

FOCUS STUDY CHINA: FAMILY LIFE AND POPULATION CHANGES

Social & Cultural Continuity & Change

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Syllabus Content

Syllabus reference: Students will explore BOTH continuity AND change in the selected country through a detailed study of ONE of the following aspects:

- beliefs, values and lifestyles
- education
- family life and population changes
- gender roles and the status of men and women
- the legal system and political processes.

Rationale

The following sequence of activities can be used to support student analysis of continuity & change through family life and population changes in China. Through exploring a range of videos, students build their understanding of the complex changes that have occurred in Chinese society due to China's One Child Policy and subsequent aging population crisis. The activities are student centered and a good option to adapt for online learning. These tasks might be logically followed by past paper practice questions or a question writing task to help students further apply their knowledge.

Syllabus Outcomes

- H2 explains the development of personal, social and cultural identity
- H3 analyses relationships and interactions within and between social and cultural groups
- H5 analyses continuity and change and their influence on personal and social futures

Related concepts

continuity and change, modernisation, sustainability, tradition, beliefs and values, empowerment, westernisation, cooperation and conflict



Boy on the Great Wall. Source: Wikimedia Commons

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Just some facts:

- The current population of China is 1,444,918,318 as of Monday, July 5, 2021, based on Worldometer elaboration of the latest United Nations data.
- China 2020 population is estimated at 1,439,323,776 people at mid-year according to UN data.
- China's population is equivalent to 18.47% of the total world population.
- China ranks number 1 in the list of countries (and dependencies) by population.
- The population density in China is 153 per Km² (397 people per mi²).
- The total land area is 9,388,211 Km² (3,624,807 sq. miles)
- 60.8 % of the population is urban (875,075,919 people in 2020)
- The median age in China is 38.4 years

Source: <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/china-population/>

Task 1: As you watch the videos below answer each if the questions associated with each video

Why China Ended its One-Child Policy: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fg7jljmlYWs&t=2s>



1. Why did China Introduce the One Child Policy (OCP)?
2. What was the impact of the OCP on China?
3. Why was the OCP removed?
4. What impact is the OCP having on the family in China?
5. What impact has the OCP had on the population in China?

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(b) China's aging population <https://youtu.be/osKFn1WzKlc>



1. Why are nursing homes a fairly new industry in China?
2. What impact has the One Child Policy have on the ageing population?
3. How has the family structure changed?
4. How does this represent a change to traditional family roles in China? Provide an example from the video

(c) China's dating problem <https://youtu.be/KK-wzhfvJlw>

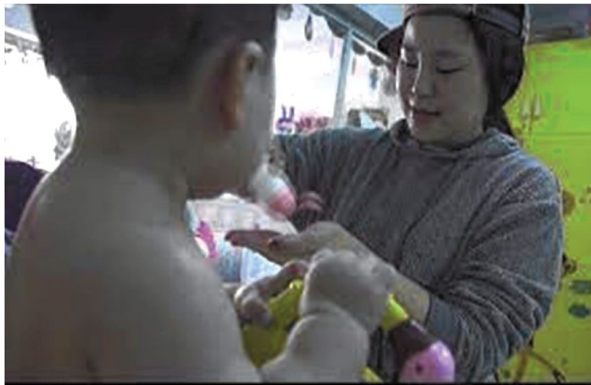


1. Why does China have a growing population of singles?
2. Why is not getting married a social issue?
3. Has the One Child Policy impacted marriage norms in China?
4. What changes are occurring to deal with the issue presented in the video?

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(d) After one-child policy, China pushes women to have more babies

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=enwv7gVJtSM>



1. Why are there no opportunities for young unmarried women to access IVF or other such avenues of child rearing in China?
2. What are the problems the declining birth rate is causing for China?
3. What has happened to China's large workforce?
4. China's One Child Policy has been removed. Why are people choosing not to have more than one child? Refer to examples?
5. How is the government trying to stop the population from declining?

(e) Rural and Urban migration <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t1cUvOIClfi>



1. Why do people move from rural to urban areas like Beijing?
2. What has happened to the traditional family structure due to this migration?
3. How is poverty defined in China?
4. What impacts people from rural communities living in urban areas?
5. What impact does this type of migration have on family life and population in China?

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(f) Marriage and divorce <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwBJJoP8j48>



1. Why is marriage important to the family structure in China?
2. Why is divorce unacceptable in some areas of China?
3. What role does Shame play in marriage and divorce?
4. What role does divorce have on traditional family structures?

Summary activity

Task 2: From the viewing activities in Task 1 complete the summary activity below on the continuities and changes relating to family life in China. Additionally try to consider which depth study related concepts that these examples demonstrate.

Syllabus area →	Continuities →	Changes →	Depth study related concepts
Family Life			

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Task 3. From the viewing activities in Task 1 complete the summary activity below on the changes relating to the population of China. Additionally try to consider which depth study related concepts that these examples demonstrate.

Syllabus area	Changes	Depth study related concepts
Population		