Investigation on College Students' Fertility Intention and Its Influencing Factors Under the Three Child Policy

-- Based on the Example of X College

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ABSTRACT
Aiming at the implementation of the three child fertility policy in 2021, this paper investigates the fertility intention of college students by using questionnaire and interview, in order to understand the following points.1. The current situation of College Students' reproductive intention.2. Factors affecting college students' reproductive intention.This paper will put forward reasonable suggestions and measures according to the impact of the three child fertility policy on the fertility will of contemporary college students, so as to provide a scientific basis for the implementation and adjustment of the three child fertility policy.

Keywords: three child policy, College students, Fertility willingness, influence factor

1. INTRODUCTION

According to the data of the National Bureau of statistics, China's net population growth in 2021 was 480000, a new low in recent 60 years. The number of people over the age of 60 has exceeded 260 million. In order to promote the long-term balanced development of the population, the state issued the policy that a couple can have three children and supporting policies in 2021.In order to understand the reproductive wishes of young people of childbearing age, a special survey of reproductive wishes of young people of childbearing age has been carried out in many places across the country [1-3]. In 2021, there were 44.3 million college students. As an important group that is about to enter the marriage and childbearing period, their reproductive wishes will not only directly affect their reproductive behavior, but also directly affect the future development direction of China's population.

This paper will investigate, sort out and analyze the fertility intention of college students in Dongguan and its related influencing factors, make a comprehensive and objective analysis of the impact of various related factors, and put forward relevant suggestions and views.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Research methods

This project investigates and studies the fertility intention and its influence of college students in Dongguan by means of questionnaire. The basic contents of the questionnaire include: basic demographic characteristics, the number of children, the gender preference of children, the factors affecting their fertility intention and so on. Firstly, 104 students from Dongguan City University were randomly selected by stratified sampling for questionnaire distribution and investigation, and the validity and reliability of the questionnaire were analyzed. Finally, the test-retest reliability of the questionnaire is high; Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficient is 0.636, which is greater than 0.5 of the standard reliability statistical value, so the reliability of the questionnaire can be guaranteed; Then it is calculated again that the kmo test value of 0.738 is greater than the kmo standard value of 0.5, indicating that the questionnaire can be used to test the structural validity by factor analysis, and the structural validity is appropriate.

Table 1. Reliability statistics

Clone Bach alpha	Number of items
.636	12

Table 2. Kmo and Bartlett test

Kmo sampling suitability quantity.		.738
Bartlett sphericity test	Approximate chi square	283.552
	freedom	10
	Significance	.000

SPSS 26.0 statistical software was used to analyze the awareness of the three child policy, gender

preference, childbearing age and factors affecting childbirth [4]. Then, the correlation analysis was conducted to determine whether the factors that affect fertility intention were influenced by gender, age, registered residence, whether it was the only child and the degree of policy understanding.

2.2 Data source

The questionnaire is sorted and designed by using the "questionnaire star" program of the web version. The questionnaire is distributed with the help of wechat, microblog, QQ and other popular social software. 174 questionnaires are actually recovered, 172 valid questionnaires, with an effective rate of 99.8%. The questionnaires are answered anonymously, which can maximize the privacy information filled in the questionnaire and improve the authenticity of the questionnaire data [5].

Table 3. Descriptive statistics

	N	minimum value	Maximum	mean value	Standard deviation
1. Gender	172	1	2	1.80	.404
2. grade	172	1	4	2.66	.819
3. Registered residence	172	1	2	1.51	.501
4. Is she an only child	172	1	2	1.74	.441
5.How much do you know about the three child policy	172	1	3	2.23	.576
6.What do you think is the purpose of having children	172	1	5	3.22	1.420
7.What do you think is the ideal number of children	172	1	4	2.42	.830
8.What gender do you want your child to be	172	1	3	2.78	.513
9.What do you think is the ideal childbearing age	172	1	4	2.22	.578
10.Is it considered to have three children under the three child policy	172	2	5	3.76	.823
11. If the employment environment gets better, you will want to have children more	172	1	5	2.75	1.475

	172	1	5	1.47	.908
12.The cost of childbirth will affect your willingness to give birth	172	1	5	1.47	.908
13. The relationship between husband and wife will affect your fertility intention	172	1	5	1.52	.988
14.Your own physiological and medical conditions will affect your willingness to give birth	172	1	5	1.41	.910
15. Having children is not limited to the traditional way of birth	172	1	5	1.72	1.051
Number of valid cases (in columns)	172				

3. DATA ANALYSIS RESULTS

(1) The collection results of the effective questionnaire are as follows: a total of 36 boys answered and 137 girls answered. The ratio of men to women is 1:3, which is in line with the expectation

Through descriptive analysis, as shown in Table 3, the following conclusions can be drawn by means of mean score:

1 There is no obvious gender preference in the reproductive intention of contemporary college students

In the results of the questionnaire analysis, the average value of the question "you want your child's gender to be" is 2.78. The questionnaire sets "boy" as one score, "girl" as two scores, and "give birth to boys and girls naturally" as three scores. The score ratio has reached 92.3%, which shows that today's college students have reduced their gender preference for childbirth. At the same time, it shows that the overall quality of today's college students is significantly higher, which further reflects that future college students will not study the issue of "giving birth to boys and girls"[6].

2 The ideal childbearing age range is close to reasonable

The average value of "ideal childbearing age" is 2.22. The questionnaire sets "20-25 years old" as one point, "25-30 years old" as two points, "30-35 years old" as three points and "over 35 years old" as four points. It can be seen that the ideal childbearing age of most respondents is mainly 25-30 years old, which is in line with the scientific optimal childbearing age of 23-30 years old [7].

3 There are many factors affecting fertility intention

The average values of "better employment environment", "birth cost", "husband and wife feelings" and "their own physiological and medical conditions" are all 1-3. The questionnaire sets "agree" as one point, "more agree" as two points, "uncertain" as three points, "less sure" as four points and "disagree" as five points. It can be seen that college students generally agree that external factors such as employment environment, birth cost and medical status, as well as internal family factors such as husband and wife feelings and their own physiological conditions, will affect their own birth intention, The score of "own physiological condition and medical condition" is the lowest. It can be seen that the most important factor affecting fertility intention is their own condition and medical and health conditions, which can better reflect the attention of today's college students to their own health and medical conditions.

Table 4. relevance

		1. G	2. Gr	3.Re	4. W	11. If	12.Co	13.RE	14.Ph	15.TR
1. G	Pearson correlation	1	.265**	.084	.126	.258**	.008	-.083	-.057	-.068
	Sig. (double tailed)		.000	.273	.099	.001	.920	.277	.461	.372
	Number of cases	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172
2. GR	Pearson correlation	.265**	1	.003	.009	.030	.006	-.052	-.029	-.107

	Sig.(double tailed)	.000		.972	.905	.694	.936	.502	.710	.161
	Number of cases	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172
3. Re	Pearson correlation	.084	.003	1	.265* *	.024	.046	-.012	.021	-.066
	Sig.(double tailed)	.273	.972		.000	.757	.551	.872	.780	.391
	Number of cases	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172
4. W	Pearson correlation	.126	.009	.265* *	1	-.101	.032	-.060	-.021	.040
	Sig.(double tailed)	.099	.905	.000		.187	.677	.436	.787	.601
	Number of cases	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172
11. If	Pearson correlation	.258* *	.030	.024	-.101	1	.198* *	.239* *	.169*	.029
	Sig.(double tailed)	.001	.694	.757	.187		.009	.002	.027	.704
	Number of cases	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172
12. Co	Pearson correlation	.008	.006	.046	.032	.198* *	1	.571* *	.648* *	.239* *
	Sig.(double tailed)	.920	.936	.551	.677	.009		.000	.000	.002
	Number of cases	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172
13. RE	Pearson correlation	-.083	-.052	-.012	-.060	.239* *	.571* *	1	.747* *	.341* *
	Sig.(double tailed)	.277	.502	.872	.436	.002	.000		.000	.000
	Number of cases	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172
14. Ph	Pearson correlation	-.057	-.029	.021	-.021	.169*	.648* *	.747* *	1	.441* *

	Sig.(double tailed)	.461	.710	.780	.787	.027	.000	.000		.000
	Number of cases	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172
15. TR	Pearson correlation	-.068	-.107	-.066	.040	.029	.239* *	.341* *	.441* *	1
	Sig.(double tailed)	.372	.161	.391	.601	.704	.002	.000	.000	
	Number of cases	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172

**. At the level of 0.01 (two tailed), the correlation is significant.

*At the level of 0.05 (two tailed), the correlation is significant.

Meaning of abbreviations in the table

1:G=Gender,2:Gr=Grade,3:Re=Registered residence

4:W=Whether only-children or not,11: If=if the employment environment gets better, you will want to have children more   12:Co=The cost of childbirth will affect your willingness to give birth   13:RE=The relationship between husband and wife will affect your fertility intention   14:Ph=Your own physiological and medical conditions will affect your willingness to give birth

15 TR=Having children is not limited to the traditional way of birth

from the above table and table four, we can use correlation analysis to study gender, grade, location of registered residence, whether it is only child who is better than "the environment of employment is better, you will want to have children more" (hereinafter referred to as the "employment environment"), and "the cost of childbirth will affect your fertility wish" (hereinafter referred to as "childbearing cost").The relationship between "the relationship between husband and wife will affect your fertility intention" (hereinafter referred to as "the relationship between husband and wife"), "your own physiological condition and medical condition will affect your fertility intention" (hereinafter referred to as "your own physiological condition and medical condition"), "having children is not limited to traditional fertility methods" (hereinafter referred to as "not limited to traditional fertility methods"),Pearson correlation coefficient (Pearson correlation) is used to express the strength of the correlation between two factors[8].

(1) There are different factors affecting fertility willingness between men and women

The specific analysis is as follows: gender and "fertility cost will affect your fertility intention", "husband and wife feelings will affect your fertility intention", "their own physiological and medical conditions will affect your fertility intention", "having children is not limited to traditional fertility methods",

showing a significant difference, and there is no correlation with "better employment environment, you will want to have children". Their p values are 0.008, -0.083, -0.57, -0.068 respectively, which are less than 0.05.Among them, gender is negatively correlated with "husband and wife feelings", "their own physiological status and medical status" and "not limited to the traditional way of childbirth". It can be concluded that women pay more attention to feelings, their own physical condition and the way of childbirth. It is because women tend to be more emotional than rational in dealing with problems, and women bear the most important responsibility in pregnancy and childbirth[9]. Therefore, women will personally consider this problem, while men lack the necessary thinking of this kind of problem. On the contrary, gender has a positive correlation with the item "fertility cost will affect your fertility will", indicating that men will pay more attention to economic issues in childbearing. This is because women generally lose their financial ability during pregnancy, while men need to bear this responsibility. Therefore, the difference in fertility willingness between men and women is more in line with the modern marriage thought of "men outside, women inside".

(2) Age differences have different views on fertility

The specific analysis is as follows: there is a significant correlation between grade and five items:

"better employment environment will make you more want to have children", "childbearing cost will affect your childbearing intention", "husband and wife feelings will affect your childbearing intention", "their own physiological and medical conditions will affect your childbearing intention" and "having children is not limited to traditional childbearing methods", Their p values are 0.03, 0.006, -0.52, -0.09 and -0.107 respectively, which are less than 0.05.Among them, the grade is inversely proportional to "husband and wife feelings", "their own physiological status and medical status" and "not limited to the traditional way of birth", indicating that the lower grade college students pay more attention to feelings, their own physical condition and the way of birth. It is because their education is more advanced, their thoughts are more open, and they pay more attention to their own feelings, rather than being affected by the traditional backward thinking such as "family succession". The grade has a positive correlation with "employment environment" and "birth cost", indicating that senior college students pay more attention to economic problems. It is because in the University, senior students are often closer to the society and more aware of the troubles brought by economic problems. Therefore, age differences have different views on fertility.

(3) Different regions have different fertility concepts

The following are the specific analysis: the location of the registered residence and the "better employment environment" you will want to have children. "The cost of childbirth will affect your fertility wish". "The affection between husband and wife will affect your fertility wish". "Your physical condition and medical condition will affect your fertility wish". There are significant correlations between 5 items of "childbirth is not confined to traditional birth mode". Their p values are 0.024, 0.046, -0.012, 0.021 and -0.066 respectively. The registered residence is registered positively with the "employment environment", "the cost of childbirth", "the physical condition and the medical condition", mainly because the pressure of the employment of the urban registered residence is great, and the educational cost, living cost and medical treatment have risen substantially. Therefore, the urban registered residence students are particularly concerned about the employment, economic and medical problems. The location of the registered residence is inversely proportional to the "marital relationship" and "not limited to the traditional mode of birth". It shows that the education in the rural areas is more advanced than before, and the thought is more progressive, which is obviously less affected by the traditional concept of childbearing. It affirms our achievements in the governance of backward thinking.

(4) Whether they are the only child affects their fertility concept

The specific analysis is as follows: whether it is an only child or not shows a significant correlation with five items: whether it is an only child and "if the employment environment becomes better, you will more want to have children", "the birth cost will affect your birth intention", "the relationship between husband and wife will affect your birth intention", "your own physiological condition and medical condition will affect your birth intention" and "having children is not limited to traditional birth methods". Among them, there is a negative correlation with "employment environment", "husband and wife feelings" and "their own physiological and medical conditions", indicating that the only child does not think that "employment environment", "their own physiological and medical conditions" and "husband and wife feelings" will affect the fertility intention. According to the calculation of age, the only child's parents are generally civil servants and other institutions, It is in line with the one-child policy of institutions in China in the early years. Therefore, the family is bound to have sufficient information and enjoy additional treatment for multiple birth families, and there are few views on employment and medical treatment.

4. CONCLUSIONS

Research and analysis show that college students' fertility intention is generally not high, and college students generally lack in-depth understanding of the three child policy, and the impact of fertility policy is limited. At the same time, the traditional fertility concepts such as "raising children to prevent old age, prioritizing boys over girls, having more children and more blessings, and being unfilial without offspring" have been significantly weakened among college students, and the fertility concept has become more modern. The factors of contemporary college students' reproductive intention are diversified, which are greatly affected by economy and gender preference. There are gender differences in reproductive intention. Girls begin to pay attention to their own improvement and development, tend to have fewer or no children, or do not want to have a second child in a short time. Women will pay more attention to their physical condition and the degree of protection of their rights and interests. In terms of fertility, women's reproductive intention has a decisive impact.

5. SUGGESTIONS

1. We will build supporting policies to encourage young people to have children in an all-round way.

College students do not want to have students, but dare not. Having children not only costs a lot of time and energy, but also a lot of money. Many people are willing to have children, but they don't have children.

The restrictive factors include the cost of education, the high cost of support and the heavy burden of care. College students are facing severe employment pressure. It can be seen from the record high number of postgraduate entrance examination every year. The number of postgraduate entrance examination in 2022 is 4.57 million, more than half of fresh graduates. In order to encourage young people to give birth, we must reduce birth costs, build a comprehensive supporting policy to encourage birth, adhere to the overall planning of birth rearing education, and improve the gold content and implementation of the package of policies to encourage birth. For example, we can establish a childcare subsidy system, formulate and implement housing rental subsidies and mortgage interest discount policies to take care of families with many children, formulate and implement special additional deductions of individual income tax for children, give priority to ensuring the same school and school enrollment of families with many children, and speed up the construction of inclusive childcare services for 0-3 years old[10].

2. We will strive to create a social atmosphere that encourages young people to have children.

Strengthen cultural guidance and social publicity, and widely advocate the concept of population, marriage and love, fertility and family in line with the guidance of encouraging fertility; Create a three-dimensional marriage and love education model with school education as the main body, family education as the auxiliary and social education as the influence, and make marriage and love education a compulsory course for college students. We will strengthen socialized support services for young people's marriage and love, marriage and childbirth, actively guide public opinion, deal with bad social practices such as marriage habits and sky high bride price gifts, prevent excessive exaggeration of emotions such as fear of marriage and pregnancy, minimize the anxiety, doubts and concerns of young people's marriage and childbirth, and vigorously optimize the birth and childbirth friendly social environment.

3.We will vigorously protect the rights and interests of mothers and women in employment

Establish and improve the system of respecting mothers and rewarding more mothers. The legal regulation of women's wage and maternity benefits should be strengthened. Adopt appropriate incentive policies to support employers and enterprises to employ female employees. Promote gender equality in families, study and formulate a reasonable paternity leave and parental leave system, and encourage men to share the responsibility of child care. Improve women's pregnancy and childbirth experience, popularize labor analgesia and include it into the scope of medical insurance

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