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Differences in Returns to Education Across Ethnic Enclaves, Ethnoburbs, and Suburbs in an Era of Rising Anti-Immigration Sentiment

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DIFFERENCES IN RETURNS TO EDUCATION ACROSS ETHNIC ENCLAVES,
ETHNOBURBS, AND SUBURBS IN AN ERA OF RISING ANTI-IMMIGRATION
SENTIMENT

Traditional immigration patterns show immigrants in the United States settling in cities with a high density of co-ethnics called ethnic enclaves. There has been a shift in the last three decades where immigrants are moving to suburbs with a high density of one ethnic group called an ‘ethnoburb’ or mixed ethnicity suburbs. Previous research has found that immigrants living in enclaves typically earn a lower return to their education than immigrants that live in the suburbs. Recently, immigration has become more contested in the United States due to changing political discourse and it is unclear whether previous settlement patterns persist. The purpose of exploring this is to demonstrate whether there have been recent macrostructural changes in immigrant settlement patterns. Using the 2019 five-year estimates data from the American Community Survey, this research explores immigrant settlement patterns and returns to education.

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