

Thesis Title                   Urban Rural Differences in  
                                  Induced Abortion

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#### ABSTRACT

A survey of 5,918 women in Da-Lian of China was carried out in December 1989. The sampling procedure employed multi-stage sampling techniques and was designed to represent this region as well as urban and rural areas. Reproductive histories were collected from married women aged 20-44 as well as other socioeconomic variables. The incidence of induced abortion is not as high as expected. The induced abortion rates and ratios in the urban are higher than those in rural areas. For

urban women with one living child, nearly all subsequent pregnancies ended in induced abortion as compared to rural women with one or two living children.

The important factors that influenced induced abortion are the number of living children, women's age and contraceptive use. The high risk population for induced abortion are women who have one child, aged 25 to 29 in urban, and aged 20 to 34 in rural areas. Since 50 to 63 percent of all induced abortion was due to the failure of contraceptive methods, the improvement of the effectiveness of contraceptive use is an urgent issue in the Chinese family planning programme.