Ethnic segregation experienced at various domains of life and fertility of migrants in Finland
A register-based study 2000-2014

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Background

Increasing share of migrants in Finland during last decades
• 1.83% (1999) -> 4.86% (2014)
• Good quality register-based data available

The arrival of immigrants rises the question of (demographic) integration
• Fertility differentials of migrants and natives as an indicator of integration
• Integration involves contact with natives at various domains of life

Papers on ethnic segregation at various domains of life in Finland:
• Rahnu, L., Puur, A., Kleinepier, T., Tammaru, T. (2019). The role of neighbourhood and workplace ethnic contexts in the formation of interethnic partnerships: A native majority perspective. EuJP.
• Submitted: What is the Role of the Ethnic Composition of Neighborhoods, Workplaces, and Schools on the Formation of Mixed-Ethnic Unions? A Register-Based Study of Migrants and Their Descendants in Finland
Motivation

Contrasting fertility of migrants with fertility of natives is a popular research topic:


Research gap:
- We don’t know much about Finland
- Migrant groups both from low- and high fertility countries
- The impact of ethnic segregation in various life domains on fertility patterns has not been studied systematically
Homogamy approach
Preference for similarity prevails. Inter-ethnic partnerships occur after successful structural and cultural integration.

Marriage market approach
Finding a suitable partner relates to a structure of opportunities to meet with potential partner. The bigger is one’s own group the easier it is to choose similar partner from own group.

Geographic activity space approach
Multiple spatial contexts of life domains have simultaneous effect on partnership formation:
• Neighbourhood (scene of daily interaction; ethnic sorting)
• Workplace (scene of daily interaction; sorting by age and SES)
• School (intense social interaction with peers; sorting by age, SES)
Preliminary research questions

1) How do fertility patterns (transition to 1st, 2nd and 3rd parity) vary across:
   - **Region of origin:**
     - native Finn
     - fertility level similar to FIN (Nordic, Western Europe, North America)
     - fertility level lower than FIN (Russia, SU / Estonia / Southern Europe / Eastern Europe / Eastern Asia)
     - fertility level higher than FIN (Latin America? / Africa / Arab, Middle East / Other Asia)
   - **Status of origin:** 1st / 1,5th / 2nd generation / native

2) To what extent does
   - the ethnic composition of **residential neighbourhood**
   - the ethnic composition of **workplace (establishment)** influence the?

3) Are the effects consistent across region of origin and status of origin
Data and method 1

Data

- Finnish register data: 1999-2014
- Natives, migrants and their descendants

Events and the risk set

**Risk set 1:**
- Age 16 if in FIN
- Age at arrival to FIN, childless

**NB! Birth = date of birth of a child who lives in FIN**

**Risk set 2:**
- Age at B1 if in FIN (twins excluded)
- Age at arrival to FIN if B1 out of FIN

**Risk set 3:**
- Age at B2 if in FIN (twins excluded)
- Age at arrival to FIN if B2 out of FIN

Birth 1

Birth 2

Birth 3
Analytical strategy: descriptive analysis

**Parity transitions (1st, 2nd, 3rd) by**

1) Population groups:
   - Region of origin
   - Status of origin

2) Ethnic segregation in life domains and status of origin:
   - Segregation in neighbourhood by
   - Segregation at place of workplace

3) Ethnic segregation in life domains and ...  
   - Segregation in neighbourhood by
   - Segregation at place of workplace
Analytical strategy: multivariate analysis

Hierarchical main effects models of parity transitions (1st, 2nd, 3rd)

Step 1: Region of origin (+process time and birth cohort)

Step 2: Partnership status (+ethnicity of partner ?)

Step 3: SES of mother (+SES of partner?) and region of residence in Finland

Step 4: Level of fertility in the country of origin

Step 5: Time since arrival to Finland

Step 6: Status of origin

Step 7: Effects of domains