

Child Protection in South Korea and the United States

Bong Joo Lee, Seoul National University, South Korea

Robert Goerge, University of Chicago-Chapin Hall, United States

ABSTRACT

This paper compares child protective services policy and outcomes in South Korea and Illinois in the United States. Specifically, it addresses the geographic distribution of substantiated child reports and looks for factors that are associated with high rates. The results show without a doubt that there is differential identification of maltreatment across communities in both countries. Both aggregate economic and family characteristics affect the rate of substantiated maltreatment in communities. This suggests both a target for intervention and policy, but also potential strategies to address this problem.

1. child maltreatment 2. communities 3. Intervention