



Department of Sociology

Seminar

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Employment among Minority Immigrant and Local-born Youth in Canada

Date : 24 November 2017 (Friday)
Time: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm
Venue: Rm. 1045, 10/F., Academic and Administration Bldg,
15 Baptist University Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon
Language: English

Abstract

In many developed countries, including Canada, youth unemployment has become an issue of major concern among policy makers and the public. Previous studies have documented adverse consequences of youth unemployment on labour market outcomes of individuals, even later in life. In spite of such significance, we know very little about the employment situation of young adults (age 20–35) of visible minority groups and the difference in employment status between Canadian-born and foreign-born youth of visible minority groups. Moreover, many foreign-born youth of visible minority groups are employed in ethnic businesses. While we know that ethnic economies provide job opportunities to co-ethnic members, we do not know the extent to which ethnic economies help improve the employment outcomes of co-ethnic young adults. We examine these issues using the 2011 National Household Survey. Our preliminary findings indicate that the employment rates are the lowest among young adults of West Asian background. Furthermore, the rates among foreign-born members of young adults from the region are lower than their Canada-born counterparts. Implications of these findings are discussed.

Bio

Eric Fong is a professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is the inaugural Director of the Center on Migration and Mobility at CUHK. He is also Changjiang Chair Professor at Xi'an Jiaotong University. Fong formerly served as President of the Canadian Population Society and the North America Chinese Sociologist Association, as well as Chair of the International Migration Section of the American Sociological Association. Fong publishes widely on race and ethnic residential patterns and immigration. His latest book with Brent Berry, *Immigration and the City*, was published by Polity Press in April 2017.

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