

China's 1-child policy: How did it matter, how did it not?

Economic Demography

Econ/Demog 175

Prof. Goldstein

UC Berkeley

Week 9, Lecture A

Spring 2017

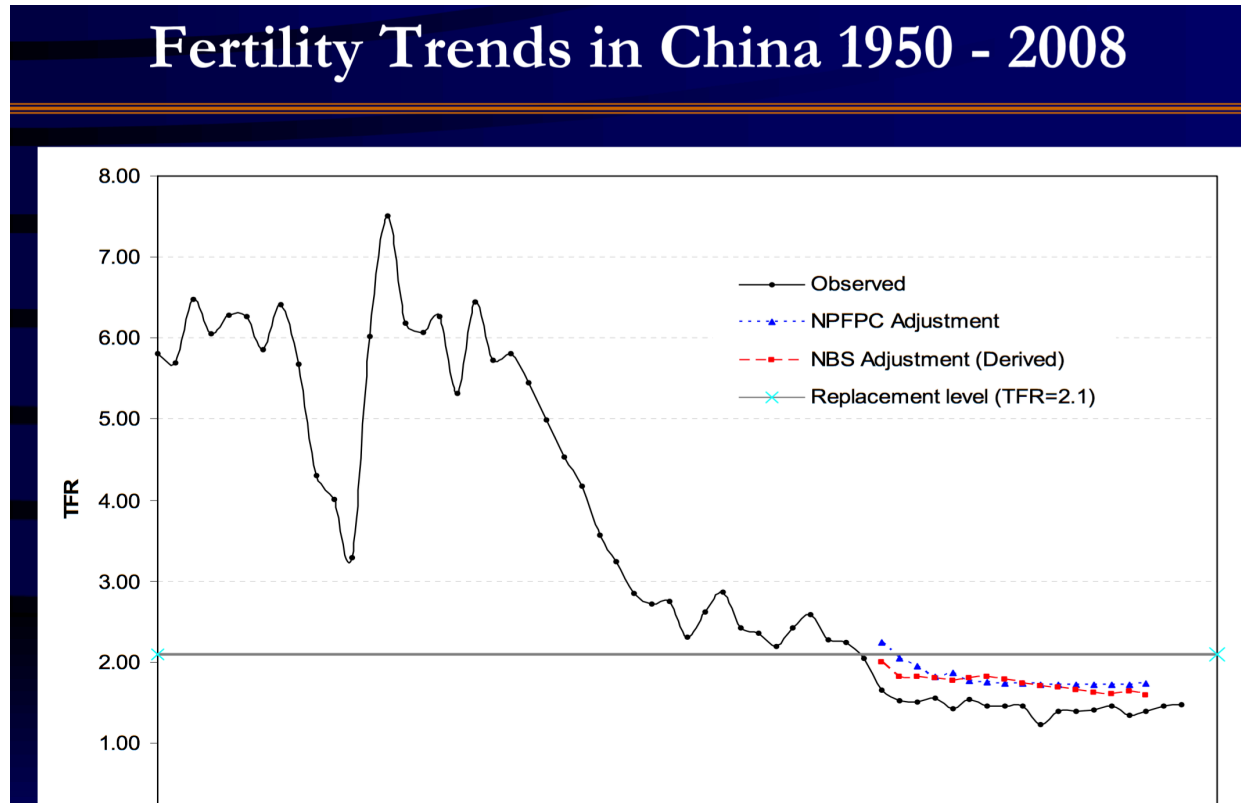
Last time

- Theories of fertility decline
- Now we turn to actual changes in policy and in the economy
 - A. The one-child policy in China (today)
 - B. The Great Recession in the United States (Thurs)

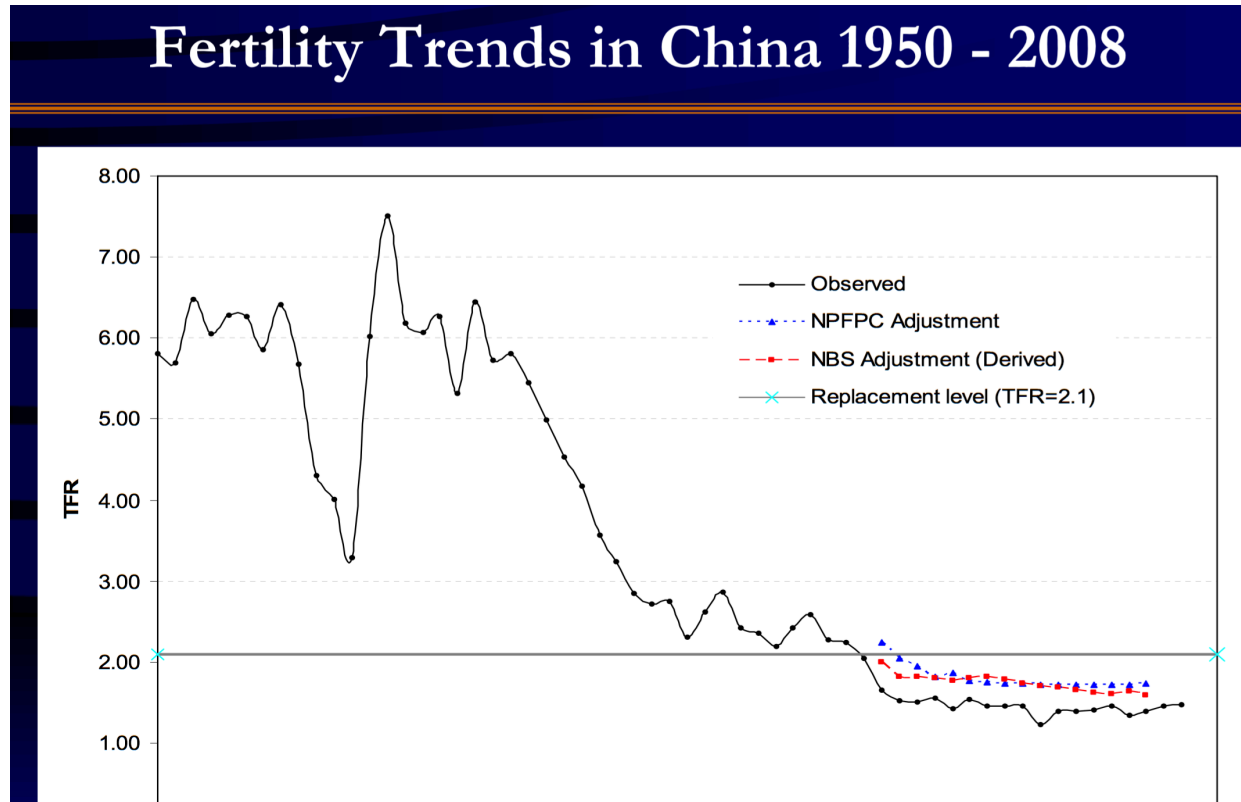
Our Agenda

1. Introduction: A mystery: the invisibility of the 1-child policy (J. Goldstein)
2. Before, during, and after the 1CP (Yi Zhou)
3. How the 1CP affected real people (Li Qiang)
4. What can we see in the data (J. Goldstein)

The mystery: where is 1CP hiding?



The mystery: where is 1CP hiding?



iClicker

A

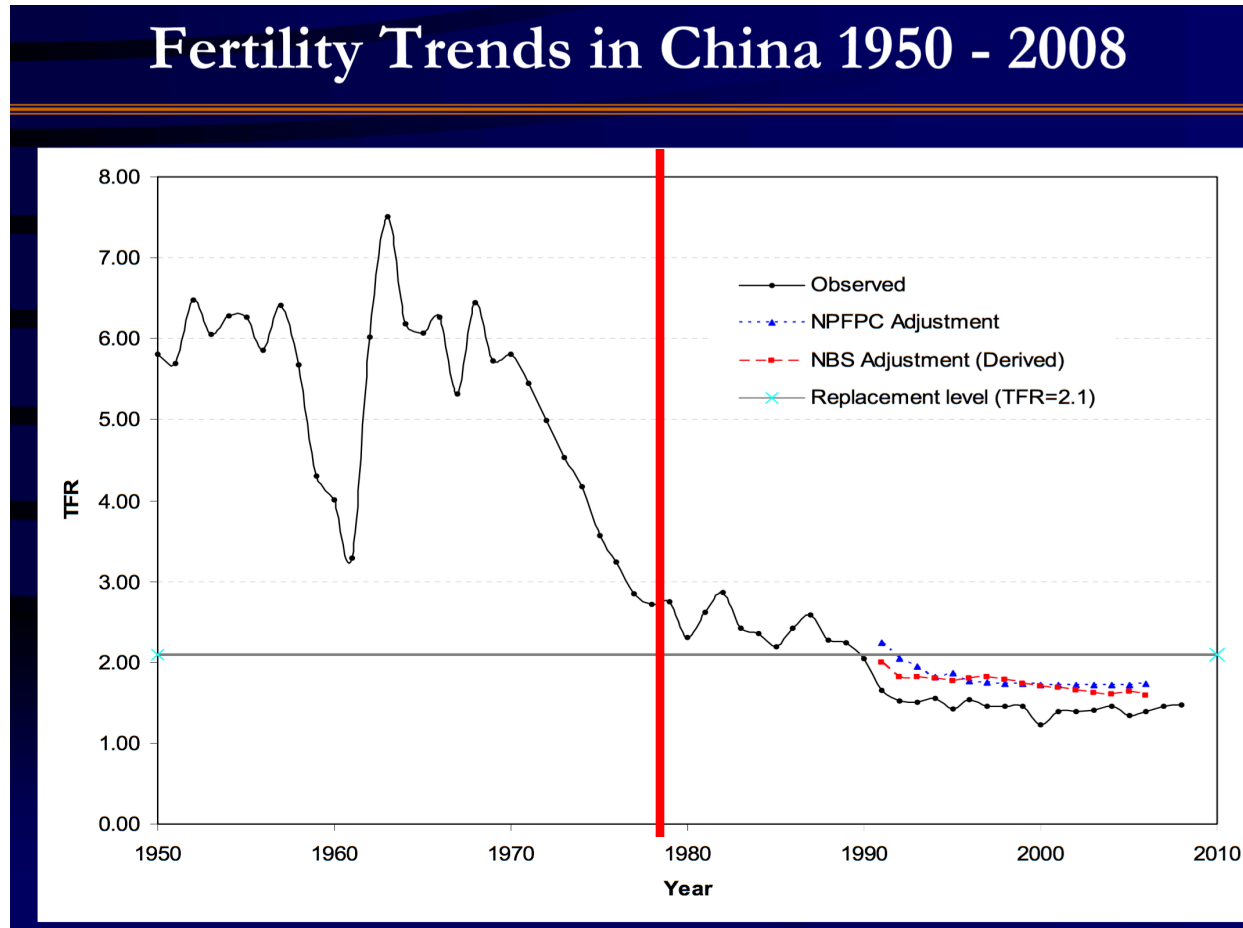
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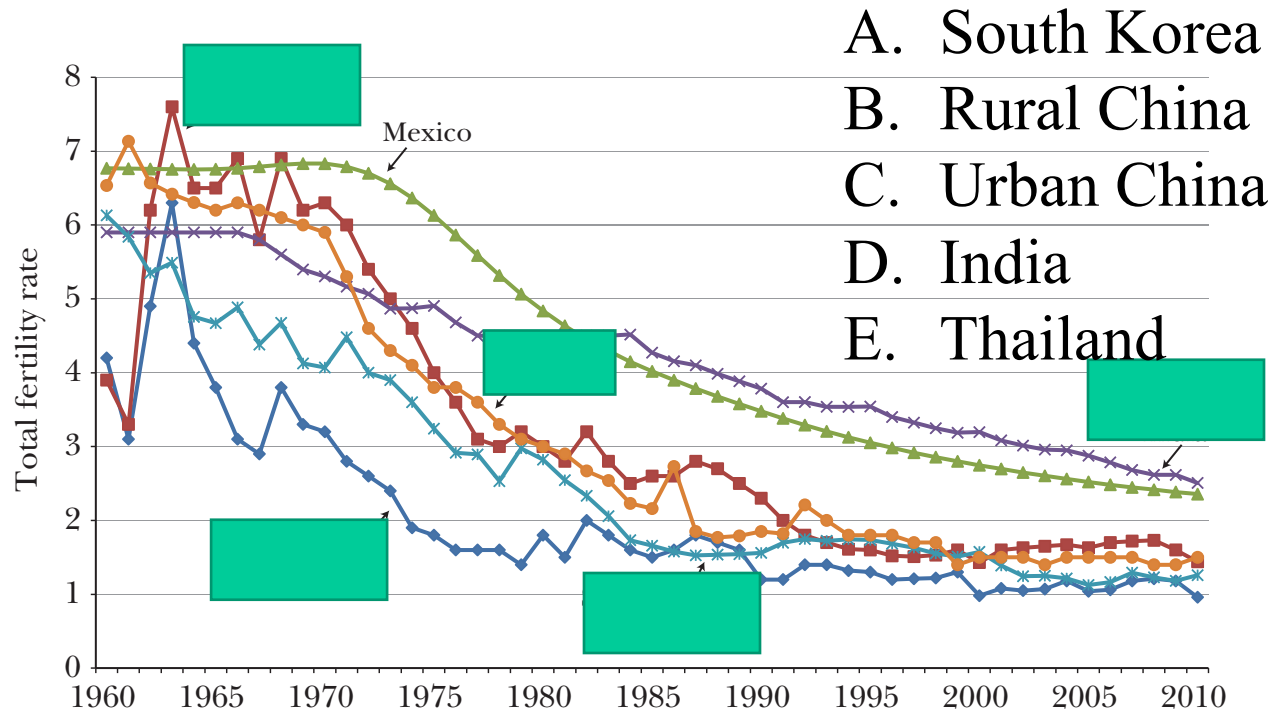
The mystery: where is 1CP hiding?



Comparison countries

Figure 1

Total Fertility Rate for Rural and Urban China and Four Selected Countries (1960–2010)

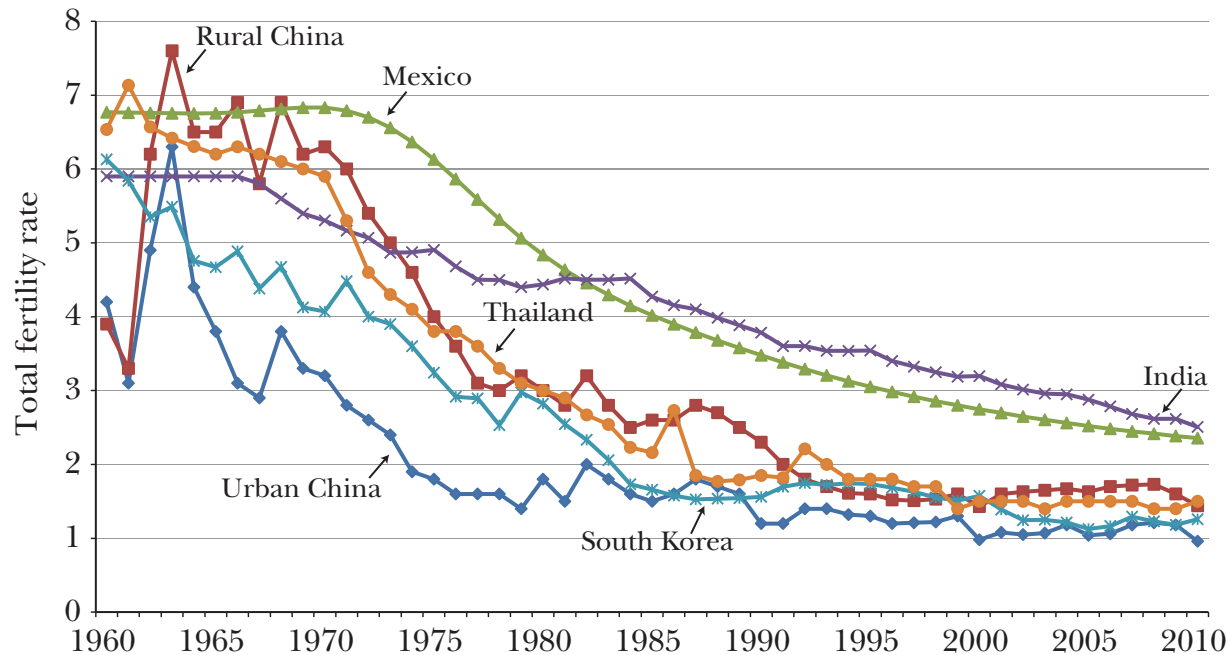


Source: The total fertility rate data for each country are from the World Bank (2016). China's urban and rural total fertility rate data are obtained from several sources: the 1960–1992 data are adopted from Peng and Guo (2000); the 1993–1999 data are from the 2001 National Fertility and Reproductive Health Survey; the 2001–2009 data are adopted from Hao and Qiu (2011); and the 2000 and 2010 data are obtained from the national population censuses in the respective years.

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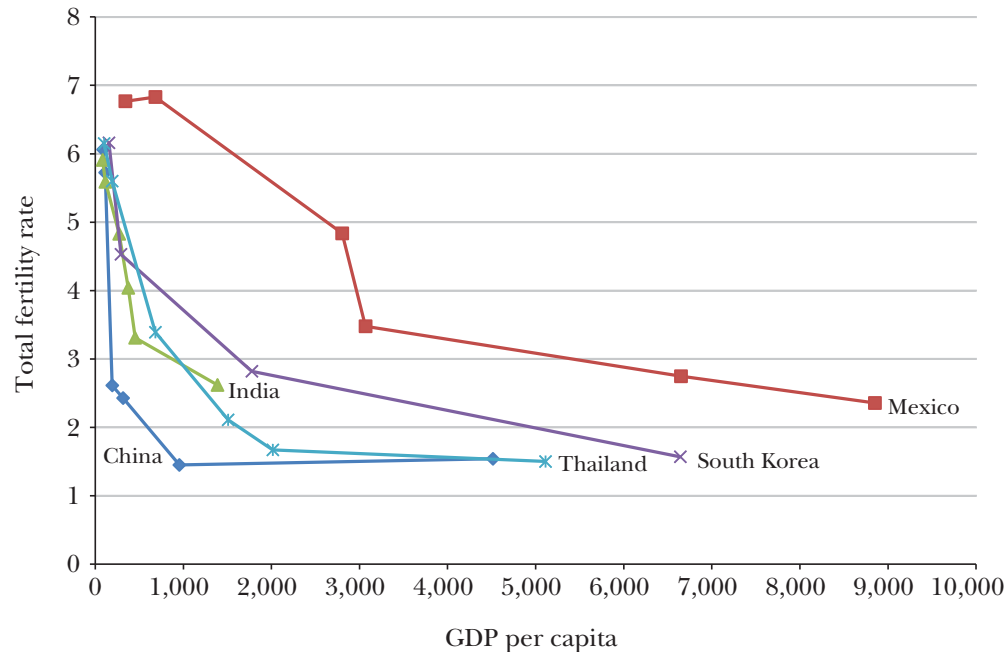


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"Ahead of the curve"

Figure 2

Total Fertility Rate and GDP per capita for China and Four Selected Countries (1960–2010)



Sources: The total fertility rate and GDP data for each country are from the World Bank (2016), and the unit of GDP per capita is US dollars (2014 constant prices).

Notes: The figure plots each country's total fertility rate against its real GDP per capita, showing decadal points from 1960 to 2010. Each point represents, from left to right, the total fertility rate and GDP per capita of each country in 1960 (for China 1962 was chosen instead of 1960 to avoid the unusual famine effect in China), 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, and 2010. When GDP per capita of a country exceeded \$10,000, that country actually stepped up to become a developed economy. Thus, I dropped two points with GDP per capita levels above \$10,000 for South Korea to make the figure compact.

And now

2. Zhou Yi (on history of 1CP) + Q&A
3. Li Qiang (on living with the 1CP) + Q&A
4. What we can see in the data (1990 census)