

**ABORTION COMPLICATIONS AMONG WOMEN OF  
REPRODUCTIVE AGE IN NEPAL: EVIDENCE FROM NDHS 2006**



**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT  
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS  
(POPULATION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RESEARCH)  
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES  
MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY  
2008**

**COPYRIGHT OF MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY**

**ABORTION COMPLICATIONS AMONG WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE  
IN NEPAL: EVIDENCE FROM NDHS 2006**

**DIKSHA KHADKA 5037965 PRRH/M**

**M.A. (POPULATION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH)**

**THESIS ADVISORS: PRAMOTE PRASARTKUL, Ph.D., PATAMA  
VAPATTANAWONG, Ph.D.**

**ABSTRACT**

Complications from abortion are a significant yet preventable cause of maternal mortality and morbidity. Little research has been conducted in Nepal on abortion complications after the legal abortion policy.

The study uses a dataset from the 2006 Nepal Demographic and Health Survey to assess abortion complications among Nepalese women (ages 15-49) who had their last induced abortion or miscarriage in the three years preceding the survey (2003-2006). The sample size of the study is 354 respondents, among whom 220 had experienced miscarriage and 134 had undergone induced abortion.

Binary logistic regression was used to show the effect of each of the independent variables on the likelihood of complications from induced abortion and miscarriage in the multivariate analysis model. The result shows that women experiencing miscarriage who visited health facilities were 7.3 times more likely to have had complications from miscarriage. Age at marriage, educational level, wealth status and development regions had significant effects on abortion-related complications.

The study indicates that there is a substantial need among women to utilize abortion services at health facilities in Nepal. Government and policy planners should concentrate more on programs that improve the health service system and enable women to exercise their safe and legal rights to sexual and reproductive health.

**KEY WORDS: ABORTION COMPLICATIONS/INDUCED ABORTION /  
MISCARRIAGE / REPRODUCTIVE AGE WOMEN / NEPAL**

48 pp.