Spillovers in Childbearing Decisions and Fertility Transitions: Evidence from China

Pauline Rossi 1 and Yun Xiao 2

¹CREST-Ecole Polytechnique ²University of Gothenburg

May 1, 2023

Motivation

- ► In social science, longstanding debate on the causes of fertility transitions (Lee, 2015)
 - Structuralist view: economic factors affecting costs and benefits (Notestein, 1953; Becker, 1991)
 - Diffusionist view: cultural norms mediated by social interactions (Coale and Watkins, 1986; Bongaarts and Watkins, 1996)
- Beyond economics/sociology divide, attempts to reconcile both views (Kohler, 2000; Durlauf and Walker, 2001; Munshi and Myaux, 2006)
 - Interplay between incentives and norms crucial to understand differences in historical transitions
 - Economic pre-conditions may be amplified or undermined by social interactions

This paper

- ► To what extent and through which mechanisms do others influence couples in their fertility decisions?
- ▶ We exploit China's family planning policies in the 1970s-80s
 - Only the Han ethnic group is targeted → partial population experiment.
 - Policy exposure varies by cohort and region → difference-in-differences.
- We find large spillovers onto other ethnic groups
 - Reduced form: minority women react to Han-targeting policy, more if there are more Han in their reference group.
 - ▶ IV: a woman gives birth to 0.64 fewer children if the average completed fertility in her reference group is reduced by one child.
- Spillovers are driven by:
 - ightharpoonup Cultural proximity with the Han \rightarrow social channel.
 - ► Higher educational investments → economic channel.

Related literature

- Effects of China's population policies on fertility and other outcomes
 - One-child policy (e.g. Li et al., 2005, 2011; Ebenstein, 2010; Huang et al., 2016; Li and Zhang, 2017; Rosenzweig and Zhang, 2009; Liu, 2014; Wang and Zhang, 2018)
 - "Later, Longer, Fewer" campaign (Chen and Huang, 2018; Babiarz et al., 2018; Chen and Fang, 2018)
 - Best identification strategy relies on variation in pre-policy fertility levels and staggered adoption
 - Potential spillover effects often ignored
 - ► Ethnic minorities used as a control group (Li et al., 2005, 2011)
- ► Empirical evidence of peer effects in fertility decisions
 - ► Timing of birth (Lyngstad and Prskawetz, 2010; Ciliberto et al., 2016; Hensvik and Nilsson, 2010; Beam and Shrestha, 2020)
 - Diffusion of small families in Europe (Spolaore and Wacziarg, 2019; Daudin et al., 2020)
 - Fertility spillovers in China (Li and Zhang, 2009)
 - Different data, time period, fertility outcome, identification strategy.
 - Point estimate of peer effect parameter: 0.5-0.9.
 - ▶ No mechanism; no quantification of the role of spillovers in the transition.



Outline

Context

Data and Descriptive Statistics

Reduced-form approach

Mechanisms

Semi-structural approach

Conclusion

Population policies in China

- ▶ 1970: "Later, Longer, Fewer" (LLF) Campaign
 - Later marriage, longer birth interval, fewer children: no more than two.
 - ► Implementation
 - Provincial family planning leading groups formed between 1970 and 1975
 - Local organizations: enterprise and neighborhood committees, special cadres and barefoot doctors
 - ► Third-child permits, forced abortions, sterilizations and IUD insertions
 - Sanctions: state controls economic lives (job, land, food, migration)
 - Exemptions to ethnic minority groups (Scharping, 2013)
- ▶ 1979: One-Child Policy (OCP)
 - One-child-per-couple rule with stricter control and sanctions
 - All ethnic minority groups exempted between 1979 and 1984; the largest Zhuang group faced stricter birth control after 1984
 - ► Gradually relaxed in recent years. Universal 2-child policy since 2016.

Ethnic groups in China

- ► Han Chinese represent over 90% of the population.
- ► 55 ethnic minority groups.
- ► In 1990, close to 100M people.

		Cultura	Cultural integration			
		Strong	Weak			
Labor	Strong	Man, Tujia, Li	Mongol, Korea			
market		Hui, Miao, Dong,	Zhuang, Tibetan, Uyghur,			
competition	Weak	Hani, She, Lisu, Va,	Buyei, Kazak, Bai, Dai,			
		Daur, Blang,	Dongxiang, Jingpo, Xibe			
		Yao, Sui, Maonan	Yi, Kirgiz, Naxi			

- ► Cultural dimension: linguistic distance and residential segregation
- Economic dimension: Han-dominated and education-intensive jobs
- Consistent with demographic classifications (Poston and Gu, 1987)

Outline

Context

Data and Descriptive Statistics

Reduced-form approach

Mechanisms

Semi-structural approach

Conclusion

Data

Data sources:

- ▶ 1% sample of the 1990 Population Census data
- ▶ 1% sample of the 1982 Population Census data
- ▶ 20% sample of the 2005 Mini-Census data
- ► Age-specific fertility rates in 1969 (Coale and Chen, 1987)
- Provincial time series data 1951–1970 (National Bureau of Statistics of China, 2010)

Samples:

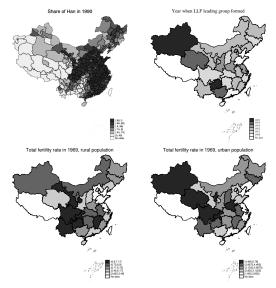
- Econometric analysis: all women aged 45 to 64, born between 1926 and 1945 from the 1990 census
- Descriptive evidence: all women aged 45 to 64, born between 1918 and 1960 from three censuses

Variables

- Outcome variable: completed fertility
- Explanatory variables: expected fertility reduction and local Han share



Sources of variation in treatment exposure



Source: Authors' own calculation based on the 1% sample of the census 1990; Chen and Fang (2018); Coale and Chen (1987).





Expected fertility reduction under LLF

Table 1: Examples of constructing the measure of policy exposure

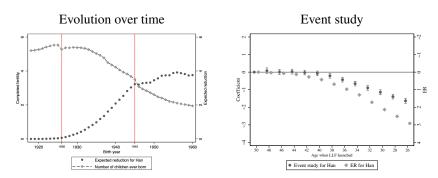
	Jiangsu, rural		Xinjiang, rural		Xinjiang, urban	
Birth Year	1930	1945	1930	1945	1930	1945
AFR(15-19)	0.026	0.026	0.15	0.15	0.008	0.008
AFR(20-24)	0.248	0.248	0.317	0.317	0.296	0.296
AFR(25-29)	0.296	0.296	0.341	0.341	0.29	0.29
AFR(30-34)	0.205	0.205	0.259	0.259	0.166	0.166
AFR(35-39)	0.142	0.142	0.146	0.146	0.142	0.142
AFR(40-44)	0.070	0.070	0.113	0.113	0.076	0.076
AFR(45-49)	0.008	0.008	0.046	0.046	0.076	0.076
TFR in 1969	4.975	4.975	6.86	6.86	5.27	5.27
Policy year	1973	1973	1975	1975	1975	1975
Policy fertility	2	2	2	2	2	2
Age in policy year	43	28	45	30	45	30
Number of children already born	4.951	2.258	6.63	4.04	4.89	3.136
Number of children to be born	0.024	2.717	0.23	2.82	0.38	2.134
ER	0.024	2.717	0.23	2.82	0.38	2.134

Note: Provincial fertility data are taken from Coale and Chen (1987). The measure of policy exposure, ER, coincides with the number of children to be born in the absence of any family planning policies Chen and Fang (2018).

Formula Map: initial fertility Map

Map: rollout

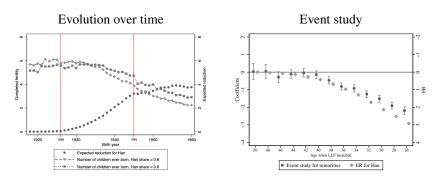
Descriptive evidence - Han Chinese



Note: Completed fertility is calculated based on the 1% sample of the 1982 and 1990 censuses and the 20% of the 2005 mini-census. Expected fertility reduction are constructed with provincial fertility data from Coale and Chen (1987).

The event study estimate for Han represents the difference in completed fertility of women aged t-1 or t relative to women aged 50 or 51 when LLF was implemented in the province of living.

Descriptive evidence - Minority Chinese



Note: Completed fertility is calculated based on the 1% sample of the 1982 and 1990 censuses and the 20% of the 2005 mini-census. Expected fertility reduction are constructed with provincial fertility data from Coale and Chen (1987).

The event study estimate for minorities represents the partial correlation between the share of Han in the reference group and completed fertility for minority women aged t-1 or t when LLF was implemented.

Outline

Context

Data and Descriptive Statistics

Reduced-form approach

Mechanisms

Semi-structural approach

Conclusion

Empirical strategy

Difference-in-differences:

$$\begin{aligned} y_i &= \rho \text{ER}_{\textit{rpc}(i)} + \beta X_i + \lambda Z_{\textit{rpc}(i)} + \eta_{\textit{c}(i)} + \mu_{\textit{rd}(i)} + t_{\textit{rp}(i)} c + \varepsilon_i \\ \\ y_i &= \rho_0 \text{ER}_{\textit{rpc}(i)} + \phi s_{\textit{rd}(i)}^H \text{ER}_{\textit{rpc}(i)} + \beta X_i + \lambda Z_{\textit{rpc}(i)} + \eta_{\textit{c}(i)} + \mu_{\textit{rd}(i)} + t_{\textit{rp}(i)} c + \varepsilon_i \end{aligned}$$

- \triangleright y_i : completed fertility of woman i
- $\triangleright \mu_{rd}$: prefecture-hukou fixed effects.
- $\triangleright \eta_c$: cohort fixed effects.
- \triangleright Z_{rpc} : province-specific characteristics when the respondents turned 25
 - ▶ Density, log(GDP/cap), number of schools/hospitals/health worker p.c.
- \triangleright X_i : individual characteristics
 - Ethnicity and education
- $t_{rp}c$: province-hukou specific linear time trends.
- \triangleright s_{rd}^H : Han share at the prefecture-hukou level

Common trend assumption: in the absence of family planning policies, the changes in fertility outcomes across cohorts would be the same for all prefecture-hukou groups, conditional on covariates and linear trends.



Estimation results

Table 2: Effects of family planning policies on completed fertility

				· .		-	-	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Dep. var.				Co	mpleted fertil	ity		
Sample	Han	Minority						
				Poter	Other events			
Exposure (ER)	-0.239***	-0.142	-0.022	-0.021	-0.042	-0.381*	-0.412*	0.064
	(0.042)	(0.158)	(0.157)	(0.217)	(0.218)	(0.230)	(0.233)	(0.168)
Han share \times Exposure $(s_{id}^H \times ER)$			-0.208***	-0.208***	-0.212***	-0.134***	-0.183***	-0.203***
			(0.043)	(0.044)	(0.044)	(0.044)	(0.067)	(0.044)
Baseline controls and fixed effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Additional controls	No	No	No	$s_{rpc}^H ER$	$s_{roc}^H ER$	$s_{rpc}^H ER$	$s_{mc}^H ER$	Famine
				· pc	WER	W,ER	WER	Send-down
						$\bar{W}_{rd}ER$	$\bar{W}_{rd}ER$	Cultural Revolution
						10	rank _{rd} ER	
Average policy effect, cohort 1945	-0.8 births		-0.3 births					
R ²	0.234	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.174	0.174	0.173
Number of clusters	1120	1010	5514	5514	5514	5514	5514	5514
Mean dep var	4.561	5.075	5.075	5.075	5.075	5.075	5.075	5.075
Observations	785479	58887	58887	58887	58887	58887	58887	58887

Note: Robust standard errors in parentheses are clustered at the province-hukou-cohort level in columns (1), (2) and at the prefecture-hukou-cohort level in columns (3), (4), (5), and (6). Wj: hukou, literacy, and high school dummies.

- ► Total effect on Han: a reduction by $0.235 \times 3.3 = 0.8$ births, 50% of total reduction
- Spillovers on minority:
 - ▶ No effect if local Han share=0
 - Average effect: a reduction by $0.22 \times 0.47 \times 3.3 = 0.3$ births, 40% of total reduction

Robustness checks

- ► Pre-trends Pre-trends
- ► Non-linear effects Linearity
- ► Alternative ways to construct ER National ASFR and Binary ER
- ► Scope for heterogeneous treatment effects Negative weights
- ► Remove province-specific time trends Without trends
- ► Other fertility outcomes Sex ratio

Outline

Context

Data and Descriptive Statistics

Reduced-form approach

Mechanisms

Semi-structural approach

Conclusion

Conditions of existence

An economic channel

- ▶ Q-Q trade-off among Han: reduction in fertility → increase in educational investments
- Minority parents keep up with the Han by raising own educational investments
- ► Testable by looking at educational outcomes QQ trade-off
- ► True in groups working in Han-dominated and education intensive jobs

► A social channel

- ▶ Non-testable because minorities' real social networks not observable
- Postulate that linguistic distance and residential segregation reduce social interactions

► Other potential mechanisms

- Female labor force participation: no evidence (Zhang, 2017; Guo et al., 2018)
- ► Social learning about birth control: unlikely (Scharping, 2013)

Heterogenous effects on fertility

Table 3: Spillover effects, by economic and cultural integration

Dep. var.: completed fertility of minorities	(1)	(2)	(3)
Economic channel: labor market competition with Han	1		
Weak \times Han share \times Exposure	-0.181***		
	(0.043)		
Strong \times Han share \times Exposure	-0.363***		
	(0.053)		
Social channel: cultural integration with Han			
Weak \times Han share \times Exposure		-0.046	
		(0.048)	
Strong \times Han share \times Exposure		-0.302***	
The internal control of the land		(0.044)	
The interplay of both channels	1		0.020
No channel \times Han share \times Exposure			-0.038 (0.051)
Only economic channel × Han share × Exposure			-0.147**
Only economic channel × Han share × Exposure			(0.072)
Only social channel × Han share × Exposure			-0.271***
Only social channel × Han share × Exposure			(0.045)
Both channels × Han share × Exposure			-0.435***
			(0.053)
	1 0.172	0.171	
R^2	0.173	0.174	0.174
Number of clusters	5514	5514	5514
Observations	58887	58887	58887

Outline

Context

Data and Descriptive Statistics

Reduced-form approach

Mechanisms

Semi-structural approach

Conclusion

A partial population experiment

- ► Standard linear-in-means model of peer effects (Manski, 1993)
- Fertility outcomes of minority (M) and Han (H) Chinese:

$$\begin{aligned} y_i^M &= \alpha + \beta X_i^M + \gamma \bar{X}_{rdc(i)} + \lambda V_{rdc(i)} + \frac{\theta \bar{y}_{rdc(i)}}{\theta \bar{y}_{rdc(i)}} + \varepsilon_i^M \\ y_i^H &= \alpha + \beta X_i^H + \gamma \bar{X}_{rdc(i)} + \lambda V_{rdc(i)} + \frac{\theta \bar{y}_{rdc(i)}}{\theta \bar{y}_{rdc(i)}} + \delta ER_{rpc(i)} + \varepsilon_i^H \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Reference group *rdc*
- \triangleright V_{rdc} : includes all contextual variables, fixed effects and trends
- \triangleright θ : spillover parameter / endogenous peer effects
- \triangleright δ : direct effect of family planning policy on Han.
- ► The mean equilibrium outcome in the reference group satisfies:

$$\bar{y}_{\textit{rdc}} = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \theta} + \frac{\beta + \gamma}{1 - \theta} \bar{X}_{\textit{rdc}} + \frac{\lambda}{1 - \theta} V_{\textit{rdc}} + \frac{\delta}{1 - \theta} s_{\textit{rd}}^{\textit{H}} ER_{\textit{rpc}}$$

- ► Reduced-form approach identifies $\phi = \frac{\theta \delta}{1 \theta}$
- ▶ IV approach to separately identify θ and δ

Identification of the spillover effect θ

- ► Instrument \bar{y} by s^H ER in the Minority sample
- First stage:

$$\bar{y}^{(-i)} = \psi s_{rdc(i)}^{H} \text{ER}_{rpc(i)} + \tilde{\beta} X_{i}^{M} + \tilde{\gamma} \bar{X}_{rdc(i)} + \tilde{\lambda} V_{rdc} + \tilde{\varepsilon}_{i}$$

Second stage:

$$y_i^M = \theta \bar{y}^{(-i)} + \beta^* X_i^M + \gamma^* \bar{X}_{rdc(i)} + \lambda^* V_{rdc} + \varepsilon_i^*$$

- ▶ $\bar{y}^{(-i)}$ average fertility excluding woman *i* in reference group *rdc*.
- Validity of the IV approach under two conditions:
 - There is a direct effect of family planning policies on the Han fertility: $\psi = \frac{\delta}{1 - \rho} \neq 0$
 - Conditional on covariates, the instrument $s_{rdc}^H ER_{rpc}$ influences the minorities fertility only through the average group fertility.

Identification of the direct effect δ

- Compare responses of Han and Minority holding social interactions constant
- ► IV strategy pooling Han and Minority samples

$$\textit{y}_{\textit{i}} = \alpha + \beta \textit{X}_{\textit{i}} + \gamma \bar{\textit{X}}_{\textit{rdc(i)}} + \lambda \textit{V}_{\textit{rdc(i)}} + \theta \bar{\textit{y}}_{\textit{rdc(i)}} + \delta \mathbb{1}\{\textit{Han}_{\textit{i}}\} \textit{ER}_{\textit{rpc(i)}} + \epsilon_{\textit{i}}$$

Within-group strategy pooling Han and Minority samples

$$y_i - \bar{y}_{\textit{rdc}(i)} = \beta(X_i - \bar{X}_{\textit{rdc}(i)}) + \delta(\mathbb{1}\{\textit{Han}_i\} - s_{\textit{rd}(i)}^{H}) \text{ER}_{\textit{rpc}(i)} + \varepsilon_i$$

 \triangleright δ is the coefficient on the Han dummy

Estimation results

Table 4: Estimating the spillover effect θ and the direct effect δ

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Sample		Minority		Han an	d Minority
Dep. var.	<i>y</i> ^M	$\bar{y}^{(-i)}$	y ^M	y _i	$y_i - \bar{y}^{(-i)}$
	RF	FS	IV	IV	Within-group
Han share × Exposure	-0.190*** (0.042)	-0.302*** (0.030)			
Group average fertility (θ)			0.630***	0.602***	
Han dummy \times Exposure (δ)			(0.103)	-0.084*** (0.024)	
(Han dummy - Han share)				, , ,	-0.072***
\times Exposure (δ)					(0.013)
R ²	0.174	0.849	0.166	0.231	0.017
Number of clusters	5514	5514	5514	12642	12642
Mean dep var	5.075	5.075	5.075	4.597	4.597
F statistics			102.981	78.050	
Observations	58887	58887	58887	844138	844138

[▶] $\theta = 0.64 \rightarrow$ a minority woman reduces her completed fertility by 0.64 births when the group average fertility is reduced by one \rightarrow social multiplier = $1/(1 - \theta) = 3$

[▶] $\delta = -0.08 \rightarrow \text{total effect on Han} = -0.24 = 3 \times \delta \rightarrow \text{social multiplier} = 3$

Robustness checks

- ► Potential direct effect Direct effect
- ► Ethnicity reclassification (Reclassification)
- ► Alternative definition of the reference group Reference group
- Estimate intra- and inter-ethnicity spillovers Heterogeneous spillovers

Outline

Context

Data and Descriptive Statistics

Reduced-form approach

Mechanisms

Semi-structural approach

Conclusion

Conclusion

- This paper provides empirical evidence of large spillovers in fertility decisions in China.
- Spillovers are likely to operate through both economic and social channels.
- Understanding how the interplay of economic and social factors may shape fertility transitions is important for:
 - 1. Understanding the past
 - General view: strong role of policy (vs. socio-economic development) in explaining fertility decline in the 70s → "induced fertility transition"
 - Our claim: impact of policy magnified by a social multiplier
 - 2. Predicting the future
 - Current puzzle: expected baby boom after introduction of universal 2-child policy in 2016 did not happen.
 - Potential explanation: multiple equilibria may generate a low fertility trap

Thank you!

Reference I

- Babiarz, K. S., Ma, P., Miller, G., and Song, S. (2018). The limits (and human costs) of population policy: Fertility decline and sex selection in China under Mao. Working Paper 25130, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Beam, E. A. and Shrestha, S. A. (2020). Superstition, fertility, and inter-ethnic spillovers: Evidence from peninsular malaysia. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 0(ja):null.
- Becker, G. S. (1991). A Treatise on the Family. Harvard University Press.
- Bongaarts, J. and Watkins, S. C. (1996). Social interactions and contemporary fertility transitions. *Population and Development Review*, 22(4):639–682.
- Chen, Y. and Fang, H. (2018). The long-term consequences of having fewer children in old age: Evidence from China's "Later, Longer, Fewer" campaign. Working Paper 25041, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Chen, Y. and Huang, Y. (2018). The power of the government: China's family planning leading group and the fertility decline since 1970. Working Paper 204, Global Labor Organization.
- Ciliberto, F., Miller, A. R., Nielsen, H. S., and Simonsen, M. (2016). Playing the fertility game at work: An equilibrium model of peer effects. *International Economic Review*, 57(3):827–856.
- Coale, A. J. and Chen, S. L. (1987). Basic data on fertility in the provinces of China, 1940-82. East-West Population Institute, East-West Center.
- Coale, A. J. and Watkins, S. C. (1986). The Decline of Fertility in Europe. Princeton University Press.



Reference II

- Daudin, G., Franck, R., and Rapoport, H. (2020). Can internal migration foster the convergence in regional fertility rates? evidence from nineteenth century france. *The Economic Journal*.
- de Chaisemartin, C. and D'Haultfoeuille, X. (2019). Two-way fixed effects estimators with heterogeneous treatment effects. Working Paper 25904, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Durlauf, S. N. and Walker, J. (2001). Social interactions and fertility transitions. Diffusion Processes and Fertility Transition: Selected Perspectives. National Academy Press.
- Ebenstein, A. (2010). The "missing girls" of China and the unintended consequences of the one child policy. *Journal of Human Resources*, 45(1):87–115.
- Guo, R., Li, H., Yi, J., and Zhang, J. (2018). Fertility, household structure, and parental labor supply: Evidence from china. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 46(1):145 – 156.
- Hensvik, L. and Nilsson, P. (2010). Businesses, buddies and babies: social ties and fertility at work. Working Paper Series 2010:9, IFAU - Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy.
- Huang, W., Lei, X., and Zhao, Y. (2016). One-Child Policy and the rise of man-made twins. The Review of Economics and Statistics, 98(3):467–476.
- Kohler, H.-P. (2000). Fertility decline as a coordination problem. *Journal of Devlopment Economics*, 63:231–263.
- Lee, R. (2015). Becker and the demographic transition. *Journal of Demographic Economics*, 81(1):67–74.



Reference III

- Li, B. and Zhang, H. (2017). Does population control lead to better child quality? Evidence from China's one-child policy enforcement. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 45(2):246 – 260.
- Li, H., Yi, J., and Zhang, J. (2011). Estimating the effect of the one-child policy on the sex ratio imbalance in China: Identification based on the difference-in-differences. *Demography*, 48(4):1535–1557.
- Li, H. and Zhang, J. (2009). Testing the external effect of household behavior: The case of the demand for children. The Journal of Human Resources, 44(4):890–915.
- Li, H., Zhang, J., and Zhu, Y. (2005). The effect of the one-child policy on fertility in China: Identification based on the differences-in-differences. Discussion Papers 00019, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Department of Economics.
- Liu, H. (2014). The quality-quantity trade-off: Evidence from the relaxation of China's one-child policy. *Journal of Population Economics*, 27(2):565–602.
- Lyngstad, T. and Prskawetz, A. (2010). Do siblings' fertility decisions influence each other? Demography, 47:923–34.
- Manski, C. F. (1993). Identification of endogenous social effects: The reflection problem. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 60(3):531–542.
- Munshi, K. and Myaux, J. (2006). Social norms and the fertility transition. *Journal of Development Economics*, 80(1):1 38.
- National Bureau of Statistics of China (2010). *China Compendium of Statistics 1949-2008*. China Statistics Press.



Reference IV

- Notestein, F. (1953). Economic problems of population change. *Proceedings of the Eigth International Conference of Agricultural Economists*, pages 13–31.
- Poston, D. L. and Gu, B. (1987). Socioeconomic development, family planning, and fertility in China. *Demography*, 24(4):531–551.
- Rosenzweig, M. R. and Zhang, J. (2009). Do population control policies induce more human capital investment? twins, birth weight and China's "one-child" policy. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 76(3):1149–1174.
- Scharping, T. (2013). Birth Control in China 1949-2000: Population policy and demographic development. Routledge.
- Spolaore, E. and Wacziarg, R. (2019). Fertility and modernity. Working Paper 25957, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Wang, X. and Zhang, J. (2018). Beyond the quantity–quality tradeoff: Population control policy and human capital investment. *Journal of Development Economics*, 135:222 234.
- Zhang, J. (2017). The evolution of China's one-child policy and its effects on family outcomes. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 31(1):141–60.

Summary statistics

		y sample		Han sample	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Completed fertility	5.075	2.380	4.561	1.985	
Completed fertility for 1926 cohort	5.205	2.595	4.913	2.393	
Completed fertility for 1945 cohort	4.485	2.116	3.580	1.403	
Reference group average fertility $(\bar{y}^{(-i)})$	5.062	0.970	4.562	0.976	
Expected reduction for Han women (ER)	1.569	1.224	1.481	1.257	
ER under LLF	1.568	1.224	1.480	1.258	
ER under OCP	0.001	0.006	0.001	0.007	
ER for 1926 cohort	0.063	0.046	0.070	0.060	
ER for 1945 cohort	3.393	0.955	3.286	1.199	
Han Share (sH)	0.491	0.313	0.963	0.100	
Han Share x ER	0.754	0.823	1.425	1.230	
Age in 1990	53.458	5.617	53.802	5.668	
Rural hukou	0.851	0.357	0.766	0.423	
Literate	0.299	0.458	0.390	0.488	
Ever attend junior high school	0.079	0.269	0.118	0.323	
Ever attend senior high school	0.027	0.161	0.042	0.200	
Ever obtain vocational education	0.012	0.107	0.016	0.125	
Ever attend college	0.006	0.075	0.010	0.100	
Zhuang	0.202	0.401			
Hui	0.104	0.306			
Man	0.091	0.288			
Miao	0.079	0.270			
Uyghur	0.078	0.268			
Tujia	0.074	0.262			
Yi	0.069	0.254			
Mongol	0.044	0.205			
Tibetan	0.035	0.183			
Buyei	0.033	0.178			
Yao	0.028	0.166			
Dong	0.026	0.158			
Korean	0.024	0.154			
Bai	0.024	0.154			
Other ethnic groups	0.089	0.284			
Observations	58887	785479			

Expected fertility reduction under LLF and OCP

$$\operatorname{ER} \operatorname{LLF}_{rpc}^{H} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0 \ \ \operatorname{if} \ \ TFP_{rp} - \operatorname{LLF} \ \operatorname{fertility}_{rp} \leq 0 \\ \max\{\sum_{a=15}^{49} \operatorname{AFR}_{rp}(a) \cdot I[c+a \geq LLF_p, 1990 - c \geq a], \\ TFR_{rp} - \operatorname{LLF} \ \operatorname{fertility}_{rp} \} \ \ \operatorname{if} \ \operatorname{otherwise} \\ \end{array} \right.$$

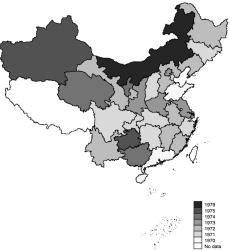
$$\operatorname{ER} \operatorname{OCP}_{rpc}^{H} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0 \ \ \operatorname{if} \ \ \widetilde{TFR}_{rp} - \operatorname{OCP} \ \operatorname{fertility}_{rp} \leq 0 \\ \max\{\sum_{a=15}^{49} \operatorname{\widetilde{AFR}}_{rp}(a) \cdot I[c+a \geq OCP_p, 1990 - c \geq a], \\ \widehat{TFR}_{rp} - \operatorname{OCP} \ \operatorname{fertility}_{rp} \} \ \ \operatorname{if} \ \operatorname{otherwise} \\ \end{array} \right.$$

r hukou, p province, c cohort



Provincial fertility leading groups



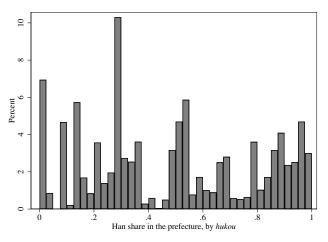


Sources: Chen and Fang (2018)





Distribution of Han share in 1990



Note: Distribution of Han share in the reference group for minority women. Authors' own calculation based on the 1% sample of the census 1990.



Pre-reform TFR by province, in rural and urban areas

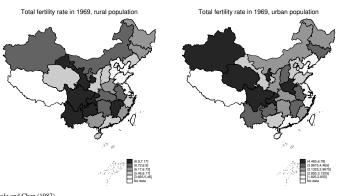






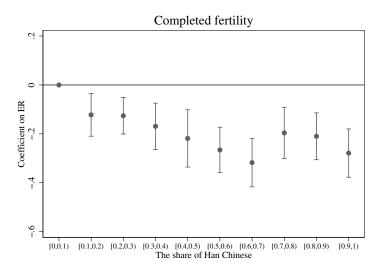
Table 5: Alternative definitions of the reference group

Dep. var.: completed fertility of minorities Reference group:	(1) Prefect-hukou-3cohorts	(2) County-hukou-3cohorts		
Group average fertility $(\bar{y}^{(-i)})$	0.629*** (0.138)	0.736*** (0.340)		
R ² Number of clusters F stat Observations	0.179 5063 190 55049	0.222 8074 25 41813		

Note: In columns (1) and (2), a woman's reference group is defined as all women living in the same prefecture, holding the same *hukou*, and born in the same year or 1 or 2 years before. In columns (3) and (4), a woman's reference group is defined as all women living in the same county, holding the same *hukou*, and born in the same year or 1 or 2 years before.

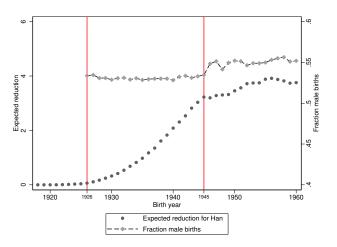


Nonlinear effects of ER



Sex selection

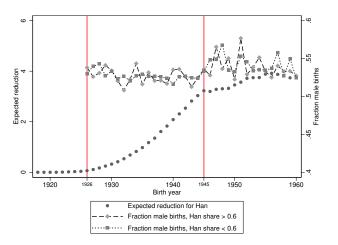
Figure 1: Sex ratio at birth and expected fertility reduction for the Han Chinese



Note: Sex ratio at birth is calculated based on the 1% sample of the 1982 and 1990 censuses and the 20% of the 2005 mini-census. Expected fertility reduction are constructed with provincial fertility data from Coale and Chen (1987).

Sex selection

Figure 2: Sex ratio at birth and expected fertility reduction for the minority Chinese



Note: Sex ratio at birth is calculated based on the 1% sample of the 1982 and 1990 censuses and the 20% of the 2005 mini-census. Expected fertility reduction are constructed with provincial fertility data from Coale and Chen (1987).

Table 6: Excluding units affected by ethnicity reclassification

	(1) Prefectures	(2) Ethnic groups
Group average fertility $(\overline{y}^{(-i)})$	0.610*** (0.108)	0.500*** (0.115)
R ² Number of clusters	0.169 5077	0.165 4500
F statistics Observations	95 50534	89 42556

- A wave of reclassification in the 1980s during which 12 million people switched from either unofficial minorities or Han to official minorities.
- (1): Prefectures excluded if the share of Han changed by more than 20% between 1982 and 1990.
- ▶ (2): Most affected groups (Manchu, Tujia, Miao, Dong, Yilao and Qiang) are excluded.

Robustness checks

Table 7: Estimation of intra- and inter-ethnicity spillovers

Dep. var.: completed fertility of minorities	(1) Heterogenous model	(2) Homogenous model
Han share \times Han average fertility $(s^H \bar{y}^H)$	0.627*** (0.105)	
Minority share \times Minority average fertility $((1 - s^H)\overline{y}^{M(-i)})$	0.713*** (0.143)	
Group average fertility $(\bar{y}^{(-i)})$		0.617*** (0.146)
Number of clusters	3747	3747
F statistics	22.384	66.368
Observations	53829	53829

Note: In column (1), we use the set of empirical IVs $\{s^H E R, (s^H)^2 (1 - s^H) E R, (1 - s^H) s^H E R\}$ as instruments for $s^H \bar{y}^H$ and $(1 - s^H) \bar{y}^{M(-i)}$ to recover an estimate of the inter-ethnicity parameter θ^b (coefficient on $s^H \bar{y}^H$) and an estimate of the intra-ethnicity parameter θ^w (coefficient on $(1 - s^H) \bar{y}^{M(-i)}$).



Table 8: Parallel pre-trends: placebo test using older cohorts

	(1)	(2)	
	Completed fertility of minorities		
Placebo exposure	0.178	0.163	
•	(0.420)	(0.454)	
Han share × Placebo exposure		0.022	
_		(0.111)	
₹ ²	0.119	0.119	
Number of clusters	595	3122	
Mean dep var	5.740	5.740	
Observations	20370	20370	

Robustness checks

Robustness checks

	(1)	(2)	(3) Dep. var.	(4) : completed f	(5) ertility of m	(6) inorities	(7)	(8)
		Estimations with and without linear trends					Alternative measures	
Sample:	All provinces Low Han provinces High Han prov		All provinces Low Han provinces High Han		provinces	s All		
Han share \times Exposure $(s^H \times ER)$	-0.208*** (0.043)	-0.422*** (0.035)	-0.206*** (0.053)	-0.222*** (0.052)	-0.173**	-0.179** (0.072)		
Han share \times ER ^{nat}	(,	()	()	,		()	-0.255*** (0.051)	
$\mathbb{1}\{\text{Han share} \ge 0.47\} \times \mathbb{1}\{\text{ER} \ge 2\}$							()	-0.281** (0.050)
Province-hukou linear trend	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
R ²	0.173	0.168	0.105	0.104	0.260	0.255	0.173	0.173
Number of clusters	5514	5514	1392	1392	4122	4122	5514	5514
Mean dep var	5.075	5.075	5.340	5.340	4.704	4.704	5.075	5.075
Observations	58887	58887	34374	34374	24513	24513	58887	58887

Note: Low/High Han provinces: Han share below/above 70%. In col (7), the share of negative weights is equal to 11% and the sum of negative weights is equal to -0.016 (de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille, 2019).

Robustness checks

Potentially heterogenous direct effect Robustness checks

Dep. var.: completed fertility	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
of minorities	Direct effect	Hetero	genous direc	t effect
Panel A: Reduced-form				
ER	-0.022	-0.021	-0.042	-0.381*
	(0.157)	(0.217)	(0.218)	(0.230)
$s_{rd}^H \times ER$	-0.208***	-0.208***	-0.212***	-0.134***
	(0.043)	(0.044)	(0.044)	(0.044)
$s_{rpc}^H \times ER$		-0.001	-0.080	-0.094
		(0.191)	(0.193)	(0.189)
Urban hukou × ER			0.679***	0.829***
			(0.192)	(0.206)
Illiterate \times ER			-0.012	-0.030
			(0.019)	(0.019)
High school \times ER			0.043	0.050
			(0.051)	(0.052)
Share urban $hukou \times ER$				-0.150**
				(0.066)
Share illiterate × ER				0.549***
				(0.134)
Share high school \times ER				0.364
				(0.601)
Panel B: IV, instrument $s_{rd}^H \times E$	R			
Group average fertility	0.629***	0.628***	0.644***	0.500***
	(0.104)	(0.106)	(0.105)	(0.140)
ER	-0.016	-0.014	-0.025	-0.236
	(0.109)	(0.139)	(0.138)	(0.168)
R ²	0.167	0.167	0.166	0.170
Mean dep var	5.075	5.075	5.075	5.075
Number of clusters	5514	5514	5514	5514
F statistics	99.691	94.054	94.819	70.856
Observations	58887	58887	58887	58887

Quality-Quantity trade-off Mechanisms

Table 9: Effects of family planning policies on education

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dep. var.:	# siblings	Attend senior HS		3
Panel A. Han Chinese children				
Mother's Exposure (ER)	-0.168***	0.015***	0.008	
	(0.044)	(0.006)	(0.005)	
Father's occupation education-intensive			0.008***	
× Mother's Exposure			(0.002)	
R^2	0.371	0.295	0.301	
Number of clusters	1120	1120	1120	
Mean dep var	4.053	0.143	0.143	
Observations	824858	824858	824858	
Panel B. Minority Chinese children				
Han share \times Mother's exposure ($s^H \times ER$)	-0.236***	-0.002	-0.004	-0.002
1 , , ,	(0.051)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.004)
Strong labor market competition with Han	,	(/	0.011**	0.012**
× Han share × Mother's Exposure			(0.006)	(0.006)
Strong cultural integration with Han			` ′	-0.004
× Han share × Mother's Exposure				(0.004)
R^2	0.303	0.295	0.295	0.295
Number of clusters	4393	4393	4393	4393
Mean dep var	4.835	0.092	0.092	0.092
Observations	67665	67665	67665	67665

Children aged 16-25 who are registered in the same household as their parents \mathbb{R}^{2}

