

TITLE: Contraceptive Use Among Abused African Caribbean and African American Women

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*Objective:* The aim of this study was to investigate relationships between both contraceptive use and method selection among Black women in rural and urban populations with a history of intimate partner violence (IPV). *Method:* This was a secondary data analysis of a case/control study on partner abuse of 862 women aged 18-55 who reported having an intimate partner during the past two years. The chi-square test was used for data analysis. *Results:* Twenty-seven percent (27%) of the sample reported no contraceptive use. Women that were not abused reported contraceptive use at a slightly higher rate than abused women (28 % vs 25%,  $p = .07$ ). Abused women were more likely to use male condoms (44%,  $p=.044$ ) and withdrawal (18%,  $p<0.001$ ) as forms of contraception than non-abused women. Urban women were more likely to use Depo-Provera (19%,  $p<0.001$ ) and sterilization (15%,  $p<0.001$ ), whereas, rural women were more likely to use birth control pills (22%,  $p<0.001$ ) and withdrawal (19%,  $p<0.001$ ). There were no significant differences between urban and rural women on condom use. *Conclusion:* Contraceptive method selection and use among abused Black women should be evaluated not only for effectiveness, but long-acting properties, which may be warranted in abusive relationships

Keywords: Intimate partner violence, Contraceptive use