

Ruling concerning birth control

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

The ruling concerning birth control (limiting and organising)

Question: A mother who is wondering about the ruling concerning the tubal ligation (tube tying), requested by the doctor because her health condition, can no longer tolerate another pregnancy. Being a mother of five children, the sixth one has been miscarried on the fifth month due to her health condition. She says that when she is pregnant, during the last months she gets a hemiplegia and other diseases, and she cannot take contraceptive pills. She adds that her doctor who is competent and has a good experience in her field has let her choose between turning to the previously mentioned method and using an IUD (intra-uterine device) during a whole year, but she is hesitating about both suggestions and asks for the righteous decision. And may Allaah reward you with what is best.

Shaykh Aboo `Abd-al-Mu`iz `Alee Farkous al-Qoobee (May Allaah the Most High preserve him): All praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon whom Allaah sent as a mercy to the Worlds, upon his Family, his Companions and his Brothers until the Day of Resurrection:

The basic principle is that interrupting procreation is not permissible except when there is a necessity for it, if the competent and qualified doctors declare that there could be a nearly certain fear of death caused by the pregnancy. In this case there is no harm to undergo the operation after consulting the husband.

However, if the causes of the danger were just temporary with the possibility to cure them with medicines or rest, in such case, she has no excuse to interrupt the procreation and it is permissible for her to space between the births using contraceptive methods which do not cause any harm so that she can get back to her function.

The perfect knowledge belongs to Allaah (*Mighty and Majestic is He*); and our last prayer is all the praises and thanks are to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds, and prayers of Allaah are to Muhammad and his Family, Companions and Brothers until the Day of Resurrection.

Algiers on Muharram the 24th, 1424 H Corresponding to March the 27th, 2003 G