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From shop fronts to home offices: Entrepreneurship and small business dynamics in urban residential neighbourhoods

Folmer, E.C.

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This dissertation is about neighbourhood economies of urban residential neighbourhoods: it is about the people, the places and the institutions that shape neighbourhood economies. The neighbourhood economy includes shops, offices and also home-based business. As such, these mostly involve small to medium-sized enterprises and a large share of self-employed, i.e. one-person firms. Changes in economic production processes in advanced urban economies have increased opportunities for small firms and the self-employed. A diverse firm population, in terms of sector, size and firm organisation, can be found in residential neighbourhoods. This research is about how different types of firms are socially, economically and institutionally embedded in the neighbourhood. Neighbourhood economies tell us important stories about entrepreneurship, processes of production and consumption, and their spatiality.



Emma Folmer

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