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CURRENT POSITION Associate Research Fellow, Employment Policy Research Division, Korea Labor Institute (2023-)

EDUCATION

2023	Ph.D. in Economics, University of California, Santa Barbara Committee: Shelly Lundberg (Chair), Heather Royer, Clément de Chaisemartin
2018	M.A. in Economics, University of California, Santa Barbara
2017	M.A. in Economics, Seoul National University
2014	B.A. in International trade, Pusan National University
2013	Exchange student in Economics, University of Iowa

RESEARCH FIELDS Applied Microeconomics (Demography, Education, Labor Economics), Applied Econometrics

WORKING PAPERS **The Impact of Import Competition on College Choice: Evidence from Chinese Imports in Korea**

As China has become “the world’s factory”, the availability of low-skilled jobs has become worse in countries that import products from China. I exploited cross-industry and cross-local labor market variations in import growth from China to investigate how Korean students’ post-secondary education decisions were influenced by more intensive import competition from China. Using administrative statistics from high schools between 2000 and 2015, I found that in regions more affected by Chinese imports, more students pursued a college degree after finishing from high school. Consistent with the enrollment pattern, I found that in Korea, a surge in Chinese imports caused huge job losses especially for low-educated workers, which decreased the opportunity cost and increased the marginal benefit for college education. However, there is heterogeneity in the enrollments based on gender and type of educational institution. In the more affected regions, male students tended to enroll in 4-year universities rather than 2-year colleges while female students were more likely to choose 2-year colleges. The findings of this study suggest that negative social norms and smaller employment loss for working women led to a more limited increase in educational investment among women.

Does a Pension Scheme Crowd Out Children? Evidence from Rural China

Children have long been viewed as sources of support to parents in developing countries. This paper investigates how child investments in rural China react to a pension program that provides parents with an alternative to adult children as a source of support. We found that parents who enrolled in the program spent more on their children’s education, which affects the quality of children. Specifically, the increase in educational spending is observed for the parents of sons. In terms of the quantity of children, although the effect on the probability of giving birth to a baby is not significant, we found that parents enrolled in the NRPS were more likely to give birth to a boy. Considering the introduction of a pension scheme as lowering the price for future incomes, this implies that the income effect is more significant than the inter-temporal substitution effect leading to higher investments in their children.

Using Weights in Two-way Fixed Effects and Event Study Regressions

Recent papers show that coefficients in two-way fixed effect (TWFE) and event study (ES) regressions can hardly be interpreted as causal effects, depending on heterogeneity in the causal effects. This paper proposes to contrast estimates with and without weighting to detect the heterogeneity. If estimates with and without weighting are similar to each other, TWFE and ES regressions are enough to identify

average treatment effect. However, if they are different, it is necessary to use alternative estimators robust to heterogeneous effects to identify this (e.g. de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille, 2020). For an empirical application, I revisit literature estimating the impact of unilateral divorce law on the divorce rate in the US. The discrepancy between estimates with and without weighting implies that the divorce law affected divorce rates differently across groups and time. After using the alternative estimators, the effect of this law on the divorce rate is smaller than previous papers found.

WORK IN PROGRESS	House Sales and Acquisition Tax in Korea	
HONORS AND AWARDS	2022	Job Market Fellowship - University of California, Santa Barbara
	2022	Research Quarter Fellowship - University of California, Santa Barbara
	2013	Study Abroad Program School Scholarship, Pusan National University
	2007, 2012	Merit-based School Scholarship, Pusan National University
PRESENTATIONS	2023	Shanxi University of Finance and Economics, Korea Labor Institute, National Chengchi University IMES
OTHER	Citizenship: Republic of Korea	
REFERENCES	Distinguished Professor Shelly Lundberg Department of Economics University of California, Santa Barbara slundberg@ucsb.edu	Professor Heather Royer Department of Economics University of California, Santa Barbara heather.royer@ucsb.edu
	Professor Clément de Chaisemartin Department of Economics Sciences Po clement.dechaisemartin@sciencespo.fr	Placement Director - Professor Erik Eyster Department of Economics University of California, Santa Barbara erikeyster@ucsb.edu
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