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Housing and Subjective Wellbeing

Friday 30 November 2012
3.00 - 5.30 pm
Ingkarni Wardli, B21 Teaching Suite 5

Housing is now receiving special attention by those using responses to subjective wellbeing questions to judge the degree to which individuals are satisfied with their life. The approach is attractive for two reasons: it offers a non-market metric with which to measure the particular life circumstances people they are in (including the housing choices they have made), the relative returns from different domains of people’s lives (family, work, housing etc) and potentially offers a means of judging the relative returns to public policy decisions (e.g. reducing unemployment vs raising inflation).

Housing impacts wellbeing in several different and sometimes conflicting ways. I will focus in this talk on the research that has reported the way subjective wellbeing is affected by tenure, mortgage debt, housing quality, neighbourhood as well as the relative status of the dwelling-neighbourhood-location nexus. The challenge for urban housing researchers lies in refining both the metrics of wellbeing and the housing related arguments associated with their variation in ways that can be useful for both local and national policy.

Drinks and Nibbles 4.30-5.30
RSVP required for catering purposes
RSVP by 28 November
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