Christian Kroll

PhD thesis on: Social Capital and Subjective Well-Being

Papers & more info on: http://personal.lse.ac.uk/kroll

e-mail: c.kroll[at]lse.ac.uk Dep. of Sociology - LSE

All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?



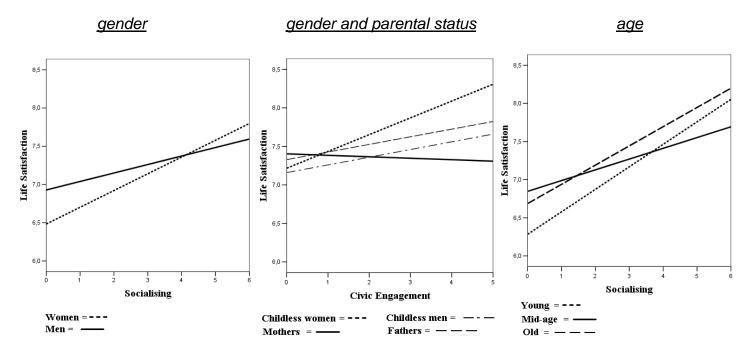








- Previous research on subjective well-being (i.e. happiness and life satisfaction)
 has identified numerous determinants of higher life satisfaction. For example:
 - Good health
 - Very young or very old age
 - Income (especially relative income, decreasing marginal utility)
 - Marriage
 - Having a job
 - Social Capital (networks, interpersonal trust, civic engagement)
- But I argue that sociological theory gives reasons to assume that social capital is correlated with life satisfaction in different ways for certain societal groups.
- Some examples from my PhD: Social capital and life satisfaction by...



→ The social context of well-being varies between subgroups of society. E.g.:

- o Socialising more strongly correlated with life satisfaction among women.
- o For mothers, civic engagement is not associated with higher well-being.

Data: European Social Survey 2006, UK (N = 2394)