

MORALITY AND BIRTH-CONTROL.

(THEORY AND PRACTICE)

R. D. KARVE.

MORALITY AND BIRTH-CONTROL.

(THEORY AND PRACTICE)

BY

R. D. KARVE, M.A. (Bom.)

Diplôme d'Etudes Supérieures (Paris).

*Late Professor of Mathematics,
Gujerath College, Ahmedabad.*

All Rights Reserved by the Author.

BOMBAY.

21.

The book can be had from Messrs. Ramchandra Govind & Sons, Kalbadevi Road or from the **Right Agency**, Girgaum Road, Bombay, No. 4.

Printed by C. S. Deole at the Bombay Vaibhav Press
Servants of India Society's Home, Sandhurst Road,
Girgaon, Bombay.

Published by R. D. Karve, Dr. Ferreira's Building,
Bombay, No. 4.

CONTENTS.

	Page.
Foreword	I
Chapter 1. The Law of Population ...	1
.. 2. Checks to Population : Positive and Preventive.	6
.. 3. Consequences and Remedies : Malthus's Remedy.	15
.. 4. The Curses of Humanity : Criticism of Malthus ...	28
.. 5. A better Remedy	40
.. 6. What About Morals? ...	44
.. 7. Scientific Methods ...	60
Appendix. An Open Letter ..	77

FOREWORD.

The subject of this booklet is, in my opinion, of paramount importance, not only to those who can lay aside their egotism for a time at least and give a thought to the welfare of humanity in general, but even to those who are so utterly taken up, perhaps in spite of themselves, by family worries that they have neither the time nor the inclination to think on altruistic matters. In fact, one of the principal objects of the practical part of this book is to bring within the reach of these last, such information as will bring them welcome relief and give them time to look round.

I do not claim to have invented anything. Since Malthus enunciated the Law of Population, its truth has been so evident to the scientific mind, that one can only wonder

how such an almost self-evident law remained undiscovered till his time (1798). He demonstrated clearly that poverty, the source of manifold evils, is the direct outcome of the action of this law on ignorant humanity, and suggests a remedy to avoid this. But his remedy is, in our opinion and that of many others who have the right to speak with greater authority, as bad if not worse than the disease it pretends to cure, and further, very nearly impossible to be put into practice by any but an infinitesimal minority. A better remedy, and in our opinion the only efficient remedy, was, I think, first suggested by Condorcet, although he had not a very definite idea as to its practicability. Dr. George Drysdale (1827-1904) in his *Elements of Social Science* was bold enough to declare, clearly and unequivocally, his reasoned opinion that the only practicable and harmless remedy is birth-control by scientific means, gave all the practical information at his disposal, and suggested that it might be

improved upon by scientific research. Dr. Marie Stopes D. Sc., Ph. D. has since written *Wise Parenthood*, dealing with the same subject. Dr. Wm. J. Robinson has also strongly advocated the same opinion, but the American law does not allow practical information to be given. Mr. G. Hardy, a Frenchman, has translated a portion of Drysdale's book into French, and written an independent one giving up-to-date practical information. He was prosecuted on the ground of indecency (a mere pretext invented by opponents of this theory) but was acquitted. France has recently passed a severe law against the spread of practical information on this point and Mr. Hardy's book has been proscribed and copies confiscated.

The present booklet presents the author's view of the subject, in essential points the same as Dr. Drysdale's, and also gives up-to-date practical information. It is mainly intended to bring this within the reach of

the poorer classes, who cannot afford to buy the more costly books mentioned above. For the information, I have made free use of these books and others.

Girgaum, Bombay, ()
September 1921.)

THE AUTHOR.
