Human rights in mainland China are periodically reviewed by the United Nations Human Rights Committee (UNHRC),on which the government of the People’s Republic of China and various foreign governments and human rights organizations have often disagreed. PRC authorities, their supporters, and other proponents claim that existing policies and enforcement measures are sufficient to guard against human rights abuses. However other countries and their authorities (such as the United States Department of State, Global Affairs Canada, etc.), international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) including Human Rights in China and Amnesty International, and citizens, lawyers, and dissidents inside the country, state that the authorities in mainland China regularly sanction or organize such abuses.

In 2001, homosexuality was removed from the official list of mental illnesses in China.China recognizes neither same-sex marriage nor civil unions.

According to the criminal law of the PRC, only females can be victims of rape, a man who has been raped cannot accuse the rapists (who can be men or women) of rape. However, the criminal law of the PRC’s constitution in mainland China had been amended in August 2015. Thus, males can be victims of indecency, but the articles on the criminal law which are related to rape still remain unrevised, so male rape victims can only accuse the rapists of indecency.

Although the 1982 constitution guarantees freedom of speech, the Chinese government often uses the “subversion of state power” and “protection of state secrets” clauses in their law system to imprison those who criticize the government.[23] Another crime used to jail critics such as Sun Dawu is “picking quarrels and provoking trouble”.

During the 2008 Summer Olympics, the government promised to issue permits authorizing people to protest in specifically designated “protest parks” in Beijing.However, a majority of the applications were withdrawn, suspended, or vetoed,and the police detained some of the people who applied.