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Title: Maternal Psychological Well-being and Offspring’s Outcomes in Peru: A Quantitative Analysis

This paper examines the relationship between maternal psychological well-being and specific outcomes amongst children and adolescents in Peru. First, it assesses the impacts of maternal depression and life satisfaction on health and life satisfaction of children. Then, it evaluates the impacts of maternal psychological well-being on adolescent risk behavior. Prior research focuses predominately on effects in developed country contexts, but this paper aims to shed light on the impacts in an impoverished setting. Using panel data from the Young Lives Survey, the author finds that children’s self-reported life satisfaction and health positively associate with maternal life satisfaction and negatively associate with maternal depression. Furthermore, maternal life satisfaction predicts whether female adolescents smoke, while maternal depression predicts smoking and misinformation on pregnancy amongst males. The findings suggest that maternal depression and life satisfaction both affect reported health, happiness, and risk behaviors in offspring.