

Extended Abstract:

The Comparative Study on Fertility Intention between Different Groups

----Based on the Surveys in Beijing of China

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Background

Up to now, it is over 30 years that strict family plan policy such as one-child policy have been carried through in China. There have been lower levels of fertility and reproduction among the population in China. In 2012, Chinese Total Fertility Ratio(TFR) is about 1.5 and it is ever lower than 1 in more developed areas such as Beijing, Shanghai and Jiangsu and etc. If we continue an extremely low TFR, China will have to take on a huge aging group soon and faced to a rapidly declining labor force. It is time to adjust the fertility policy. In fact, some fertility policy have been amended in some province recent years such as single-only-child families are allowed to have second child in rural areas. The author indicate no approve attitude to those adjustment and think it will enlarge the different of fertility policy between urban and rural areas and is not benefit for Chinese future developing. Fertility level of a population is an aggregated outcome of individuals' fertility behaviors which are in turn determined by their fertility intentions. Based on the 2008 and 2011 surveys in Beijing, it is proposed by the author that the fertility intention between urban and rural population is becoming similar in Chinese developed area and local government should enforce the same policy in urban and rural areas.

Date

In July 2008 and Aug 2011, Beijing Population Research Institute has been involved two surveys in Beijing urban and rural areas and the subjects belong to different groups that some are local residents living in urban or rural area and some are floating population from other cities or rural areas. Based on the surveys data, this article made a comparative research on fertility desire of young people that they are the 20-39 year old, including the ideal child number, gender preference and influence factor in fertility intension.

Main Result

1. The average number of ideal children is lower than 1.6. Most registered residents and urban-urban floating population subjects prefer to have one child in The floating population from rural areas want to more child than local residents and urban to urban floating population.

Table 1 Ideal children number in Beijing Surveys

Sample type	num for sample	0	1	2	3 and above	average
urban registered residents	974	9.5	51.6	38.3	0.6	1.30
rural registered residents	983	1.4	50.4	47.6	0.6	1.47
Urban to urban floating population	342	6.3	49.1	43.5	1.2	1.39
Rural to urban floating population	646	1.3	44.2	54.3	0.3	1.53

2. Only minority of registered residents and urban floating population make certain and want to have second child if the policy permit.

Table 2 Do you want to have the second Child if the policy permit %

Sample group		yes	no	no certain	Total
urban registered residents	974	27.72	44.76	27.51	100
rural registered residents	755	38.7	40.3	21.1	100
urban-urban floating population	339	38.94	38.64	22.42	100
rural-urban floating population	638	52.82	26.49	20.69	100

3. There are no son preference in Beijing subjects that is registered residents or floating population from urban and rural .Over 60% surveyed chose' either would be a pleasure

Table 3 Would you like a son or daughter? %

Sample type	num for sample	Have a son	have a daughter	either would be a pleasure.	having both a son and a daughter	Total
urban registered residents	974	6.6	12.4	76.7	4.3	100
rural registered residents	983	13	13.9	73.1	*	100
urban-urban floating population	510	7.6	19.1	59.2	14.07	100
rural-urban floating population	646	9.31	11.8	67.55	11.34	100

*Note: This option is absent in the rural survey

4. What factor has most influence on childbearing decision? No 1 and No 2 are same in different groups that is "Income" and "Policy".

Table 3 Influence Factor on Fertility Intentions

urban registered residents			urban-urban floating population			rural-urban floating population		
Sort	object	Score	Sort	object	Score	Sort	object	Score
1	Income	2.57	1	Income	2.46	1	Income	2.52
2	Policy	2.38	2	Policy	2.29	2	Policy	2.19
3	Housing	1.91	3	Children willing	2.05	3	Children willing	1.95
4	other	1.8	4	Social Fashion	2	4	Housing	1.8
5	Social Fashion	1.62	5	Career	1.71	5	Child' Care	1.61
6	Career	1.58	6	Housing	1.65	6	Social Fashion	1.57
7	Children willing	1.57	7	Child' Care	1.62	7	Career	1.55
8	Child' Care	1.52	8	Friends' opinion	1	8	Friends' opinion	1.17
9	Friends' opinion	1.5						

Conclusion and Discussion

As a result, the article draw the conclusions the in the developed areas of China, one-child family almost have the same preference on the fertility intentions between urban and rural areas and tend to have only one child, which shows a trend towards a low birth rate in the future. If the situation

is continuing for a long time , China will have to face a lot of serious problems. Therefore, this article suggests, during present period of adjustment, local government of developed areas of China should adjust only –child policy to two-child and enforce the same policy in urban and rural areas.