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Citizenship and Visa Status

South Korea (F-1 Visa)

Education

Ph.D. Economics, The Ohio State University, 2023 (expected)

Dissertation: "Causal Effects of Single-Sex Schools on Long-Term Outcomes: Evidence from High School Random Assignment in South Korea"

Committee: Bruce A. Weinberg (chair), Kurt J. Lavetti, Meta Brown

M.A. Economics, The Ohio State University, 2018

M.A. Economics, Yonsei University, 2016

B.S. Mathematics / B.A. Economics, Yonsei University, 2013

Fields of Interest

Labor Economics, Economics of Education, Applied Microeconomics

Publications

Lee, Kyoung Hoon, Kim, Minki, and Jeong, Jinook (2015). "An Empirical Analysis on the Effects of Mobile Terminal Distribution Act in Korea." *Korean Journal of Industrial Organization* 23-4: 33-56.

This paper investigates the enforcement effects of the "Law on the Improvement of the Mobile Terminal Distribution System (Mobile Terminal Distribution Act)," which was implemented in October 2014. Despite the nationwide attention about the legislation, an empirical analysis of the market effects of the Mobile Terminal Distribution Act is yet to be done. Using a rich dataset obtained from handset retail stores authorized by telecommunication agencies, we perform both an ordered probit MLE and a panel regression. We find the following facts. First, Mobile Terminal Distribution Act has effectively enabled consumers to choose less expensive plans. The reduced amount of subsidy to handset purchases seems to be the main reason for this phenomenon, as Mobile Terminal Distribution Act originally intended. Second, we find no statistically significant reductions in the prices of newly launched handsets. While the prices of some products have actually dropped, our analysis shows that it is not due to the implementation of the Mobile Terminal Distribution Act.

Research Papers

"Causal Effects of Single-Sex Schools on Long-Term Outcomes: Evidence from High School Random Assignment in South Korea" (**Job Market Paper**)

I explore the causal effects of single-sex high schools on labor market outcomes and family structure using a unique feature of educational policy in South Korea---the random assignment of students into single-sex versus coeducational high schools. I find that the effect of single-sex schooling on earnings is differential across job experiences for women but not for men. The effect is positive for women and increases by 1.9 percentage points every additional year of job experience. Furthermore, women who graduated from single-sex schools are less likely to participate in the labor market than those who graduated from coeducational schools, though the effect is positive for men who graduated from single-

sex schools (but it is noisy). However, single-sex schooling has no impact on the family structure, such as marriage and childbirth decisions. Finally, I study potential mechanisms through which the treatment effects are asymmetric, including the final educational attainment and other job characteristics.

“The Differential Fertility effects of Maternity Leave by a Woman’s Educational Level in The U.S.”

This paper analyzes the differential fertility effect of maternity leave by a woman's educational level and the type of maternity leave. Identification is based on changes in the opportunity cost of children by the provision of maternity leave. Using NLSY97 data and the single-equation probit model, I find that fertility decisions are strongly correlated to the provision of maternity leave, and the magnitude of the effect is larger for highly educated women than for less educated women. Second, unpaid maternity leave yields a stronger fertility response than paid maternity leave. Third, this paper shows that the estimated effect of maternity leave in the single-equation probit model might be subject to selection bias. In bivariate probit models with an instrumental variable, I find no evidence that my single-equation estimates are subject to selection bias for working women with a graduate degree. However, the MLE estimates of bivariate probit models imply that there might be upward selection biases in my single-equation estimates for less-educated women.

“Estimation of the Effect of Health Expenditure on Health Outcomes Using Interactive Fixed Effects”

This paper examines the long-term relationship between health expenditure, both government and private, and selected health outcomes, infant mortality, and child mortality based on the interactive fixed effects model using data from 160 countries for the years 1995, 2000, 2005, and 2010. The interactive fixed effects model allows unobservable variables like health technology to be captured by the interaction between country fixed effects and time effects. With this model, I estimate the elasticity of infant and child mortalities with respect to government and private health expenditure. Results from this paper are at variance with previous studies asserting the importance of increasing public and private health expenditures on infant and child mortality. This paper also provides new evidence of the importance of taking into account the level of country-specific factors interacting with time effects for estimating more accurately the effect of health expenditure on health outcomes.

“Marriage Premium and Marriage Penalty: Evidence from South Korea Panel Study” with Hyung Joong Kim and Joo-Hyung Shin

Using sample data from the Korean Labor and Income Panel Study (KLIPS), this paper tests the four hypotheses on the source of the marriage premium for South Korean men and women: the selection hypothesis, productivity hypothesis, specialization hypothesis, and favoritism hypothesis. Fixed effects regression results show that men face a significant marriage premium, and women face a significant marriage penalty, also resulting in a significant gender differential to the returns to marriage. Our results are generally consistent with all four hypotheses, where the selection hypothesis and favoritism hypothesis are relatively more strongly supported compared to the productivity hypothesis and specialization hypothesis. We conduct instrumental variable estimation throughout our analyses using the zodiac sign of birth year to test the endogeneity of marital status, presence of children, and spouse’s labor activities, all of which are suggested not to be endogenous.

Research in Progress

“Who Get More Benefits from School Quality and Network Formation in School?”

This paper examines the heterogeneous effects of school characteristics on academic achievements. Quasi-experimental estimates using the Korean educational data from the EduData Service System and Korea Institute of Curriculum and Evaluation show that the effect of selected school quality on academic achievement is positive, and its magnitude is much larger for the students with low-level previous test scores. Under the unique educational policy, this paper suggests that study-related facilities and additional chances to study after regular classes are important factors in improving students’ performances as well as the traditional school quality measurements (teacher-pupil ratio and financial spending by school). In addition, more students apply to schools with higher levels of school quality.

Though limited individual-level data, this paper supports the argument that high-quality schools attract more students (whether they have the increased ability or not) and construct network formation through which the effect of school quality on academic achievements becomes stronger.

“New Transition in Labor Market by COVID-19: Labor Supply and Demand”

Conference and Seminar Presentations

2022	92 nd Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting at Florida (Scheduled)
2022	The Ohio State University
2022	86 th Midwest Economic Association Annual Meeting at Minneapolis
2021	Economics Graduate Students’ Conference 2021 at St. Louis
2014	89 th Western Economic Association International Annual Conference at Denver

Research Experience and Other Employment

Summer 2022	Ohio State University, Graduate Research Assistant
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Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

Fall 2017 – Spring 2018	University Fellowship, Ohio State University
Spring 2016	Research Capacity Scholarship, Yonsei University
Fall 2013 – Spring 2016	BK21 Plus Scholarship, Yonsei University
Fall 2007, Spring 2012	Honors, Yonsei University

Teaching Experience

Spring 2021 – Fall 2022	Principles of Microeconomics, OSU, Teaching Assistant for Dr. Mirzaie
Fall 2020	Principles of Macroeconomics, OSU, Teaching Assistant for Dr. Hartman
Fall 2019	Principles of Macroeconomics, OSU, Teaching Assistant for Dr. Buser

References

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