SNU-UC San Diego Joint Webinar Series

Do Low-Skilled Immigrants Improve **Productivity and Worsen Local Amenities? Learning from Native** Mobility Response in South Korea

Nov. 7 (Monday) | 4 p.m. PST Nov. 8 (Tuesday) | 9 a.m. in Seoul





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Moderated by Jungmin Lee, Professor of Economics, Seoul National University

In this webinar, Jongkwan Lee of Ewha Womans University presents the effect of a significant increase in low skilled immigration in Korean municipalities during 2010-2015, on internal mobility of natives. By separating natives' moving for work-related and those moving for non-work related reasons, Lee and coauthors find that location experiencing large low skilled immigration attracted natives who moved for working purposes, but they experienced outflow of natives who moved for other reasons.

Additional analysis of mechanisms reveals that immigration attracted those natives who value labor income over local amenities but pushed out those valuing more local amenities. Immigration while generating little net native migration, changed the selection of people in Korean municipalities.



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