

# **The Compressed Development and Demographic Transition in South Korea**

by

**Eui-Hang Shin, Keong Suk Park, and J Kim**

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# Part I: Dynamic Linkages between Economic Development and Demographic Transition in Korea

- Independence from Japanese Colonial Rule, 1945
- Inauguration of the 1<sup>st</sup> President, Syngman Rhee
- Division of Korean peninsula, 1948
- Korean war, 1950-1953
- Poverty
- 4.19 Student Revolution, 1960
- Rhee's resignation, 1960
- Military Coup, 5.16.1961/ General Park
- The First Five-Year Economic Development Plan, 1962-1966

- The National Family Planning Program, 1961-1995
- Rapid Industrialization
- Export-Driven Economic Development
- Struggle for Democratization
- Assassination of President Park, 1979
- Gwangju Democratic Revolt, 1980
- 6·29 Democratic Movement in 1987
- First civilian government in 1992
- Globalization
- Hallyu
- Korean Information Technology

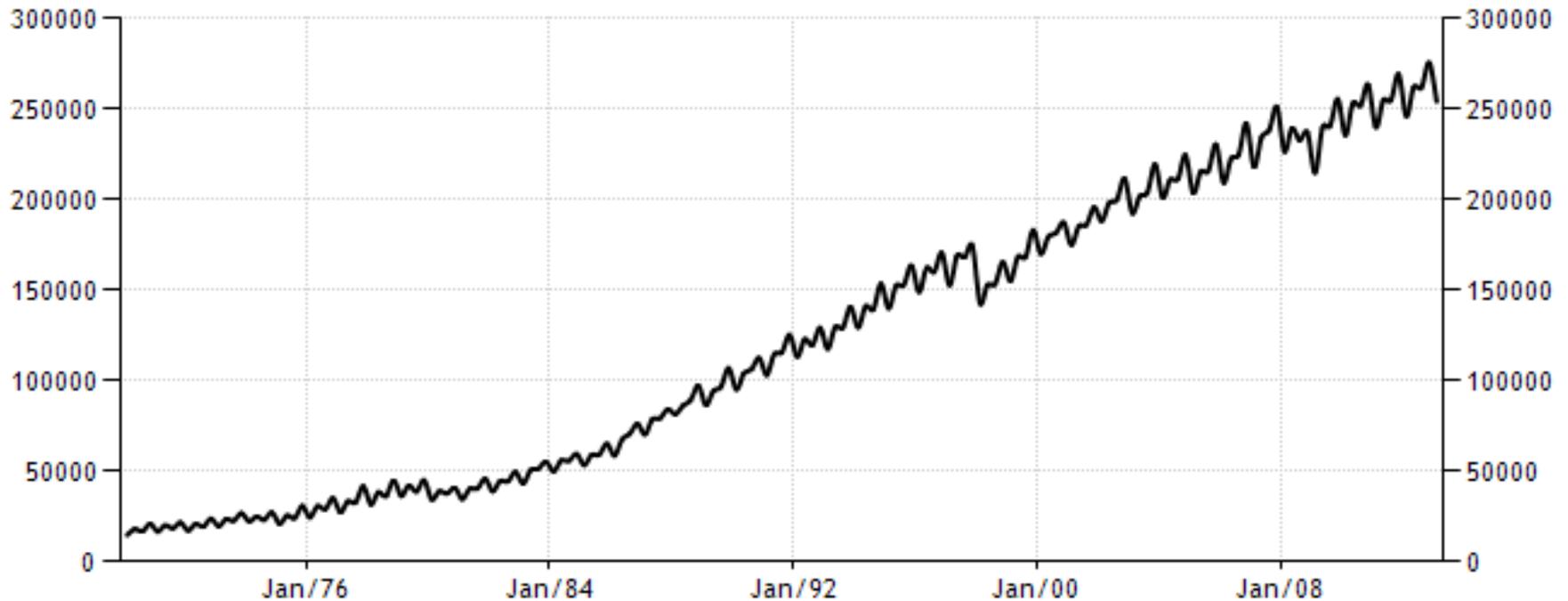
# Real GDP per Capita, Korea, 1960-2011

(U.S. Dollars, Annual, Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Observation date	GDP per capita
1960-01-01	1,537
1965-01-01	1,832
1970-01-01	2,671
1975-01-01	3,870
1980-01-01	5,329
1985-01-01	7,670
1990-01-01	11,985
1995-01-01	16,656
2000-01-01	20,575
2005-01-01	25,027
2010-01-01	29,411
2011-01-01	30,254

# GNP, Korea, 1970-2013

SOUTH KOREA GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT



SOURCE: WWW.TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | THE BANK OF KOREA

# Educational Enrollment rate, Korea, 1980-2012 (%)

	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012
<b>Middle school enrollment</b>	95.8	99.2	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
<b>High school enrollment</b>	84.5	90.7	95.7	98.5	99.6	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7
<b>College enrollment</b>	27.2	36.4	33.2	51.4	68	82.1	79	72.5	71.3

# Total Merchandise Trade, Exports, Korea, 1970-2012

(US dollar at current prices, Millions)

Year	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2012
Total merchandise	836	4,945	17,512	30,282	65,016	125,058	172,267	284,419	547,870

# Growth Rate (%) by Sector, Korea, 1954-2007

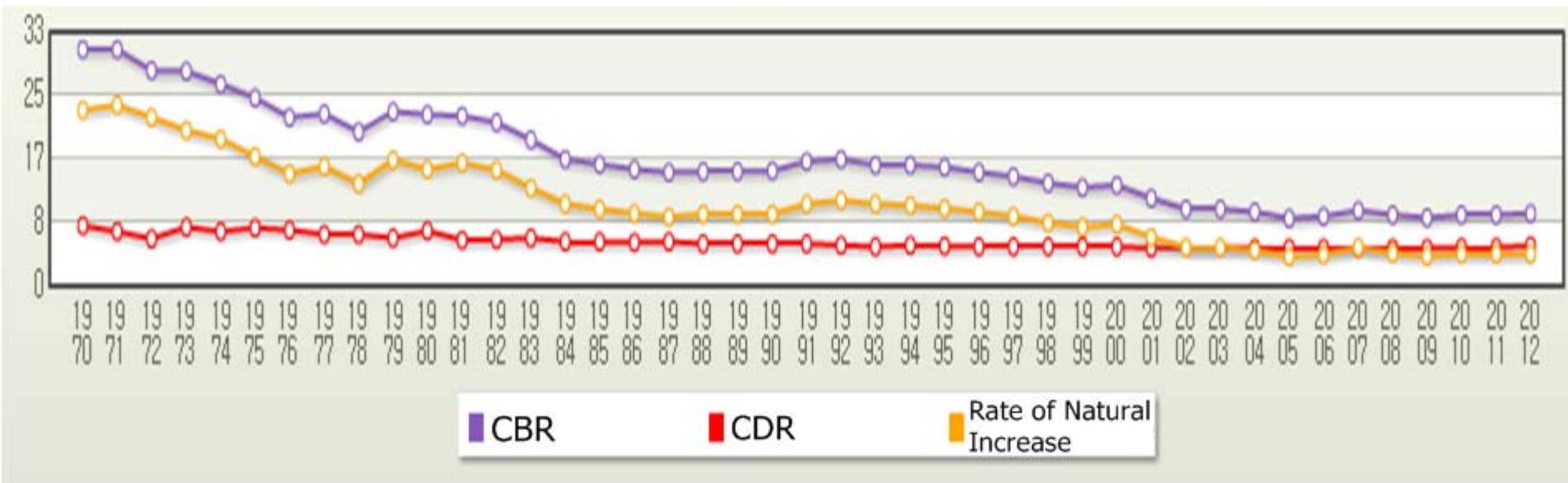
	Agriculture/ Fishery	Mining/ Manufacturing	Manufacturing	Gas, Water	Construction	Services
1954	8.0	11.5	18.1	22.7	—	1.2
1960	-2.1	10.9	8.2	0.0	—	2.6
1970	-1.4	19.6	19.9	6.8	—	12.6
1980	-19.4	-1.3	-1.2	23.2	-3.6	3.4
1990	-6.5	8.3	9.1	17.0	25.5	7.8
1995	5.3	11.2	11.7	6.1	7.7	8.1
1998	-6.4	-8.0	-7.9	-0.3	-10.0	-3.9
2000	1.2	16.7	17.0	12.8	-3.4	6.1
2007	1.1	6.4	6.5	4.0	1.8	4.8

Source: Bank of Korea

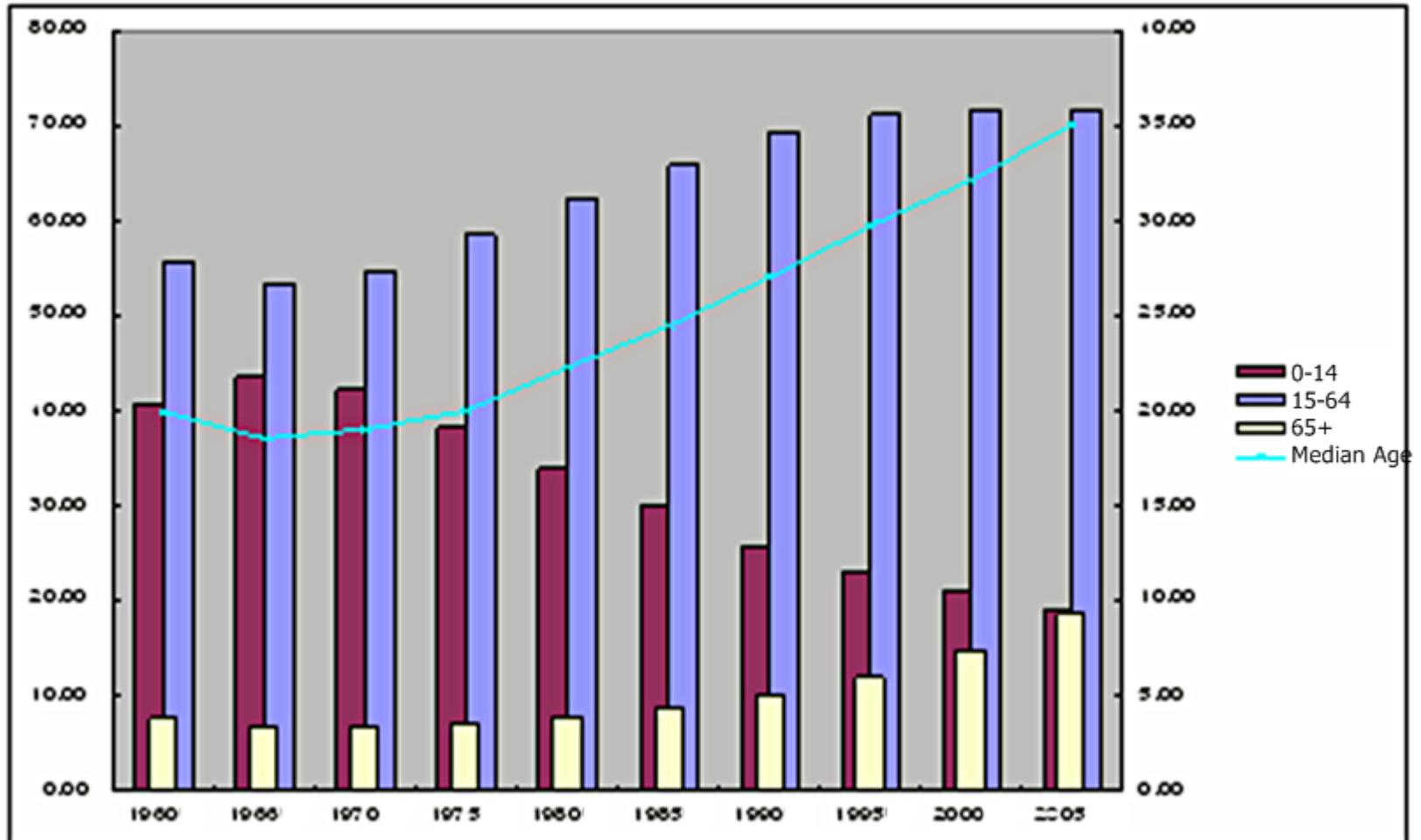
# Demographic Transition in Korea

# Rate of Natural Increase, Korea, 1970-2012

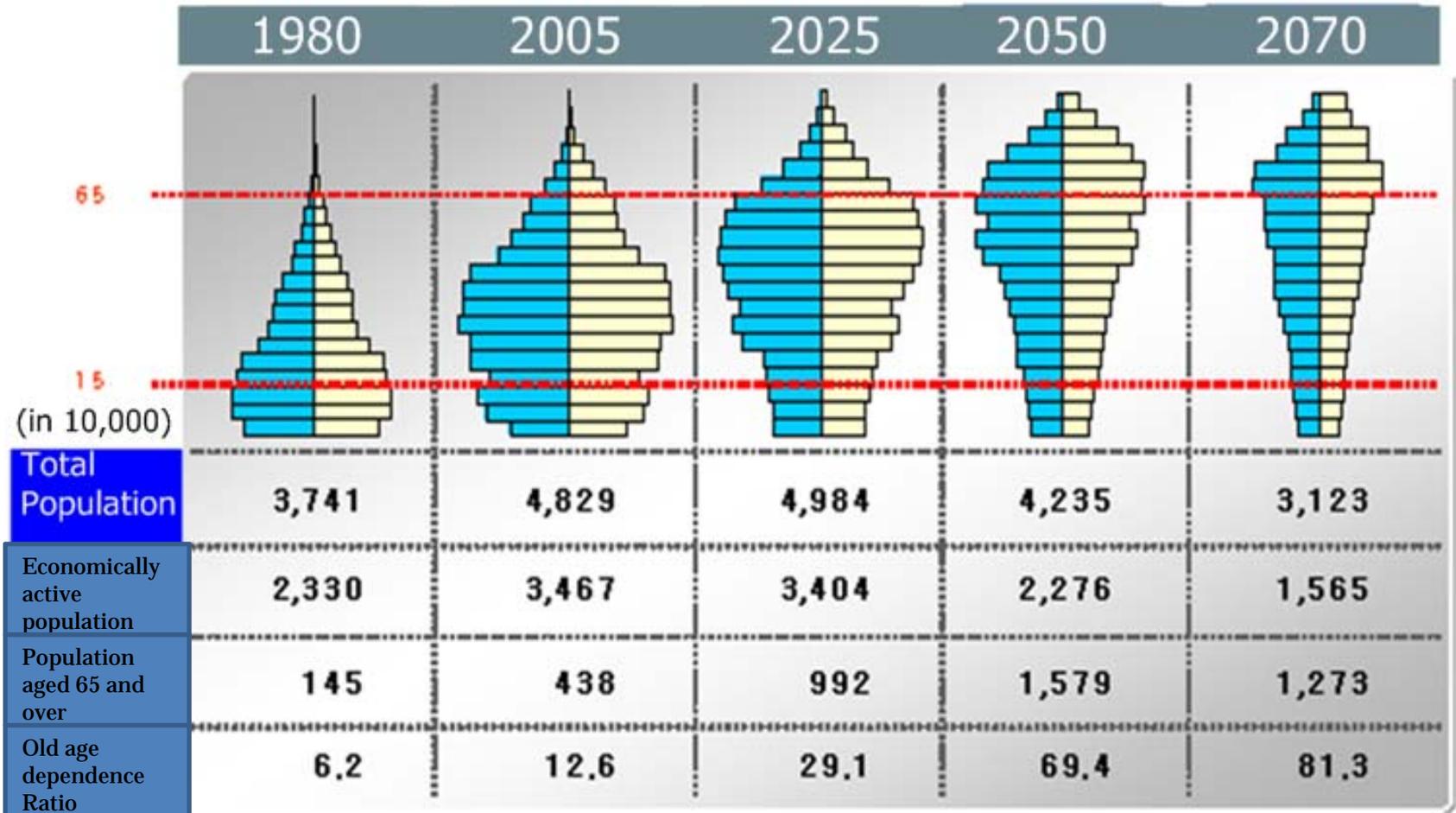
(Per 10,000)



# Age Structure, Korea, 1960-2005



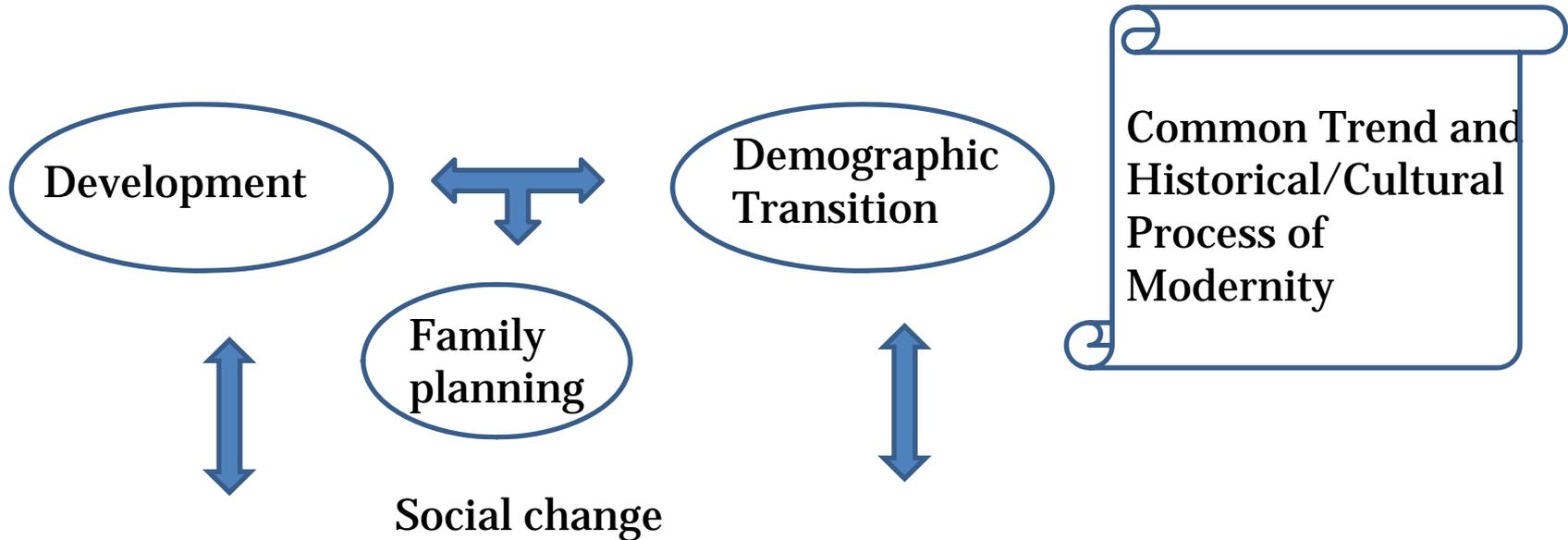
# The Changes in Age Structure, Korea, 1980-2070



# Year to Reach 7% and 14% of the Population 65+ for Selected Countries

Country	Year to reach 7% and 14% of population 65+		Time to reach from 7% to 14%
	7%	14%	(Year)
France	1867	1980	113
Sweden	1890	1975	85
US	1945	2010	65
GB	1930	1970	40
Germany	1930	1975	45
Japan	1970	1994	24
Korea	2000	2018	18

# Economic Development and Demographic Transition in South Korea



- Changes in Family, Work, and Values
- Anxiety for Development
- Subsequent Projects of Making Modernity
- Rapid Industrialization
- Social Movements for Political Democracy
- Blending of the Conflicting Elements of Social Organization

**Part II:  
Family Planning Program  
Campaign in the 1960s – 1980s**

# Family Planning

- A National Project of Birth Control and Economic Development
- A model project of making modern
- Influential in launching and disciplining the idea and practice of development and modernity
- Modal characteristics of developmental society



# Origins of the National Family Planning Program

- Poverty and population pressure
- Latent desires for fertility control
- Flexible attitude toward new concepts and technologies under the colonial rule, US military government, and Korean war
- International discourse on population control and economic development in the developing countries
- Financial and technical support from International organizations on population

# Result of a Pilot Survey in a Rural Area, 1962

- 77 percent of respondents preferred birth control
- 56 percent of respondents didn't know any methods of contraception
- Only 8 percent had used some types of contraception

# Result of a Pilot Survey in a Rural Area, 1962

- Ideal number of children- 4.4
- Ideal number of sons – 2.6
- Ideal number of daughters – 1.8
- Reasons for son preference –  
security for old age (31.9% for male respondents, 62.2% for female respondents),  
family lineage (34.0% for male respondents, 28.2% for female respondents)
- Reasons for less preference of daughters – cost of living and education (74.0% for male, 74.7% for female respondents)

# Launching the Family Planning Program

- The strong belief on population control for modernization and economic development
- The establishment of Korea Planned Parenthood Federation (대한가족계획협회), April. 1961 (president Dr. Yang)
- National Policy of Family Planning, Nov. 1961.
- Inclusion in the first Five Year Plans of Economic Development, 1962-1966
- Collaboration among government, KPPF, social science researchers, and field service workers
- Effective mobilization of such grass root organizations as The Mother's Club (어머니회)
- Financial and technical support from international organizations on population

# Development of Family Planning Program 1961-1980s

	1960s	1970s	1980s
Object	Birth control and economic development, Diffusion of Attitude, Knowledge, Method of birth control , Modernization of individual life		
Example of slogan	Let's have a adequate number of children and raise them well	Let's not differential between son and daughter and raise well two children	Our country is full even in one child only
Population growth rate	2.6-3.0%	1.6-1.8%	1.0%-
TFR	5.0-6.0	2.8-3.2	2.0-2.5
women using some form of contraception	9.0% (1961) 20.2%(1967)	44-54%	70%+

# Contraception Method (%)

	1966	1971	1974	1976	1978	1982	1988
Vasectomy	3.1	2.3	3.0	4.2	5.6	5.1	11.0
Tubal ligation		1.0	2.0	4.1	10.9	23.0	37.2
IUD	9.3	7.0	8.0	10.5	9.5	6.7	6.7
Oral contraceptive pills	0.5	6.8	9.0	7.8	6.6	5.4	2.8
Condom	3.1	3.1	6.0	6.3	5.8	7.2	10.2
Women experiencing Induced Abortion	16.0 (1968)		31.0				52.0



**Proposal to the Parliament made by Korea Institute of Health and Social Affairs about Family Planning Program**



**The institutionalization of P.P.F.K (The Planned Parenthood Federation of Korea) in 1961**



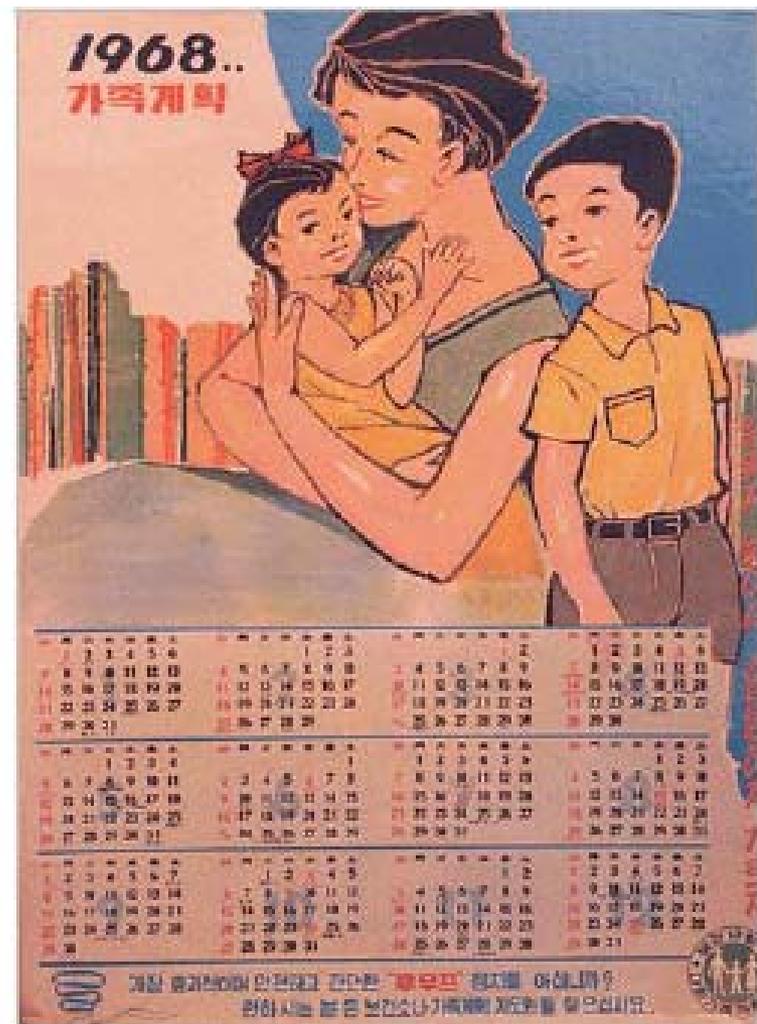
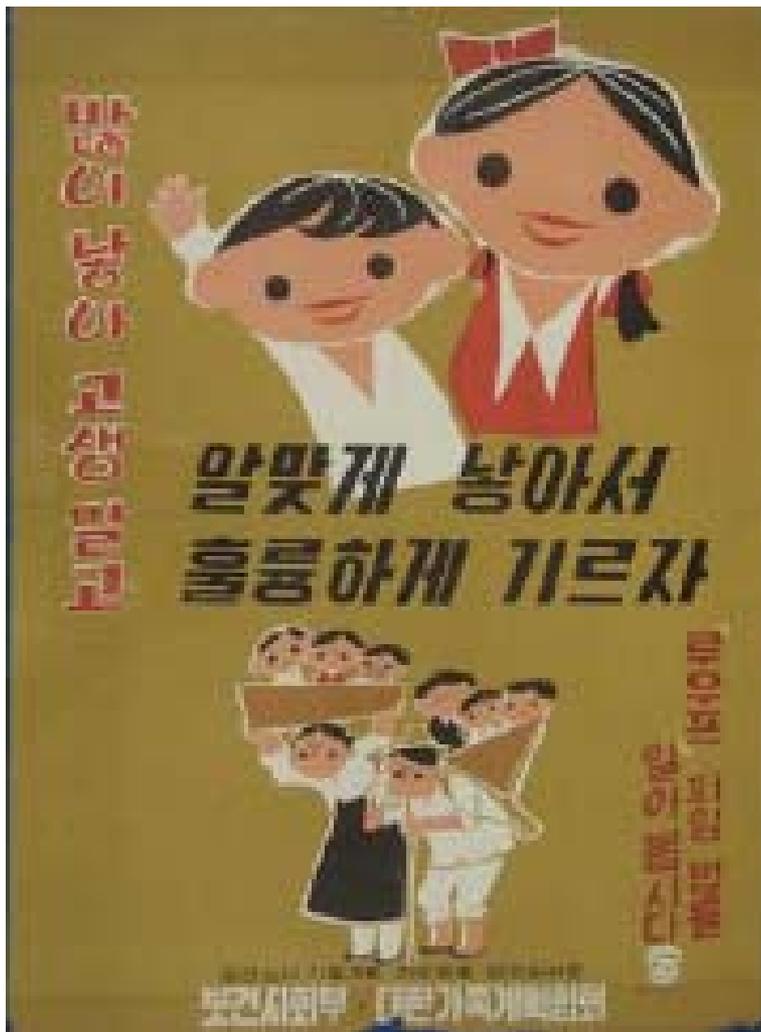
**Raising awareness about Family Planning Program through Campaign in the 1960s**



**A seminar on contraceptive methods in 1975 at Jeonbuk Province**



**Family Planning Program Campaign in 1977**



## Poster in the 1960s: “Let’s have an adequate number of children and raise them well”

by P.P.F.K. (The Planned Parenthood Federation of Korea) and KIHASA (Korea Institute of Health and Social Affairs)



Poster in the 1960s:  
“A happy family  
through Family  
Planning”

by P.P.F.K.  
(The Planned  
Parenthood Federation  
of Korea)  
and KIHASA (Korea  
Institute of Health and  
Social Affairs)



Poster in the 1970s:  
“Let’s have two  
children and raise  
them well”

by P.P.F.K.  
(The Planned  
Parenthood Federation  
of Korea)  
and KIHASA (Korea  
Institute of Health and  
Social Affairs)



**Poster in the 1970s:  
“A way to a young  
and beautiful life is  
Family Planning”**

**by P.P.F.K.  
(The Planned  
Parenthood Federation  
of Korea)  
and KIHASA (Korea  
Institute of Health and  
Social Affairs)**



**Advertisement in the 1970s: “We will have one more child then stop.”**

by P.P.F.K. (The Planned Parenthood Federation of Korea)  
and KIHASA (Korea Institute of Health and Social Affairs)

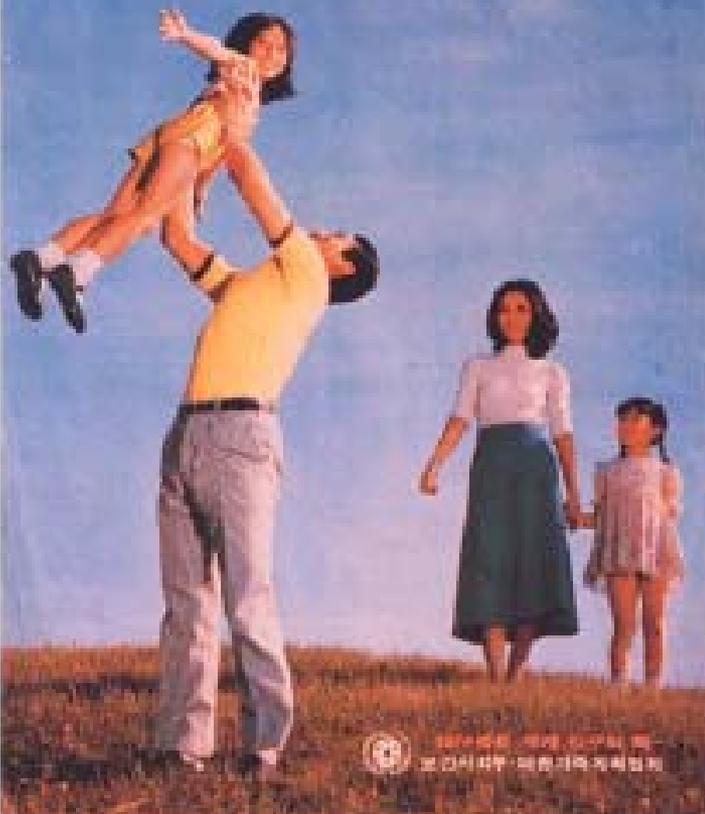
딸·아들 구별 말고,  
둘만 낳아 잘 기르자



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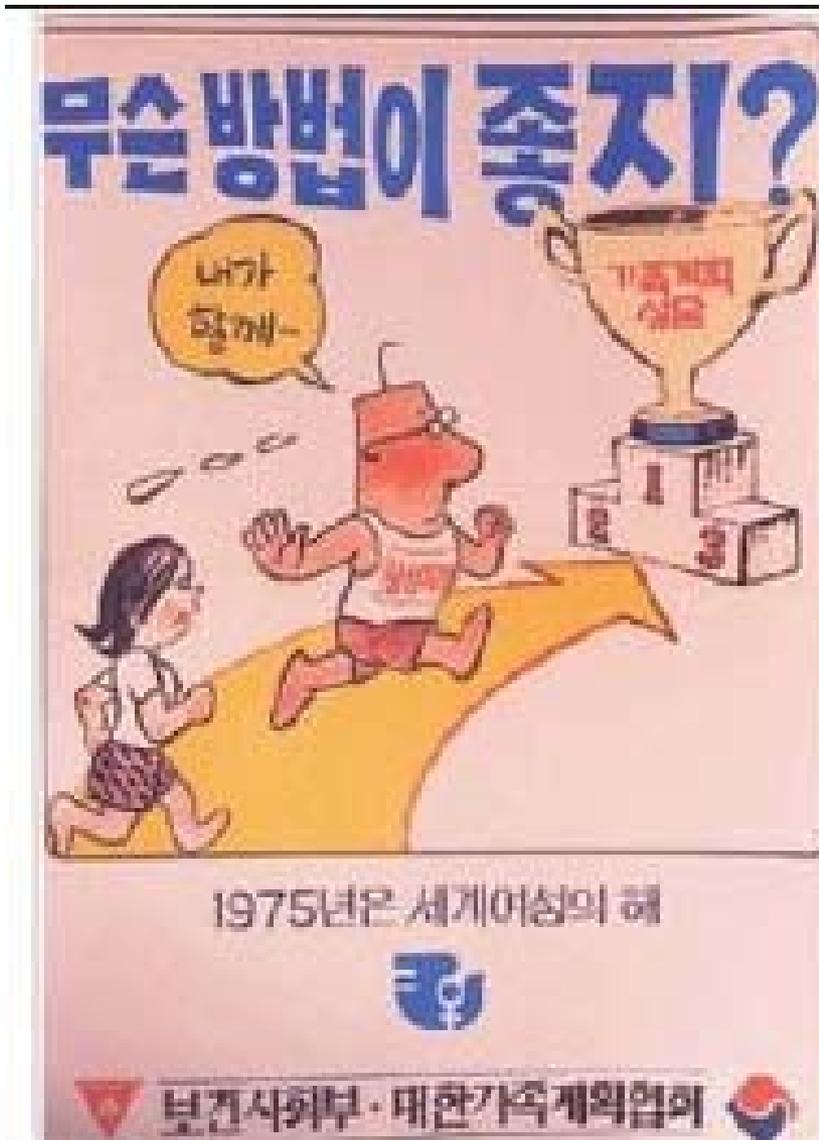


딸·아들 구별 말고  
둘만 낳아 잘 기르자.



1970. 10. 31

Advertisements in the 1970s: “Let’s not differentiate between boy and girl. Let’s have two children only and raise them well.”



Poster in the 1970s:  
“What method is  
good?”

by P.P.F.K.  
(The Planned  
Parenthood Federation  
of Korea)  
and KIHASA (Korea  
Institute of Health and  
Social Affairs)

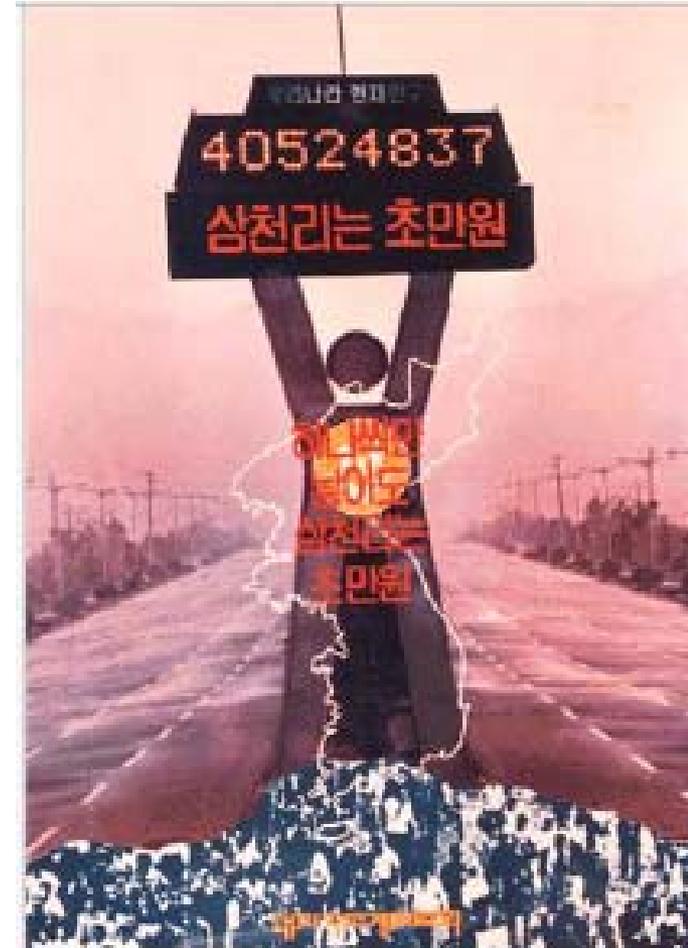


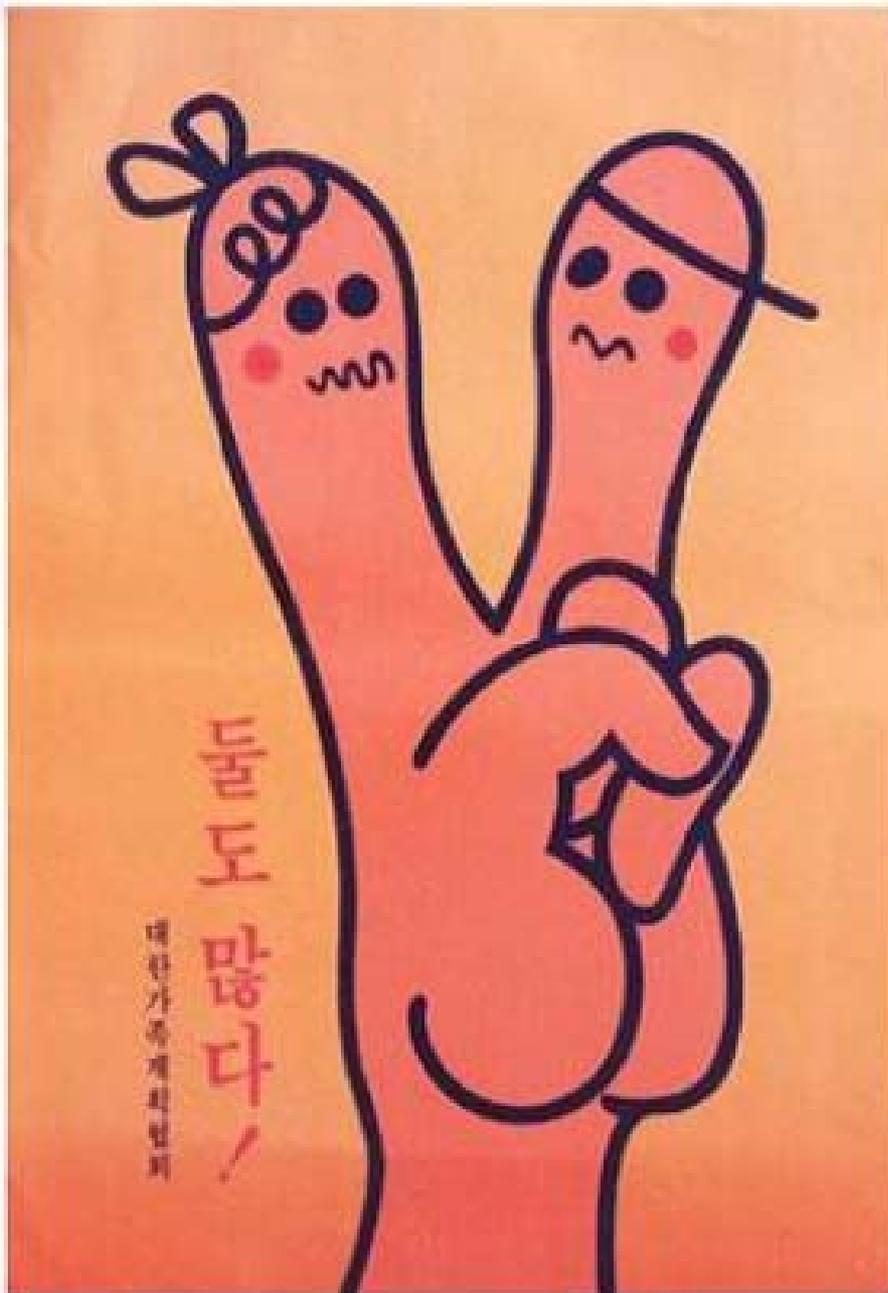
Posters in the 1980s: “Let’s not differentiate between boy and girl. Let’s have two children and live prosperously.”  
by P.P.F.K. (The Planned Parenthood Federation of Korea)



Posters in the 1980s:  
 “Our country is full even in one child only.”

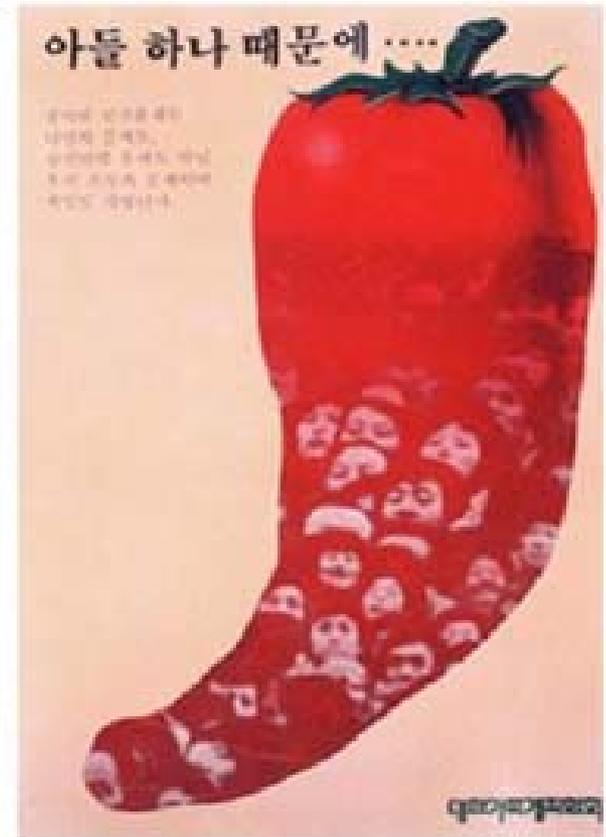
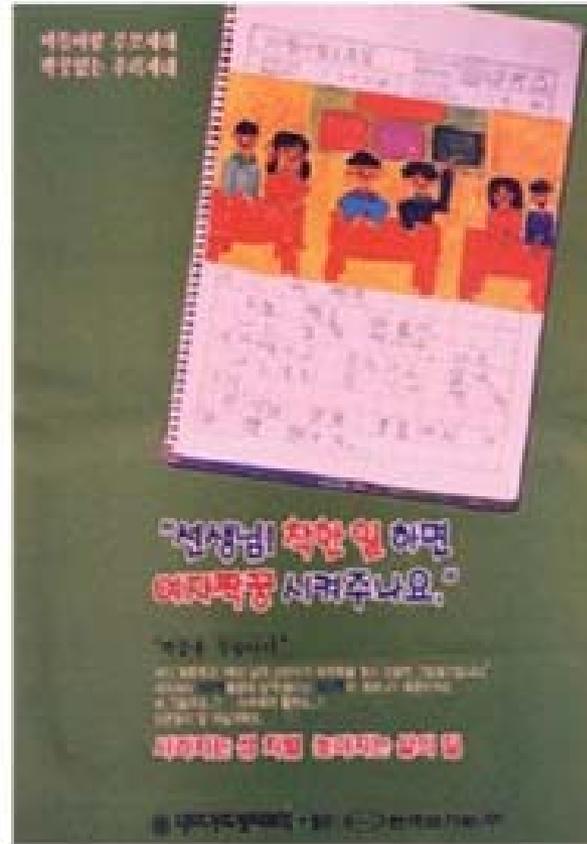
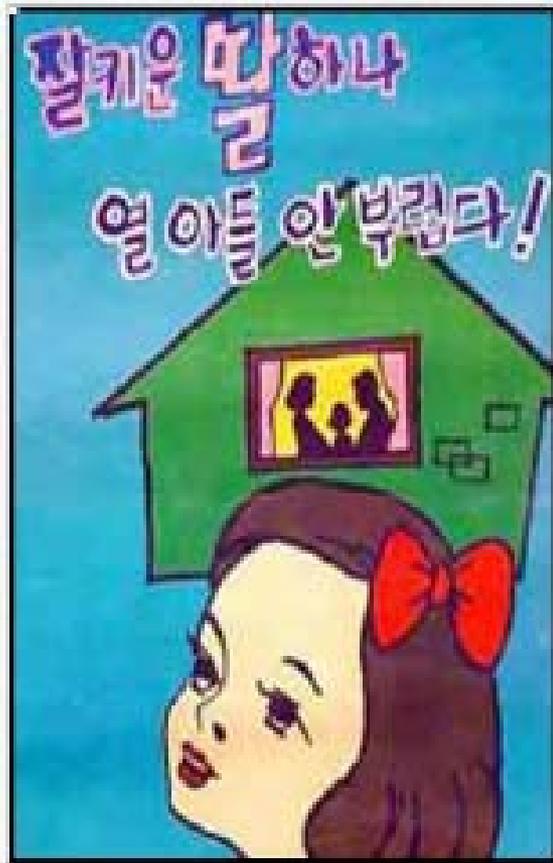
by P.P.F.K. (The Planned Parenthood Federation of Korea) and KIHASA (Korea Institute of Health and Social Affairs)





Poster in the 1980s:  
“Two is too many”

by P.P.F.K.  
(The Planned  
Parenthood Federation  
of Korea)

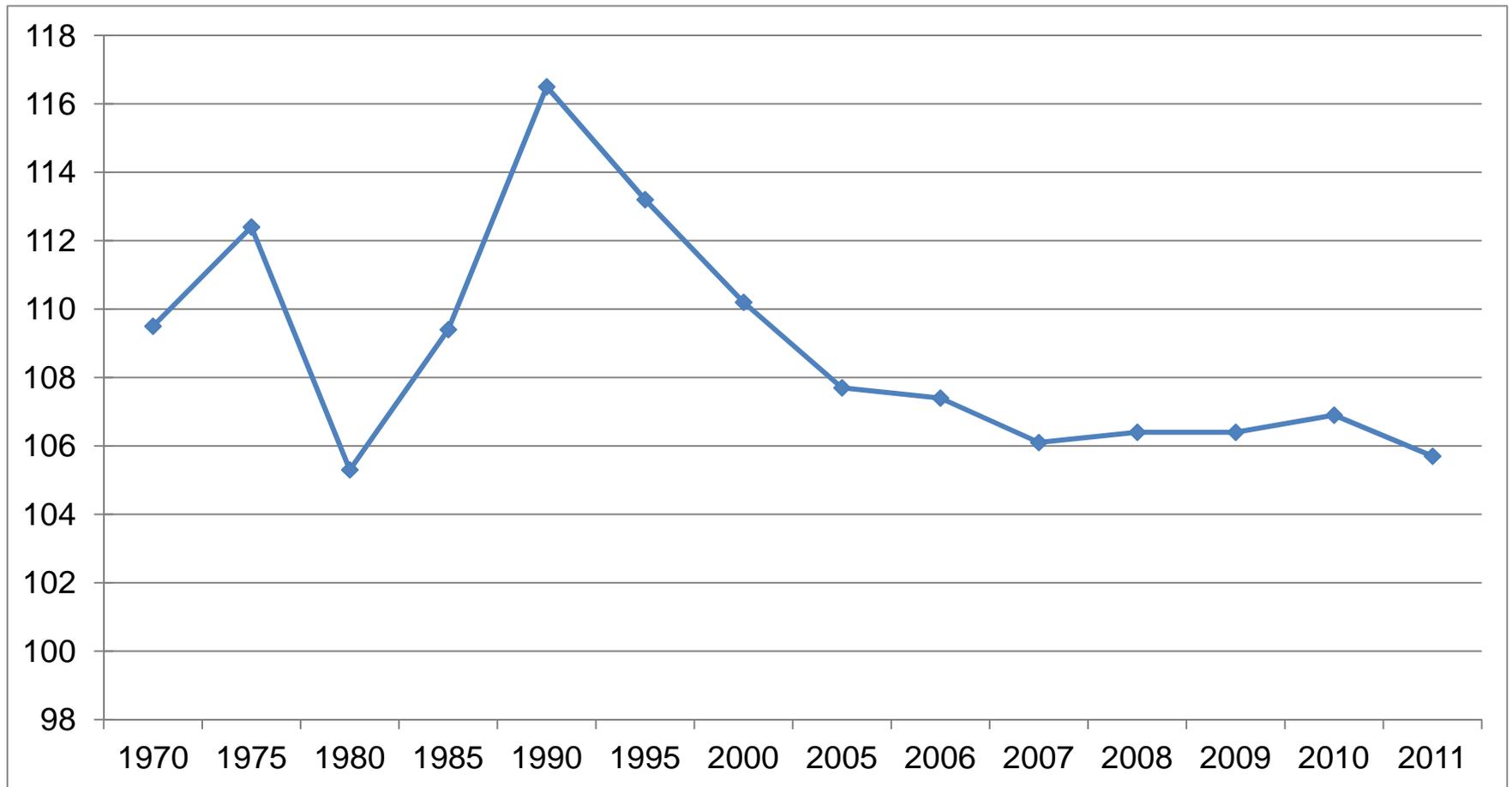


**Posters in the 1970s-1990s reprimanding couples that keep having children until they have a boy due to the preference for boys in Korean culture by P.P.F.K. (The Planned Parenthood Federation of Korea)**

# Issues on the Family Planning Program (1)

- Influential in diffusing the value, knowledge, and method of birth control
- Top down Command Policy
- The Very Severe Practice of Birth Control
- Abuse of Induced Abortion and International Adoption
- Strict Fertility Control Policies in the 1980s
- Less Concern on the social and demographic consequences of the strictly targeted birth control and fertility decline

# Sex Ratio at Birth, Korea, 1970-2011



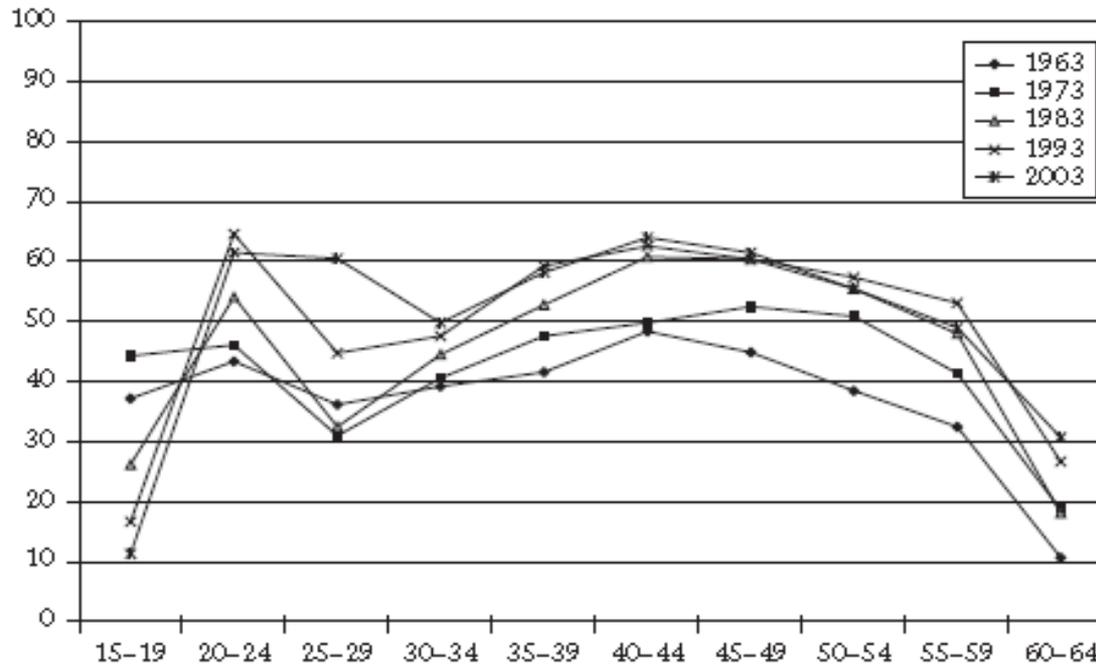
# Issues on the Family Planning (2)

- Development, explicit goal of nation construction and happy family
- Learning and embodying the planning for development
- Development-centered Perspectives
- Anxiety for success, development, and social mobility
- Family Invest and Competition for Education

# Issues on the Family Planning (3)

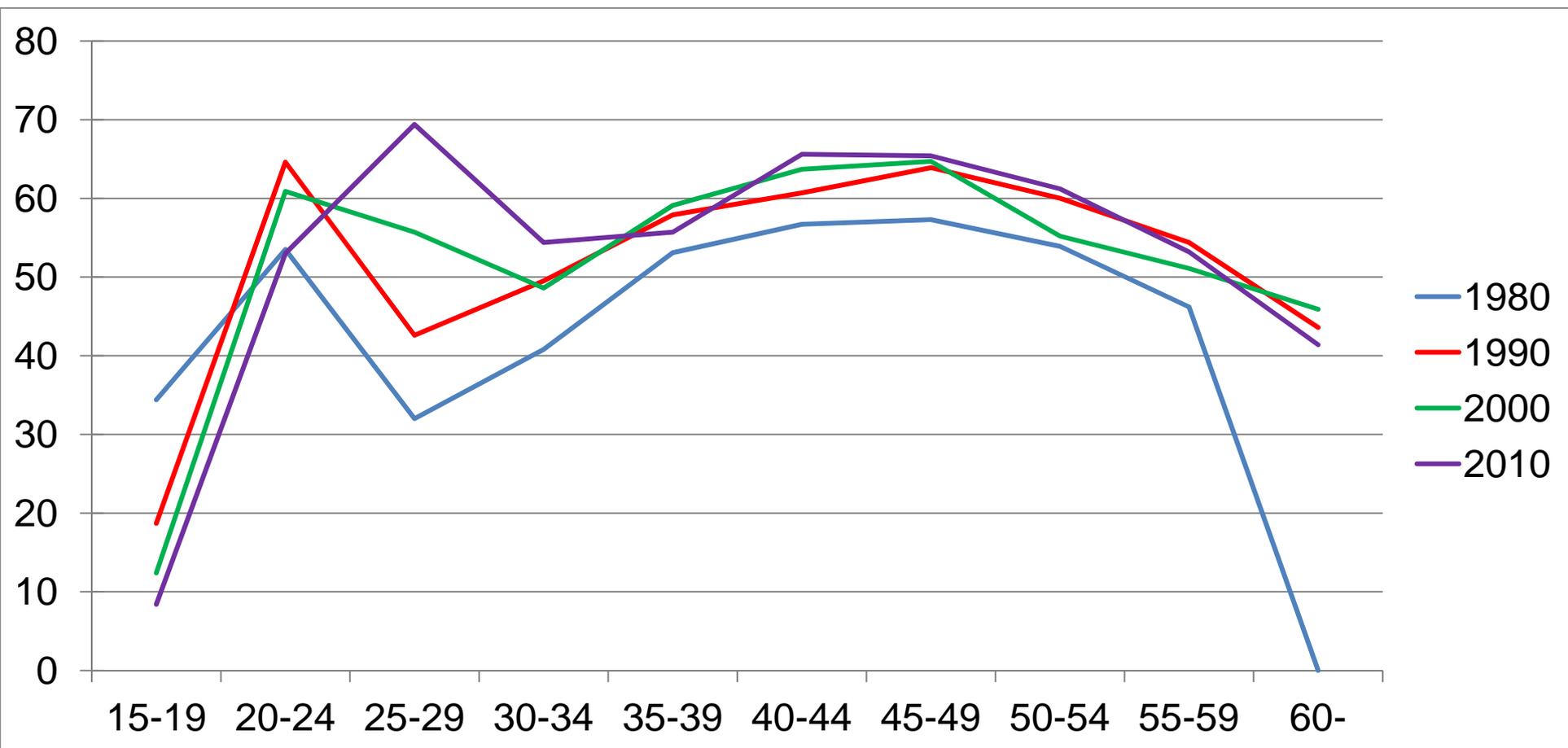
- Women, both target of family planning and active agents
- Diffusion of the Idea of Nuclear Family
- Effect on Enhancing Women's Status within Family
- Enforcement of Women's Identity as Housewife and Education Mother

# Korea Women's Economic Activity

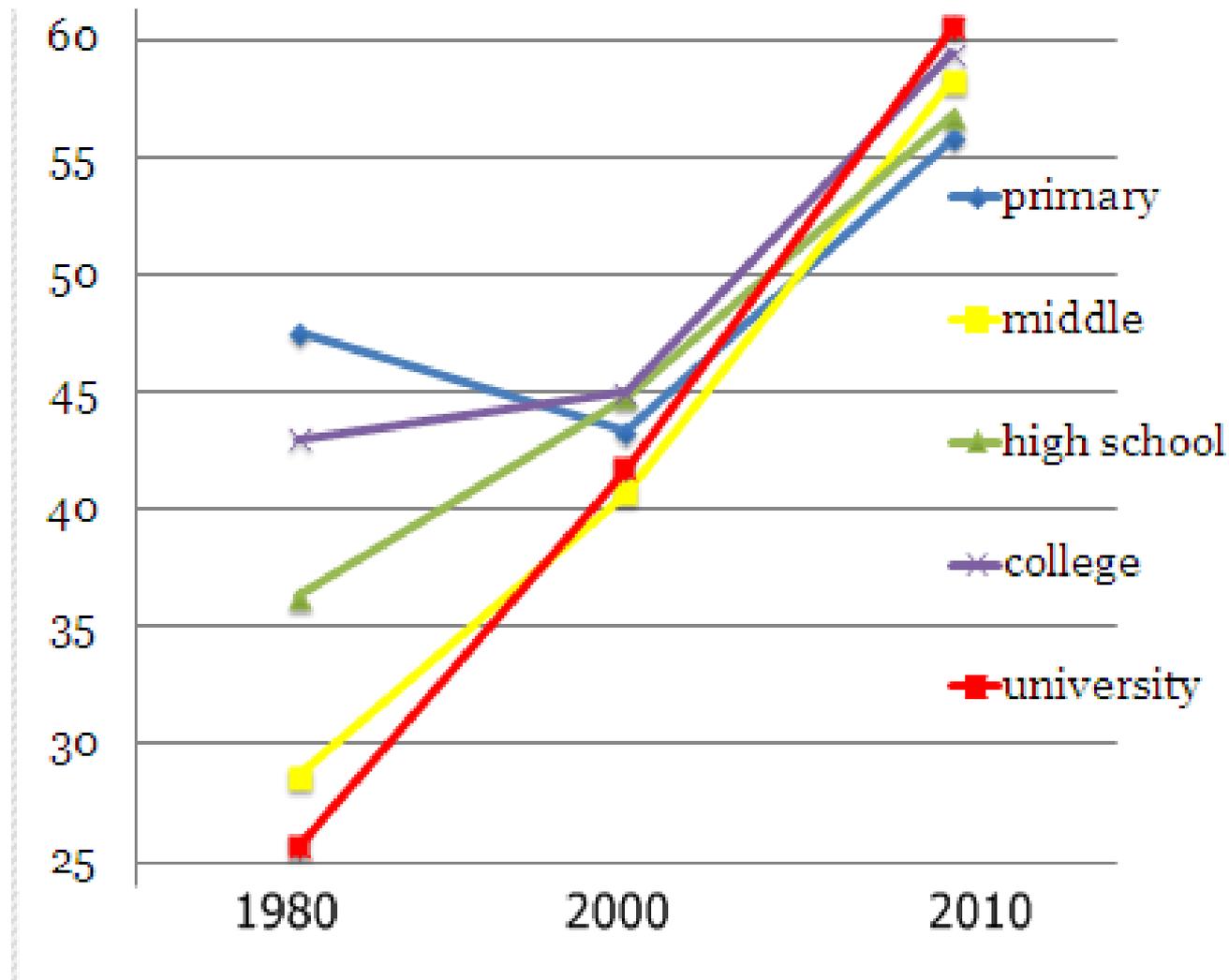


**Figure 2.5** Female labor force participation rates in Korea  
Source: Statistics Bureau, *Annual Report of Economically Active Population*.

# Female Labor Force Participation Rate by Age Group, Korea, 1980-2012



# Female Labor Force Participation Rate by Level of Education, Korea, 1980-2010



Source: Population and Housing Census

# Women's Life Course; Education, work, and family

Table 4. Distribution of Life Patterns by Marriage Cohort

Life patterns	Marriage Cohort				
	≤1969	1970-1979	1980-1989	1990-1994	≥1995
Family & work together	23.3	14.0	8.4	12.7	10.9
M	6.7	19.3	28.4	22.5	11.3
Latent M	5.6	11.5	24.4	46.4	68.4
Work after childrearing	35.4	34.0	24.1	9.6	2.8
Family role only	29.0	21.2	14.8	8.8	6.6
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

# Issues on the Family Planning (4)

- Medical Technology, Health and Reproductive Behavior
- Prohibition of contraception and induced abortion during the 1930s
- the first case of tubal ligation in 1945
- Extension of medical and health facilities since the Korean War (1950-1953)
- Full Scale Intervention of Medical Services in Reproduction through the Family Planning

# Issues on the Family Planning (5)

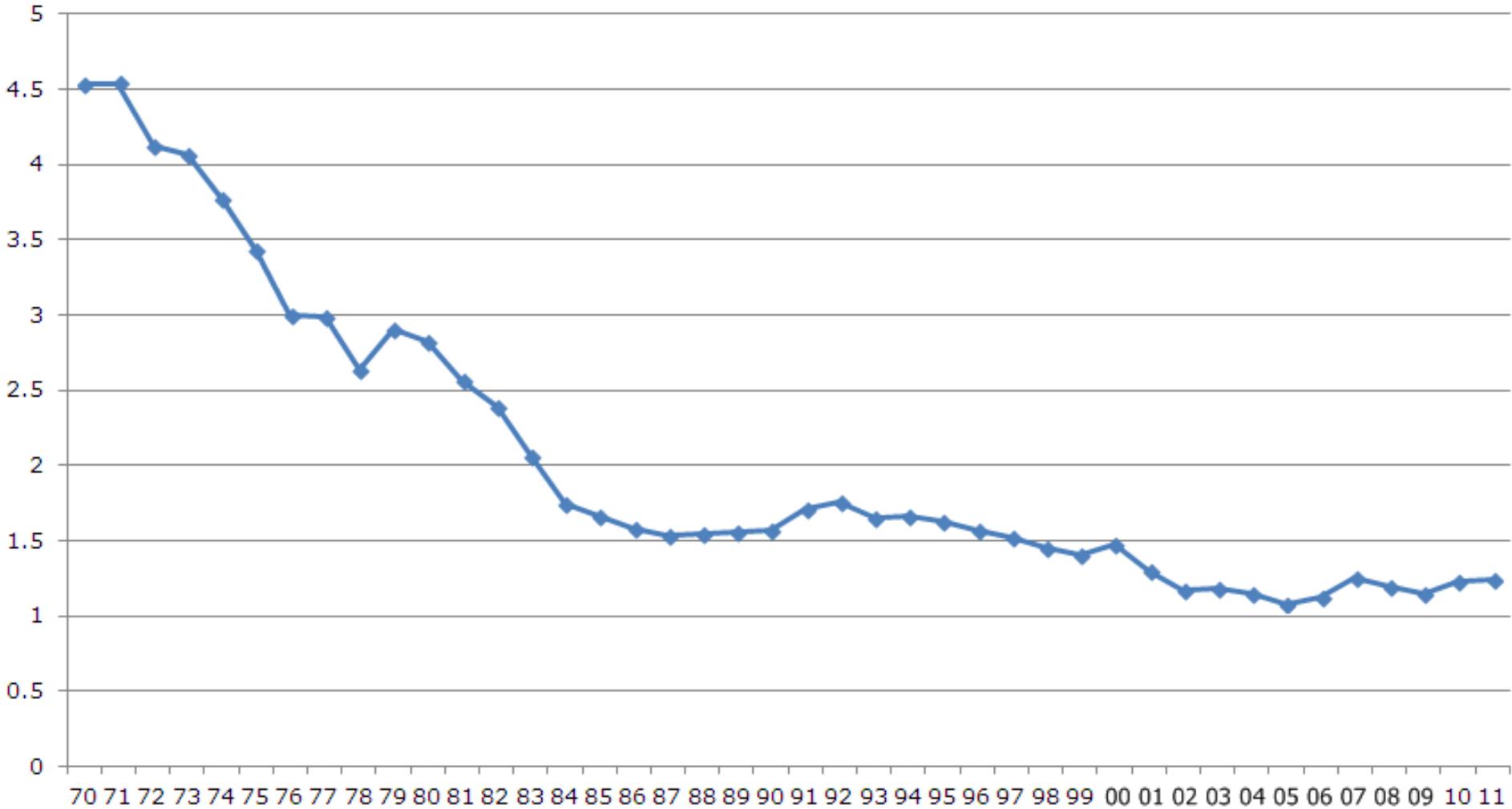
- Family Centered Society, but the Intense Contest between the Extended Family and Nuclear Family
- Parents' Anxiety for Children's Education and Support
- Delayed Reliance of the Youth on Parents' Resources
- Rapid Decline of Family Support for the Elderly
- Rigidity on the Other Family Types

# Issues on the Family Planning Program (6)

- Pervasive Influence of Family Planning on Fertility Decline by
- Diffusing the values, knowledge, and method of birth control
- Promoting moral check of self reliance and parental responsibility
- Embodying the way in which people plan life-birth, education, work, marriage etc for their secular success and social mobility
- Weakening Social Responsibility and Solidarity
- Pervasive insecurity and risk

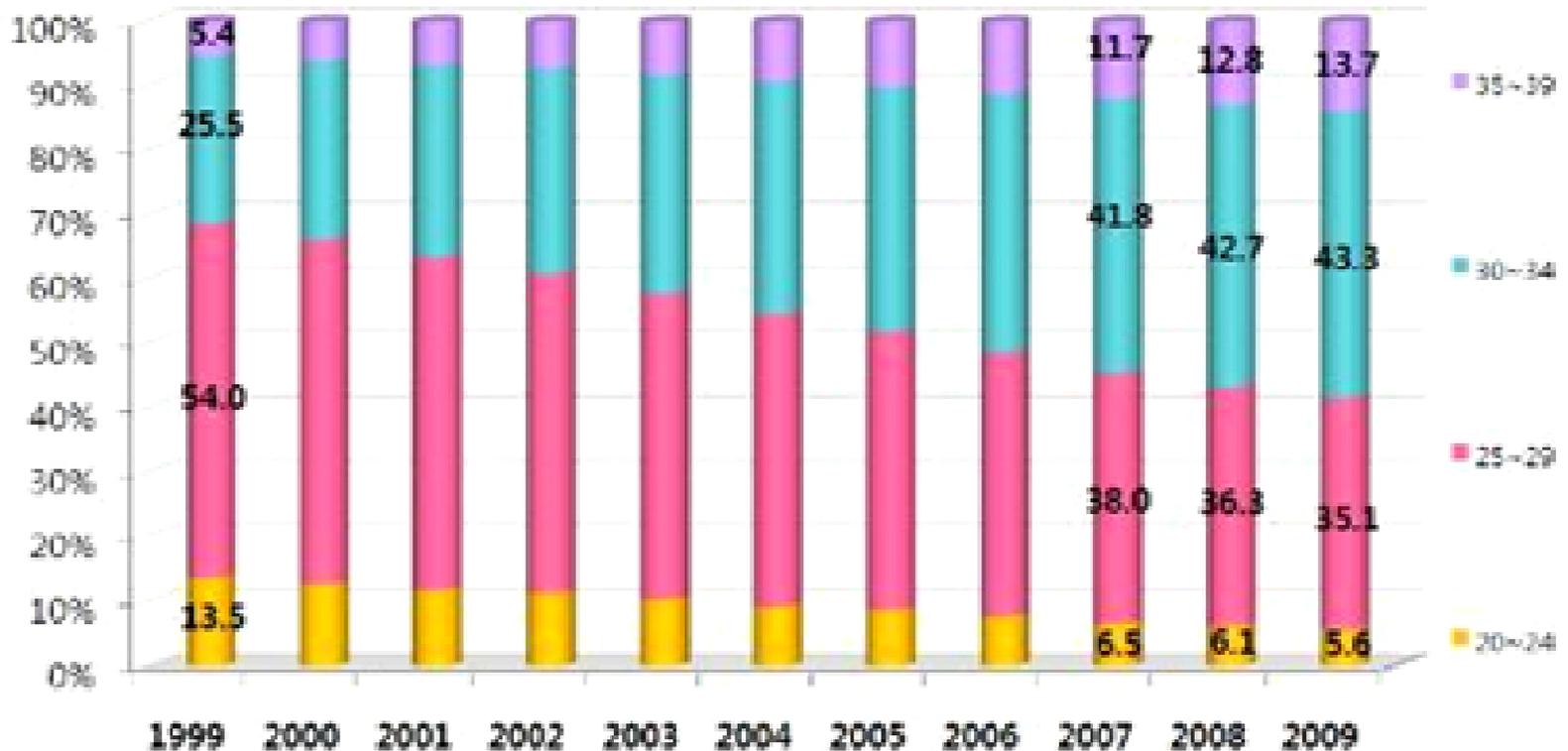
# Part III: Fertility Transition

# TFR, Korea, 1970-2011



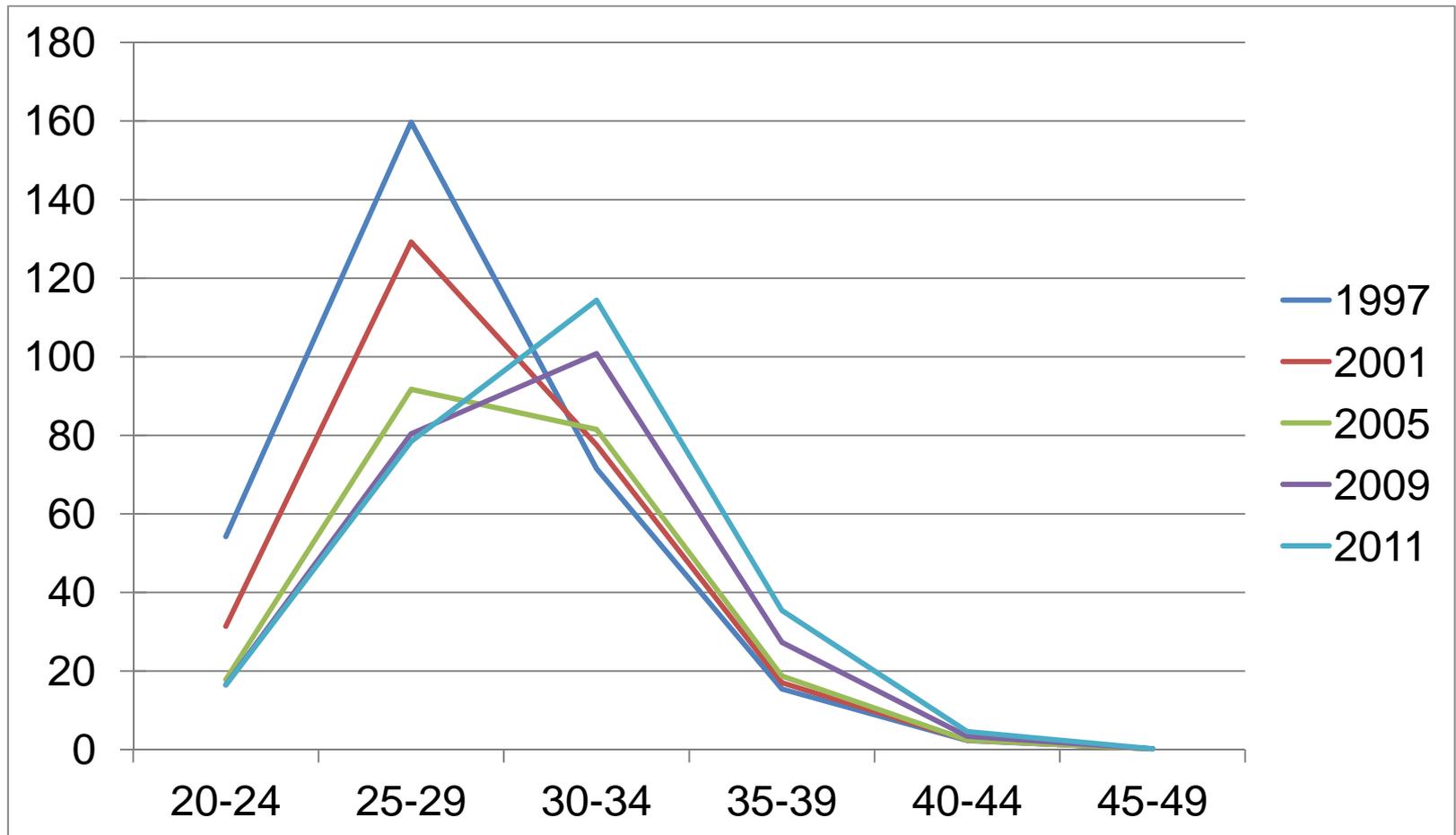
Source: Statistics Korea

# Distribution of Births by Age of Mother, Korea, 1980-2009

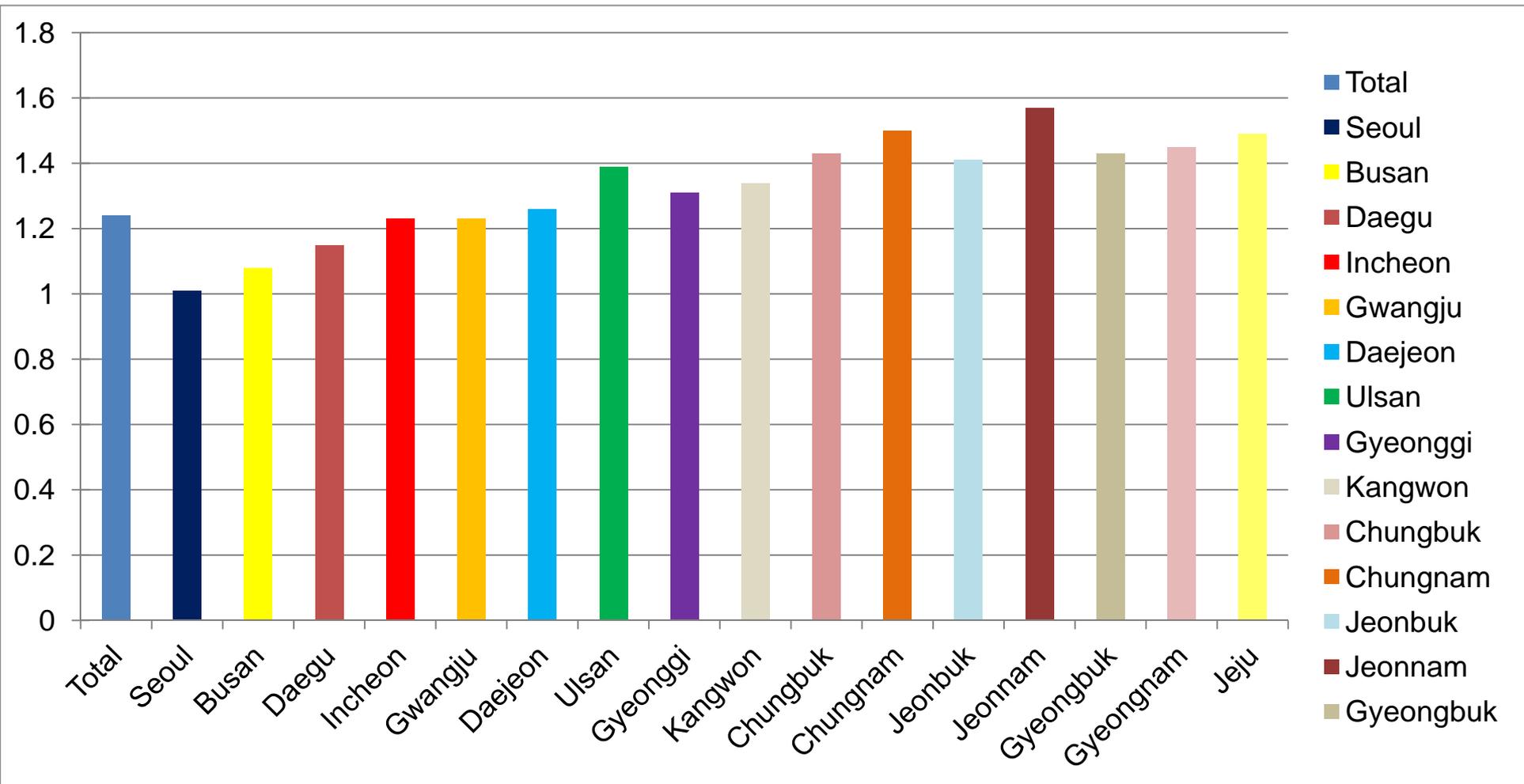


# Age Specific Fertility Rate, Korea, 1997-2011

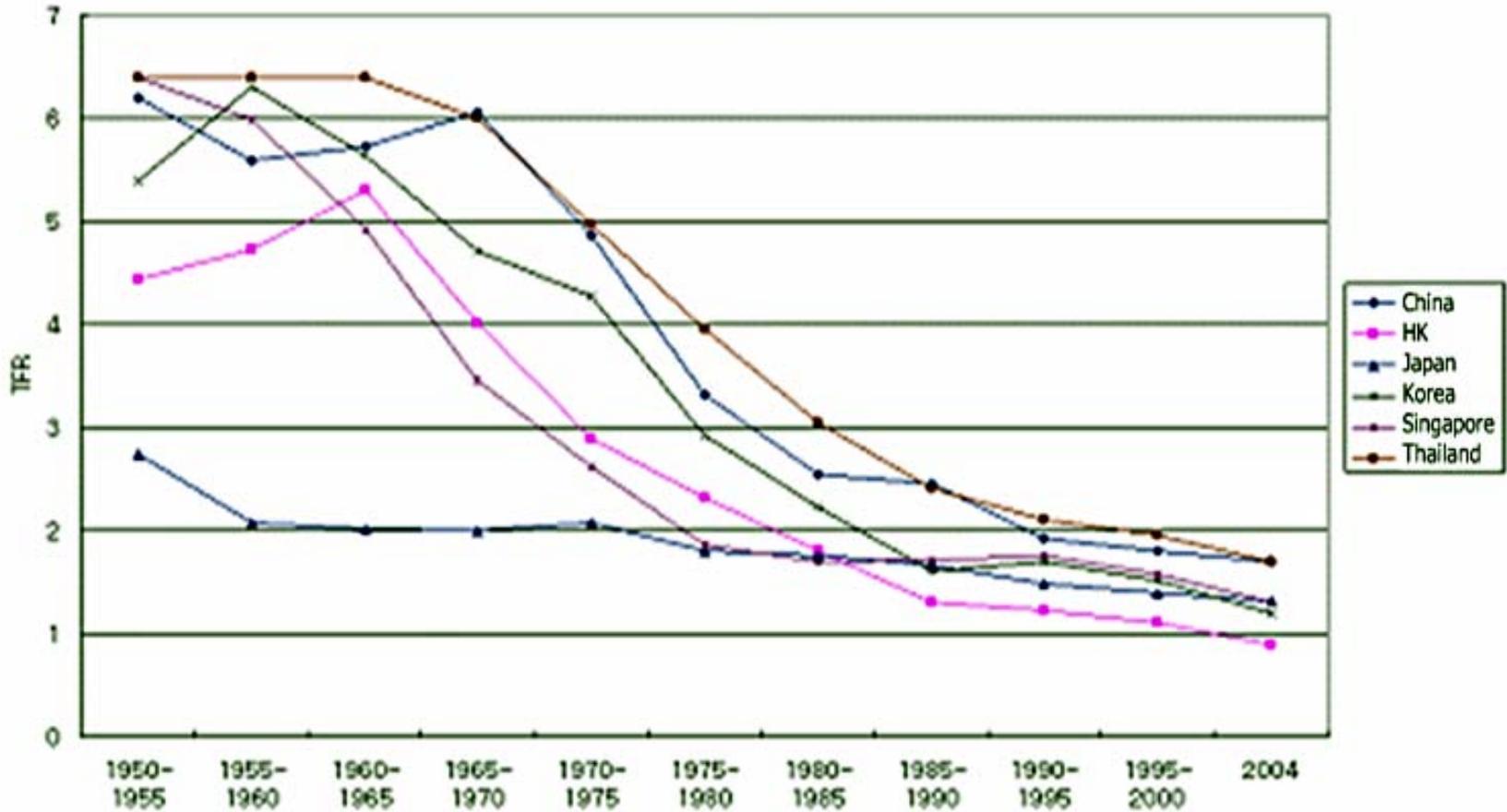
(Per 1,000 woman)



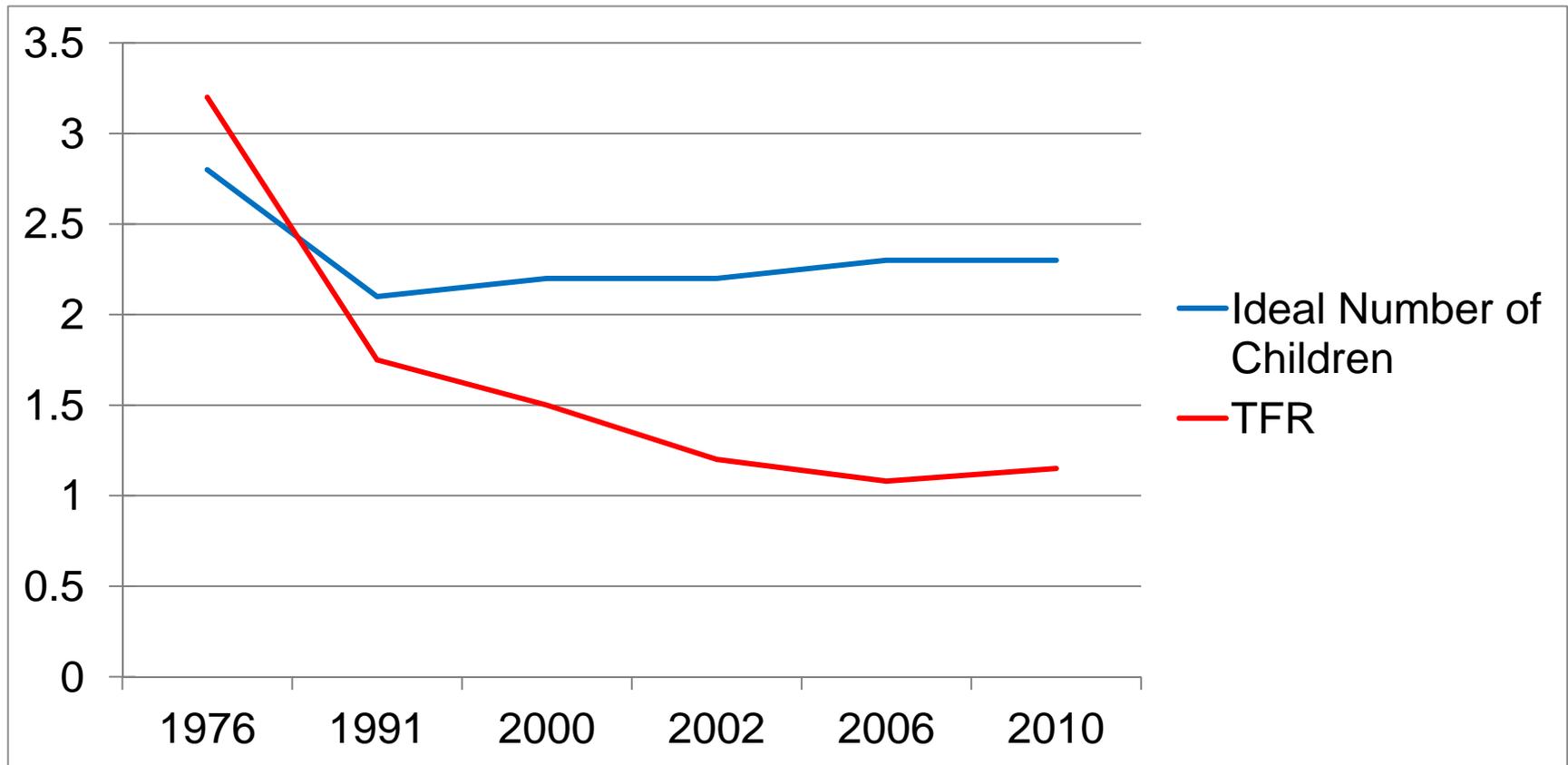
# TFR by Province, Korea, 2011



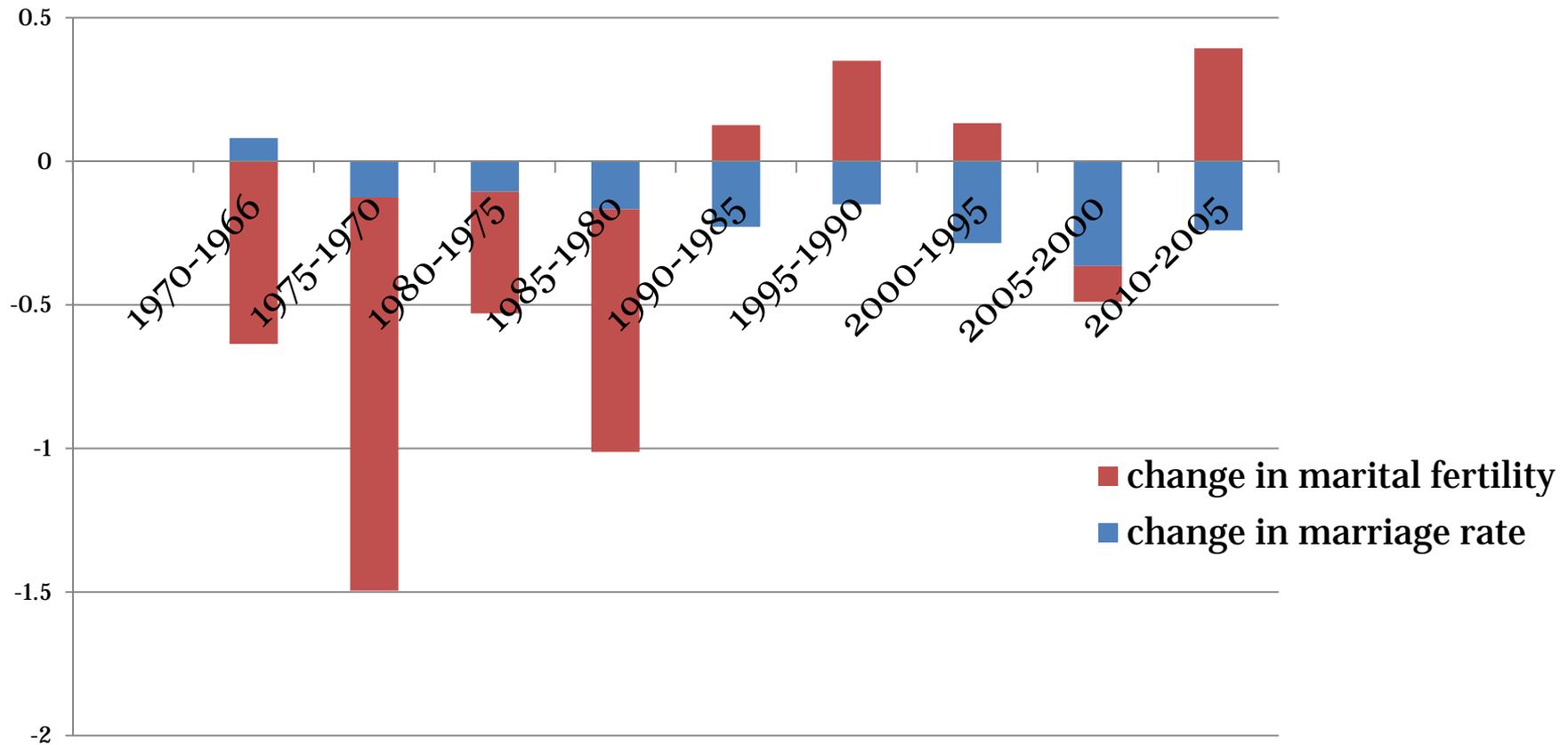
# Trend in TFR in Asia, 1950-2005



# TFR and Ideal Number of Children, Korea, 1976-2010



# Decomposition of change in TFR of women aged 20-49, Korea, 1966-2010

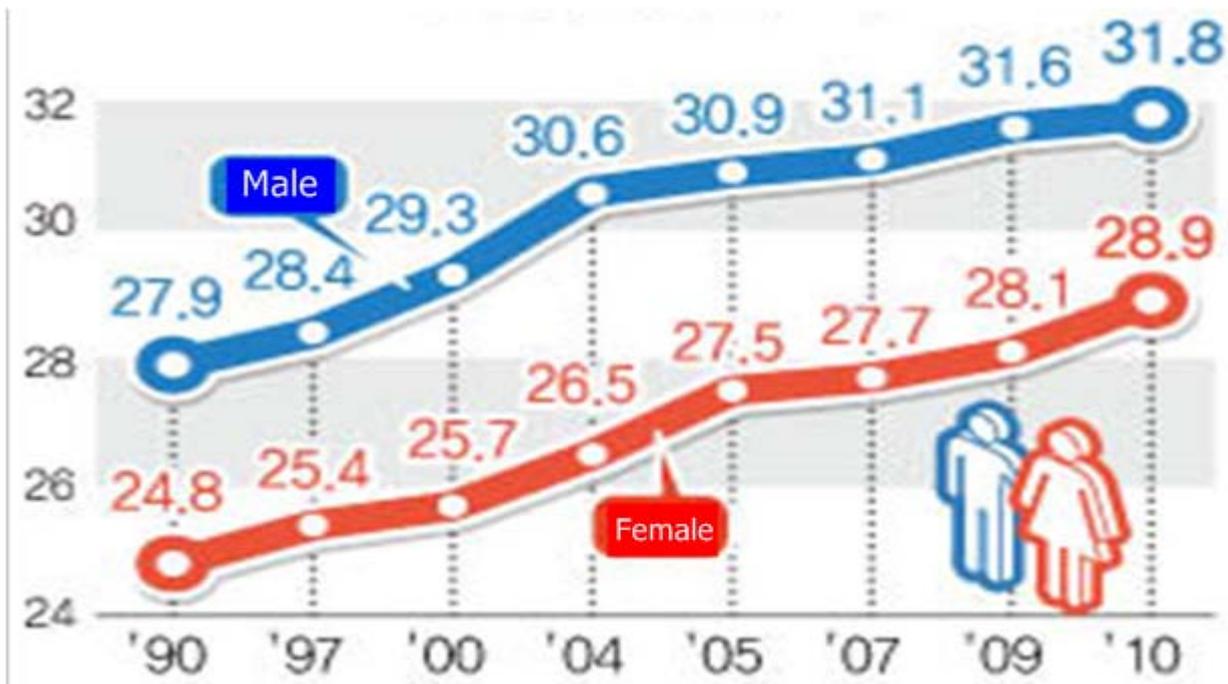


Source: Statistic Korea, KOSIS; Korea Institute of Health and Social Welfare (1991), Population Policy 30 years, p. 511 .

# Cause for decline in TFR: Delay of age at first Marriage

Delay in age at first marriage  
Reduced number of newborn

- Rate of women married in their 20's:  
'70: 65% → '80: 60% → 2000: 35% → 2004: 31% → 2010: 20%  
※Cost of private education, change in perspective, increase in women's level of education and economic activity
- Rapid decline in number of births:  
'70: 1020000 → 00: 640000 → 2005: 440000 → 2011: 471000
- Number of Elementary School Students :  
2005: 4020000 → 2015: 2780000 → 2030: 2300000



**Factors that contributed to extremely low fertility rate: Culture of Marriage, Reproductive behavior, and Child-rearing**

**PRIME TIME**  
LIVE



# Factors for the Very Low Fertility

- Cost of Child Rearing
- Cost of Marriage
- Cost of Extended Education
- Discrepancy between Ideals of Spouse and Realities
- Difficulty in Getting Jobs and Discrepancy between Jobs and Job Seekers
- High Rising Cost of Reproduction
- People all are forced to be first for family

# The Concept of High Cost of Reproduction

- Individual translation of the structural pressure for birth and marriage control
- Population pressure for birth and marriage control was enforced in the highly developmental society
- People are forced to plan life too much so as to competitively invest for education, to consider too much the cost and benefit of marriage and birth, to impose burden on parental responsibility too much etc.
- These all, too many checks on life, unsettling our community

# Too Many Checks on Population

- Close relation among Unsettling Demographic Phenomena
- Low Fertility, and Delayed Marriage
- Increasing Life Expectancy and High Rising Suicide Rate of the Elderly
- Instrumental and Family Confined Multi Culturalism
- Signal of Dissolution of Modern Construct? or its Alteration

# Discussion

- Development, important to preserve better equilibrium between resource and population
- Diverse Views on the Origins and the Consequences of the National Family Planning Program in Korea
- Family Planning, national project of making modern and development
- Compressed Construction of Development and Family Centered Society
- Paradox of Development and Familism, imposing too many checks on life

# Discussion

- The Park Geun-hye Administration's Proposals on Child-care Support
- Some Concerns on the individualistic Framework of Rational Choice
- Also concerns on the adoption or benchmarking the western welfare state models
- Suggestion of the Structural and Historical Perspective on the Demographic Transition and Proper Practices

