

Sexual and Reproductive Health in China

*Reorienting Concepts
and Methodology*

Edited by

ZHANG Kaining

SOCIAL SCIENTIFIC STUDIES IN REFORM ERA CHINA 8

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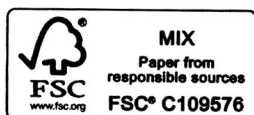
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Sexual and Reproductive Health in China

Social Scientific Studies in Reform Era China

VOLUME 8



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PREFACE

The year 2008 marked the 30th anniversary of China's reform era. In 2009, the country celebrated the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the People's Republic. The convergence of these two landmark anniversaries presents a unique opportunity to reflect on where the country has come from and where it is heading.

Understanding what has happened in China over the last thirty years is the first aim of this series. For much of this time, the Ford Foundation was privileged to witness developments in China from close at hand. Beginning in 1979/80, when the Foundation made its first grants for Chinese students and scholars to study abroad, the Foundation has supported outstanding researchers, talented government officials, and committed social and cultural practitioners to promote international co-operation and exchange in support of China's Reform and Opening. In 2007, Representative Andrew Watson invited leading researchers and practitioners to produce a series of volumes commemorating the 30th Anniversary of Reform and Opening covering the nine major fields in which the Foundation has provided support over the years. The outcome is a landmark set of volumes that show how far China has come since 1978. The series is built on the assumption that to understand what happened in the world over the last 30 years we need to understand what happened in China.

A second aim of the series is to draw on the experience of three decades of Reform and Opening to plot some of the challenges that lie ahead for China. There is every reason for self-congratulation when comparing China's development and prosperity today with the country's situation at the end of the Cultural Revolution. Many practitioners and researchers in China are not, however, content with self-congratulation. They want to know whether China's success in economic reform can be translated into comparable success in other areas of need, including legal, social, administrative, and governance reform.

Not all of their comments and conclusions are the same. Economists have good reason to celebrate China's achievements in exceeding its historical growth targets. In looking to the future they aim for higher targets still. Social, legal and administrative specialists, on the other

hand, are only beginning to define the goals and indicators necessary for measuring progress toward implementation of rule of law or social and governance reforms.

A third aim of the series is to draw the attention of the world to China's experience of Reform and Opening. People outside of China need not only to understand what has happened in China but also to make room for China in their understanding of the world more broadly. Many fine empirical studies of China's reform experience have been published. To date, however, China's experience has not made a great impression upon international scholarship in a wider theoretical or universal sense. By enhancing international understanding of what has happened in China these thirty years past, the series provides material for comparative and theoretical reflection on the significance of China's recent experience in world history, and for promoting finer appreciation of China's role in the world in decades to come.

Finally, this series aims to provide to provide a comprehensive overview of China's major achievements and challenges since the start of the reform era. There is no comprehensive field of study in China that is fully capable of integrating thirty years of Reform and Opening across all of the fields represented here—the economic, social, cultural, legal, administrative, international relations, educational, health and environmental fields. The series takes a first step in this direction by bringing experienced and expert voices from all fields together in a single publication.

The series could not have been produced without the tireless efforts of the editors, of the authors, and of CASS Press. Thanks are due to each of the editors and authors, to Xie Shouguang and his able staff for bringing the books to production, and to my valued colleagues in the Beijing Office of the Ford Foundation.

John Fitzgerald
Representative
The Ford Foundation
January 26, 2010

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In order to ensure the quality of the book, Ford Foundation invited a group of high-level experts to review its draft. Of the independent review panels were scholarly officials from World Health Organization, professors from the famous academic institutions such as Beijing University, Renmin University of China, Fudan University and Beijing Normal University, as well as senior research fellows from Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and the Women's Studies Institute of China. They are: Gu Baochang, Zhao Pengfei, Guo Yan, Hu Shanglian, Zeng Guang, Li Yinhe, Liu Bohong, Peng Xiaohui, Tao Chuanjin, Wang Xiaolin, Wang Feng, Zhang Meimei, Luo Chun and Fang Jing. The independent review panel all has rich experiences and insights in their respective fields. The independent reviewers experienced and witnessed by themselves, the historical advance of China's sexual and reproductive health. They highly acknowledged all the changes happening in the SRH field. Their pertinent comments made it a much comprehensive and enhanced book. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all of them.

We are grateful to Ms. Eve Wen-Jing Lee, Ford Foundation Program Officer as she has been involved in the planning and organizing of the book project since the beginning. Her keen suggestions as well as her rich experiences in sexual, reproductive health and rights contributed significantly and positively to the production of the book.

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Ms. Wen Yiqun from the Yunnan Health and Development Research Association (YHDRA) carefully reviewed and fine-tuned all the Chinese drafts. From her work we can see her extraordinary professionalism and meticulous attitude.

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Special thanks should also go to the Social Sciences Academic Press (China), particularly the editors such as Mr. Tong Gengxing, Ms. Qiu Yang and Guo Rongrong for their great support. Without their effort, we can barely have the book in shape so soon.

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ZHANG Kaining, M. D. and M. PH, born in 1949, is the founder, and Director of the Yunnan Health and Development Research Association (formerly known as the Yunnan Reproductive Health Research Association), a NGO rooted in Yunnan province of China. He is also the Director and a Professor of the Institute for Health Sciences, Kunming Medical College.

With degrees of B. Sc. in Sciences, M.D. and MA in Public Health, Professor Zhang is currently a Professor of social medicine & health policy/ management. He is also a Visiting Professor of Mahidol University, Thailand, and a Visiting Professor in several top universities in China, such as the Sun-Yat Sen University in Guangzhou.

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His major research fields are epidemiology of family planning and reproduction, medical demography and social medicine in reproductive health. Most projects are related with adolescent sex and reproductive health, male reproduction, reproductive health and environment, evaluation of family planning and reproductive health, health development and mortality of infants, reproductive health of migrants and aging people, evidence-based reproductive medicine, assessment of contraceptive effectiveness and acceptability.

Dr. Gao has carried out more than 60 projects in recent 10 years supported by WHO, UNFPA, USA NIH, Bill & Melinda Foundation, Ford Foundation, China Nature Science Foundation, Key Program of Science and Technique Ministry. He was awarded for "Special Contribution Price" by China State Council, "Prominent Scientist Price" by State Population and Family Planning commission, China. He has got 15 "Science and technique achievement awards" by State Population and Family Planning Commission and Shanghai Government, 3 "Excellent Research Achievement Awards" by Chinese Population Association. He has Publish more than 300 papers in domestic and international peer review journals, edited and wrote 17 books, and translated 16 books from English.

Lou Chaohua graduated from Shanghai Medical University, where she earned her Masters Degree of Medicine in 1989. In 1996, she completed postdoctoral training at the School of Hygiene and Public Health, Johns Hopkins University. She engaged in social science and epidemiological research on reproductive health, focusing on adolescent and unmarried young people's reproductive health Dr. Lou has been responsible for and participated research projects supported by WHO/RHR, Ford Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Institute of Johns Hopkins University, Chinese Family Planning Association

(CFPA)/PATH, SPFPC/UNFPA, Shanghai Population and Family Planning Commission and Welcome Trust etc. She has published about 150 research papers in Chinese and international peer-reviewed journals based on the results from these projects, and co-edited/translated 6 books. At present, she is the team leader of social science research on reproductive health of adolescents and young people at Shanghai Institute of Planned Parenthood Research (SIPPR) and an adviser of Ph.D. students.

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Sexuality and HIV/AIDS, (Universal Press, 2008), coauthor of *Male Clients in China: HIV Risks and Preventions*, (Universal Press, 2008) and chief editor of series *Research on Sexualities in China* (Universal Press, since 2006). Her earlier publications are mostly on female sex workers. She is currently working on a project *Partnership for Social Science Research on HIV/AIDS in China* and *The rise of sex and sexuality studies in post-1978 China*.

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His main research interests include: Chinese NGO, accountability, performance evaluation and capacity building. His recent publications include: "The value of the Non-Government Sector in China and Comparative Analysis", "The Analysis on Characteristic and Role of Private Non-enterprise Organizations in China", "Individual Donation is the Foundation of Charities Development", "Policy study of charity organizations' development", "Public Participation in Government Performance Evaluation: Theory, Methods and Practice", "New Environment for Development of NGOs in China".

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Prof. Liu received his doctoral degree in Economics from Oxford University. He has in recent years led a range of important research projects funded by various Chinese government departments and international agencies. Many are concerned with China's health development, including rural health services, and the role of central funding for maternal and child health services in China. Currently, he is conducting a project on "Human Resources for Health in Rural China: An assessment of the current situation and projection of future needs", funded by IDRC and in collaboration with the Health Human Resources Development Center of the Chinese Ministry of Health, and the Oxford University Department of Public Health and Department of International Development. He hopes to promote health development research in particular and human development research in general in China and, ultimately, to help achieve the goal of "people-centered" development through academic researches and exchanges at CHEDS.

WANG Qu is a PhD research fellow at the Vienna School of Governance, University of Vienna, and a researcher at the Center for Human and Economic Development Studies, Peking University. She has previously worked as a program researcher at the Hopkins-Nanjing Center for Chinese and American studies and at the Yangtze Delta Research Center of Nanjing University. She has co-led three important research projects on human development and child health care in China, funded by the Ford Foundation and Save the Children. More recently, she has been actively involved in the two national projects of maternal and child health care financing in rural China, funded by UNICEF and the Chinese MOF. Her main research fields include governance in public health, social determinants of health, and health equity. She has co-published a book translation as well as research papers in *China Economic Quarterly* and other key periodicals.

INTRODUCTION

Zhang Kaining

For those are very familiar with China, it might be quite obvious that the reform and open-the-door policy in China beginning in late 1980s has brought about dramatic socioeconomic changes. However, they may not associate it with the significant changes that have occurred in sexual and reproductive health in China. Indeed, the open-the-door policy set the Chinese people free from the culturally and traditionally restrictive and oppressive mentality/attitude towards sexuality, sexual and reproductive health issues. Meanwhile, the reform and new policy enabled meaningful and long-term collaborations in addressing reproductive health issues with the international community. The collaborations led to greater involvement of a wide spectrum of stakeholders in China—gatekeepers from the government sectors, institutions of the maternal-and-child health, family planning, and researchers on population studies and women & development. To be worth mentioning, the remarkable progress achieved so far should never be separated from the constructive and productive collaborations with the Ford Foundation Beijing Office over the past two decades.

As is known to us all, governmental delegates from nearly 200 countries and representatives from more than one thousand Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) attended the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo in 1994. They had hot debates and intensive discussions on key global issues related to population and development for the forthcoming twenty years. In order to address shared concerns while appreciating differences and promote greater international cooperation, the participants went through careful considerations, negotiations and modifications. Finally, they formulated the ICPD Programme of Action (ICPD PoA) and accepted the definition of reproductive health, proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Reproductive health, also a new term even in the English-speaking communities at that time, was translated into Chinese as '*sheng zhi jian kang*' or '*sheng yu jian kang*.' As early as the late 1980s, Dr. Jose Barzelatto, the former Director of the WHO Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction, first