

Abstracts

Jörn Block, Philipp Sandner and Marcus Wagner

Self-Employment by Foreigners in Germany: Income Effects and Implications for Entrepreneurship Support Policies

The paper uses data from the German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) to analyze entrepreneurial activities by foreigners in Germany. The results from our regression analysis are the following: First, foreigners in self-employment are found to earn more than foreigners in a regular employment position. Second, foreigners seem to gain more from self-employment compared to German entrepreneurs. Also, the earnings increase from self-employment is larger for foreigners than it is for Germans. The findings are discussed from a policy and an entrepreneurship education perspective.

Niels Winkler, Annabell Zentarra and Michael Windzio

Homophily Among Good Friends. Close and Weak Friendships Between Children With Migration Background and Native Peers

Modifying M. Granovetters distinction between strong and weak tie friendships, social assimilation of immigrant children will be investigated from a social network perspective. Using data from primary school classes we start from the assumption that particularly close friendships have a positive impact on the process of acculturation. We investigate the role of ethnic homophily in the formation of weak and close friendships between immigrant and native children. In doing so, alternative explanations of friendship formation like social homophily as a mediator of ethnic homophily will be considered – measured by similarity of ego and alter in terms of cultural capital “in the objectified state”. As a result, immigrant children of Turkish origin have friendships with native peers, but these connections tend to be rather weak tie relations. Dyads of two Turkish children, in contrast, chances of close friendships are higher. It will be argued that these results are in line with the concept of selective acculturation of immigrant children of Turkish origin.

Johannes Stauder

Regional Inequality on the Marriage Market? Regional Aspects of Macro-Structural Restrictions on Partner Choice

In this contribution, for the first time in Germany macro-structural restrictions on partner choice are described on a regional basis. Based on Blau's structural theory and taking into account the central dimensions of partner choice such as age, education, and availability for the marriage market, indicators for the macro-structural marriage market are constructed using data on German counties' population in 2004, regional results of the sample census from 2003 to 2005, and results from the German family survey 2000. The results indicate that macro-structural conditions of partner choice depend on regional differences in fertility, on a regional dispersion of gender-specific educational success, and on gender-specific motives for migration.

Katrin Auspurg and Thomas Hinz

Master Degree for Everyone? The Impact of Social Origin on Bachelor Students' Qualifications and Their Transition Rates to Master Programs

In the course of the „Bologna process“, the German system of higher education was significantly restructured by introducing bachelor and master degrees. Although a selection of the best bachelor graduates to enter master programs was intended the transition rates are at a very high level in general. This study focuses for the first time in detail on the transition behavior of nearly 700 bachelor graduates of a German university. Several hypotheses on social selection processes and on the role of gender are tested. Approximately three of four bachelor graduates enter a master program directly after completing their bachelor degree. Multivariate analyses confirm that the educational background of the graduates is influential: There is a nine percentage point difference in the transition rates of graduates from a lower educational family background compared to graduates with at least one parent with a university degree. Primary effects of social background as differences in grades are not detected, however there is evidence that graduates from a lower educational family background do not acquire additional elements of qualification as participation in exchange programs with universities abroad and internships closely related to their field of study. The lower transition of female graduates is completely explained by sex segregation of fields of study.