

**Youngju Lee**  
ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

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**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**EDUCATION**

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Ph.D., Economics, University of California, San Diego, expected completion: spring 2022

Committee: Julie Cullen (Chair), Gordon Dahl, Jeffery Clemens, Mark Jacobsen, Ruixue Jia

M.A. in Economics, University of California, San Diego, 2020

M.A. in Economics, Sungkyunkwan University, 2017

B.A. in Economics, Sungkyunkwan University, 2016, Valedictorian

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**REFERENCES**

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Julie Cullen, Department of Economics, University of California, San Diego, [jbcullen@ucsd.edu](mailto:jbcullen@ucsd.edu)

Gordon Dahl, Department of Economics, University of California, San Diego, [gdahl@ucsd.edu](mailto:gdahl@ucsd.edu)

Jeffrey Clemens, Department of Economics, University of California, San Diego, [jeffclemens@ucsd.edu](mailto:jeffclemens@ucsd.edu)

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**FIELDS OF INTEREST**

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Public Economics, Labor Economics, Environmental Economics Applied Microeconomics

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**FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS**

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Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, UCSD, 2018, 2019, and 2020 / Travel grant, 2019

Ph.D. Scholarship, Kwanjeong Educational Foundation, 2017

M.S. Scholarship, Hyundai Tongsang Co., 2016

B.A Scholarship, Sungkyunkwan University, 2010 -2015

Foreign Exchange Student Scholarship, Mirae Asset Co., 2014

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**WORKING PAPERS**

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- **“Does Single-Sex Schooling Help or Hurt Labor Market Outcomes? Evidence from a Natural Experiment in South Korea”** (Job Market Paper) (with Nobuhiko Nakazawa, under review)

We investigate the effect of attending single-sex high schools on future labor market outcomes, using a natural randomization experiment. As far as we know, this is the first paper estimating impacts on students in their adult lives using a rigorous identification strategy without self-selection bias. In South Korea, students are randomly assigned to single-sex and co-educational schools by lottery within school districts. Using a sizeable individual-level panel dataset, we find that entering single-sex schools significantly decreases female earnings and consumption. In contrast, we do not find evidence that single-sex education affects male labor market outcomes. We explore possible mechanisms for these asymmetric effects, including career choice and noncognitive skills.

- **“Spatial Effects of Air Pollution on the Housing Market: Evidence from South Korea”** (with Jiajun Lu, accepted at Journal of Real Estate Research)  
We examine the spatial relationship between the ambient air pollution level of an apartment and its property value in the housing market of South Korea. Using detailed transaction data for 2015-2018, we construct the air pollution index and estimate a two-stage spatial Durbin error model that controls for both direct and spillover effects. We find that holding other factors equal, a 1% increase in the air pollution level can, on average, cause a decrease in the value of a local real property by 0.32% (\$879). Spatially heterogeneous effects of air pollution on housing prices are investigated, and air pollution is found to have a more significant direct impact on the urban housing market than in rural areas. Moreover, rising air pollution levels in urban centers can raise housing prices in suburban and rural areas, suggesting a substantial spillover effect of air pollution and potential migration towards better air quality. The findings in this paper have profound implications for analyzing the spatial impacts of air pollution on housing prices and urban development.
  
- **“Does labeling matter for response to air pollution? Evidence from pharmaceutical consumption in South Korea”** (with Nobuhiko Nakazawa)  
We analyze how the labeling (guideline) change of exposure to air pollution has an impact on respiratory medicine usage. We exploit a policy change that upgraded the standard for daily level labeling of Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) air pollutant on the health-seeking behavior from the pharmaceuticals consumption. From the utilization of exogenous policy change and district-level spatial variation, we find that one additional day labeled as bad after the new guideline is associated with 0.9% increase of medicine consumption related to the respiratory system. The impact is less for consecutive days of bad air pollution than a single day of bad air pollution. The impact also varies by healthcare institutions; pharmacy and primary care hospitals show a stronger impact than a tertiary health centers based on the accessibility.
  
- **“The Impact of Changes in the perception of Air Pollution on the Housing Market in South Korea”** (with Jiajun Lu, Under review)  
We analyze how perceptual changes in exposure to air pollution impacts the housing market. Since the recent revision of air pollution standards in South Korea, indicators show air quality downgraded relative to before, guiding people to the surrounding air pollution as worse. Using data on nearly 1.5 million transactions of residential properties during 2016-2018, and a modified difference-in-differences(DID) approach, we find that an additional one day labeling change from “normal” to “bad” lowers the average housing price by nearly 0.27%, controlling for the actual air pollution levels.
  
- **“Impact of Political Alignment on Tax Evasion: Evidence from South Korea”**  
I study whether political alignment impacts tax evasion in South Korea. According to the concept of reciprocity in tax morale, it is theoretically argued that a better attitude toward government can lower tax evasion. Therefore, if political alignment is correlated with attitude toward government, political alignment may affect tax evasion. In this paper, I use the Korean General Social Survey and Korean Labor and Income Panel data set to find that people evade their tax payments less when politically aligned with the ruling party in South Korea.

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## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2019 Singapore Economic Review Conference

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*Teaching Assistant*, University of California, San Diego

ECON 1: Principles of Microeconomics: Fall 2017

ECON 120A: Econometrics A (Statistics, Probability Theory, and Statistical Inference): Winter 2020 /

Winter 2021 / Spring 2021 / Summer 2021

ECON 120B: Econometrics B (Econometrics and Econometric Analysis): Spring 2019

ECON 120C: Econometrics C (Applied Econometrics): Fall 2019 / Spring 2020 / Fall 2020 / Summer 2021 /  
Fall 2021

ECON 173A: Financial Markets: Fall 2018 / Winter 2019

ECON 173B: Corporate Finance: Spring 2018

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### **TECHNOLOGY SKILLS**

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Stata, Python, Matlab, Latex, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point)

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### **OTHER INFORMATION**

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Citizenship: Republic of Korea

Language: Korean (native), English (fluent), Chinese (intermediate)

Military Service: Sergeant, 2011 to 2013