# Human Capital and Women Development in China

Jianmin Li

Institute of Population and Development

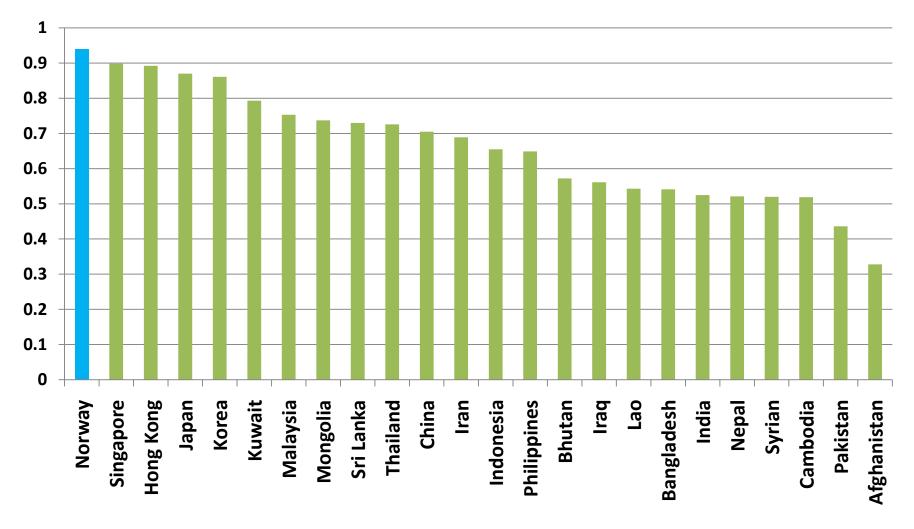
Nankai University

Tianjin, China

# The two kinds of functions of human capital

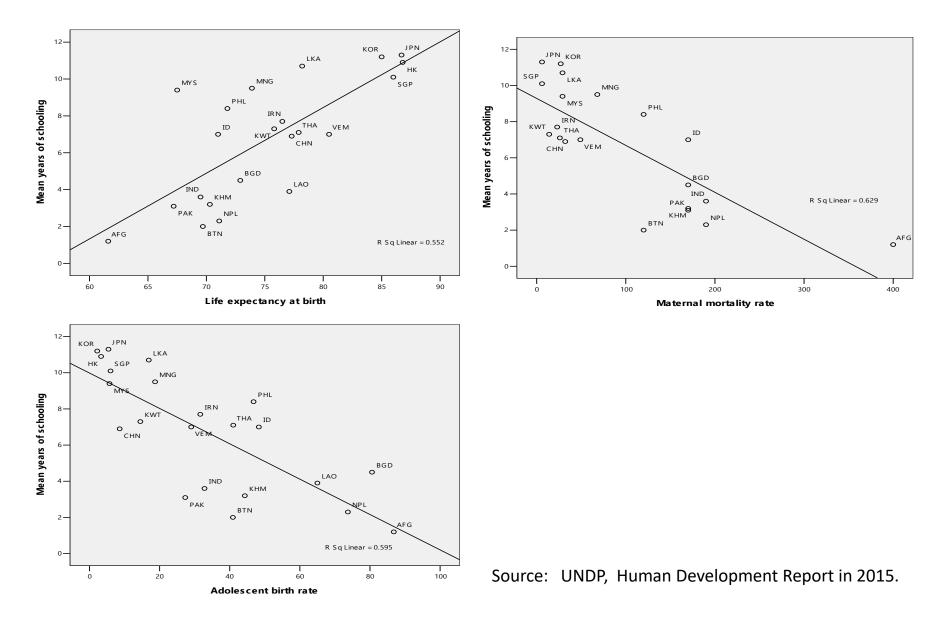
- The economic functions: labor productivity, total factor productivity (TFP), innovation, income distribution, etc.
- **The social functions:** empower the people, social equity and social mobility, the growth of the middle class, *women development*, demographic changes, etc.
- At the micro level: the quality of personal life and family welfare, etc.

## **Human Development Index for Female in 2014**



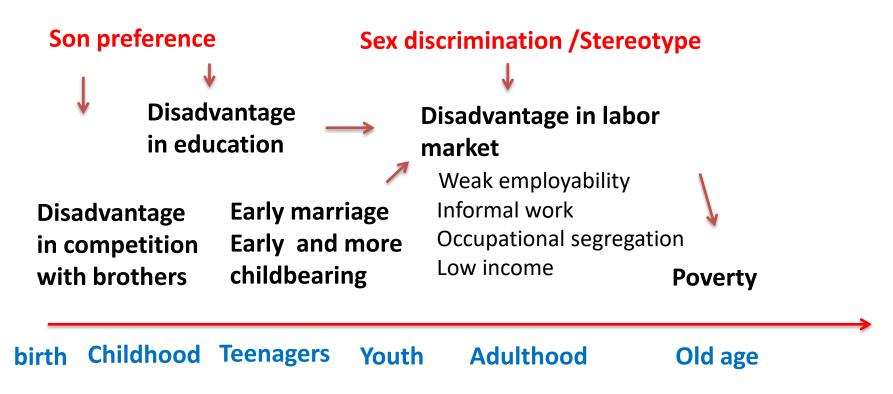
Source: UNDP, Human Development Report in 2015.

#### Human capital and women development



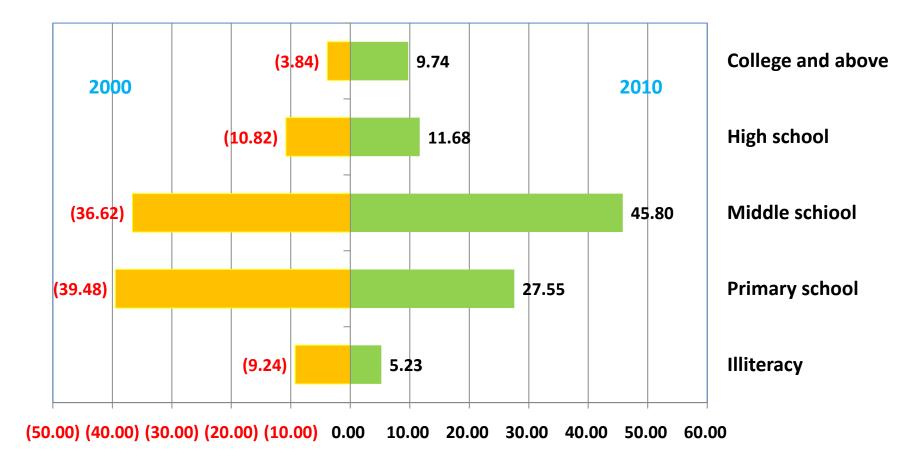
# The trap of disadvantages accumulated for women

 The women's backward state and low social and family status are the result of disadvantages accumulated in the life course.

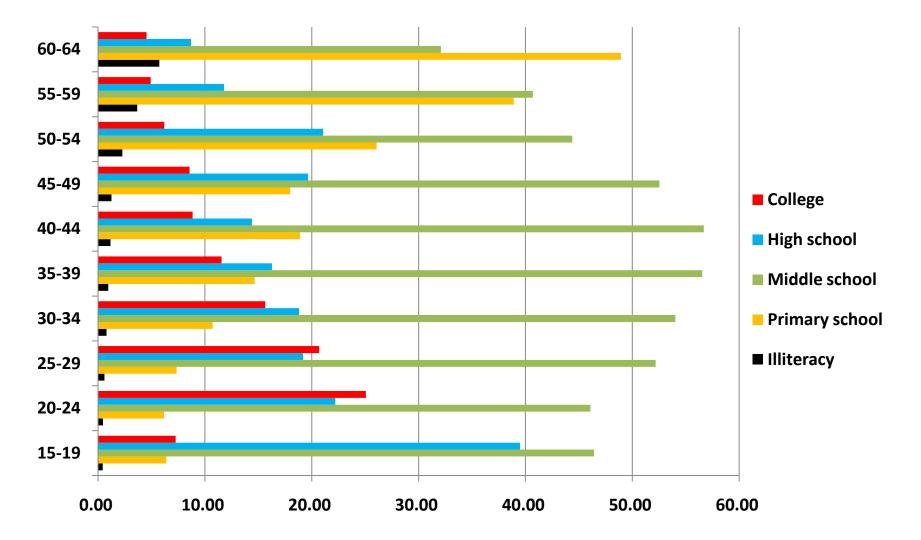


- Chinese women have had a great of achievements in education.
  - In 2010, the mean years of schooling for women aged 18 to 64 is 8.8, an increase of 2.7 years compared with 2000.
  - There is 33.7% of women have received high school education and above and 14.3% of women have received education in college and above.
  - The number of female college students is more than male students since 2010

#### **Distribution of female labor force by education attainment**

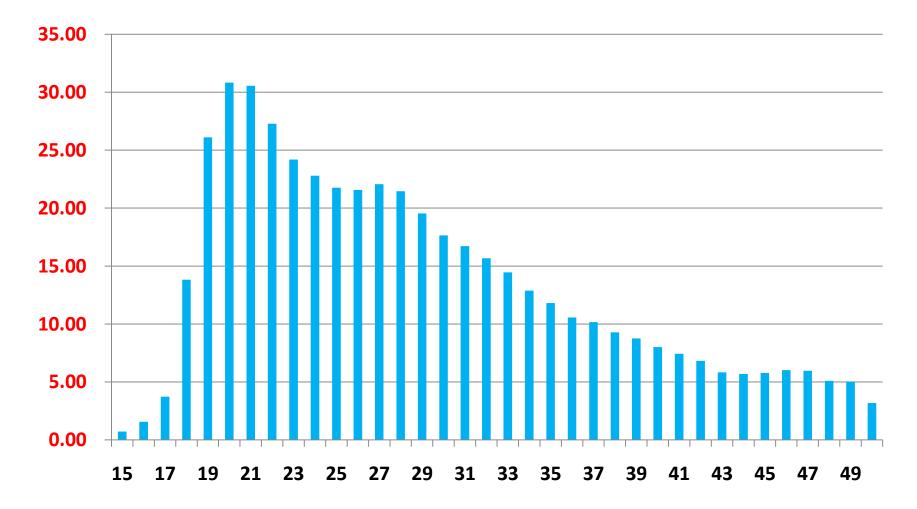


### **Education attainment by age group for female in 2010**

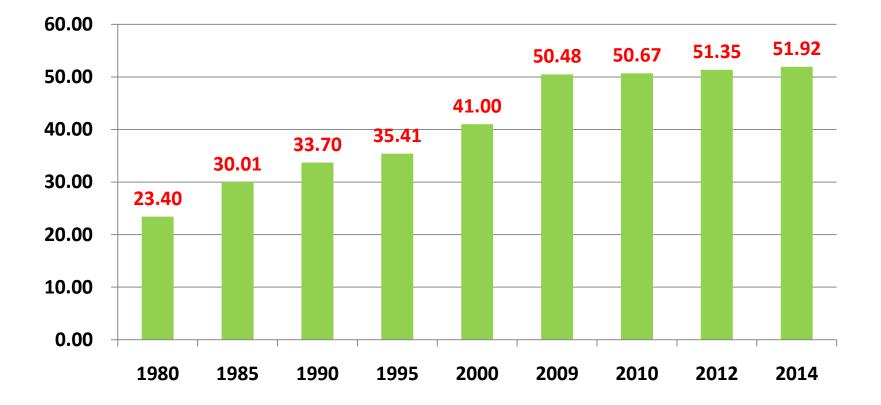


Source: Population census of China in 2010.

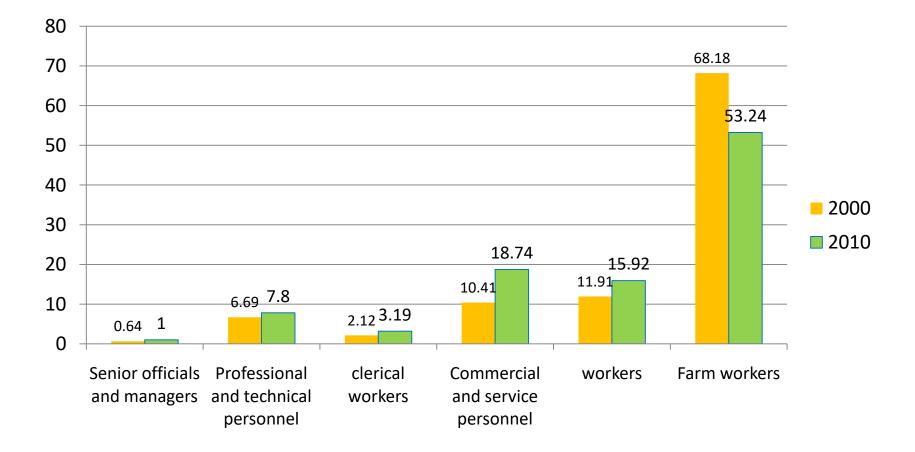
# Proportion of female who are college students or graduated by age in 2010



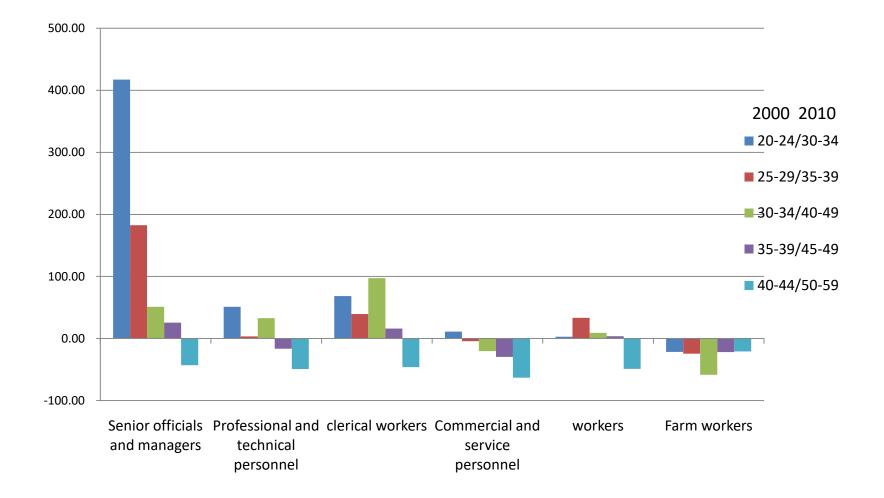
#### **Proportion of female college students**



### Changes in occupation structure for female labors from 2000 to 2010

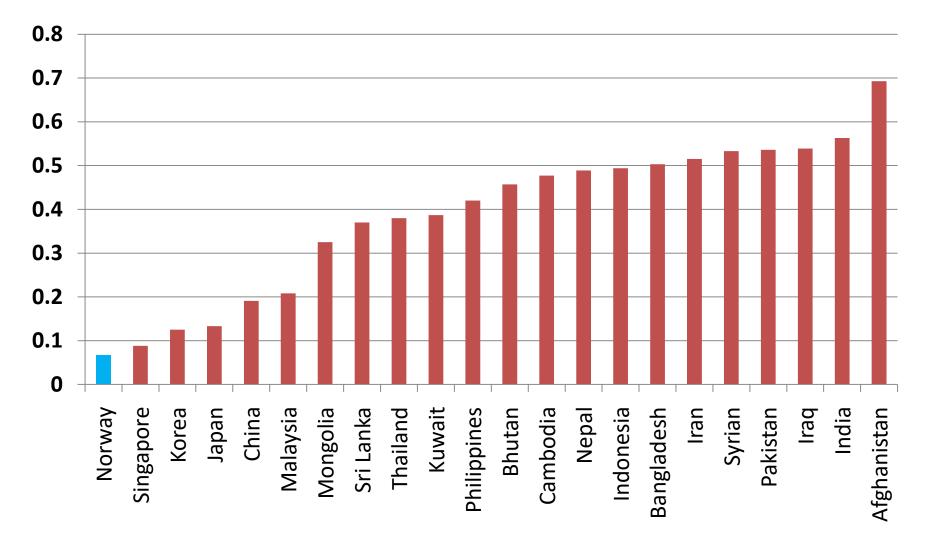


## Occupation mobility by age group for female during 2000-2010



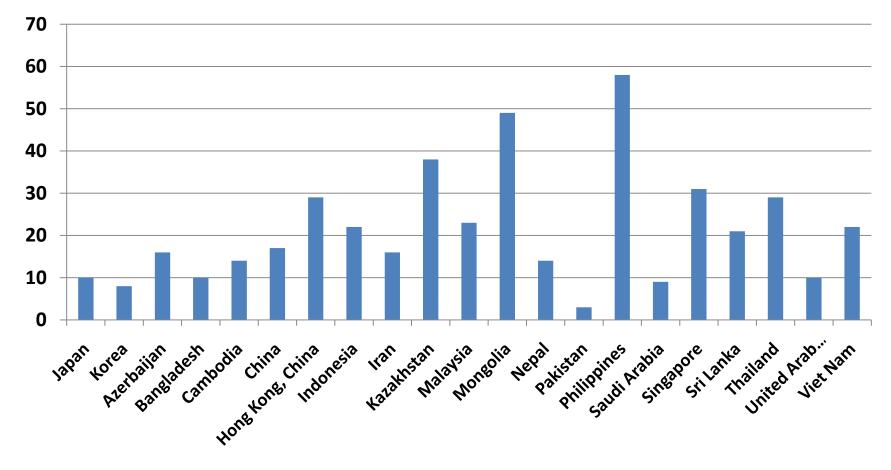
- Investment in women's human capital is a all-round capacity building for women development.
- But the gender gaps still exist. This means that, investment in women's human capital is a necessary condition for women development, but not a sufficient one. It depends on social, institutional, economic and cultural factors.
- There are two approaches to measure the level of women's development:
  - To compare women's current and past situations
  - To compare women's achievements in development with that of men, i.e. gender gap.

# **Gender Inequality Index in 2014**



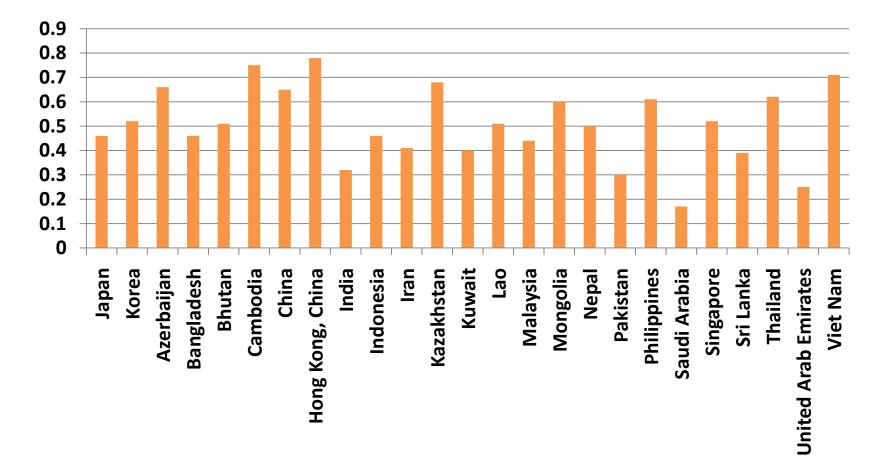
Source: UNDP, Human Development Report in 2015.

# Female legislators, senior officials and managers (as % of total) in 2006



Source: OECD. Stat.

# Ratio of estimated female to male earned income in 2006



 UNDP(2015): Gender equality, centered in human rights, is recognized both as a development goal on its own and as vital to accelerating sustainable development. Unless women and girls are able to fully realize their rights in all spheres of life, human development will not be advanced.

# **Further discussion**

- Human capital and demographic changes (direct and indirect impacts)
  - Fertility
  - Mortality
  - Health
  - Migration and urbanization
  - Aging
  - Marriage
  - Family