

Authors' response to "Should the population and climate discussion be limited to the policy space?"

Thank you to Dr Smith for this interesting question¹ submitted in response to our commentary article.² In our view climate should not be discussed in counselling sessions between provider and client. These meetings should strictly focus on informed, voluntary choice and on the health and welfare of the woman; discussing climate change in this context would be coercive. It is also hard to imagine a mass media campaign that links climate change to individual contraceptive decision-making without seeming coercive or overbearing. In fact, such messaging might be

counterproductive since current climate problems are almost entirely due to emissions from high-income countries where fertility rates are low.

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