

Zhou Documents

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Artist(s) Notes: On Work "Infant Tongue" (1996)

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WORDS FROM THE ARTIST

WANG GONG-XIN

We are living in an age of an unprecedented population explosion. China has been undergoing a stunning increase of its population during the past few decades with over 1.3 billion people on a land of 9.6 million square kilometers. This has caused not only concern from all over the world, but a compulsory policy of 'one family, one child' from the Chinese government in an attempt to bring the problem under control.

While the 'one child policy' did indeed contribute to the slowing down of the country's population growth, it will bring a strange consequence to Chinese society: with the three-person family structure there'll be no such ideas of kindred relationship in the next century as brothers, sisters, uncles and aunts. A baby is born only to be cared for by six adults (father, mother, grandfather & grandmother of the father side, and grandfather & grandmother of the mother side), and a young couple will then take care of the lives of four to eight aged people (it's the traditional duty for Chinese to support their parents or grandparents when they get old).

What will all this change mean to us?

(此段文字只作为了解作品的背景材料，
不作为创作者人的观念) —