Research on Nanjing Citizens’ NIMBY Towards New Generation of Migrant Workers

Yu-Yao ZHU1, Zheng-Rong XU1, Yu-Lun WU1, Si-Min XU1, Zhi-Wen XIAO1, Qian YOU2 and Zi-Wei ZHAO1,*

1School of Economics, Nanjing University of Finance & Economics, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China
2School of Foreign Language, Nanjing University of Finance & Economics, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China
*Corresponding author

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Abstract. It has been forty years since China started reform and began the policy of opening up, and China’s urbanization has sprung up. There’s a grain of truth that large numbers of rural residents are flooding into city, but it misses the big picture: They are excluded in economy, equal rights, social relations, culture and so on, among other things, they cannot be in citizen’s life and a real citizen. It’s the core reason for new generation of migrant worker to dwell in Nanjing and turn to be a real citizen. This paper will compare the depth and breadth about Nanjing citizens’ NIMBY toward new generation of migrant workers with investigation, research and data analysis, besides, from the view of demographic variables, social status and social relationships. In addition, identity disapproval has contributed to Nanjing citizen’s NIMBY to new generation of migrant worker. On the basis of conclusion, proposals from this paper bound, one of which is to strengthen social guidance for government to speed up urbanization.

1. Introduction

It has been forty years since China started reform and began the policy of opening up, and China’s urbanization has sprung up. The most profound social change with most population and wildest range is proceeding. Ten years from 2001 to 2010 has witnessed annual increase of 1.33 per cent, which not only is unprecedented in Chinese history, but also is right at the top of world. In 2011, the rate of urbanization was up to 51.27%, which is the first time that the number of urban population exceeded rural population, further, the population of most countries in the world. The massive migration has been world’s social stir [1]. Although a number of peasants swarming into cities, they can’t be in cities in deed, and urban binary contradiction occurs [2]. New generation of migrant workers is the rural labor who’s 1980s generation as well and has worked far from hometown for more than 6 months, and they entered society early, wandering between cities and countryside and striving to be same as peers. Out of economic income and education limited, new generation of migrant workers still can’t be received by cities. So the issue over “dwelling but not being integrated” [3] has aroused people’s concerns. Although being new citizens in urban community, because of subjective or objective reasons, new generation of migrant workers are excluded and marginalized when participating in the society.

As a new-tier city, Nanjing has taken precedent over other cities, so it’s chosen to be our research place to do a fieldwork in different districts and counties. The principal part of this research is new generation of migrant workers and citizens ranging different age and occupations to different income and family background. Meanwhile, with the analysis about various areas and economic situations, potential reasons hindering Nanjing citizen’s integration into new generation of migrant worker. Research results accurately reflect the psychology of these two groups. By reporting phasic result of research on newspaper and expanding social influence, available proposals can be risen up to solve the problem regarding city integration. Based on research, the wish to help government establish policies and regulations and mediate to clear the obstacles away on the way to citizenize for new generation of migrant workers.
Creations are put in our viewing angle and method. Nowadays, domestic and foreign papers about new generation of migrant workers have obtained remarkable achieves while the paper was established in factors hiding in themselves and to analyze issues on social integration for them, ignoring the Nanjing citizen’s acceptance to new generation of migrant worker. At the same time when divergences of personal growing circumstances, education background, values and economic background exist, Nanjing citizen’s rejection constrains new generation of migrant worker’s integration into city. Citizen’s heterogeneity and idea divergence following it will make a difference to the distance between the two groups.

2. Research Design

2.1 NIMBY Index

Basing on factors that new generation of migrant workers’ acceptance to integrate in city, we set clear and incremental questions such as Do you recognize that you are from countryside? to Would you like to marry Nanjing citizens? To know the degree of new generation of migrant workers’ NIMBY, we set questions over the acceptance of new generation of migrant worker’s household ratio.

2.2 Evaluating Indicator

For the question aimed at Nanjing citizen themselves, we will evaluate them from 13 indices of personal qualities, public order, civilized qualities, compatibility, identities and social tributes. According to questions, respondents will choose one out of five answers suited for themselves.

2.3 Effect Index

(1) Demographic variables including 5 indicators: respondent’s gender, age, martial status, bearing status and native place.
(2) Socioeconomic status variables including respondents’ education background, total household yearly income, employment situation in the past 3 years and types of work unit.
(3) Social relationship variables to investigate whether there’re new generation of migrant workers in Nanjing citizens’ relatives, friends and co-workers or not and the closeness to Nanjing citizens inside or outside communities.

3. Data Analysis

Through entering, sorting, classifying and generalizing data of 686 questionnaires, Nanjing citizen’s attitude towards new generation of migrant worker is clear. Meantime, by analyzing data with proper statistical analysis method, we find the main reason influencing Nanjing citizen’s NIMBY to new generation of migrant worker.

3.1 The Measure of Nanjing Citizen’s NIMBY to New Generation of Migrant Worker

(1) NIMBY exists and scope is spectacular

Among 686 Nanjing citizens 556 show their acceptance to new generation of migrant workers living in their community, which is 81.05%, while 130 show their refusal which is 18.95%. The result indicates that the NIMBY Nanjing citizen have toward new generation of migrant worker exists, and its scope is around 18.95%.

(2) NIMBY of household ration isn’t at a low degree

To specialize respondents’ acceptance, we analyze NIMBY effect of household rates through examining how many new generations of migrant workers that Nanjing citizens hope to be among 15 tenants. Results show that the rate that Nanjing citizens totally don’t mind new generation of migrant workers is 16.55% among 556 Nanjing citizens who show little NIMBY; Other Nanjing citizens have some requirements, and most of them show refusal once their guards are broken.
3.2 Main Reasons of Nanjing Citizen’s NIMBY: Basing on Assessment

(1) How Nanjing citizen think about new generation of migrant worker

In the interviews to Nanjing citizen, the keywords on “what are the differences between Nanjing citizen and new generation of migrant worker” are unhygienic, uncivilized, noisy and disobedient to the law, which appeared more than low salary and have no local hukou.

(2) Relation between evaluation and residential NIMBY

A point has arisen in research that if Nanjing citizen think highly of new generation of migrant worker, does it mean they are apt to accept new generation of migrant worker so that community NIMBY can be lessen? According to computation, evaluations affect community NIMBY deeply. The higher the scores new generation of migrant worker gets, the less community NIMBY occurs.

(3) The main reason of Nanjing citizen’s NIMBY

Respondents indicating existence of community NIMBY are required to choose 1 to 3 dominating causes among detailed options and list them in a primary to unimportant order, so the main causes can be traced out easily and directly.

The three dominating causes for Nanjing citizen’s community NIMBY towards new generation of migrant worker are the disagreeing with new generation of migrant worker being new Nanjing citizen, making people feel less secure and living with others, holding respectively 15.75%, 13.25% and 10.25%.

4. Identifying Factors on Community NIMBY

4.1 The Influence Demographic Variables of Nanjing Citizen about Community NIMBY

When researching the impacts on Nanjing citizen’s community NIMBY towards new generation of migrant worker, we adopt Logit Model, and result shows that male showing NIMBY are less than female, and it will lower 6.3% refusal. The core reason is because that female is weaker in strength and speed than male, so they require more secure. The coefficient of the number over those who had marriage experience is negative, it indicates that they will have NIMBY more easily than those who had no marriage experience, the proportion of refusal will increase by 3.9%; Parous respondents have NIMBY more often than nonparous respondents, particularly when their children are underage (including pregnancy), the rate of NIMBY is up to 5.1%. For those whose children are grown, the rate increase by 1.7%. Compared with Nanjing citizens, respondents in other part of eastern area decrease 2.4% rate of NIMBY which is lower than 2.8% in central and western regions. The older people get, the more often NIMBY have.

Conclusions above are marked on at least 15% level.

4.2 The Influence that Socioeconomic Status Variables of Nanjing Citizen on Community NIMBY

As the result of Logit model researching influences of socioeconomic status variables on Nanjing citizen’s NIMBY towards new generation of migrant worker shows, with Nanjing citizen’s socioeconomic status improves, NIMBY occurs less often, under the condition that variables can be subdivided, the decrease is shown as a “U” shape. Only proper socioeconomic status leads relatively low NIMBY.

4.3 The Influence of Nanjing Citizen’s Social Relationship on Community NIMBY

As the result of Logit model researching influences of social relationship on Nanjing citizen and new generation of migrant worker shows, Nanjing citizens who have new generation of migrant workers in relatives lower 23.2% possibilities of occurring NIMBY, overall, than those who have no new generation of migrant worker in their relatives.

Nanjing citizen who have new generation of migrant worker friends drop 18.3% possibilities of NIMBY significantly.

The research also shows that Nanjing citizen who have new generation of migrant worker colleagues lessen 9.8% occurrence of NIMBY.
In summary, the closer Nanjing citizen gets with new generation of migrant workers in community, the less chance NIMBY effect happens.

5. Policy Proposals Solving New Generation of Migrant Worker’s Community NIMBY Effect Towards Nanjing Citizen

5.1 Strengthen the Guidance for Society to Enhance New Generation of Migrant Workers’ Sense of Identity

Take Nanjing city as example, despite citizen get more inclusive every year, new generation of migrant worker still are squeezed on all sides in life and work, moreover, Nanjing citizen also still have bias on them. Nanjing citizen refuse to live in a same community and marry with new generation of migrant worker at some point.

For such reasons, government should strengthen the guidance, promote positively to change Nanjing citizen’s biased murkiness and call for them to be more inclusive to understand and respect new generation of migrant worker. Make sure Nanjing citizen realize Nanjing city's urbanization can’t be erected without new generation of migrant worker, economy and culture can’t be burgeoning without new generation of migrant worker, and the attitude that accept them economically, refuse them socially will make new generation of migrant worker fail to enhance sense of identity and belonging, and it even can cause social conflicts undermining social stability [4]. Only accept new generation of migrant worker with an inclusive heart, can they be citizenized.

5.2 Creating Platforms for Contacting to Promote Interactions Between Nanjing Citizens and New Generation of Migrant Workers

Lacking of contacting with Nanjing citizens is one of reasons new generation of migrant workers has community NIMBY to Nanjing citizens. Government ought to make social organization work and build a platform for Nanjing citizens to interact kindly with new generation of migrant workers [5]. Communities are supposed to guide and encourage new generation of migrant workers to participate in community activities, spread opportunities contacting with Nanjing citizen, which makes Nanjing citizen treat new generation of migrant worker equally and wipe away their bias on new generation of migrant worker in a proper way [6].

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