

// [DOI: 10.18413/2408-9338-2020-6-3-0-1](https://doi.org/10.18413/2408-9338-2020-6-3-0-1). 2020. 6, 3. 9-28.

Dmitry . Markov'

Attitude towards childbirth in modern families of priests of the Russian Orthodox Church: experience of typology

Sociology of Religions Laboratory, St. Tikhon's Orthodox University
bld. 1, 6 Likhov Ln., Moscow, 127051, Russia
archprotolip@gmail.com

Abstract. Modern sociological research often reveals the rhetoric of the family crisis in Russia, which is dependent on low birth rates and a demographic decline. At the same time, using the example of the Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Canada, Peru and other countries, one can see what influence the clergy can have on the religious population, including their attitude towards the birth of children. In this regard, a study analyzing reproductive attitudes in the families of priests of the Russian Orthodox Church, capable of influencing the population of Russia with about 70% of people who call themselves orthodox, seems relevant and productive. Twenty families were interviewed for this study and analyzed using the “grounded theory” method. The analysis of the reproductive attitudes in the families of clergy revealed significant differences. For the convenience of describing these differences, we classified the attitude to childbirth in the families of priests, highlighting the traditional, intermediate and managerial types. As a result of the study, we identified a greater potential for solving the demographic problem in the traditional-type families, which is characterized by respondents' trust in God in their views on childbirth and the assessment of non-abortion contraception as a sin. Respondents of the managerial type talk about the use of contraception not as a church norm, but as a choice of spouses, which can be justified by the spouses' health, their income level, their desire to fulfill themselves in their professions, their attitudes to each other, etc. The intermediate type of respondents mainly spoke about trusting God in the issue of childbirth as an ideal, and about using contraception as an action that is possible for a family to save money, as a compromise, or as a result of their lack of faith. Families of the intermediate and managerial types allowed the use of non-abortive contraception in relation to their own family, thereby supporting the idea of planning and birth control. As a conclusion, the article proposes to include the communication of candidates for the priesthood with experienced confessors of the

70% , , 2011), -
 -
 -
 (,
 1994), -
 ? -
 1
 / - 31 . -
 ? (-
(Methodol- 40).
ogy and methods). -
 (29 , 18 -
 , 11). ,
 , -
 1,
 .
 « -
 » (. : , , 2001; 1

Table 1

Type of settlement /	Number of respondents /
(over 1 million people) / Largest city	10
(250 thousand - 1 million people) / Large city	10
(100 - 250 thousand people) / Big city	4
(50 - 100 thousand people) / Average city	4
(less than 50 thousand people) / Small city	6
, / Settlement, village	6

1 . : 2 /
 , , 1. 2 /
 .
 1 . : 2011. URL:
 42.13330.2011 . http://docs.cntd.ru/document/1200084712 (-
 : 10.05.2020).
 2 , 5
 2.07.01-89. .

RESEARCH RESULT

2. ¹ / 5. -

3. / , - ?

4. / . / , (Research Results and Discussion). -

5. / . / , -

6. . , - ; ; . -

7. . - 1. . , -

8. / . , « » . -

9. 2. , 3. -

3 . : « -

1. ? »; « -

2. () »; « -

3. » . -

4. ? « », « » « » . -

(- , -)? , -

¹ 30 , 15 , -

2 . , - : « , » . -

3 « , : « , » (4 , 15 ,) . -

RESEARCH RESULT

5.

21 1

6 -

(

)

«

»².

3.

(∴

, 2017).

(∴ , 2019),

4.

21

1 - , 8 - , 2 - , 1 -

, 5 - .

(∴ , 2018;

, 2016).

1 21 9 + + - 4 «

2 + . -

: «

^

» (6 , 21 , 10).

3 « ^!

2020 (+/- 10

^1 - - 75 . « »

19 ,

(, 20 195). « »

»

« » 130 ,, - 130 .

^> (8

27 , 6).

RESEARCH RESULT

», « -
 « » -
 ». -
 (, -
), « -
 », -
 . -
 , , -
 , -
 (, -
 1), -
 (-
) -
 , -
 (). -
 . -
 , -
 , -
 , « -
 », -
 2. « »³ -
 « » -
 , -
 , -
 4. -
 , -
 « » -
 5. -
 « » -
 , -
 , -
 ^ -
 , « -
 ?», . -
 , -
 , -
 ^1 , -
 , -
 ? -
 , , 2
 , 23 » (4 -
 , 2 » (3 , 1). -
)». 3 child-free.
 1 « 4 « -
 , -
 , -
 9 » (// -
 , -
 . XII. 3. URL:
 http://www.patriarchia.ru/db/text/419128.html (-
 : 12.03.2020)).
 5 « -
 , -
 » (1 -
 , 4 , -
). , -
 2 « , -
 , ^

RESEARCH RESULT

« - 7 13 -
 », « - , 4 7 -
 ». - . 11 (7)
 + 4,)
 , « » - 2 (-
 , «),
 » . 3 -
 , - . -
 3. . -
 , - -
 . « » - « » -
 « », « » - (,)
 . 1 13 - 4 6 -
 , 6 (- (-
) - , 1 - , 1 - 1 26). - -
 , 4 (-
) - (-
 (6 13, - 1 5). -
 , - 1, ,
), 4 - - , - 2.
 (, -
), 1 -
 (-
), 2 - (-
 . 3 (+ - 1) , (-
) - , -
 , 2 - , 2 - , 2 - ,
 , 2 - , 2 - . , -
 (, -
), (, -
 . (5) -
 , - : « -
 , - »:
 » (). ? //
 1 (, 2007) . « » . URL: <https://priest.today/questions/314>
 (, 2016) , : 1.05.2020; , -
 2 . ? // « » . URL:
 « » , - <https://priest.today/questions/36> (:
 1.05.2020).

RESEARCH RESULT

e) (« »,)

(25-26) f) (« »);

5 « »;

g) (« ») (« - »);

a) « »;

b) 1); « »);

2 (h) (25-26) « »);

c) (25) « ».

d) « »;

1 (i) 26). 3;

1

2

GENERAL TABLE OF RESPONDENTS WITH TYPES IN RELATION TO CHILDBEARING.
 TS - Theological Seminary, TA - Theological Academy, TI - Theological Institute (pastoral training);
 T - traditional type, I - intermediate type, M - managerial type

	/	-		/			() ; () ; () ;		-
1		2,5	3	/	;	-	;		
				/			;		
2		3	4	/	;	1	;		
				/			;		
3		2	3,5	/	-		;		
4				/	-		;		-
5		2	3,5	/	-	1	;		

RESEARCH RESULT

-	/	-		/			() ; () ; () ;		- -	
				/			; ;			
6		21	21	/		10	; ; -			
7				/	-			; ; -		
8		26	28	/	-	12	; ; -			
				/				; ; -		
9		10	-	/	-		; ; -			
10				()				; ; -		
				/	-				; ; -	
11		20	29	/	-	9	; ; -			
12				()				; ; -		
13		1	2	/		1	; ;			
				/				; ; -		
14		12	15	/			; ; -			

RESEARCH RE

-	/	-		/			() ; () ; () ;		-
				/			; ; -		
15		1	2	/	+	1	; ;		
				/	-			; ;	
16		1	19	/	- (. . .) +	5	; ;		
				/	-			; ;	
17			3	/	-	2	; ;		
				/	-			; ; -	
18		0,5	28	/	-	6	; ;		
				/	-			; ; -	
19			28	/	- ; +	6	; ;		
				/	-			; ; -	
20		27	28	/	-	6	; ;		
				/	-			; ; -	
21			28	/	-	6	; ;		
				/	-			; ; -	
22		1	2,5	/	-	0	; ; -		
				/	-			; ; -	

RESEARCH RESULT

-	/	-		/			() ; () ; () ;		-
23		21	23	/ -	- ;	2	; ;		
				/			; ;		
24		1	3	/ -		-	; ;		
				/	-		; ; -		
		1	1,5	/ -		1	; ; -		
26				/	; -		; ;		
27		2,5	4	/ -		1	; ;		
28				/	-		; ; -		
29		22	25	/ -		8	; ; -		
				/			; ; -		
				()					

RESEARCH RESULT

08-14-16-49&catid=22:2009-10-03-20-24-35&Itemid=35 (: 9.04.2020).
 // 18.
 2012. 1. . 99-110.
 URL: <http://www.patriarchia.ru/db/text/419128.html> (: 12.03.2020)
 :
 2019. 4. . 128-151.
 : EERC,
 2005. 64 .
 / .
 ,, , 2013. 222 .
 / .
 2001. 256 .
 ? //
 « ».
 8
 2016 . URL:
<https://elitsy.ru/communities/35901/926887/> (: 9.04.2020)
 // Magistra Vitae:
 . 2015. 14 (369). . 144-149.
 ,
 ? // « » URL:
<https://priest.today/questions/36> (: 1.05.2020).
 //
 « ».
 , 5-8 2001 . ., 2002. . 281-320.
 Gervais D., Gauvreau D. Women, priests, and physicians: Family limitation in Quebec, 1940-1970 // Journal of interdisciplinary History. 2003. Vol. 34, Issue 2. Pp. 293-314.

Goodling R., Smith C. Clergy divorce: a survey of issues and emerging ecclesiastical structures // The Journal of Pastoral Care. 1983. Vol. XXXVII, 4. Pp. 271-291.
 Hartley S. F. Marital satisfaction among clergy wives // Review of Religious Research. 1978. Vol. 19, 2. Pp. 178-191.
 Lopez R. A History of Family Planning in Twentieth-Century Peru. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2020.
 McGregor P., McKee P. Religion and fertility in Contemporary // European Journal of Population. 2016. Vol. 32. Pp. 599-622.
 Morris M. L., Blanton P. W. Denominational Perceptions of Stress and the Provision of Support Services for Clergy Families // Pastoral Psychology. 1994. Vol. 42, 5. Pp. 345-363.
 Norrell J. E. Clergy Family Satisfaction // Family Science Review. 1989. Vol. 2, 4. Pp. 337-346.
 Somers A., Van Poppel F. Catholic priests and the fertility transition among Dutch Catholics, 1935-1970 // Annales de demographie historique. 2003. Vol. 106. Pp. 57-88.
 Zabaev I. The Economic Ethics of Contemporary Russian Orthodox Christianity: A Weberian Perspective. Journal of Economic Sociology. 2015. Vol. 16, 4. Pp. 148-168.

References

«Natural contraception»: a permissible measure of condescension or the sin of avoiding childbearing?, Available at: <https://priest.today/questions/314> (Accessed 1 May 2020). (In Russian)
 Akerlof, Dzh. and Shiller, R. (2010), *How human psychology drives the economy, and why it matters for global capitalism*, OOO «Junaited Press», Moscow, Russia. (In Russian)
 Arkhangelskiy, V. N., Zinkina, Ju. V. and Shulgin, S. G. (2019), "Fertility in women with different levels of education: current status and forecast scenarios", *Population*, (1), 21-38. (In Russian)
 Arkhangelskiy, V. N. (2017), "Demographic situation in rural areas", *O sostoyanii selskih territoriy v Rossiyskoy Federatsii v 2015 godu. Ezhegodny doklad po rezul'tatam monitoringa*, Moscow, 41-60. (In Russian)
Biographical method. Story. Methodology. Practice, ISRAS, Moscow, Russia. (In Russian)
 Blinova, T. V. (2018), "Demographic threats and restrictions on the development of rural areas

- of Russia”, *Vestnik Saratovskogo gosudarstvennogo sotsialno-ekonomicheskogo universiteta*, (2), 14-18. (In Russian)
- Goleva, M. A. and Pavlutkin, I. V. (2016), “Social networks and fertility”, *Ekonomicheskaya sotsiologiya*, (1), 83-98. (In Russian)
- Golovyanitsyna E. (2007), “The role of socio-psychological factors in reproductive desires”, in *Roditeli i deti, muzhchiny i zhenshhiny v seme i obshchestve*, NISP, Moscow, Russia, 217-251. (In Russian)
- Davydenko, O. (2013), *Dogmatic theology*, St. Tikhon’s Orthodox University Press, Moscow, Russia. (In Russian)
- Dementev, D. V. (2011), “Satisfaction with marriage in the families of clergy and laity”, *State, Religion and Church in Russia and Worldwide*, (3-4), 227-230. (In Russian)
- Elin, A. M. and Pashin, N. P (2019), “Problems of demography and ways to solve them in modern Russia”, *Vestnik nauki i obrazovaniya*, (17), 19-28. (In Russian)
- Emelyanov, N. (2019), “The significance of the family of an Orthodox priest in pastoral service: a theological approach”, *St. Tikhon’s University Review. Theology. Philosophy. Religious Studies*, (82), 34-50. (In Russian)
- Emelyanov, N. (2017), “Family life of a priest as an instrument of pastoral service”, *Report at the pastoral conference “Family Life of Clergy”*, Available at: https://priest.today/news/prot_nikolay_emelianov_semeynaya_zhizn_svyashchenika (Accessed 1 June 2020). (In Russian)
- Zabaev, I. V. (2011), “Logic of data analysis in grounded theory: Version of B. Glezer”, *Sociology: Methodology, Methods and Mathematical Modeling (4M)*, (32), 124-142. (In Russian)
- Zabaev, I. V., Oreshina, D. A. and Pruckova, E. V. (2016), *Three Moscow parishes. The main socio-demographic indicators and attitudes of representatives of large parish communities*, St. Tikhon’s Orthodox University press, Moscow, Russia. (In Russian)
- Zabaev, I. V. and Prutskova, E. V. (2012), “Social support networks in the Orthodox community. On the example of three large Orthodox parishes of Moscow”, *Sovremennaya sotsiologiya - sovremennoy Rossii: Sbornik statey pamyati pervogo dekana fakulteta sotsiologii NIU VShJe A. O. Kryshchanovskogo*, Moscow, Russia, 598-608. (In Russian)
- Levushkin, A. N. (2018), “The application of Christian values in the regulation of marriage and marital relations: history and modernity”, *Scientific Bulletin of Belgorod State University. Philosophy. Sociology. Law*, (1), 130-136. (In Russian)
- Likhacheva, T. N., Korolenko, A. V. and Kalashnikov, K. N. (2016), “Demographic forecast of the rural population of the Northwestern Federal District”, *Problemy razvitiya territorii*, (6), 112-131. (In Russian)
- Maleva, T. and Sinyavskaya, O. (2006), “Socio-economic factors of fertility in Russia: empirical measurements and challenges to social policy”, *SPERO*, (5), 70-97. (In Russian)
- Markov, D. A. (2020), “Correlation between the level of education and the approach to childbearing in the clergy families of the Russian Orthodox Church”, *Study of Religion*, (3) (in press). (In Russian)
- Markov, D. A. (2020), “Christian tradition and the problem of procreation in the “Structure of theological revolutions” M. Massa”, *Issues of Theology*, (6) (in press). (In Russian)
- Mitrofanov, G. (2007), “Family and marriage issues. Speech at the round table ‘Family in the modern Church’”, *Alfa i Omega*, (49), Available at: http://www.icvidnoe.ru/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=28:2009-10-08-14-16-49&catid=22:2009-10-03-20-24-35&Itemid=35 (Accessed 9 April 2020). (In Russian)
- Novoselova, E. N. (2012), “Voluntary childlessness as a threat to the demographic security of Russia”, *Vestnik Moskovskogo Universiteta. Sociology and Political Science*, (1), 99-110. (In Russian)
- Fundamentals of the social concept of the Russian Orthodox Church*, Available at: <http://www.patriarchia.ru/db/text/419128.html> (Accessed 12 March 2020). (In Russian)
- Pavlutkin, I. V. and Borisova, O. N. (2019), “Variability of models of modern urban large families: a revival of tradition, new marriages or network effects?”, *Mir Rossii*, (4), 128-151. (In Russian)
- Roshhina, Ya. M. and Boykov, A. V. (2005), *Fertility factors in modern Russia*, EERC, Moscow, Russia. (In Russian)
- Zabaev, I. V., Emelyanov, N., Pavlenko, E. S. and Pavlutkin, I. V. (2013), *Family and childbearing in Russia. Categories of parental consciousness*, St. Tikhon’s Orthodox University Press, Moscow, Russia. (In Russian)

Strauss, A. and Korbin, J. (1990), *Basics of Qualitative research*, Translated by Vasileva, T. S., Editorial URSS, Moscow, Russia. (In Russian)

Tkachev, A. (2016), *Is contraception a sin?*, Telecast "Briefly about the main thing". Answers to questions, Available at: <https://elitsy.ru/communities/35901/926887/> (Accessed 9 April 2020). (In Russian)

Fot, A. G. (2015), "The family of the parish priest of the Orenburg diocese in the context of realizations of everyday life", *Magistra Vitae: elektronny zhurnal po istoricheskim naukam i arkhologii*, (14), 144-149. (In Russian)

Does a person living in more terrible sins than contraception also have to play it safe in order to enter the Sacraments?, Available at: <https://priest.today/questions/36> (Accessed 1 May 2020). (In Russian)

Shmaliy, V. (2002), "Field problems in the light of Christian anthropology", *Problematika Bogoslovskoy konferentsii Russkoy Pravoslavnoy Tserkvi «Uchenie Tserkvi o cheloveke»*, 281-320. (In Russian)

Gervais, D. and Gauvreau, D. (2003), "Women, priests, and physicians: Family limitation in Quebec, 1940-1970", *Journal of interdisciplinary History*, 34 (2), 293-314.

Goodling, R. and Smith, C. (1983), "Clergy divorce: a survey of issues and emerging ecclesiastical structures", *The Journal of Pastoral Care*, XXXVII (4), 271-291.

Hartley, S. F. (1978), "Marital satisfaction among clergy wives", *Review of Religious Research*, 19 (2), 178-191.

Lopez, R. (2020), *A History of Family Planning in Twentieth-Century Peru*, University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, USA.

McGregor, P. and McKee, P. (2016), "Religion and fertility in Contemporary", *European Journal of Population*, 32, 599-622.

Morris, M. L. and Blanton, P. W. (1994), "Denominational Perceptions of Stress and the Provision of Support Services for Clergy Families", *Pastoral Psychology*, 42 (5), 345-363.

Norrell, J. E. (1989), "Clergy Family Satisfaction", *Family Science Review*, 2 (4), 337-346.

Somers, A. and Van Poppel, F. (2003), "Catholic priests and the fertility transition among Dutch Catholics, 1935-1970", *Annales de demographie historique*, 106, 57-88.

Zabaev, I. (2015), "The Economic Ethics of Contemporary Russian Orthodox Christianity: A Weberian Perspective", *Journal of Economic Sociology*, 16 (4), 148-168.

2020. 03
2020. 28
2020. 05 2020.

Received 03 June 2020. Revised 28 June 2020. Accepted 05 July 2020.

Conflicts of interest: the author has no conflict of interest to declare.

« »
- -

Dmitry Al. Markov, Researcher at the Sociology of Religions Laboratory, St. Tikhon's Orthodox University.