

# **The Association between Childhood Allowances** and Savings Behavior and Life Satisfaction due to Financial Management

David Mun, Applied Data Analysis, Wesleyan University

## Introduction

- Childhood allowance may contribute to adult financial management aptitude (Michael, C. J. and E. Odders-White 2021)
- The correlation between regular allowance and adult savings behavior is not well-studied
- There is an association between adept financial management and enhanced quality of life due to the mitigation of financial strain (Xiao, J. J. et al. 2007)
- Prevailing literature delves into the selection of expenditures to maximize one's happiness (Ashby, J. S., et al. 2011) yet there is not much focus on how saving behavior plays a role

# **Research Question**

What is the relationship between saving behavior, childhood allowance, and the outcome of enjoying life due to successful financial managment?

### Results

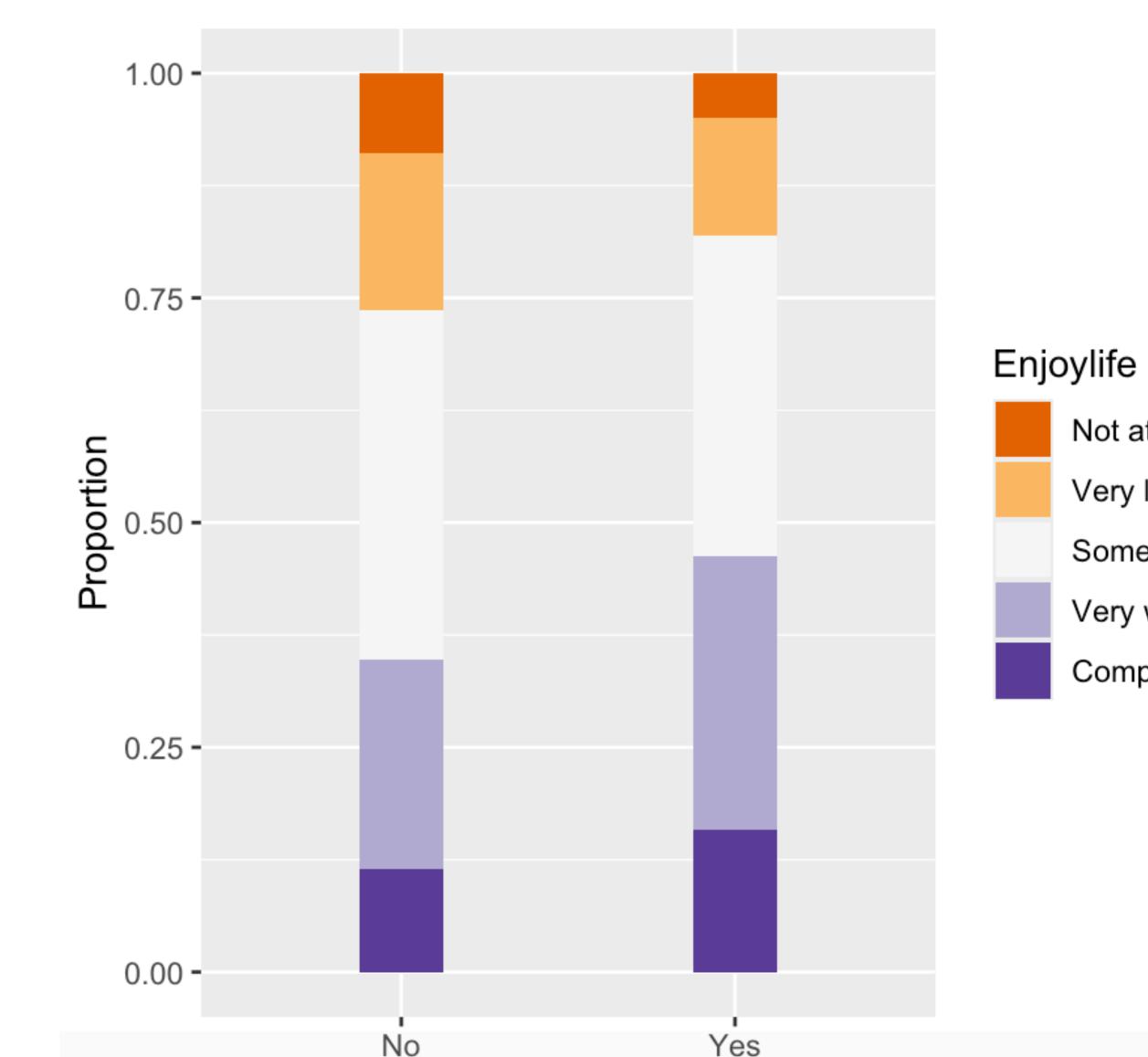
Not at all

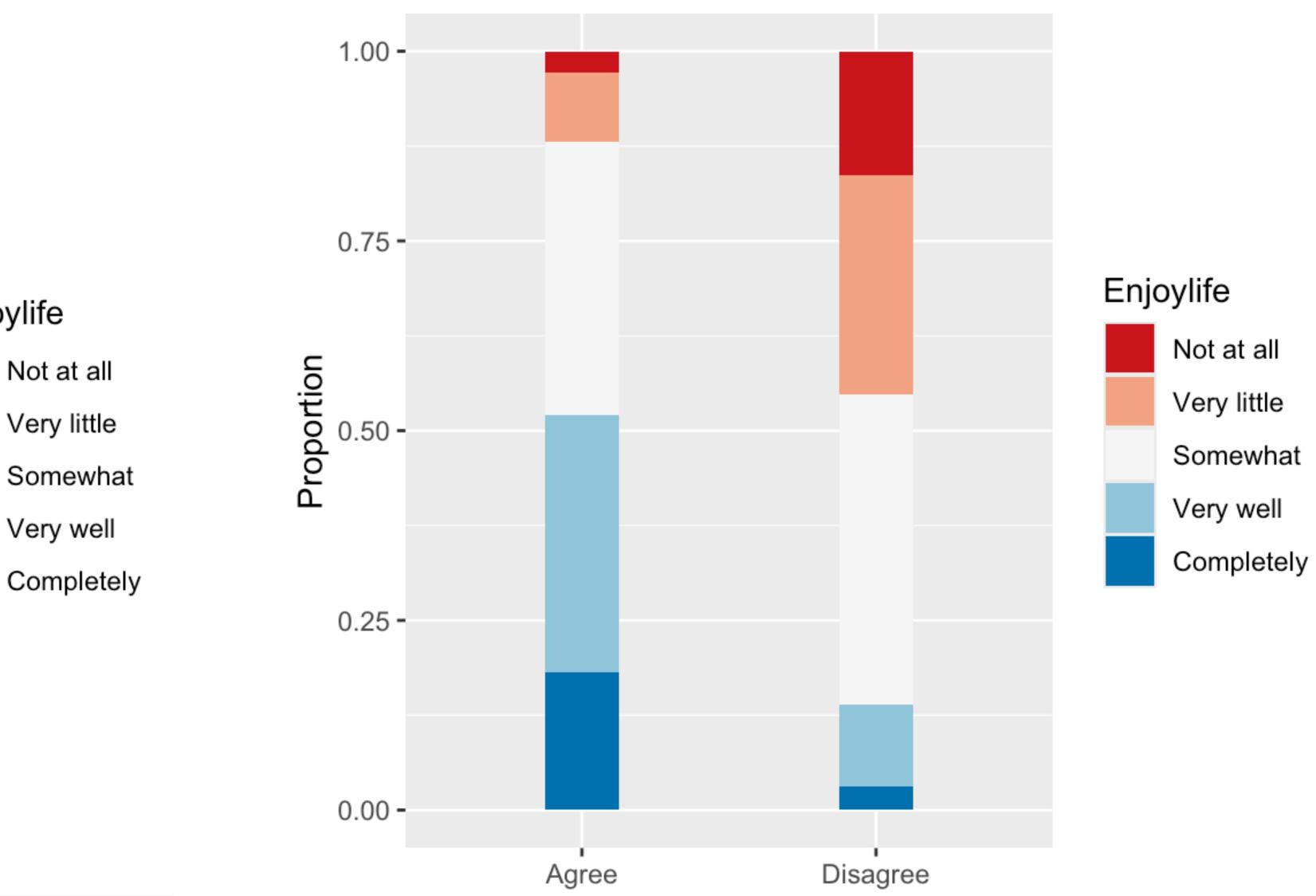
Very little

Very well



- Chi-Square analysis showed that Allowance and Savings Habit were **positively** and significantly associated with meeting the criteria for Enjoylife both at a significance level of p < 0.001.
- Post Hoc Test revealed that there are significant variance in each levels of Enjoylife for Allowance (except Very Well vs Completely) and





Savehabit

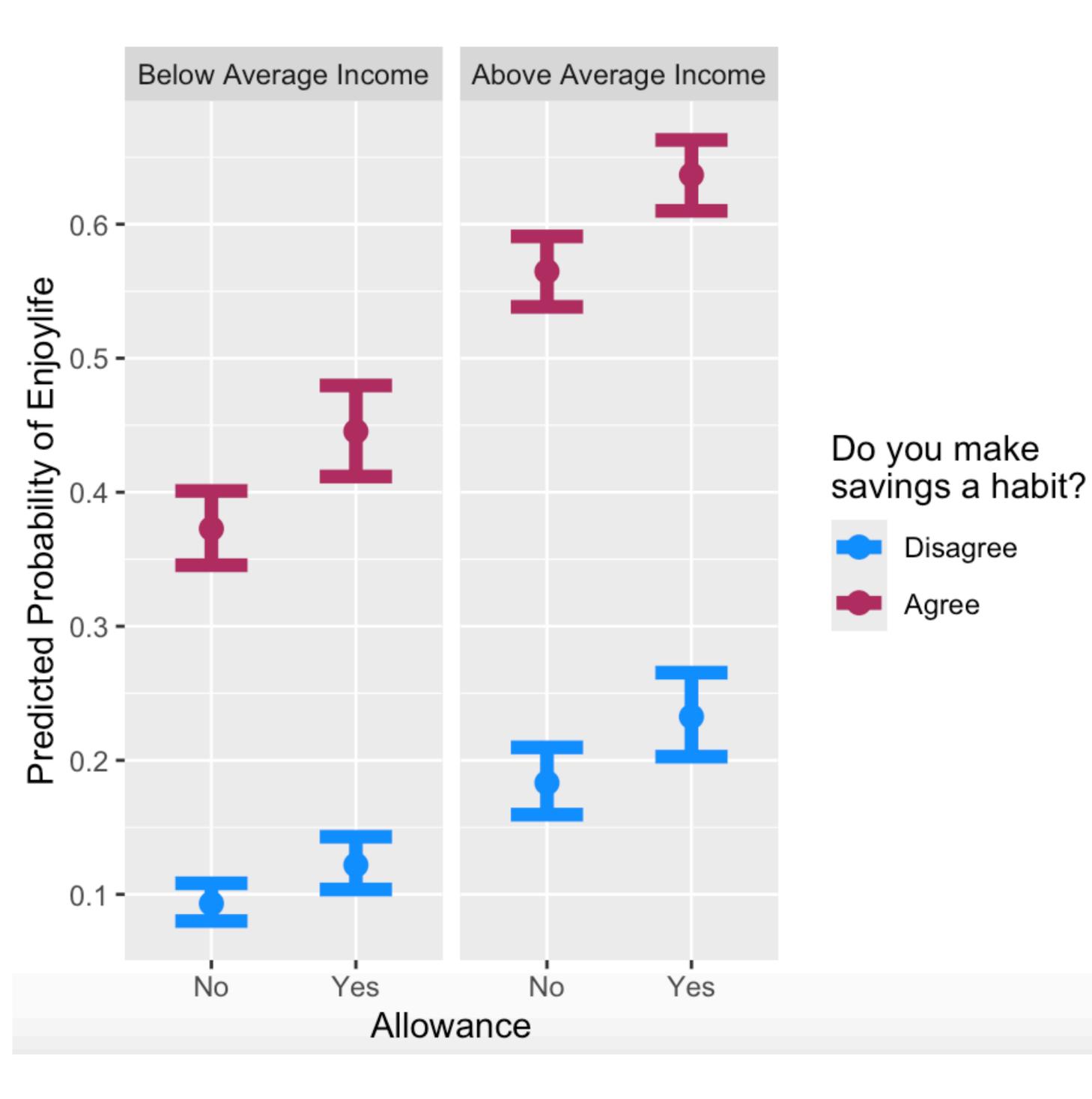
### Multivariate

- Household Income measured as whether the respondent earned below or above average (U.S.) income.
- Having an Allowance (O.R. 1.35, Cl 1.18 - 1.54) and Making savings a habit (O.R. 5.78, CI 4.92 – 6.81) remained **significantally and** positively associated (p< 0.001) with Enjoylife after holding Household Income fixed.
- Earning above-average income (> 59,990\$), had expected odds of Enjoylife that was 2.18 times that of those who don't.

## References

Yes Allowance

#### **Figure 1&2:** The Proportion of Enjoylife against **Allowance/Savehabit**



Do you make savings a habit?

## Methods

### Measures

- Whether the respondents received regular allowar childhood
- Assessment of saving habits measured on a 1 to 6 strongly disagreed - 6 strongly agreed)
- How participants enjoy life due to money habits, m on a 1-6 scale (1 Not At All - 6 Completely)

### Sample

Disagree

Agree

Respondents (n=6394) were drawn from the GfK KnowledgePanel<sup>®</sup> of 2016, a nationally representative sample of noninstitutionalized adults in the U.S. who speak either English or Spanish.

Ammerman, D. A. and C. Stueve (2019). "Childhood Financial Socialization and Debt-Related Financial Well-Being Indicators in Adulthood." Journal of Financial Counseling and Planning 30(2): 213-230. Ashby, J. S., Schoon, I., & Webley, P. (2011). "Save now, save later? Linkages between saving behavior in adolescence and adulthood." European Psychologist 16(3): 227-237. Michael, C. J. and E. Odders-White (2021). "Allowances: Incidence in the US and Relationship to Financial Capability in Young Adulthood." Journal of Family and Economic Issues 42(3): 533-544. Fornero, E., Rossi, M., and Sansone, D., . (2019). "Four Bright Coins Shining at Me": Financial Education in Childhood, Financial Confidence in Adulthood." Journal of Consumer Affairs 53(2): 630-651. Xiao, Jing Jian, Tang, Chuanyi, and Shim, Soyeon. (2008). Acting for Happiness: Financial Behavior and Life Satisfaction of College Students. Social Indicators Research. 92. 53-68.

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*Figure 2:* Likelihood of Enjoylife Distribution by **Income Level Based On Allowance and Savings Habit** 

## Discussion

- Parents are recommended to provide their children with allowances to increase likelihood of enjoylife
- Higher earnings are associated with increased likelihood of enjoylife
- Making savings a habit is encouraged
- Future research is needed to determine the role of other covariates (e.g. Household Income Growing Up, Education levels, how much allowance one received).
- The variables in this study were based on selfreported answers so bias must be taken into account.