life satisfaction, quality of life, well-being

adam okulicz-kozaryn

adam.okulicz.kozaryn@gmail.com

this version: Tuesday 2nd December, 2014 17:25

outline

livability and poverty

the best place

happiness overview

happiness and city life
- city life dissatisfaction
- livability
- geography of happiness

New Jersey

Brickman, P., D. Coates, and R. Janoff-Buman (1978): "Lottery winners and accident victims: Is happiness relative?" Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 36, 917–927.

Davis, J. A. (1966): "The Campus as a Frog Pond: An Application of the Theory of Relative Deprivation to Career Decisions of College Men," American Journal of Sociology, 72, 17–31.

Di Tella, R. and R. MacCulloch (2006): "Some Uses of Happiness Data in Economics," The Journal of Economic Perspectives, 20, 25–46.

Diener, E., E. Sandvik, L. Seidlitz, and M. Diener (1993): "The relationship between income and subjective well-being: relative or absolute?" Social Indicators Research, 28, 195–223.

Diener, E. and M. E. P. Seligman (2004): "Beyond Money: Toward an Economy of Well-being," Psychological Science, 5, 1–31.

Durkheim, E. ([1895] 1950): The Rules of Sociological Method, New York: The Free Press.

Jargowsky, P. A. (1997): Poverty and place: Ghettos, barrios, and the American city, Russell Sage Foundation.

Layard, R. (2005): Happiness. Lessons from a new science., The Penguin Press. New York.

Michalos, A. (1985): "Multiple discrepancies theory (MDT)," Social Indicators Research, 16, 347–413.

Stiglitz, J., A. Sen, and J. Fitoussi (2009): "Report by the Commission on the measurement of economic performance and social progress," Available at www.stiglitz-sen-fitoussi.fr.

Tobler, W. (1970): "A computer movie simulating urban growth in the Detroit region," Economic geography, 46, 234–240.

outline

livability and poverty

the best place

happiness overview

happiness and city life
- city life dissatisfaction
- livability
- geography of happiness

New Jersey

livability matters

- QoL: clean air, pleasant climate, nice parks, cultural attractions, etc
- but there is a difference between subjective and objective livability (**?**)

livability matters

- QoL: clean air, pleasant climate, nice parks, cultural attractions, etc
- but there is a difference between subjective and objective livability (**?**)

(almost) opposite of livability: poverty

- and there is this concept of concentrated poverty
- the idea being that being poor in mostly poor area is worse than just being poor
- there are negative synergies if many poor people live together
- the threshold used is 40% (Jargowsky, 1997)
- at this cutoff there is a big increase in single parent households
- and risky behaviors (drugs, fatty foods, no seatbelt) are infectious–"I do it because everybody does"
- culture of poverty? present time focus ? (Banfield)

(almost) opposite of livability: poverty

- and there is this concept of concentrated poverty
- the idea being that being poor in mostly poor area is worse than just being poor
- there are negative synergies if many poor people live together
- the threshold used is 40% (Jargowsky, 1997)
- at this cutoff there is a big increase in single parent households
- and risky behaviors (drugs, fatty foods, no seatbelt) are infectious–"I do it because everybody does"
- culture of poverty? present time focus ? (Banfield)

(almost) opposite of livability: poverty

- and there is this concept of concentrated poverty
- the idea being that being poor in mostly poor area is worse than just being poor
- there are negative synergies if many poor people live together
- the threshold used is 40% (Jargowsky, 1997)
- at this cutoff there is a big increase in single parent households
- and risky behaviors (drugs, fatty foods, no seatbelt) are infectious–"I do it because everybody does"
- culture of poverty? present time focus ? (Banfield)

(almost) opposite of livability: poverty

- and there is this concept of concentrated poverty
- the idea being that being poor in mostly poor area is worse than just being poor
- there are negative synergies if many poor people live together
- the threshold used is 40% (Jargowsky, 1997)
- at this cutoff there is a big increase in single parent households
- and risky behaviors (drugs, fatty foods, no seatbelt) are infectious–"I do it because everybody does"
- culture of poverty? present time focus ? (Banfield)

(almost) opposite of livability: poverty

- and there is this concept of concentrated poverty
- the idea being that being poor in mostly poor area is worse than just being poor
- there are negative synergies if many poor people live together
- the threshold used is 40% (Jargowsky, 1997)
- at this cutoff there is a big increase in single parent households
- and risky behaviors (drugs, fatty foods, no seatbelt) are infectious–"I do it because everybody does"
- culture of poverty? present time focus ? (Banfield)

(almost) opposite of livability: poverty

- and there is this concept of concentrated poverty
- the idea being that being poor in mostly poor area is worse than just being poor
- there are negative synergies if many poor people live together
- the threshold used is 40% (Jargowsky, 1997)
- at this cutoff there is a big increase in single parent households
- and risky behaviors (drugs, fatty foods, no seatbelt) are infectious–"I do it because everybody does"
- culture of poverty? present time focus ? (Banfield)

(almost) opposite of livability: poverty

- and there is this concept of concentrated poverty
- the idea being that being poor in mostly poor area is worse than just being poor
- there are negative synergies if many poor people live together
- the threshold used is 40% (Jargowsky, 1997)
- at this cutoff there is a big increase in single parent households
- and risky behaviors (drugs, fatty foods, no seatbelt) are infectious–"I do it because everybody does"
- culture of poverty? present time focus ? (Banfield)

the poor are rational

- it makes more sense to engage in risky behaviors if you know your life won't be long and fabulous
- you simply discount the future: there won't be long future, so live today
- "live every day as if it were the last"
- and it is a vicious cycle: more risky behavior, the lower the life expectancy

the poor are rational

- it makes more sense to engage in risky behaviors if you know your life won't be long and fabulous
- you simply discount the future: there won't be long future, so live today
- "live every day as if it were the last"
- and it is a vicious cycle: more risky behavior, the lower the life expectancy

the poor are rational

- it makes more sense to engage in risky behaviors if you know your life won't be long and fabulous
- you simply discount the future: there won't be long future, so live today
- "live every day as if it were the last"
- and it is a vicious cycle: more risky behavior, the lower the life expectancy

the poor are rational

- it makes more sense to engage in risky behaviors if you know your life won't be long and fabulous
- you simply discount the future: there won't be long future, so live today
- "live every day as if it were the last"
- and it is a vicious cycle: more risky behavior, the lower the life expectancy

lack of control

- like Sen's capabilities and functionings
- if you do not have the money, you cannnot choose where to live and how to live
- you are stuck

lack of control

- like Sen's capabilities and functionings
- if you do not have the money, you cannnot choose where to live and how to live
- you are stuck

lack of control

- like Sen's capabilities and functionings
- if you do not have the money, you cannnot choose where to live and how to live
- you are stuck

commute

- people are most unhappy during commute (Kahneman)
- and traffic accidents are a leading cause of death, not crime, for everyone ages 1-24
  - but recently traffic deaths declined a lot and continue to decline
- so escaping crime in the inner city does not make you necessarily safer

commute

- people are most unhappy during commute (Kahneman)
- and traffic accidents are a leading cause of death, not crime, for everyone ages 1-24
- but recently traffic deaths declined a lot and continue to decline
- so escaping crime in the inner city does not make you necessarily safer

commute

- people are most unhappy during commute (Kahneman)
- and traffic accidents are a leading cause of death, not crime, for everyone ages 1-24
  - but recently traffic deaths declined a lot and continue to decline
- so escaping crime in the inner city does not make you necessarily safer

commute

- people are most unhappy during commute (Kahneman)
- and traffic accidents are a leading cause of death, not crime, for everyone ages 1-24
  - but recently traffic deaths declined a lot and continue to decline
- so escaping crime in the inner city does not make you necessarily safer

jobs

- jobs depend on networks (strength of weak ties)
- do you know anybody who got a job without knowing somebody ?
- in concentrated poverty, most of your network is poor as well
  - they cannot help you (weakness of strong ties)
- and there is a controversial concept of "culture of poverty"
  - the poor have different values from the mainstream
  - they live in present, cannot defer gratification to save money or get education
  - they want happiness now

jobs

- jobs depend on networks (strength of weak ties)
- do you know anybody who got a job without knowing somebody ?
- in concentrated poverty, most of your network is poor as well
  - they cannot help you (weakness of strong ties)
- and there is a controversial concept of "culture of poverty"
  - the poor have different values from the mainstream
  - they live in present, cannot defer gratification to save money or get education
  - they want happiness now

jobs

- jobs depend on networks (strength of weak ties)
- do you know anybody who got a job without knowing somebody ?
- in concentrated poverty, most of your network is poor as well
  - they cannot help you (weakness of strong ties)
- and there is a controversial concept of "culture of poverty"
  - the poor have different values from the mainstream
  - they live in present, cannot defer gratification to save money or get education
  - they want happiness now

jobs

- jobs depend on networks (strength of weak ties)
- do you know anybody who got a job without knowing somebody ?
- in concentrated poverty, most of your network is poor as well
  - they cannot help you (weakness of strong ties)
- and there is a controversial concept of "culture of poverty"
  - the poor have different values from the mainstream
  - they live in present, cannot defer gratification to save money or get education
  - they want happiness now

jobs

- jobs depend on networks (strength of weak ties)
- do you know anybody who got a job without knowing somebody ?
- in concentrated poverty, most of your network is poor as well
  - they cannot help you (weakness of strong ties)
- and there is a controversial concept of "culture of poverty"
  - the poor have different values from the mainstream
  - they live in present, cannot defer gratification to save money or get education
  - they want happiness now

jobs

- jobs depend on networks (strength of weak ties)
- do you know anybody who got a job without knowing somebody ?
- in concentrated poverty, most of your network is poor as well
  - they cannot help you (weakness of strong ties)
- and there is a controversial concept of "culture of poverty"
  - the poor have different values from the mainstream
  - they live in present, cannot defer gratification to save money or get education
  - they want happiness now

jobs

- jobs depend on networks (strength of weak ties)
- do you know anybody who got a job without knowing somebody ?
- in concentrated poverty, most of your network is poor as well
  - they cannot help you (weakness of strong ties)
- and there is a controversial concept of "culture of poverty"
  - the poor have different values from the mainstream
  - they live in present, cannot defer gratification to save money or get education
  - they want happiness now

jobs

- jobs depend on networks (strength of weak ties)
- do you know anybody who got a job without knowing somebody ?
- in concentrated poverty, most of your network is poor as well
  - they cannot help you (weakness of strong ties)
- and there is a controversial concept of "culture of poverty"
  - the poor have different values from the mainstream
  - they live in present, cannot defer gratification to save money or get education
  - they want happiness now

bridging vs bonding

- people in poor areas have bonding soc cap
- they bond with people, like them, the poor
- but they lack the bridging social capital
- knowing people that are different from them
- and you need the "strength of weak ties"
- bonding soc cap helps the people to get by
- but not to get ahead

bridging vs bonding

- people in poor areas have bonding soc cap
- they bond with people, like them, the poor
- but they lack the bridging social capital
- knowing people that are different from them
- and you need the "strength of weak ties"
- bonding soc cap helps the people to get by
- but not to get ahead

bridging vs bonding

- people in poor areas have bonding soc cap
- they bond with people, like them, the poor
- but they lack the bridging social capital
- knowing people that are different from them
- and you need the "strength of weak ties"
- bonding soc cap helps the people to get by
- but not to get ahead

bridging vs bonding

- people in poor areas have bonding soc cap
- they bond with people, like them, the poor
- but they lack the bridging social capital
- knowing people that are different from them
- and you need the "strength of weak ties"
- bonding soc cap helps the people to get by
- but not to get ahead

bridging vs bonding

- people in poor areas have bonding soc cap
- they bond with people, like them, the poor
- but they lack the bridging social capital
- knowing people that are different from them
- and you need the "strength of weak ties"
- bonding soc cap helps the people to get by
- but not to get ahead

bridging vs bonding

- people in poor areas have bonding soc cap
- they bond with people, like them, the poor
- but they lack the bridging social capital
- knowing people that are different from them
- and you need the "strength of weak ties"
- bonding soc cap helps the people to get by
- but not to get ahead

bridging vs bonding

- people in poor areas have bonding soc cap
- they bond with people, like them, the poor
- but they lack the bridging social capital
- knowing people that are different from them
- and you need the "strength of weak ties"
- bonding soc cap helps the people to <u>get by</u>
- but not to <u>get ahead</u>

underworked vs overworked

- many people in suburbs are overworked (long hours: lawyers, physicians, 2 jobs to have the suburban lifestyle)
- and in inner city people are under worked(unemployed, part-time)

underworked vs overworked

- many people in suburbs are overworked (long hours: lawyers, physicians, 2 jobs to have the suburban lifestyle)
- and in inner city people are under worked(unemployed, part-time)

sprawl

- it is a waste
  - new electricity, sewers, road, water, internet
  - and we are abandoning it in the cities
  - and we are killing green areas with suburbs

sprawl

- it is a waste
- new electricity, sewers, road, water, internet
- and we are abandoning it in the cities
- and we are killing green areas with suburbs

sprawl

- it is a waste
  - new electricity, sewers, road, water, internet
  - and we are abandoning it in the cities
  - and we are killing green areas with suburbs

sprawl

- it is a waste
  - new electricity, sewers, road, water, internet
  - and we are abandoning it in the cities
  - and we are killing green areas with suburbs

outline

livability and poverty

the best place

happiness overview

happiness and city life
- city life dissatisfaction
- livability
- geography of happiness

New Jersey

what are the best places?

- as with most things, it depends
- if you are young and career oriented, then big coastal cities are great: career opportunities, night life
- if you are older with kids, smaller areas are better: cheap housing, good schools
- if you are old, South is great–old people don't like cold
- if you are a company, you want low taxes, good transportation, skilled work force, no labor unions
- clearly no place matches all these criteria

what are the best places?

- as with most things, it depends
- if you are young and career oriented, then big coastal cities are great: career opportunities, night life
- if you are older with kids, smaller areas are better: cheap housing, good schools
- if you are old, South is great–old people don't like cold
- if you are a company, you want low taxes, good transportation, skilled work force, no labor unions
- clearly no place matches all these criteria

what are the best places?

- as with most things, it depends
- if you are young and career oriented, then big coastal cities are great: career opportunities, night life
- if you are older with kids, smaller areas are better: cheap housing, good schools
- if you are old, South is great–old people don't like cold
- if you are a company, you want low taxes, good transportation, skilled work force, no labor unions
- clearly no place matches all these criteria

what are the best places?

- as with most things, it depends
- if you are young and career oriented, then big coastal cities are great: career opportunities, night life
- if you are older with kids, smaller areas are better: cheap housing, good schools
- if you are old, South is great–old people don't like cold
- if you are a company, you want low taxes, good transportation, skilled work force, no labor unions
- clearly no place matches all these criteria

what are the best places?

- as with most things, it depends
- if you are young and career oriented, then big coastal cities are great: career opportunities, night life
- if you are older with kids, smaller areas are better: cheap housing, good schools
- if you are old, South is great–old people don't like cold
- if you are a company, you want low taxes, good transportation, skilled work force, no labor unions
- clearly no place matches all these criteria

what are the best places?

- as with most things, it depends
- if you are young and career oriented, then big coastal cities are great: career opportunities, night life
- if you are older with kids, smaller areas are better: cheap housing, good schools
- if you are old, South is great–old people don't like cold
- if you are a company, you want low taxes, good transportation, skilled work force, no labor unions
- clearly no place matches all these criteria

rankings

- best for business Economist' s "Hot Spots: Benchmarking global city competitiveness" http://www.citigroup.com/citi/citiforcities/pdfs/hotspots.pdf
- Economist's Livability http://www.eiu.com/public/thankyou_download.aspx?activity=download&campaignid=Liveability2011
- CNBC America's Top States for Business http://www.cnbc.com/id/47818860/Texas_Is_America_s_Top_State_for_Business_2012
- Forbes best places to do business http://www.forbes.com/best-places-for-business/list/

rankings

- best for business Economist' s "Hot Spots: Benchmarking global city competitiveness" http://www.citigroup.com/citi/citiforcities/pdfs/hotspots.pdf
- Economist's Livability
  http://www.eiu.com/public/thankyou_download.aspx?activity=download&campaignid=Liveability2011
- CNBC America's Top States for Business
  http://www.cnbc.com/id/47818860/Texas_Is_America_s_Top_State_for_Business_2012
- Forbes best places to do business
  http://www.forbes.com/best-places-for-business/list/

rankings

- best for business Economist' s "Hot Spots: Benchmarking global city competitiveness" http://www.citigroup.com/citi/citiforcities/pdfs/hotspots.pdf
- Economist's Livability
  http://www.eiu.com/public/thankyou_download.aspx?activity=download&campaignid=Liveability2011
- CNBC America's Top States for Business
  http://www.cnbc.com/id/47818860/Texas_Is_America_s_Top_State_for_Business_2012
- Forbes best places to do business
  http://www.forbes.com/best-places-for-business/list/

rankings

- best for business Economist' s "Hot Spots: Benchmarking global city competitiveness" http://www.citigroup.com/citi/citiforcities/pdfs/hotspots.pdf
- Economist's Livability

  http://www.eiu.com/public/thankyou_download.aspx?activity=download&campaignid=Liveability2011
- CNBC America's Top States for Business

  http://www.cnbc.com/id/47818860/Texas_Is_America_s_Top_State_for_Business_2012
- Forbes best places to do business

  http://www.forbes.com/best-places-for-business/list/

outline

livability and poverty

the best place

happiness overview

happiness and city life
- city life dissatisfaction
- livability
- geography of happiness

New Jersey

why?

- so that you know what i do, and if you are interested in similar things, we can cowrite a paper! [not only SWB, see also sec 'my future research']
- what happiness has to do with ecconomic development
- again, we used to think of economic development narrowly
  - economic development=economic growth
- but over past few decades we recognize that there is more to it
  - e.g. social, human, political, creative capitals
- recently we turn more to just one measure of progress: happiness

- (Stiglitz et al., 2009)

why?

- so that you know what i do, and if you are interested in similar things, we can cowrite a paper! [not only SWB, see also sec 'my future research']
- what happiness has to do with ecconomic development
- again, we used to think of economic development narrowly
  - economic development=economic growth
- but over past few decades we recognize that there is more to it
  - e.g. social, human, political, creative capitals
- recently we turn more to just one measure of progress: happiness
  - (Stiglitz et al., 2009)

why?

- so that you know what i do, and if you are interested in similar things, we can cowrite a paper! [not only SWB, see also sec 'my future research']
- what happiness has to do with ecconomic development
- again, we used to think of economic development narrowly
  - economic development=economic growth
- but over past few decades we recognize that there is more to it
  - e.g. social, human, political, creative capitals
- recently we turn more to just one measure of progress: happiness
  - (Stiglitz et al., 2009)

why?

- so that you know what i do, and if you are interested in similar things, we can cowrite a paper! [not only SWB, see also sec 'my future research']
- what happiness has to do with ecconomic development
- again, we used to think of economic development narrowly
  - economic development=economic growth
- but over past few decades we recognize that there is more to it
  - e.g. social, human, political, creative capitals
- recently we turn more to just one measure of progress: happiness
  - (Stiglitz et al., 2009)

why?

- so that you know what i do, and if you are interested in similar things, we can cowrite a paper! [not only SWB, see also sec 'my future research']
- what happiness has to do with ecconomic development
- again, we used to think of economic development narrowly
  - economic development=economic growth
- but over past few decades we recognize that there is more to it
  - e.g. social, human, political, creative capitals
- recently we turn more to just one measure of progress: happiness
  - (Stiglitz et al., 2009)

why?

- so that you know what i do, and if you are interested in similar things, we can cowrite a paper! [not only SWB, see also sec 'my future research']
- what happiness has to do with ecconomic development
- again, we used to think of economic development narrowly
  - economic development=economic growth
- but over past few decades we recognize that there is more to it
  - e.g. social, human, political, creative capitals
- recently we turn more to just one measure of progress: happiness
  - (Stiglitz et al., 2009)

why?

- so that you know what i do, and if you are interested in similar things, we can cowrite a paper! [not only SWB, see also sec 'my future research']
- what happiness has to do with ecconomic development
- again, we used to think of economic development narrowly
  - economic development=economic growth
- but over past few decades we recognize that there is more to it
  - e.g. social, human, political, creative capitals
- recently we turn more to just one measure of progress: happiness

- (Stiglitz et al., 2009)

why?

- so that you know what i do, and if you are interested in similar things, we can cowrite a paper! [not only SWB, see also sec 'my future research']
- what happiness has to do with ecconomic development
- again, we used to think of economic development narrowly
  - economic development=economic growth
- but over past few decades we recognize that there is more to it
  - e.g. social, human, political, creative capitals
- recently we turn more to just one measure of progress: happiness

- (Stiglitz et al., 2009)

measurement

- life satisfaction (life evaluation) used interchangeably with happiness, quality of life, well-being
- wvs question: "all things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?" (1 to 10)
- gss question: "taken all together, how would you say things are these days - would you say that you are very happy, pretty happy, or not too happy?" (1-3)
- these measures were cross-validated using other measures: suicide, PET scans , other people ratings (Layard, 2005; Di Tella and MacCulloch, 2006)

measurement

- life satisfaction (life evaluation) used interchangeably with happiness, quality of life, well-being
- wvs question: "all things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?" (1 to 10)
- gss question: "taken all together, how would you say things are these days - would you say that you are very happy, pretty happy, or not too happy?" (1-3)
- these measures were cross-validated using other measures: suicide, PET scans , other people ratings (Layard, 2005; Di Tella and MacCulloch, 2006)

measurement

- life satisfaction (life evaluation) used interchangeably with happiness, quality of life, well-being
- wvs question: "all things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?" (1 to 10)
- gss question: "taken all together, how would you say things are these days - would you say that you are very happy, pretty happy, or not too happy?" (1-3)
- these measures were cross-validated using other measures: suicide, PET scans , other people ratings (Layard, 2005, Di Tella and MacCulloch, 2006)

measurement

- life satisfaction (life evaluation) used interchangeably with happiness, quality of life, well-being
- wvs question: "all things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?" (1 to 10)
- gss question: "taken all together, how would you say things are these days - would you say that you are very happy, pretty happy, or not too happy?" (1-3)
- these measures were cross-validated using other measures: suicide, PET scans , other people ratings (Layard, 2005, Di Tella and MacCulloch, 2006)

measurement

- life satisfaction (life evaluation) used interchangeably with happiness, quality of life, well-being
- wvs question: "all things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?" (1 to 10)
- gss question: "taken all together, how would you say things are these days - would you say that you are very happy, pretty happy, or not too happy?" (1-3)
- these measures were cross-validated using other measures: suicide, PET scans , other people ratings (Layard, 2005, Di Tella and MacCulloch, 2006)

why study life satisfaction ?

a number of fascinating research questions to answer

for instance:

can money buy happiness ? (again, it's concave (draw it))

why study life satisfaction ?

a number of fascinating research questions to answer

for instance:

can money buy happiness ? (again, it's concave (draw it))

why study life satisfaction ?

a number of fascinating research questions to answer

for instance:

can money buy happiness ? (again, it's concave (draw it))

can money buy happiness ?

" Researchers say I'm not happier for being richer, but do you know how much researchers make?"

happiness? is it still science?

- yes, even leading economists say that we should study happiness
- Sen and Stiglitz: Stiglitz et al. (2009)
  - "A... unifying theme of the report ... is that the time is ripe for our measurement system to shift emphasis from measuring economic production to measuring people's well-being." (p. 12)
  - "Measures of both objective and subjective well-being provide key information about people's quality of life. Statistical offices [worldwide] should incorporate questions to capture people's life evaluations, hedonic experiences and priorities in their own survey." (p. 16)

happiness? is it still science?

- yes, even leading economists say that we should study happiness
- Sen and Stiglitz: Stiglitz et al. (2009)
  - "A... unifying theme of the report ... is that the time is ripe for our measurement system to shift emphasis from measuring economic production to measuring people's well-being." (p. 12)
  - "Measures of both objective and subjective well-being provide key information about people's quality of life. Statistical offices [worldwide] should incorporate questions to capture people's life evaluations, hedonic experiences and priorities in their own survey." (p. 16)

happiness? is it still science?

- yes, even leading economists say that we should study happiness
- Sen and Stiglitz: Stiglitz et al. (2009)
  - "A... unifying theme of the report ... is that the time is ripe for our measurement system to shift emphasis from measuring economic production to measuring people's well-being." (p. 12)
  - "Measures of both objective and subjective well-being provide key information about people's quality of life. Statistical offices [worldwide] should incorporate questions to capture people's life evaluations, hedonic experiences and priorities in their own survey." (p. 16)

happiness? is it still science?

- yes, even leading economists say that we should study happiness
- Sen and Stiglitz: Stiglitz et al. (2009)
  - "A... unifying theme of the report ... is that the time is ripe for our measurement system to shift emphasis from measuring economic production to measuring people's well-being." (p. 12)
  - "Measures of both objective and subjective well-being provide key information about people's quality of life. Statistical offices [worldwide] should incorporate questions to capture people's life evaluations, hedonic experiences and priorities in their own survey."(p. 16)

two major theories

- adaptation theory (Brickman et al., 1978)
  - adjustment to external circumstances
  - 'hedonic treadmill'
  - *the more one has the more one wants, since satisfactions received only stimulate instead of filling needs* (Durkheim, [1895] 1950)
- multiple discrepancy theory (Michalos, 1985)
  - social comparison
  - comparison to various standards
  - *it is better to be a big frog in a small pond than a small frog in a big pond* (Davis, 1966)

two major theories

- adaptation theory (Brickman et al., 1978)
  - adjustment to external circumstances
  - 'hedonic treadmill'
  - *the more one has the more one wants, since satisfactions received only stimulate instead of filling needs* (Durkheim, [1895] 1950)
- multiple discrepancy theory (Michalos, 1985)
  - social comparison
  - comparison to various standards
  - *it is better to be a big frog in a small pond than a small frog in a big pond* (Davis, 1966)

two major theories

- adaptation theory (Brickman et al., 1978)
  - adjustment to external circumstances
  - 'hedonic treadmill'
  - *the more one has the more one wants, since satisfactions received only stimulate instead of filling needs* (Durkheim, [1895] 1950)
- multiple discrepancy theory (Michalos, 1985)
  - social comparison
  - comparison to various standards
  - *it is better to be a big frog in a small pond than a small frog in a big pond* (Davis, 1966)

two major theories

- **adaptation theory** (Brickman et al., 1978)
  - adjustment to external circumstances
  - 'hedonic treadmill'
  - *the more one has the more one wants, since satisfactions received only stimulate instead of filling needs* (Durkheim, [1895] 1950)
- **multiple discrepancy theory** (Michalos, 1985)
  - social comparison
  - comparison to various standards
  - *it is better to be a big frog in a small pond than a small frog in a big pond* (Davis, 1966)

two major theories

- **adaptation theory** (Brickman et al., 1978)
  - adjustment to external circumstances
  - 'hedonic treadmill'
  - *the more one has the more one wants, since satisfactions received only stimulate instead of filling needs* (Durkheim, [1895] 1950)
- **multiple discrepancy theory** (Michalos, 1985)
  - social comparison
  - comparison to various standards
  - *it is better to be a big frog in a small pond than a small frog in a big pond* (Davis, 1966)

two major theories

- **adaptation theory** (Brickman et al., 1978)
  - adjustment to external circumstances
  - 'hedonic treadmill'
  - *the more one has the more one wants, since satisfactions received only stimulate instead of filling needs* (Durkheim, [1895] 1950)
- **multiple discrepancy theory** (Michalos, 1985)
  - social comparison
  - comparison to various standards
  - *it is better to be a big frog in a small pond than a small frog in a big pond* (Davis, 1966)

two major theories

- **adaptation theory** (Brickman et al., 1978)
  - adjustment to external circumstances
  - 'hedonic treadmill'
  - *the more one has the more one wants, since satisfactions received only stimulate instead of filling needs* (Durkheim, [1895] 1950)
- **multiple discrepancy theory** (Michalos, 1985)
  - social comparison
  - comparison to various standards
  - *it is better to be a big frog in a small pond than a small frog in a big pond* (Davis, 1966)

two major theories

- **adaptation theory** (Brickman et al., 1978)
  - adjustment to external circumstances
  - 'hedonic treadmill'
  - *the more one has the more one wants, since satisfactions received only stimulate instead of filling needs* (Durkheim, [1895] 1950)
- **multiple discrepancy theory** (Michalos, 1985)
  - social comparison
  - comparison to various standards
  - *it is better to be a big frog in a small pond than a small frog in a big pond* (Davis, 1966)

income increases happiness, but...

income increases happiness, but...

income increases aspirations, too

Easterlin's paradox

income in the US, 1947-98 (Diener and Seligman, 2004)

Easterlin's paradox

happiness in the US, 1947-98 (Diener and Seligman, 2004)

outline

livability and poverty

the best place

happiness overview

happiness and city life
- city life dissatisfaction
- livability
- geography of happiness

New Jersey

a puzzle

CAN
NLD
CHE
BEL
NGA
BGD
BGR
IND
MKD
PAK
Fitted Values
4
5
6
7
8
0
2
4
6
8
Town Size

a puzzle

a hamburger can kill you in NYC and save your life in Addis Abeba (?)

life dissatisfaction in cities>500k − settlements<2k

Dominican Republic	−2.05
India	−1.89
Vietnam	−1.73
Morocco	−1.73
Bulgaria	−1.23
Macedonia	−1.16
Bangladesh	−1.14
Belarus	−0.88
Nigeria	−0.88
Pakistan	−0.77

Netherlands	+1.18
United States	+0.97
Kyrgyzstan	+0.85
Canada	+0.78
Spain	+0.60
Australia	+0.45
Denmark	+0.44

U.S.: happiness and location

U.S.: happiness and ethnic origin

U.S.: level of trust by location

(trust is a key predictor of happiness)

ordinal logit of happiness (OR)

city 50k-250k	1.15***
suburbs	1.18***
small towns, country	1.25***
NW Europe	
Mediterranean	
Africa	
time fe	yes
region fe	yes
ind. controls	yes
observations	32073

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

ind. controls: age, marital status, size of a houshold , employment status, income, whether a person was born in the U.S.

ordinal logit of happiness (OR)

city 50k-250k	1.15***	1.12**
suburbs	1.18***	1.12***
small towns, country	1.25***	1.15***
NW Europe		1.17***
Mediterranean		1.08
Africa		0.81***
time fe	yes	yes
region fe	yes	yes
ind. controls	yes	yes
observations	32073	25219

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

ind. controls: age, marital status, size of a houshold , employment status, income, whether a person was born in the U.S.

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6
Zurich	Switzerland	108

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6
Zurich	Switzerland	108
Geneva	Switzerland	107.9

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6
Zurich	Switzerland	108
Geneva	Switzerland	107.9
Vancouver	Canada	107.4

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6
Zurich	Switzerland	108
Geneva	Switzerland	107.9
Vancouver	Canada	107.4
Auckland	New Zealand	107.4

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6
Zurich	Switzerland	108
Geneva	Switzerland	107.9
Vancouver	Canada	107.4
Auckland	New Zealand	107.4
Dusseldorf	Germany	107.2

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6
Zurich	Switzerland	108
Geneva	Switzerland	107.9
Vancouver	Canada	107.4
Auckland	New Zealand	107.4
Dusseldorf	Germany	107.2
Frankfurt	Germany	107

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6
Zurich	Switzerland	108
Geneva	Switzerland	107.9
Vancouver	Canada	107.4
Auckland	New Zealand	107.4
Dusseldorf	Germany	107.2
Frankfurt	Germany	107
Munich	Germany	107

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6
Zurich	Switzerland	108
Geneva	Switzerland	107.9
Vancouver	Canada	107.4
Auckland	New Zealand	107.4
Dusseldorf	Germany	107.2
Frankfurt	Germany	107
Munich	Germany	107
Bern	Switzerland	106.5

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6
Zurich	Switzerland	108
Geneva	Switzerland	107.9
Vancouver	Canada	107.4
Auckland	New Zealand	107.4
Dusseldorf	Germany	107.2
Frankfurt	Germany	107
Munich	Germany	107
Bern	Switzerland	106.5
Sydney	Australia	106.3

livability: top 10 cities in 2010

Mercer's City Ranking Tables		
City	Country	Rating
Vienna	Austria	108.6
Zurich	Switzerland	108
Geneva	Switzerland	107.9
Vancouver	Canada	107.4
Auckland	New Zealand	107.4
Dusseldorf	Germany	107.2
Frankfurt	Germany	107
Munich	Germany	107
Bern	Switzerland	106.5
Sydney	Australia	106.3

objective vs subjective QoL

mapping happiness

- maps are relevant for all research
- everything takes place somewhere...
- ... "Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things" (Tobler, 1970)

  http://aok.us.to/papers/gesis/index2.html
- I wrote my own program for stata: kmlmap

  http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=http://people.hmdc.harvard.edu/~akozaryn/keep2_mer_trust_for.kml

mapping happiness

- maps are relevant for all research
- everything takes place somewhere...
- ... "Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things" (Tobler, 1970)
  http://aok.us.to/papers/gesis/index2.html
- I wrote my own program for stata: kmlmap
  http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=http://people.hmdc.harvard.edu/~akozaryn/keep2_mer_trust_for.kml

mapping happiness

- maps are relevant for all research
- everything takes place somewhere...
- ...“Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things” (Tobler, 1970)

  http://aok.us.to/papers/gesis/index2.html
- I wrote my own program for stata: kmlmap
- http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=http://people.hmdc.harvard.edu/~akozaryn/keep2_mer_trust_for.kml

mapping happiness

- maps are relevant for all research
- everything takes place somewhere...
- ...“Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things” (Tobler, 1970)

  http://aok.us.to/papers/gesis/index2.html
- I wrote my own program for stata: kmlmap
- http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=http://people.hmdc.harvard.edu/~akozaryn/keep2_mer_trust_for.kml

mapping happiness

- maps are relevant for all research
- everything takes place somewhere...
- ...“Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things” (Tobler, 1970)
  `http://aok.us.to/papers/gesis/index2.html`
- I wrote my own program for stata: kmlmap
  - `http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=http://people.hmdc.harvard.edu/~akozaryn/keep2_mer_trust_for.kml`

mapping happiness

- maps are relevant for all research
- everything takes place somewhere...
- ...“Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things” (Tobler, 1970)
  http://aok.us.to/papers/gesis/index2.html
- I wrote my own program for stata: kmlmap
  - http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=http://people.hmdc.harvard.edu/~akozaryn/keep2_mer_trust_for.kml

happiness across European regions

happiness (natural breaks (jenks))

happiness (Moran's plot)

inequality matters ! (sd)

persons: happiness and gdp (Diener et al., 1993)

countries: happiness and income (wvs)

regions: happiness and income (eb)

regions: happiness and income inequality (sd)

outline

livability and poverty

the best place

happiness overview

happiness and city life
- city life dissatisfaction
- livability
- geography of happiness

New Jersey

qol

- general
  - http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/homepage-feature/item/73681-quality-of-life-slips-in-nj-poll-finds?linktype=hp_impact
  - http://www.monmouth.edu/assets/0/32212254770/32212254991/32212254992/32212254994/32212254995/30064771087/2dd84e14-76a2-4870-a597-694a00aadb50.pdf
- by county http://www.monmouth.edu/assets/0/32212254770/32212254991/32212254992/32212254994/32212254995/30064771087/f5961d7efbe544b7a938f63b04330a2d.pdf

qol

- general
  - http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/homepage-feature/item/73681-quality-of-life-slips-in-nj-poll-finds?linktype=hp_impact
  - http://www.monmouth.edu/assets/0/32212254770/32212254991/32212254992/32212254994/32212254995/30064771087/2dd84e14-76a2-4870-a597-694a00aadb50.pdf
- by county http://www.monmouth.edu/assets/0/32212254770/32212254991/32212254992/32212254994/32212254995/30064771087/f5961d7efbe544b7a938f63b04330a2d.pdf

qol

- general
  - http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/homepage-feature/item/73681-quality-of-life-slips-in-nj-poll-finds?linktype=hp_impact
  - http://www.monmouth.edu/assets/0/32212254770/32212254991/32212254992/32212254994/32212254995/30064771087/2dd84e14-76a2-4870-a597-694a00aadb50.pdf
- by county http://www.monmouth.edu/assets/0/32212254770/32212254991/32212254992/32212254994/32212254995/30064771087/f5961d7efbe544b7a938f63b04330a2d.pdf

qol

- general
  - http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/homepage-feature/item/73681-quality-of-life-slips-in-nj-poll-finds?linktype=hp_impact
  - http://www.monmouth.edu/assets/0/32212254770/32212254991/32212254992/32212254994/32212254995/30064771087/2dd84e14-76a2-4870-a597-694a00aadb50.pdf
- by county http://www.monmouth.edu/assets/0/32212254770/32212254991/32212254992/32212254994/32212254995/30064771087/f5961d7efbe544b7a938f63b04330a2d.pdf