

China's one child policy



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What is Chinas One Child Policy?

In the year 1979, a population control law was introduced titled as One-Child Policy to control the burgeoning populace and to diminish the strain over the limited resources in China. According to this approach, the couples of China were partly forced to have a single child (Li & Et. Al, “ The Effect of the One-Child Policy on Fertility in China: Identification Based on the Differences-in-Differences”). The law was introduced by Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, in order to restrict both the urban and rural couples to have more than a single child. However, if the first child turns out to be a girl, the couple is allowed to have a second sibling of the girl (BBC, “ China dissident Chen Guangcheng arrives in the US”).

The Chinese government was also observed to be majorly in the favor of the law of One-Child Policy, as it helped to control the massive population growth and thus reduce unemployment and redundancy issues. This was further expected to enhance the economic conditions of the country by a large extent. It is in this context that after the imposition of this law, the extent of population in Chinese economy reduced to a certain extent which proved quite beneficial for the government to facilitate the economic growth drivers in terms of wealth distribution and education among others (BBC, “ Hong

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Kong to Limit Mainland China Maternity Services”).

When And Why Was It Instituted?

The law of One-Child Policy was established in the year 1979, in order to diminish the hastily increasing population of China and the further consequences led by such issues. The objective of this law was to impose a legal restriction on the couples, discouraging them from having more than one child. For this reason, it is also referred to as family planning policy. Even though it has often been noted to be misinterpreted by maximum citizens referring it as a forced strategy to have a single child, this law was principally implemented to enhance the development and well-being of the economy thereby reducing its level of paucity (Devichand, “ China: Growing Old Before It Can Grow Rich?”).

What Have the Effects of such a Policy Been?

One-Child Policy can be regarded as a vital populace control approach which has been implemented by the Chinese government for the betterment of the economy. However, it also had a negative impact over the populace by enhancing the rate of female infanticide and strained abortions. It is in this context that abortions took place even at the final stages of pregnancy leading to varied types of complications towards the health of the female populace (Lim, “ Enter the dragons: A baby boom for Chinese across Asia”). Consequently, an imbalance was observed within the population of the economy, which further increased the differences within the ratios of males and females, resulting in social instability because of gender inequality. Moreover, due to this disparity, an increasing number of male populace is identified to stay bachelors along with an augmenting number of gender harassment instances (BBC, “ Province Wants Relaxation of Chinas One-Child
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Policy”).

In What Ways Are The Effects Of This Policy Connected To The Neo-Confucian Family Values Discussed In Chapter 23?

Neo-Confucianism is widely considered to be a moral, decent and traditional Chinese philosophy, which came into existence being strongly influenced by the notion or ideology of Confucianism. It is in this regards that the prime belief of Confucianism is humanism and thus, the believers of Neo-Confucianism attempted to reduce irrational and mystical ideas towards social development to promote rational thinking. Neo-Confucianism theory always endeavored to reduce unethical activities and systems from the society and families in order to maintain uniformity and justice among the members of a country (Bentley, J. H. & Et. Al. “ Traditions & Encounters: A Brief Global History”). Besides, the effects of the law, i. e. One-Child Policy are entirely opposite to the ideas and thoughts presented by the theory of Neo-Confucianism. One-Child Policy is a type of forced approach which attempts to restrict the couples of Chinese economy from having more than a single child which represents its autocratic nature. It hinders the morale and principles of the citizens according to the Neo-Confucianism theory. Thus, it shows that One-Child Policy is entirely opposite to the idea of Neo-Confucianism theory (Marsh, “ Reflecting Chinas One-Child Generation”).

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