POPULATION CONTROL

International Standards and China's Coercive Population Policies

Chinese authorities continue to actively promote and implement coercive population planning policies that violate international standards. During the Commission's 2016 reporting year, Communist Party and central government authorities adopted a universal two-child policy and amended the PRC Population and Family Planning Law, allowing all married couples to have two children.¹ Authorities continued to place an emphasis on birth limits and adherence to family planning as a "basic national policy."² The PRC Population and Family Planning Law and provincial-level regulations limit couples' freedom to build their families as they see fit,³ and include provisions that require couples be married to have children and limit them to bearing two children.⁴ Exceptions allowing for additional children exist for couples who meet certain criteria, which vary by province,⁵ including some exceptions for ethnic minorities,⁶ remarried couples, and couples who have children with disabilities.⁷ Officials continue to enforce compliance with population planning targets using methods including heavy fines,⁸ job termination,⁹ arbitrary detention,¹⁰ and coerced abortion.¹¹

Coercive controls imposed on Chinese women and their families, and additional abuses engendered by China's population and family planning system, violate standards set forth in the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action ¹² and the 1994 Programme of Action of the Cairo International Conference on Population and Development.¹³ China was a state participant in the negotiation and adoption of both.¹⁴ Acts of official coercion committed in the implementation of population planning policies ¹⁵ contravene provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Convention),¹⁶ which China has ratified.¹⁷ In November 2015, the UN Committee against Torture conducted its fifth periodic review of China's compliance with the Convention.¹⁸ In its concluding observations, the Committee stated its concerns about China's coercive implementation of the population policy, such as coerced sterilization and forced abortion, and the lack of information on investigations into such allegations.¹⁹ Furthermore, discriminatory policies against some children whose parents fail to comply with population planning policies ²⁰ contravene the Convention on the Rights of the Child²¹ and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.²² China is a State Party to these treaties and has committed to uphold their terms.²³

Policy Revisions and Implementation

At the Third Plenum of the 18th Party Central Committee held in November 2013,²⁴ Party authorities issued the Decision on Certain Major Issues Regarding Comprehensively Deepening Reforms, which called for a broad range of reforms,²⁵ including the provision of an exception to China's population planning policy aimed at addressing the demographic challenges facing China.²⁶ The exception allowed couples to have two children if one of the parents is an only child (*dandu erhai* policy).²⁷ The National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC) had initially predicted that the policy revision would result in approximately 2 million additional births per year.²⁸

Government statistics, however, revealed the limited impact of the policy revision. As of October 2015, approximately two years after the policy revision became effective, roughly 1.85 million out of 11 million eligible couples nationwide (16.8 percent) had applied to have a second child.²⁹ Moreover, data from the National Bureau of Statistics of China showed that the number of total births in 2015 decreased to 16.55 million, 320,000 less than the 2014 figure.³⁰ An NHFPC official attributed the decline to two main factors: some were waiting to have children in 2016, the Year of the Monkey, which in the traditional zodiac calendar is considered more auspicious for having children than the previous year; and the decline in the number of women of child-bearing age.³¹

As the policy revision failed to meet the intended birth target and amid demographic and economic concerns voiced by population experts and research institutions,³² central Party authorities issued a decision at the Fifth Plenum of the 18th Party Central Committee in October 2015 to adopt a "universal two-child policy" (*quanmian erhai*), allowing all married couples to have two children.³³ According to an NHFPC statement, the universal two-child policy is the Party's "major initiative" to "promote balanced population development" and to address demographic concerns currently facing China.³⁴ The NHFPC noted that the new policy would be conducive to "optimizing the demographic structure, increasing labor supplies, and easing the pressure of an aging population; promoting healthy economic development for achieving the goal of building a moderately prosperous society; and implementing the family planning policy as a basic national policy in order to promote family well-being and social harmony."³⁵ Central government officials emphasized repeatedly that family planning policy will "remain" a long-term "basic national policy" (*jiben guoce*).³⁶

main" a long-term "basic national policy" (*jiben guoce*).³⁶ On December 27, 2015, the National People's Congress Standing Committee amended the PRC Population and Family Planning Law, which became effective nationwide on January 1, 2016.³⁷ The NHFPC estimated that approximately 90 million couples nationwide became eligible to bear a second child under the new policy.³⁸ As of August 2016, at least 29 provincial-level jurisdictions reportedly had revised their population and family planning regulations in accordance with the amended national law.³⁹ Human rights advocates, demographic experts, and others, however, expressed concerns that the coercive implementation of family planning measures and human rights abuses will persist despite the adoption of the universal two-child policy.⁴⁰

Government officials and population experts differ over the potential impact of the universal two-child policy. The NHFPC predicted that the universal two-child policy, if fully implemented, will result in population growth,⁴¹ with an additional 3 million children born per year⁴² and an estimated total of 17.5 to 21 million children born per year within the next five years.⁴³ NHFPC Director Li Bin also suggested that by 2050 the working-age population will increase by 30 million.⁴⁴ Officials also noted an apparent increase in some localities in the number of women making medical or other appointments linked to pregnancy, giving an indication that more births are expected in $2016.^{45}$

Population experts, citing the tepid response to the previous policy revision, suggested that the universal two-child policy likely would not lead to significant population growth in the long term.⁴⁶ Yao Meixiong, a population expert and Deputy Director of the Fujian Province Bureau of Statistics, predicted that China could see a population decrease by 2025, as the population of women of child-bearing age continues to decline.47 Some experts noted that the impact of the universal two-child policy would be limited to urban areas, as the rural population was already allowed to have two children under previous policy revisions.⁴⁸ Many married couples, however, especially those in urban areas,49 were reportedly reluctant to have a second child due to a number of factors, including the high cost of rearing an additional child,⁵⁰ lack of adequate child care and education options,⁵¹ lack of energy to look after children,⁵² disruption to career development,⁵³ and the perception that having one child is enough due to decades-long government propaganda.⁵⁴ To boost population growth, some experts urged central government authorities to introduce supporting policy measures that would encourage couples to have two children.55 Experts also suggested abolishing "social compensation fees," 56 further relaxing family planning policies to allow all couples to have three children if the universal two-child policy is ineffective,⁵⁷ or ending family planning policies entirely.⁵⁸

Central government authorities pledged to promote "family planning service management reform" (*jihua shengyu fuwu guanli gaige*) and introduce "supporting policy measures" to facilitate the implementation of the universal two-child policy,⁵⁹ including efforts to enhance existing public services for women and children's health care,⁶⁰ reproductive health,⁶¹ child care,⁶² and education.⁶³ This past year, government authorities also took steps to further relax the birth registration system, allowing married couples to register their first two children without going through a complicated approval or application process.⁶⁴ An approval process, however, is still in place for eligible couples who intend to have a third child, though local family planning authorities are to promote "optimization" and "simplification" of that process.⁶⁵

Coercive Implementation

The amended PRC Population and Family Planning Law contains provisions that prohibit officials from infringing upon the "legitimate rights and interests" of citizens while implementing family planning policies.⁶⁶ Despite these provisions, abuses committed during the implementation of family planning policies continued during the Commission's 2016 reporting year. Some provincial-level population planning regulations continued to explicitly instruct officials to carry out abortions, often referred to as "remedial measures" (*bujiu cuoshi*), for "out-of-plan" pregnancies.⁶⁷

OFFICIAL CAMPAIGNS

Language used in official speeches and government reports from jurisdictions across China continued to reflect an emphasis on the harsh enforcement of family planning measures. During this reporting year, as in previous years,⁶⁸ official reports from several provinces across China—including Anhui,⁶⁹ Fujian,⁷⁰ the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region,⁷¹ Henan,⁷² Hubei,⁷³ Hunan,⁷⁴ Shandong,⁷⁵ and Shanxi⁷⁶—continued to promote "family planning work" that entailed harsh and invasive family planning measures. Phrases such as "fight the family planning work battle" (*dahao jihua shengyu gongzuo de gongjian zhan*),⁷⁷ "resolutely implement" (*hen zhua*),⁷⁸ and "use all means necessary" (*qian fang bai ji*)⁷⁹ appeared in official speeches and government reports, indicating the aggressive nature of these family planning campaigns.

Some local government authorities stated in their reports that the goal of "family planning work" is to "maintain a low birth rate" (wending di shengyu shuiping),⁸⁰ and touted their successes in meeting this goal by compelling women to undergo the invasive "three inspections" (intrauterine device (IUD), pregnancy, and health inspections)⁸¹ and "four procedures" (IUD insertion, firsttrimester abortion, mid- to late-term abortion, and sterilization),82 and the forcible collection of "social compensation fees" (shehui fuyang fei).⁸³ For example, a December 2015 government report from Wolong district, Nanyang municipality, Henan province, indicated that Wolong authorities had achieved the goal of "maintaining a low birth rate" within the district by carrying out two "high-quality reproductive health service" campaigns in 2015.84 According to the same report, by the end of November 2015, Wolong family planning authorities had carried out 13,178 "four procedures" operations-11,590 IUD insertions, 169 IUD removals, 915 sterilizations, and 504 abortions.85

Representative Cases of Coercion

• According to a July 2016 report by state-funded news outlet Sixth Tone, government employers in Meizhou municipality, Guangdong province, pressured a remarried couple—a local resident surnamed Zhong and her husband—to have an abortion or face losing their jobs.⁸⁶ Both Zhong and her husband were government employees, and each had a child from their previous marriages.⁸⁷ Under family planning regulations in Guangdong, a couple in their circumstances are not allowed to have another child,⁸⁸ while family planning regulations in other provinces allow such remarried couples to have a third child.⁸⁹ Many couples in Guangdong reportedly were facing similar situations.⁹⁰ In August 2016, China Business Network reported a similar case in which an employer pressured a remarried couple to undergo an abortion.⁹¹ In its response to the report, the Guangdong Health and Family Planning Commission issued a statement urging employers not to force remarried couples to have abortions or dismiss them from their jobs.⁹²

Representative Cases of Coercion—Continued

• In December 2015, women's rights advocate Sarah Huang (pseudonym) testified before the Congressional-Executive Commission on China regarding official demands to abort her second child.⁹³ When Huang was four months pregnant in October 2015, government authorities at a school where Huang's husband worked as a teacher pressured her to undergo a "mandatory health checkup" to ensure that there was no "unlawful pregnanc[y]."⁹⁴ Authorities later threatened her with the loss of her husband's job if she did not have an abortion.⁹⁵ Huang expected that they would be fined approximately US\$36,000 in "social compensation fees" if they decided to give birth to the child.⁹⁶

PUNISHMENT FOR NONCOMPLIANCE

Chinese authorities continued to use various methods of punishment to enforce citizens' compliance with population planning policies. In accordance with national-level legal provisions,97 local governments have directed officials to punish noncompliance through heavy fines, termed "social compensation fees," 98 which reportedly compel many couples to choose between undergoing an unwanted abortion and incurring a fine much greater than the average annual income in their locality.⁹⁹ In January 2016, Chinese media outlet Jiemian reported on one such case in which local authorities in Jianli county, Xingzhou municipality, Hubei province, demanded that Wang Mali (pseudonym) pay "social compensation fees" in the amount of 97,800 yuan (approximately US\$15,000) for the May 2015 birth of her second child, which violated national and local family planning regulations.¹⁰⁰ The fine imposed on Wang reportedly was nearly 10 times the annual average income in her locality.¹⁰¹ Hubei's provincial family planning regulations, however, mandated a much lighter fine based on local average income.¹⁰² On January 18, 2016, Wang filed a lawsuit against the county population and family planning bureau.¹⁰³ According to the same report, local family planning and public security officials subsequently went to Wang's home, pressuring her to pay "social compensation fees" and to delete her microblog posts that denounced local family planning authorities' alleged "illegal actions."¹⁰⁴ On January 25, 2016, the Jianli County People's Court accepted Wang's lawsuit, the first such lawsuit in Hubei in 2016.¹⁰⁵ The court tried her case on April 28, and announced that it would issue a verdict at a later date.¹⁰⁶ As of July, the court had not issued a verdict.¹⁰⁷

This past year, National People's Congress delegates, family planning officials, and experts from demographic, legal, economic, sociological, civil society, media, and other fields called on central government authorities to abolish "social compensation fees."¹⁰⁸ Some experts questioned the need to continue collecting "social compensation fees," expecting very few policy violators after the universal two-child policy is implemented.¹⁰⁹ According to a February 2016 China Business News report, approximately 5 percent (800,000) of the total newborn population in 2015 were third children born in violation of family planning policies, a number many experts considered too low to justify the significant costs associated with collecting "social compensation fees."¹¹⁰ A National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC) official also predicted that "fewer and fewer families will violate family planning [policies] in the future."¹¹¹

NHFPC officials, however, repeatedly emphasized that "social compensation fees" will not be abolished,¹¹² saying that the fines will remain in place to "restrict" policy violations ¹¹³ and that abolition would be "unfair to those who comply with family planning policies." ¹¹⁴ Local authorities are to collect fines from policy violators who give birth to a second child prior to the January 1, 2016, effective date of the universal two-child policy,¹¹⁵ as well as from policy violators who give birth to more than two children after the same effective date.¹¹⁶ During this reporting year, some women reportedly attempted to postpone the delivery of their second child until after January 1, 2016, in order to avoid large fines.¹¹⁷

In November 2014, the State Council issued the draft Regulations on the Collection and Management of Social Compensation Fees (Regulations) for public comment.¹¹⁸ The draft Regulations marked several significant changes from the 2002 Measures for Collection of Social Compensation Fees, including the proposal of a unified national collection standard that limits the amount of fines authorities may collect to no more than three times the local average annual income.¹¹⁹ As of August 2016, the Commission had not observed reports of the Chinese government issuing the Regulations.

Hukou Reform Addressing the Issue of "Illegal Residents"

During this reporting year, authorities in some areas withheld household registration (*hukou*) from children whose parents violated local family planning policies—including children born in excess of birth quotas and children born to unmarried parents—demanding that their parents first pay the necessary "social compensation fees" associated with their births in order to obtain *hukou*.¹²⁰ People who lack *hukou* in China are commonly referred to as "illegal residents" (*heihu*)¹²¹ and face considerable difficulty accessing social benefits typically afforded to registered citizens, including health insurance, public education, and state welfare.¹²² According to 2010 national census data, there were approximately 13 million "illegal residents" in China,¹²³ of whom over 60 percent were children born in violation of family planning policies.¹²⁴ Discriminatory *hukou* policies preventing parents from registering their children violate the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which China is a State Party.¹²⁵

Hukou Reform Addressing the Issue of "Illegal Residents"—Continued

This past year, central authorities took steps to address the issue of "illegal residents." On December 9, 2015, the Chinese Communist Party's Central Leading Group for Comprehensively Deepening Reforms, chaired by President and Party General Secretary Xi Jinping, issued an opinion to "delink family planning policies from hukou registration, to strengthen the management of hukou registration, [and] to comprehensively resolve the issue of hukou registration for individuals without hukou." 126 On January 14, 2016, the State Council General Office issued the Opinion on Resolving Issues of Hukou Registration for Individuals Without Hukou.¹²⁷ The opinion called for "safeguarding the legitimate right of every citizen to register for hukou according to law," and prohibited "the establishment of any preconditions that are not in conformity with hukou registration regulations."128 The opinion also specified eight types of "illegal residents" newly eligible to register for hukou without preconditions, including those born in violation of family planning policies and those without birth certificates.¹²⁹ Unregistered individuals whose parents failed to pay "social compensation fees," how-ever, were not included in this list.¹³⁰ At a January 2016 press conference, an NHFPC official claimed that "the issue of 13 million [illegal residents] has largely been addressed," and that "very few people still lack hukou due to factors related to family planning policies."¹³¹

Provincial-level authorities also made efforts to address the issue of "illegal residents" by loosening hukou registration requirements. The Party-run media outlet Legal Evening News reported that as of November 2015, at least 13 provincial-level jurisdictions had removed "social compensation fee" payments as a precondition for obtaining hukou.¹³² For example, Guangdong province authorities no longer require "social compensation fee" payments from family planning policy violators as a precondition for obtaining hukou; 133 instead, authorities will collect "social compensation fee" payments after hukou registration.¹³⁴ Some parents, fearing that authorities might forcibly collect "social compensation fees" from them retroactively, remain deterred from registering their children who were born in violation of family planning policies.¹³⁵ Some provincial-level jurisdictions, including Beijing and Shanghai munici-palities, continue to require "social compensation fee" payments ¹³⁶ and family planning paperwork ¹³⁷ as preconditions for *hukou* registration. [For more information on China's hukou system, see Section II-Freedom of Residence and Movement.]

In addition to fines, officials imposed or threatened other punishments for family planning violations. These punishments included job termination,¹³⁸ arbitrary detention,¹³⁹ and abortion.¹⁴⁰ The PRC Population and Family Planning Law prohibits and provides punishments for officials' infringement on citizens' personal, property, and other rights while implementing population planning policies.¹⁴¹ In June 2015, the UN Committee against Torture asked the Chinese government to provide information for the Committee's fifth periodic review of China's compliance with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, including on "the total number of investigations or prosecutions launched against officials and other persons responsible for resorting to coercive and violent measures, such as forced sterilization and forced abortions, to implement the population policy . . . [and] details as to the types of punishment and disciplinary measures applied, and any relevant redress provided." ¹⁴² In its October 2015 response to the Committee, however, the Chinese government did not provide all the relevant data the Committee requested.¹⁴³

Demographic Consequences of Population Control Policies

The Chinese government's population planning policies continue to exacerbate the country's demographic challenges, which include a rapidly aging population, shrinking workforce, and sex ratio imbalance. Affected in recent decades by government restrictions on the number of births per couple, China's total fertility rate has dropped from 6 births per woman in the early 1970s¹⁴⁴ to an estimated 1.4 to 1.6 births per woman in 2016,¹⁴⁵ below the replacement rate of 2.1 births per woman necessary to maintain a stable population.¹⁴⁶ The fertility rate is even lower in some major cities, such as Shanghai municipality, which has a fertility rate of approximately 0.7 births per woman, reportedly one of the lowest in the world.¹⁴⁷

China's low fertility rate has contributed to a rapidly aging population and a shrinking workforce. According to a January 2016 National Bureau of Statistics of China report, from 2014 to 2015, China's working-age population (persons between the ages of 16 and 59) declined by a record 4.87 million people to 910.96 million,¹⁴⁸ continuing a downward trend from the previous year.¹⁴⁹ Experts expect the working-age population to rapidly decline further in the next several decades.¹⁵⁰ At the same time, the elderly population (persons aged 60 or older) increased by approximately 9.58 million in 2015 to 222 million people, or 16.1 percent of the total population.¹⁵¹ According to a 2015 blue book on aging published by research entities affiliated with the Party and government, China's elderly population is estimated to reach 371 million, or approximately a quarter of the population, by 2030.¹⁵² A People's Daily report suggested that the elderly population will reach 483 million by 2050, approximately one-third of China's total population.¹⁵³ These demographic trends are likely to burden China's health care, social services, and retirement systems,¹⁵⁴ and may weaken China's economy as labor costs rise and its competitiveness erodes, according to demographic expert Yi Fuxian.¹⁵⁵

The Chinese government's restrictive family planning policies also have exacerbated China's sex ratio imbalance.¹⁵⁶ Although Chinese authorities continue to implement a ban on "non-medically necessary sex determination and sex-selective abortion,"¹⁵⁷ some people reportedly continue the practice in response to governmentimposed birth limits and in keeping with a traditional cultural preference for sons.¹⁵⁸ According to a National Bureau of Statistics of China report, China's sex ratio at birth in 2015 was 113.51 males to 100 females (compared with a normal ratio of 103 to 107 males per 100 females).¹⁵⁹ The overall sex ratio in 2015 was 105.02 males to 100 females, and there were approximately 33.66 million more males than females in China (704.14 million males to 670.48 million females).¹⁶⁰ International and domestic demographic experts have expressed concerns that the sex ratio imbalance in China could lead to "antisocial behavior,"¹⁶¹ "violent crime,"¹⁶² "sex crime,"¹⁶³ "prostitution,"¹⁶⁴ and "trafficking of women and children."¹⁶⁵ This past year, international media reports continued to suggest a link between China's large number of "surplus males" and the trafficking of foreign women—from countries including Cambodia,¹⁶⁶ Burma (Myanmar),¹⁶⁷ Nepal,¹⁶⁸ North Korea,¹⁶⁹ and Vietnam¹⁷⁰—into China for forced marriage or commercial sexual exploitation.

Reports also indicate that decades of birth limits under China's population planning policies combined with a traditional preference for sons have helped create a black market for illegal adoptions.¹⁷¹ In January 2016, authorities in Henan province executed Tan Yongzhi, the head of an illegal adoption ring, for his involvement in acquiring and selling more than 20 infants, and 17 buyers also received criminal punishments.¹⁷² As of February 2016, authorities had not been able to locate the parents of these children.¹⁷³ Chen Shiqu, Director of the Ministry of Public Security Anti-Trafficking Office, expressed optimism that the implementation of the universal two-child policy would prevent "trafficking of children" by reducing the "demand for purchasing children."¹⁷⁴ [For more information on cross-border trafficking and the Chinese government's conflation of child trafficking with illegal adoption, see Section II—Human Trafficking.]

Notes to Section II—Population Control

¹National Health and Family Planning Commission, "Implement the Universal Two-Child Policy, Promote Balanced Population Development" [Shishi quanmian lianghai zhengce, cujin renkou junheng fazhan], 29 October 15; Peng Xiaofei et al., "China To Adopt the Universal "Two-Child' Policy" [Woguo quanmian fangkai "erhai" zhengce], Beijing Youth Daily, 30 October 15; National People's Congress Standing Committee, Decision Regarding the Population and Family Planning Law [Quanguo renda changweihui guanyu xiugai renkou yu jihua shengyu fa de jueding], issued 27 December 15; PRC Population and Family Planning Law [Zhonghua renmin gongheguo renkou yu jihua shengyu fa], passed 29 December 01, amended 27 December 15, ef-fective 1 January 16, art. 18. fective 1 January 16, art. 18.

²National Health and Family Planning Commission, "Implement the Universal Two-Child Policy, Promote Balanced Population Development" [Shishi quanmian lianghai zhengce, cujin renkou junheng fazhan], 29 October 15; Yang Qingshan, "NHFPC Responds to the Timeframe of the Family Planning Policies: To Persist for at Least 20 Years" [Weijiwei huiying jihua shengyu guoce shixian: qima haiyao jianchi 20 nian], China Youth Net, 11 January 16; "State Council Information Office Holds Press Conference on Situation Related to Implementation of the Universal Two-Child Policy and Reform and Improvement of Family Planning Services Man-geoment." Tart Researd" [Cucyinhan iiu chichi quanning lianchai Janara 16]. agement: Text Record" [Guoxinban jiu shishi quanmian lianghai zhengce gaige wanshan jihua shengyu fuwu guanli de youguan qingkuang juxing fabuhui wenzi shilu], reprinted in National Health and Family Planning Commission, 11 January 16.

³ PRC Population and Family Planning Law [Zhonghua renmin gongheguo renkou yu jihua shengyu fa], passed 29 December 01, amended 27 December 15, effective 1 January 16, art. 18; National People's Congress Standing Committee, Decision Regarding the Population and Family National People's Congress Standing Committee, Decision Regarding the Population and Family Planning Law [Quanguo renda changweihui guanyu xiugai renkou yu jihua shengyu fa de jueding], issued 27 December 15. Article 18 of the Population and Family Planning Law stipulates, "the state advocates two children per couple." For provincial-level regulations limiting how many children married couples may bear see, e.g., Guangdong Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Guangdong Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Guangdong sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 2 February 80, amended 17 May 86, 28 November 92, 1 December 97, 18 September 98, 21 May 99, 25 July 02, 28 November 08, 27 March 14, 30 December 15, effective 1 January 16, reprinted in Huazhou City Health and Family Planning Bureau, art. 18; Zhejiang Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Neurois and Family Planning Commission, art. 17; Sichuan Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Sichuan Province People's Zongress Standing Committee, Sichuan Province Population and Family Planning Commission, art. 17; Sichuan Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Sichuan Province Population and Family Planni 15 December 93, 17 October 97, 26 September 02, 24 September 04, 20 March 14, 22 January

16. art. 13. ⁴ PRC Population and Family Planning Law [Zhonghua renmin gongheguo renkou yu jihua shengyu fa], passed 29 December 01, amended 27 December 15, effective 1 January 16, art. 18. For provincial population policies that require couples be married to have children and limit in the policies that require couples be married to have children and limit. For provincial population poincies that require couples be married to have children and innut them to bearing two children, see, e.g., Guangdong Province People's Congress Standing Com-mittee, Guangdong Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Guangdong sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 2 February 80, amended 17 May 86, 28 November 92, 1 December 97, 18 September 98, 21 May 99, 25 July 02, 28 November 08, 27 March 14, 30 December 97, 18 September 98, 21 May 99, 25 July 02, 28 November 08, 27 March 14, 30 December 97, 18 September 98, 21 May 99, 25 July 02, 28 November 08, 27 March 14, 50 December 15, effective 1 January 16, reprinted in Huazhou City Health and Family Planning Bureau, art. 18; Zhejiang Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Zhejiang Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Zhejiang sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 3 September 02, amended 28 September 07, 13 January 14, 14 January 16, reprinted in Zhejiang Province Health and Family Planning Commission, arts. 17, 41(4); Sichuan Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Sichuan Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Sichuan shong weaku yu jihua shongyu tiaoli] issued 2 July 87, amended 15 December 01, amended 15 December 02, amended 15 December 02, amended 15 December 03, 11 amended 15 December 04, amended 15 December 05, 12 amended 15 December 05, 14 amended 15 December 05, 14 amende ulations [Sichuan sheng renkou yu jihua sheng yu tiaoli, issued 2 July 87, amended 15 Decem-ber 93, 17 October 97, 26 September 02, 24 September 04, 20 March 14, 22 January 16, arts.

13, 34. ⁵National People's Congress, "Answering Journalists' Questions 'Regarding the Decision of Amending the Population and Family Planning Law'" ["Guanyu xiugai renkou yu jihua shengyu fa de jueding" da jizhe wen], reprinted in National Health and Family Planning Commission, Therefore, and the robust of and the set of the set of

yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 18 October 02, amended 13 December 13, 22 April 14, 17 April

¹⁵ 21 April 16, art. 13. ⁷ National People's Congress, "Answering Journalists' Questions 'Regarding the Decision of Amending the Population and Family Planning Law'" ["Guanyu xiugai renkou yu jihua shengyu ⁷National People's Congress, "Answering Journalists' Questions 'Regarding the Decision of Amending the Population and Family Planning Law'" ["Guanyu xiugai renkou yu jihua shengyu fa de jueding" da jizhe wen], reprinted in National Health and Family Planning Commission, 27 December 15. For provincial population planning provisions that allow exceptions for having an additional child, see, e.g., Zhejiang Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Zhejiang Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Zhejiang sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 3 September 02, amended 28 September 07, 13 January 14, 14 January 16, re-printed in Zhejiang Province Health and Family Planning Commission, art. 18(1-4); Sichuan Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Sichuan Province Population and Family Plan-ning Regulations [Sichuan sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 2 July 87, amended 15 December 93, 17 October 97, 26 September 02, 24 September 04, 20 March 14, 22 January 16, art. 13(1); Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region People's Congress Standing Committee, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Population and Family Planning Regulations [Guangxi zhuangzu zizhiqu renkou he jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 23 March 12, amended 13 January 14, 15 January 16, art. 14(1-5); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Jiangxi sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 16 June 90, amended 30 June 95, 20 June 97, 29 July 02, 27 March 09, 16 January 14, 20 January 16, reprinted in People's Daily, art. 9(2-3). * See, e.g., Kiki Zhao, "Chinese Who Violated One-Child Policy Remain Wary of Relaxed Rules," New York Times, 8 February 16; Julia Glum, "As China's One-Child Policy Ends, Par-ents Protest Fines Charged for Additional Kids," International Business Times, 5 January 16; China's New "Two-Child Policy" & the Continuation of Massive Crimes Against Women and Children, Hearing of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, 3 Dec

mony of Sarah Huang, Activist.

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of Massive Crimes Against Women and Children, Hearing of the Congressional-Executive Com-mission on China, 3 December 15, Testimony of Sarah Huang, Activist. ¹⁰See, e.g., China's New "Two-Child Policy" & the Continuation of Massive Crimes Against Women and Children, Hearing of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, 3 Decem-ber 15, Testimony of Sarah Huang, Activist. ¹¹See, e.g., China's New "Two-Child Policy" & the Continuation of Massive Crimes Against Women and Children, Hearing of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, 3 Decem-ber 15, Testimony of Sarah Huang, Activist. ¹⁵See, e.g., China's New "Two-Child Policy" & the Continuation of Massive Crimes Against Women and Children, Hearing of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, 3 Decem-ber 15, Testimony of Sarah Huang, Activist; Wang Lu and Long Feihu, "Take Multiple Measures To Attack "Two Unnecessary Procedures'" [Duocuo bingju daji "liang fei"], Jingzhou Daily, re-printed in Hanfeng Net, 1 April 16. See also Wolong District Population and Family Planning Commission, "Wolong District 2015 Family Planning Work Summary and 2016 Work Plan" [Wolong qu renkou jisheng gongzuo 2015 nian zongjie ji 2016 nian gongzuo guihua], 25 Decem-ber 15.

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..." (para. 17). ¹³ Programme of Action adopted by the Cairo International Conference on Population and De-velopment, 13 September 94, paras. 7.2, 8.25. Paragraph 7.2 states that, "Reproductive health therefore implies that people . . . have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when and how often to do so. Implicit in this last condition are the right of men and women to be informed and to have access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of family planning of their choice" Paragraph 8.25 states, "In no case should abortion be promoted os a method of fomily planning."

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4, 59. ⁶⁷ For some specific examples, see Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Jiangxi sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 16 June 90, amended 30 June 95, 20 June 97, 29 July 02, 27 March 09, 16 January 14, 20 January 16, art. 15; Shenzhen Municipality People's Congress Standing Com-stitute Congress Standing Com-stitute Congress Parallel Economic Teace Deputcing and Economic Regulations.

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⁸⁴Wolong District Population and Family Planning Commission, "Wolong District 2015 Family Planning Work Summary and 2016 Work Plan" [Wolong qu renkou jisheng gongzuo 2015 nian zongjie ji 2016 nian gongzuo guihua], 25 December 15. ⁸⁵Ibid.

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⁸⁷ Ibid. ⁸⁸ Ibid.; Guangdong Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Guangdong Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Guangdong sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 2 February 80, amended 17 May 86, 28 November 92, 1 December 97, 18 Sep-tember 98, 21 May 99, 25 July 02, 28 November 08, 27 March 14, 30 December 15, effective 1 January 16, reprinted in Huazhou City Health and Family Planning Bureau, art. 19. Article 19 of the Guangdong Province Population and Family Planning Regulations allows a couple to have an additional child if their child(ren) dies or if a couple meets other criteria that conform have an additional child if their child(ren) dies, or if a couple meets other criteria that conform to laws and regulations.

⁸⁹Ni Dandan, "Guangdong Families Told To Have Abortion or Lose Job," Sixth Tone, 22 July 16. For provincial family planning regulations that allow remarried couples to have an additional child, see, e.g., Zhejiang Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Zhejiang Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Zhejiang sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 3 September 02, amended 28 September 07, 13 January 14, 14 January 16, reprinted in Zhejiang Province Health and Family Planning Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province Population and Family Planning Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province Population and Family Planning Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province Population and Family Planning Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province Population and Family Planning Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province Population and Family Planning Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province Population and Family Planning Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Commission, art. 18(1–3); Jiangxi Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province People's Congress Frovince Feople's Congress Standing Committee, Jiangxi Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Jiangxi sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 16 June 90, amended 30 June 95, 20 June 97, 29 July 02, 27 March 09, 16 January 14, 20 January 16, reprinted in People's Daily, art. 9(3). See also Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region People's Congress Standing Committee, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Population and Family Planning Regulations [Guangxi zhuangzu zizhiqu renkou he jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 23 March 12, amended 13 January 14, 15 January 16, art. 14(1-5).

⁹⁰Ni Dandan, "Guangdong Families Told To Have Abortion or Lose Job," Sixth Tone, 22 July

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⁹⁶ Ibid. ⁹⁷ PRC Measures for Administration of Collection of Social Maintenance Fees [Shehui fuyang fei zhengshou guanli banfa], issued 2 August 02, effective 1 September 02, arts. 3, 7. See also PRC Population and Family Planning Law [Zhonghua renmin gongheguo renkou yu jihua shengyu fa], passed 29 December 01, amended 27 December 15, effective 1 January 16, arts.

18, 41. ⁹⁸ See, e.g ¹⁸, 41. ³⁹ See, e.g., Fujian Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Fujian Province Popu-lation and Family Planning Regulations [Fujian sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 29 April 88, amended 28 June 91, 25 October 97, 18 November 00, 26 July 02, 14 December 12, 29 March 14, 19 February 16, art. 42. In Fujian province, individuals in violation of local population planning regulations can each be fined up to six times the amount of the average income of a resident in their locality, sometimes more, based on the number of children born in violation of local regulations and their income compared to the local average disposable in-come of the previous year. See also Hubei Province People's Congress Standing Committee, Hubei Province Population and Family Planning Regulations [Hubei sheng renkou yu jihua shengyu tiaoli], issued 1 December 02, amended 29 November 08, 30 July 10, 27 March 14, 13 January 16, art. 37; "Who Do the Social Compensation Fees Actually Support?" [Shehui fuyang fei jiujing "yang" le shei?], People's Daily, 22 September 13; Chuan Jiang, "National Health and Family Planning Commission: Social Compensation Fee Arrears To Be Dealt With by Local Gov-ernments" [Zhongguo weijiwei: shehui fuyangfei qiankuan you difang zhengfu chuli], BBC, 11 January 16. January 16.

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¹⁰⁷Fu Yao, "What Now for China's 13 Million 'Illegal Residents?" [Zhongguo 1300 wan "heihu" de zuihou hequ hecong?], China Newsweek, reprinted in Chuansong, New Fortune, 10

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¹²⁵Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 44/25 of 20 November 89, entry into force 2 September 90, arts. 2, 7–8, 24, 26, 28; United Nations Treaty Collection, Chapter IV, Human Rights, Convention on the Rights of the Child, last

visited 8 July 16. China signed the CRC on August 29, 1990, and ratified it on March 2, 1992. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding Observations on the Combined Third and Fourth Periodic Reports of China, Adopted by the Committee at its Sixty-Fourth Ses-sion (16 September-4 October 2013), CRC/C/CHN/CO/3-4, 29 October 13, paras. 39, 40(a-b). In September 2013, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child conducted a periodic review of China's compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In its Concluding Observa-tions, the Committee stated its concern about low rates of birth registration in China—in part due to China's family planning policies—and recommended that China "reform family planning policies in order to remove all forms of penalties and practices that deter parents or guardians from registering the birth of their children" and "abandon the *hukou* system in order to ensure birth registration for all children .

¹²⁶Jiao Ying, "Family Planning Policies To Be Delinked From Hukou Registration, To Com-prehensively Resolve the Issue of 'Illegal Resident'" [Jihua shengyu deng zhengce jiang yu hukou dengji tuogou quanmian jiejue "heihu" wenti], China National Radio, 10 December 15. ¹²⁷State Council General Office, Opinion on Resolving Issues of Hukou Registration for Indi-viduals Without Hukou [Guanyu jiejue wu hukou renyuan dengji hukou wenti de yijian], issued 21 December 15.

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form their family planning work duties strictly in accordance with the law, and enforce the law in a civil manner, and they may not infringe upon the legitimate rights and interests of citi-zens." Article 39 states that an official is subject to criminal or administrative punishment if zens. Article 39 states that an official is subject to criminal or administrative punishment if he "infringe[s] on a citizen's personal rights, property rights, or other legitimate rights and in-terests" or "abuse[s] his power, neglect[s] his duty, or engage[s] in malpractice for personal gain" in the implementation of population planning policies. ¹⁴² UN Committee against Torture, List of Issues in Relation to the Fifth Periodic Report of China, adopted by the Committee at its 54th session (20 April–15 May 2015), CAT/C/CHN/Q/ 5/Add.1, 15 June 15, para. 26. ¹⁴³ UN Committee against Torture, China's Responses to the Committee against Torture's List

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