

China: House Church Christians



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

Unregistered “House” Churches

- Why should a church register?
 - Regulation on Religious Affairs requires it
- With whom does a church register?
 - State Administration for Religious Affairs (SARA)
 - Religious Affairs Bureau (RAB) -- locally
- Why is “House” in quotation marks?
 - Unregistered Christians don’t only meet in houses.



What religions are recognized?

- Buddhism
- Catholicism
- Islam
- Taoism
- Protestantism



What religious groups are not recognized?

- “Evil Cults” (examples)
 - Falun Gong
 - Eastern Lightning, a/k/a Church of the Almighty God
 - Shouters

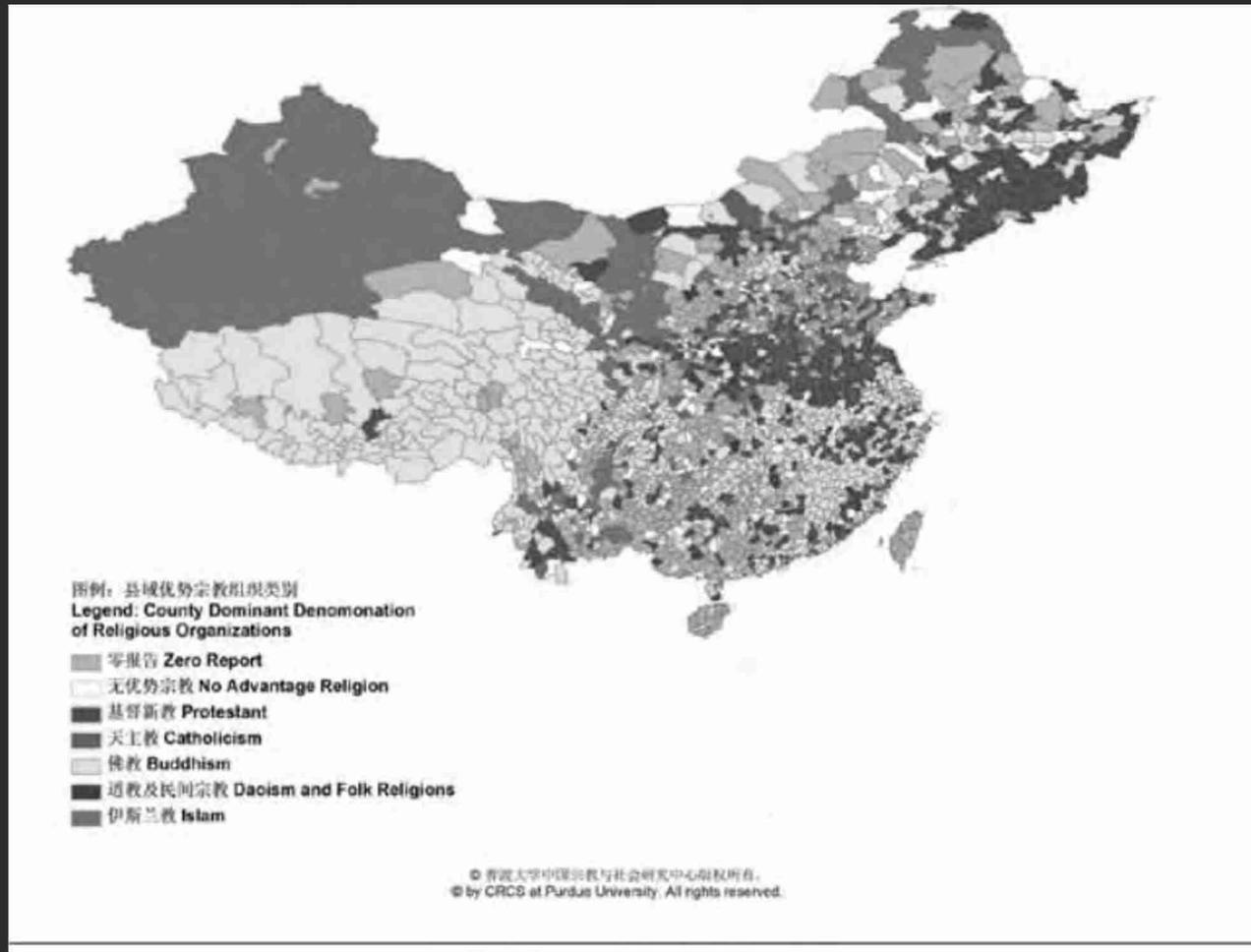


Registered Churches: Patriotic Religious Associations

- Catholic Patriotic Association
 - 5.7 million worshipers at CPA churches
 - 3.3 million worshippers at unregistered Catholic churches (Another estimate: 10-12 million total)
("underground churches"?)
- Three-Self Patriotic Movement (Protestant)
 - 23 million worshippers at TSPM churches
 - 35 million worshippers at unregistered Protestant churches (Another estimate: 93-115 million total)



Where are China's registered Christian churches?



Are all those who worship in unregistered churches targeted?



Are only worshippers in unregistered Churches targeted?



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

How many worshippers in unregistered churches have suffered abuses?

- ‘Sinicization’ of Christianity
- Temporary detentions (many case)
- Long-term imprisonment (few cases)
- Are detainees charged with crimes?



How many worshippers in unregistered churches have been detained?

- 2012: 1441 detentions
- 2013: 1470 detentions
- 2014: 2994 detentions
- 2015: 3178 detentions
- 2016: 3526 detentions
- 2017: 3700 detentions



What factors influence which Christians may suffer abuses?

- Location of the church
- Political connections of the church
- Priorities of local authorities
- Behavior of the church



Where is religious persecution most intense?



Where is NIV fraud most prevalent?



Conclusion



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

Recommended Readings

- [The Battle for China's Spirit](#), Freedom House, Feb. 2017.
- [Annual Report – 2018: Freedom of Religion](#), Congressional-Executive Commission on China, 2018.
- [China: An Emerging Destination for Economic Migration](#), Migration Policy Institute, May 31, 2011.
- [Migration within China and from China to the USA: The effects of migration networks, selectivity, and the rural political economy in Fujian Province](#), *Population Studies*, 67(2): 209–223 (2013).
- [Bibliography on Christianity in China](#), RAI0 Research Unit, Oct. 2016.
- [China's Great Migration: Why Leave Changle?](#), Slate, Apr. 11, 2008.



Recommended Readings (cont.)

- Country Information Report People's Republic of China, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Oct. 3, 2019 (For informational purposes only: Not to be interpreted as guidance for USCIS Officers)
- Query response on Christian house churches (2017-October 2019), Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Oct. 22, 2019 (For informational purposes only: Not to be interpreted as guidance for USCIS Officers)
- Country information and protection guidelines for British asylum authorities on Christians, U.K. Home Office, Nov. 2019 (For informational purposes only: Not to be interpreted as guidance for USCIS Officers)

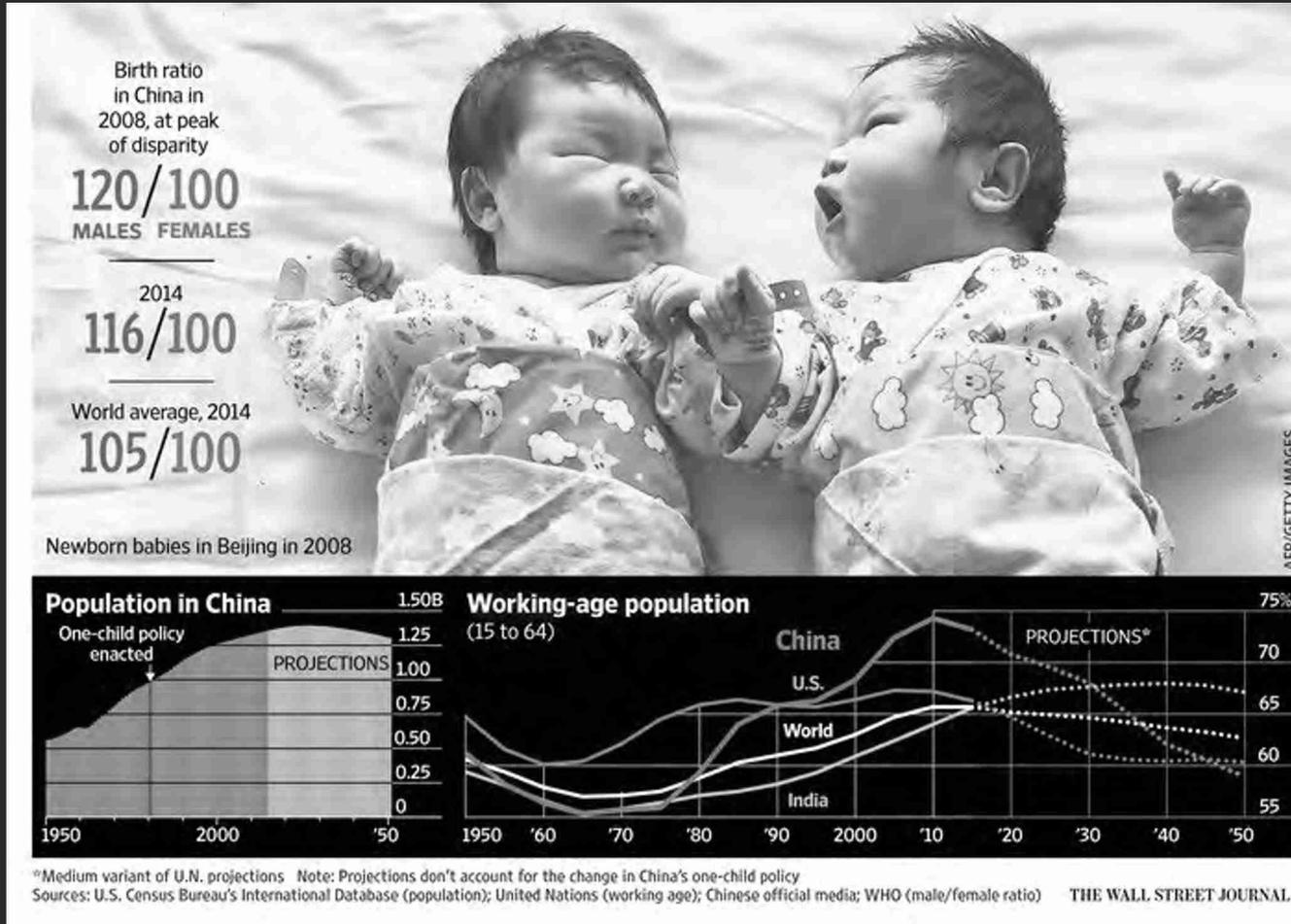


Church of the Almighty God/Eastern Lightning



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

Coercive Birth Planning Policies



U.S. Citizenship
 and Immigration
 Services

Coercive Birth Planning Policies

Evolution of the
Policies over
Time

Abusive
Implementation:
Past and
Present



Coercive Birth Planning Policies: Recommended Readings

- [Two-Child Policy Becomes Law](#), Law Library of Congress, January 8, 2016
- [Translations of Provincial Regulations](#), Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, April 11, 2019
- [Annual Report – 2019](#), Congressional-Executive Commission on China, November 18, 2019
- [Enforcement of the Two-Child Policy](#), Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, December 18, 2019
- [China's Two-Child Policy: What's Next?](#), The Diplomat, March 4, 2016



Forced Relocation and Home Demolition



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

Forced Relocation and Home Demolition



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

Forced Relocation and Home Demolition: Recommended Readings

- Urban Housing Demolition and Relocation Management Regulations (English), Congressional-Executive Commission on China, June 4, 2001
- Annual Report – 2019, Congressional-Executive Commission on China, November 18, 2019
- Corruption and Weak Property Protections Fuel Protests in Rural China: The Case of Wukan Village, Congressional-Executive Commission on China, May 31, 2017
- Forced Eviction Family Who Fought Back Jailed, Beaten, Threatened in China's Shandong, Radio Free Asia, November 30, 2019



Uyghurs & Other Xinjiang Muslims



Resources:

- [Presentation to RAIO by Prof Rian Thrum, part of the RAIO Research Unit Speaker Series](#)
- Sinica Podcast (linked on Slack - [#raio-research-asia](#)), especially '[Update on Xinjiang](#)', an interview with Nury Turkel



China: Exit Restrictions



- Resources:
- [Information on Exit Restrictions in China](#), RAI0 Research Unit (November 16, 2018)
- [Procedures and requirements to obtain a biometric passport](#), IRB Canada (May 6, 2013)
- [A Summer Vacation in China's Muslim Gulag](#), Foreign Policy (February 28, 2018)



The End

Thanks for participating!

RAIOResearch@uscis.dhs.gov



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services