

Reproductive behaviour of repatriates from Mongolia and ethnic Kazakhs in Mongolia

Abstract

Differences and commonalities of reproductive behaviour of repatriates from Mongolia and ethnic Kazakhs currently living in Mongolia are the main focus of the submitted doctoral thesis. The data used in this research were obtained from the own sample survey carried out in the framework of the field research conducted during the summer of 2009. The field research has been supported by Charles University in Prague and the JSC “Center for International programs”, an administrator of the Bolashak International Scholarship of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Special attention in the work is paid to behaviour differentials by sex, age, attained educational level, place of residence and actual number of children. The leading intention was to show how migration, through disruption of original social networks and changes in the social environment during the first stage of socialization of the second generation of repatriates, influenced reproductive behaviour of women in particular birth cohorts. Besides, the presented doctoral research tries to answer the questions whether repatriates influence demographic situation in Kazakhstan in required direction by having (traditionally) numerous families or whether they adapt to the new environment preferring self-realization and use birth control to postpone or reduce their reproduction.

The study analyzed and evaluated the impact of migration on reproductive behavior. The obtained data and results may become additional information of no small importance for the successful implementation of government policy with regard to immigrants, and thus, may allow adjusting the official assumptions and expectations of the state program of repatriation. As such, the main conclusions of this research have rather high potential to influence future decision making and strategy/policies formulation in the field of population development, and migration in particular.

Key words: Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Repatriation, Repatriates, Ethnic Kazakhs, Population, Reproduction, Behaviour