



# Children's Worlds: The International Survey of Children's Well-Being

Asher Ben-Arieh, Ferran Casas, Gwyther Rees and Jonathan  
Bradshaw



# The story of the International Survey of Children's Well-Being

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Co-Chair, International Society for Child Indicators (ISCI)

# Background



- **Children's Worlds** is a world-wide research survey on children's subjective well-being.
- The purpose is to **improve children's well-being** by creating awareness among children, their parents and their communities, but also among opinion leaders, decision makers, professionals and the general public.
- The study aims to collect solid and representative data on **children's lives and daily activities**, their time use, and in particular on their own perception of their well-being.
- By determining the degree of **children's well-being in as many countries as possible**, we hope to raise awareness to children's well-being and their life situations and to influence government policies and services.

# Why?



- Because the field has rapidly developed
- Because the field has changed
- Because we do not know enough
- Because we better understand what we do not know
- Because we believe children's voices must have a place in big international studies

# The history



- Phase I – planning:
  - In 2009, a group of researchers collaborated under the auspice of **UNICEF- Geneva** to propose a questionnaire that could be used in a variety of countries, be they industrialized or developing.
- Phase II – First pilot:
  - These proposals resulted in a preliminary questionnaire that was put to the test in the summer and fall of 2010, in Brazil, England, Germany, Honduras, Israel and the UK.
  - In December 2010, the findings of these pilot surveys were presented and discussed, under the auspice of **World Vision - Germany** and the questionnaire was subsequently revised and developed according to lessons learnt.
- It was also decided **to make the questionnaire available freely to competent researchers anywhere in the world.**

# The history – extended pilot 2011-2012



- ~ 35,000 children
- Ages 8, 10 & 12
- 14 countries.
- Goal was 1,000 kids per age group per country
- Convenience sample
- Included countries with less children
- Not all countries had the 3 age groups

# Full Survey 2013-2104



- 54,000 children. ~ 18,000 per age group
- 15 countries from different continents, varied cultures, diverse religions, distinct development and different types of welfare states.
- A representative sample of the entire country or federal region.
  - The entire country: England, Estonia, Ethiopia, Israel, Nepal, Norway, Romania, South Korea.
  - Federal region: Algeria (El Bayedh , Tlemcen and Oran), Colombia (Antioquia), Germany (Thuringia, Hesse, Baden-Wurttemberg and North Rhine-Westphalia) Poland (Wielkopolska), South Africa (Western Cape), Spain (Catalonia), Turkey (Istanbul).

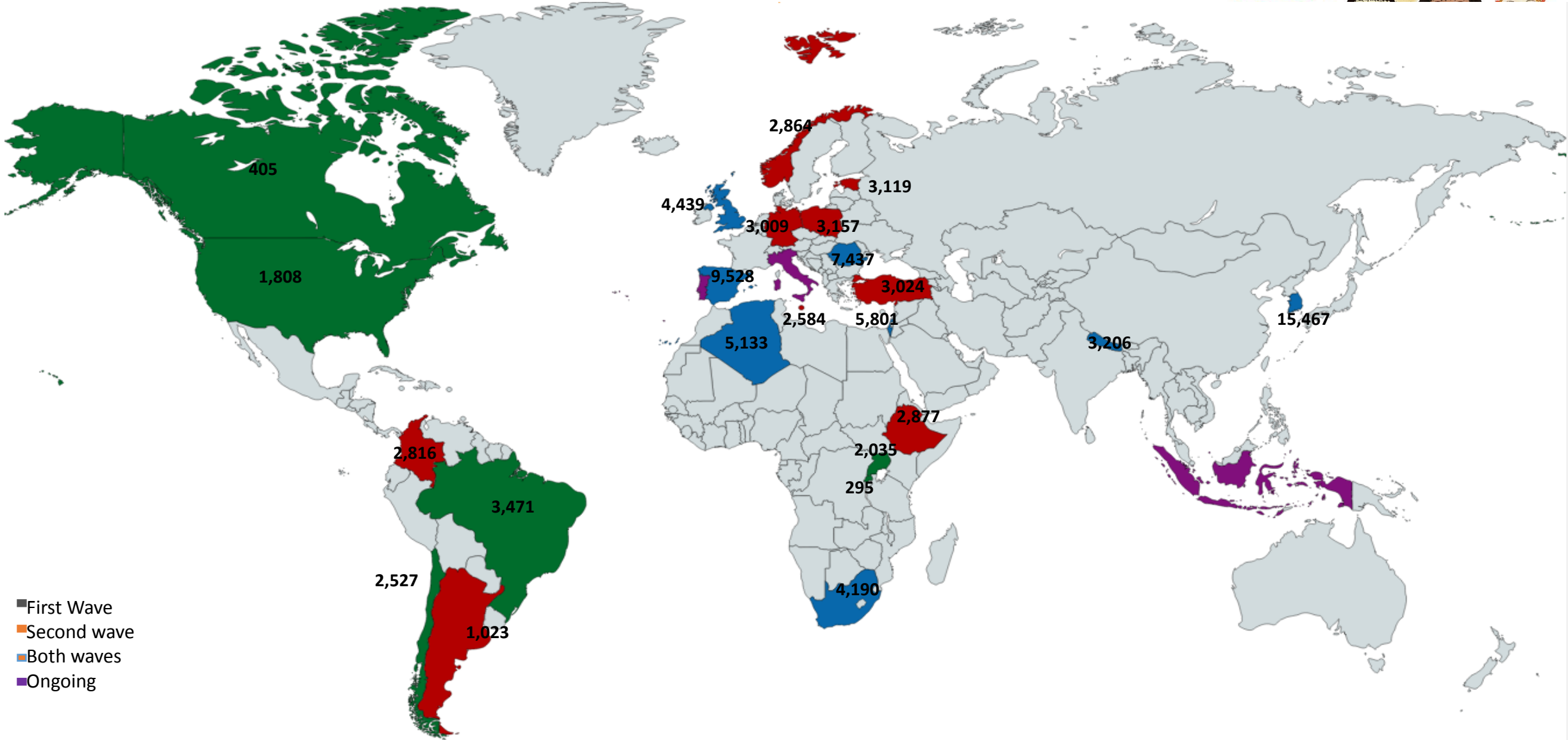
# Full Survey 2013-2104



- Sample was based on mainstream schools, and therefore did not include special education schools and etc.
- Sampling strategy varied from country to country, subject to the characteristics of each.
- To ensure the quality of the sample each sample plan, prepared by the local teams, was reviewed and approved in advance by a 'sample committee' comprised of four experts.



# Children's Worlds participants per country



- First Wave
- Second wave
- Both waves
- Ongoing

# Children's Worlds participants per country



| Wave        | Country                    | Participants |
|-------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| First Wave  | Brazil (Rio Grande do sul) | 3,471        |
|             | Canada (Manitoba)          | 405          |
|             | Chile                      | 2,527        |
|             | Rwanda (Capital)           | 295          |
|             | Uganda (Eastern)           | 2,035        |
|             | US (South Dakota)          | 1,808        |
| Second Wave | Argentina                  | 1,023        |
|             | Colombia (Antioquia)       | 2,816        |
|             | Estonia                    | 3,119        |
|             | Ethiopia                   | 2,877        |
|             | Germany                    | 3,009        |
|             | Malta                      | 2,584        |
|             | Norway                     | 2,864        |
|             | Poland (Wielkopolska)      | 3,157        |
|             | Turkey (Istanbul)          | 3,024        |

| Wave       | Country               | Participants |
|------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Both Waves | Algeria (Western)     | 5,133        |
|            | Israel                | 5,801        |
|            | Nepal                 | 3,206        |
|            | Romania               | 7,437        |
|            | South Africa (W Cape) | 4,190        |
|            | South Korea           | 15,467       |
|            | Spain                 | 9,528        |
|            | UK (England)          | 4,459        |

**Total 90,235**

# Data collection in Ethiopia



# Some initial thoughts



- Almost 90,000 kids ages 8, 10 & 12 from 21 countries, various religions, cultures and languages were comfortable with 95% of the questions we asked.
- The only problematic domain was family formation. For example you can not ask an Arab child if his mother lives with a boy friend...



# From the press

## The launch of the comparative report



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Children

### English children among the unhappiest in the world at school due to bullying

100 THE INDEPENDENT

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The list

### The country where the world's happiest children live

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goats and soda STORIES OF LIFE IN A CHANGING WORLD

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girls/boys

### Cellphones Or School? What Makes Kids Around The World Happy

MAY 18, 2015 4:14 PM ET

THE TIMES

## UK News

News | Opinion | Business | Money | Sport | Life | Arts | Puzzles | Papers | Irish news

### Welcome to your preview of The Times

### Children losing battle to be happy

POPULAR

## QUARTZ

THE WONDER YEARS

### Most children are happy no matter what, but materialism catches up eventually

## THE CONVERSATION

Academic rigour, journalistic fair

Arts + Culture Business + Economy Education Environment + Energy Health + Medicine Politics + Society

### In which countries are children happier – and why?

May 14, 2015 3:27pm BST

# From the press

## The launch of the comparative report



**ZEITUNG ONLINE**

START POLITIK WIRTSCHAFT GESELLSCHAFT KULTUR WISSEN DIGITAL STUDIUM KARRIERE

Start > News > Wissenschaft: Studie zur Kinder-Zufriedenheit: Deutschland nur Mittelfeld

**dpa** • • • NEWSTICKER

WISSENSCHAFT

### Studie zur Kinder-Zufriedenheit: Deutschland nur Mittelfeld

Aktualisiert 13. Mai 2015 17:44 Uhr

Frankfurt/Main (dpa) - Trotz Wohlstands nicht restlos glücklich: Bei einer großen Studie zur weltweiten Zufriedenheit von Kindern ist Deutschland nur auf dem zehnten Platz im Feld der 15 Teilnehmer-Länder gelandet.

**n-tv** Suchen auf n-tv.de

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Startseite > Kurznachrichten > Freundschaften besonders wichtig: Kinder in Europa sind zufriedener

NRZNACHRICHTEN

Mittwoch, 13. Mai 2015

### Freundschaften besonders wichtig Kinder in Europa sind zufriedener

Kinder in europäischen Ländern sind zufriedener mit ihren Freundschaften, in afrikanischen Staaten sind sie dagegen tendenziell glücklicher mit ihrem Schulleben: Acht- bis Zwölfjährige in verschiedenen Weltregionen bewerten einer von der Universität Frankfurt am Main veröffentlichten Studie zufolge ihr Leben unterschiedlich.

**DIE WELT** DIE WELT Jetzt testen

Politik Wirtschaft Geld Sport Wissen Panorama Feuilleton ICON Reise PS WELT Regional Meinung

> Psychologie > Weltweite Studie: In Rumänien sind Kinder besonders glücklich

1 Jahr DIGITAL Komplett **99,99 €** Jetzt z...

GESUNDHEIT WELTWEITE STUDIE

### In Rumänien sind Kinder besonders glücklich

Zum ersten Mal haben Forscher weltweit Kinder nach ihrem Wohlbefinden gefragt. Dabei schnitten Rumänien und Kolumbien besonders gut ab. In Deutschland ist vor allem der Schulbesuch verhasst.

**Handelsblatt**

Digitalpass Finanzen Unternehmen Politik Technik Auto Sport Pa...

deutschland > International > Konjunktur + Geldpolitik >

Handelsblatt > Politik > Deutschland > Studie zum Kindesglück: Viele Kinder in Deutschland sind nicht glücklich

### STUDIE ZUM KINDESGLÜCK Viele Kinder in Deutschland sind nicht glücklich

utor: dpa  
atum: 13.05.2015 18:03 Uhr

Kinder in Deutschland wachsen im Ländervergleich sicher und wohlbehütet auf. Dennoch sind sie laut einer Studie nicht voll auf zufrieden. Zwölfjährige in Rumänien und Kolumbien sind nach ihrem Befinden viel glücklicher.

# Thank you very much!



Asher Ben-Arieh

The Haruv Institute, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

[www.isciweb.org](http://www.isciweb.org)



# Objectives and methods of the Children's Worlds project

Emeritus Professor Ferran Casas

Co-ordinator, ERIDIQV, Research Institute on Quality of Life, University of Girona



# What did we ask?

- Questions about frequency of activities
  - Satisfaction scales of life in large and specific domains or factors
  - Agreement scales with status and events.
  - Socio-demographic characteristics
- On the following topics:

## You

- age
- gender
- place of living

## Your home and the people you live with

- sleeping place
- the home you live
- people you live with

## Money and things you have

- 4 pocket money
- 9 things you have
- 1 satisfaction with things you have

## Your friends and other people

- 2 agreement
- 3 satisfaction
- 3 activities

## The area where you live

- 3 agreement
- 4 satisfaction

## School

- 4 agreements
- 2 bullying
- 6 satisfaction

## How you use your time

- list of 10 activities

## More about you

- 10 satisfaction
- 5 changes

## How you feel about yourself

- 4 satisfaction
- 1 happiness

## Your life and your future

- 5 items of the SLSS
- 3 children's rights; 8 values aspired; 6 positive affects
- 2 evaluation items on the questionnaire

# Overall subjective well-being



- The survey included 28 questions about children's **satisfaction** with different aspects of their life
  - A question about satisfaction with life as a whole (**OLS**) (0-10)
  - Cummins and Lau's Personal Well-Being Index-School Children (**PWI-SC**) (7 items, 0-10)
  - Seligson & Huebner's Brief Multidimensional Student Life Satisfaction Scale (**BMSLSS**) (5 items, 0-10)
  - 15 items on satisfaction with other aspects or domains of their lives (0-10)
- Six questions about positive affects in the last two weeks (0-10)
- Short version of Huebner's Student Life Satisfaction Scale (SLSS) (5 items, 0-10)
- All multi-item scales have been converted to 0 to 100 for comparison purposes

# How did we ask it? (I)

- Three versions of the questionnaire were created, one for each age group.
- The format of the questionnaires was advised by children from some of the participant countries by means of focus groups.
- Questionnaires differ in length; the questionnaire for age 12 is the longest while the questionnaire for age 8 is the shortest.
- In the 8-years-old version, a scale of emoticons was used for the satisfaction items and these items were phrased in terms of happiness ('How happy you feel with...').



# How did we ask it? (II)



- Frequency: of activities in last week, month and year
- Agreement scales: five-point unipolar agreement scale was used. Children could also choose to answer 'Don't know'.
- Satisfaction scales: 11-point scale, with 0 denoting 'not at all satisfied' and 10 'totally satisfied'.
- Response scale for the satisfaction items in the 8 year-olds questionnaire consisting of five emoticons (from a sad face to a happy face), was converted to a 0-4 scale.
- For the analysis the data for each country has been weighted equally by gender

# Challenges



- Different languages
  - Need to translate to different languages and to adapt to each linguistic context.
  - Unipolar scales better than bipolar.
- Diverse cultures
  - Appropriate for a wide range of cultures (developed-developing; different continents; various living situations; different answering styles; ...)
  - Comparability of the psychometric scales?
  - Which belongings are good socio-economic indicators?
- Various ages
  - Suitable for the developmental and cognitive level of children aged 8-12
  - Few previous experiences with big samples of 10 or 8 year-olds
  - The first questionnaire ever seen by some children

# Full survey 2013-2014: representative samples



| Country      | 8 y.o. | 10 y.o. | 12 y.o. | Total        |
|--------------|--------|---------|---------|--------------|
| Algeria      | 1385   | 1216    | 1359    | <b>3960</b>  |
| Colombia     | 1003   | 1071    | 1007    | <b>3081</b>  |
| England      | 990    | 989     | 1319    | <b>3298</b>  |
| Estonia      | 1131   | 1034    | 1033    | <b>3198</b>  |
| Ethiopia     | 1000   | 1000    | 1000    | <b>3000</b>  |
| Germany      | 1069   | 1143    | 851     | <b>3063</b>  |
| Israel       | 1004   | 1030    | 954     | <b>2988</b>  |
| Nepal        | 1073   | 1073    | 1073    | <b>3219</b>  |
| Norway       | 977    | 1033    | 1000    | <b>3010</b>  |
| Poland       | 1078   | 1156    | 1038    | <b>3272</b>  |
| Romania      | 1422   | 1424    | 1561    | <b>4407</b>  |
| South Africa | 1032   | 1109    | 1143    | <b>3283</b>  |
| South Korea  | 2323   | 2323    | 2607    | <b>7253</b>  |
| Spain        | 1066   | 1082    | 1717    | <b>3865</b>  |
| Turkey       | 1045   | 1079    | 1029    | <b>3153</b>  |
| <b>Total</b> | 17598  | 17762   | 18691   | <b>54051</b> |



# Data collection in Nepal





# More countries involved



- Data collection process has recently been completed in Argentina and Malta.
- Data collection is going on in Brazil, Italy, Portugal, and Wales.
- Data collection during the next scholar course is announced in Indonesia.

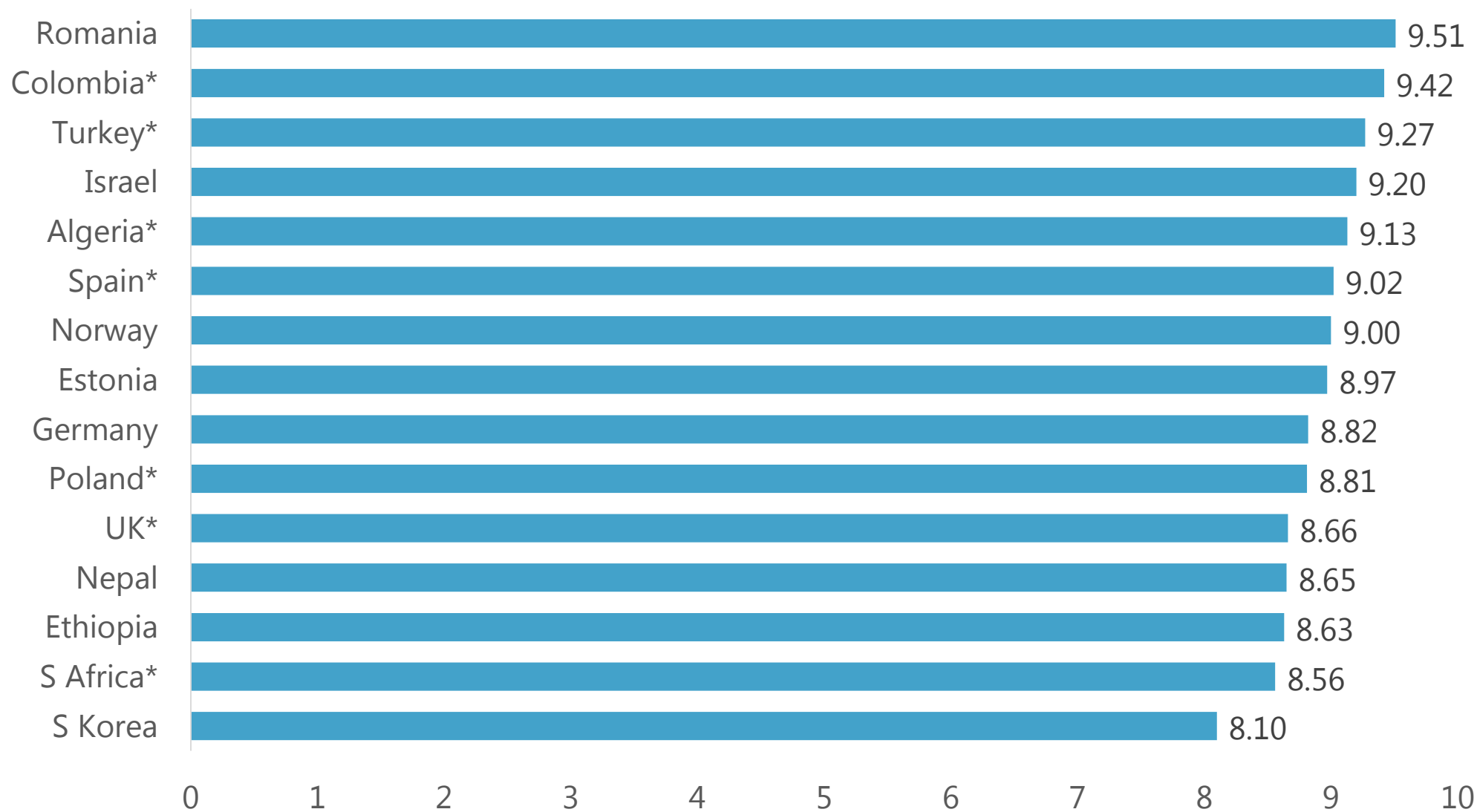


# Key findings from the Children's Worlds project so far

Gwyther Rees

Honorary Research Fellow, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York

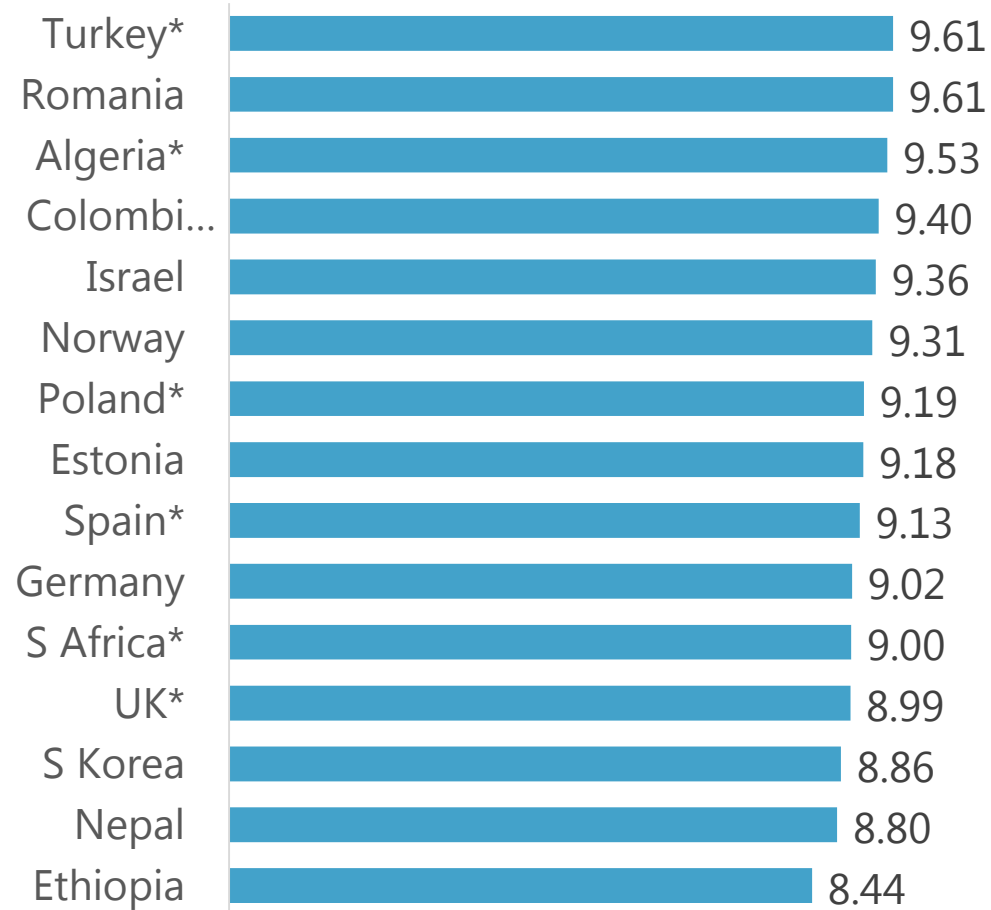
# Satisfaction with life as a whole



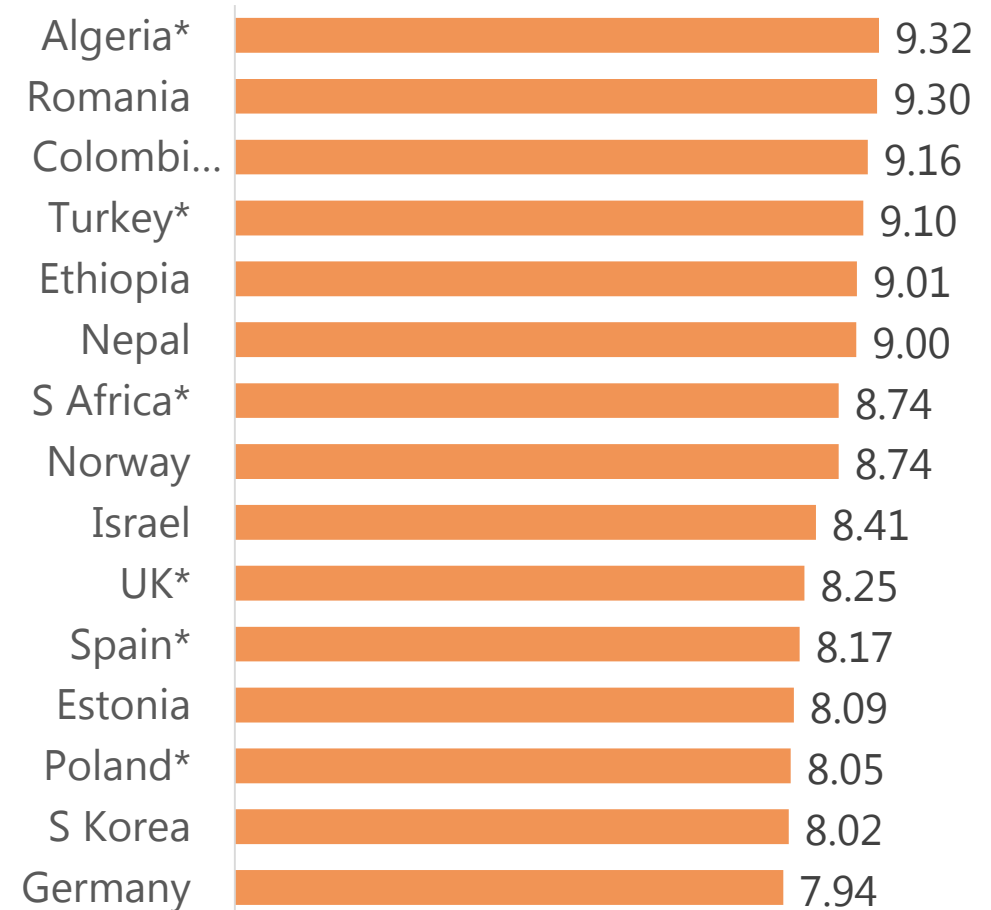
# Satisfaction with different aspects of life



## Family life



## Life as a student



# What should we compare?



Various options

- Means or mean ranks
- % with low well-being
- Inequalities of well-being

Linked to three different potential goals

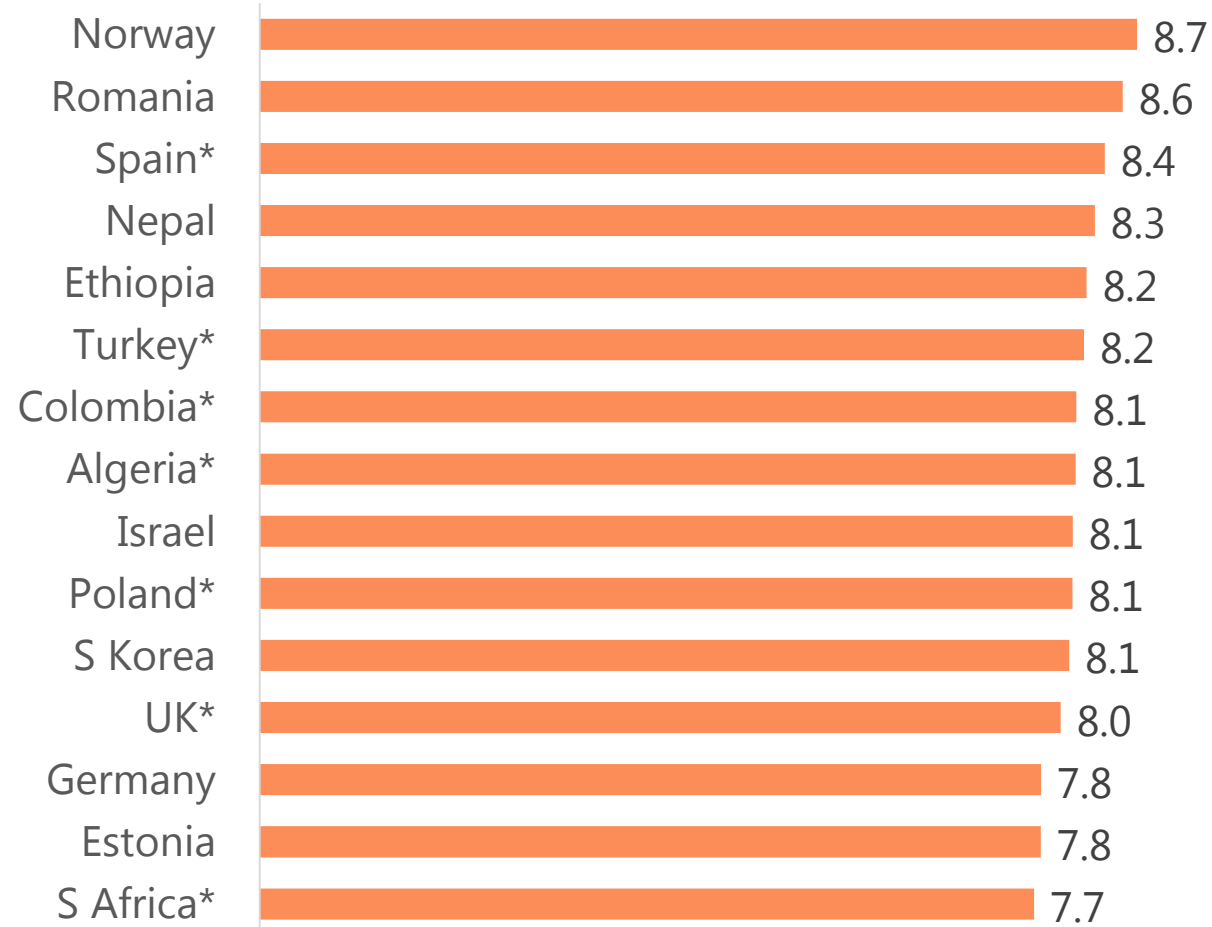
- Increase average happiness or satisfaction
- Reduce misery
- Reduce inequality

# Rankings of satisfaction with life as a whole

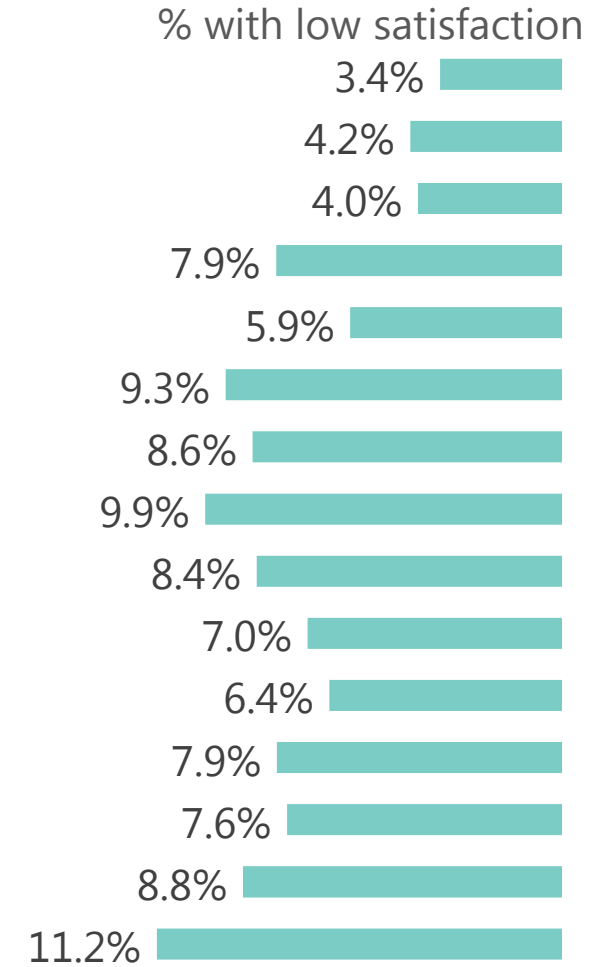


|           | Mean      | Mean rank | % with low well-being (<5 out of 10) | % with very high well-being (10 out of 10) | Inequality (standard deviation) |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Algeria*  | 5         | 5         | 5                                    | 5  | 7                               |
| Colombia* | 2         | 3         | 2                                    | 3  | 2                               |
| Estonia   | 8         | 8         | 7                                    | 8  | 6                               |
| Ethiopia  | 13        | 14        | 10                                   | 14   | 11                              |
| Germany   | <b>9</b>  | <b>12</b> | <b>9</b>                             | <b>13</b>                                  | <b>8</b>                        |
| Israel    | 4         | 4         | 6                                    | 4  | 5                               |
| Nepal     | 12        | 11        | 13                                   | 9  | 13                              |
| Norway    | 7         | 6         | 4                                    | 7  | 4                               |
| Poland*   | 10        | 10        | 11                                   | 11   | 10                              |
| Romania   | 1         | 1         | 1                                    | 2  | 1                               |
| S Africa* | <b>14</b> | <b>9</b>  | <b>15</b>                            | <b>6</b>                                   | <b>15</b>                       |
| S Korea   | 15        | 15        | 14                                   | 15   | 14                              |
| Spain*    | 6         | 7         | 3                                    | 10   | 3                               |
| Turkey*   | 3         | 2         | 8                                    | 1  | 9                               |
| UK*       | 11        | 13        | 12                                   | 12   | 12                              |

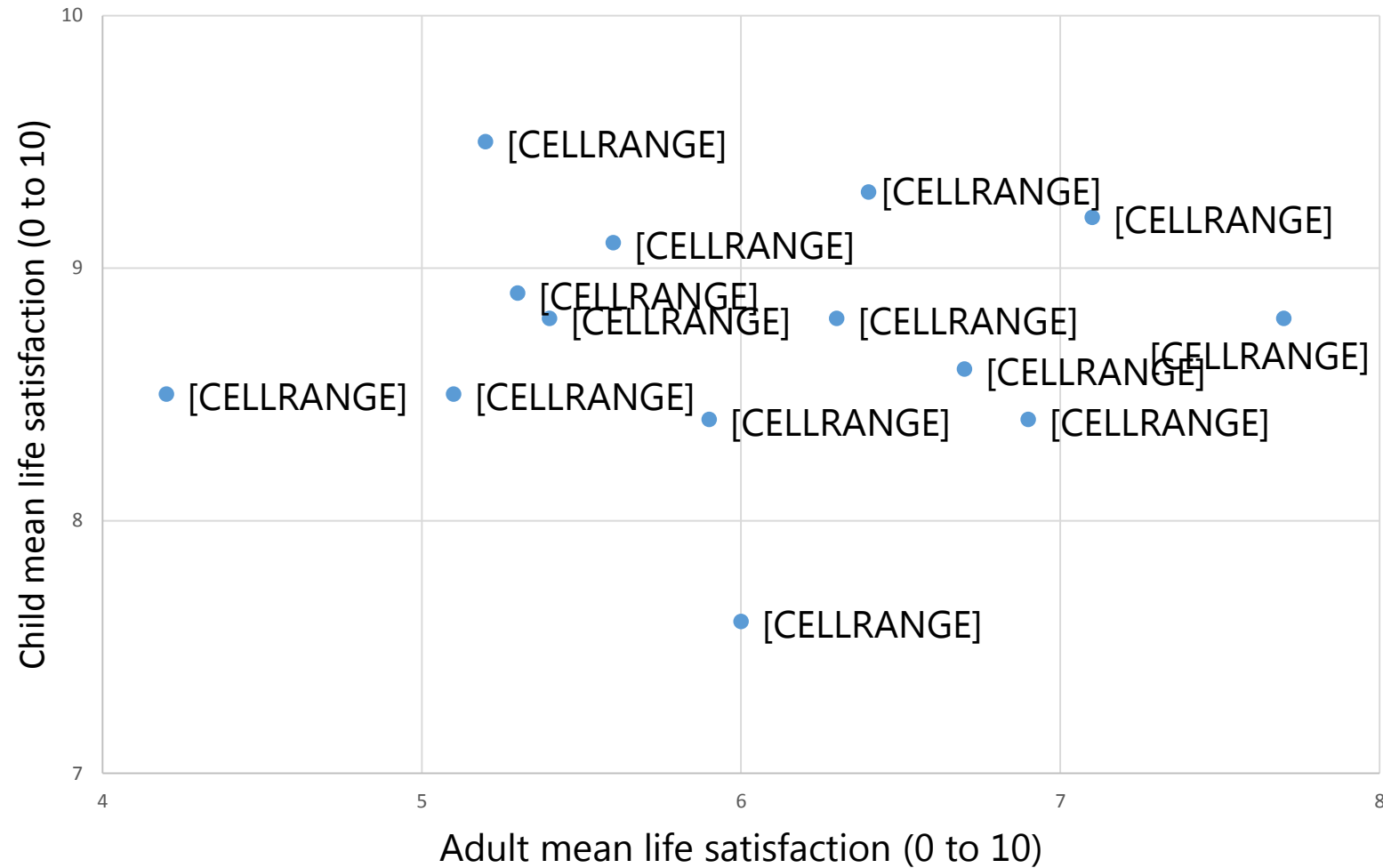
# Satisfaction with classmates



Mean satisfaction (out of 10)



# Child and adult life satisfaction





# Making use of the Children's Worlds data



- Comparing means (or % with low well-being or inequalities) between countries is potentially useful, if we can explain the reasons for variation through:
  - Macro analysis
  - Contextualisation (example)
  - Theoretical approaches
- We can use satisfaction scores in other useful comparative ways
  - Comparing factors explaining within-country variation.
  - Looking at relative positive and negative aspects of life
  - Looking at sub-group differences
- There are other important topics covered in the survey – bullying, time use, children's rights

# Absolute and relative scores

# Mean scores for selected satisfaction questions



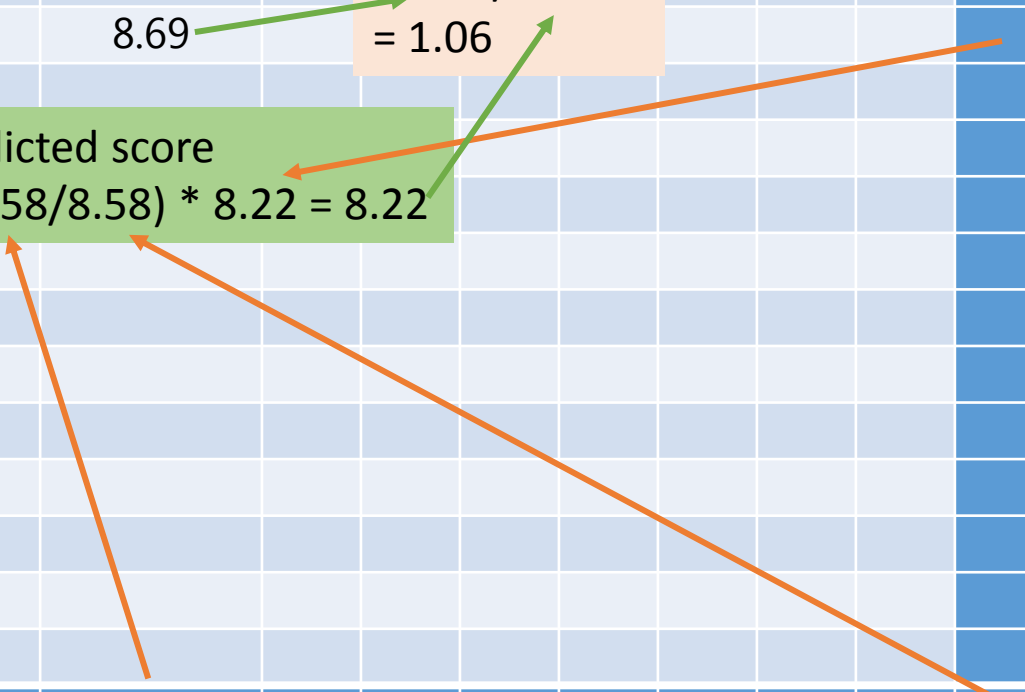
|           | Family life | Things | Friends | Life as student | Local area | Time use | Body | The future | Life as a whole |
|-----------|-------------|--------|---------|-----------------|------------|----------|------|------------|-----------------|
| Algeria*  | 9.53        | 8.10   | 8.51    | 9.32            | 8.23       | 8.34     | 8.76 | 8.93       | 9.13            |
| Colombia* | 9.40        | 9.45   | 8.72    | 9.16            | 8.95       | 9.02     | 9.47 | 9.24       | 9.42            |
| Estonia   | 9.18        | 8.96   | 8.71    | 8.09            | 8.53       | 8.50     | 8.15 | 8.40       | 8.97            |
| Ethiopia  | 8.44        | 7.20   | 8.23    | 9.01            | 8.02       | 8.31     | 8.69 | 7.71       | 8.63            |
| Germany   | 9.02        | 9.19   | 9.07    | 7.94            | 7.82       | 8.53     | 8.05 | 8.95       | 8.82            |
| Israel    | 9.36        | 9.40   | 8.83    | 8.41            | 8.82       | 8.72     | 9.15 | 8.72       | 9.20            |
| Nepal     | 8.80        | 8.77   | 8.56    | 9.00            | 8.44       | 8.34     | 8.57 | 5.78       | 8.65            |
| Norway    | 9.31        | 9.46   | 9.22    | 8.74            | 9.36       | 8.62     | 8.26 | 8.86       | 9.00            |
| Poland*   | 9.19        | 9.27   | 8.52    | 8.05            | 8.70       | 8.71     | 8.39 | 8.96       | 8.81            |
| Romania   | 9.61        | 9.57   | 8.96    | 9.30            | 9.27       | 9.18     | 9.35 | 8.97       | 9.51            |
| S Africa* | 9.00        | 8.74   | 8.36    | 8.74            | 7.78       | 8.35     | 8.87 | 7.87       | 8.56            |
| S Korea   | 8.86        | 8.54   | 8.55    | 8.02            | 8.00       | 7.91     | 7.41 | 8.02       | 8.10            |
| Spain*    | 9.13        | 9.28   | 8.99    | 8.17            | 8.69       | 8.56     | 8.63 | 8.66       | 9.02            |
| Turkey*   | 9.61        | 9.19   | 8.96    | 9.10            | 8.88       | 8.95     | 9.07 | 9.34       | 9.27            |
| UK*       | 8.99        | 9.17   | 8.84    | 8.25            | 8.43       | 8.42     | 7.86 | 8.23       | 8.66            |

# Calculating relative scores

|                    | Your own body | Mean within country |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Algeria*           |               |                     |
| Colombia*          |               |                     |
| Estonia            |               |                     |
| Ethiopia           | 8.69          | 8.22                |
| Germany            |               |                     |
| Israel             |               |                     |
| Nepal              |               |                     |
| Norway             |               |                     |
| Poland*            |               |                     |
| Romania            |               |                     |
| S Africa*          |               |                     |
| S Korea            |               |                     |
| Spain*             |               |                     |
| Turkey*            |               |                     |
| UK*                |               |                     |
| Mean within domain | 8.58          | 8.58                |

Relative score  
=  $8.69/8.22$   
= 1.06

Predicted score  
=  $(8.58/8.58) * 8.22 = 8.22$



# Relative scores for selected aspects of life, 10- and 12-years-old surveys



|           | Family life | Things | Friends | Local area | Life as student | Time use | Body | The future |
|-----------|-------------|--------|---------|------------|-----------------|----------|------|------------|
| Algeria*  | 1.03        | 0.90   | 0.97    | 0.96       | 1.08            | 0.97     | 1.01 | 1.05       |
| Colombia* | 0.99        | 1.01   | 0.96    | 1.01       | 1.02            | 1.01     | 1.06 | 1.05       |
| Estonia   | 1.02        | 1.02   | 1.01    | 1.02       | 0.95            | 1.01     | 0.97 | 1.01       |
| Ethiopia  | 0.96        | 0.84   | 0.98    | 0.98       | 1.09            | 1.01     | 1.06 | 0.95       |
| Germany   | 1.00        | 1.04   | 1.05    | 0.93       | 0.94            | 1.01     | 0.95 | 1.08       |
| Israel    | 1.00        | 1.03   | 0.99    | 1.01       | 0.95            | 1.00     | 1.04 | 1.01       |
| Nepal     | 1.00        | 1.02   | 1.02    | 1.03       | 1.08            | 1.01     | 1.04 | 0.71       |
| Norway    | 0.97        | 1.01   | 1.01    | 1.05       | 0.97            | 0.96     | 0.92 | 1.01       |
| Poland*   | 1.00        | 1.03   | 0.97    | 1.02       | 0.93            | 1.01     | 0.97 | 1.06       |
| Romania   | 0.98        | 1.00   | 0.96    | 1.02       | 1.01            | 1.00     | 1.02 | 0.99       |
| S Africa* | 1.02        | 1.01   | 0.99    | 0.94       | 1.05            | 1.01     | 1.07 | 0.97       |
| S Korea   | 1.03        | 1.02   | 1.04    | 1.00       | 0.99            | 0.98     | 0.92 | 1.01       |
| Spain*    | 0.99        | 1.03   | 1.02    | 1.01       | 0.94            | 0.99     | 1.00 | 1.02       |
| Turkey*   | 1.00        | 0.98   | 0.98    | 1.00       | 1.01            | 1.00     | 1.01 | 1.06       |
| UK*       | 1.00        | 1.05   | 1.03    | 1.01       | 0.98            | 1.00     | 0.94 | 0.99       |

# High and low relative scores, 8 years old survey

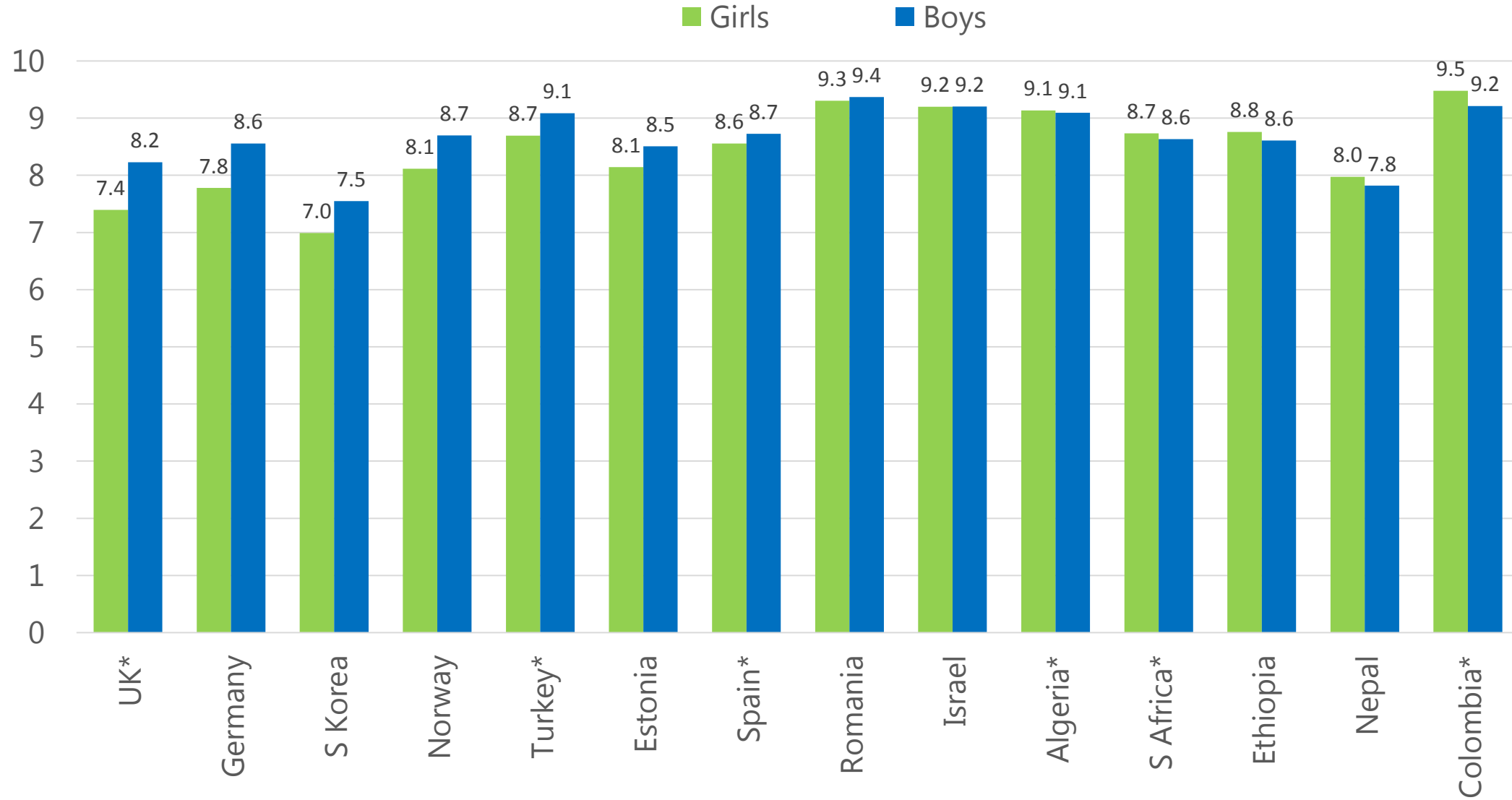


| Country   | Highest   | Lowest  |
|-----------|---|---|
| Algeria*  | Relationships in general<br>Relationships with teachers<br>People in area | Health<br>Activities in free time                                     |
| Colombia* | Treatment at doctors<br>Listened to by adults                             | Friends<br>Classmates   |
| Estonia   | Local area in general<br>Activities in free time<br>Family life           | Other people in family<br>Classmates<br>Treatment at doctors          |
| Ethiopia  | Classmates<br>Health<br>Appearance  | Money and possessions<br>Safety<br>Freedom                            |
| Germany   | Activities in free time<br>Treatment at doctors<br>Other people in family | Local area in general<br>Classmates<br>School experience              |
| Israel    | Freedom<br>Own body<br>Appearance   | Relationships in general<br>Treatment at doctors<br>School experience |
| Malta     | Money and possessions<br>Friends<br>Relationships with teachers           | Treatment at doctors<br>Family life<br>People in local area           |
| Nepal     | People in local area<br>Classmates<br>School experience                   | Treatment at doctors<br>Activities in free time<br>People live with   |

| Country   | Highest   | Lowest   |
|-----------|---|--|
| Norway    | Outdoor areas<br>Other people in family<br>Relationship with teachers | Health   |
| Poland*   | Outdoor areas   | School experience<br>Relationship with teachers        |
| Romania   | Treatment at doctors  | Outdoor areas<br>Friends                               |
| S Africa* | Own body<br>Freedom   | Outdoor areas<br>Safety                                |
| S Korea   | Other people in family<br>Treatment at doctors<br>People live with    | Appearance<br>School marks<br>Relationships in general |
| Spain*    | Outdoor areas<br>Other people in family                               | Relationships with teachers<br>Listened to be adults   |
| Turkey*   | Freedom   | Other people in family<br>Activities in free time      |
| UK*       | People live with  | Appearance<br>Other people in family<br>Outdoor areas  |

# Sub-group differences

# Gender and appearance





# Age variations in school satisfaction

|   | 8<br>years<br>old |   | 10<br>years<br>old |   | 12<br>years<br>old |
|---|-------------------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| My teachers listen to me and take what I say into account | 3.30              | > | 3.21               | > | 2.94               |
| My teachers treat me fairly                               | 3.34              | ≈ | 3.30               | > | 3.00               |
| I feel safe at school                                     | 3.40              | > | 3.34               | > | 3.14               |
| I like going to school                                    | 3.23              | > | 3.06               | > | 2.80               |
| Sum of agreement scores for above four items<br>(0 to 16) | 13.35             | > | 13.01              | > | 11.89              |

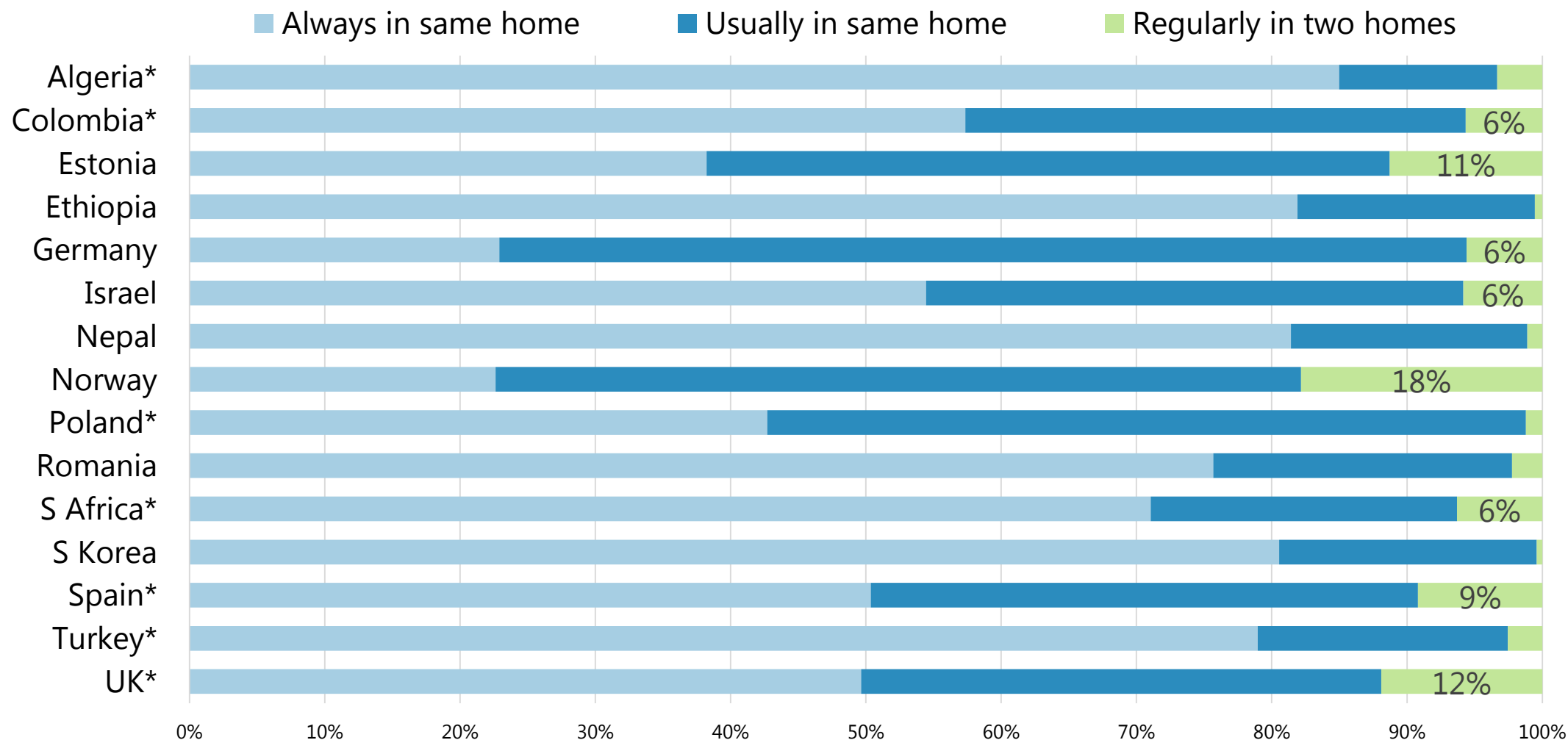
# Age variations in school satisfaction by country



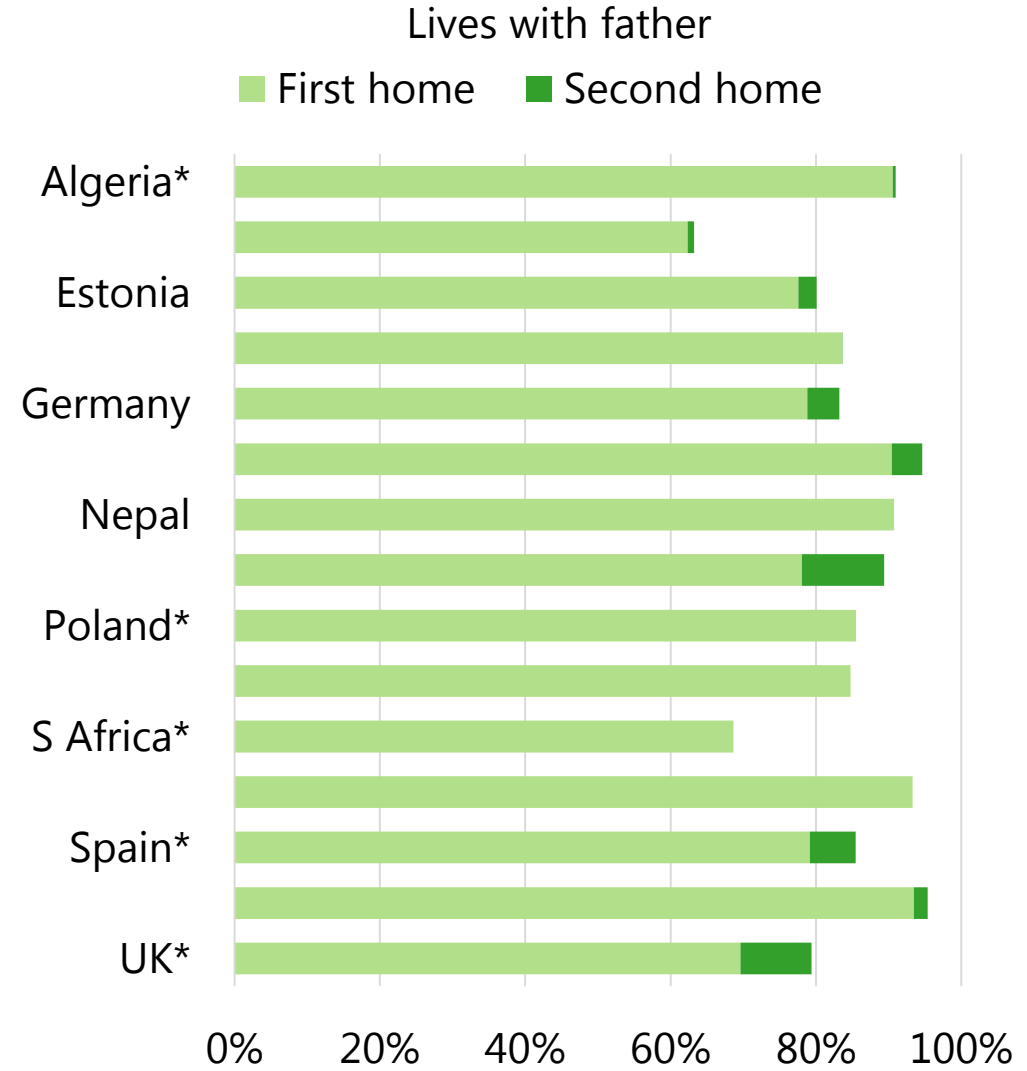
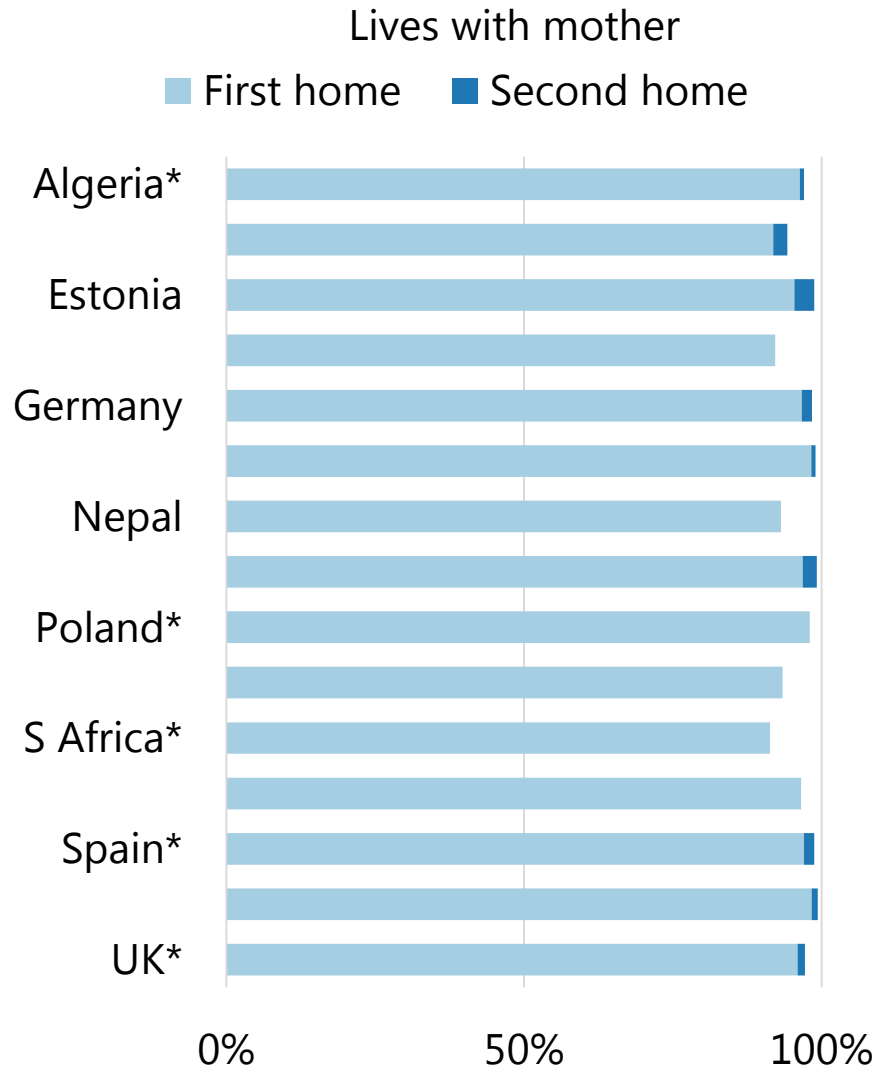
|           | Total | 8 years old |   | 10 years old |   | 12 years old | eta <sup>2</sup> |
|-----------|-------|-------------|---|--------------|---|--------------|------------------|
| Germany   | 11.62 | 12.25       | ≈ | 12.24        | > | 10.13        | .067             |
| Algeria*  | 14.07 | 14.59       | ≈ | 14.51        | > | 13.21        | .053             |
| S Korea   | 12.42 | 12.87       | ≈ | 12.99        | > | 11.48        | .040             |
| Spain*    | 12.64 | 13.59       | > | 13.06        | > | 11.81        | .043             |
| Turkey*   | 13.18 | 13.29       | ≈ | 13.68        | > | 12.57        | .020             |
| UK*       | 11.87 | 12.94       | > | 12.61        | > | 10.56        | .079             |
| Colombia* | 13.35 | 14.21       | > | 13.43        | > | 12.48        | .060             |
| Estonia   | 11.99 | 13.09       | > | 12.31        | > | 10.66        | .061             |
| Romania   | 13.19 | 14.17       | > | 13.65        | > | 11.96        | .071             |
| Poland*   | 12.34 | 13.62       | > | 12.60        | > | 10.93        | .090             |
| Norway    | 13.22 | 13.84       | > | 13.36        | > | 12.56        | .038             |
| S Africa* | 12.56 | 13.13       | > | 12.45        | ≈ | 12.17        | .018             |
| Israel    | 12.09 | 12.54       | > | 11.72        | ≈ | 11.68        | .010             |
| Ethiopia  | 13.20 | 13.28       | ≈ | 13.25        | ≈ | 13.08        | ns               |
| Nepal     | 13.38 | 13.06       | < | 13.29        | < | 13.77        | .020             |

# The context of children's lives

# Children living in two homes

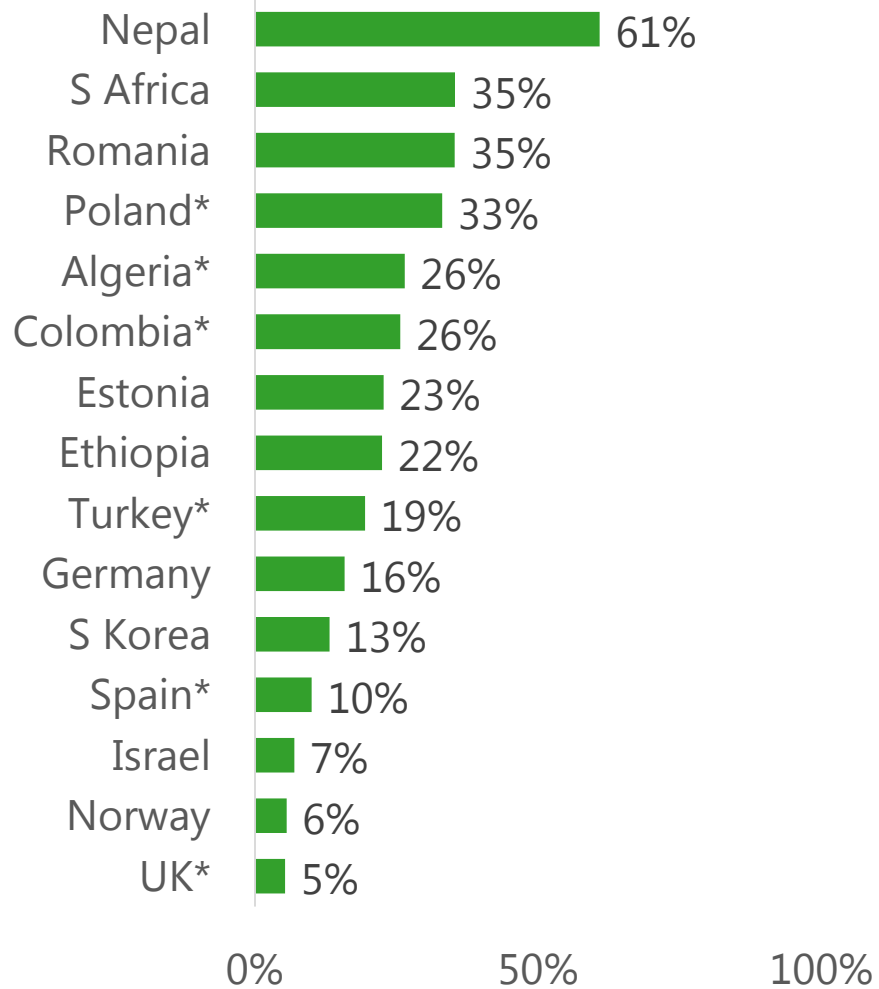


# Living with mothers and fathers

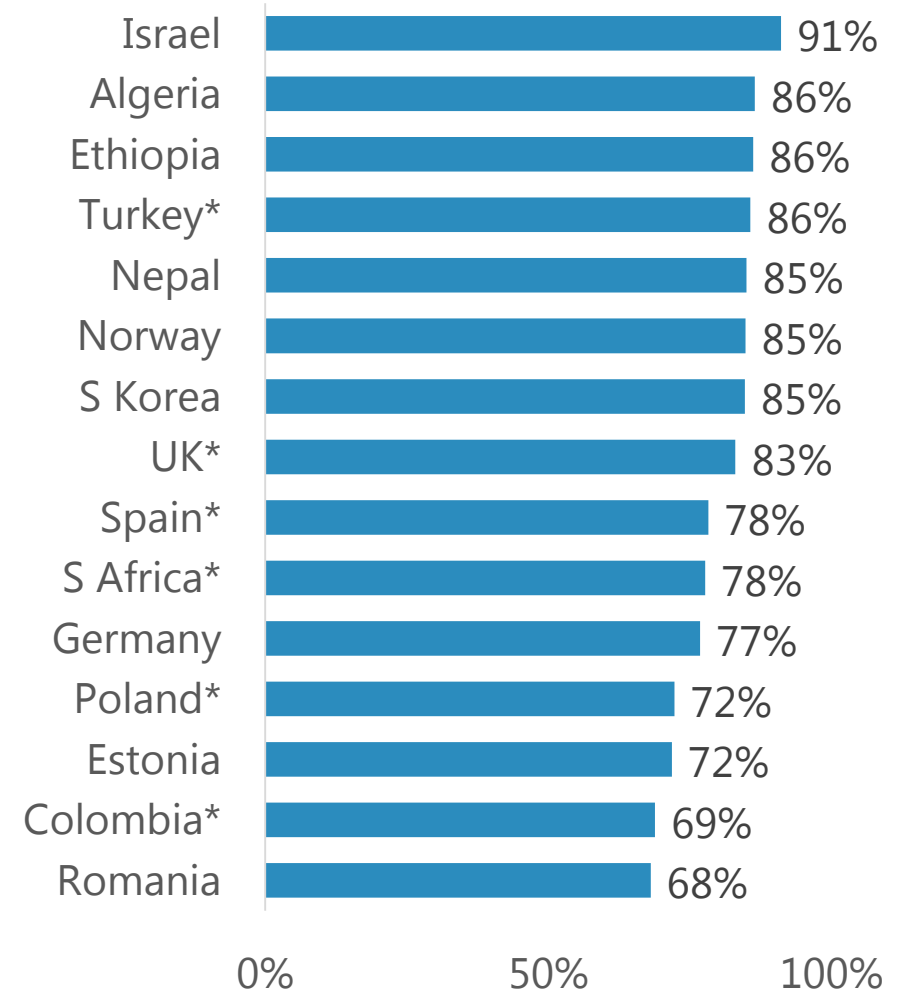


# Living with grandparent and siblings

Lives with grandparent(s)

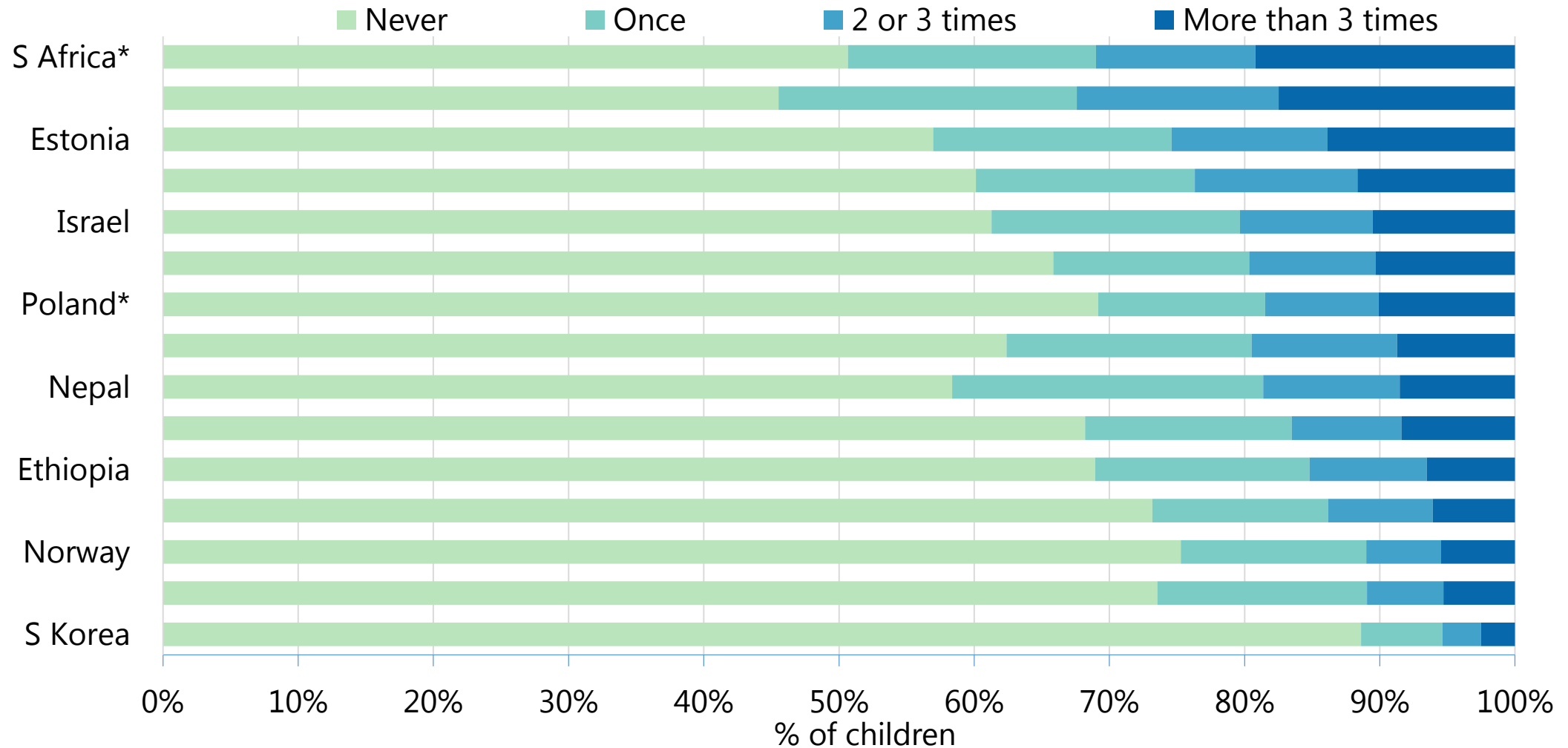


Lives with sibling(s)



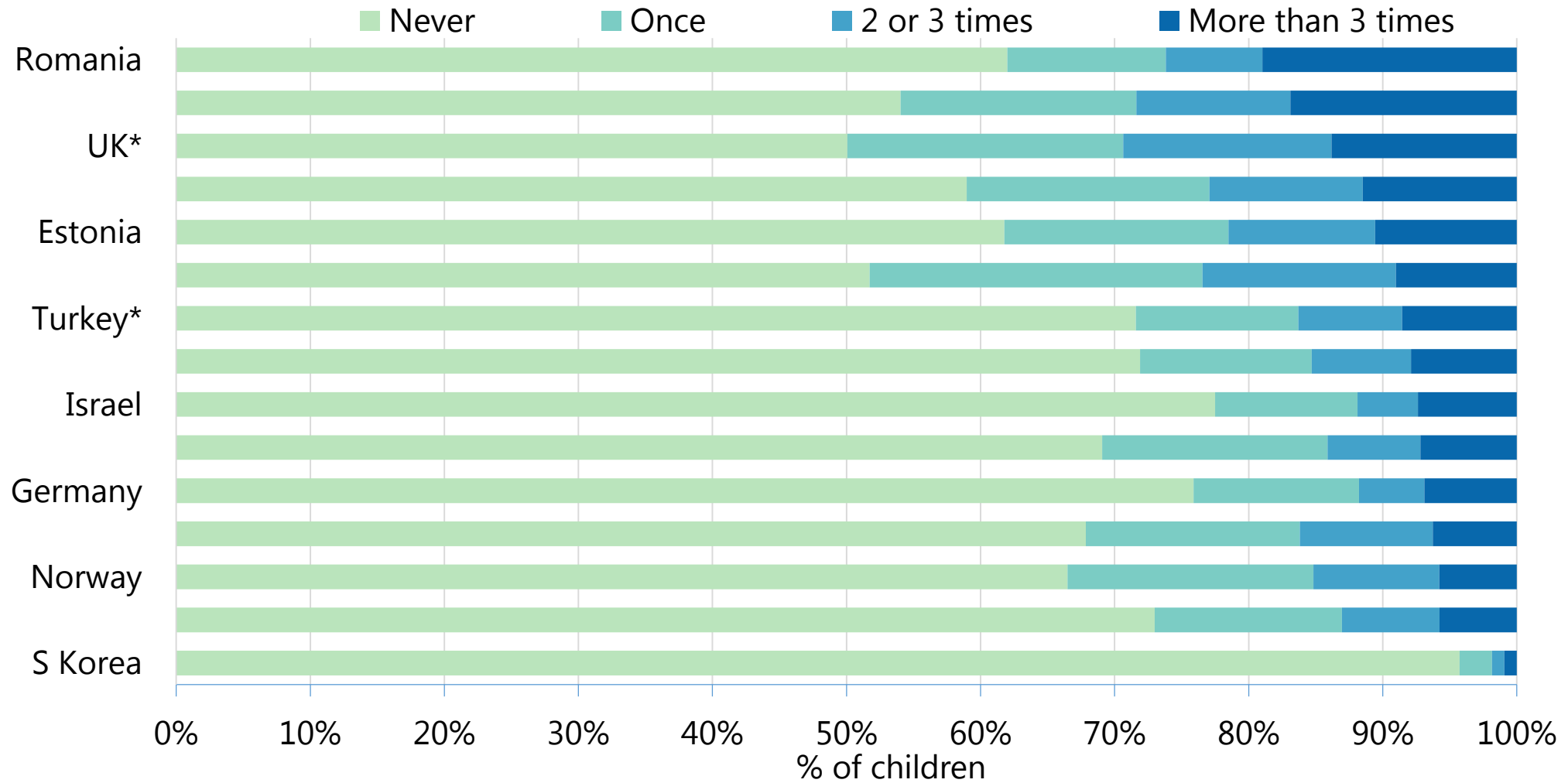
# Bullying

# Bullying: Being hit by other children





# Bullying: Being left out by classmates



**Time use**

# Time use: Response differences

| Country   | Mean response<br>(0 to 3) |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| Spain*    | 2.14                      |
| S Africa* | 2.13                      |
| Estonia   | 2.11                      |
| Israel    | 2.08                      |
| UK*       | 2.04                      |
| Colombia* | 2.02                      |
| Norway    | 1.98                      |
| Poland*   | 1.98                      |
| Romania   | 1.86                      |
| Turkey*   | 1.83                      |
| Algeria*  | 1.82                      |
| Germany   | 1.82                      |
| Nepal     | 1.67                      |
| S Korea   | 1.60                      |
| Ethiopia  | 1.44                      |

Is this variation:

- a) Due to cultural response differences?
- b) Due to us missing key activities?

# Countries doing each activity most and least



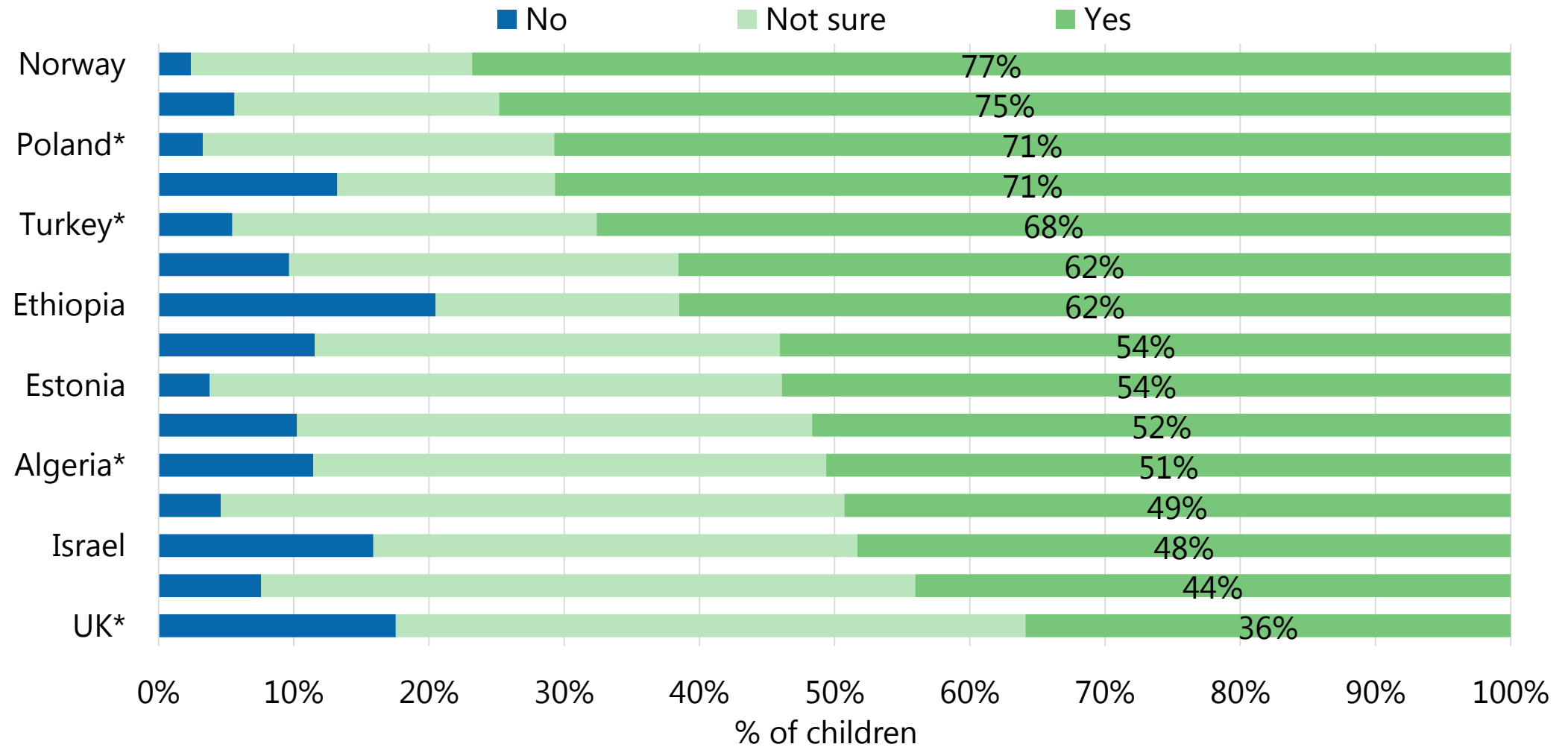
|                 | Absolute means |          | Relative scores |          |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
|                 | Most           | Least    | Most            | Least    |
| Watch TV        | Estonia        | Ethiopia | S Korea         | Ethiopia |
| Use computer    | Estonia        | Ethiopia | Estonia         | Ethiopia |
| By self         | UK             | Ethiopia | UK              | Romania  |
| Classes         | Estonia        | UK       | Germany         | UK       |
| Org. leisure    | S Africa       | S Korea  | S Africa        | S Korea  |
| Sports/Exercise | Poland         | Ethiopia | Germany         | Algeria  |
| Help house      | Nepal          | Turkey   | Ethiopia        | Turkey   |
| Care family     | Algeria        | Germany  | Ethiopia        | Germany  |
| Homework        | Estonia        | UK       | Ethiopia        | UK       |
| Read for fun    | Turkey         | Ethiopia | Turkey/Nepal    | Ethiopia |

# Time use: Gender differences

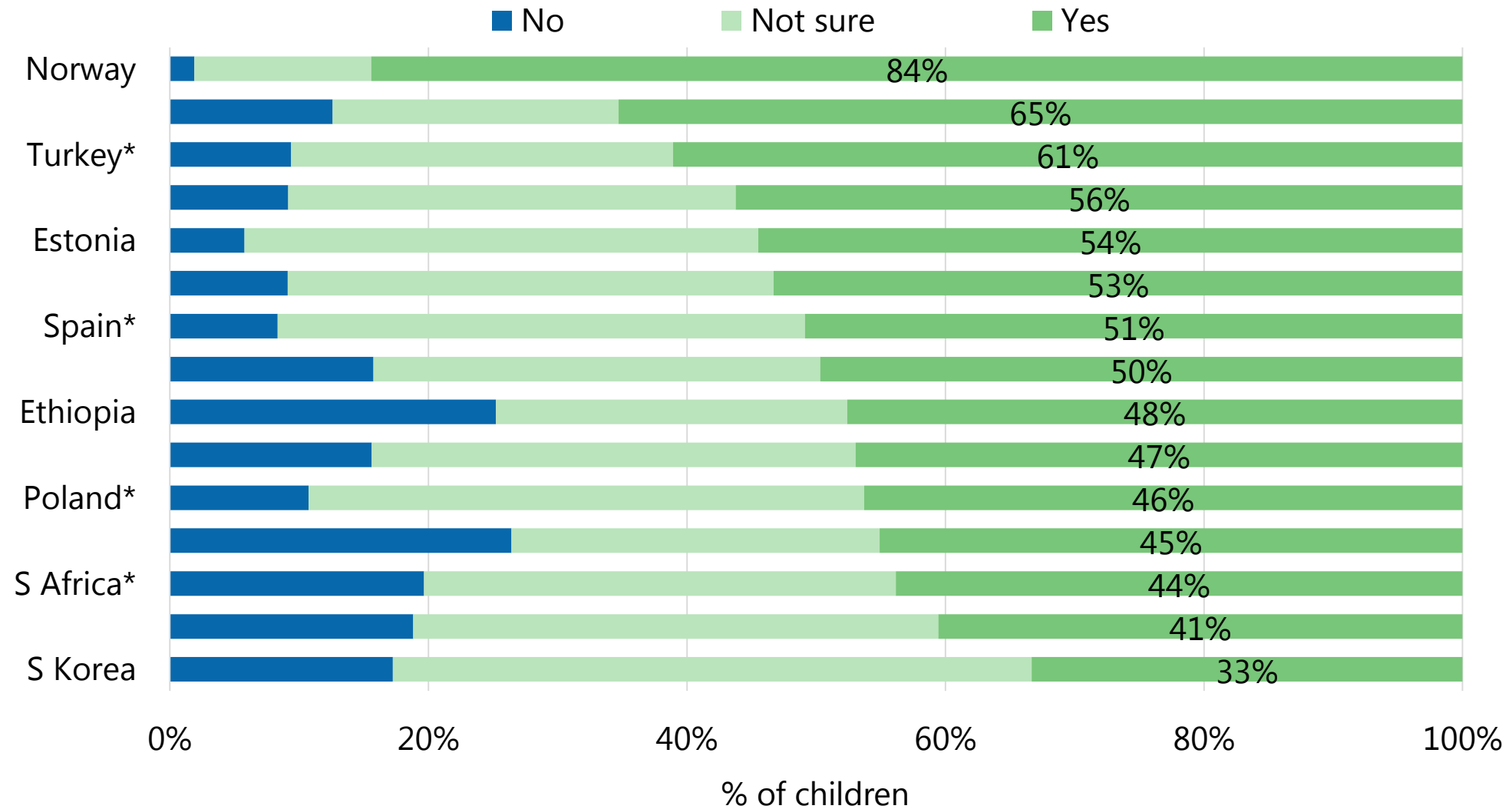
|           | TV | Comp-<br>puter | By self | Classes | Org.<br>leisure | Sports/<br>Exercise | Help<br>house | Care<br>family | Home<br>work | Reading<br>for fun |
|-----------|----|----------------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Algeria*  |    | B              |         | B       |                 | B                   | G             |                |              |                    |
| Colombia* |    |                |         |         |                 | B                   | G             |                | G            |                    |
| Estonia   |    | B              |         |         |                 |                     | G             |                |              | G                  |
| Ethiopia  |    |                |         |         |                 | B                   |               |                |              |                    |
| Germany   |    | B              |         |         |                 | B                   |               |                |              |                    |
| Israel    |    |                |         |         |                 | B                   |               |                |              | G                  |
| Nepal     |    |                |         |         |                 |                     |               |                |              |                    |
| Norway    |    | B              |         |         |                 | B                   |               | B              |              | G                  |
| Poland*   |    | B              |         |         |                 |                     | G             |                |              | G                  |
| Romania   |    | B              |         |         |                 | B                   | G             |                |              | G                  |
| S Africa* |    |                |         |         |                 | B                   |               |                |              |                    |
| S Korea   | G  | B              |         |         | B               | B                   |               |                |              |                    |
| Spain*    |    |                | G       | B       |                 | B                   |               |                |              | G                  |
| Turkey*   |    | B              |         |         |                 | B                   | G             |                | G            |                    |
| UK*       |    |                |         |         |                 | B                   |               |                |              | G                  |

# Children's rights

# Knowledge of children's rights

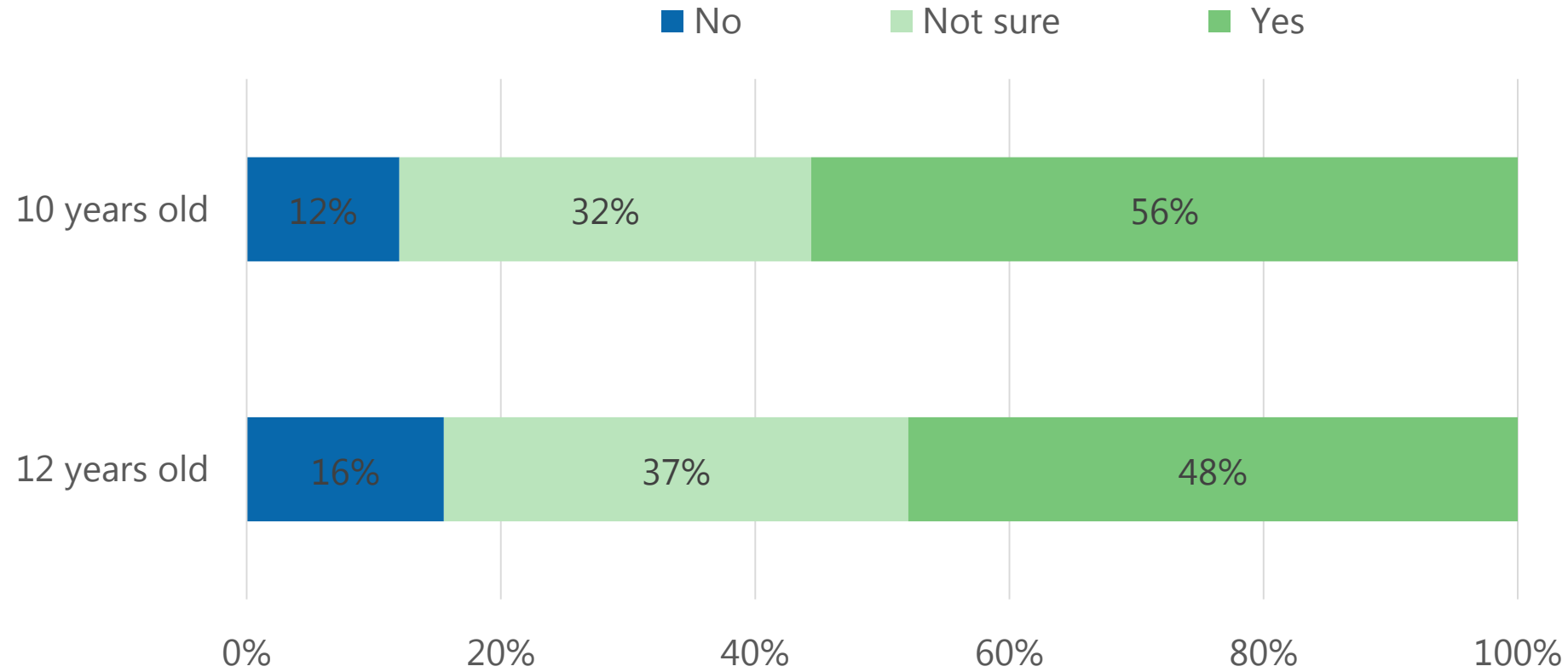


# Do adults respect children's rights?





# Do adults respect children's rights?





# The future of the project

Emeritus Professor Jonathan Bradshaw  
Department of Social Policy & Social Work, University of York

# Children's Worlds



- Publishing 2014 sweep – conferences, special issues, website, [here](#).
- Data available for public use July 2016
- More countries coming – Malta, Portugal, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Argentina, Brazil, Italy and Wales
- Planning new sweep 2017 – all existing partners have signed up. New ones welcomed
- Revising Q – suggestions welcomed

# Questionnaire



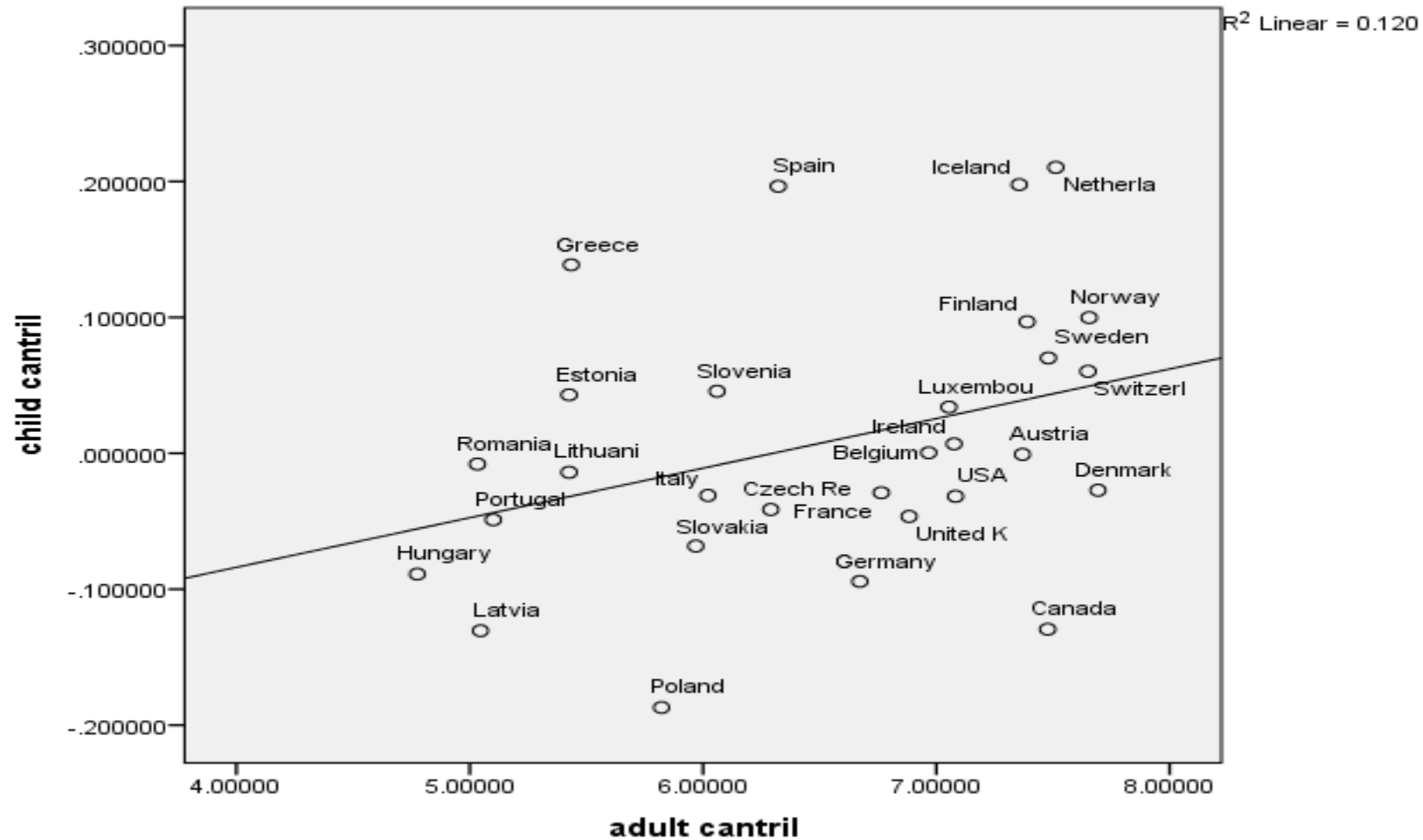
- Too much on.
  - Many measures of SWB - need to be reduced
  - Duplication of satisfaction and frequency
  - Lots of learning ie "somewhat"
- Not enough on
  - Family
  - Friends
  - Bullying
  - Material

# Science of happiness

- Most work done on adults
- Adults different from children



# Children's lives different from adults' lives

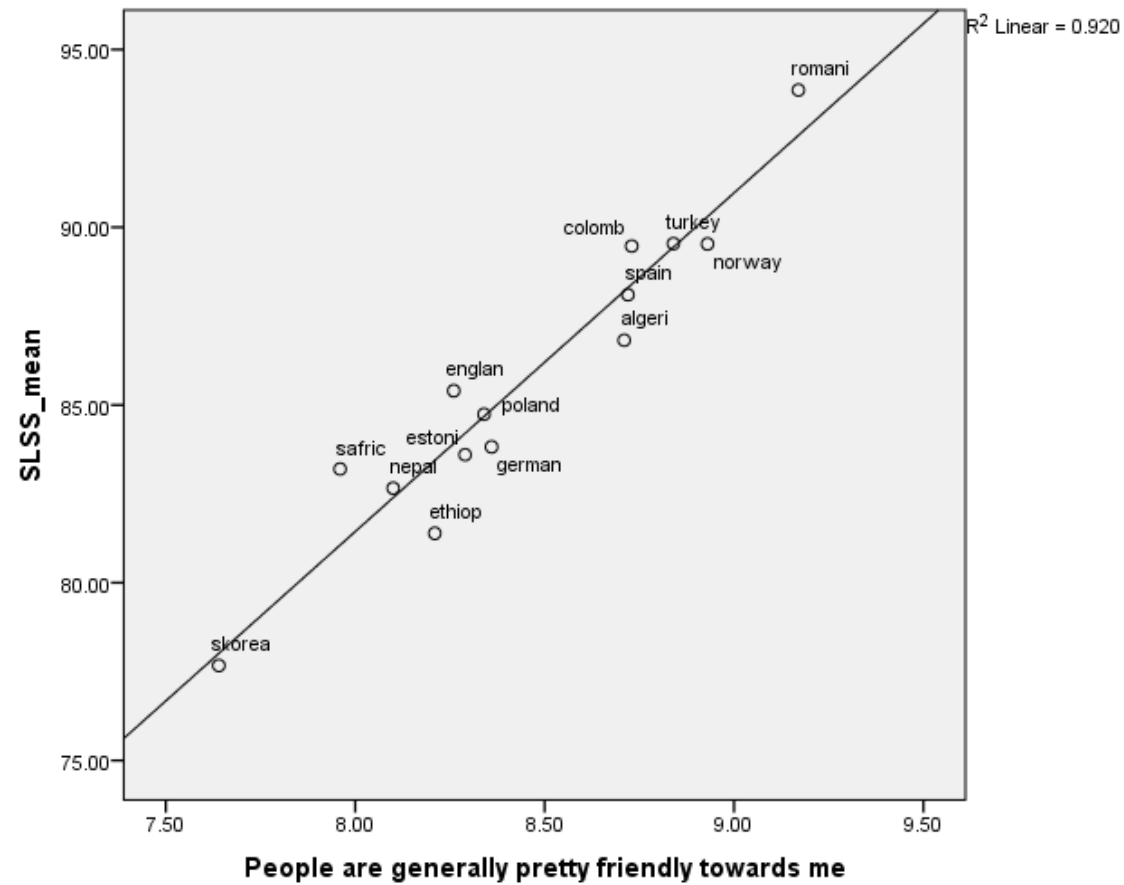


# Science of happiness



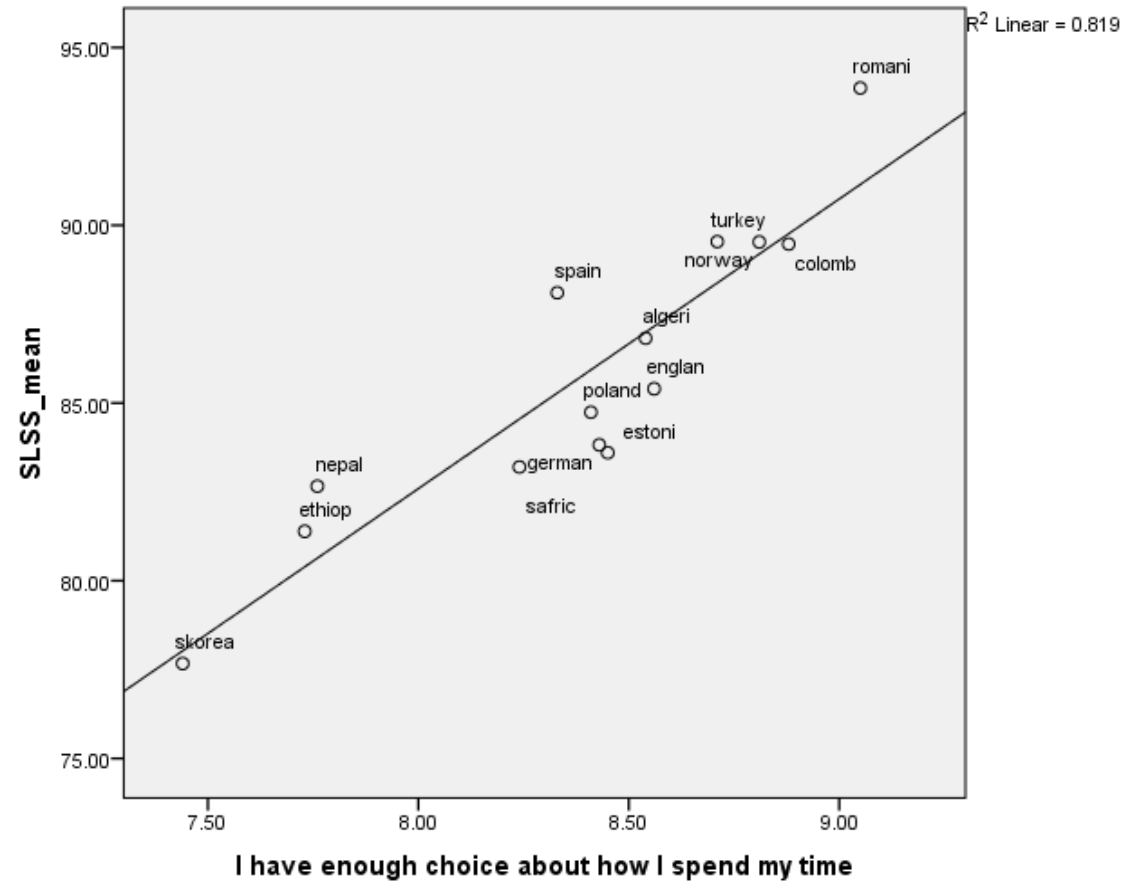
- Most work done on adults
- Adults different from children slide
- Helliwell World Happiness Report - GDP fairly important for adults not children.
- Most adult life satisfaction and most child happiness influenced by friendship and freedom
- And really not much else
- Much more work needed on this

# Child SLSS by people are generally pretty friendly towards me 10 and 12 year olds





# Child SLSS by satisfaction with whether you have enough choice about how you use your time. 10 and 12 year olds



# Coalition needed



- HBSC, OECD, UNICEF, Children's Worlds already players
- EU not yet - advocates? UNDP, UN.....
- Fantastic progress in ten years.
- Thanks to all players but especially ISCI.
- Good collaboration but needs a designated coordinator – harmonisation and timing of childhood surveys
- But underpowered.
  - In terms of resources. We cannot afford to use World Gallup like World Happiness Report
  - Intellectually - absence of serious economic interest - where are Stiglitz et al.
- Do children matter as much?
- We need to be less bizarre, more technically good and engage with adult happiness discourse.



## Further information about Children's Worlds

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