the *Demographer's Note* alerts the readers to the concerns of the elderly population in the Philippines. The *Document* section presents the letter and the "spirit" of the proposed Constitutional provisions on the family.

Finally, this volume attempts to provide the readers of the *Journal* with a well-balanced dose of Philippine demographic and related materials.

A better appreciation of the *Journal* of the importance of women in Philippine demographic and development trends, a clearer realization of the forces that shaped the direction taken by Philippine demographers, an increased sense of urgency on the impending problems due to the growing elderly group, and an understanding of the "spirit" of the proposed constitutional provisions on the family will indicate that this attempt of ours has made a difference in Philippine development and demography as a discipline in the Philippines.