

Analysis childbirth intention for marriage migrant women in Korea

Jae Joon Lee¹, Chang Hyun Kang²

¹Health and welfare, Dankook University, ²Public Administration, Dankook University

¹leejaejuon59@naver.com, ²welchkang@dankook.ac.kr

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to identify factors related to childbirth intention of multicultural marriage migrant women in Korea. The study is based on the raw data of a National survey on Multicultural Families 2015 in Korea, subjects were 7 countries, 31,047 who participated in the survey. Data were performed multiple regression analysis by SPSS/WIN 21.0 program. The national analysis outcome showed the order of Korea-Chinese 37.5%(health state, $\beta=-.478$), Cambodia 21.1%(residence period in Korea, $\beta=-.313$), Philippines 18.4%(residence period in Korea, $\beta=-.293$), China 16.9%(residence period in Korea, $\beta=-.212$), Vietnam 14.3%(residence period in Korea, $\beta=-.166$), Mongolia 12.2%(residence period in Korea, $\beta=-.265$), Taiwan & Hong Kong 10%(economy activity, $\beta=.211$) respectively. Consequently, it suggested evidence data the need for a comprehensive multicultural policy and support service that multicultural marriage women can contribute to formation and settlement of Korean society.

Keywords: Multiculturalism, Marriage migrant women, Childbirth intention, Number of childbirths, Multicultural policy

1. Introduction

International marriage began in earnest when the influx of migrant workers and married immigrant women from the 1990s influenced the population structure of Korean society, due to decrease in fertility rate, an increase in the elderly population, population migration between urban and rural areas, changes in values, and so on[1]. With these international marriages, domestic multicultural marriages account for 7.4% of all marriages in 2015, and 76.7% of them are immigrant women from Southeast Asia including China [8]. Despite the fact that these women have migrated from countries with high fertility rates the number of multicultural, newborns has been steadily decreasing from 22,014 in 2012 and the average number of multicultural children is 1.0, with 34% of households without children, which is much lower than the average number of children from married women in Korea at 1.6, with 10% of households without children [12] [8]. In this way, it is predicted that the decline in fertility rate of married immigrant women will increase every year as an important factor in the demographic change of Korean society. In this regard, there has been a need to study the factors affecting pregnancy and childbirth of married immigrant women, the intent to give birth to additional children, and the number of children [4] [12] [13], It also mentioned major factors in terms of socio-demographic, structural, psychological, economic, and cultural factors that affect to family formation, settlement, and childbirth of married immigrant women [9] [10]. Accordingly,

Article history:

Received (March 7, 2018), Review Result (April 12, 2018), Accepted (May 4, 2018)

it is necessary to carry out specific researches related to the childbirth intention of marriage migrant women as a solution for the socio-demographic structure of Korea.

Recent studies have shown interest in children and childbirth of married migrant women due to low fertility and aging[1][2][4][9][13] but these studies have limitations in identifying specific factors related to maternity and childbearing intentions for married immigrant women at a particular area in Korea. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to identify the specific factors affecting the childbirth intentions in Korea's entire marriage migrant women and is to provide a basis for providing policy and support services for marriage migrant women to adapt to Korean society and to form a family

2. Method

2.1. Study subjects and data collection

The study was based on the raw data of 「National Survey on Multicultural Families 2015 in Korea」 performed by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family and the National Statistical Office every three years to collect basic data required to establish policies for support of multicultural family members in accordance with 「the Multicultural Family Support Act」. The survey was conducted from July 1 to August 18, 2015. The sample households extracted 27,120 sample households considering the local size and nationality of the survey population. Among them, married immigrants and naturalized persons were 17,109. Marriage migrant women are 3,044 married immigrants and naturalized women who have the status of marriage immigrant status (F6) and Korean nationals' spousal status (F-2-1). Among them, the study was conducted on 2,855 people in the top 7 countries (China, Korean-Chinese, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Mongolia, Vietnam, Philippines and Cambodia). Among 2,855, 2,062 married immigrant women aged between 19 and 39 who were married, excluding those who responded insufficiently, answered whether they planned to have children.

2.2. Study analysis method

In order to investigate the factors affecting the childbirth intentions of multicultural marriage migrant women, multiple regression analysis was performed with age, education, residence period in Korea, economy activity, monthly income, life satisfaction, satisfaction of marital relationship, participation in social activities, difficulty living in Korea, health state as independent variable and number of children of childbirth as dependent variable. The dependent variable, the number of children in childbirth, is the number of children answered by married immigrant women aged between 19-39 who responded to the plan to have children. 'No' means zero children who have no plans to have children, and 'yes' means the number of children enrolled, including children who are pregnant. Data were analyzed by SPSS/WIN 21.0 program.

3. Results

[Table 1] shows the results of verifying the factors affecting the childbirth intentions of marriage migrant women.

By country, First, China explained 16.9% of the intention to give childbirth, and the regression model was statistically significant ($F=114.833$, $p<.001$). The most influential factors for the childbirth intention were residence period in Korea ($\beta=-.212$) and age ($\beta=-.200$).

Second, Korean-Chinese explained 37.5% of the intention to give childbirth, and the regression model was statistically significant ($F=90.813$, $p<.001$). The most influential factors for the childbirth intention were health state ($\beta=-.478$) and satisfaction of marital relationship ($\beta=.345$).

Third, Taiwan & Hong Kong explained 10% of the intention to give childbirth, and the regression model was statistically significant ($F=14.962$, $p<.001$). The most influential factors for the childbirth intention were economy activity ($\beta=.211$) and residence period in Korea ($\beta=-.164$).

Fourth, Mongolia explained 12.2% of the intention to give childbirth, and the regression model was statistically significant ($F=200.382$, $p<.001$). The most influential factors for the childbirth intention were residence period in Korea ($\beta=-.265$) and education ($\beta=.117$).

Fifth, Vietnam explained 14.3% of the intention to give childbirth, and the regression model was statistically significant ($F=64.212$, $p<.001$). The most influential factors for the childbirth intention were residence period in Korea ($\beta=-.166$) and age ($\beta=-.151$).

Sixth, Philippines explained 18.4% of the intention to give childbirth, and the regression model was statistically significant ($F=64.657$, $p<.001$). The most influential factors for the childbirth intention were residence period in Korea ($\beta=-.293$) and education ($\beta=.182$).

Seventh, Cambodia explained 21.1% of the intention to give childbirth, and the regression model was statistically significant ($F=55.084$, $p<.001$). The most influential factors for the childbirth intention were residence period in Korea ($\beta=-.313$) and life satisfaction ($\beta=.169$).

4. Discussion

For the major influences on the childbirth intention of multicultural married immigrant women in seven countries;

First, as a common factor, the residence period in Korea and age showed the same result in 7 countries. That is, the shorter the period of residence in Korea, the lower the age, the more the number of childbirths. : This is due to the fact that married immigrant women are women who migrate for marriage in a country where fertility rate and children's needs are high, not only the study of [11] which is focused on migrants and family bonding and interaction, with the formation of a family and increment fertility rates immediately after migration, but also the study of [9] that immediately after marriage, childbirth increases when younger, showed the same results.

Second, in terms of major factors and national aspects related to childbirth intention, the major factors are Economy activity, Satisfaction of marital relationship, Life satisfaction, Education. By country, the most influential factors are economic activity in Taiwan and Hong Kong, satisfaction in marital relationships in Korean-Chinese, life satisfaction in Cambodia, and education in Mongolia and the Philippines. It was found that the more the economic activity participation, the marital satisfaction, the life satisfaction the educational level, the more the number of childbirth children. Form these results, economic activities is consistent with the study of [4] [15], but it is contrary to [3] [14] that female employment is the cause of avoiding of delaying childbirth. Satisfaction of marital relationship is related to the study of [7] that the relationship quality with husband affects childbirth. Life satisfaction is consistent with studies [6] and [10] in which the diverse stresses of life that can be experienced during the migration

process, such as language, culture, and social environment, appear to have a low fertility rate. Education is consistent with the study of [5], but is inconsistent with the study of [13] that it is not related to birth.

Table 1. Factors related to childbirth intention of multicultural marriage migrant women in Korea

Independent variable	China		Korean-Chinese		Taiwan & Hong Kong			
	β	t	β	t	β	t		
Age	-.200	15.300***	-.229	-9.707***	-.105	-3.804***		
Education	.105	8.107***	.007	.275	.050	1.792		
Residence period of Korea	-.212	-16.894***	-.076	-3.286**	-.164	-5.801***		
Economy activity	.151	11.167***	.207	5.865***	.211	7.447***		
Monthly income	-.028	-2.042*	-.033	-1.041	-.124	-4.488***		
Life satisfaction	.135	8.890***	.155	6.303***	.089	2.350*		
Satisfaction of marital relationship	.071	4.976***	.345	12.890***	-.018	-.507		
Participation in social activities	-.152	-12.285***	-.130	-5.907***	.090	3.384**		
Difficulty living in Korea	.033	2.623*	-.084	-3.853***	-.044	-1.559		
Health state	-.033	-2.428*	-.478	19.424***	.003	.096		
F	114.833***		90.813***		14.962***			
R ² /Adjusted R ²	.169/ .168		.375/ .371		.100/ .093			
Independent variable	Mongolia		Vietnam		Philippines		Cambodia	
	β	t	β	t	β	t	β	t
Age	-.058	-6.807***	-.151	-8.462***	-.033	-1.562	-.042	-1.593
Education	.117	14.778***	.110	7.012***	.182	10.002***	.128	6.199***
Residence period of Korea	-.265	-29.776***	-.166	-9.042***	-.293	-13.765***	-.313	-11.311***
Economy activity	.046	5.481***	-.022	-1.330	.018	.986	.121	5.631***
Monthly income	.071	8.762***	.023	1.438	.054	3.016**	.060	2.781**
Life satisfaction	.056	5.429***	.042	2.122*	.060	2.891**	.169	6.762***
Satisfaction of marital relationship	.016	1.600	.046	2.331*	.072	3.545***	.069	3.019**
Participation in social activities	.011	1.345	-.025	-1.684	-.126	-7.384***	-.085	-4.140***
Difficulty living in Korea	-.024	-3.058***	-.022	-1.468	-.008	-.471	.142	6.905***
Health state	-.032	-3.734***	.116	7.283***	.016	.886	-.147	-6.527***

F	200.382***	64.212***	64.657***	55.084***
R ² /Adjusted R ²	.122/.122	.143/.141	.184/.182	.211/.207

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001

Based on these results, for the countries with high relevance to each factor in the future, case studies and follow-up studies on various cultural backgrounds, differences, and citizenship will be needed.

Third, as a contrast factor, in the case of health state, in Vietnam the better the health, the more the number of childbirth children [16], while the worse the number of birth children in Chinese, Korean-Chinese, Mongolian, and Cambodian. This is caused by various factors such as adaption of Korean society, burden on childbirth and care, economic situation, physical, psychological and mental health status, family relationship, cultural difference and so on. Therefore, it is necessary to identify these countries through various examples and follow-up studies.

Accordingly, these results will provide a basis for comprehensive multicultural policy and support services needed for multicultural marriage migrant women to contribute to Korean society and family formation.

References

- [1] D. S. Kim and Y. J. Song, J Population Studies. 36, 1 (2013)
- [2] E. H. Kim, H. S. Park and K. U. Bae, Academy of Qualitative Research. 12, 1 (2012)
- [3] G. I. Bae and G. S. Kim, J Social Welfare. 43, 3 (2012)
- [4] H. G. Kim, institute Korea Culture. 49 (2011)
- [5] H. J. Min and E. J. Kim, J Sociology. 45, 4 (2011)
- [6] H. Kulu, J Population/Revue européenne de Démographie. 21, 1 (2005)
- [7] H. S. Lim, J Women Health Nursing. 7, 3 (2011)
- [8] J. Y. Lee and Y. S. Kim, Statistics Korea (2016)
- [9] K. S. Chang, J Multi-cultural Contents Studied. 14, (2013)
- [10] N. Milewski, Demographic Research. 17, 29 (2007)
- [11] N. Milewski, J Population/Revue européenne de Démographie. 26, 3 (2010)
- [12] S. H. Kim, Unpublished doctoral dissertation. SungKyul University (2014)
- [13] S. H. Yun and Y. H. Kim, Contemporary Society and Multiculture. 6, 2 (2016)
- [14] S. S. Lee, Y. J. Jeon, H. Y. Shin and H. J. Choe, Institute Health and Social affairs. (2011)
- [15] S. Y. Lee, Family Resource Management Association. 12, 2 (2008)
- [16] Y. J. Kim, J Population studies. 33, 1 (2010)

Authors



Jae Joon Lee

The 1st author

Major career

- Dankook University, graduate school of health and welfare, Doctorate.

Interests: Health and welfare administration, Multicultural policy,
Health and Safety promotion project



Chang Hyun Kang

Corresponding author

Major career

- Dankook University, college of Public Service, department of
Public Administration. Since 2005, Professor.

- Social safety network center. Since 2013, Founder & Head.

- The Korean Public Management. 2013-2016, Head of Academic
Society

Interests: Health and welfare administration, Policy tool,
Safety Promotion Strategy