

World Database of Happiness



Correlational Findings on
Happiness and SOCIAL
SUPPORT: PROVIDED
Subject Code: S11

© on data collection: [Ruut Veenhoven](#),
[Erasmus University Rotterdam](#)

Classification of Findings

<i>Subject Code</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Nr of Studies on this Subject</i>
S11	SOCIAL SUPPORT: PROVIDED	0
S11.1	Support career	0
S11.1.1	Earlier support behavior	1
S11.1.2	Change in support behavior	0
S11.1.4	Later support behavior	0
S11.2	Current support behavior	1
S11.2.1	Amount of support provided	2
S11.2.2	People supported	1
S11.2.3	Kinds of support provided	0
S11.3	Attitudes to own support behavior	1
Appendix 1	Happiness Items used	
Appendix 2	Statistics used	
Appendix 3	About the World Database of Happiness	
Appendix 4	Further Findings in the World Database of Happiness	
Appendix 5	Related Subjects	

Cite as
Veenhoven, R.: Findings on SOCIAL SUPPORT:
PROVIDED
World Database of Happiness, Correlational Findings
Internet: worlddatabaseofhappiness.eur.nl
Erasmus University Rotterdam, 2009, Netherlands

Correlational finding on Happiness and Earlier support behavior

Subject code: S11.1.1

Study **MOEN 1995**

Reported in: Moen, P.; Robinson, J; Dempster-McClain, D.
 Caregiving and Women's Well-Being: A Life Course Approach.
 Journal of Health and Social Behavior, 1995, Vol. 36, 259 - 273. ISSN 0022 1465
 Page in Report: 265

Population: Mothers USA, followed 30 years 1956-1986

Sample: Probability stratified sample

Non-Response: 20

N: 313

Correlate

Authors label: Early multiple role occupancy

Our classification: Earlier support behavior, code S11.1.1

Measurement: Number of roles occupied beyond marriage and motherhood. These included frequent contact with relatives, neighbors and/or friends, regular church attendance, club membership and volunteering. (indicator of social integration)

Assessed at T1 (1956)

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Measure</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
--------------------------	-------------------	----------------------------

M-CO*/mq/v/3/aDMa=+

T1 roles

T2 happiness

- low

Ma = 2,30

- high

Ma = 2,62

Ma controled for:

- age

- T2 marital status

- T2 education

Correlational finding on Happiness and Current support behavior

Subject code: S11.2

Study

MOEN 1995

Reported in: Moen, P.; Robinson, J; Dempster-McClain, D.
 Caregiving and Women's Well-Being: A Life Course Approach.
 Journal of Health and Social Behavior, 1995, Vol. 36, 259 - 273. ISSN 0022 1465
 Page in Report: 265-266

Population: Mothers USA, followed 30 years 1956-1986

Sample: Probability stratified sample

Non-Response: 20

N: 313

Correlate

Authors label: Caregiving

Our classification: Current support behavior, code S11.2

Measurement: 0 not currently caregiver
 1 current caregiver

Caregiving includes respondents' reports of providing assistance to ill, handicapped, of older relatives, including spouse and adult children, and in a few cases "fictive" kin in the form of a close neighbor or friend.

Measured Values: Caregivers: N= 53, Non-caregiver: N=240

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Measure</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>									
<u>M-CO*/mq/v/3/a</u>	<u>DMa=-ns</u>	<p>T2 caregiving by T2 happiness</p> <p>Unaffected by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - T1 happiness (so no change in happiness) - T1 religious involvement - T1 volunteering 									
<u>M-CO*/mq/v/3/a</u>	<u>DMa=</u>	<p>T2 happiness</p> <table> <tr> <td>T1 self-esteem</td><td>caregivers</td><td>non-caregivers</td></tr> <tr> <td>- low</td><td>Ma = 2,34</td><td>Ma = 2,70 (10)</td></tr> <tr> <td>- high</td><td>Ma = 2,96</td><td>Ma = 2,76</td></tr> </table>	T1 self-esteem	caregivers	non-caregivers	- low	Ma = 2,34	Ma = 2,70 (10)	- high	Ma = 2,96	Ma = 2,76
T1 self-esteem	caregivers	non-caregivers									
- low	Ma = 2,34	Ma = 2,70 (10)									
- high	Ma = 2,96	Ma = 2,76									
<u>M-CO*/mq/v/3/a</u>	<u>DMa=</u>	<p>T2 happiness</p> <table> <tr> <td>T1 Multiple role occupancy</td><td>caregivers</td><td>non-caregivers</td></tr> <tr> <td>- low</td><td>Ma = 2,58</td><td>Ma = 2,25 (05)</td></tr> <tr> <td>- high</td><td>Ma = 2,48</td><td>Ma = 2,65</td></tr> </table>	T1 Multiple role occupancy	caregivers	non-caregivers	- low	Ma = 2,58	Ma = 2,25 (05)	- high	Ma = 2,48	Ma = 2,65
T1 Multiple role occupancy	caregivers	non-caregivers									
- low	Ma = 2,58	Ma = 2,25 (05)									
- high	Ma = 2,48	Ma = 2,65									
<u>M-CO*/mq/v/3/a</u>	<u>DMa= ns</u>	<p>T2 caregiving by T1 happiness (30 years ago)</p> <p>Ma controled for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - age - T2 marital status - T2 education 									

Correlational finding on Happiness and Amount of support provided

Subject code: S11.2.1

Study LEE 1982A

Reported in: Lee, G. R.; Ellithorpe, E.
 Intergenerational Exchange and Subjective Well-being Among the Elderly.
 Journal of Marriage and the Family, 1982, Vol. 44, 217 - 223. ISSN 0022 2445
 Page in Report: 220,221

Population: 60+ aged, living near children, USA, Washington State, 1975

Sample: Probability simple random sample

Non-Response: 25.1%

N: 403

Correlate

Authors label: Aid given

Our classification: Amount of support provided, code S11.2.1

Measurement: Aid given to children was measured by an set of items, identical to the set of items measuring aid received (see next page)with the addition of "help with babysitting"

Measured Values: Mean 4.4 SD 3.9

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Measure</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
M-ACO/u/mq/n/4/a	r=-.06	males
M-ACO/u/mq/n/4/a	Beta=+.00	beta controlled for -education -marital status -self rated health -age -number of children -interaction -aid received
M-ACO/u/mq/n/4/a	r=-.01	females

M-ACO/u/mq/n/4/a Beta=-.13 beta controlled for
-education
-marital status
-self rated health
-age
-number of children
-interaction
-aid received

Correlational finding on Happiness and Amount of support provided

Subject code: S11.2.1

Study MITCH 1985

Reported in: Mitchell, J.
Family Helping Behavior and the Elderly: A Two-Dimensional Approach.
Free Inquiry in Creative Sociology, 1985, Vol. 13, 21 - 26. ISSN 0736 9182
Page in Report: 25

Population: 65+ aged, with children, USA, 1974

Sample:

Non-Response:

N: 2147

Correlate

Authors label: Perceived active help given to (grand)children (1)

Our classification: Amount of support provided, code S11.2.1

Measurement: Perceived active help given to (grand)children for:
-Illness
-Running errands
-Housekeeping
-Money matters
-Taking them places
(1 = don't do, 2 = do)

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Measure</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
A-BB/cm/mq/v/2/a	r= ns	

Correlational finding on Happiness and People supported

Subject code: S11.2.2

Study BRINK 1986A

Reported in: Brinkerhoff, M.B.; Jacob, J.
 Quality of Life in an Alternative Lifestyle: The Smallholding Movement.
 Social Indicators Research, 1986, Vol. 18, 153 - 173 ISSN p 0303 8300; ISSN e 1573 0921 DOI:10.1007/BF00317546
 Page in Report: 164

Population: 'Back to the land' mini-farmers, West USA and Canada, 198?

Sample: Non-probability purposive sample

Non-Response: 44 %

N: 510

Correlate

Authors label: helping neighbours (1)

Our classification: People supported, code S11.2.2

Measurement: Full items not reported; questions on helping neighbours.

Observed Relation with Happiness

<i>Happiness Measure</i>	<i>Statistics</i>	<i>Elaboration/Remarks</i>
O-HL/u/sq/v/4/a	r=+.12 p<.005	

Correlational finding on Happiness and Attitudes to own support behavior

Subject code: S11.3

Study PEIL 1984

Reported in: Peil, M.
African Urban Life: Components of Satisfaction in Sierra Leone.
Social Indicators Research, 1984, Vol. 14, 363 - 384. ISSN p 0303 8300;ISSN e 1573 0921 DOI:10.1007/BF00692990
Page in Report: Extra info

Population: Adult, general public, urban areas (Freetown, Bo and Kenema), Sierra Leone, 1981

Sample:

Non-Response: 5% (on some items up to 60%)

N: 640

Correlate

Authors label: Happiness with kin (1)

Our classification: Attitudes to own support behavior, code S11.3

Measurement: Direct question: "Is it important for people living in town to keep up contacts with their rural kin or is it better to concentrate on their family in town? Why?"

Observed Relation with Happiness

Happiness Measure

Statistics Elaboration/Remarks

O-SLW/u/sq/l/7/a

DMt=

Happiness level in Mt' (0-10):

rural: information	males: 7.5	females: 7.2
help me	7.0	8.0
help them	7.3	7.4
norm	6.7	7.3
other	8.2	6.8
town: help	males: 7.6	females: 6.8
demand	6.9	8.0
unknown	8.5	7.9
other	7.1	7.9

Appendix 1: Happiness Items used

*Happiness Item
Code**Full Text*

A-BB/cm/mq/v/2/a

Selfreport on 10 questions:

During the past few weeks, did you ever feel? (yes/no)

A Particularly exited or interested in something?

B So restless that you couldn't sit long in a chair?

C Proud because someone complimented you on something you had done?

D Very lonely or remote from other people?

E Pleased about having accomplished something?

F Bored?

G On top of the world?

H Depressed or very unhappy?

I That things were going your way?

J Upset because someone criticized you?

Answer options and scoring:

yes = 1

no = 0

Summation:

-Positive Affect Score (PAS): A+C+E+G+I

-Negative Affect Score (NAS): B+D+F+H+J

-Affect Balance Score (ABS): PAS minus NAS

Possible range: -5 to +5

Name: Bradburn's 'Affect Balance Scale' (standard version)

M-ACO/u/mq/n/4/a

Selfreport on 6 questions:

A On the whole, life gives me a lot of pleasure

B On the whole, I am very satisfied with my life today

C Things are getting just worse for me as I get older

D All in all, I find a great deal of happiness today

E I have a lot to be sad about

F Nothing ever turn out for me the way I want it

Scoring

4 strongly agree

3

2

1 strongly disagree

Computation: simple addition. Possible range 6-24

M-CO/*/mq/v/3/a

Selfreport on 3 questions:

A

How often do you find yourself feeling disappointed about the ways things have turned out for you?

1 often

2 sometimes

3 hardly ever

B

All in all, how much happiness would you say you find in your life today?

1 almost none

2 some

3 a good deal

C

On the whole, how satisfied would you say you are with your life today?

1 not very satisfied

2 fairly satisfied

3 very satisfied

Summation: $A+B+C/3$

O-HL/u/sq/v/4/a

Selfreport on single question:

Taking all things together, would you say you are.....?

4 very happy

3 quite happy

2 not very happy

1 not at all happy.

O-SLW/u/sq/l/7/a

Selfreport on single question:

How do you feel about your life as a whole?

Rated on a seven step quality of life ladder was marked with a smiling face and marked 'GOOD'. The bottom marked with a frowning face and the word 'BAD'

[7] Good, picture of smiling face

[6]

[5]

[4]

[3]

[2]

[1] Bad, picture of frowning face

(Pictures not reproduced here)

Appendix 2: Statistics used

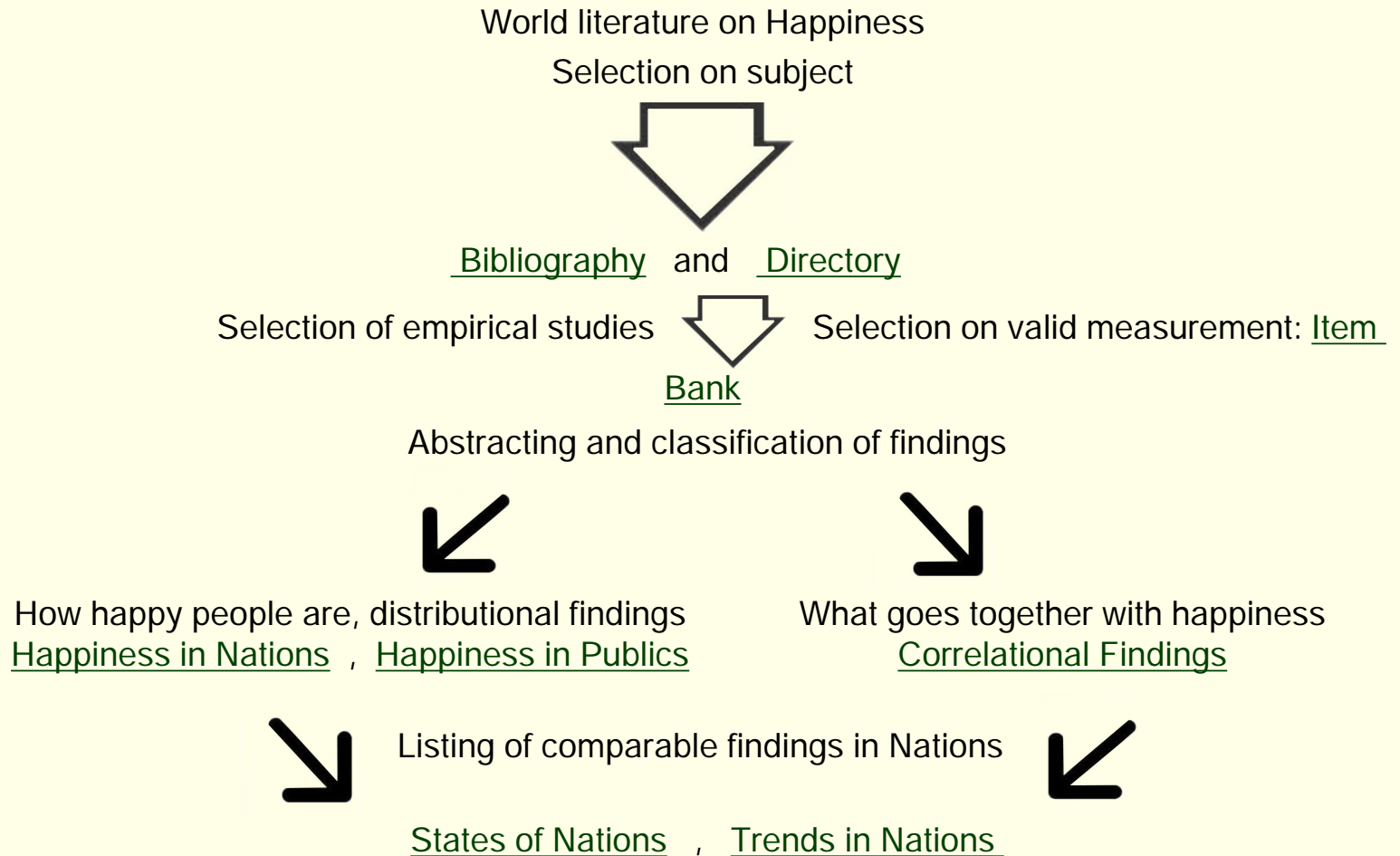
<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
Beta	<p>(β) STANDARDIZED REGRESSION COEFFICIENT by LEAST SQUARES (OLS) Type: test statistic. Measurement level: Correlates: all metric, Happiness: metric. Range: [-1 ; +1]</p> <p>Meaning: $\beta > 0$ « a higher correlate level corresponds with, on an average, higher happiness rating. $\beta < 0$ « a higher correlate level corresponds with, on an average, lower happiness rating. $\beta = 0$ « no correlation. $\beta = +1$ or -1 « perfect correlation.</p> <p>Remark: Mean of observations is subtracted from all observations if standardized.</p>
DMa	<p>DIFFERENCE IN ADJUSTED MEANS, See also Ma Computed in Analysis of Covariance (ANCOVA) or in multiple classification analysis (MCA) Seldom used in happiness research. See excerpted report for further reference.</p>
DMt	<p>DIFFERENCE of MEANS AFTER TRANSFORMATION Type: descriptive statistic only. Measurement level: Correlate: dichotomous, Happiness: metric Theoretical range: [-10; +10]</p> <p>Meaning: the difference of the mean happiness (happiness measured at a 0-10 rating scale) between the two correlate levels.</p>
r	<p>PRODUCT-MOMENT CORRELATION COEFFICIENT (Also "Pearson's correlation coefficient" or simply 'correlation coefficient') Type: test statistic. Measurement level: Correlate: metric, Happiness: metric Range: [-1; +1]</p> <p>Meaning: $r = 0$ « no correlation , $r = 1$ « perfect correlation, where high correlate values correspond with high happiness values, and $r = -1$ « perfect correlation, where high correlate values correspond with low happiness values.</p>

Appendix 3: About the World Database of Happiness

Structure of the collections

The World Database of Happiness is an ongoing register of scientific research on the subjective enjoyment of life.

It brings together findings that are scattered throughout many studies and provides a basis for synthetic work.



Size of the collections

1226 Happiness measures (Item Bank)

4258 Nations surveys in 206 Nations

149 Distinguished publics in 1199 studies

12032 Correlational findings in 1196 studies

Appendix 4 Further Findings in the World Database of Happiness

Main Subjects	Subject Description	Number of Studies
A1	ACTIVITY: LEVEL (how much one does)	58

A2	ACTIVITY: PATTERN (what one does)	32
A3	AFFECTIVE LIFE	48
A4	AGE	400
A5	AGGRESSION	12
A6	ANOMY	32
A7	APPEARANCE (good looks)	15
A8	ATTITUDES	6
A9	AUTHORITARIANISM	4
B1	BIRTH CONTROL	1
B2	BIRTH HISTORY (own birth)	201
B3	BODY	77
C1	CHILDREN	1
C2	CHILDREN: WANT FOR (Parental aspirations)	6
C3	CHILDREN: HAVING (parental status)	195
C4	CHILDREN: CHARACTERISTICS OF ONE'S CHILDREN	25
C5	CHILDREN: RELATION WITH ONE'S CHILDREN	8
C6	CHILDREN: REARING OF ONE'S CHILDREN (parental behavior)	26
C7	COMMUNAL LIVING	9
C8	CONCERNS	18
C9	COPING	43
C10	CREATIVENESS	6
C11	CULTURE (Arts and Sciences)	8
D1	DAILY JOYS & HASSLES	5
E1	EDUCATION	302
E2	EMPLOYMENT	363
E3	ETHNICITY	98
E4	EXPRESSIVE BEHAVIOR	12
F1	FAMILY OF ORIGIN (earlier family for adults, current for young)	236
F2	FAMILY OF PROCREATION	58
F3	FAMILY OF RELATIVES	157
F4	FARMING	25
F5	FREEDOM	32
F6	FRIENDSHIP	152
G1	GENDER	370
G2	GRIEF	1
H1	HABITS	1
H2	HANDICAP	25
H3	HAPPINESS: VIEWS ON HAPPINESS	49
H4	HAPPINESS: DISPERSION OF HAPPINESS	10

H5	HAPPINESS: CAREER	191
H6	HAPPINESS: CORRESPONDENCE OF DIFFERENT MEASURES	310
H7	HAPPINESS OF OTHERS	0
H8	HAPPINESS: REPUTATION OF HAPPINESS	19
H9	HEALTH-BEHAVIOR	25
H10	HELPING	5
H11	HOPE	8
H12	HOUSEHOLD: COMPOSITION	137
H13	HOUSEHOLD: WORK	32
H14	HOUSING	106
I1	INCOME	552
I2	INSTITUTIONAL LIVING	43
I3	INTELLIGENCE	71
I4	INTERESTS	8
I5	INTERVIEW	73
I6	INTIMACY	103
L1	LANGUAGE	2
L2	LEADERSHIP	8
L3	LEISURE	206
L4	LIFE APPRAISALS: OTHER THAN HAPPINESS	368
L5	LIFE CHANGE	35
L6	LIFE EVENTS	86
L7	LIFE GOALS	75
L8	LIFE HISTORY	2
L9	LIFE STYLE	22
L10	LOCAL ENVIRONMENT	374
L11	LOTTERY	8
L12	LOVE-LIFE	31
M1	MARRIAGE: MARITAL STATUS CAREER	64
M2	MARRIAGE: CURRENT MARITAL STATUS	543
M3	MARRIAGE: RELATIONSHIP	115
M4	MARRIAGE: PARTNER	46
M5	MEANING	23
M6	MEDICAL TREATMENT	81
M7	MENTAL HEALTH	218
M8	MIGRATION: TO OTHER COUNTRY	29
M9	MIGRATION: MOVING WITHIN COUNTRY (residential mobility)	17
M10	MIGRATION: MIGRANT WORK	3
M11	MILITARY LIFE	7

M12	MODERNITY	6
M13	MOOD	246
M14	MOTIVATION	7
N1	NATION: NATIONALITY	29
N2	NATION: ERA (temporal period)	41
N3	NATION: NATIONAL CHARACTER (modal personality)	29
N4	NATION: CONDITION IN ONE'S NATION	430
N5	NATION: POSITION OF ONE'S NATION	1
N6	NATION: ATTITUDES TO ONE'S NATION	152
N7	NATION: LIVABILITY OF ONE'S NATION	17
N8	NATION i: ATTITUDES IN	1
N9	REGION IN NATION	59
N10	NUTRITION	23
N21	ERA	0
O1	OCCUPATION	178
O2	ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION	17
P1	PERSONALITY: HISTORY	48
P2	PERSONALITY: CHANGE	10
P3	PERSONALITY: CURRENT ORGANIZATION	7
P4	PERSONALITY: CURRENT TRAITS	462
P5	PERSONALITY: LATER	23
P6	PHYSICAL HEALTH	427
P7	PLANNING	11
P8	POLITICAL BEHAVIOUR	231
P9	POPULARITY	26
P10	POSSESSIONS	60
P11	PRISON	1
P12	PROBLEMS	25
P13	PSYCHO-SOMATIC COMPLAINTS	62
P14	PETS	3
R1	RELIGION	251
R2	RESOURCES	9
R3	RETIREMENT	89
R4	ROLES	23
S1	SCHOOL	129
S2	SELF-IMAGE	237
S3	SEX-LIFE	61
S4	SLEEP	16
S5	SOCIAL MOBILITY	17

S6	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION: PERSONAL CONTACTS	69
S7	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION : VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS	131
S8	SOCIAL PARTICIPATION: TOTAL (personal + associations)	34
S9	SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS	154
S10	SOCIAL SUPPORT: RECEIVED	62
S11	SOCIAL SUPPORT: PROVIDED	6
S12	SPORTS	38
S13	STIMULANTS	49
S14	SUICIDE	8
S15	SUMMED DETERMINANTS	92
T1	TIME	53
T2	THERAPY	38
T3	TOLERANCE	37
V1	VALUES: CAREER	8
V2	VALUES: CURRENT PREFERENCES (own)	73
V3	VALUES: CLIMATE (current values in environment)	7
V4	VALUES: SIMILARITY (current fit with others)	12
V5	VICTIM	14
W1	WAR	5
W2	WISDOM	2
W3	WORK: CAREER	2
W4	WORK: CONDITIONS	68
W5	WORK: ATTITUDES	347
W6	WORK: PERFORMANCE (current)	29
W7	WORRIES	31
XX	UNCLASSIFIED	25

Appendix 5: Related Subjects

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Related Subject(s)</i>
S11 SOCIAL SUPPORT: PROVIDED	H10 HELPING
S11 SOCIAL SUPPORT: PROVIDED	S10 SOCIAL SUPPORT: RECEIVED

A report of the World Database of Happiness, Correlational Findings