Increasing Pregnancy Attempt Age and Decreasing Children —Fertility Decline as an Unintended Consequence—

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This paper aims at the estimation of the frequency of pregnancy attempts (unprotected sexual intercourse, artificial insemination, etc.) that reached outcomes other than live birth. Main data are from 1955-2009 Japanese *Vital Statistics*. Extrapolating the age profiles of estimated probability for abortion (Andersen et al., 2000, *British Medical Journal* 320:1709) and for natural fertility (Menken et al., 1986, *Science* 233:1389), we estimate the risk of fetal loss or infertility, which prevents pregnancy attempts from reaching live births. Results suggest that about 20% of pregnancy attempts do not reach live births. This percentage has grown since 1990s, because of the increasing age of pregnancy attempt. Researchers of fertility change should not ignore such factors as fetal loss and infertility in the era of popularization of older-age maternity.