



The Association Between Parental Involvement and Student Academic Achievement



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Introduction

- Since the COVID-19 pandemic teachers have experienced higher levels of absenteeism, poor literacy and math outcomes, drop-outs, and academic disengagement (Whitley et al, 2021).
- Along with this, test scores have shown that students lost approximately a half year of learning in subjects such as math and literature (Spector et al, 2024).
- Students coming from single-parent families have been more likely to drop out, have poorer grades, and participate in activities outside of school (Chavda & Niagara, 2023).

Research Questions

- Is there a relationship between parental involvement and academic achievement?
- Does the relationship between parental involvement and academic achievement exist beyond maternal or paternal interference?

Methods

Sample

- Respondents were drawn from Wave 1 of The U.S. Longitudinal Survey of Adolescent Health featuring data regarding demographic, social, familial, socioeconomic, behavioral, psychosocial, cognitive, and health survey data from participants and their parents.

Measures

- Academic achievement was measured by examining the individual grade students' received across the subjects of mathematics, english, science, and history.
- Academic achievement was also measured by examining homework completion with the responses "always" "mostly" "sometimes" and "never".
- Parental involvement was measured using responses to "Relations With Parents" with dichotomous answers "agree" and "disagree".

Results

Bivariate

- Chi-Square analysis showed that homework completion was significantly associated with adolescent academic performance ($p = 2.2e-16$).
- Students who were more likely **not** to complete their homework showed to have **higher** GPAs in each subject. (Fig. 1).

Multivariate

- Logistic regression analyses showed that children who felt loved by their parents are more likely to achieve a C or higher in their respective subject, despite being less likely to complete homework.
- Feeling loved by parents significantly moderates the relationship between GPA in respective subject and likelihood of completing homework (OR 1.964, $p = 0.003$) (Fig. 2).
- For every 1 unit increase in the predictor "Loved", adolescents were 1.9x more likely to achieve a C or higher in their respective subject.

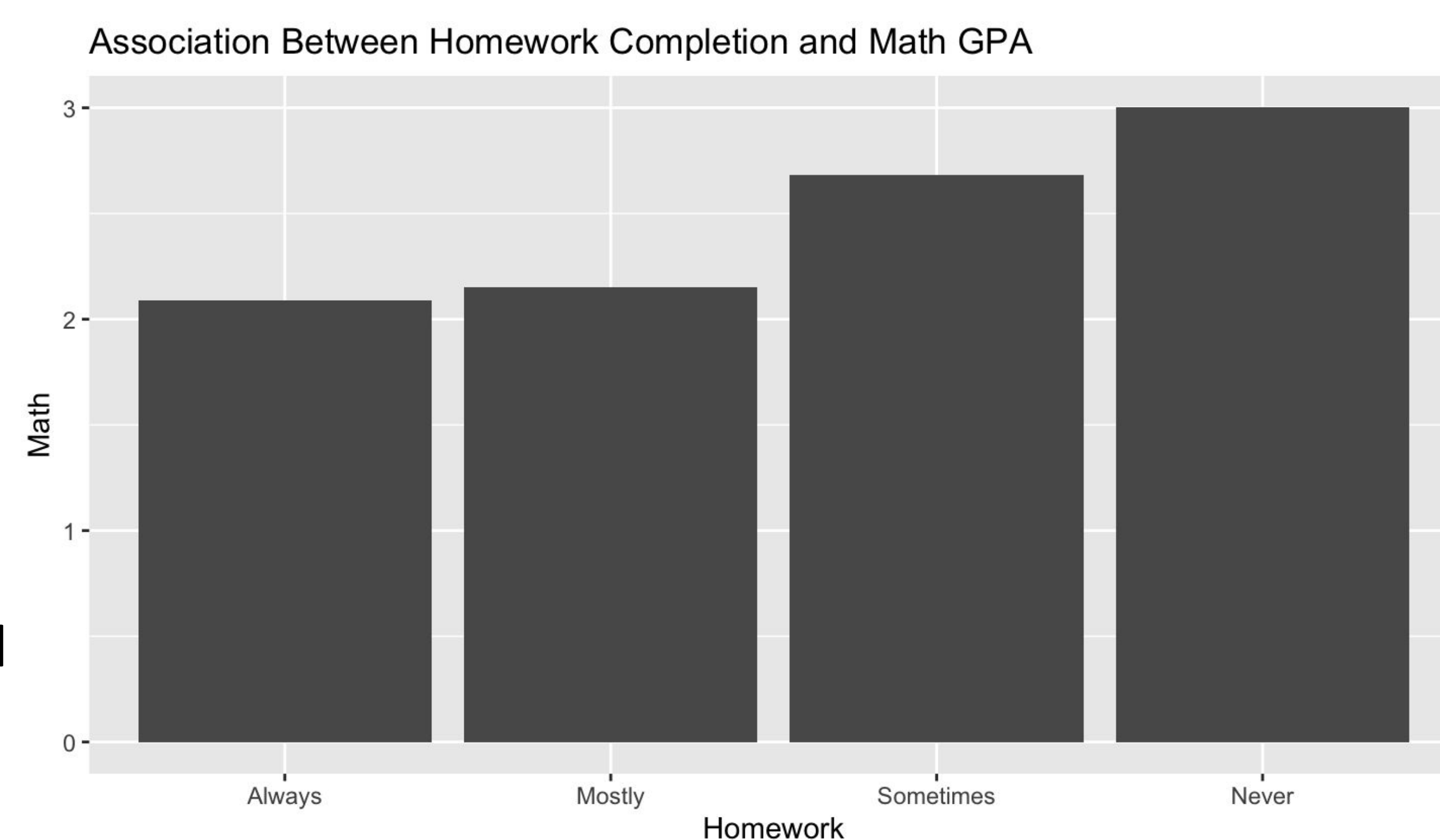


Figure 1: The Association Between Homework Completion and Math GPA

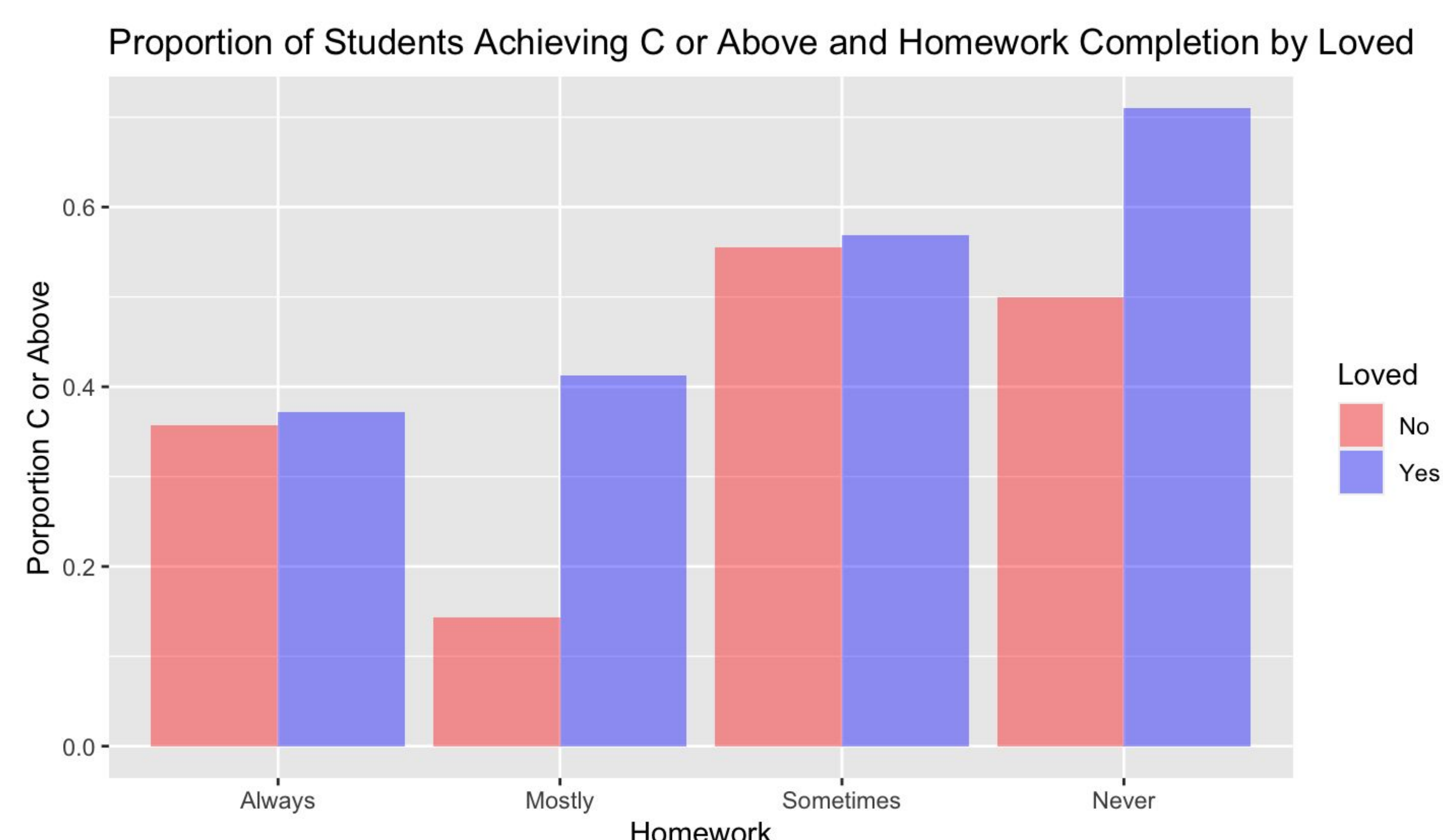


Figure 2: Proportion of Students Achieving a C or Above and Their Homework Completion by How Much They Feel Loved by Parent

Discussion

- The more parents are involved in their adolescents life, the more likely they are to perform well in school.
- These findings may contribute to topics relating to parenting style in early adolescents and the role of schools to foster a healthy environment.
- Future research is needed to determine the role of other covariates (e.g. income, race, and gender) to determine why some adolescents perform better with less parental involvement.

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