

Education and Life Outlook Abstract

This research explores the potential correlation between a person's education level and their outlook on life, utilizing data from the 2022 General Social Survey. Specifically, it examines whether education influences various aspects of life satisfaction, including happiness, life excitement, helpfulness, fairness, and trust. The study uses a chi-squared test to assess the independence between education level and these variables. The chi-squared results indicate significant associations between education and each outlook measure, allowing for the rejection of the null hypothesis in all cases. Further analysis using Cramér's V test quantifies the strength of these relationships. The findings suggest that higher education correlates with more positive perceptions of life, particularly in trust and fairness, though the effect sizes remain weak to moderate. This research is vital for understanding how education may shape one's worldview and could influence decisions regarding higher education. Educational institutions, policymakers, and potential students could benefit from the insights gained, especially if future studies delve deeper into the causes underlying these correlations. The results underscore the importance of further research into the social and psychological impacts of education, offering a foundation for future studies aiming to enhance well-being through educational interventions.