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World Database of Happiness

Correlational Findings© on data collected: Ruut Veenhoven, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Findings on Happiness & CHILDREN: WANT FOR (Parental aspirations)

Classification of	f Findings	Number of Studies	
Correlate Code	Correlate Name	on this Subject	
C 2	CHILDREN: WANT FOR (Parental aspirations)	0	
C 2.1	Intentional career	0	
C 2.1.1	Earlier want for children	1	
C 2.1.2	Change in want for children	0	
C 2.1.4	Later want for children	0	
C 2.2	Current want for children	2	
C 2.2.1	Childlessness voluntary or not	2	
C 2.2.2	Ideal number of children	1	
Appendix 1:	Happiness queries 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 Topics		
Cite as:	Veenhoven, R.: Findings on Happiness & CHILDREN: WANT FOR (Parental aspirations)		
	World Database of Happiness. Internet: www.eur.nl/fsw/research/happiness		
	Erasmus University Rotterdam, 2003, Netherlands	• •	

SEARS 1977A

Page in Report: 40-62/4

Correlate Code: C 2

Reported in: Sears, P.S. & Barbee, A.H.

Career and Life satisfactions among Terman's gifted women. Chapter 3 in: 'The Stanley, J.C., George, W.C. & Solano, C.H. (eds.) The Johns Hopkins Univ.Press

Publ.1977, Baltimore and London, p.28-72

Population: "Gifted women" (IQ >135), followed 50 years, California, USA, 1921-72

Sample:

Study

Non-Response: Attrition in 1972:

25%

N: 1928 N=671: 1972 N=430

Measured Correlate

Class: Earlier want for children Code: C 2.1.1

Measurement: Direct questions:

a. 'Did you want children?'

Assessed in 1940

b. If life lived over how many

chi I dren?

Assessed in 1950

Measured Values:

Error Estimates:

Remarks: Earlier wants (1940, 1950) by present happiness (1972).

Observed Relation with Happiness

Happiness Query Statistics Remarks

C-ASG/h/mq/v/5/a AoV= ns a.

Earlier wants (1940, 1950) by present happiness

AoV= ns b. (1972).

Study CALLA 1986 Page in Report: 482

Reported in: Callan, V, J.

Single women, voluntary childlessness and perceptions about life and marriage.

Journal of Biosocial Science, vol 18, 1986, p 479-487.

Population: ± 20 aged single women Australia, 1986

Sample:

Non-Response:

N: 102

Measured Correlate

Class: Current want for children Code: C 2.2

Measurement: 1: no child wanted N = 42

2: one child wanted N = 183: two children wanted N = 42

All subjects were "very certain" about

their intentions. They were located through screening of 1500

students in

university social science classes, through contacts with a voluntary sterilisation clinic and newspapers announcement

articles about the research in university and

statewide newspapers. All subjects completed a

series of

commitment indices.

Measured Values:

Error Estimates:

Remarks:

Observed Relation with Happiness

Happiness Query	Statistic	S	Remarks	
A-BB/cw/mq/v/5/a	AoV=	ns	Positive affect (0-20) 1: M = 15.4 2: M = 15.4 3: M = 15.5 Full ABS not computed.	Negative affect (0-20) 1: M = 9.9 2: M = 10.0 3: M = 10.0
O-SLW/u/sq/?/9/a	AoV=	p<.05	1: M = 5.86 Mt' = 2: M = 6.72 Mt' = 3: M = 6.64 Mt' = The only significant diffund 2.	7. 5 7. 4

Study WESSM 1956 Page in Report: 210

Reported in: Wessman, A.E.

A psychological inquiry into satisfaction and happiness

Unpublished doctoral dissertation, 1956, Princeton University, U.S.A.

Population: 21+ aged, general public, non-institutionalized, USA, 1946

Sample:

Non-Response: -

N: 2377

Measured Correlate

Class: Current want for children Code: C 2.2

Measurement: Open-ended question on unful filled aspirations.

0 Other aspirations

1 Aspirations mentioned

Measured Values:

Error Estimates:

Remarks:

Observed Relation with Happiness

Happiness Query Statistics Remarks

O-HL/g/sq/v/3/c G=-.27 p<.05 Computed for those having unfulfilled aspirations

only (N = 1646).

Page in Report: 312.314 Study **VENTE 1995**

Reported in: Ventegodt, S.

Livskvalitet i Danmark.(Quality of Life in Denmark)

Forskningscentrets Forlag (The Quality of Life Research Center), København,

Denmark,

ISBN 8790190017

18-88 aged, general public, Denmark, 1993 Population:

Sample: Non-probability purposive sample (unspecified)

Non-Response: 39%

> N: 1494

Measured Correlate

Class: Childlessness voluntary or not Code: C 2.2.1

Measurement: Single question:

"Do you have children?"

different answercategories converted to:

1. Without children a. first pregnant

b. chosen not to have children

c. involuntary childless

2. Has children

Measured Values: N women: all: 778, 1(all):237, 1a:9, 1b:12, 1c:20, 2:500

N men: all:759, 1(all):259, 1a:11, 1b:11, 1c:11, 2:467

Error Estimates:

Remarks:

Observed Relation with Happiness

Happiness Query Statistics Remarks

A-AOL/m/sq/v/5/a women:

> 1: Mt=7.711a: Mt=8.61 1b: Mt=7.501c: Mt=7.00 2: Mt = 7.71

Al I Mt = 7.70

men:

Mt = 7.731: 1a: Mt=7.50 1b: Mt=8.19 1c: Mt=6.36 2: Mt = 7.86AII Mt=7.79

O-HL/c/sq/v/5/h	women:
3 1.23/34 No.11	1: Mt=7.11 1a: Mt=9.45 1b: Mt=6.46 1c: Mt=7.00 2: Mt=7.50 All Mt=7.00
	men: 1: Mt=6.65 1a: Mt=7.73 1b: Mt=6.14 1c: Mt=7.05 2: Mt=7.03 All Mt=6.90
O-SLu/c/sq/v/5/e	women: 1: Mt=7.29 1a: Mt=8.89 1b: Mt=7.29 1c: Mt=7.13 2: Mt=7.50 All Mt=7.44
	men: 1: Mt=7.20 1a: Mt=7.73 1b: Mt=7.28 1c: Mt=6.59 2: Mt=7.55 AII Mt=7.41

VENTE 1996

Page in Report: 330,332

Correlate Code: C 2

Reported in: Ventegodt, S.

Livskvalitet hos 4500 31-33 årige (The Quality Of Life of 4500 31-33-year-olds)

Forskningscenter for Livskvalitet,

Forskningscentrets Forlag, København 1996,

ISBN 8790190068

Population: Persons born at the University Hospital in Copenhagen 1959-1961

Sample: Non-probability purposive sample (unspecified)

Non-Response: 39%

Study

N: 4500

Measured Correlate

Class: Childlessness voluntary or not Code: C 2.2.1

Measurement: chi I dl esness

1: all with children

2: first pregnancies(for men: Partner's..)

3: all without children

3a: have chosen not to have children

3b: involuntary childless

Measured Values: N WOMEN All:2714; %:1:75,1; 2:1,7; 3:24,7; 3a:2,2; 3b:5,5

N MEN All:

Error Estimates:

Print date: 7-2-2003

Remarks:

Observed Relation with Happiness

Happiness Query	Statistics	Remarks	
A-AOL/m/sq/v/5/a		WOMEN: 1: Mt=7.73 2: Mt=8.58 3: Mt=7.69 3a: Mt=7.91 3b: Mt=7.86	2: Mt=8.83 3: Mt=7.54 3a: Ms=6.63
O-HL/c/sq/v/5/h		WOMEN: 1: Mt=7. 18 2: Mt=8. 58 3: Mt=6. 81 3a: Mt=7. 14 3b: Mt=7. 01	
O-SLu/c/sq/v/5/e		WOMEN: 1: Mt=7.51 2: Mt=8.34 3: Mt=7.28 3a: Mt=7.73 3b: Mt=7.69	MEN: 1: Mt=7.54 2: Mt=8.64 3: Mt=7.15 3a: Ms=6.63 3b: Ms=7.55

Correlate Code: C 2

Study BACHM 1978 Page in Report:

Reported in: Bachman, J. G., O'Malley, P. M., Johnston, J.

Youth in transition, vol. VI: Adolescence to adulthood, change and stability in the lives Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1978

Population: Public highschool boys followed 8 years from grade 10, USA, 1966-74

Sample:

Non-Response: 2.8% at T1,

17.2% at T2, 21.0% at T3, 28.9% at T4, 28.5% at T5

N: T1 - T5:

2213/1886/1799/ 1620/1628

Measured Correlate

Class: Ideal number of children Code: C 2.2.2

Measurement: Simple direct question at T4 and T5:

'All things considered, if you could have exactly the number of children you want, what number would that be?'. Actual number

coded (8 = 8 or more).

Scale: 0 to 8

Measured Values:

Error Estimates:

Remarks:

Observed Relation with Happiness

Happiness Query Statistics Remarks

O-HP/g/mg/v/5/a tau=+ Ideal number of children

T1: 1966, T2: 1968, T3: 1969, T4: 1970, T5: 1974

Correlate Code: C 2

Appendix 1 Queries on Happiness used in reported Studies

Happiness Query Code Full Text

A-AOL/m/sq/v/5/a Single direct question:

'How are you feeling now?'

5 very good

4 good

3 neither good nor poor

2 poor

1 very poor

Original text in Danish:

'Hvordan har du det for tiden?

5 meget godt

4 godt

3 hverken godt eller darligt

2 dårligt

1 meget dårligt

A-BB/cw/mq/v/5/a

Selfreport on 10 questions:

- A Particularly exited, or interested in something?
- B So restless that you could not sit long in a chair?
- C Proud because someone complimented you on something you had done?
- D Very lonely or remote from people?
- E Pleased about having accomplished something?
- F Bored?
- G On top of the world?
- H Depressed?
- I That things were going your way?
- J Upset because someone critized you?

Response options: yes/no

If yes: "How often during the past week did you feel so?"

5 all the time

4 mostly

3 often

2 rarely

1 never

0 no

Summation:

Positive Affect Score (PAS): summed scores on A, C, E, G, I Negative Affect Score (NAS): summed scores on B, D, F, H, J

Affect Balance Score (ABS): PAS minus NAS

Possible range -50 to +50

[&]quot;During the past weeks did you ever feel...?"

C-ASG/h/mg/v/5/a

Name: Bradburn's `Affect Balance Scale' (modified version) Selfreport on 2 questions:

A. "How important was each of the following goals in life in the plans you made for yourself in early adulthood?"

- occupational success
- family life
- friendships
- richness of cultural life
- total service to society.
- 1 less important to me than to most people
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 of prime importance to me
- B. "How succesfull have you been in the persuit of these goals?"
- 1 little satisfaction in this area
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 had excellent fortune in this respect

Computation:General Satisfaction 5 is the quotient obtained by multiplying the planned goal (early adulthood) by the reported success in attaining that goal, adding the five of these multiplied areas and dividing them by the sum of the planned goals for each of the areas.

Pa + Pb + Pc + Pd + Pe

Pa = planned goal a (1-5)

Sa = success goal a (1-5)

O-HL/c/sq/v/5/h

Selfreport on single question

'How happy are you now?'

- 5 very happy
- 4 happy
- 3 neither happy nor unhappy
- 2 unhappy
- 1 very unhappy

Original text in Danish:

'Hvor lykkelig er du for tiden?'

- 5 meget lykkelig
- 4 lykkelig
- 3 hverken eller
- 2 ullykklig
- 1 meget ullykkelig

O-HL/g/sq/v/3/c

Selfreport on single question:

```
"In general, how happy would you say you are.....?"
                          3 very happy
                          2 fairly happy
                          1 not too happy
O-HP/g/mq/v/5/a
                          Selfreport on 6 questions:
                          " Describe the kind of person you are. Please read each sentence, then mark how
                          often it is true for you"
                          1 I feel like smiling
                          2 I generally feel in good spirits
                          3 I feel happy
                          4 I am very satisfied with life
                          5 I find a good deal of happiness in life
                          6 I feel sad
                          Response options:
                          5 almost always true
                          4 often true
                          3 sometimes true
                          2 seldom true
                          1 never true
                          Summation: average
                          Possible range: 1 to 5
O-SLu/c/sq/v/5/e
                          Selfreport on single question:
                          'How satisfied are you with your life now?'
                          5 very satisfied
                          2 satisfied
                          3 neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
                          2 dissatisfied
                          1 very dissatisfied
                          Original text in Danish:
                          'Hvor tilfreds er du med dit liv for tiden?'
                          5 meget tilfreds
                          4 tilfreds
                          3 hverken tilfreds eller utilfreds
                          2 utilfreds
                          1 meget utilfreds
O-SLW/u/sq/?/9/a
                          Selfreport on single question:
                          "How do you feel about your life as a whole?"
                          1 not very satisfied
                          2
                          3
                          4
                          5
                          6
                          7
                          8
```

Correlate Code: C 2

9 very satisfied

On the web you will find an overview of valid queries on happiness and an explanation of the classification used. Go to: www.eur.nl/fsw/research/happiness/hap_quer/hqi_fp.htm. This is the introductary text to the Catalog of Happiness Queries.

Appendix 2 Statistics used in reported studies

Symbol Explanation

AoV ANALYSIS of VARIANCE (ANOVA)

Type: statistical procedure

Measurement level: Correlate(s): nominal, Happiness: metric.

In an ANOVA, the total happiness variability, expressed as the sum of squares, is split into two or more parts, each of which is assigned to a source of variability. At least one of those sources is the variability of the correlate, in case there is only one, and always one other is the residual variability, which includes all unspecified influences on the happiness variable. Each sum of squares has its own number of degrees of freedom (df), which sum up to Ne -1 for the total variability. If a sum of squares (SS) is divided by its own number of df, a mean square (MS) is obtained. The ratio of two correctly selected mean squares has an F-distribution under the hypothesis that the corresponding association has a zero-value.

NOTE: A significantly high F-value only indicates that, in case of a single correlate, the largest of the c mean values is systematically larger than the smallest one. Conclusions about the other pairs of means require the application of a Multiple Comparisons Procedure (see e.g. BONFERRONI'S MULTIPLE COMPARISON TEST, DUNCAN'S MULTIPLE RANGE TEST or STUDENT-NEWMAN-KEULS)

G GOODMAN & Kruskal's GAMMA

Type: test statistic

Measurement level: Correlate: ordinal, Happinessl: ordinal

Range: [-1; +1]

Meaning:

G = 0 « no rank correlation

G = +1 « strongest possible rank correlation, where high correlate values correspond with high happiness ratings.

G = -1 « strongest possible rank correlation, where high correlate values correspond

with low happiness ratings. GOODMAN & Kruskal's TAU

Type: descriptive statistic only.

Measurement level: Correlate: nominal, Happiness: ordinal

Range: [0; +1]

Meaning:

tau = 0 « knowledge of the correlate value does not improve the prediction quality

of the happiness rating.

tau = 1 « knowledge of the correlate value enables a perfect (error-free) prediction of

the happiness rating.

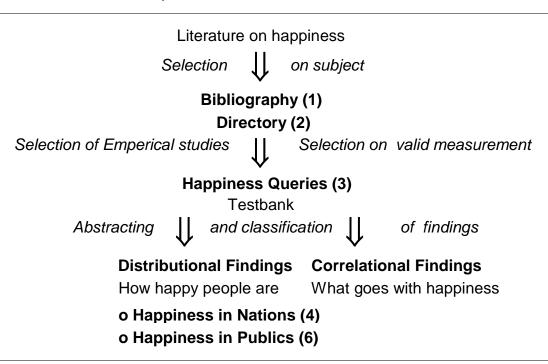
On the web you will find a text explaining the statistics used in more detail. Go to: www.eur.nl/fsw/research/happiness/hap_cor/cor_fp.htm. This is the introductory text to the Catalog of Correlational Findings. An overview of all statistics is in chapter 4.

tau

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Appendix 3: About the World Database of Happiness

The World Database of Happiness is an ongoing register of scientific research on subjective appreciation of life. It brings together findings that are scattered throughout many studies and provides a basis for synthetic analysis. The research literature is processed as follows:



- 1 BIBLIOGRAPHY OF HAPPINESS Presents all contemporary scientific publications. Detailed subjectclassification. Current contents: 3422 titles, mainly in English.
- 2 DIRECTORY OF INVESTIGATORS Names and addresses of most authors on the subject. Enumerates years of publication. Current contents: 5818 names and 3073 addresses. Part of Bibliography.
- 3 CATALOG OF HAPPINESS QUERIES (testbank) Presents all indicators that tap happiness as defined here. Current content: 522 measures, mostly single questions. Queries are classified by focus, time reference, mode of observation, rating and wording.
- 4 CATALOG OF HAPPINESS IN NATIONS Presents distributional research findings, in particular responses to questions on happiness in national survey studies. Allows comparison across time and nations. Current content: 1889 surveys in 112 nations, 1946-2000.
- 5 CATALOG OF HAPPINESS IN PUBLICS Distributional findings on happiness in special publics within nations, such as aged people. Current contents: 705 studies. Part of Catalog of Correlational Findings.
- 6 CATALOG OF CORRELATIONAL FINDINGS Presents abstracts of correlational research findings. Detailed subject-classification. Allows comparison through time and across nations. Current contents: 7476 findings from 705 studies in 140 nations, 1911-2000.

Appendix 4 Further Findings in the World Database of Happiness

Number of Studies Main Category's Category Name in this Category A 1 ACTIVITY LEVEL (how much one does) 53 A 2 **ACTIVITY PATTERN (what one does)** 7 31 A 3 AFFECTIVE LIFE A 4 **AGE** 279 A 5 **AGGRESSION** 11 A 6 **ANOMY** 30 A 7 APPEARANCE (good looks) 8 8 A 4 **ATTITUDES** A 9 **AUTHORITARIANISM** 4 B 3 **BODY** 66 C 1 **CHILDREN 1:** 4 C 10 6 **CREATIVENESS** C 11 **CULTURE** (Arts and Sciences) 6 C 2 CHILDREN: WANT FOR (Parental aspirations) 6 C 3 CHILDREN: HAVING (parental status) 145 C 4 CHILDREN'S CHARACTERISTICS 19 C 5 CHILDREN: RELATION WITH 8 C 6 CHILDREN: REARING (parental behavior) 11 C 7 **COMMUNAL LIVING** 1 C 8 **CONCERNS** 15 C 9 **COPING** 27 DAILY JOYS & HASSLES D 1 4 E 1 **EDUCATION** 243 E 2 **EMPLOYMENT** 180 E 3 **ETHNICITY** 63 E 4 **EXPRESSIVE BEHAVIOR** 10 F 1 FAMILY OF ORIGIN (earlier family for adults, current for young) 195 F 2 **FAMILY OF PROCREATION** 42 F 3 **FAMILY OF RELATIVES** 145 F 4 **FARMING** 30 F 5 **FREEDOM** 24 F 6 123 **FRIENDSHIP** G 1 **GENDER** 252 G 2 **GRIEF** 1 H 10 **HOPE** 3 90 H 11 HOUSEHOLD: COMPOSITION H 12 HOUSEHOLD: WORK 10 H 13 **HOUSING** 75 H 2 **HANDICAP** 13

N 8 01 NUTRITION

OCCUPATION

18

133

WORK CONDITIONS

WORK-ATTITUDES

W 3

W 4

34

313

Findings on Happiness & CHILDREN: WANT FOR (Parental aspirations)		Correlate Code: C 2	
W 5	WORK-PERFORMANCE (current)	6	
W 6	WORRIES	27	
Χ	UNCLASSIFIED	22	

Appendix 5 Related Topics

This Topic		Related Topic	s
Classification Page 1		In Subject List on Appendix 4	
C 2	CHILDREN: WANT FOR (Parental aspirations)	F 2	FAMILY OF PROCREATION
		B 1	BIRTH CONTROL
C 2.1	Intentional career	L 7	LIFE-GOALS
C 2.1.1	Earlier want for children		
C 2.1.2	Change in want for children		
C 2.1.4	Later want for children		
C 2.2	Current want for children		
C 2.2.1	Childlessness voluntary or not		
C 2.2.2	Ideal number of children	C 3.3.2	Satisfaction with number of children

End of Report