

Ethnic segregation experienced at  
various domains of life and  
fertility of migrants in Finland  
A register-based study 2000-2014

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# Background

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## **Increasing share of migrants in Finland during last decades**

- 1,83 % (1999) -> 4,86 % (2014)
- Good quality register-based data available

## **The arrival of immigrants rises the question of (demographic) integration**

- Fertility differentials of migrants and natives as an indicator of integration
- Integration involves contact with natives at various domains of life

## **Papers on ethnic segregation at various domains of life in Finland:**

- *Rahnu, L., Puur, A., Kleinepier, T., Tammaru, T. (2019). The role of neighbourhood and workplace ethnic contexts in the formation of interethnic partnerships: A native majority perspective. EuJP.*
- *Submitted: What is the Role of the Ethnic Composition of Neighborhoods, Workplaces, and Schools on the Formation of Mixed-Ethnic Unions? A Register-Based Study of Migrants and Their Descendants in Finland*

# Motivation

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## **Contrasting fertility of migrants with fertility of natives is a popular research topic:**

Kulu et al 2019, DR; Milewski 2011, ALCR; 2010, Eur.J.Pop.; Wilson&Kuha 2018, PSP; Rojas et al 2018, DR; Andersson 2014, IMR; Kulu et al 2017, PDR; Puur et al 2017, DR; etc

## **Research gap:**

- We don't know much about Finland
- Migrant groups both from low- and high fertility countries
- The impact of ethnic segregation in various life domains on fertility patterns has not been studied systematically

# Background

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## **Homogamy approach**

Preference for similarity prevails. Inter-ethnic partnerships occur after successful structural and cultural integration.

## **Marriage market approach**

Finding a suitable partner relates to a structure of opportunities to meet with potential partner. The bigger is one's own group the easier it is to choose similar partner from own group.

## **Geographic activity space approach**

Multiple spatial contexts of life domains have simultaneous effect on partnership formation:

- Neighbourhood (scene of daily interaction; ethnic sorting)
- Workplace (scene of daily interaction; sorting by age and SES)
- School (intense social interaction with peers; sorting by age, SES)

# Preliminary research questions

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1) How do fertility patterns (transition to 1st, 2nd and 3rd parity) vary across:

- **Region of origin:**

- native Finn
- fertility level similar to FIN (Nordic, Western Europe, North America)
- fertility level lower than FIN (Russia, SU / Estonia / Southern Europe / Eastern Europe / Eastern Asia)
- fertility level higher than FIN (Latin America? / Africa / Arab, Middle East / Other Asia)

- **Status of origin:** 1st / 1,5th / 2nd generation / native

2) To what extent does

- the ethnic composition of **residential neighbourhood**
  - the ethnic composition of **workplace** (establishment)
- influence the?

3) Are the effects consistent across region of origin and status of origin

# Data and method 1

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## Data

- Finnish register data: 1999-2014
- Natives, migrants and their descendants

## Events and the risk set

### Risk set 1:

- Age 16 if in FIN
- Age at arrival to FIN, childless

**NB!** Birth = date of birth of a child who lives in FIN

### Birth 1

#### Risk set 2:

- Age at B1 if in FIN (twins excluded)
- Age at arrival to FIN if B1 out of FIN



### Birth 2

#### Risk set 3:

- Age at B2 if in FIN (twins excluded)
- Age at arrival to FIN if B2 out of FIN



### Birth 3

# Analytical strategy: descriptive analysis

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## **Parity transitions (1st, 2nd, 3rd) by**

- 1) Population groups:
  - Region of origin
  - Status of origin
  
- 2) Ethnic segregation in life domains and status of origin:
  - Segregation in neighbourhood by
  - Segregation at place of workplace
  
- 3) Ethnic segregation in life domains and ...
  - Segregation in neighbourhood by
  - Segregation at place of workplace

# Analytical strategy: multivariate analysis

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## **Hierarchical main effects models of parity transitions (1st, 2nd, 3rd)**

Step 1: Region of origin (+process time and birth cohort)

Step 2: Partnership status (+ethnicity of partner ?)

Step 3: SES of mother (+SES of partner?) and region of residence in Finland

Step 4: Level of fertility in the country of origin

Step 5: Time since arrival to Finland

Step 6: Status of origin

Step 7: Effects of domains