Need for a Rational Approach

Today India’s population growth rate is the lowest in the last 50 years and most young couples have three or fewer children. According to NERI-III (2005-6), most Indian states have reached replacement level of fertility of 2.1, and in those states where fertility is high, the unmet needs for contraceptives are very high. However, the population ‘appears’ to keep growing due to the momentum effect because there are more young reproducing couples than before. At the same time, there is a wide spread consensus that state intervention in intimate and personal matters like reproductive behavior is a human rights violation. Given the large population of young people in the country, population momentum will continue over the next many years and imposing population control policies and targeted sterilization programmes are ineffective and counterproductive.

It is the need of the hour to promote reproductive and sexual education and life-skills education to the young and make arrangements for fulfilling the need for information on the basket of contraceptives and quality services for all those who need them. It is also necessary to change all policy provisions and entitlements that are linked with population or family size.

About the Coalition

The National Coalition Against Two Child Norm and Coercive Population Policies has been formed as an outcome of concerns around population control coercion and for promoting policies that empower people, especially women to exercise their reproductive rights and choices. It is aimed at strengthening the civil society partnership and voice people’s concerns collectively.

This Coalition is a non-governmental and non-party group, consisting of individuals and organizations who believe in human rights and particularly reproductive, civil and political rights of all individuals. The Coalition together with its members seeks to take action to address and redress violations of these rights among non-violent and affected individuals and groups.

Goal of the Coalition

To raise awareness among different stakeholders about the coercive nature of different population control policies like the Two Child Norm and to advocate for the removal of such policies at the State and Central levels.

Key Objectives and Strategies

- To conduct research and show information among different stakeholders on issues related to population and development.
- To build awareness and consensus among different stakeholders about the principles of reproductive rights.
- To collect and share evidence and measures related to reproductive and political rights and coercive population policies.
- To develop a strong network with different policy stakeholders at the national and state levels to conduct and/or collaborate with documentation and research exercises.
- To monitor the policy environment at the national and State levels.

Key Achievements

Like-minded civil society organizations and individuals can become members of this Coalition. Membership to the Coalition is open to both institutions and individuals who are either citizens of India or are registered as non-profit organizations in India and subscribe to the goals, aims and objectives of the Coalition.

As a member, we expect that you will provide assistance in carrying out population policies, participate in Coalition activities and most importantly advocate about these issues in different forums.

Coalition Secretariat

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Website: chsjindia.org

Email: cs@chsjindia.org

Coalition Working Group

Mr. A.K. Nanda (Chairperson) – Dialogue
Mr. S. Balachandran (Executive) – The Hunger Project
Mrs. Amalina Hasrat (Executive) – Human Rights Lawyer
Mr. R. Kumar (Executive) – Human Rights Lawyer
Mr. Shyam P. Tulshiraj (Executive) – Human Rights Lawyer
Mr. Swarup P. Tripathi (Executive) – Human Rights Lawyer
Mr. Deependra Pratap Singh (Executive) – Human Rights Lawyer
Mrs. Gauri K. Verma (Executive) – Human Rights Lawyer
Mr. Deependra Pratap Singh (Executive) – Human Rights Lawyer
Mr. Deependra Pratap Singh (Executive) – Human Rights Lawyer

For Reproductive, Civil & Political Rights
Kaparfora, Bihar

## Impact of Two-Child Norm in India

### On Society:
- Negatively impacts participation of women and members of the marginalized communities in various aspects of the society.
- Implementing the TCN in a patriarchal set-up not only perpetuates the already existing discrimination against women and girls, but also heurs too often prefer to undergo female sex selection.

### On Children:
- Violation of 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments by the Government of India.
- Violation of Citizenship rights and entitlements like development benefits (sanitation schemes, land and housing, government subsidies), material benefits and entitlements.

## The Two-Child Norm Violates Human Rights

### Political Aspects:
- "A sensible approach to the regulation of fertility must respect the fundamental rights of parents to make informed choices about the number of children they have in their home and the "type" of family they would prefer in deciding about their family size."

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**Dr. Manmohan Singh**
Prime minister of the Republic of India

## Join the Coalition: membership application form

Membership is extended to individuals and organizations that support the cause of the Coalition and agree with its overall goals and objectives and intend to be active in promoting, supporting its efforts.

Those interested in becoming members of the Coalition do not need organizational backing to join the Coalition; however, a recent volume needs to be attached with the form.

Organizations must designate a contact person who will actively engage in the Coalition’s work and also attach their financial information (i.e. recent work to come across any other policies) with this form.

- **Name:**
- **Sex:**
- **Religion:**
- **Marital Status:**
- **Area of work/ specialization:**
- **Type of member (individual, non-individual, institution)**

Please specify how you wish to be identified as the important issues of Two-Child Norm and other population policies.

- **Designation:**
- **Other activities of the organization (if affiliated with any organization):**

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**How can you contribute to the Coalition work (please mark if applicable):**
- Advocacy
- Campaign
- Training
- Research
- Media
- Monitoring
- Participatory workshops, seminars and other advocacy activities

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**CEDAW**
- States that have made all the appropriate changes to incorporate the provisions of the公约 into their national laws, policies and procedures.

**States of India**
- States that have made all the appropriate changes to incorporate the provisions of the公约 into their national laws, policies and procedures.

**States of UN**
- States that have made all the appropriate changes to incorporate the provisions of the公约 into their national laws, policies and procedures.

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**Life & Liberty & Privacy Act of 1951**
- States of India (i.e. Government of India, States of Indian Union, States of Indian Union).

**Equity of Opportunity**
- States of India (i.e. Government of India, States of Indian Union, States of Indian Union).

**Constitution of India**
- States of India (i.e. Government of India, States of Indian Union, States of Indian Union).

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**On Young People:**
- Disqualification from political positions.
- States where information about the parents is not required.
- Interference with reproductive and health rights.