

SOO YOUN KANG

University of Virginia
Department of Economics
PO Box 400182
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4182

phone: 434-466-8424
Email: sk2tcz@virginia.edu
sooyoungkang.com
Citizenship: South Korea

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. Candidate, Economics, University of Virginia
Committee: Expected May 2025

Eric M. Leeper
Paul Goodloe McIntire Professor
eml3jf@virginia.edu
434-924-3933

Eric Young
Professor
ey2d@virginia.edu
434-924-3811

Leora Friedberg
Associate Professor
lfriedberg@virginia.edu
434-924-3225

M.A., Economics, University of Virginia

Dec 2020

B.A., Economics, cum laude, Dartmouth College

June 2012

FIELDS OF INTEREST: Macroeconomics, Political Economy, Public Finance

JOB MARKET PAPER:

“The Baby Boomers' Fiscal Policy Influence and Welfare”

Abstract: Did the baby boomers leverage their demographic and, hence, political clout to shape fiscal policy? If so, did this yield them higher welfare relative to other generations? I integrate electoral competition into an overlapping generations model to obtain fiscal choices that are consistent with empirical patterns: 1) when baby boomers are in the labor force, they benefit from low labor income tax rates and impose high capital tax rates on the elderly; 2) they support high education spending for their offspring, to ensure a larger future tax base from which old-age benefits can be funded during their retirement, and 3) when retired, boomers reap old-age transfers and benefit from low capital tax rates. The large cohort size is a double-edged sword for baby boomers. Although they shape fiscal policy to their advantage over their life cycle, the sheer size of the generation dilutes per-student education spending, curtails human capital accumulation, and leaves them worse off than neighboring generations.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Course Instructor, University of Virginia

Principles of Economics: Macroeconomics

Summer 2020

Teaching Assistant, University of Virginia

Macroeconomic Policy

Fall 2022, Spring 2023

Money and Banking

Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2023, Spring 2024

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Junior Economist, Bank of Korea, Republic of Korea

Jan 2013 - July 2019

- Served as the Bank of Korea's key delegate in amending Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CMIM), a regional currency swap arrangement among the ASEAN+3 countries
- Developed and published policy reports on institutional framework for domestic adoption of Basel III standards such as countercyclical capital buffers

Co-President, Women in Economics Club, University of Virginia

Fall 2021 - Spring 2023

- Hosted round table discussions with female economists to talk about their career path
- Served as a mentor in Economics Career programs for undergraduate women majoring in Economics

COMPUTING SKILLS:

Matlab, Stata, Latex