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Emerging Social Issues Division

Social Policy and Population Section

Asia-Pacific Population Journal

Article **Parental Consanguinity and Offspring Mortality: The Search for Possible Linkage in the Indian Context**

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Abstract This article sheds light on the issues of what are the genetic consequences of marriage among biological relatives and how they are likely to affect the incidence of offspring mortality in India. The recently conducted National Family Health Survey offered an excellent opportunity to provide some useful answers to these questions by exploring the extent of mortality among the offspring of consanguineous versus non-consanguineous parents. The study reveals elevated risks of close consanguineous parents after controlling for the effect of all possible non-genetic factors through a multivariate technique. It concludes with a set of recommendations for policy purposes.

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