The “Population Problem” in Pacific Asia

Stuart Gietel-Basten
Professor of Social Science and Public Policy, Divisions of Social Science and Public Policy,
Director, Center for Aging Science

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THE "POPULATION PROBLEM" IN PACIFIC ASIA

STUART GIETEL-BASTEN
Singapore’s vulnerability: A large and growing pool of older people

STEPHEN DZIEDZIC

The city state leads in the fight against the virus, but in the longer term, an ageing population is another challenge.

Japan’s burden

A 14-page special report on the future of an ageing society

Japan's Population Age is Shrinking and That's The Biggest Challenge For New PM
Hong Kong’s population will be a little smaller, a lot greyer by 2069, according to new government projections.

**Editorial by SCMP Editorial**

Ageing Hong Kong risks loss of competitive edge if it does not transform.

**South Korea’s Population May Have Already Peaked**

Recent statistics suggest South Korea’s population may be aging even more quickly than previous worst-case scenarios predicted.

**South Korea set to be superaged society within 4 years**
Old, shrivelling and broke

Rural areas bear the burden of Japan’s ageing, shrinking population

Half the country’s municipalities are expected to disappear by 2040
China’s rapid population ageing leads to a clear decline – Natixis

The New York Times

China’s Looming Crisis: A Shrinking Population

By STEVEN LEE MYERS, JIN WU and CLAIRE FU

UPDATED January 17, 2020
Why?
Taiwan offers baby bonus to fix plummeting birth rate

“The government had spent 8.364 trillion won ($7.74 billion) on state-allowance programs for children with young parents, as of 2016,” wrote researcher Choi Hyo-mi in the report.

SMARTNEWS Keeping you current

Singapore’s “National Night” Encourages Citizens to Make Babies

Singapore’s “unbelievably low birthrates” have inspired “National Night,” a campaign to encourage Singaporean couples to “let their patriotism explode” on August 9.

By Rachel Renner
SMITHSONIAN.COM
AUGUST 8, 2012

Page last updated at 09:11 GMT, Wednesday, 20 January 2010

E-mail this to a friend  Printable version

South Koreans told to go home and make babies

By John Sudworth
BBC News, Seoul

South Korean government workers are being presented with an unusual suggestion - go home and multiply.

At 1900 on Wednesday, officials at the Ministry of Health will turn off all the lights in the building.

They want to encourage staff to go home to their families and, well, make bigger ones. They plan to repeat the experiment every

South Korea has one of the world’s lowest birth rates
South Korea Is Trying to Boost its Birth Rate. It's Not Working.

LINDA POON  AUG 3, 2018

The country needs to convince more couples to have children. But its biggest city is no paradise for parents.

Fertility rate dips below 1 in 2018: official

By Yonhap

Published : Jan 18, 2019 - 10:52  Updated : Jan 18, 2019 - 10:52

Japan shrinking as birthrate falls to lowest level in history

In 2018 there were 921,000 births and 1.37m deaths, with government efforts failing to encourage families to have more children.

Baby strike

Singapore’s government struggles to promote procreation

The city-state has one of the lowest fertility rates in the world.
China population crisis: New two-child policy fails to yield major gains

China’s birth rate falls for 2nd year, two child policy fails to enthuse couples
“The young appear to prefer to invest limited resources and capital on themselves to fully enjoy their life, rather than form a family.”

–Professor Na Eun-yeong, Sogang University
“Perhaps people in Korea are becoming ‘selfish,’ since they do not want children of their own, but expect society to provide more and more children in the hope that their own elderly life will be socially and financially secure”

–Professor Youngtae Cho, SNU
“[A] counter-traditional individualism has liberated young Asian, particularly women, to indulge themselves in the personal pursuit of hedonistic culture, forgoing traditional family values and obligations.”

–Professor Chai-sik Chung, Boston U
Why Taiwan’s single people are a national security threat

Lydia from Taipei and almost all of her friends are single. Sociologist Wen-Shan Yang explains why Taiwan’s single culture is putting the welfare of the whole country at risk.
The Pope declares couples who choose not to have children are 'selfish' and condemns 'depressed societies' for seeing offspring as a burden.
Deputy PM Taro Aso apologizes after blaming childless for rising social security costs and graying population
To Encourage More Births, Chinese Specialists Propose Birth Fund, Childless Tax

The proposals triggered a large wave of criticism and sarcasm online.

By Charlotte Gao
August 17, 2018
하나는 부족합니다

 oluşturul 때 황폐한 풍경이 없기 때문에 신비로서 어두운 분위기
 그리고 가령에서는 부족이 없는 이들처럼 마음에 보았으므로
 자기 고통이 되지 않습니다.
To recap

Population ageing and decline an **existential threat**

Nice governments doing **lots of things** about it

**Selfish, hedonistic, pathetic, millenial A-holes*** not fulfilling **obligation**

(*especially women*)
Inevitable interactive part
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What do governments want?</th>
<th>What about people?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marriage</td>
<td>Marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combine work &amp; family</td>
<td>Combine work &amp; family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some care for the elderly</td>
<td>Some care for the elderly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

But starting to change
Cost of childcare

Cost of housing

Little state/company support

Impact on career

Getting decent job

Fragile contracts

Education expectations and costs

Getting a decent job

Little state/company support

Care obligations

Work culture

Gender roles

“Marriage package”

Loss of earnings

Availability & quality of childcare
Ageing is the problem
Low fertility is the cause
Low fertility is the problem

The gap between aspirations and outcomes is a symptom of other institutional malfunctions
“Societies get the fertility rate they deserve”

Nico van Nimwegen
Learning from FP programs*

Multi-dimensional aims and means

Education, health, empowerment. Multiple agencies, stakeholders

Aligned with aspirations

Rights-based

* well, some FP programs...
“To help couples and individuals meet their reproductive goals in a framework that promotes optimum health, responsibility and family well-being, and respects the dignity of all persons and their right to choose the number, spacing and timing of the birth of their children..”

—Objective 7.14

Meeting individual aspirations (which happen to coincide with the state) rather than ‘using wombs as a vehicle to meet national targets’
Why my hopes are pretty low...
From modernity to...

Postmodernism
*(sorry)*

Individualisation
*(Beck & Beck-Gernsheim)*

Infinite biographies
“Catching up with ‘compressed modernity’” - How the values of Millennials and Gen-Z’ers could reframe gender equity and demographic systems

Stuart Gietel-Basten¹,*
Ryu Ho-jeong

“looked as if she had come to the assembly chamber to collect payment for alcoholic drinks”

Facebook page of Democratic Party
Wars

Young vs old

Male vs female

Modern (control) vs postmodern (diffused)

Combined forces
Another reason for my skepticism
In the multitude of people is the king's honour: but in the want of people is the destruction of the prince.

Proverbs 14: 28
China’s Population To Drop By Half, Immigration Helps U.S. Labor Force

Stuart Anderson  Senior Contributor ©
Leadership Strategy
I write about globalization, business, technology and immigration.

Project Syndicate
GDP Fetishism

Sep 7, 2009 | JOSEPH E. STIGLITZ
Productivity...
Works

- *The Rent Is Too Damn High*, Simon and Schuster, March 2012, ASIN B0078XGJXO


Best Sellers in Economic Conditions

Top 100 Paid  Top 100 Free

#1

One Billion Americans: The Case for Thinking Bigger
Matthew Yglesias

★★★★★ 23
Kindle Edition
$15.99

#2

The Deficit Myth: Modern Monetary Theory and the Birth of the People's Economy
Stephanie Kelton

★★★★★ 571
Kindle Edition
$18.99
China’s Communist Party has sought to cover up population crisis by obfuscating census data

China is staring at a population crisis. The outcome for it is likely to be much worse than with Japan, perhaps not immediately, but certainly over the next decade. And shrinking populations cannot sustain expansive dreams.
Demographic trends, pronatalism, and nationalist ideologies in the late twentieth century

Leslie King

Confronting the Stigma of Eugenics: Genetics, Demography and the Problems of Population

Edmund Ramsden
Fertility, mortality, migration, and population scenarios for 195 countries and territories from 2017 to 2100: a forecasting analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study

Stein Emil Vollset, Emily Goren, Chun-Wei Yuan, Jackie Cao, Amanda E Smith, Thomas Hsiao, Catherine Bisignano, Gulrez S Azhar, Emma Castro, Julian Chalek, Andrew J Dolgert, Tahvi Frank, Kai Fukutaki, Simon I Hay, Rafael Lozano, Ali H Mokdad, Vishnu Nandakumar, Maxwell Pierce, Martin Pletcher, Toshana Robalik, Krista M Steuben, Han Yong Wunrow, Bianca S Zlavog, Christopher J L Murray
Fertility rate: 'Jaw-dropping' global crash in children being born

By James Gallagher
Health and science correspondent

Demographic apocalypse: collapsing birth rates will turn our world upside down
"Suddenly, we're now seeing this sort of turning point where it is very clear that we are rapidly transitioning from the issue of too many people to too few."

*Christopher Murray, 2020*
We must be on our guard
Too many mistakes made in the past
People treated as units of production
Restricting access to family planning?
Aggressive pronatalism?
UNDERSTAND THE “PROBLEM”