Local space and economic success: the role of spatial segregation of migrants in the Netherlands

Citation for published version (APA):

Document status and date:
Published: 01/01/2011

DOI:
10.26481/dis.20110119pb

Document Version:
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Please check the document version of this publication:
• A submitted manuscript is the version of the article upon submission and before peer-review. There can be important differences between the submitted version and the official published version of record. People interested in the research are advised to contact the author for the final version of the publication, or visit the DOI to the publisher's website.
• The final author version and the galley proof are versions of the publication after peer review.
• The final published version features the final layout of the paper including the volume, issue and page numbers.

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Download date: 25 Oct. 2023
Propositions accompanying the dissertation

**Local space and economic success**

The role of spatial segregation of migrants in the Netherlands

by Pascal Beckers

1. Geographic location is an important determinant of economic success of non-Western immigrants in the Netherlands. (chapter 6)
2. Immigrant labour market disadvantages arise from living in areas of concentrated poverty and not from living in migrant neighbourhoods; Dutch settlement policy for asylum seekers should therefore be more concerned about neighbourhood quality and less about immigrant concentration. (chapter 3)
3. Immigrant entrepreneurs of the second generation are not more successful in business than the first generation. (chapter 4)
4. Restrictive zoning in mono-functional, residential areas hampers the matching of aspiring entrepreneurs and business opportunities and, moreover, thwarts the expansion of already successful firms. (chapter 5)
5. In a market-based society immigrants’ ability to pay for goods and services is a base condition for their integration.
6. The exclusion of certain groups from mainstream society has become the most pressing social issue of our time even surpassing the traditional conflict between labour and capital. (based on Stephen Castles and Mark J. Miller 2003 ‘The age of migration’)
7. Immigration challenges receiving countries as it puts the traditional nation-state ideologies defined on the grounds of ethnic homogeneity to the test.
8. ‘Never make your home in a place. Make a home for yourself inside your own head. You’ll find what you need to furnish it - memory, friends you can trust, love of learning, and other such things. That way it will go with you wherever you journey.’ (Tad Williams)
9. ‘Save us from the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth!’ (old Buddhist prayer)