

Happiness is Flextime

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Abstract We study how work a schedule flexibility (flextime) affects happiness. We use a US General Social Survey (GSS) pooled dataset containing the Quality of Worklife and Work Orientations modules for 1998, 2002, 2006, 2010, and 2014. We retain only respondents who are either full-time or part-time employees on payrolls. For flextime to be associated with greater happiness, it has to be more than just sometimes flexible or slight input into one's work schedule, that is, little flextime does not increase happiness. But substantial flextime has a large effect on happiness—the size effect is about as large as that of household income, or about as large as a one-step increase in self-reported health, such as up from good to excellent health. Our findings provide support for both public and organizational policies that would promote greater work schedule flexibility or control for employees.

Keywords Happiness · Life satisfaction · Subjective wellbeing (SWB) · Flextime · Schedule flexibility · Freedom · Autonomy · General social survey (GSS)

Working conditions matter for our wellbeing—we spend about half of our waking life at work, and one of the critical attributes of our jobs is the flexibility it provides, which does affect greatly the other half of our waking life. Flexible working

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schedules or employee-centered flextime offers greater freedom and autonomy to conduct and navigate through our daily lives. Thus, we hypothesize, flextime will considerably improve one's happiness.

Autonomy is not only a desire but arguably one of the basic human needs (Ryan and Deci 2000), and per livability theory (Veenhoven 2014), unfulfilled needs will make us unhappy. For instance, physicians complain that a lack of autonomy makes them unhappy (Lickerman 2012). A case example is a student, who worked at a gas station and experienced the polar opposite to having time autonomy (total flextime), and even worse than inflexible fixed work time—unpredictable and irregular working hours—and it made him very unhappy. Also, flexibility and autonomy should arguably promote intrinsic motivation among employees. Instilling intrinsic motivation and goals predict greater happiness (Schmuck et al. 2000; Roberts 2011).

Happiness is defined as “overall judgment of life that draws on two sources of information: cognitive comparison with standards of the good life (contentment) and affective information from how one feels most of the time (hedonic level of affect)” (Veenhoven 2008, p. 2). Happiness is reasonably precise, reliable, and valid measure, at least within-country or culture (Myers 2000; Oswald and Wu 2009; Diener et al. 2013). We follow usual practice in social indicators research and use terms “happiness” and “subjective wellbeing (swb)” interchangeably. Finally, to be clear, we focus here on general or overall happiness, not just a domain-specific happiness, such as job satisfaction.

There are only few studies regarding the relationship between work time flexibility and happiness. Bryson and MacKerron (2016) use smartphone data to study the context of work in the UK. Moen et al. (2016) study flexible schedules as workplace intervention.¹ Golden et al. (2013) took an approach similar to ours, but we extend the previous work in several ways. First, we use more recent data for 2010 and 2014. Second, we add a key measure—the employee's perceived input into their work schedule. Third, the prior research pertained mainly to the differences between hourly paid and salaried workers. Fourth, the estimation method includes more control variables, such as for workers' region of residence. Finally, the present study situates the issue less in the literature of work-life and more in the philosophical conceptions of subjective wellbeing and work in a market society. An important limitation of earlier investigations is that they do not explain why flexibility should be associated with greater happiness, or why fixed work schedules should lead to unhappiness?

Wage Slavery and Commodification

“You are hired slaves instead of block slaves. You have to dread the idea of being unemployed and of being compelled to support your masters” (p. 283 Goldman et al. 2003).

¹Moen et al. (2016) differ from our study considerably and while not strictly comparable, their similar results using a stronger life-course longitudinal research design, indirectly instill confidence in our cross-sectional findings.

Critics argue that under a system of capitalism, workers may be considered to be like “wage slaves,” at least in some important ways.² (Goldman et al. 2003; Stefan 2010) It is, to use Marcuse (2015) language, ‘voluntary servitude’—it is voluntary because one can pick her master, it is servitude, because one has to have a master (unless one is a master or capitalist herself).

Esping-Andersen thinks of labor as of a commodity, and hence a notion of “commodification,” and its reverse “decommodification”—“labor is decommodified to the degree to which individuals or families can uphold a socially acceptable standard of living independent of market production”(1990, p 37).³ Esping-Andersen goes on to argue that “the market becomes to the worker a prison within which it is imperative to behave as a commodity in order to survive” (1990, p. 36). Lane (2000) contends that markets are indifferent to the fate of individuals and that markets make people unhappy. Radcliff (2001) follows the thought: “I argue that the principal political determinant of subjective well-being is the extent to which a program of “emancipation” from the market is ‘institutionalized’ within a state.”

It has been shown multiple times at the societal level that decommodification is associated with greater happiness (Lane 2000; Radcliff 2001; Pacek and Radcliff 2008a, b; Radcliff 2013; Okulicz-Kozaryn et al. 2014). Herein, we see flex-time and setting one’s own work schedule as one step in the direction of emancipating one’s time from the vagaries of market, becoming more autonomous and free, thus, becoming less of a wage slave.

In addition, the quality of jobs more generally have been associated with both subjective and objective measures of wellbeing among those employed (Budd and Spencer 2015). This includes the role of working time as one of the important objective conditions of a job or work that contribute to a worker’s subjective wellbeing indicators, such as job or life satisfaction (Findlay et al. 2013). Employees’ level of subjective wellbeing, in turn, can feed back to work and the workplace productivity—thus, job and general life can be and has been improved by quality of work programs (Oswald et al. 2015).

Data and Method

We use the US General Social Survey (GSS) dataset containing two attached modules, the Quality of Worklife (QWL) and International Social Survey Program’s

²If the comparison strikes you as far-fetched or unfounded let us provide anecdotal evidence. “It is basically slave labor” said one discontented Brit, whose opinion is more or less representative of large class of people—strikingly, 60% of Brits identify themselves as working class (Higgins 2016). Being an assistant professor (AOK) I only make about a median wage, and I caught myself calling my rich corporate friends “slaves”: they are rich, but not free: they have to do as capitalist pleases. I, on the other hand, can write whatever I like and whenever I want (I only have to be at work twice a week for three hours to teach). Though, Marx himself makes a distinction between wage-labor and slave-labor ([1867] 2010).

³Measures of decommodification tend to focus on welfare programs: pensions, sickness benefits, and unemployment compensation. For instance, one such measure “encompasses three primary dimensions of the underlying concept: the ease of access to welfare benefits, their income-replacement values, and the expansiveness of coverage across different statuses and circumstances”. Pacek and Radcliff (2008b, p. 183). We think that not only welfare programs, but also job characteristics, such as flextime, affect degree of commodification of labor.

(ISSP) Work Orientations (WO). We pool data from 1998, 2002, 2006, 2010, and 2014. The GSS is a nationally representative sample collected from face-to-face interviews. We retain only respondents working full-time or part-time. The GSS contains a standard happiness question, which reads “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?” and answers are coded as 1=“not too happy,” 2=“pretty happy,” and 3=“very happy.”⁴ All variables are defined in Table 1. Distributions of all variables are shown in the Appendix in Fig. 1. Table 1 lists two measures of flexibility that come from the QWL, plus one measure from the WO survey (WHO SET WORKING HOURS). The typical controls used in the empirical literature regarding respondent happiness are then listed (Okulicz-Kozaryn 2016; Berry and Okulicz-Kozaryn 2011). One additional variable is included, the number of hours worked last week. It is important to distinguish between schedule flexibility and the length of work hours. Perhaps, schedule flexibility is relatively more meaningful for the wellbeing of certain workers, such as those who also work long hours.

We also control for the important role for income—we use household income and not personal income because there are many more missing observations on personal income, and also one’s happiness is clearly affected by household income, at least indirectly, not only by personal income. Also, household income may matter more for the relationship between flexibility and one’s happiness—flexibility may contribute more to happiness if household income is low—one can save a lot of time and money with flextime: avoid traffic congestion, take advantage of off-peak pricing, manage care of children or elderly better, and coordinate work with other household members and responsibilities better than if schedules were fixed.

We add in a control for one’s self-rated level of health. There is some disagreement about the direction of causality, i.e., whether health predicts happiness or happiness predicts health (Diener 2015). The most recent evidence suggests that the health causing happiness is predominant (Liu et al. 2016), and we follow it here. We also postpone introduction of health variable to last step in model elaboration.

In addition to these variables, we also include two sets of dummy variables. The occupation dummies are based on ISCO classification of 1-digit occupations: professional, administrative/managerial, clerical, sales, service, agriculture, production, transport, craft, and technical. Occupation dummies are important to control for because there are differences across occupations in working conditions that could affect happiness, and there are differences in flexibility across occupations. We seek to pick up the direct influence of flexible work scheduling, controlling for the other specific aspects of occupations. We also include twelve regional dummies (census regions) to control for potential place or cultural differences in work or wellbeing: New England, Middle Atlantic, E. Nor. Central, W. Nor. Central, South Atlantic, E. Sou. Central, W. Sou. Central, Mountain, and Pacific.

We use OLS estimation, which Ferrer-i-Carbonell and Frijters (2004) showed will yield substantially the same results with those from discrete models, and indeed,

⁴This question has been used in multitude of happiness studies (e.g., Blanchflower and Oswald 2003; Oishi et al. 2011; Okulicz-Kozaryn 2016; Berry and Okulicz-Kozaryn 2011). For more see <http://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&q=happiness+general+social+survey>

Table 1 Variable definitions

Name	Description
Happiness	GENERAL HAPPINESS “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?”
Flexitime:	
Who set working hours	WHO SET WORKING HOURS “Which of the following statements best describes how your working hours are decided? (By working hours we mean here the times you start and finish work, and not the total hours you work per week or month.)”
Can change schedule	HOW OFTEN R ALLOWED CHANGE SCHEDULE “How often are you allowed to change your starting and quitting times on a daily basis?”
Not hard to take time off	HOW HARD TO TAKE TIME OFF “How hard is it to take time off during your work to take care of personal or family matters?”
Controls:	
Family income in 1986, millions	Income variables (INCOME72, INCOME, INCOME77, INCOME82, INCOME86, INCOME91, INCOME98, INCOME06) are recoded in six-digit numbers and converted to 1986 dollars. The collapsed numbers above are for convenience of display only. Since this variable is based on categorical data, income is not continuous, but based on categorical mid-points and imputations. For details see GSS Methodological Report No. 64.
Age of respondent	age
Married	MARITAL STATUS “Are you currently—married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?” NOTE: variable recoded to 1 if married, 0 otherwise
Highest year of school completed	HIGHEST YEAR OF SCHOOL COMPLETED A. “What is the highest grade in elementary school or high school that (you/your father/your mother/your [husband/wife]) finished and got credit for?” CODE EXACT GRADE.; B. IF FINISHED 9th-12th GRADE OR DK*: “Did (you/he/she) ever get a high school diploma or a GED certificate?” [SEE D BELOW.]; C. “Did (you/he/she) complete one or more years of college for credit—not including schooling such as business college, technical or vocational school?” IF YES: “How many years did (you/he/she) complete?”
Male	male
Number of persons in household	NUMBER OF PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLD “Household Size and Composition”
White	RACE “What race do you consider yourself?”
Number of hours worked last week	IF WORKING, FULL OR PART TIME: “How many hours did you work last week, at all jobs?”
Health	CONDITION OF HEALTH “Would you say your own health, in general, is excellent, good, fair, or poor?”

NOTE: white=1 if a person is “white,” and 0 if a person is “black” or “other.” Variable distributions are shown in [Appendix](#) in Fig. 1

OLS became the norm in the literature measuring associations with happiness (Blanchflower and Oswald 2011).

Results

Results for each of the three measures of flexibility are presented in a separate table, and each table contains four models. The first model is bivariate. The second model sequentially adds family income, reflecting a clearly important characteristic of jobs or households that influences a worker's happiness. The third column adds socio-demographic variables known to predict happiness, and the occupation and region dummies. The last, fourth column, adds health and number of hours worked last week, another key characteristic of one's job—these two variables are added at the very end because they have many missing observations.

Table 2 shows results for WHO SET WORKING HOURS (i.e. schedules). The base case is the middle category 'i decide w/limits.' It turns out that such limited flexibility is no more significantly associated with happiness than having no flexibility or discretion at all ('employer decides'). Full flexibility ('free to decide'), on the other hand, is associated with considerable happiness in column a1. Although elaboration of the model in subsequent columns attenuated somewhat the effect of flexibility, its effect persists despite all control variables included. In fact, only schedule flexibility, married, and health variables remain significant in the full model. Also, note that the size effect is as much as half that of being married (.13 v .27), and about as big as one step on 4-step health scale (.15), for instance, having control over one's work

Table 2 OLS of happiness on WHO SET WORKING HOURS

	a1	a2	a3	a4
Who set working hours (base: i decide w/limits):				
Employer decides	-0.03	0.01	0.02	0.03
Free to decide	0.20**	0.15*	0.15*	0.13+
Family income in 1986, millions		3.34***	1.49	0.87
Age of respondent			-0.02	-0.01
Age squared			0.00	0.00
Married			0.26***	0.27***
Highest year of school completed			0.01	0.00
Male			-0.05	-0.05
Number of persons in household			0.00	0.00
White			0.07	0.03
Number of hours worked last week				-0.00
Health				0.15***
Occupation and region dummies	no	no	yes	yes
Constant	2.23***	2.09***	2.18***	1.72***
N	784	719	717	712

+p<0.10 *p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001, robust std err; years: 1998, 2006

schedule contributes as much to happiness as having one’s health go from “good” to “excellent.” Thus, the effect of having discretion into one’s work schedule is salient and meaningful.

The other two flexibility variables are available for multiple years in the QWL: 2002, 2006, 2010, and 2014. Table 3 shows results for CAN CHANGE SCHEDULE (start and end times of work). The base case is the lowest category ‘never’. As in Table 2, where there was no difference between the two lowest categories ‘employer decides’ and ‘i decide w/limits’, ‘rarely’ is no different from ‘never.’ Having flexibility only on rare occasion yields no difference in terms of happiness. An ability to change one’s daily schedule ‘often’, on the other hand, is associated with markedly greater happiness. The positive impact of ‘often’ remains robust, with all controls included, although its size effect is a bit muted.

Finally, Table 4 shows results for NOT HARD TO TAKE TIME OFF. Again, the base is the lowest category ‘very hard’, and again, there is no difference between second lowest category ‘somewhat hard’ and the base. The most flexible category ‘not at all hard’ is not only very significant statistically, but also substantially.

The Appendix contains beta coefficients that confirm that schedule flexibility has a strong positive association with happiness, indeed, about as strong as the effect of income, and about one fourth of the size effect of health. The effect of having

Table 3 OLS of happiness on CAN CHANGE SCHEDULE

	c1	c2	c3	c4
Can change schedule (base: never):				
Rarely	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01
Sometimes	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.04
Often	0.13***	0.06**	0.06*	0.07*
Family income in 1986, millions		2.95***	1.47***	0.81*
Age of respondent			-0.01***	-0.01*
Age squared			0.00**	0.00*
Married			0.28***	0.30***
Highest year of school completed			0.01*	0.00
Male			-0.04+	-0.05+
Number of persons in household			-0.00	0.00
White			0.01	0.01
Number of hours worked last week				0.00
Health				0.17***
Occupation and region dummies	no	no	yes	yes
Constant	2.15***	2.06***	2.28***	1.73***
N	4855	4453	4404	2926

+p<0.10 *p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001, robust std err; years: 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014

Table 4 OLS of happiness on NOT HARD TO TAKE TIME OFF

	d1	d2	d3	d4
Not hard to take time off (base: very hard):				
Somewhat hard	−0.00	0.00	0.01	−0.01
Not too hard	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.03
Not at all hard	0.15***	0.13***	0.13***	0.10*
Family income in 1986, millions		3.06***	1.50***	0.89*
Age of respondent			−0.01***	−0.01**
Age squared			0.00**	0.00*
Married			0.27***	0.29***
Highest year of school completed			0.01*	0.01
Male			−0.04+	−0.05+
Number of persons in household			−0.01	0.01
White			0.02	0.02
Number of hours worked last week				0.00*
Health				0.17***
Occupation and region dummies	no	no	yes	yes
Constant	2.12***	2.01***	2.23***	1.68***
N	4863	4460	4411	2929

+ $p < 0.10$ * $p < 0.05$ ** $p < 0.01$ *** $p < 0.001$, robust std err; years: 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014

considerable frequency or ease of schedule flexibility is large and thus unambiguously positive, given that controlling for occupation would capture most other contributing working conditions—arguably larger than what most people would expect vis-à-vis other contributors to happiness.

Discussion

Almost 100 years ago, Keynes ([1930] 1963) envisioned the future for grandchildren of his generation who thanks to continued economic growth would finally enjoy the fruits of painful laboring for centuries. Keynes envisioned more leisure and enjoyment. This has not (yet) transpired in most countries. It is debated whether the average length of working hours is in general declining, or just for certain subsets of workers—in particular, those who are not salaried (Golden and Figart 2000)—but actually we do now devote more hours to labor than before industrial revolution (Schor 2008). Moreover, average real wage rates have stagnated over the past half a century despite a growing rate of labor productivity (Bivens and Mishel 2015). Societal happiness does not depend on economic growth (Easterlin et al. 2010), but rather depends on growth in wage rates (Fischer 2008). Another explanation of Easterlin paradox may be “wage slavery.” As Marcuse put it (2015):

“Happiness,” said Freud, “is no cultural value.” Happiness must be subordinated to the discipline of work as full-time occupation, to the discipline of monogamic reproduction.

One key working condition, having discretion or more control over one’s work schedule, such as with daily flexitime, arguably may serve to lessen the degree of exploitation of labor resulting from longer hours for no greater real wage level. Indeed, the ability to control the timing of work, with full flexitime, improves not only individuals’ subjective wellbeing, but moves a society towards a more humanistic civilization for which philosophers, social theorists, and intellectuals have been advocating for decades (Fromm 1944, 1962, 1964, [1941] 1994; Marcuse 2015; Maslow 2013; Harvey 2014).

Similar although earlier and more limited GSS and Quality of Worklife datasets were used to study the relationship between happiness and the other dimensions of working hours, such as their length (Golden and Okulicz-Kozaryn 2015), involuntary nature of extra working hours (Golden and Wiens-Tuers 2006), and a focus on outcomes other than happiness, such as work-family conflict (Golden et al. 2011). Moreover, the present paper controls for the influence of number of work hours and focuses on the isolated role of flexible work schedules, including a question from a second data source reflecting workers’ decision input into their work schedules. By focusing on flexibility and happiness, it is thus a contribution that is differentiated from the vast empirical literature on hours mismatches or long hours and health (e.g., Costa et al. 2006; Dembe et al. 2008; Beckers et al. 2008; Kleiner and Pavalko 2010; Bell et al. 2012; Başlevent and Kirmanoğlu 2014) including one using the 2002 GSS data (Grosch et al. 2006), association of hours and happiness (Rätzel 2009) or other aspects of wellbeing (Wooden et al. 2009; Wunder and Heineck 2013) and the association of flexibility and work-life balance (e.g., Lyness et al. 2012; Golden et al. 2016).

The usual caveat is that, without experimental data, causality is difficult if not impossible to establish, but real experiments are almost never possible and quasi-experiments are often inadequate to ensure causality as well. We would argue that one’s work schedule is often quite exogenously determined—few people have the luxury of picking among many jobs or their conditions, or their precise daily work schedule with their jobs. Rather, jobs and their schedule characteristics are mostly given, and presented as a take-it-or-leave-it choice for applicants and incumbent workers. Thus, we can safely assume that the direction of causality runs from schedule flexibility to happiness, although we may not entirely rule out that happier workers self-select (in the longer run) into jobs featuring more schedule flexibility (this would be testable with panel data, which controls for the individuals’ pre-existing level of happiness). It is unlikely, however, even in the long run, that most happy people would end up in flexible jobs and unhappy people in inflexible jobs, particularly as some kind of discretionary choice. If anything, there is more risk of unobserved characteristics that may affect both jobs and happiness, such as personality attributes. That is arguably a key potential limitation—certain personalities (e.g., extroverts) may be more likely than others (e.g., introverts) to end up in

occupations with flexible scheduling opportunities. Personality traits and other potential confounders are likely to be relatively stable over time, and hence, use of panel data with observations on pre-existing personality traits should help to alleviate this problem. However, as of now, there is no long running panel for the US containing happiness, schedule flexibility, and personality items.⁵

That one working condition, having a great deal of work schedule flexibility matters as much as income or as much as quarter of the effect of one's health is arguably larger than in the common wisdom. This is thus a new area ripe for additional happiness research—to point to surprising or nonintuitive findings so that irrational human beings (Ariely 2009) can make better informed choices, choices that will make them happy.

In terms of public policy, our results support contemporary modifications of the basic US Fair Labor Standards Act workweek rules, as well as, workplace and organizational flexibility practices generally. In particular, employers can improve employees happiness with a more advanced human resource management of providing system more frequent discretion of when employees engage in work activity. In addition, public policy makers could institute an individual worker “right to request” a change in the timing (and number) of their work hours and time off, protected from retaliation from making such requests, and be granted that request unless there is a clear business disruption—the result would likely be happier workers, firms no worse off, and perhaps better productivity or performance.

Appendix

Finally, let's compare effects in terms of effect sizes in Table 5, which repeats columns 3 and 4 from the tables in the body of the paper but reports beta (standardized) coefficients. They all have similar value $\approx .05$ in full specification (original column 4), except the highest category on NOT HARD TO TAKE TIME OFF, ‘not at all hard’ (v ‘very hard’) is about twice as big at .12. Perhaps, this is the key feature of schedule flexibility that workers need: they are happy to have more or less fixed schedules as long as it is very easy to take time off.

Comparing these values to income reveals that they are about as big as income or larger, and about as statistically significant or more significant. Again, one caveat to keep in mind is that this study uses household income, not personal income. Still, the size effect is quite striking. Again, as argued in the body of the paper, the schedule flexibility effect is about fourth of health effect, and considering health as one of the strongest, if not the strongest predictors of happiness, it is again a large effect.

⁵German SOEP and British HPS may have the required data for Europe. American PSID has started happiness question only recently, and AddHealth contains mostly data about adolescents, but as more waves become available, PSID and AddHealth could be potentially used to replicate and extend the present study.

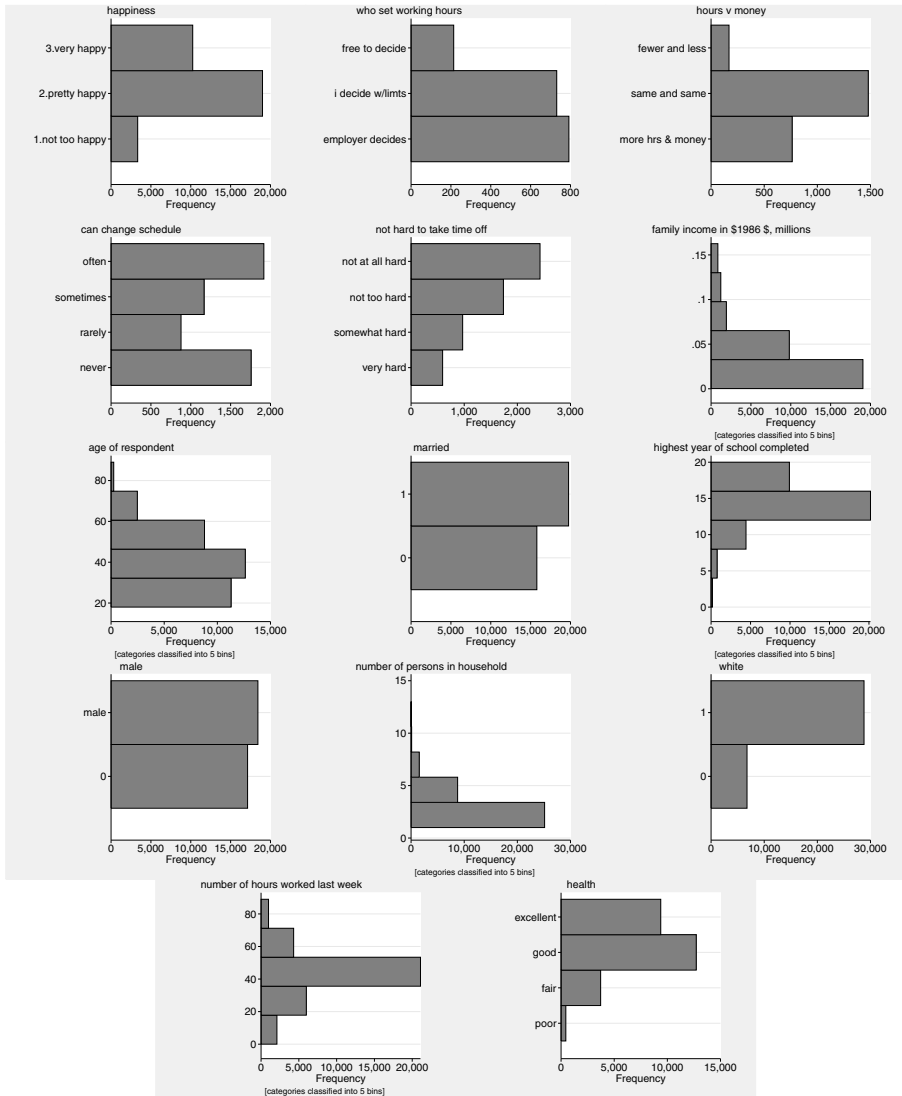


Fig. 1 Variables' distribution

Standardizing dummy variables results in somewhat meaningless quantities (e.g., Jacoby 2005; Williams 2016). Hence we use schedule flexibility measures as ordinal in Table 6 and standardize them. Results are substantively the same except in case of WHO SET WORKING HOURS, which became insignificant.

Table 5 OLS of happiness on all flexibility variables in discrete format. Beta (standardized) coefficients reported

	a3beta	a4beta	c3beta	c4beta	d3beta	d4beta
Who set working hours (base: i decide w/limits):						
Employer decides	0.02	0.03				
Free to decide	0.07*	0.06+				
Can change schedule (base: never):						
Rarely			-0.01	-0.00		
Sometimes			0.02	0.02		
Often			0.05*	0.05*		
Not hard to take time off (base: very hard):						
Somewhat hard					0.00	-0.01
Not too hard					0.04	0.02
Not at all hard					0.11***	0.08*
Family income in 1986, millions	0.07	0.04	0.08***	0.05*	0.08***	0.05*
Age of respondent	-0.31	-0.24	-0.30***	-0.27*	-0.31***	-0.28**
Age squared	0.27	0.23	0.25**	0.22*	0.26**	0.23*
Married	0.22***	0.23***	0.23***	0.24***	0.23***	0.24***
Highest year of school completed	0.04	0.01	0.04*	0.02	0.05*	0.03
Male	-0.04	-0.04	-0.03+	-0.04+	-0.03+	-0.04+
Number of persons in household	0.00	0.01	-0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.01
White	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Number of hours worked last week		-0.00		0.03		0.04*
Health		0.19***		0.20***		0.20***
Occupation and region dummies	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
N	717	712	4404	2926	4411	2929

+p<0.10 *p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001, robust std err

Table 6 OLS of happiness on all flexibility variables in continuous format. Beta (standardized) coefficients reported

	a3beta	a4beta	c3beta	c4beta	d3beta	d4beta
Who set working hours	0.03	0.02				
Can change schedule			0.04**	0.05*		
Not hard to take time off					0.08***	0.07***
Family income in 1986, millions	0.07	0.04	0.08***	0.05*	0.08***	0.05*
Age of respondent	-0.31	-0.24	-0.30**	-0.27*	-0.32***	-0.29**
Age squared	0.28	0.23	0.25**	0.22*	0.26**	0.24*
Married	0.22***	0.23***	0.23***	0.24***	0.23***	0.24***

Table 6 (continued)

	a3beta	a4beta	c3beta	c4beta	d3beta	d4beta
Highest year of school completed	0.03	0.01	0.04*	0.02	0.05*	0.03
Male	-0.04	-0.04	-0.03+	-0.04+	-0.03+	-0.04*
Number of persons in household	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.01
White	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02
Number of hours worked last week		-0.01		0.03		0.04*
Health		0.19***		0.20***		0.20***
Occupation and region dummies	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
N	717	712	4404	2926	4411	2929

+p<0.10 *p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001, robust std err

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