

# WHERE HAVE THE BABY GIRLS GONE?

/gendercide

The Economist calls gendercide a global war on baby girls. Almost no nationality is immune. Facts show it is practised from Beijing to Birmingham. In 2011, groundbreaking research from journalist Mara Hvistendhal shows that 160 million girls have been killed because of sex-selection abortions.

Western abortion campaigners are heavily implicated in the disturbing rise in abortion of unborn women. 'As it turns out, Western advisors and researchers, and Western money, were among the forces that contributed to a serious reduction in the number of women and girls in the developing world,' writes Hvistendhal. So much for a woman's right to choose.



MISSING: BABY GIRLS

## ➔ Recent studies revealed:

- 🌐 160 million girls in Asia are missing because of sex-selection abortions. <sup>1</sup>
- 🌐 In the 1960s, Western population control advocates realized Asian families would have children until a son was born, and enabled sex-selection as a means of population control. <sup>2</sup>
- 🌐 The gendercide of baby girls is especially common in China and northern India, where there are 120 baby boys born for every 100 baby girls. <sup>3</sup>
- 🌐 In the United States and Russia, using in vitro fertilization for sex selection/ gendercide is legal. <sup>4</sup>
- 🌐 Sex-selection abortion occur throughout Europe as well: statistics show it is widespread in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, Albania, <sup>5</sup> Belarus, Serbia, Bosnia and Cyprus. <sup>6</sup>
- 🌐 The Economist notes, 'Gendercide exists on almost every continent. It affects rich and poor; educated and illiterate; Hindu, Muslim, Confucian and Christian alike.' <sup>7</sup>
- 🌐 In India, the girl/boy ratio is plummeting due to gendercide. In the Maharashtra state, the sex ratio dropped to 855 girls/ 1,000 boys in 2009. In Pune, the ratio was only 806 girls/ 1,000 boys in 2010. In Beed, the ratio is a stunning 741 girls/ 1,000 boys in 2010. <sup>8</sup>
- 🌐 The UK Department of Health is investigating gendercide in Britain, after the Daily Telegraph obtained undercover evidence of abortion doctors offering to perform sex selection abortions. <sup>9</sup>
- 🌐 Experts have predicted that the surplus of Chinese men will lead to a range of societal problems, including an increase in crime. <sup>10</sup>
- 🌐 Sex-selection abortion in India is not only a cultural issue, but an economic one.<sup>11</sup> Girls are considered 'liabilities who require protection and fat dowries,' since the Indian land inheritance system favours boys, and 'dowry violence' occurs when women's families fail to pay a sufficient bride price.<sup>12</sup>

**ABORTION IS WAR ON WOMEN. IN EVERY SENSE.**

# A DEADLY WAR

When a woman who was 12 weeks pregnant had an appointment with a doctor at the Calthorpe Clinic, she explained that she wanted to terminate her pregnancy because she had discovered she was having a girl. 'Is that the reason?' asked the doctor. When the pregnant woman asked if he could put down a different reason, the doctor said: 'I'll put too young for pregnancy, yeah?' The patient agreed. The doctor appeared happy to change the woman's reason for wanting an abortion when filling in forms. A nurse at the same clinic was also made aware of the reason but did not object to the procedure taking place. The patient was not offered any counselling.

**'ABORTION INVESTIGATION: DOCTOR CAUGHT FALSIFYING SEX SELECTION PAPERWORK'**  
THE TELEGRAPH,  
24 FEBRUARY 2012

The USSR left a heritage of high abortion rates. A significant part of the population in the South Caucasus is ready and willing to resort to abortion as soon as the unborn child is found out to be a girl. 'A boy is OK, a girl is not.'

**GIORGIO COMAI,  
'GENDERCIDE IN THE SOUTH CAUCASUS'**  
OSSORVITORIO BALCANI E CAUCOSO, (ITALY)  
14 DECEMBER 2011

## lifefacts/backup

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## VILLAGE OF NO WOMEN

Forty million girls do not just go 'missing,' though in India that is the case. There is even a town called 'The Village of No Women' which has one of the lowest sex ratios on earth. So, where are the females? Approximately 50,000 female fetuses are aborted every month.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TIMES, 14 DECEMBER 2011

## GENDER-BASED ABORTION

Angie Murie, executive director of Planned Parenthood Waterloo Region (Canada) ultimately does not support any restrictions on a woman's right to choose. 'I wrestle with gender-based abortion more than any other reason,' Ms. Murie said. 'From a macro perspective, I don't think it's a very good idea for us to be eliminating women. But I don't have any right to say that one person's reason is better or worse than another's.'

**KATHRYN BLAZE CARLSON, 'SEX-BASED ABORTION DIVIDES PRO-CHOICERS ON RIGHTS'**  
NATIONAL POST (CANADA), 20 JANUARY 2012.

## THE PRICE OF A GIRL

Doctors in India started advertising ultrasound scans with the slogan 'Pay 5,000 rupees (\$110) today and save 50,000 rupees tomorrow' (the cost of a daughter's dowry). Parents who wanted a son, but balked at killing baby daughters, chose abortion.

THE ECONOMIST, 4 MARCH 2011

A former medical director of Britain's largest abortion provider said it was 'well known' that women were terminating pregnancies because of the gender of the child and that he had been asked to arrange the procedure for this reason.

**CLAIRE NEWELL AND HOLLY WATT,  
INDEPENDENT.IE**  
25 FEBRUARY 2012