

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

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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

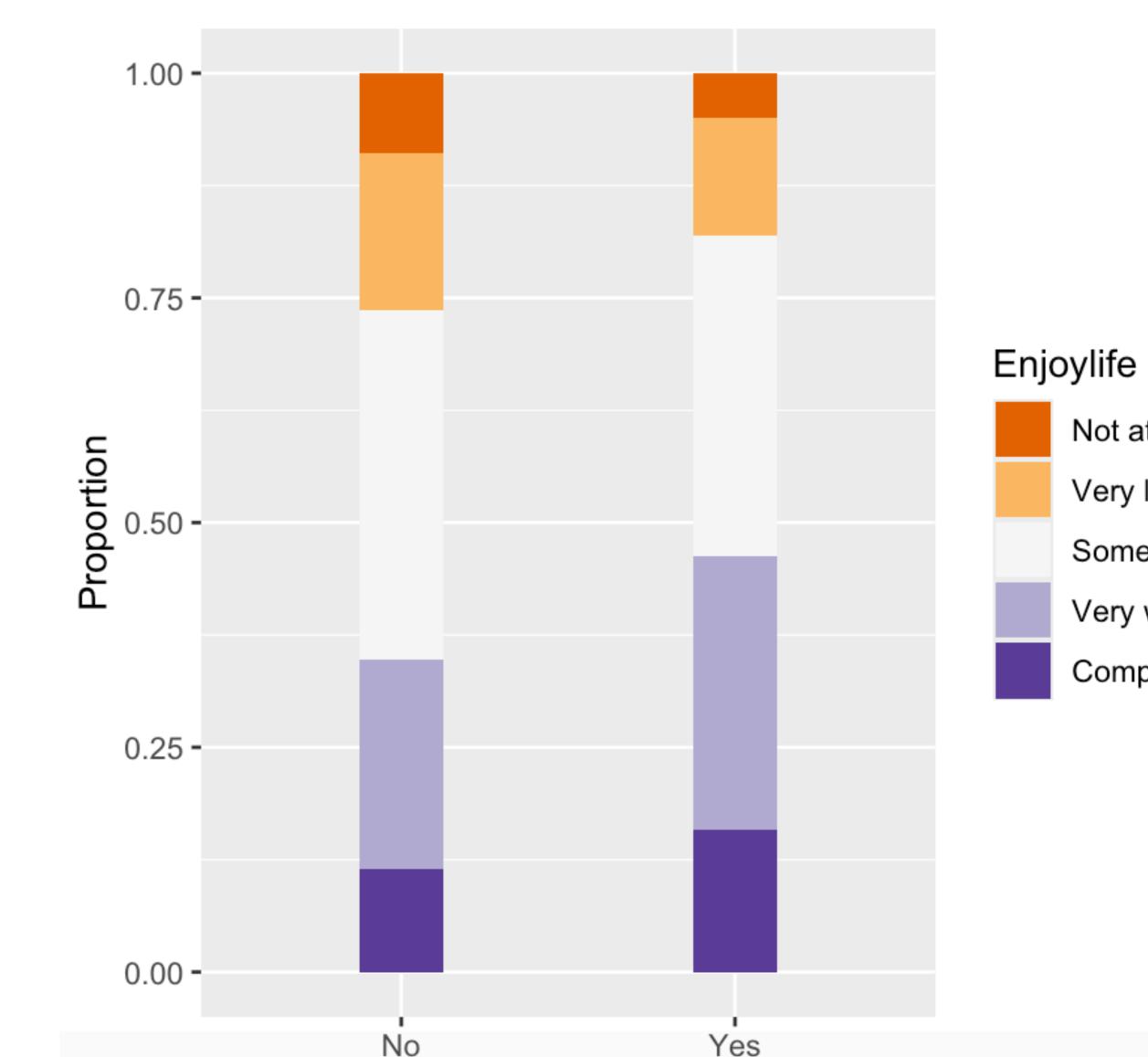
Not at all

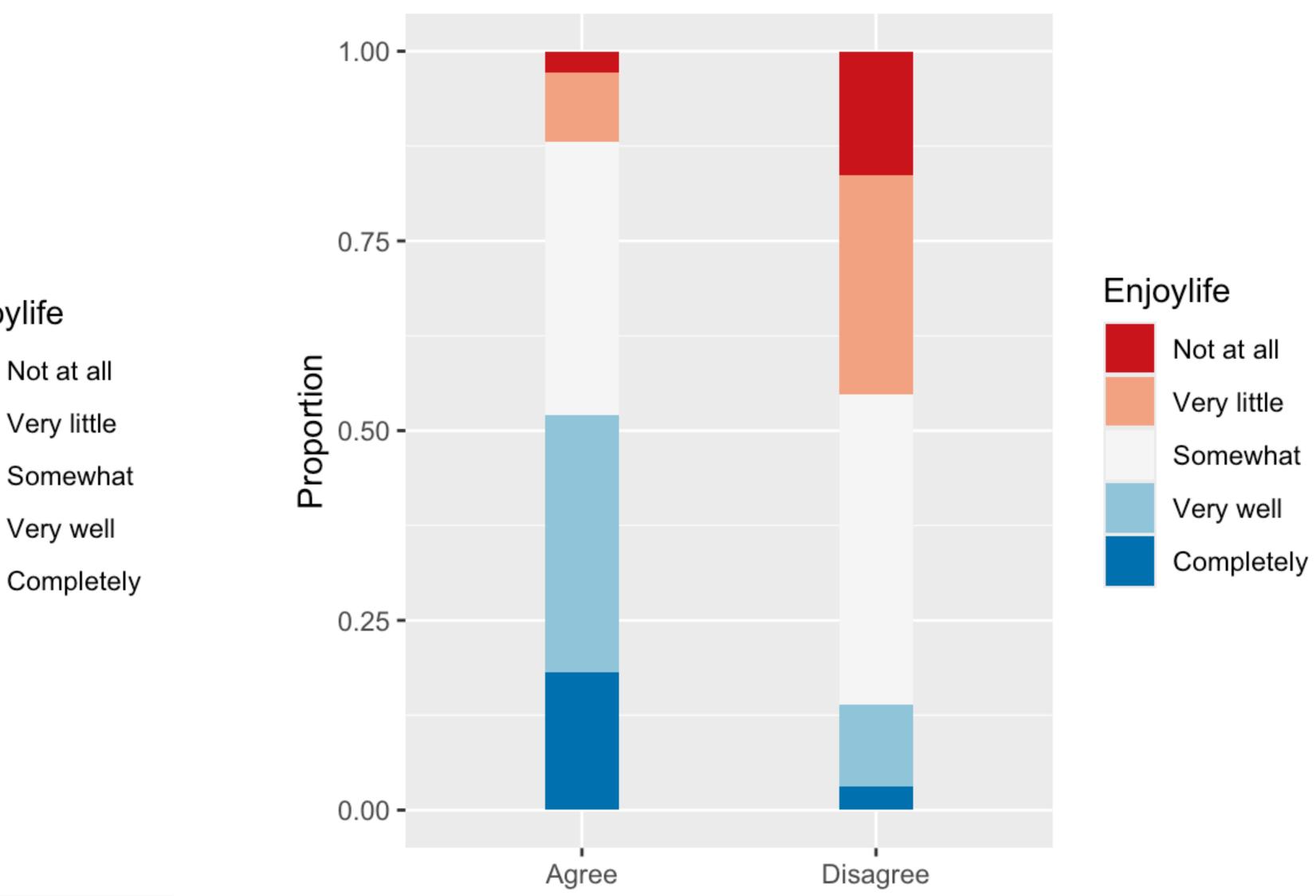
Very little

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

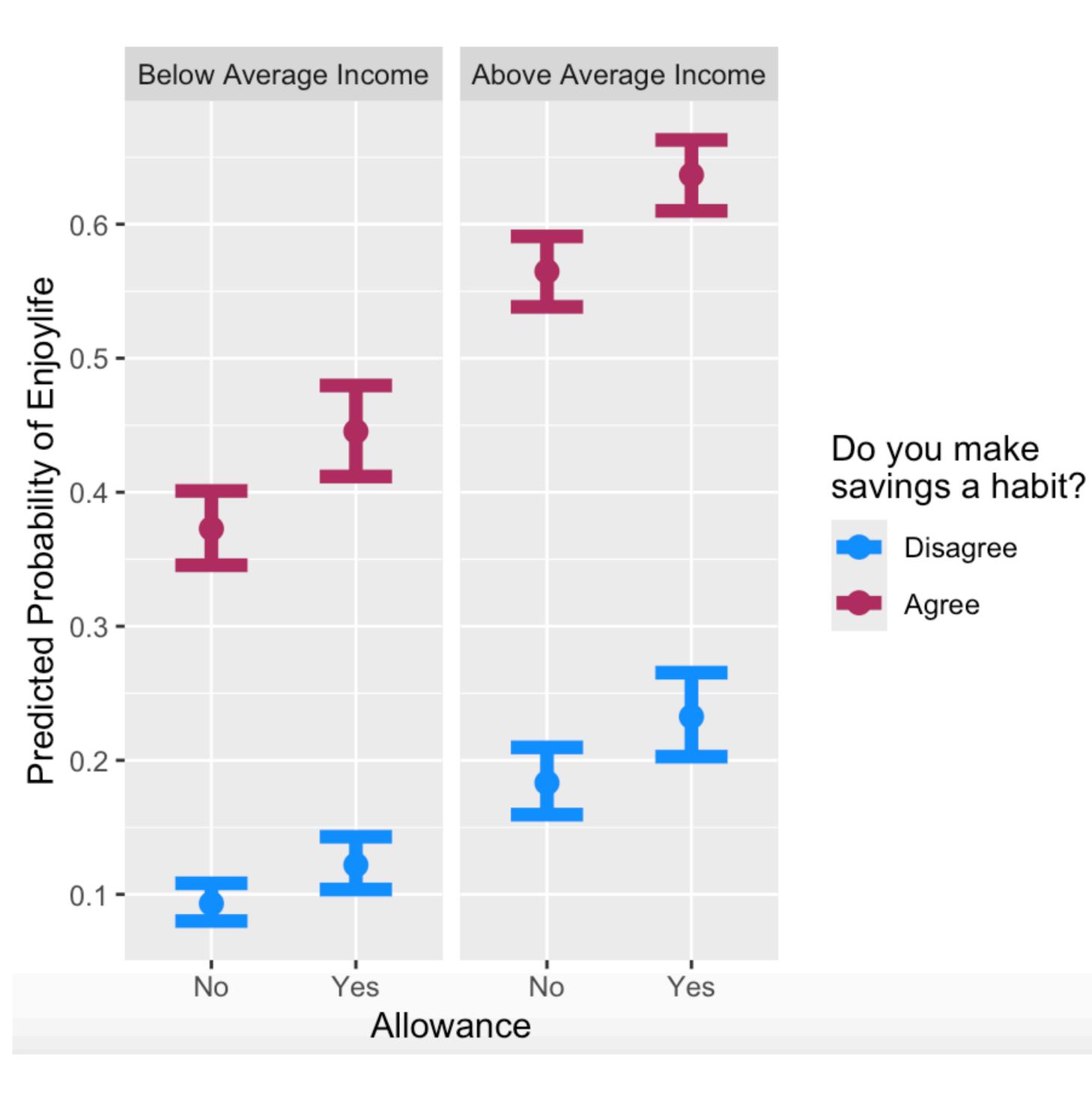
Multivariate

- 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[®] 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.