

Effects of Ethnic Compositional Environment on Fertility of Marriage Immigrant Wives in South Korea

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This paper explores neighborhood effects on fertility among marriage immigrant wives in South Korea. Attention is focused on examining the effects of the number of foreign wives and the ethnic composition of residential area on the level and tempo of fertility of marriage immigrant wives. In order to reveal the different aspects of neighborhood effects, this paper employs two measures of ethnic composition, a short term flow and a long term stock. Results of analysis show that propensity to have children *ceteris paribus* rises substantially among marriage immigrant wives who live in an area with a large population of foreign wives. A short term flow of foreign wives in a county is positively associated with fertility behavior, having more children with shorter birth intervals. In contrast, accumulated proportions of the same ethnic group in a county repress the fertility of marriage immigrant wives, having fewer children with longer birth intervals.