

Statistics 567: Guidelines for Writing a 250-word Abstract

July 7, 2019

Due: Monday, July 13, 2020 (must present in class)

Structure of abstract (summary of the research study):

- (1) Introduction – Summary literature (2-3 sentences);
- (2) Methods – Laying out which techniques to apply (a plan for analysis);
- (3) Results – preliminary conjecture – what the data may show; making inferences;
- (4) Discussion – Policy implications; suggestions for future research.

Example:

Home Environment and Child's Cognitive and Emotional Developmental Delay: Evidence from the NLSY

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(October 1995, for the Master of Public Health Field Work Project/Thesis – UMDNJ School of Public Health)

Abstract:

Introduction: This study investigates the association between home environment and development delay in school-age children between the ages of 5 and 9, controlling for gender, socioeconomic status and the presence of father-figure at home.

Methods: Developmental delay as a measure of child health status is defined using the development tests administered to the children of the 1988 NLSY. Those children below the 10th percentile of the Behavior Problems Index or the Peabody Individual Achievement Test subtests are considered developmentally delayed.

Results: The bivariate relationship between developmental delay and poverty status, race, mother's education, the presence of the father and the home environment are investigated with chi-square test statistic and t-test statistic. Multivariate models include logistic regression to examine the effect of the home environment on developmental delay.

Discussion: While the typical profile of the children in the lower decile manifesting delay appears to concur with previously reported research, i.e. more children are poor than not poor, are African American and live in urban environments, this research suggests that the home environment is a critical determinant of developmental delay. Presence or absence of the father in household, poverty and mother's educational attainment may be considered contributing factors to the physical aspects of the home environment.

Key words: Health; Developmental Delay; NLSY; HOME Score