# POPULATION DECREASE: Through family planning

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#### Introduction

#### Aim:

 Demonstrate the effects of population control through the use of contraceptives. How does this lead to population decrease?

#### **Outline:**

- History of contraceptives use in Kenya
- Population dynamics in Kenya
- Comparison with Singapore
- Long run consequences
- Recommendations

#### Family Planning

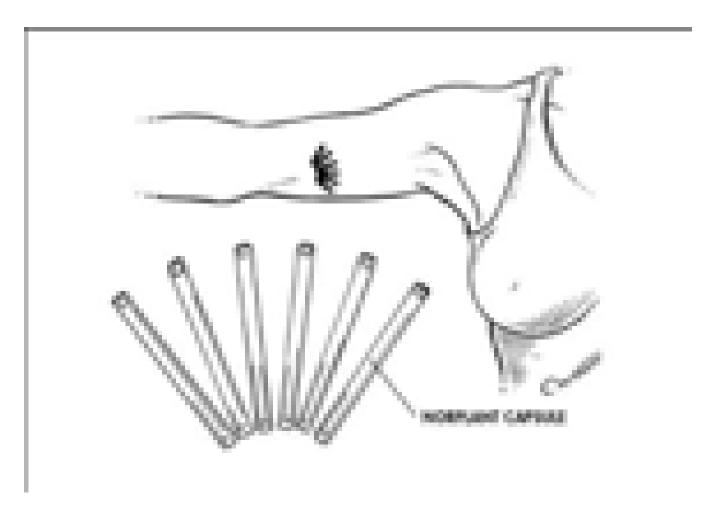
 What is contraception?
 Contraception is the use of various devices, drugs, agents, sexual practices, or surgical procedures to prevent conception.

#### Types of contraceptives

Combined Oral Contraceptives(COCs)



## **Implants**



## Copper Intrauterine Device (Cu IUD)



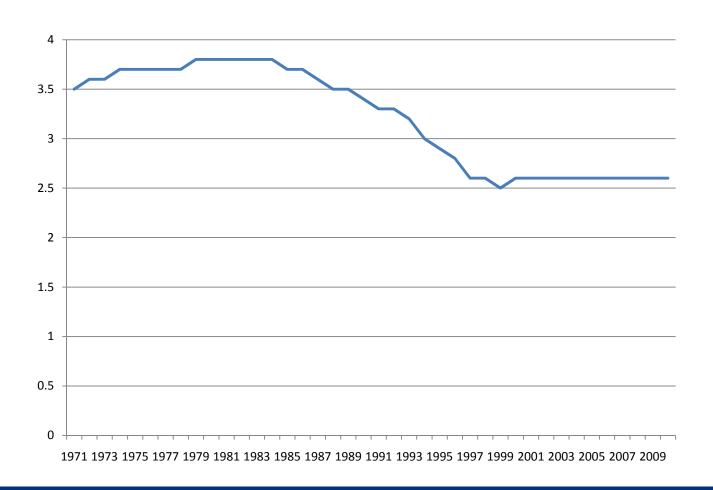
#### **Barrier Methods**



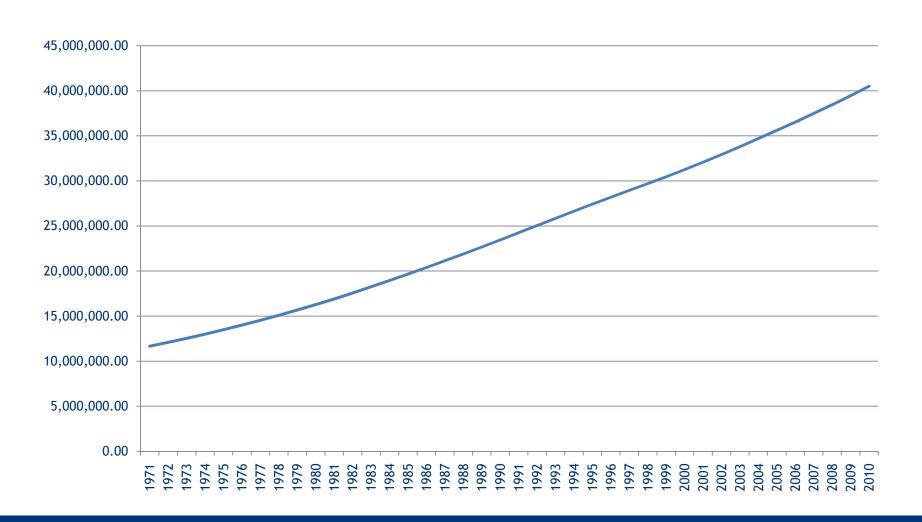
#### History of contraceptives use in Kenya

- The first birth control clinic was opened in Nairobi, 44 years ago.
   The second one opened a year later in 1956 at the Port Town of Mombasa.
- A report entitled "Family Planning in Kenya" was produced in 1965 and approved by the cabinet. The government subsequently announced the adoption of FP as part of its development policy.
- In the early 1980s President Moi's leadership encouraged reduction in the population and budgetary allocations were made for family planning services. The Sessional Paper No. 4 of 1984 on Population Policy Guidelines spelt out the direction the government wanted to take in relation to enactment and enforcement of relevant laws on how population issues should be treated.

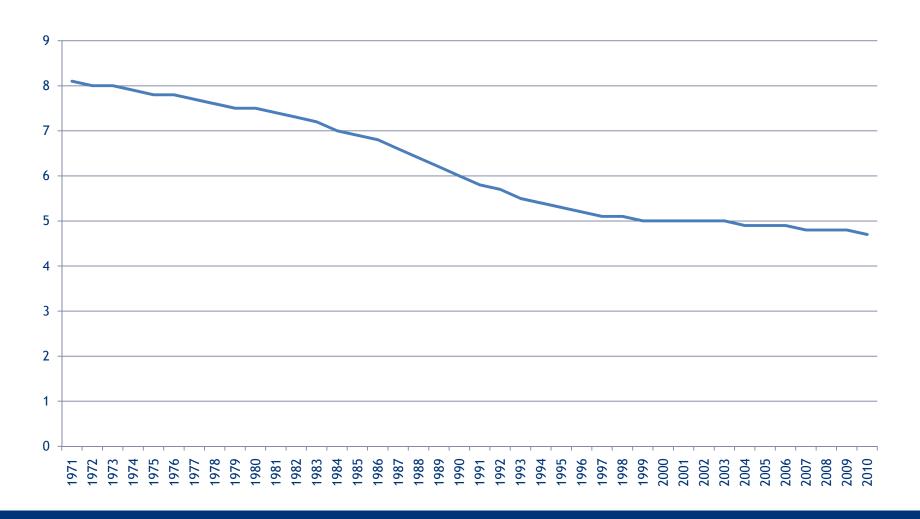
# Population Growth rate statistics-Kenya (1971-2010)



#### Total population-Kenya (1971-2010)



#### Fertility Rate-Kenya (1971-2010)



# Singapore: Historical developments of family planning

• Since the mid-1960s, Singapore's government has attempted to control the country's rate of population growth with a mixture of publicity, exhortation, and material incentives and disincentives.

 1949, family planning services were offered by the private Singapore Family Planning Association, which by 1960 was receiving some government funds and assistance.

#### Historical developments

- 1965: The crude birth rate was 29.5 per 1,000 and the annual rate of natural increase had been reduced to 2.5 percent. Singapore's government saw rapid population growth as a threat to living standards and political stability, as large numbers of children and young people threatened to overwhelm the schools, the medical services, and the ability of the economy to generate employment for them all.
- 1957 to 1970: Birth rates fell, but then began to rise as women of the postwar baby boom reached child-bearing years. The government responded with policies intended to further reduce the birth rate.

#### Population disincentives

- Abortion and voluntary sterilization were legalized in 1970.
   Between 1969 and 1972, a set of policies known as "population disincentives" were instituted to raise the costs of bearing third, fourth, and subsequent children
- Civil servants received no paid maternity leave for third and subsequent children; maternity hospitals charged progressively higher fees for each additional birth; and income tax deductions for all but the first two children were eliminated.
- Fertility declined throughout the 1970s, reaching the replacement level of 1.006 in 1975, and thereafter declining below that level.
   With fertility below the replacement level, the population would after some fifty years begin to decline unless supplemented by immigration.

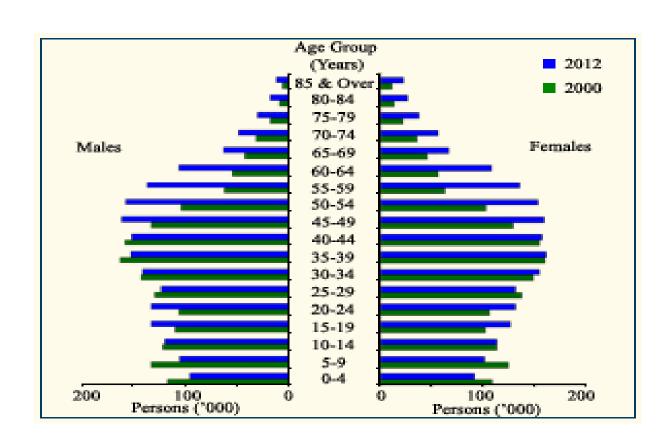
#### The social problem

- The failure of female university graduates to marry and bear children, attributed in part to the apparent preference of male university graduates for less highly educated wives, was singled out by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew in 1983 as a serious social problem.
- In 1986 the government also decided to revamp its family planning program to reflect its identification of the low birth rate as one of the country's most serious problems. The old family planning slogan of "Stop at Two" was replaced by "Have Three or More, if You Can Afford It."

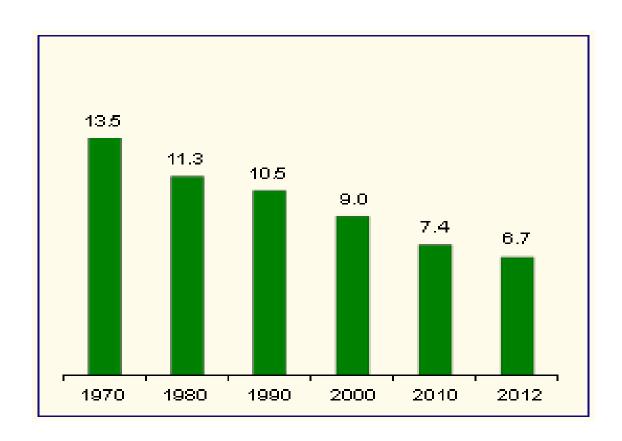
#### Then to remedy

- The government introduced a new package of incentives:
   Tax rebates for third children, subsidies for daycare, priority in school enrollment for children from large families,
- Pregnant women were to be offered increased counseling to discourage "abortions of convenience" or sterilization after the birth of one or two children.
- Despite these measures, the mid-1986 to mid-1987 total fertility rate reached a historic low of 1.44 children per woman, far short of the replacement level of 2.1. The government reacted in October 1987 by urging Singaporeans not to "passively watch ourselves going extinct."

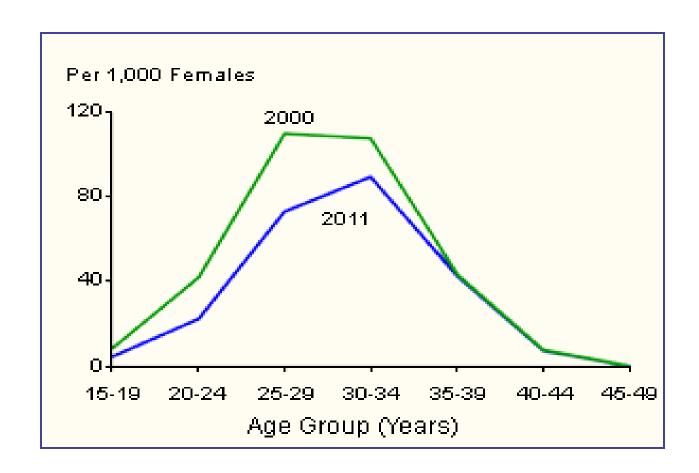
### Age Pyramid of Resident Population



# Old Age Support Ratio (Persons aged 20-64 years per elderly aged 65 years & over)



### Age specific fertility rates



#### Long run consequences

- The inability of the population to replace itself. When the fertility
  rate is below the replacement level we begin to face possibilities
  such as extinction in the long run
- Restraint of economic growth due to the reduction of labor input.
   This emerges with the advance of an aging population and a decline in the younger population.
- The emergence of sexual crisis among the youth. The gradual shift in understanding of the role of sexuality as they have found a scapegoat in contraceptives.

#### Recommendations

- Looking at the population growth as a source of human capital that we could use as a stepping stone to alleviate poverty and help speed up economic growth.
- Instead of the looking for ways to increase employment, it should equip the population through education to create their own employment using entrepreneurship.

