



**The Institute for
Korean Studies
presents:**



Hyunjoon Park
University of Pennsylvania

**Who Lives Alone in South Korea?
Trends Over the Last Four Decades
(1980-2020)**

There is growing media and public interest in the rise in solo living in South Korea, where family ties have traditionally been strong. Using individual-level data from the 2% microsamples of the Korean Population and Housing Census for 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, and 2020, we examine trends in the prevalence of living alone across five 10-year age groups (25-34 through 65-74) for men (N=1,258,115) and women (N=1,311,326) over four decades. We focus on educational differences in solo living, particularly between college graduates and those with a high school education or less.

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Contact: Prof. Danielle Pyun
pyun.7@osu.edu

