Daehyun Kim

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Education:

2020 (expected)	PhD.	Economics	University of Southern California
2011	M.S.	Economics	Seoul National University
2009	B.S.	Physics	Seoul National University

Research Fields:

Behavioral Economics, Health Economics, Family Economics

Job Market Paper:

"Stigma Leads to Avoidance of Mental Health Information: Behavioral Economics Approach"

Abstract: This study presents experimental evidence of heightened "ego utility" in mental health dimension among individuals with mental health stigma. Theoretical expectations regarding the behaviors of decision makers with ego utility are that they may refuse to admit depression, and also avoid receiving diagnostic information that might force them to learn their true mental health states. In my randomized priming experiment, subjects read stigma-inducing messages or stigma-reducing messages, and then they are asked to report their self-assessment of their own depression severity and willingness to receive the diagnostic information. While subjects in some demographic categories do not show behavioral difference after reading different messages, others behave in a manner consistent with the theory, exhibiting more positively biased self-assessment and less willingness to receive the diagnostic information after reading stigma-inducing messages compared to reading stigma-reducing messages. The results indicate that belief bias and information avoidance might be driven by motivation of maintaining positive self-image. Also, in public health point of view, this study provides potential explanation regarding depression patients' simultaneous manifestation of denial of depression and treatment avoidance.

Working Papers:

"A Model of Optimal Mental Health Belief"

Abstract: Based on the 'optimal expectation model' by Brunnermeier and Parker (2005), I build a decision theoretical model of optimal mental health belief formation. The model assumes individuals optimally choose their subjective belief about their own mental health state by taking into consideration both the psychological felicity of thinking they are mentally healthy and the potential future health cost from holding optimistic view about their mental health. Also, I add a component such that the relative importance of psychological felicity during this process is increasing in the individual level stigmatic attitude toward having mental illness. The implication is that individuals with high degree of mental health stigma develop positively biased subjective belief about their mental health state and tend to avoid knowing the true state in order to maintain the biased belief.

"Impact of Supply Chain Management Performance on the Connected Firms' Growth in a Supply Chain Network"

Abstract: In this study, two hypotheses regarding performances of the manufacturing firms' in the US are tested using COMPUSTAT panel data. The first hypothesis is the existence of causality from firms' supply chain or stock management performance to their own sales growth rate. The second hypothesis is the existence of causality from downstream firms' supply chain or stock management performance to the upstream firms' sales growth rate, with the direction of effect to be determined by econometric analysis. Two hypotheses are tested using fixed effect model and fixed effect IV model. The results indicate the first hypothesis is valid. As for the second hypothesis, the estimated effect has negative sign which implies downstream firms' efficiency in supply chain or stock management negatively affects the upstream firms' growth. A possible interpretation regarding this negative sign is that downstream firms' frugality in terms of raw material purchase might negatively affect upstream firms' sales volume.

Work in Progress:

"Effect of Denial of Depression on The Spouse's Mental Health Among Korean Elderly"
"Determinants of Self-Employment Entry in Developing Countries"

Grants and Awards:

Ph.D. Fellowship and Stipend, USC Graduate School	2013 – 2018
Summer Research Award, USC Dept of Economics	2017

Teaching Experience:

Mathematical Methods in Economics	Teaching Assistant	Fall 2019
Economic Policy Issues	Teaching Assistant	Fall 2019
Microeconomic Analysis and Policy	Teaching Assistant	2015 – 2016, 2018
Money, Credit, and Banking	Teaching Assistant	2016 – 2017

Conference & Seminar presentations:

International Conference on Applied Business and Economics	2010
Western Economic Association International	2016
Western Economic Association International	2018
Bay Area Behavioral and Experimental Economics Workshop	2018
Southwest Experimental and Behavioral Economics Workshop	2018
Eastern Economics Association Conference	2019
California State University Long Beach Economics Seminar	2019

Predoctoral Employment:

Korea Institute for Industrial Economics and Trade (KIET), RA	2013
Korean Air	2011 – 2012

References:

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