



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

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## Two Child Policies in India

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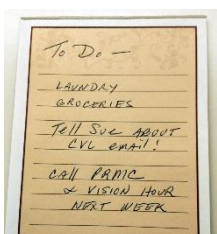
**Education:** Many of us are aware of China's policy to control population growth by limiting births and carrying out forced abortions to prevent births that are not permitted by the government. Although they have modified the policy to allow two children instead of only one, they still carry out forced abortions. [Women's Rights Without Frontiers](#) works to save babies by offering stipends to help families survive in hiding from the government. Many they save are second daughters who would otherwise be aborted in hopes of having a son. Gender selective abortion in China has created a huge imbalance in the number of males and females among the younger generation, and some rural villages have no eligible women for the bachelors who live there. Burmese women have been kidnapped and sold to be wives of Chinese men. (1)

India does not practice forced abortion or require permits for births, but several states now require all government employees and elected representatives to have only two children. If a third child is born, they can lose their job. This sets an example for the population at large to make more children less acceptable. All the states of India that have this policy now have birth rates lower than their replacement rates, and will be having declining populations. The potential loss of a job certainly puts pressure on parents to abort, and sex selection abortion in particular will surely rise as a result. In the state of Assam, where the two child policy is now being proposed and is expected to pass, there is already a ratio, in the urban areas of the state, of 125.9 boys born for every 100 girls. The policy is harder on the poor. Government posts offer economic opportunity to the poor, but they need to have more children to ensure children who will survive to adulthood and offer them security in their old age. (2)

1. <http://www.catholicculture.org/news/headlines/index.cfm?storyid=11754>
2. <http://www.lifenews.com/2017/01/10/india-may-be-following-china-with-two-child-population-control-policy/>



**Prayer:** Dear Father God, please open the minds and hearts of all the world to understand the sanctity of every human life from the moment of conception. Help those in nations with cultures who greatly favor sons over daughters to recognize the value of all children. Help all who work in government to work for policies that respect life at all stages, and for many to work for cultural change to place equal value on children of both sexes. Please help women who are under pressure to abort to find the support they need to choose life for their children.



**Action:** Consider supporting [Women's Rights Without Frontiers](#). Pray for cultural change in both India and China to be more welcoming to having daughters. Pray for worldwide understanding of the value of life from the moment of conception until natural death, and for many individuals in both India and China to reach out to their neighbors to support a choice for life.