

Call for Papers

The Chinese Dream: Housing, Homeownership, and Wellbeing

China is becoming a country of homeowners with 90% of households owning homes and 20% owning multiple homes. Within a very short span of three decades, China has transformed itself from a country dominated by public renters to one of the countries with the highest rate of homeownership. This achievement is particularly impressive as the rate of homeownership has recently declined in the U.S. and other developed countries. Meanwhile, housing conditions have improved significantly, and household assets have risen rapidly in China. Yet, the Chinese Dream has not been achieved by everyone and there is acute housing inequality. Migrants, low-income households, and some young adults continue to live in poor housing conditions, and it is increasingly difficult for them to achieve homeownership. Thus it is important to understand the current status of housing in China, how China has achieved the dream of homeownership, and what the social, economic and spatial consequences are.

The China Household Finance Survey (CHFS) and Research Center at Southwestern University of Finance and Economics has conducted three large scale national survey in 2011, 2013, and 2015, with rich information on housing and other household assets, income and expenditure, in addition to household demographic information (see www.chfs.swufe.edu.cn for more details). These surveys provide an unprecedented opportunity for scholars to study housing, homeownership and related topics.

We invite scholars to utilize these survey datasets to study housing around the theme of “the Chinese Dream: Housing, Homeownership and Wellbeing”. Extended abstracts with 500 -1000 words, specifying theoretical framework, methodology, and expected findings are required. Interested scholars can access sample data on the website after registration (<http://chfs.swufe.edu.cn/datas/>). Full access to the dataset will be provided to scholars whose abstracts are chosen. These selected scholars will be invited to present their papers at a workshop, and subsequently submit their papers for publication in a special issue in Urban Studies.

Topics of specific interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Homeownership; entry to ownership
- Second /multiple homeownership
- Housing career
- Housing choice
- Life cycle events and housing consumption

- Inter-generational wealth transfer
- Wealth accumulation
- Housing inequality
- Low-income housing
- Migrants' housing
- Seniors' housing

Important dates:

Extended abstract due: Sept. 15th, 2017

Extended abstract acceptance notification: Oct. 1st, 2017

Access to dataset: Oct. 1st, 2017

Workshop and full paper due: June 1st, 2018

Paper revision due: September 1st, 2018

Submission to Urban Studies: September 1st, 2018

If you have questions, please email Youqin Huang at yhuang@albany, Shenjing He at sjhe@hku.hk, or Li Gan at gan@chfs.cn

Guest Editors:

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