Is the Creative Class attracted to Tolerant Neighborhoods? Evidence From Chicago, Boston and San Diego

Yizhou Zhang
Master of Urban Planning Class 2013
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

what is a tolerant neighborhood?

Pillared by three components:
- welcoming of immigration
- presence of artists
- tolerance towards same-sex marriage

Components of Urban Amenity

- Tolerance (Florida, 2003)
  - Presence of artists
  - Tolerance towards same sex marriage
  - Openness towards immigration
- Social interaction (Florida, 2003)
  - Young population
  - More single people outside families
- Traditional amenities (Glaeser, 2004)
  - Public services
  - Physical settings
  - Consumption goods
- Educated people as amenity (Glaeser, Saiz, 2003)
- Transportation (Florida, Glaeser)
  - Commuting time
  - Work at home

spatial cross-regressive model

\[ C_{\text{AM}} = \beta_{1}\text{LagCreative} + \alpha_{1}\text{LagImmigrants} + \omega_{1}\text{Immigrants} + \beta_{2}\text{Creative} + \gamma_{1}\text{Creative} + \rho_{1}\text{Immigrants} + \mu_{1} \]

Hypothesis

When the effects of other factors are controlled, the creative class is drawn towards tolerant neighborhoods that have high:
- percentage of foreign born immigrants
- percentage of artists
- percentage of same-sex households

Summary and Conclusion

- Foreign born immigrants do not attract, but actually drive away, creative class in all three cities.
- San Diego has the only evidence for the attraction of artist to creative class. No evidence for same sex marriage in any city. Chicago has negative significance for social interaction variables.
- For creative class members, Income and work-at-home are significantly positive in all cities
- At MSA level the tolerance amenities might have positive significance.

who are the creative class?

“Super-creative core”: production of new knowledge. Scientists, professors, artists, researchers, writers etc.

“Creative professionals”: creative problem solving. Lawyers, physicians, managers etc.

High-correlation between creative class and human capital (Florida, 2004) (Glaeser, 2004), therefore in this study creative class is measured by educational attainments.

what is the creative class?

- “Super-creative core”: production of new knowledge. Scientists, professors, artists, researchers, writers etc.
- “Creative professionals”: creative problem solving. Lawyers, physicians, managers etc.

High-correlation between creative class and human capital (Florida, 2004) (Glaeser, 2004), therefore in this study creative class is measured by educational attainments.

Yizhou Zhang
Master of Urban Planning Class 2013
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Is the Creative Class attracted to Tolerant Neighborhoods? Evidence From Chicago, Boston and San Diego

Yizhou Zhang
Master of Urban Planning Class 2013
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign