

2019 CFPR Lunchtime Seminar Series

Disguised Pollution in China and Its Impact on Health

In this paper, we study the disguised pollution of industrial firms in China. We find that sulfur dioxide (SO₂) readings increase by 15.9% in monitoring stations four hours after sunset, relative to four hours before, in high factory density areas, controlling for station-day and city-hour fixed effects. In addition, we also find significantly increased readings for PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ in these areas after sunset. Next, using daily hospital visits data, we document that such disguised pollution behavior has unforeseen health consequences: cumulative exposure to SO₂ above 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for three days increases hospital visits on the entire population's respiratory diseases by 15.6%. Inspections by the Ministry of Environmental Protection can only temporarily reduce pollution and hospital visits, and local economic growth pressure is likely to encourage disguised pollution.

Dr. QIN Yu is an assistant professor in the Department of Real Estate. Her research interests include: 1) the impact of infrastructure investment (such as high-speed rail and highways) on economic growth and redistribution; 2) urban externalities (such as air pollution and noises) and the economic consequences; 3) topics related to land market and housing market, including land prices and housing prices, affordability issues, and the consequences on firms and individuals. Dr. Qin completed her PhD in applied economics and management at Cornell University in 2014.



Chaired by: Associate Professor Feng Qiushi
Department of Sociology and Deputy Director of CFPR

Date: 4 October 2019 | Time: 12noon - 130pm
Venue: FASS Research Division Room, AS7-06-42

Light lunch is provided. Registration is required.

Pls register at: <https://tinyurl.com/yydmg58o>