



HEALTH AND GENDER

SEX RATIO, MATERNAL
MORTALITY RATES

OBJECTIVES

- Explain reasons for varying sex ratios
- Explain reasons for reduced birth rates

BABY GIRLS AT RISK



- Cultural and economic factors put females at risk
- Missing Chinese female babies
- 117 million females have gone missing in Asia
 1. aborted fetus
 2. killed in infancy
 3. taken away to a remote location
 4. not reported to census and health

SEX RATIO

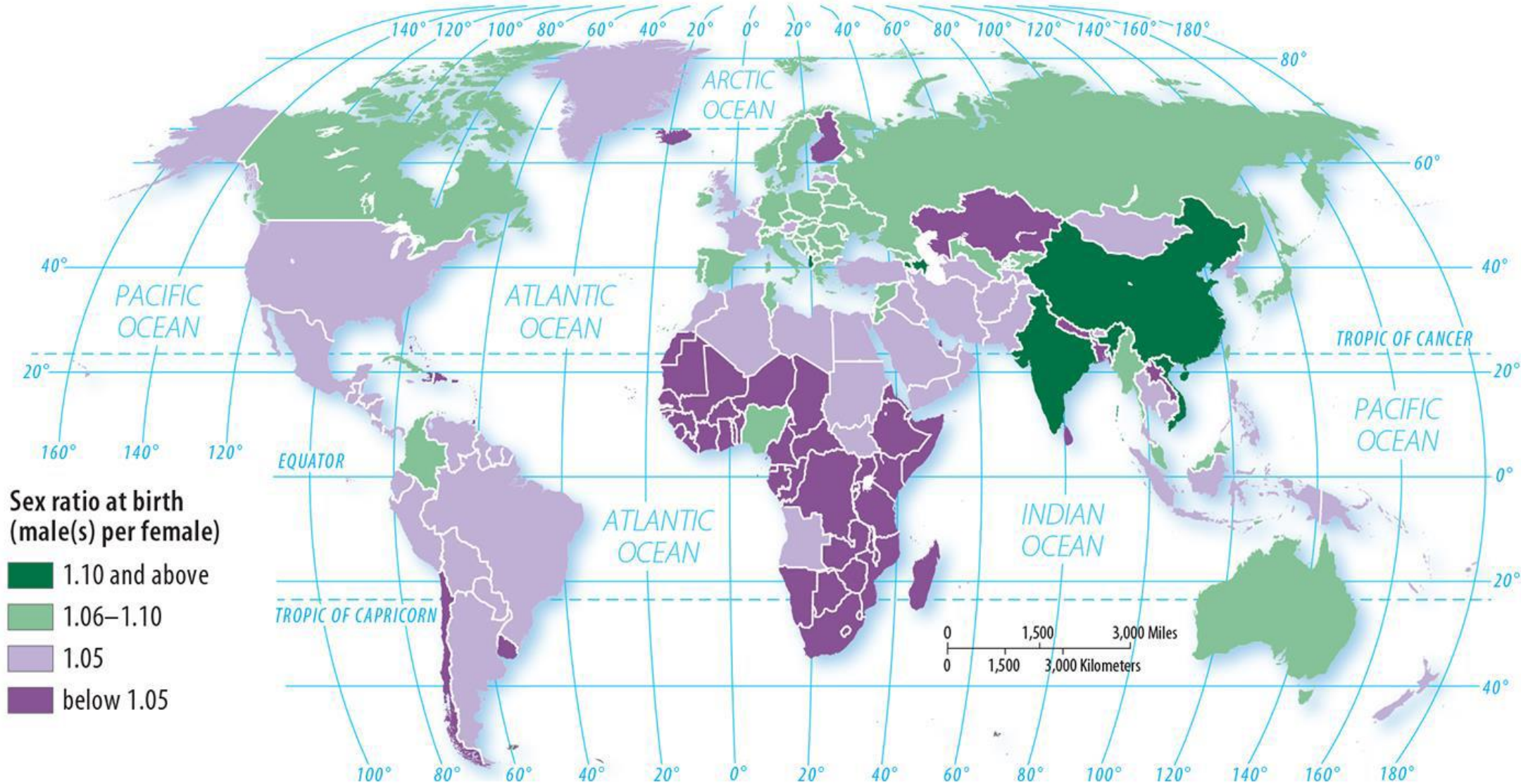
#MALES
1,000 FEMALES

Standard biological levels
105 males for every 100 females
105:100 (ratio)

China and India
Sex ratio 112:100
Not random

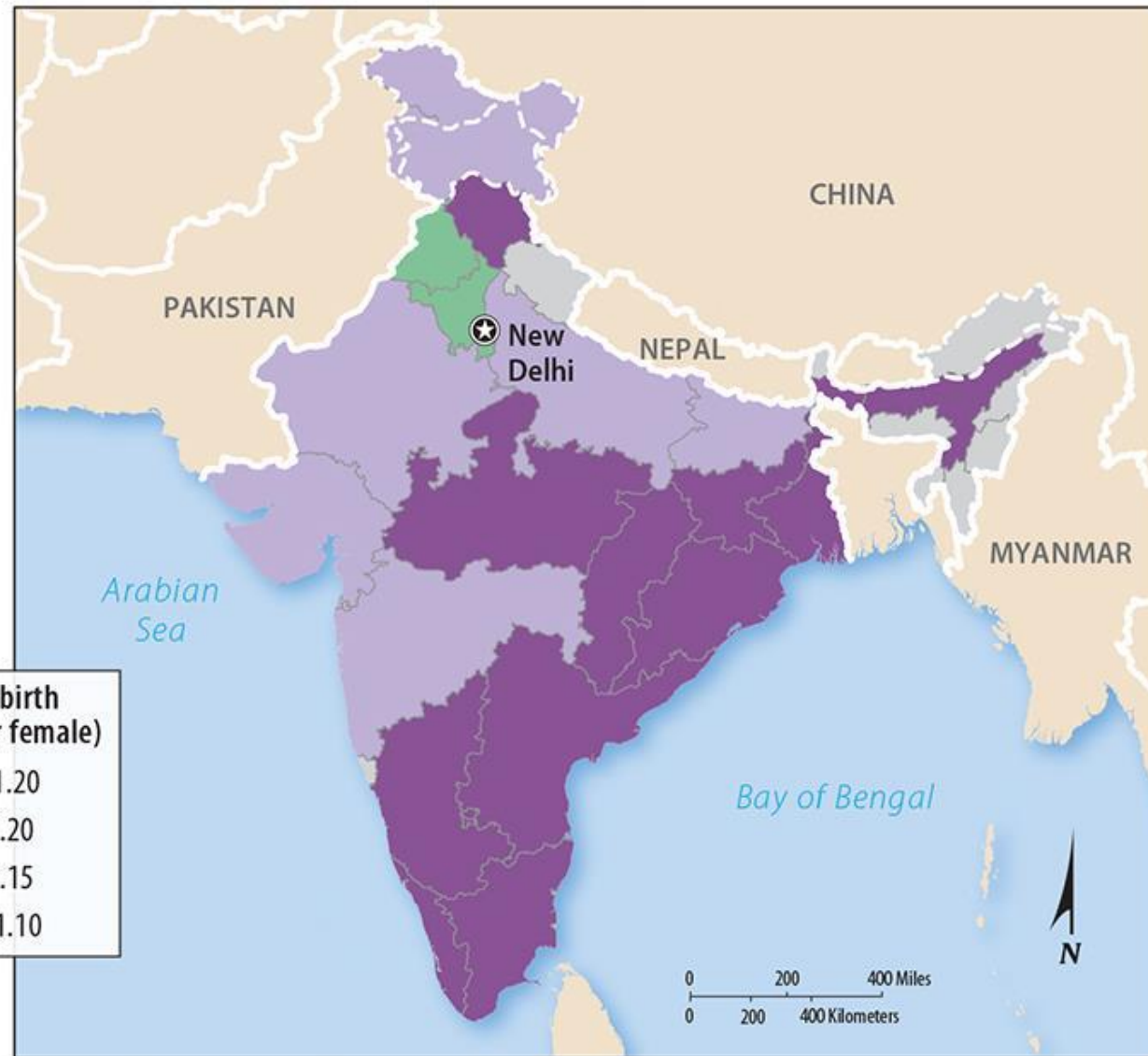
CULTURE-POLITICS

- Cultural preference for sons instead of daughters
- Govt policies promote smaller families
- Ultrasounds allow parents to the sex and abort if a female
- Govts in India & China try to prevent technologies but they find unregulated providers
- UN suggests to address the “root cause” of gender inequality
- Men unable to find women to marry later in life because of the imbalance





(a) China



(b) India

- Annual number of female deaths per 1,000 live births from any cause related to or aggravated by pregnancy or its management
- Excludes accidental or incidental causes
- Africa and Asia Rate 1% (100 deaths /100,000 mothers)
- Most European Countries Rate fewer than 10 (0.1%)



MATERNAL MORALITY RATES

UN COMMON CAUSES OF MATERNAL DEATH

- Obstetrical hemorrhage
- Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy
- Developed countries have advantages
- US maternal mortality rate is higher than other developed nations
- Low income people and healthcare access
- No paid leave for mother of newborns

**Maternal mortality rate
(per 100,000 live births)**

- 500 and above
- 100–499
- below 100
- no data

