

B.K. SONG

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Full name: BYUNGKWON SONG

Current Appointment

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Sogang University *2021.3 – present*

Previous Appointments

Visiting Associate Professor, W. Allen Wallis Institute of Political Economy, University of Rochester
2022.9 – 2023.7

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Sogang University *2020.3 – 2021.2*

Assistant Professor, Department of Policy Studies, Hanyang University *2015.9 – 2020.2*

Education

Ph.D., Department of Government, Harvard University *2010.9 – 2015.5*

M.A., Department of Political Science, Seoul National University *2006.3 – 2008.8*

B.A., Department of Political Science, Seoul National University *1999.3 – 2006.2*

Research Interests

Political Economy; Research Methods; Causal Inference; Political Behavior; Inequality; Housing; Media Politics

Published or Forthcoming Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

23. “Do Voters Hold the President’s Party Accountable for Local Economic Conditions?” accepted for publication, *Electoral Studies*.

22. “The Effect of Incumbency in a Mixed-Member Electoral System,” 2025, *Electoral Studies*, vol. 98.

21. “Inequality, Local Wealth, and Electoral Politics,” (with Woo Chang Kang), 2025, *European Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 80.

20. “Making Sense of Heuristic Choice in Nonpartisan Elections: Evidence from South Korea,” (with Woo Chang Kang), 2024, *Political Behavior*, vol. 46, pp. 1865–1886.

19. “The Effect of Housing Price Inequality on Mental Health,” (with Songman Kang and Hyelim Son) 2023, *Labour Economics*, vol. 85, December.

18. “Media, Secret Ballot, and Democratization in the US,” (with Leopoldo Fergusson and Juan Felipe Riaño) 2023, *Journal of Historical Political Economy*, vol. 3, no. 3, pp. 391–425.

17. “Misleading Ballot Positions and Invalid Votes,” (with Ha Na Lee) 2023, *Journal of East Asian Studies*, vol. 23, issue 2, pp. 347–355.

16. “Television and Economic Voting in US Presidential Elections,” 2022, *British Journal of Political Science*, vol. 22, no. 4, pp. 1622–1634.
15. “The Rank Effect in Multimember District Elections,” 2022, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, vol. 17, no. 4, pp. 547–575.
14. “Did Secure Communities Lead to Safer Communities? Immigration Enforcement, Crime Deterrence, and Geographical Externalities,” (with Songman Kang) 2022, *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*, vol. 38, no. 2, pp. 345–385.
13. “The Longer-Term Electoral Effect of Carrying a State in U.S. Presidential Elections,” 2022, *Economics Letters*, vol. 216.
12. “The Effect of Public Financing on Candidate Reemergence and Success in Elections,” 2021, *European Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 65.
11. “Envy and Pride: How Economic Inequality Deepens Happiness Inequality in South Korea,” (with Woo Chang Kang and Jae Seung Lee), 2021, *Social Indicators Research*, vol. 150, pp. 617–637.
10. “The Cost of Presidential Impeachment to Politically Connected Firms,” (with Ha Na Lee) 2020, *Japanese Journal of Political Science*, vol. 21, issue 2, pp. 109–121.
9. “Did Television Reduce the Effect of Partisan Press on Electoral Politics?” *American Politics Research*, 2020, vol. 48, no. 1, pp. 78–98.
8. “Mind the Electoral Gap: The Effect of Investment in Public Infrastructure on Authoritarian Support in South Korea,” (with Joan E. Cho and Jae Seung Lee), *Studies in Comparative International Development*, 2019, vol. 54, issue 4, pp. 473–500.
7. “Misleading Ballot Position Cue,” *Electoral Studies*, 2019, vol. 58, pp. 1–11.
6. “Estimating Incumbency Effect Using Regression Discontinuity Design,” *Research & Politics*, 2018, vol. 5, issue 4.
5. “The Effect of Incumbency in National and Local Elections: Evidence from South Korea,” (with Woo Chang Kang and Won-ho Park) *Electoral Studies*, 2018, vol. 56, pp. 47–60.
4. “Media Control and Authoritarian Consolidation: Evidence from South Korea,” (with Joan E. Cho and Jae Seung Lee) *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 2017, vol. 17, pp. 145–166.
3. “Media Markets and Politicians Involved in Scandals,” *Social Science Journal*, 2016, vol. 53, no. 4, pp. 389–397.
2. “Newspaper Market Structure and Behavior: Partisan Coverage of Political Scandals in the U.S. from 1870 to 1910,” (with Ángela Fonseca Galvis and James Snyder), *Journal of Politics*, 2016, vol. 78, no. 2, pp. 368–381.
1. “Does President’s Popularity Matter in Korea’s Local Election?”, *Pacific Affairs*, 2009, vol. 82, no. 2, pp. 189–209.

Published or Forthcoming Articles in Korean

8. "Measuring Partisan Differences in South Korean National Assembly Speeches Using Natural Language Processing," (with Sehoon Park), 2025, *Korean Party Studies Review*, vol. 23, no. 4, pp. 153–185.
7. "Distortion of Votes by Ballot Ordering: A Simulation Analysis of Superintendent of Education Elections," (with Ha Na Lee), 2024, *The Study of Election*, vol. 1, no. 21, pp. 5–30.
6. "Using Statistical Methods to Detect Election Fraud in South Korea's Elections," 2022, *Journal of Korean Politics*, vol. 31, no. 3.
5. "The Effects of Pre-Contact and Prepaid Cash Incentives on the Quality of Telephone Surveys." (with Won-ho Park and Shang E. Ha), 2020, *Survey Research*, vol. 21, no. 4.
4. "Estimation of Partisan Bias in Media Coverage of Polling Results during the 2017 Presidential Election," 2019, *Korean Party Studies Review*, vol. 18, no. 4, pp. 69–94.
3. "The Effect of Candidates' Criminal and Tax Records on Election Outcomes: Evidence from the 2018 South Korean Local Elections," (with Jisung Yoon) 2019, *Journal of Korean Politics*, vol. 28, no. 1, pp. 189–215.
2. "Assessing Partisan Gerrymandering in the 2016 Korean National Assembly Election Using Computer Simulations," 2018, *Korean Party Studies Review*, vol. 17, no. 4, pp. 43–68.
1. "The Effect of Candidates' Criminal Records on Election Results: Evidence from the 19th and 20th Korean National Assembly Elections," (with Jisung Yoon), 2016, *Journal of Korean Politics*, vol. 25, no. 3, pp. 85–107.

Research Funds and Scholarships

- Sogang University, Social Science Research Grant, 2024–2026.
- National Research Foundation of Korea Grant, 2023–2025 (PI: Sunkyoung Park).
- National Research Foundation of Korea Grant, 2020–2022 (PI: Won-ho Park).
- Young Researcher Grant (PI), NRF ($\times 5$), 2017–2024.
- Sogang University Research Grant, 2019–2021.
- Hanyang University Research Grants, 2016–2019.
- Harvard Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2014.
- Kwanjeong Abroad Scholarship, 2008–2013.
- Brain Korea 21 Scholarship, 2006–2007; BK21 Research Award, 2006.

Academic Awards

- Sogang Albatross Academic Award, 2023.
- Best Researcher Award, Sogang University, 2023.
- Gallup Korea Award, 2021.
- Ithiel de Sola Pool Fellow, MIT (Political Science), 2009.

Teaching Experience

Sogang University

Undergraduate: Analyzing Politics; Media Politics; Introduction to Data Analysis in Social Science

Graduate: Quantitative Methods in Political Science; Political Accountability; Gender and Political Representation

University of Rochester

Undergraduate: Data Analysis I (Spring 2023)

Hanyang University

Undergraduate: Political Economics; Principles of Politics; Electoral Politics

Graduate: Research Methods for Social Science

Conferences and Presentations

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2007, 2015, 2025.

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2018, 2019, 2023.

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting: 2007, 2014, 2023.

Korean Association of Party Studies Annual Summer Meeting: 2017, 2022.

The World Congress for Korean Politics and Society: 2017.

Korean Political Science Association Annual Summer Meeting: 2016, 2018.

Yale, CSAP Summer Conference: 2014.

MIT, Political Economy Breakfast: 2013.

Harvard, Research Workshop in Political Economy: 2012, 2013.

Harvard, American Politics Research Workshop: 2012, 2013.

Service

Editorial Board: *Korean Political Science Review* (2018); *Journal of Contemporary Politics* (2020–present).

Referee: *American Journal of Political Science*, *Asian Survey*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Culture and Politics*, *Economics & Politics*, *Electoral Studies*, *Government & Opposition*, *Japanese Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Contemporary Politics*, *Journal of Korean Politics*, *Journal of Politics*, *Korean Economic Review*, *Korean Journal of Public Administration*, *Korean Party Studies Review*, *Korean Political Science Review*, *Pacific Affairs*, *PLOS ONE*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Political Analysis*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Science*, *Public Choice*, *Research and Politics*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *Social Science Journal*, *Survey Research*.

Languages

English (Fluent); Korean (Native); Japanese (Advanced, JLPT N1)

Updated: January 2026