

DETERMINANTS OF THE PATTERNS OF CONSUMPTION DEPRIVATION OF URBAN POOR HOUSEHOLDS IN INCHON, KOREA. Yoon J.H. Department of Consumer, Child, and Family Studies, Inha University, Inchon 402-751, Korea.

The Purpose of this study is to examine the variables determining the probability of membership in the consumption deprivation patterns. Data were collected by the researcher through interviews with primary women of the 563 households in Inchon, Korea. To classify the patterns of consumption deprivation, cluster analysis was conducted, and then to find the determinants of those, four times of logistic regression analyses were done. First, four clusters were classified: 'Overall Satisfied Pattern (OSP)', 'Food Satisfied with the Others Deprived Pattern (FS-ODP)', 'Food Extremely Deprived with Housing Satisfied Pattern (FED-HSP)', and 'Housing Extremely Deprived with Food Deprived Pattern (HED-FDP)'. Second, asset increased the probability of membership in OSP, but decreased the probability of membership in FS-ODP or HED-FDP. Household heads with higher education were more likely to belong to FS-ODP. Old household heads were more likely to belong to FED-HSP. Compared with the blue-collar workers, the middle-class workers were more likely to belong to OSP. Compared with the urban underclass workers, the blue-collar workers were more likely to belong to FS-ODP, but less likely to belong to HED-FDP. The coefficient for nonasset income was not significant in all logistic equation models. It can be concluded that only the households belonged to OSP among the four patterns could enjoy the average national life style of consumption, compared with those belonged to the others, and that asset was the most important variable determining the likelihood of membership in OSP or the others. The results imply that policies aimed at the redistribution of the wealth should be strengthened, and that welfare policy for urban poor households should be differentiated by the patterns of consumption deprivation. For the households belonged to HED-FDP, the deprivation of housing and food consumption must be alleviated. For the households belonged to FED-HSP, the deprivation of food consumption must be lessened.