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Effects of educated professionals on the health and care of women in Tanzania

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Education of women in Tanzania, one of the 31 least developed countries of the world, is a fairly recent event. Education of Tanzanian women has afforded better health for whole families through better knowledge of self-care, employment opportunities, birth planning, and status in the community. A negative effect of education and employment is an erosion of traditional cultural patterns.

Children often do not learn the values thought important in their tribes. The value of education, however, seems to outweigh the disadvantages, as the health of the country as measured by the infant mortality rates improves. A study of Tanzanian women indicated that professional nurses were identified as the source of the most useful and reliable health advice.