

# Comparing two groups - Controlling for other variables

In the social sciences outcomes are generally affected by many variables, not just one. In the final video of this first week we'll see how we can control for the effect of other variables when we consider the relation between an independent and dependent variable. We'll discuss three ways in which control variables can affect the relation between our variables of interest (as mediator, moderator and confounder).

We'll also consider a a very special situation referred to as Simpson's paradox, where a control variable can change the direction of the relation between the variables of interest.

