ABSTRACT

Population density is a population problem that is still one of the major problems in Indonesia, especially in East Java. One of the causes of the overcrowding is due to the high fertility. Fertility preference is strongly influenced by the number of children desired by every couples of childbearing age. This study provides information on the influence of social, economic, demographic, child factors, and perceptions of the value of the child to the child's preference on the number of couples of childbearing age in Sidorejo Village, Ponggok Blitar. The data used are primary data obtained through filling questionnaires and interviews to study subjects.

This study used a cross sectional design with observational analytic approach. The population was 2515 couples of childbearing age which live in Sidorejo village. The sample totaled 93 couples of childbearing age drawn by simple random sampling tecnique. The independent variables are age, age of first marriage of wife, migration status, employment status, income, level of education, child factors, and value of children. The dependent variable was preference number of children. Data analysis was performed using logistic regression, with significance level $\alpha = 5\%$.

Based on analysis of the data found that age of wife, sex of child, and number of children affects husband's preference for having more than 2 children ($p < 0,05$). While the education level and employment status of wife, and number of children affects wife's preference for having more than 2 children ($p < 0,05$).

The husband's preference number of children was same with wife's preference. The couple of childbearing age should plan and regulate their family together, especially to deciding number of children.

Keywords: preference number of children, childbearing age, value of children