

CLAT 2020 Test Series Plan

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Reading Comprehension Questions for CLAT Exam.

Passage for CLAT Set 8

Direction: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The 20th century witnessed the birth of modern family planning and its effects on the fertility of hundreds of millions of couples around the world. In 1979, China formally initiated one of the world's strictest family planning programs—the 'one child policy.' Despite its obvious significance, the policy has been significantly understudied. Data limitations and a lack of detailed documentation have hindered researchers. However, it appears clear that the policy has affected China's economy and society in ways that extend well beyond its fertility rate.

Due to large variation in how the one child policy was implemented across regions and ethnicities, researchers are able to exploit natural variation in their analyses, which makes empirical results reliable. Strictness of policy implementation is associated with promotion incentives for local leaders. The one child policy significantly curbed population growth, though there is no consensus on the magnitude. Under the policy, households tried to have additional children without breaking the law; some unintended consequences include higher reported rates of twin births and more Han-minority marriages.

The overall rate of natural increase (the difference between the birth rate and the death rate) **dwindled**. The Chinese government estimated that some 400 million births were prevented by the policy, although some analysts dispute this finding. As sons were generally preferred over daughters, the overall sex ratio in China became skewed toward males. In 2016 there were 33.59 million more men than women. Because of the preference for sons, there was a rise in the number of abortions of female fetuses. The number of female babies killed, abandoned, or placed in orphanages increased as a result of the policy. Incentives were offered to families complying with the policy, including financial perks and greater employment options. Millions of Chinese parents had to endure strict enforcement methods of the policy, including forced sterilization and forced abortions.

In families that already had one child, the births of additional children—in violation of the one-child policy—were often undocumented, leading to many problems later on for those children as they struggled to receive an education or find work. Even after the one-child policy was rescinded, China's birth and fertility rates remained low, leaving the country with a population that was aging too rapidly as well as a shrinking workforce.

China's one child policy is possibly the largest social experiment in the history of the human race. The behavior responses to the policy offer important insights for other studies in labor, development, and public economics. To date, researchers have found that a series of outcomes, such as a lower fertility rate, an unbalanced sex ratio at birth are potentially associated with the policy. However, the answers to many important questions are far from satisfactory, and some (e.g. the long-term effects on lifecycle outcomes) have received little attention.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from wol.iza.org, article: How does the one child policy impact social and economic outcomes?']

1. Why according to the passage had the Chinese policy not been featured and documented properly?

- A. As this policy was world's strictest family planning programs
- B. Because it affected China, the country concealed the data
- C. Due to the unavailability of adequate specifics and figures
- D. None of these

2. How did the Chinese government allure its citizens to follow the 'one child policy'?

- A. By providing incentives to leaders who promoted the policy
- B. By offering certain privileges and incentives to the people who practised the policy
- C. By offering money to journalist to promote the policy through their writings
- D. By encouraging forced sterilization and forced abortions.

3. Which of the following represents the major pitfall of the policy even after it was abolished?

- A. Enhancement in criminal activities
- B. Growing gap between the genders
- C. The depletion of workforce
- D. Extremely low rate of fertility

4. Which of the following summarizes the passage?

- A. The non availability of the detailed documentation of the Chinese policy
- B. The impact of the China's biggest policy
- C. The drawbacks of the world strictest policy
- D. The effects of China's One- Child Policy

5. What does the word 'dwindled' as used in the passage mean?

- A. Decline B. Enhance C. Multiply D. Reoccur

Correct Answers

| | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| C | B | C | D | A |



Explanations:

- 1.** The answer is C: Due to the unavailability of adequate specifics and figures

From the first paragraph it can be clearly deduced that the policy was termed to be understudied due to the lack of appropriate amount of data and documentation, which is expressed in option C, whereas option A and B are absurd.

Hence the answer is option C.

- 2.** By offering certain privileges and incentives to the people who practised the policy

According to the third paragraph, it is quite clear that the government of China had to offer incentives to the families and other facilities in areas like education and job to enhance the implementation of the policy; this is mentioned in option B whereas all other options are absurd.

Hence the answer is option B.

- 3.** The depletion of workforce

Since the question particularly mentions the drawback which was after the policy was abolished, according to the fourth paragraph of the passage a shrinking workforce and ageing pollution is the correct answer which is expressed in option C as well.

Hence the answer is option C.

- 4.** The effects of China's One- Child Policy

Since the author has not just focused on the drawbacks, the overall abstract of the passage is mentioned in option D in the most relevant manner.

Hence the answer is option D.

- 5.** Decline

As the word asked in the question represented decrease, option A is the correct answer.

Hence the answer is option A.



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