

CRAWFORD SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND GOVERNMENT

The Cost of Children in Japan and Korea



Taizo Motonishi

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12.30pm - 1.30pm

Seminar room 4, First floor, Crawford Building

Light lunch will be provided

Inquiries contact Ben Grono 6125 0178. ben.grono@anu.edu.au

The very low birth rates in Japan and Korea are threatening their social security systems. Although there is much debate about the effect of having a child on household budgets, surprisingly few rigorous studies have been made in Japan and Korea thus far. This study estimates the cost of having a child in Japan and Korea by using unit record data from national household surveys. 'Families with twins' is the variable added as the instrument to control for the possible endogeneity of the number of children. The implications of the findings for the wider debate in Japan about the population policy are also discussed.

Professor Taizo Motonishi has a Ph.D in Economics from the University of Tokyo and is Professor (Economic Policy) at the Faculty of Economics, Kansai University and a Honorary Visiting Fellow at the School of Economics and Finance, Faculty of Law and Management, La Trobe University.

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