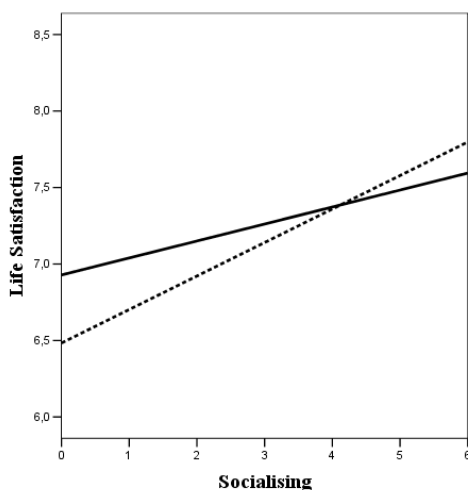


Christian Kroll**PhD thesis on: Social Capital and Subjective Well-Being****Papers & more info on: <http://personal.lse.ac.uk/kroll>****e-mail: [c.kroll\[at\]lse.ac.uk](mailto:c.kroll[at]lse.ac.uk)****Dep. of Sociology - LSE**

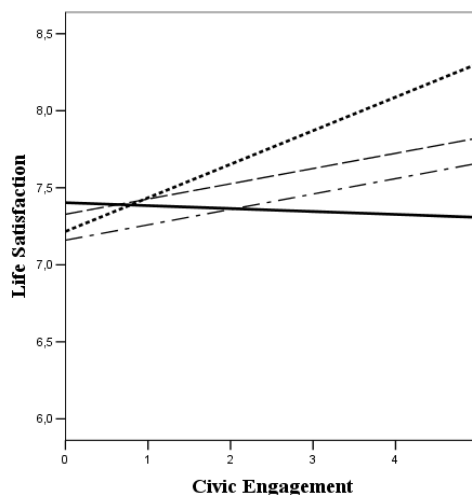
All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?



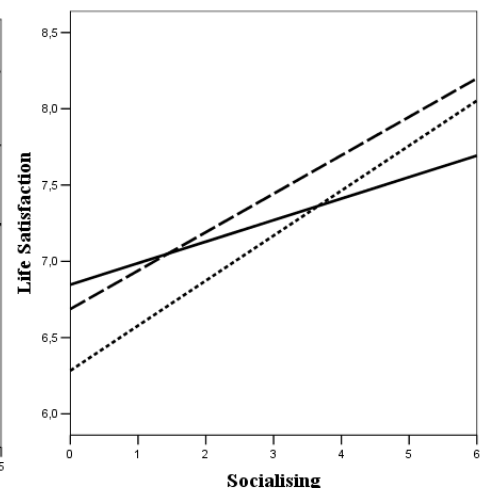
- Previous research on subjective well-being (i.e. happiness and life satisfaction) has identified numerous determinants of higher life satisfaction. For example:
 - Good health
 - Very young or very old age
 - Income (especially relative income, decreasing marginal utility)
 - Marriage
 - Having a job
 - **Social Capital (networks, interpersonal trust, civic engagement)**
- But I argue that sociological theory gives reasons to assume that social capital is correlated with life satisfaction *in different ways* for certain societal groups.
- Some examples from my PhD: Social capital and life satisfaction by...

gender

Women = ---
Men = —

gender and parental status

Childless women = --- Childless men = ...
Mothers = — Fathers = - - - -

age

Young = ---
Mid-age = —
Old = ...

→ **The social context of well-being varies between subgroups of society. E.g.:**

- **Socialising more strongly correlated with life satisfaction among women.**
- **For mothers, civic engagement is not associated with higher well-being.**

Data: European Social Survey 2006, UK (N = 2394)