



## Growing up in... SOUTH KOREA

**Young people, like most other South Koreans,** follow at least some of the teachings of Confucius. For example, education is highly valued. The state requires by law that students obtain a primary education, and this schooling is free. The majority of children attend secondary schools. More than one million students attend college-level schools in South Korea.

However, in addition to traditional ideas and ways of life, there is a strong western influence in South Korea. This can be seen in the Western clothes worn by these students as they enjoy an outing in the Nampodong shopping district in Pusan, South Korea.

**If you lived in South Korea, you would pass these milestones:**

- You would be required by law to attend school through 6th grade.
- You would next attend middle school—grades 7 through 9.
- You would then probably attend high school—grades 10 through 12.
- You would be able to vote at age 20.
- The average age for a first marriage is 29 for men and 26 for women.
- The average age of women at the birth of their first child is 27.

