



IUSSP Scientific Panel on Policies in the Context of Low Fertility

International Conference on Low Fertility and Reproductive Health in East and Southeast Asia

Hotel Grand Palace, Tokyo, Japan, 12-14 November 2008

The international conference was held at The Hotel Grand Palace in Tokyo, Japan, on 12-14 November 2008, and was organized by the Nihon University Population Research Institute (NUPRI), in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the IUSSP Scientific Panel on Policies in the Context of Low Fertility, and the Mainichi Daily Newspapers. The conference was funded by a grant from the Academic Frontier Project for Private Universities, which is provided by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) for the years 2006-2010. UNFPA also funded a part of the costs relating to the travel expenses of participants from developing countries. A total of 60 participants attended the conference from various fields including demography, economics, sociology, anthropology, medicine, and environmental science.

The goal of the conference was two-fold: 1) to better understand the determinants of low fertility in East and Southeast Asia, including an assessment of the effectiveness of policies aimed at raising fertility; and 2) to identify and analyze the sexual and reproductive health issues that characterize low-fertility populations in the region. Accordingly, the first part of the conference focused on fertility trends and factors affecting fertility in East and Southeast Asia, particularly noting policy responses in the different countries considered. Increasing rates of non-marriage observed in the region were also addressed as a cause of low fertility. The second part of the conference concentrated on sexual and reproductive health issues in low fertility contexts. Discussions highlighted the importance of investigating not only socio-economic causes of low fertility, but also the bio-environmental aspects, such as the impacts of endocrine disruptors on sperm quality and female fecundity and the frequency of marital intercourse, for a more holistic understanding of low fertility. Finally, the lack of scientific knowledge and the need for more research, particularly on adolescent sexual and reproductive health in the region, was pointed out.

The conference was covered by the Mainichi Daily Newspaper. Journalists from the newspaper company attended sessions and also individually interviewed several speakers whose research they were particularly interested in. These interviews were published in a morning newspaper the following week.

Summary of Sessions

Session 1.1.: Low-fertility countries

Chairperson: Peter McDonald

Discussant: Vegard Skirbekk

This session discussed developments in childbearing patterns in countries with low fertility, particularly in East and Southeast Asia. The session encompassed three papers, one on China, one on Mongolia and one on Sweden, countries that have experienced below- replacement fertility, but not very low fertility levels. The three papers addressed the causes of the transition to low fertility and focused on policy responses.

The paper on China (Expanding Production, Shrinking Reproduction: Does Globalization Have Anything To Do with Below Replacement Fertility in China? Feng Wang, Yong Cai, Zhenzhen Zheng, and Baochang Gu) stressed that the impact of increased standards of living and economic uncertainty, a less traditional view of marriage and childbearing, as well as a sustained government birth control program characterized by social mobilization, a public propaganda campaign, and routine surveillance form the broad context of China's new reproductive regime.

The second paper by Thomas Spoorenberg and Enkhstetseg Byambaa looked at the recent childbearing trends in Mongolia in "Future Prospects for Low Fertility in Mongolia?". With 2.34 children per woman in 2007, Mongolia today appears an exception in East Asia where fertility rates are far below replacement level. Moreover, from its historical nadir of 1.95 children per women in 2005, fertility there is on the rise. This interesting development could possibly be attributed to pronatalist policies introduced by the Mongolian government.

The third paper ("The peculiar Swedish fertility experience", by Thomas Lindh) discussed whether Swedish social policies are behind the phenomenon of constant cohort fertility rates and rapidly fluctuating total fertility rates.

Session 1.2.: Ultra-low fertility

Chairperson: Baochang Gu

Discussant: Pau Baizán

The papers presented in this session linked fertility trends and patterns in East Asian societies with several economic, social and political developments. Naohiro Ogawa, Andrew Mason, Amonthep Chawla, and Rikiya Matsukura examined the relationship between the direct cost of raising children up to self-supporting ages and the number of children parents have by drawing upon the National Transfer Accounts for various Asian countries. Although there are considerable differences in the intensity of the relationship between these two variables in Asia, the computed results suggest that the two variables have a negative association.

The paper "Fertility decline to below lowest-low level in South Korea" by Minja Kim Choe and Robert Retherford provided a detailed analysis of fertility (and marriage) trends and patterns in the last four decades, using the "birth history reconstruction" method. Their analyses show a very fast evolution in fertility trends, but little change in the way people form couples (no cohabitation or children outside marriage). The role of policies and population programs on fertility trends was reviewed, with a stress on the importance of parallel changes in educational attainment and increased competition in the labor market.

Using an economics approach, Sang-Hyop Lee, Naohiro Ogawa, and Rikiya Matsukura provided an in-depth theoretical and empirical analysis of the effects of childcare leave on fertility and women's labor force participation. The results suggest that taking childcare leave for the first child increases the likelihood of having an additional child. But the childcare leave can in turn lead to a widening disparity amongst female workers. Reducing the disparity between eligible and non-eligible workers might alleviate the adverse effect of childcare leave on fertility.

Vegard Skirbekk explored whether the "low-fertility trap hypothesis" applies to Japan, analyzing the relevant sociological and economic mechanisms, both from an empirical and a theoretical perspective. He concluded that in terms of the first mechanism, shrinking cohorts of reproductive age, Japan is in a low fertility trap. Nevertheless, he answered with a less categorical "yes" concerning the effects of changes in childbearing ideals and relative economic conditions of the young. And finally, he stated that he considered the "low-fertility trap hypothesis" quite plausible in terms of how continuously increasing education leads to postponed and depressed fertility.

The four papers considered in this session provide important clues concerning the policies that may be effective to raise fertility in the context of East Asian countries. For instance, it has been suggested that creating more full-time job opportunities for young workers or implementing parental leave programs would boost fertility. The role of educational expenses seems to be particularly crucial, given that their greatest portion is currently shouldered by parents. Public spending could subsidize "high quality" children, reducing the corresponding costs for parents, and consequently encouraging higher fertility. Furthermore, the analyses by Skirbekk provide support to the relevance of tempo policies for increasing fertility in Japan.

Session 1.3.: Marriage patterns and fertility

Chairperson: Jung Han Park

Discussant: Minja Kim Choe

Most countries in East and Southeast Asia with below replacement level fertility have experienced substantial delays in marriage and increases in non-marriage during 1970-2000. In these countries, the changes in the marriage pattern have contributed substantially to the decline of fertility because childbearing is limited almost entirely to married women. The trend of less marriage and later marriage is continuing in the 21st century in these countries with a few exceptions. China and Vietnam have not experienced a sharp increase in non-marriage yet. Another interesting exception is the case of Singapore where the government has taken serious efforts to increase the marriage rate. The proportion of singles in Singapore did not increase since 1990 after a sharp increase in the 1970-1990 period. However, considering that Singapore has many unique social, economic, and political characteristics, the question of whether its experiences can be adopted by other countries with low marriage rates remains unclear.

Marriage rate depends substantially on the level of education in most countries but the compositional effect of education on prevalence of marriage is not large. The decrease in marriage rates is observed in all educational groups. Much of the decline in marriage is due to the unavailability of suitable spouses. For women, the unavailability problem is most serious among those with highest level of education, but for men, those with lowest level of education have more serious problems of finding suitable spouses.

The linkage between low marriage rate and low fertility rate is likely to be a two-way causation. Less marriage results in low fertility but at the same time, disincentives to have children results in less marriage.

In some countries with low marriage rates among less educated men, substantial increases in international marriages have taken place. For example, the number of marriages with foreign-born brides increased from 619 in 1990 to 31,180 in 2005 in South Korea. Fertility among foreign-born brides in Korea depends positively on the degree of social integration or assimilation of the foreign-born brides. Religion seems to play a significant role in social integration and assimilation.

There is some evidence that cohabitation is increasing in East and Southeast Asian countries but the prevalence is still very low compared to European countries with low levels of marriage. But there are indications that cohabitation will increase in the coming years especially in major metropolitan areas such as Bangkok. Interestingly, although premarital sexual relationships are becoming more common, premarital births remain at very low levels in East and Southeast Asian countries.

Session 1.4.: Impacts of institutional factors and policies on fertility

Chairperson: Gayl Ness

Discussant: Gavin Jones

There were four papers in this session, which led to lively discussion. In his paper “Institutional determinants of fertility as distinct from individual determinants” Peter McDonald developed the theme that analysis of macro-social problems (such as the problem of low fertility) must pay attention to both structural and micro-level issues. It is theoretically impossible to explain them by only considering changes in the circumstances or characteristics of individuals. We tend to take more notice of changes in the social-institutional context when the changes are dramatic, but when the change is less spectacular and more diffuse, it is often passed over in research. Risk assessment is particularly important in today’s economic context. McDonald also argues that those advanced countries where fertility is only moderately low are countries in which government policy supports the combination of work and family for mothers.

Delayed marriage can account for most of the Japanese fertility decline. The paper by Bumpass, Rindfuss, Choe and Tsuya argues that the “tectonic forces” confronting the traditional marriage package in Japan are creating a separation of many of the elements once bound closely together, reshaping the family institution in the process. Marriage has lost some of its key comparative benefits, and the cost of the marriage package for women has arguably increased. Policies to ease the burden of the marriage package are likely to require an extremely high investment if they are to overcome the forces reducing fertility. There was little dissent from this conclusion in the discussion, with reference not only to Japan but also to countries such as Korea, and general agreement with McDonald’s argument that the institutional context of East Asian countries provides little ground for hope that fertility will increase from current very low levels.

Policy issues are at the forefront in China, given the ongoing debate about the need to relax the one-child policy. The two papers on China, using different methods and approaches, come to remarkably similar conclusions: relaxation of the policy would lead to less increases in fertility than is often assumed. In the case of the paper by Chen et al, which conducted

province-level analysis of determinants of fertility, the authors recognized that their conclusion that development was more important than policy in its effects on TFR might have been different if time series analysis had been possible, and thus remains tentative. It does receive support, however, from the study on Jiangsu province by Zhenzhen Zheng and Baochang Gu, which indicates very low fertility intentions even amongst those who are permitted to have more than one child by present policies. In the discussion, it was noted that this study deals with one of the most highly-developed regions of China, and that a study of a similar kind in one of the less developed regions might yield different results, with somewhat different implications for policy.

Session 2.1.: Reproductive health and infertility

Chairperson: Naohiro Ogawa

Discussant: Robert Retherford

Four papers were presented in this session: "The observational study on demographic study of infertility related to the development of 'assisted reproductive technology' in Japan," by Kenji Hayashi; "Deteriorating male reproductive health, decreasing fertility rates and the possible influence of endocrine disruptors," by Tina Harmer Lassen, Tina Kold Jensen, and Niels E. Skakkebaek (presented by Skakkebaek); "Current semen quality of Japanese men: An analysis of sperm counts," by Teruaki Iwamoto, Miki Yoshiike, and Shiari Nozawa (presented by Iwamoto); and "Environment and women's reproductive health," by John McLachlan and Taisen Iguchi (presented by Iguchi).

Niels Skakkebaek noted that over the past 60 years or so, sperm counts have declined dramatically in many countries of the world. The evidence, though incomplete, indicates that the declines have occurred primarily because of the accumulation of chemicals in the food supply and environment. A number of these chemicals act as feminizing endocrine disruptors in human development, especially in the fetal stage of development. Skakkebaek posits a "testicular dysgenesis syndrome" in males, characterized prenatally by lowered fetal testosterone, postnatally by reduced anogenital distance and elevated rates of cryptorchidism and hypospadias, and, in adulthood, reduced sperm count, reduced sperm quality, and elevated rates of testicular cancer. Iwamoto's work on Japan indicates, however, that although low sperm counts characterize the Kawasaki-Yokohama area of Japan that Iwamoto et al. studied, Japan does not have elevated levels of testicular cancer and hypospadias. It was suggested that Japan's high consumption of soy, which is rich in phytoestrogens, may play a role in the low sperm counts observed by Iwamoto et al. Iguchi discussed the effects of endocrine-disrupting chemicals on women's reproductive health, drawing also on evidence from animal studies. These chemicals are implicated in rising rates of uterine fibroid disease and various types of cancers affecting women. He also cited evidence that, over the past 200 years in Europe and the United States, age at menarche has declined by about 4 years. The decline in age at menarche accelerated after 1940, perhaps due mainly to the rapid increase of feminizing endocrine-disrupting chemicals in the food supply and environment, although this interpretation is somewhat speculative given the fragmentary nature of the evidence.

In his paper, Hayashi presented evidence of the rising use of assisted reproduction technology (ART) in Japan, possibly related to low sperm counts, although other factors, such as late marriage and improvements in the effectiveness and availability of ART, also play a major role. Retherford, in his discussion of the papers, posed the question of what demographers could contribute to research in the area of infertility and suggested that some additional questions could be added to national fertility surveys, relating to waiting time to conception

among couples trying to conceive. Over several surveys, such questions could provide useful data on trends in fecundability, specified by age, parity, duration in parity, and other relevant demographic, biomedical, and socioeconomic characteristics for which information is collected in the surveys.

Session 2.2.: Lifestyle and sexual and reproductive behaviors

Chairperson: Hirofumi Ando

Discussant: An-Magritt Jensen

The session included four papers: Does Promoting Reproductive Health Benefit Japanese Fertility? New Policy Dimensions of Very Low Fertility, by Ryuzaburo Sato and Miho Iwasawa; “Sexless” Japanese marriages: A warning for the worldn by Yoshie Moriki, Kenji Hayashi, and Rikiya Matsukura; The effects of modern lifestyles on fecundity and fertility, by Tina Kold Jensen, Tina Harmer Lassen and Niels E. Skakkebæk; Low Fertility and Reproductive Health in China, by Yimin Cheng and Baochang Gu.

The four presentations differed in their approach of how life styles impact fecundity and fertility, in particular on biological versus social/behavioral factors. The two first presentations emphasized ways in which social/behavioral factors impacted fertility. Ryuzaburo Sato raised the question of whether promoting reproductive health would benefit Japanese fertility. It is argued that Japan is possibly among the countries in which people are the least sexually active in the world, with regard to the timing of first sexual intercourse, number of sexual partners, and frequency of sex and concludes that there is something wrong with Japan’s sex culture. Two options are given to the future of fertility. On the one hand reproductive health policies might lead to a further drop through reduction of unintended pregnancies and births. On the other hand, the realization of more gender-equal practices in sexual relationship might lead to an increase in fertility. Yoshie Moriki’s presentation also raises this issue on sexless marriages. Several sources have confirmed that sexlessness is widespread. About one in four marriages had no sex during the last year and 44% had no sex during in the last month (the definition of sexlessness). Particular attention is given to the passiveness of Japanese men in terms of marital sex. Their analyses indicate that long-working hours may be counter-productive to sex in marriages. The authors maintain that marital intercourse is not a purely private matter and should be treated as a subject for policy interventions. More attention should be given to the aspects impacting the basic biological action for fertility: sexual activity.

The two latter papers emphasized ways in which life styles impacted biological factors and the implications for fecundity. Tina Kold Jensen stated that low fertility in many Western countries have multiple causes including biological factors affected by life styles. One hypothesis is that such life style factors may influence the time to pregnancy. This paper reviews research on the relationship between life styles in which too much food, alcohol, coffee or cigarettes may lower the ability to conceive. It is concluded that life styles – as defined through these factors – are impacting fecundity negatively, in particular through obesity and smoking. The presentation by Yimin Cheng also focused on fecundity but in this case emphasizing risk behavior among the unmarried. Aspects discussed include: premarital sex, premarital pregnancy, induced abortion, infertility, birth defects, gynecological cancer, and gynecological diseases. Particular attention is given to the positive association between late marriage, childbirth and child defects of various kinds as well as to cancers in the reproductive system. It is concluded that the Chinese government should turn its attention more towards unmarried young people, unwanted pregnancies and abortion as well as

counteracting the rising trends of birth defects by promoting 'appropriate' pregnancies and younger age at child birth. In her discussion An-Magritt Jensen pointed to differences in social acceptance of births outside marriage between Scandinavia and some Asian countries, as well as the historical changes in the former countries. She concluded with a need to include children in the analysis of low fertility: are we moving towards child hostile societies favoring childfree life styles?

Session 2.3.: Sexual behavior of young people in low fertility contexts

Chairperson: Nico van Nimwegen

Discussant: Iqbal Shah

The session focused on adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) in low fertility contexts. More specifically, the session addressed the question of whether the weakening of parent-child communication and not having siblings for sharing experiences and seeking advice have had an impact on adolescent sexual and reproductive health. In addition, the session explored whether unmarried adolescents in low fertility contexts manifest increased risk-taking behavior and poor sexual and reproductive health outcomes, such as unwanted pregnancy and abortion or STIs.

The paper entitled "low fertility and mixed methods study", by Uraiwan Vuttanont, Trisha Greenhalgh and Petra Boynton, provided an overview of factors which may account for fertility decline, including changes both at the societal and individual level that constrain fertility. It also covered the role of sex education and the dilemmas that parents face in communicating with their children on issues related to sexuality. The paper presented insights on adolescent sexual behavior in Chiang Mai, Thailand by using narrative interviews with stakeholders and life history interviews, a survey of 2302 teenagers and 20 focus group discussions, as well as a survey of 351 parents and focus group discussions with 23 parents.

The second paper entitled "Premarital sexual attitudes and practices among adolescents in Vietnam: situation and determinants", by Quang Lam Tran, was based on a national survey of Vietnamese youth, interviewing 4,609 adolescent boys and girls aged 14-19 years. The paper considered the determinants of the attitude towards premarital sex and premarital sexual experience. Adolescent boys had more liberal attitudes towards premarital sex than adolescent girls. The actual premarital experience was reported to be low – only 2.1% of 4,069 reported to have had sexual intercourse. It was unclear whether sexual experience was underreported by the respondents.

The third paper entitled "Premarital pregnancies among migrant workers: a case of domestic helpers in Hong Kong", by AKM Ahsan Ullah, focused on a vulnerable and under-studied group. The paper provided the historical overview of foreign domestic help and the situation in Hong Kong where 5% of the total population is foreign domestic helpers (FDHs). The data showed that 97% of the 336 FDHs have had premarital sexual experience and 36% of them experienced a pregnancy. Most (61%) of these pregnancies were unwanted and many were terminated by induced abortion.

Together, these papers provided new insights on sexual and reproductive health of unmarried young people in Thailand and Vietnam and among the foreign domestic helpers in Hong Kong. These papers also identified major gaps in knowledge about ASRH in low fertility contexts of East and Southeast Asia.

Session 2.4.: Other reproductive health issues

Chairperson: Larry Bumpass

Discussant: Aphichat Chamrathirong

Three different papers were presented and discussed in this session. They are meant to provide strong views on different issues of reproductive health studies. The three papers deal with the P/FP Program in Viet Nam; RH services utilization in China; and HIV/AIDS in East and Southeast Asia. In general, the papers on Viet Nam and on East and Southeast Asia focus on the supply side in contrast to the paper on China, where the demand side of the program is the main focus.

The paper on Viet Nam describes the success of the supply side of the Viet Nam national family planning program, which has brought down fertility to under replacement level along with a slower population growth rate. Factors related to this success are on the supply side, including the quality of services, strong IEC activities and valuable international assistance. The paper also draws attention to emerging issues facing the national program in the coming years.

The paper on China, on the other hand, focuses on the demand side of the program by looking at the utilization of reproductive health services. The paper uses a contextual approach to investigate whether uneven development at village and country level is creating disparities in the use of reproductive health service. The contributions of the study are the development of comprehensive multi-level models to study the community and individual attributes to RH utilization. The study finally provides proof of the significance of the demand side of utilization of RH services in China, and that the program in China is not all program-driven as it is believed to be, but demand-driven as well.

As for the last paper on the HIV/AIDS situation and responses in East and Southeast Asia, the author describes in great detail the state of the epidemic, including the varying levels and trends of the infection and changing routes of transition. The paper stresses the important national responses to the epidemic and focuses on the successful prevention program which requires effective prevention strategies addressing the right target groups. The case of the 100% condom use program is highlighted.

The discussion of the three papers concerns generally the fact that each paper focuses either on the supply or the demand side of the RH program, but does not adequately consider the interaction and the concurrent effect of both the supply and demand sides. In the Viet Nam paper, studies on the supply side focus especially on the availability and quality of services, but appear to be limited to users and non-users' perspectives, and on the constraints of program scaling up to a wider target population. Because of this perspective, fertility disparity is viewed as a failure of the program. Compared to China, fertility disparity as such is addressed as varying demand for fertility and the reproductive right scheme is respected. In this respect, the Viet Nam paper appears to emphasize only the RH strategy rather than also the Population and Development Strategy (focusing on the FP programs rather than the beyond family planning measures). Prioritizing the supply-oriented strategy, the author does not elaborate on how to make a transition from a P/FP policy to population and development policy to meet "new challenges" in the future.



**International Conference on Low Fertility and Reproductive Health
in East and Southeast Asia**
organized by Nihon University Population Research Institute (NUPRI)
in cooperation with WHO, UNFPA, IUSSP,
and The Mainichi Daily Newspapers

Tokyo, Japan
November 12-14, 2008

Program

Day 1 (Wednesday, 12 November, 2008) At "Matsu" Room (#302) of the Hotel Grand Palace	
8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:30	Opening ceremony Welcoming address: Takeo Sakai (President, Nihon University) Opening remarks: Iqbal Shah (WHO) Werner Haug (UNFPA) Pau Baizan (IUSSP)
9:30-10:00	Photo session & Coffee break
Topic 1: Fertility trends and factors affecting fertility in East and Southeast Asia	
10:00-10:30	Keynote speech 1 "Social norms, institutions, and policies in low fertility countries": Anne Gauthier (University of Calgary)
Session 1.1	Low-fertility countries Chairperson: Peter McDonald Discussant: Vegard Skirbekk
10:30-10:50	Paper #1: Expanding production, shrinking reproduction: Does globalization have anything to do with below-replacement fertility in China? by Feng Wang, Yong Cai, Zhenzhen Zheng, and Baochang Gu
10:50-11:10	Paper #2: Future prospects for low fertility in Mongolia? by Tomas Spoorenberg and Enkhtsetseg Byambaa
11:10-11:30	Paper #3: The peculiar Swedish fertility experience by Thomas Lindh
11:30-12:00	Discussion, followed by questions and answers
12:00-13:00	Lunch (a lunch box is provided)

Session 1.2	Ultra-low fertility Chairperson: Baochang Gu Discussant: Pau Baizan
13:00-13:20	Paper #4: Declining Fertility and the Rising Cost of Children: What Can NTA Say about Low Fertility in Japan and Other Asia Countries? by Naohiro Ogawa, Andrew Mason, Amonthep Chawla, and Rikiya Matsukura
13:20-13:40	Paper #5: Fertility decline to below lowest-low level in South Korea by Minja Kim Choe and Robert Retherford
13:40-14:00	Paper #6: Is childcare leave effective in Japan? by Sang-Hyop Lee, Naohiro Ogawa, and Rikiya Matsukura
14:00-14:20	Paper #7: Is Japan in a low fertility trap? by Vegard Skirbekk
14:20-14:50	Discussion, followed by questions and answers
14:50-15:10	Coffee break
Session 1.3	Marriage patterns and fertility Chairperson: Jung Han Park Discussant: Minja Kim Choe
15:10-15:30	Paper #8: Emerging trends in marriage in the low fertility countries of East and Southeast Asia by Gavin Jones and Bina Gubhaju
15:30-15:50	Paper #9: Marital unions and unmarried cohabitation in the context of Thailand: are married people and cohabitators different? by Aree Jampaklay
15:50-16:10	Paper #10: Immigrant social capital, adaptation and fertility among foreign wives in Korea by Doo-Sub Kim
16:10-16:40	Discussion, followed by questions and answers
18:00 ~	Reception hosted by NUPRI (at the Hotel Grand Palace)

Day 2 (Thursday, 13 November, 2008)

At "Matsu" Room (#302) of the Hotel Grand Palace

Session 1.4	Impacts of institutional factors and policies on fertility Chairperson: Gayl Ness Discussant: Gavin Jones
9:00-9:20	Paper #11: Low fertility as a macro-sociological issue: an application to East Asia by Peter McDonald
9:20-9:40	Paper #12: The institutional context of low fertility: the case of Japan by Larry Bumpass, Ronald Rindfuss, Minja Kim Choe, and Noriko Tsuya
9:40-10:00	Paper #13: Province-level variation in the achievement of below-replacement fertility in China by Jiajian Chen, Robert Retherford, Minja Kim Choe, Li Xiru, and Hu Ying
10:00-10:20	Paper #14: Below-replacement fertility and childbearing intention in Jiangsu Province, China by Zhenzhen Zheng and Baochang Gu

10:20-10:50	Discussion, followed by questions and answers
10:50-11:10	Coffee break
Topic 2: Sexual and reproductive health in low fertility context	
11:10-11:40	Keynote speech 2 “Choice or chance: Low fertility and its implications for policies and programmes”: Paul Van Look (WHO, Reproductive Health and Research)
11:40-13:00	Lunch
Session 2.1	Reproductive health and infertility Chairperson: Naohiro Ogawa Discussant: Robert Retherford
13:00-13:20	Paper #15: The observational study on demographic aspect of infertility related to the development of “assisted reproductive technology” in Japan by Kenji Hayashi
13:20-13:40	Paper #16: Deteriorating male reproductive health, decreasing fertility rates and the possible influence of endocrine disrupters by Tina Harmer Lassen, Tina Kold Jensen, and Niels E. Skakkebaek
13:40-14:00	Paper #17: Current semen quality of Japanese men: An analysis of sperm count by Teruaki Iwamoto, Miki Yoshiike, and Shiari Nozawa
14:00-14:20	Paper #18: Environment and women’s health (A case for endocrine disruption) by John McLachlan and Taisen Iguchi
14:20-14:50	Discussion, followed by questions and answers
14:50-15:10	Coffee break
Session 2.2	Lifestyle and sexual and reproductive behaviors Chairperson: Hirofumi Ando Discussant: An-Magritt Jensen
15:10-15:30	Paper #19: Does promoting reproductive health benefit Japanese fertility? : New policy dimensions of very low fertility by Ryuzaburo Sato and Miho Iwasawa
15:30-15:50	Paper #20: “Sexless” Japanese marriages: A warning for the world by Yoshie Moriki, Kenji Hayashi, and Rikiya Matsukura
15:50-16:10	Paper #21: The effects of modern lifestyles on fecundity and fertility by Tina Kold Jensen, Tina Harmer Lassen, and Niels E. Skakkebaek
16:10-16:30	Paper #22: Low fertility and reproductive health in China by Yimin Cheng and Baochang Gu
16:30-17:00	Discussion, followed by questions and answers

Day 3 (Friday, 14 November, 2008) At "Matsu" Room (#302) of the Hotel Grand Palace	
Session 2.3	Sexual behavior of young people in low fertility contexts Chairperson: Nicolaas Van Nimwegen Discussant: Iqbal Shah
9:00-9:20	Paper #23: Low fertility and mixed methods study by Uraiwan Vuttanont, Trisha Greenhalgh, and Petra Boynton
9:20-9:40	Paper #24: Premarital sexual attitude and practices among adolescents in Vietnam: situation and determinants by Quang Lam Tran
9:40-10:00	Paper #25: Premarital pregnancies among migrant workers: A case of domestic helpers in Hong Kong by Ahsan Ullah
10:00-10:30	Discussion, followed by questions and answers
10:30-10:50	Coffee break
Session 2.4	Other reproductive health issues Chairperson: Larry Bumpass Discussant: Aphichat Chamrathirong
10:50-11:10	Paper #26: Low fertility achievement and new challenges to the Vietnam's Population and Family Planning Program by Vu Quy Nhan and Thi Phuong Mai Le
11:10-11:30	Paper #27: HIV/AIDS situation and responses in East and Southeast Asia by Wiwat Rojanapithayakorn
11:30-11:50	Paper #28: Community-level effects on reproductive health services utilization in rural China by Zheng Wu, Shuzhuo Li, Christoph Schimmele, Yan Wei, Quanbao Jiang, and Zhen Guo
11:50-12:20	Discussion, followed by questions and answers
12:20-12:50	Wrap-up presentation by Gayl Ness
12:50-13:00	Closing ceremony

Day 4 & 5 (Saturday, 15 November, 2008; Sunday, 16 November, 2008) At NUPRI	
9:00 ~	Editorial meeting

**International Conference on Low Fertility and Reproductive Health
in East and Southeast Asia**

Tokyo, Japan
November 12-14, 2008

List of Participants

Last Name	First Name	Affiliation	Email
Ando	Hirofumi	Population Research Institute / Advanced Research Institute for the Sciences and Humanities, Nihon University, Japan	hiroando1@hotmail.com
Baizan	Pau	Department of Political and Social Sciences, Pompeu Fabra University, Spain	pau.baizan@upf.edu
Bumpass	Larry	University of Wisconsin Madison, USA	bumpass@ssc.wisc.edu
Byambaa	Enkhtsetseg	Population Teaching and Research Center, Mongolia	enkh@rocketmail.com
Cai	Yong	Department of Sociology, University of Utah, USA	yong.cai@utah.edu
Chamrathirong	Aphichat	Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University, Thailand	pracr@mahidol.ac.th
Chen	Jiajian	Population and Health Studies, Research Program, East-West Center, USA	chenj@eastwestcenter.org
Cheng	Yimin	National Research Institute for Family Planning, China	cym55@2911.net
Choe	Minja Kim	Population and Health Studies, Research Program, East-West Center, USA	mchoe@hawaii.edu
Gauthier	Anne	Department of Sociology, University of Calgary, Canada	gauthier@ucalgary.ca
Gu	Baochang	Center for Population and Development Studies, Renmin University of China	bcgu@263.net
Gubhaju	Bina	Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore,	aribg@nus.edu.sg
Haug	Werner	Director of Technical Division, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), USA	haug@unfpa.org
Hayashi	Kenji	National Institute of Public Health, Japan	kenji@niph.go.jp
Hiramine	Motoaki	Office of Research and Coordination,, Nihon University, Japan	hiramine.motoaki@nihon-u.ac.jp
Iguchi	Taisen	National Institute for Basic Biology, National Institute of Natural Sciences, Japan	taisen@nibb.ac.jp
Isohata	Kumiko	Office of Research and Coordination,, Nihon University, Japan	isohata.kumiko@nihon-u.ac.jp
Iwamoto	Teruaki	Division of Male Infertility, Center for Infertility and IVF, International University of Health and Welfare Hospital, Japan	t4iwa@iuhw.ac.jp

Jampaklay	Aree	Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University, Thailand	praun@mahidol.ac.th
Jensen	Tina Kold	Department of Environmental Medicine, University of Southern Denmark	tkjensen@health.sdu.dk
Jensen	An-Magritt	Department of Sociology and Political Science, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway	anmagritt.jensen@svt.ntnu.no
Jones	Gavin	Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore	arigwj@nus.edu.sg
Kim	Doo Sub	Department of Sociology, Hanyang University, Korea	duskim@hanyang.ac.kr
Le	Thi Phuong Mai	Population Council, Viet Nam	ltpmai@popcouncil.org
Lee	Sang-Hyop	East-West Center, University of Hawaii, USA	leesang@hawaii.edu
Li	Shuzhuo	Population Research Institute, Xi'an Jiaotong University, China	shzhli@mail.xjtu.edu.cn
Lindh	Thomas	Institute for Futures Studies, Sweden	thomas.lindh@framtidsstudier.se
Makabe	Naomi	Population Research Institute, Nihon University, Japan	makabe.naomi@eco.nihon-u.ac.jp
Matsukura	Rikiya	Population Research Institute / Advanced Research Institute for the Sciences and Humanities, Nihon University, Japan	matukura@eco.nihon-u.ac.jp
McDonald	Peter	Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute, Australian National University	Peter.McDonald@anu.edu.au
Moriki	Yoshie	Population Research Institute, Nihon University, Japan	moriki.yoshie@nihon-u.ac.jp
Morita	Yoshiki	Office of Research and Coordination,, Nihon University, Japan	morita.yoshiki@nihon-u.ac.jp
Musulini	Ilja	Population Research Institute, Nihon University, Japan	nupri.eco@nihon-u.ac.jp
Ness	Gayl	Department of Sociology, University of Michigan, USA	gaylness@aol.com
Nhan	Vu Quy	Freelance Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Reproductive Health, Viet Nam	nhanvq@gmail.com
Ogawa	Naohiro	Population Research Institute / Advanced Research Institute for the Sciences and Humanities, Nihon University, Japan	ogawa@eco.nihon-u.ac.jp
Ogawa	Maki	Population Research Institute, Nihon University, Japan	ogawa.maki@nihon-u.ac.jp
Park	Jung Han	School of Medicine, Catholic University of Daegu, Republic of Korea	jhpark@cu.ac.kr
Qvortrup	Jens	Department of Sociology and Political Science, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway	jens.qvortrup@svt.ntnu.no
Retherford	Robert	Population and Health Studies, East-West Center, USA	retherfr@eastwestcenter.org
Rindfuss	Ronald	University of North Carolina, USA	rindfuss@unc.edu

Rojanapithayakorn	Wiwat	World Health Organization, China	wiwatr@chn.wpro.who.int
Saito	Yasuhiko	Population Research Institute / Advanced Research Institute for the Sciences and Humanities, Nihon University, Japan	saito.yasuhiko@nihon-u.ac.jp
Sakai	Takeo	President of Nihon University, Japan	
Sato	Ryuzaburo	National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Japan	ry3-sato@ipss.go.jp
Shah	Iqbal	Department of Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organization, Switzerland	shahi@who.int
Skakkebæk	Niels	University Department of Growth and Reproduction, National University Hospital, Denmark	nes@rh.dk
Skirbekk	Vegard Fykse	World Population Program, IIASA, Austria	skirbekk@iiasa.ac.at
Tokorozawa	Ai	Population Research Institute, Nihon University, Japan	nupri.eco@nihon-u.ac.jp
Tran	Quang Lam	General Office for Population and Family Planning, Ministry of Health, Vietnam	tquanglam@yahoo.com
Tsuya	Noriko	Keio University, Japan	
Ullah	AKM Ahsan	Institute of Population Health, University of Ottawa, Canada	ahsan722001@yahoo.com
Van Look	Paul	Department of Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organization, Switzerland	vanlookp@who.int
Van Nimwegen	Nico	Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI), The Netherlands	nimwegen@nidi.nl
Vuttanont	Uraiwan	Department of Primary Care and Population Science, University College London, UK	rmjluvu@ucl.ac.uk
Wang	Feng	Department of Sociology, University of California, Irvine, USA	fwang@uci.edu
Yanagishita	Machiko	Advanced Research Institute for the Sciences and Humanities, Nihon University, Japan	yana@arish.nihon-u.ac.jp
Zheng	Zhenzhen	Institute of Population and Labor Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China	zhengzz@cass.org.cn