

Sex-selective abortions in Greece

DEMONEWS 23, 2014

V. Gavalas., K. Rontos

Abstract

The number of male per 100 female live births (defined as sex ratio at birth, SRB) has been shown to be consistently stable in the human populations irrespective of time and geographical location. All over the globe approximately 105 boys are born for every 100 girls and any significant deviation from this “global average” is considered to be unnatural and is attributed to sex-selective under-reporting of births, sex-selective abortion, sex-selective infanticide or other man-made factors. The present paper uses data on civil registration to investigate the sex ratio at birth in modern Greece. It was found that SRB is extremely masculine when the parents originate from the Indian sub-continent and China. It was also found that SRB is also unnaturally high (more than 113 boys per 100 girls) in the case of legitimate births born by Greek mothers who are illiterate. These findings are strong evidence that sex-selective abortions are taking place in Greece within population groups with a certain ethnic and social profile. Other parameters, such as age of mother at birth, birth order, legal status of birth and geographical location were also investigated and they were found to play a role in the variation of SRB but not to the extent education and ethnic group does.