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**Extract form:
Research report series no. 4, February 1991:
participatory rural appraisal for Nepal: concepts and
methods. A guide to the slide presentation**

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The extract illustrated here shows the use of some PRA techniques to investigate issues relating to family planning.

• Slide 110

A. Family Planning

Objectives

1. To find out villagers' understanding of family planning.
2. To determine villagers' knowledge and use of different family planning methods.

• Slide 111

Time line

This gives a record of the arrival of different family planning methods, detailed by the farmers, in the village. It shows how long people have been exposed to different methods and through what channel they received the information. The dates recorded on the chart were not actually given by the farmers but they referred to major events, like the earthquake, in a more general time line. The slide shows information given by two informants, one on the left and one on the right, and illustrates the importance of cross-checking, or triangulation, of information. The informants became aware of different methods at different times. The reason for this could be investigated further.

Year	Method	Source & Info
1974	Condom, Vasectomy	Radio
1972	Ioperiscopy	Neighbours
1987	Nilogan, Kamel	Radio
1984	Pila	Radio
1979	Nilplant	Radio

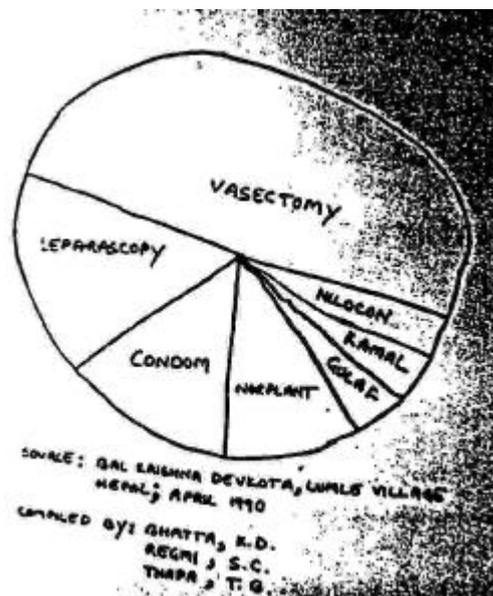
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Injunct: Kalsina Devkota, Ayest
April 21, 1990

Family Planning
Koshi District, Nepal

• Slide 112

Pie diagram

This was used to discover the overall preference among family planning methods, showing vasectomy as the most popular.



• Slide 113

Matrix ranking

The matrix ranks family planning methods for criteria important to the villagers. This was used to generate discussion on the reasons why people find one method more acceptable than another. When compared to the last slide there initially seems to be a contradiction; in the matrix, condom scores higher than vasectomy, yet the pie chart shows vasectomy as the most popular method. The farmers explained that the reasons they scored vasectomy lower in the matrix were:

Reliability There was one failed vasectomy in the village which caused some confusion.

Availability Men have to go to Pokhara or wait for the mobile clinic to have the vasectomy operation.

Simplicity in Use Vasectomy is not directly under their control due to the availability situation compared to the condom.

Resistance to Side Effects A convalescence period of several weeks, in which no farm work can be done, is needed after the operation.

FAMILY PLANNING METHODS	CRITERIA		
	RELIABLE/AVAILABILITY IN USE	SIMPLICITY	RESISTANCE TO SIDE EFFECTS
Condom	5	4	4
Vasectomy	3	1	5
Other	2	1	3
Other	3	3	4
Other	4	4	4
Other	4	5	3
Other	3	2	2

DEPARTMENT: SAK K. DOKOTA
AGE: 31 YEARS
DATE: 16-4-910

• Slide 114

Preliminary Findings

1. The awareness of these introduced family planning methods dates back only to 1980 in the Lumle area.
2. Generally villagers understand family planning as permanent sterilisation.
3. The use of temporary family planning methods is very limited. Over 80% of acceptors were sterilised, mainly men.
4. There is a belief that the use of permanent family planning methods leads to general weakness.
5. Despite one failed case of vasectomy this is still the most preferred method in the village.
6. The male interviewers felt it was difficult to discuss a sensitive issue like family planning with female participants.

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