

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

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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)