

SOOYEON JANG

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Socioeconomic Mobility of Low Income Families & Children, Financial Instability and Poverty, Health Inequality, Quantitative and Mixed-Methods Research, Interdisciplinary Approaches

EDUCATION

Virginia Commonwealth University

PhD in Social Work

Richmond, VA, USA

Aug. 2025– Present

Yonsei University Graduate School of Social Welfare

Master of Social Welfare (MSW)

Seoul, Korea

Sept. 2018 – Feb. 2022

- Thesis: "The Impact of Informal Support as Social Support on Female Managers' Organizational Commitment: Focusing on the Mediating Effect of Career Aspiration"

Yonsei University

Bachelor of Arts in Social Welfare

Seoul, Korea

Mar. 2009 – Aug. 2014

PUBLICATIONS

I.Y. Byun, J.Y. Lee, Y.H. Lee, **S.Y. Jang**. "Final Report on the Comprehensive Support Plan for Single-Person Households in Ulju County," Ulsan Research Institute (Nov. 2022).

I.Y. Byun, S.H. Park, W.J. Jeong, **S.Y. Jang**. "Final Report on the Basic Plan for Establishing a Public Hospital in Southern Ulju County," Ulsan Research Institute (Nov. 2022).

E.S. Joo, B.Y. Kim, **S.Y. Jang**. "Final Report on the Feasibility Study for Establishing a Welfare Foundation in Ulju County," University-Industry Foundation, University of Ulsan (Jul. 2022).

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ulsan Research Institute

Researcher

Ulsan, Korea

Mar. 2022 – Nov. 2022

- Single-Person Household Support:
 - Randomly sampled 500 individuals and conducted needs analysis by age group and situation using SPSS.
 - Held advisory meetings with local social workers on the status of single-person households for support.
- Public Hospital Establishment in Ulju County:
 - Investigated candidate sites and their proximity based on emergency response golden hour requirements.
 - Analyzed medical supply/staff status and prepared reports on the hospital's benefits for Ulju County.
 - Orchestrated a public hearing with 500 residents and advisory meetings with 10 experts.
 - Conducted site visits to public hospitals in other regions with 10 local government officials

University-Industry Foundation, University of Ulsan

Research Assistant

Ulsan, Korea

Dec. 2021 – Jun. 2022

- Conducted feasibility studies on transforming a facility management corporation into a welfare foundation by reviewing domestic welfare centers' statuses and trends; funded by Ulju County, Ulsan Metropolitan City.
- Analyzed survey data on the expectations and concerns of the corporation's social welfare officials.
- Determined the corporation-turned foundation would improve welfare task efficiency through separation from other work areas but might cause potential changes in government subsidies and reduced job security.
- Incorporated the pros and cons into the report and presented the study results to Ulju County authorities.

Yonsei University Graduate School of Social Welfare**Seoul, Korea***Graduate Assistant**Mar. 2019 – Aug. 2019*

- Served as a teaching assistant for “Social Welfare Administration” by Prof. Jaesung Choi (graduate course).
- Researched the status of domestic social welfare administration agencies to support the professor's research.

Sae-A Trading**Seoul, Korea***Associate, Global Fabric Sourcing & Buying Team**Jul. 2014 – Feb. 2018*

- Sourced textile materials globally to meet the design requirements of overseas buyers (e.g., Target in the U.S.).
- Compared quality/prices, negotiated pricing, and bulk-purchased fabric for shipment to Sae-A's overseas factories by organizing air and maritime transport logistics in compliance with trade regulations.
- Resolved delivery or fabric quality issues by adjusting schedules/prices with international suppliers.
- Managed approximately US\$20 billion in annual purchasing transactions.

Korean Development Institute**Seoul, Korea***Intern, International Development Department**May 2012 – May 2013*

- Contributed to the Knowledge Sharing Program (KSP) for Turkey's economic development through an MOU.
- Identified and assessed vulnerable areas in Turkey, leading to the formation of Korean and Turkish research teams of environmental, water resource, and industrial development experts for bilateral know-how transfer.
- Featured as the main subject in an SBS-produced promotional documentary for the KSP, showcasing the project's vision and value during a filming trip to Turkey.
- Accompanied the Korean team's visit to Turkey and the Turkish team's visit to South Korea, including scheduling and organizing site tours of water resource facilities and the Daedeok Research Complex.
- Participated in the final seminar in Ankara for the Korean government/embassy and the Turkish government.

SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE EXPERIENCE**International School of Debrecen in Hungary****Debrecen, Hungary***Asian Representative for External Community, School Advisory Board**Mar. 2024 – Present*

- Collaborated with a board of 8 public officials and entrepreneurs to establish mid-to-long-term visions and address international students' issues such as language barriers and curriculum needs in monthly meetings.
- Proposed a buddy program to facilitate new students' adaptation, currently implemented by the school.

*Korean Representative, Parent School Association**Feb. 2023 – Present*

- Organized orientation for new families, various school events, including Family Day and International Day.
- Mediated between Korean parents and school administration by collecting and delivering feedback from both sides, ensuring effective communication and resolving issues such as campus safety and meal distribution.
- Provide interpretation services for new Korean families' onboarding and those with limited English during parent consultations; notify Korean families about important curriculum-related announcements in Korean.

Together Research Cooperative**Seoul, Korea***Field Practice**Jun. 2021 – Aug. 2021*

- Examined cases of transforming local child centers into social cooperatives; interviewed relevant institutions.
- Researched worker cooperatives abroad, analyzed the pros and cons of the cooperative's transformation, and presented findings; compiled and summarized major ethical issues in social research.

Busan seo-Gu Community Welfare Center**Busan, Korea***Field Practice**Jan. 2013 – Feb. 2013*

- Operated the “World Citizenship Education” program for local children, delivered free coal and lunch meals to low-income seniors, and interviewed multicultural families struggling with childcare due to depression.
- Developed proposals and organized community activities for elderly residents, such as dance classes.

FELLOWSHIPS

*Dongkuk Healthcare Fellowship, Dongkook Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.**Dec. 2021**Brain Korea (BK) 21 Plus, Yonsei University Research Institute**Mar. 2019 – Aug. 2019**Excellent First-Year Scholarship, Yonsei University Graduate School**Sept. 2018***TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE**

The Cyber University of Korea**Virtual***Teaching Assistant & Academic Mentor**Sept. 2021 – Present*

- Courses: Elderly/Women's/Family/Community Welfare Theories, Case Management/Family Policy Theories, Human Behavior and Social Environment, Journey of Caregivers, Counseling Ethics & Fundamentals, etc.

Yonsei University Rehabilitation School**Seoul, Korea***Teaching Assistant**Mar. 2010 – Dec. 2010*

- Assisted in both regular/extracurricular classes and organizing sports events for children with disabilities.

Private Tutor*Mar. 2009 – May 2019*

- Tutored 15+ high school students, leading them to achieve satisfactory scores and enter four-year colleges.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Korean Youth Volunteer Group, "Love & Dream"**Cebu, Philippines***Lead Volunteer**Feb. 2011*

- Organized by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, the Korea Youth Activity Promotion Agency, and International Workcamp Organizations; coordinated programs and schedules with local volunteer groups.
- Conducted group environmental cleanup activities and cultural exchange with local youth, ensuring safety.

Hyundai & Kia Motors Global Youth Volunteer Group**Chennai, India***Team Leader**Jan. 2010*

- Organized volunteer activities, divided roles within the team, and liaised with local volunteer coordinators.
- Conducted environmental activities and educational programs on Korean traditional culture at local schools.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Mongolia-South Korea Student Exchange (Camping in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia)*Jul. 2010*

- Participated in the "Korean & Mongolian University Students Nomadic Festival" organized by Chosun Ilbo to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of South Korea-Mongolia Diplomatic Relations.
- Served as a team lead for a cultural exchange event, building traditional Mongolian yurts on the steppe and teaching Korean songs.

Kia Motors University Student Ambassador*Jan. 2013 – Jul. 2013*

- Produced, oversaw, and updated posts on new vehicle launches for the website at the marketing department.
- Participated in public events for Kia Motors, interviewed visitors, and promoted online events.

President, Yonsei University Korea UNESCO Student Association*Dec. 2009 – Dec. 2010*

- Recruited new club members; planned and led volunteer activities, including visits to senior centers.
- Organized alumni events, such as year-end parties and fundraisers to foster a strong alumni network.

LICENSES & SKILLS

Certificates:

- *First Level Social Worker*, Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs *Mar. 2022*
- *Junior Survey Analyst*, National Statistical Office *Jun. 2021*

Technical Skills: SPSS, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint (all advanced)**Languages:** Korean (native), English (advanced), Turkish (elementary)