

Family Planning in China



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Family planning policy

pinyin: *jìhuà shēngyù zhèngcè*



The green symbol of
“FP”: family planning,
(also means Chinese
“ren kou”, population)

“C”-type olive leaves
means China.

Green olive: Symbol
of Peace, development,
and prosperity.

1 The evolution of birth control policy (1)

- Population policies and campaigns have been ongoing in China since the 1970s.
- In the early 1970s
 - “late marriage, late birth, few births and good quality births”
 - later, longer, and fewer (*pinyin: wǎn, xī, shǎo*)
 - “one is good, two are acceptable and three are too many”

1 The evolution of birth control policy (2)

In the late 1979:

“one child per couple”. (the so-called “one child policy”, but it was not strictly enforced in many rural areas)

1 The evolution of birth control policy (3)

■ In 1980s:

- The main contents of family planning policy are:
 - *Advocating delayed marriage and delayed child bearing, fewer and healthier births; and advocating one child for one couple. Some rural couples with **actual difficulties** are allowed to give birth to a second child **a few years** after the birth of the first child.*
- The policies are decided by each autonomous region or the province in which the national minorities live.

1 The evolution of birth control policy (4)

- **2002: The Population and Family Planning Law (took effect on Sept. 1, 2002).**
 - **The law clearly stipulates that those citizens who give birth to more children than permitted by regulation will have to face the consequences of legally imposed economic penalties. It is mandatory.**
 - **The objective is to protect and encourage those families that carry out family planning in agreement with the policy.**

1 The evolution of birth control policy (5)

- **Different rural areas in China have different population regulations.**
- **Even within one province, different areas may have different circumstances.**
- **Within a single area, different ethnic minority groups may also be subject to different policies.**

1 The evolution of birth control policy (6)

- In Sichuan Province and Jiangsu Province, the population policy requires one couple to have only one child, or **one-child policy**, some rural couples with actual difficulties are allowed to have two children.
- In most provinces (and autonomous regions), one couple can give a second birth when they have a girl, and this is often referred to as **“one-and-half policy”**.

1 The evolution of birth control policy (7)

- In Hainan, Yunnan, Qinghai, Ningxia and Xinjiang, rural couple can have two children regardless the gender of the first child. We call that “**two-children policy**”.

1 The evolution of birth control policy (8)

- **In Heilongjiang, Hainan, Yunnan, Qinghai, and Ningxia, some ethnic minority couples can have three children.**
- **The proportion of the ethnic minority population in China increased from 6.6% in 1982 to 8.41% in 2000.**

1 The evolution of birth control policy (9)

- No policy restrictions on the number of births have ever been imposed upon agricultural and pastoral Tibetan couples.
- In 2000, Tibetan people numbered 5.42 million, increased 17.92% comparing to that in 1990. (1990-2000, the population in main land of China increased 11.66%, from 1133.7 million to 1265.8 million.)

1 The evolution of birth control policy (10)

- **The one-child policy covered 35.4% of the whole country population,**
- **The one-and-half policy covered 53.6%**
- **The two-children policy covered 9.7% of the country population.**

(Guo Zhigang, 2003)



2 Guiding principles and methods of family planning work (1)

- **Control population size**
- **Raise population quality**
- **Optimize population structure**

2 Guiding principles and methods of family planning work (2)

- In 2006 the central government advocated for **“stabilizing the low fertility level, comprehensively solving population issues, and promoting the overall development of the people”**.

稳定低生育水平，

统筹解决人口问题，

促进人的全面发展。



中共丰盛镇党委
丰盛镇人民政府

A family planning poster in Fengsheng
Town, Chongqing Municipality

3 “Social compensation fee”

- “Social compensation fee” (*pinyin*: *shèhuì fúyǎng fèi*), sometimes called a family planning fine in the West
- The fine for a child born above the birth quota is multiple of, depending upon the locality, either urban resident disposable income or farmer cash income estimated that year by the local statistics.

4 “Care For Girls” Program

- The program **Care for Girls** has a mandate to “improve the environment for girls” survival and development.
 - Giving small loans to families with only daughters to help them develop income,
 - Supporting schooling for girls.
 - Giving health examinations to girls.
 - To teach women with modern production skills and offer them jobs to enable them to contribute to the family income.
 - Eliminating discrimination against girls



Each girl from Anhui Province's poverty-stricken areas received a donation of 500 yuan (\$74) during a "Care for Girls" promotion. www.chinadaily.com.cn/

5 Reproductive health care

- **Physical examination, making follow-up visits to patients.**
- **Educating the people on different methods of contraception and birth control so that they can make informed decisions.**
- **Support for safe, efficient, low-cost contraception**
- **Provide the contraceptive medicine or devices. More than 98% of contraceptive medicine or devices are provided without charge.**

Education, regular service, and contraceptive use.

6 Rewarding farmers who have fewer children (1)

- The reward policy launched in 2006
- Farmers, who have only one child or two girls, will be awarded 600 yuan (\$88) by the government annually from the age of 60.
- The government has paid out 4.5 billion yuan in benefits over the last four years.



6 Rewarding farmers who have fewer children (2)

- **The reward policy was an important step to encourage farmers to act in accordance with the state family planning policy.**
- **It is also a breakthrough in building the social security system in China's rural areas.**
- **It is also expected to change the traditional view that boys take the responsibility to support their parents, and help resolve the problem of unbalanced sex ratio.**

6 Rewarding farmers who have fewer children (3)

- **the annual 600 yuan benefit paid to parents aged 60 and over will be increased by 20% to 720 yuan (\$106).**
- **A one-shot 3,000 yuan (\$441) benefit will give to rural couples who are entitled to have three children, but voluntarily stop at two.**
- **The government compensate parents whose only child died.**



**Why did China advocated the
family planning policy?**



The Pros of China's Family Planning Policy



The cons of the Family Planning policy