A Study on Political Factors of Democratic Control of the Bureaucracy: A Comparative Analysis of the Kim Dae Jung Government and Roh Moo Hyun Government

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This study concentrates on political control of the state bureaucracy in the wake of administration change, a process which occurs often elsewhere but is relatively new to Korea’s nascent democracy.

While many studies are devoted to democratic control of bureaucracy, relatively little scholarly attention was been given to understanding the dynamics of political control of bureaucracy for new incoming administrations. In an effort to fill this gap, this study overviews the existing theories and experiences of advanced democracies in a comparative perspective, and forms an analytical framework built on five reference points: Policy idea, policy network, political entrepreneur, international environment, and public opinion. This study concludes by presenting some theoretical implications for systemic policy idea, coherent policy network, among which the importance of political entrepreneur comes first.

Key Words: bureaucratic control, technocrats, policy idea, policy network, political entrepreneur.
The Relationship between Mental Health and Youth Unemployment among University Graduates: Applied with Autoregressive Crosslagged Model

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This study investigated the longitudinal relationship between mental health and youth unemployment among university graduates using an autoregressive crosslagged model. The purpose of this study is to test two competing hypotheses about the casual relationship between mental health and unemployment. The first hypothesis states that the experience of unemployment influences mental health (exposure hypothesis). In contrast, the second hypothesis argues that the level of mental health causes unemployment (selection hypothesis). An autoregressive crosslagged model was applied to test these two rival hypotheses in a reciprocal sequence process model. To achieve this research purpose, we designed a longitudinal study composed of four surveys at a six-month interval. At all four points, participants were asked to answer a GHQ (General Health Questionnaire) to measure the level of mental health. GHQ consists of depression anxiety and maladjustment subscales. The data from 767 university graduates who identified their employment status was used for final analysis. The results showed that the autoregressive crosslagged model resulted in a fairly good fit to the data, indicating that the reciprocal sequence process between mental health and unemployment seems to be valid.
Results from path analysis indicated that selection hypothesis was partially supported. Finally, the initial level of job searching stress was associated not only with the initial mental health but also with the following state of unemployment and mental health. The implications and limitations of this study are discussed and future directions of study are suggested.

Key Words: autoregressive crosslagged model, youth unemployment, mental health, longitudinal study
Precarious Worker’s Employment Stability and Health Status Difference using Generalized Estimating Equation Model

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This study looks at the influence of change in employment status on wage worker’s health outcome. Particularly, we analyzed job instabilities such as the succession of precarious worker’s status using by repeated measured data. The research object was 1st~4th wave data and 4th supplement survey data in KLIPS (Korean Labor and Income Panel Study). The sample was a total of 1,789 (1,207 male, 582 female). We categorized the respondent’s employment status into four categories, and applied GEE (Generalized Estimating Equation Model). After controlling for variables such as age, equivalized house income, education, occupational status, marital status, health behavior, and medical access, results using GEE modeling revealed that change in employment negatively influenced wage worker’s health outcome in all waves reflected by time-lag effects. Owing to labor flexibility in globalization, employment instabilities have become an unavoidable reality for contemporary workers. From our results we expect that these conditions will induce health differences,
especially among the vulnerable classes. Therefore, adequate political intervention is called for.

Key Words: Precarious worker, Employment stability, Health inequality, Generalized Estimating Equation (GEE)
Psychological Process of Adolescents’ Suicide: The Protecting Effects of Social Support and Problem-solving Ability

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This study investigates the types of psychological processes that lead the negative ego identity of adolescents to commit a suicide, and examines how social support and problem-solving ability could act as protective factors to an adolescent who is weak to stress. The data were drawn from 650 adolescents of 25 classes from 5 high schools in Busan, Masan, Changwon for the research. The results of this study are as followings. First, low ego-identity indirectly influenced on suicidal ideation. Second, low ego-identity and depression indirectly influenced on suicidal ideation through cognitive deconstruction. Third, problem-solving ability moderated the relationship between depression and suicidal ideation and social support moderated the relationship between cognitive deconstruction and suicidal ideation. These results provide a guideline to school counselors on more effective ways to manage juvenile suicide by pragmatic evidences. Counseling which works towards improving problem-solving ability is needed to adolescents with high levels of depression and counseling which will promote social support is effective to adolescents with high level of cognitive deconstruction. In conclusion, this study
contributes to establish counseling strategies for preventing juvenile depression and suicide.

Key Words: ego-identity, depression, cognitive deconstruction, suicidal ideation, social support, problem-solving
A Gender Difference in the Relation of Persistent Delinquency and Informal Labeling

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This study tests for a gender difference in the relation of persistent delinquency and informal labeling. I use data from the Korea Youth Panel Survey conducted by the National Youth Policy Institute. From the analysis, I conclude that informal labeling has a significant effect on persistent delinquency with an effect varying by gender. First, girls with a delinquent history are more likely to experience informal labeling than boys with the same. This is due to a social double standard that holds different expectations not only for proper behavior, but also for delinquent behavior according to gender. As a result, girls who commit delinquency experience stricter social labeling because they are going against the standards of both a juvenile and a girl. Second, girls are more likely than boys to exhibit delinquency again when they experience continued informal labeling. This is the result of a gender stereotype where girls are socialized to consider other people's opinions of themselves more than boys. As they become stigmatized by the people around them, girls experience a rupture in their relations with them. This goes against their internalized standards, and their persistent delinquent behavior can be interpreted as an attempt to avoid the conflicting reality. The findings of this study have important implication that prevention programs for repeated delinquency should be gender-specific. The
findings also suggest that future research should attempt to diversify its approach on gender difference in persistent delinquency.

Key Words: delinquency, persistent delinquency, delinquent career, informal labeling, gender difference
A Study on Factors Associated with Burnout of Social Workers

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Burnout is emerging as an occupational hazard of the helping professions including social work practice. Burnout refers to a syndrome which occurs in the care provider as a response to chronic emotional stress and which arises from the social interaction between a care provider and the recipient of care. The primary purpose of this study is to measure the level of burnout on the part of social workers working for both social welfare facilities and local governments in “G” Metropolitan City and to investigate factors associated with burnout among social workers.

A questionnaire was developed based on previous literature. 257 cases were in the final analysis, using statistical methods such as descriptive statistics, t-test, ANOVA, and hierarchical regression analysis. The results of this study are as follows. First, social workers experienced relatively low level of burnout, with little difference in the demographic characteristics of the individual workers. Second, there was a negative relationship between job satisfaction and burnout. Third, social workers working for the local governments had the highest score on the role conflict scale, which showed a positive relationship with burnout. Finally, there was no statistically significant relationship between client violence and burnout. A
number of recommendations were made, including reactions to burnout at the organizational level. Suggestions for future research were also provided.

Key Words: burnout, job satisfaction, role conflict, role ambiguity, client violence
A Study on the Stigma held by Nursing College Students against Mental Illness and Mentally Ill Patients

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The purpose of this study was to provide basic data necessary for mental health nursing practicum by comparing the contents and degree of stigma against mental illness and mentally ill patients held by nursing students before and after their practicum. The subjects were 191 nursing college students in Jeju and K City, Korea who had 2- to 3-week practicum at N psychiatric hospital during the period from April to November, 2006. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire before and after the practicum.

Stigma against mental illness and mentally ill patients was significantly reduced after the practicum, with a change in the order so that mentally ill patients were stigmatized less than mental illness itself in the post practicum survey. The subjects’ perception of the influence of stigma on the patient was changed as well. Before the practicum, they perceived that the stigma would have the most effect on the patients’ marriage. Afterwards, it was changed to the ill person’s self esteem. The environment of the mental hospital/facility was perceived to be the biggest cause of stigma. Mutual support among family members was chosen as the preferred method to reduce the stigma before and after the practicum. Positive messages from the mass
media were also considered important in the post practicum survey.

In conclusion, mental health nursing practicum seems to reduce nursing students' stigma against mental illness, mentally ill patients, mental health facilities and psychotherapy through direct contact and observation. We suggest providing diverse practicum environment such as mental health centers and mental rehabilitation facilities to nursing students in order to further reduce their stigma.

Key Words: mental illness, mentally ill patients, stigma
The Impact of Supplemental Classes and Night Self-Study in School on Academic Stress, Subjective Well-being, Runaway from Home, and Suicidal Impulses among High School Students

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This study analyzes the impact of supplemental classes and self-study at night school on academic stress, subjective well-being, runaway from home, and suicidal impulses among high school students. A national survey data from 2,838 high school students was used for the analyses. Results showed that both supplemental classes and night self-study had significant impact on students’ academic stress and subjective well-being. Night self-study was also significantly related with students’ impulses to runaway from home and suicide. The so-called “voluntary” self-study at night school actually is not voluntary at all; instead, it limits students’ freedom of choice and deprives them of enough relaxation time during night hours. Night self-study can lead to depression, which previous research repeatedly proved to be the prime factor of suicide. It was suggested that a good relationship and communication with parents and peer group as well could alleviate these problems.

Key Words : high school students, supplemental classes, night self-study, academic stress, subjective well-being, runaway from home, suicidal impulses.
A Study on Self-reported Attachment Security, Social Anxiety, and Peer Relationship in Late School-age Children

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This study examines the relationship among self-reported attachment security, social anxiety, and peer relationship in late school-age children. Children (N = 194) in two elementary schools were recruited from 25, April to 2, May, 2008. Data were analyzed by descriptive statistics, t-test, and Pearson correlation coefficient using the SPSS/PC ver. 12.0. There was a significant difference in social anxiety and peer relationship by the level of self-reported attachment security. There also was a significant correlations among self-reported attachment security, social anxiety, and peer relationship in late school-age children. These findings suggest that family environmental factors such as attachment are related to social anxiety and peer relationship in these children. Intervention for preventing and managing children’s social anxiety and peer relationship was suggested in the conclusion.

Key Words : late school-age children, attachment security, social anxiety, peer relationship