Empowering Singleton Girls: An Anthropological Study on the Unintended Consequences of China’s One Child Policy
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**Background:** China’s One Child Policy (OCP), enacted in 1979 under Deng Xiao Ping, was introduced to heavily limit fertility and enact population control. Strict implementation of the OCP has provoked unprecedented concern because of the unusually high proportion of males to females in the Chinese population. As daughters born during the One Child Policy without siblings may have been encouraged to pursue different paths in both personal life and careers when compared to those without siblings, it is important to investigate the unintended consequences of the OCP regarding singleton females.

**Objective:** To investigate the relationship between being a Chinese female singleton, juxtaposed against those with siblings, born under the OCP by measuring satisfaction in both personal life and careers through both quantitative and qualitative lenses.

**Results:** Key findings suggest that: (1) Chinese women without siblings have higher satisfaction in both personal life and career outcomes; (2) Family composition, emotional stability, and other pressures strongly sway satisfaction rates.

**Conclusions:** Potential influences on satisfaction rates of personal life and careers in female populations were identified as a result of the OCP; the “unintended consequences” of not having siblings may be positive in terms of career and personal life satisfaction, especially in multigenerational households.