

New Social Risks and Poverty in Korea: Implication for Emerging Welfare States

1. Steam: Poverty and Social Exclusion

2. The Summary of the Paper

Historically, the traditional social risks and the new social risks expanded in succession in the advanced welfare states. However, Korea is faced with both the traditional and the new social risks simultaneously. This may partially explain the stagnant poverty rate despite the apparent welfare development. The current phenomenon, therefore, calls for a strategy in Korean welfare expansion unique to its situation.

Based on this notion, this paper will analyze the relationship between new social risks and household poverty status in Korea, with specific foci on family and labor market variables. As Huber and Stephens claimed, assuming that a common goal of old and new welfare states is to minimize poverty, a comparison of household poverty and factors related to new social risks can tell us how effective Korea is in dealing with the new social risks (Younglan Kim, 2006). By examining the relationship, we expect to assert that the welfare development in Korea essentially requires policies responding to both the traditional and the new social risks.

The paper will begin by outlining the key discussions on the new social risks. The main discussions regarding concepts of the new social risks will be presented; in addition, the present state related to the new social risks in Korea will be discussed with its focus on the family (care) and the labor market. Next, the data source and analytical methods will be described. Findings will be presented in two parts: a description of the new social risks' variables and poverty, and results from the logistic regression analysis. The paper will

conclude with a discussion of the principles and suggestions for future directions in expanding welfare in Korea and other emerging welfare states such as the Eastern European Countries which also have to overcome the new social risks as well as old social risks.

3. Full contact details of author

Name: Yoon, Hongsik, Associate Professor in Inha University in Incheon, S. Korea.

Postal Address: 122Dong 2401Ho Banpo-Xi, Banpo-dong, Secho-Gu, Seoul, Korea.

137-930

Cell phone: 82-10-5278-8312, Office phone number: 82-32-860-7953

E-mail: hsyoon@inha.ac.kr