

## China Shifts to Two-Child Policy

The government of China has announced that married couples in China will be legally allowed to have two-child families as of March 2016. China's one-child policy, which has been in effect since 1980, has prevented approximately 400 million births. In the past 35 years, many Chinese couples have faced fines for having a second child while others have been forced to have abortions. A relaxed family planning policy does not mean that couples will jump at the chance to have larger families. Single-child families are the social norm in China, and many couples cannot afford to have more than one child due to the high cost of living.

Source: [www.englishclub.com](http://www.englishclub.com)

### Vocabulary

in effect – in use

approximately - something is almost, but not completely accurate

jump (at the chance) - accept (an opportunity or offer) eagerly

social norm - rules of behavior that are considered acceptable in a group or society

### Comprehension Questions

1. What major policy does China plan to switch to in 2016?
2. How long has the one-child policy been in effect in China?
3. According to the report, why will many Chinese couples continue to only have one child despite the new policy?

You can see the whole lesson from your teacher, please ask them to send it to you before the class.

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