



# Family planning policy of China

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Recently, there has been increasing attention to the suggestion about a two-child policy in China. Nevertheless, do you know the development and situation of a family planning policy known as the one-child policy?

The conventional idea is that more children bring more happiness. In the past, the relatively lower level of economic development enabled people to have many babies. However, with the development of the economy and the improvement of living standards, people need to take the allocation of the limited resources into consideration and control the trend towards over-rapid population growth.

Therefore, in the late 1970s, realizing the significance of birth control, the Chinese government advocated the one-child policy in the urban areas. In the rural areas, however, the fertility concept among the peasants still lagged behind that among the urban residents. Although it was hard to wipe away the deep-ingrained traditional value, the Chinese government took mandatory measures to stress the principle of this policy—late marriage, late births and fewer births. Whoever violated it would be fined.

At present, the influence is apparent. If China had not implemented the family planning policy but had all along kept the birth rate at the level of the early 1970s, its population would probably be over 1.5 billion now. Because it helps save energy, stabilize social order and make our country

stronger, we are the main beneficiaries of this policy. As for a further comment, it makes great contributions to the whole world.

However, the family planning policy is faced with challenges. For instance, the western world tends to see it as a kind of violation of human rights. After all, we are on our way to adjust it, looking forward to a better life for our generations to come.

It is understandable that family planning has brought about benefits, but at the same time, it has caused various problems. Take the aged tendency of population as an example; we have to face up to the plight of young labor force shortage. What's more, the young only-child parents are under great pressure to take care of four parents. That is to say, we still have a long way to go.

From my point of view, the one-child policy has a good effect in the short run. But we should sharpen our prospecting vision. Today, some people put forward the idea of allowing the only-child parents to have two children. I think this is reasonable for the current condition of our country, which gives us the freedom to own the second baby. And that means a greater young labor force, motivating the economy to develop further.

In summary, whatever policy our government carries out, it is all based on people's benefits and aimed at a brighter future.