**2015 China’s One Child Policy Mini-Q Document Questions Handout**

**Document A: Population Projections**

1) The population of the United States in 2010 was a little under 300 million. In the same year, what was the population of China? What is the mathematical difference?

2) In what year and at what number is China’s population expected to peak?

3) Between 1960 and 1980, a growing number of Chinese planners became worried about population growth. How does this document explain their concern?

4) Does this document support the claim that China’s one-child policy is working? Explain.

5) How might the numbers in this document worry Chinese leaders today? Explain with statistical evidence.

**Document B: Fertility**

1) In what year did China introduce its one-child policy? What were the reasons for doing this?

2) What does a nation’s fertility rate measure? Why does this matter to a nation?

3) In the first paragraph, how do the authors use the fertility rates to argue that China’s one-child policy may have been unnecessary? Explain with statistical evidence.

4) In the second paragraph and in the chart, how do the authors use comparative fertility rates to argue that China’s one-child policy may have been unnecessary? Explain with statistical evidence.

5) Based on this document, has China’s one-child policy been a good idea? Explain by identifying the main arguments presented in the document.

**Document C: Environment**

1) What is Henan? How is it significant to the discussion of the one-child policy?

2) What does the phrase “demographic growth” mean? How does this relate to the development of a country? Explain.

3) How much land and water does each person have in Henan compared with the rest of the people in China? Why is this information significant?

4) What evidence does Population Commission official Liu Shaojie provide to show that the one-child policy is “an environmental blessing”? Explain.

5) Do you think environmental concerns like air pollution, water pollution, and overcrowding justify a one-child policy?

**Document D: Young Women in the Workplace**

1) What is a singleton daughter?

2) How have urban singleton daughters benefitted from the one-child policy? Explain with evidence.

3) What does anthropologist Vanessa Fong mean when she says that urban singleton girls have been empowered to challenge some of the gender norms of Chinese society? Give and explain examples.

4) Is there anything in the document that suggests that the one-child policy is a bad idea? Explain with examples.

**Document E: Social Imbalance**

1) How are Chinese couples punished for violating the one-child policy? How are they rewarded for complying with the policy? Explain.

2) What does the term “gender imbalance” mean? What are the causes of the gender imbalance in China? Explain.

3) How is the ratio of working adults to retirees expected to change in China? What problems might this cause? Explain with statistical evidence.

4) How can you use this document to argue for and against China’s one-child policy? Explain with evidence.

**Document F: Two Single Children Speak**

1) How does Xiao Xuan feel about the one-child policy? What are her reasons?

2) How does A. J. Song feel about the one-child policy? What are his reasons?

3) Based on this document, has China’s one-child policy been a good idea? Why or why not?