

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: **Changing Opportunity: Sociological Mechanisms Underlying Growing Class Gaps and Shrinking Race Gaps in Economic Mobility\***

Article

Link: [https://opportunityinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/ChangingOpportunity\\_Paper.pdf](https://opportunityinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/ChangingOpportunity_Paper.pdf)

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**Tweet:** Children who grew up in counties with higher employment rates had more economic mobility than peers raised in counties with lower rates, even if their parents weren’t employed, suggesting a relationship mediated by social interaction. @Opplnsights

**Summary:** [Mobility] outcomes improve across birth cohorts for children who grow up in communities with increasing parental employment rates, with larger effects for children who move to such communities at younger ages, and are most strongly related to parental employment rates of peers they are more likely to interact with,[e.g.] those in their own birth cohort, suggesting that the relationship between children’s outcomes and parental employment rates is mediated by social interaction. Figure VI presents changes in children’s income ranks versus changes in the employment rates of same-race adults in their childhood counties - white and Black children with parents at the 25th and 75th income percentiles, and [the data] correspond to changes over the period when children in our focal birth cohorts were growing up: age 2 (in 1980) for children in the 1978 birth cohort and age 8 (in 2000) for the 1992 birth cohort.

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**Primary Topic:** Workforce

**Topics:** Academic paper, Database, Family/Marriage, Inequality, Mobility/Assortive Mating, Very Important, Weekly, Workforce

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