Who cares? Caregivers and Population Aging

Gender, Demography, Care and Migration

Ito Peng
University of Toronto

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Social Policy in an Aging Society:
Multiple Challenges of Demographic Changes
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Main points

1. There is a tight interlock between demography, gender and migration, and it really has to do with “who cares”.

2. Demographic ageing is now creating a new patterns of labour migration focused on care.

3. Asia is an important and interesting test case to look at how social and immigration policies can and cannot deal with issues related to ageing population.
Outline of the Presentation

1. demographic changes in Japan and South Korea
2. why are these countries ageing so fast?
   - institutional incongruity
3. recent social and immigration policy responses
   - family-work harmonization
   - long-term care insurance
   - immigration policy reforms
4. Implications & Policy Learning
demographic changes

- Rapid population ageing
- Low fertility
Change in the total fertility rate over time, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan

Source:
Pace of ageing by country (1950-2050): growth in the proportion of the elderly population (65 & over) in total population

- France
- Germany
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- United States
- China
- India
- Japan
- Korea
- Singapore

Year:
- 1950
- 1960
- 1970
- 1980
- 1990
- 2000
- 2010
- 2020
- 2030
- 2040
- 2050

Population aged 65 and over (% of total)
- 0
- 5
- 10
- 15
- 20
- 25
- 30
- 35
- 40
why are these countries ageing so fast?

Institutional incongruity:
Incongruity between key public and private institutions in their assumptions about and treatment of women
Institutional Incongruity

Familialism + Workplace Gender discrimination

High educational attainment + Modernity + Globalization

Low fertility
recent social and immigration policy responses

1. global policy learning

2. family-work harmonization and long-term care insurance

3. immigration policy reforms
1. Policy learning

Figure 13. Cross-country relation between female employment rates and total fertility rates, 1980 and 2000

Note: Employment rates refer to women aged 15-64.

Source: Computations on data from Society at a Glance – OECD Social Indicators and OECD (2005a), Labour market indicators.
### 2. social policy reforms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Japan</th>
<th>Korea</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Work-Family Reconciliation (since the mid-1990s)</td>
<td>• Work-family Reconciliation (since early 2000s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Social Care expansion</td>
<td>• Social Care expansion</td>
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Outcomes

Japan:
• Total social expenditures as a proportion of GDP: 10% (1990) ➔ 19% (2007)
• Total social welfare expenditure: ¥4.8 trillion (1990) ➔ ¥10.9 trillion (2008)
• Total social expenditure on children and family: ¥1.6 trillion (1990) to ¥3.6 (2007).
• The total number of children enrolled in licensed childcare centers: 1.8 million (1990) ➔ 2.02 million (2008)
• Total expenditures for LTCI: ¥3.25 (2000) trillion ➔ ¥6.3 trillion (2007)
Outcomes

Korea:

• Total number of childcare centres: 1,919 (1990) ➔ 29,823 (2007)
• Total number of children enrolled in childcare centres: 48,000 (1990) ➔ 1,062,415 (2007)
• Total government expenditure on childcare: 435 billion (2002) ➔ 2,038 billion (2006)
• Total number LTCI recipients: 230,000 (2008) (5.3 per cent of the population aged 65+). Projected to increase to 320,000 by 2013.
### 3. Immigration Policy Reforms

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<td>• Care workers Candidate Program - Philippines (2006)</td>
<td>• “Personal Care Services” visa category for <em>josunjok</em> and <em>Goryoin</em> (2002)</td>
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<td>• 2008 Nationality Law</td>
<td>• The Working Visit System (2007)</td>
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</table>
Outcomes

Japan

- 880 Filipino and Indonesian care workers in 2009
- International marriage: 26,000 (4% of all marriages) (1991) $\rightarrow$ 45,000 (6%) (2006)

Korea

- Number of co-ethnic migrant workers under the Working Visit System: 93,774 (2007) $\rightarrow$ 334,297 (2010)
- International marriages: almost 15% of all marriages in 2010; and over 35% of marriages in rural areas
Implications & Learning

1. The interlock between demography, gender and migration:
   - it really has to do with “who cares”.

2. New forms of labour migration:
   - Intra-regional
   - Care focused - gender specific
   - Reflect the immigration regime of the receiving countries

3. How social and immigration policies can and cannot deal with issues related to ageing population:
   - they can to some extent, but real solution might be better institutional congruity.
Thank you

itopeng@chass.utoronto.ca