Abstract

A Study on Risks and the Insecure Society in Seoul

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Around 2014, anxiety and insecurity prevailed Korean Society. Since young students asked peace and satisfaction to citizen, country faced disaster of Sewol Ferry. Citizens felt unsafe and have perceived risks.

This study attempted to diagnose the insecure society. Seoul is regarded as the insecure society. Focus of study resided in citizens perception and attitude about risks originated from urban society. The survey showed that 51.8% of citizen sample perceived insecurity in Seoul. Also 40.6% of sample experienced anxiety in everyday life. Citizens expected the increase of risks from lifetime cycle.

Five new social risks have been identified on the social policy agenda; birth and childcare, youth unemployment, working poor, housing problem, and aging insecurity. Citizens emphasized importance of social risks in the survey as follows: housing issue, youth problem, and aging insecurity. Those risks result in anxiety and insecurity of citizens.

Anxiety and insecurity is followed by lack of social trust. The task of social policy should focus on trust building and community. Social policy to respond to social risks should be founded on the social trust which resides in community of solidarity.

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