

Like Mother, Like Daughter: How Marriage Matters for Girls Too

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Wayward Sons

WAYWARD SONS

THE EMERGING GENDER GAP IN LABOR MARKETS AND EDUCATION

David Autor and Melanie Wasserman



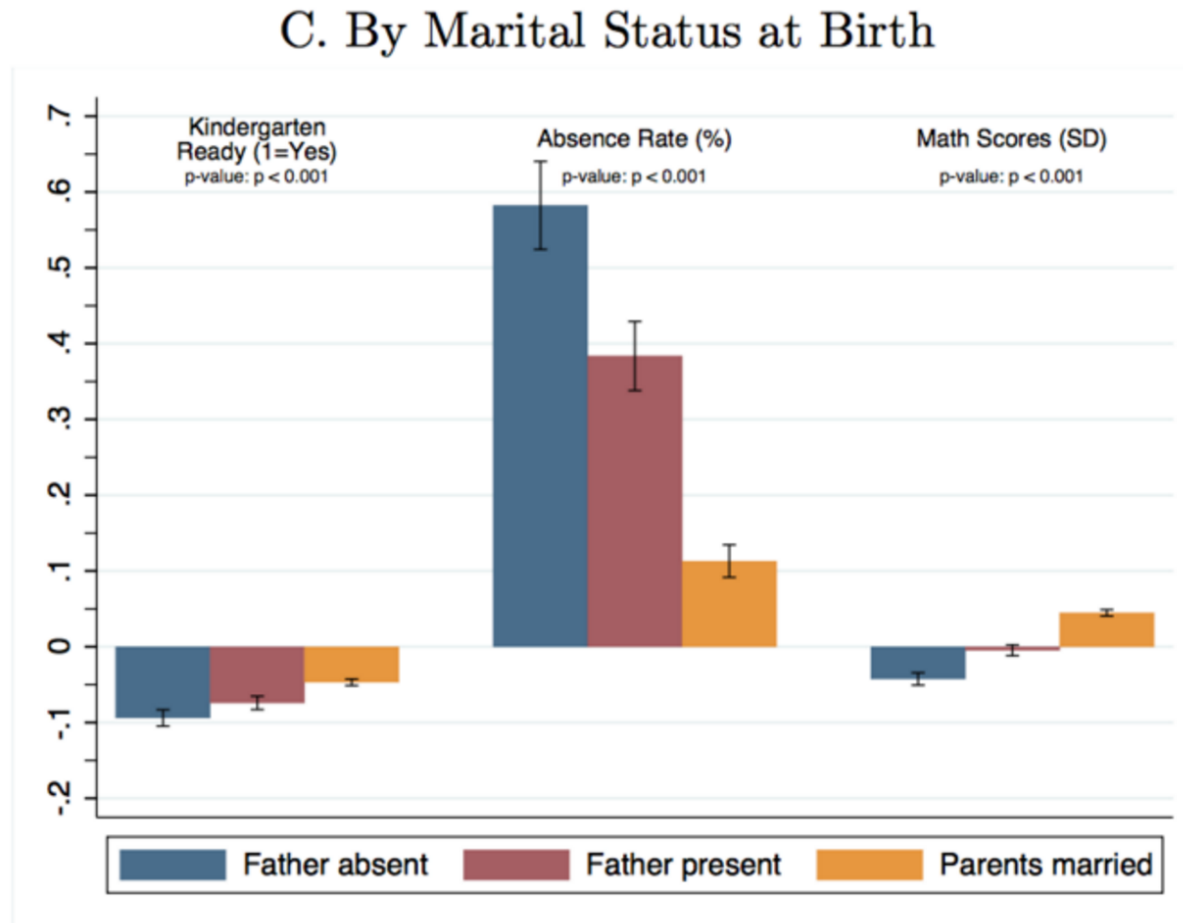
NEX T

- When it comes to incarceration, schooling, and employment, boys seem to be affected more than girls by retreat from marriage.
 - (Autor & Wasserman 2013; Autor et al. 2015; Chetty & Hendren 2016)

Marriage, Gender, & Education

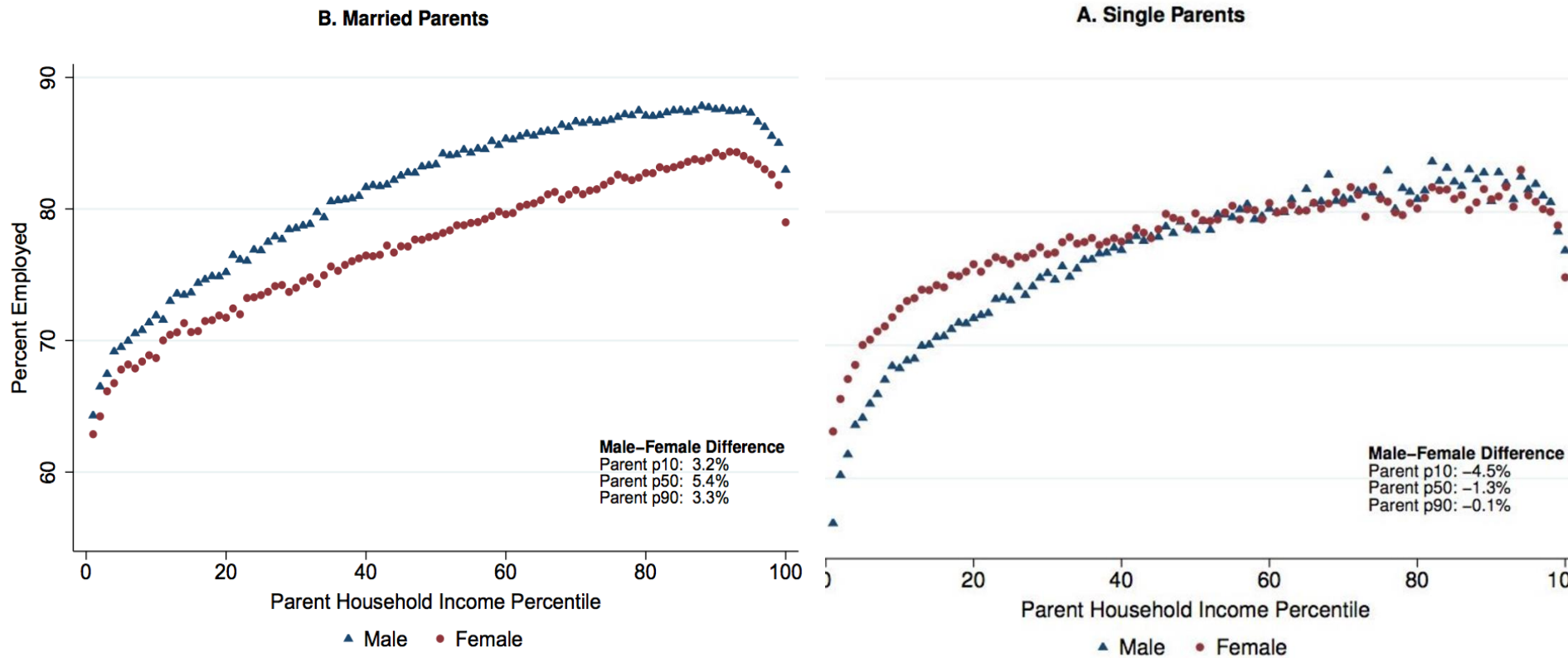
(Autor et al. 2015)

Figure: Boy–Girl Gaps in Kindergarten Readiness, School Absences, and Math Scores by Family Structure



Marriage, Gender, & Employment

(Chetty et al. 2016)



Why? 2 Hypotheses from Autor

- Boys esp. vulnerable to externalizing:
 - “Boys particularly seem to benefit more from being in a married household or committed household — with the time, attention and income that brings.”
- Boys may benefit from male role model:
 - “If children aim to emulate the adult roles of their same-sex parent, then girls may increasingly expect to fully support both themselves and their children whereas, conversely, males may come to anticipate a less central or more transient role.”

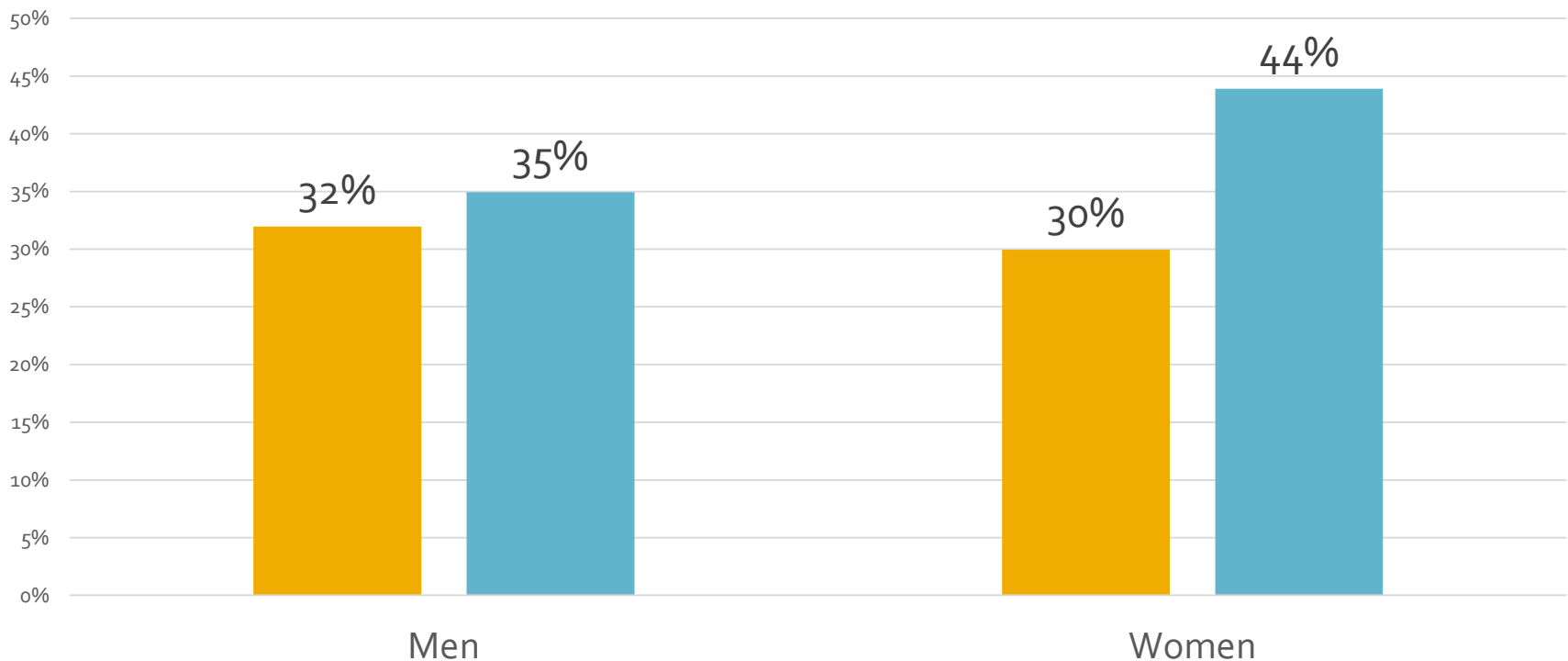
Marriage, Gender, & Relationship Trouble

(BYU/Deseret News 2016)

Relationship in Trouble,

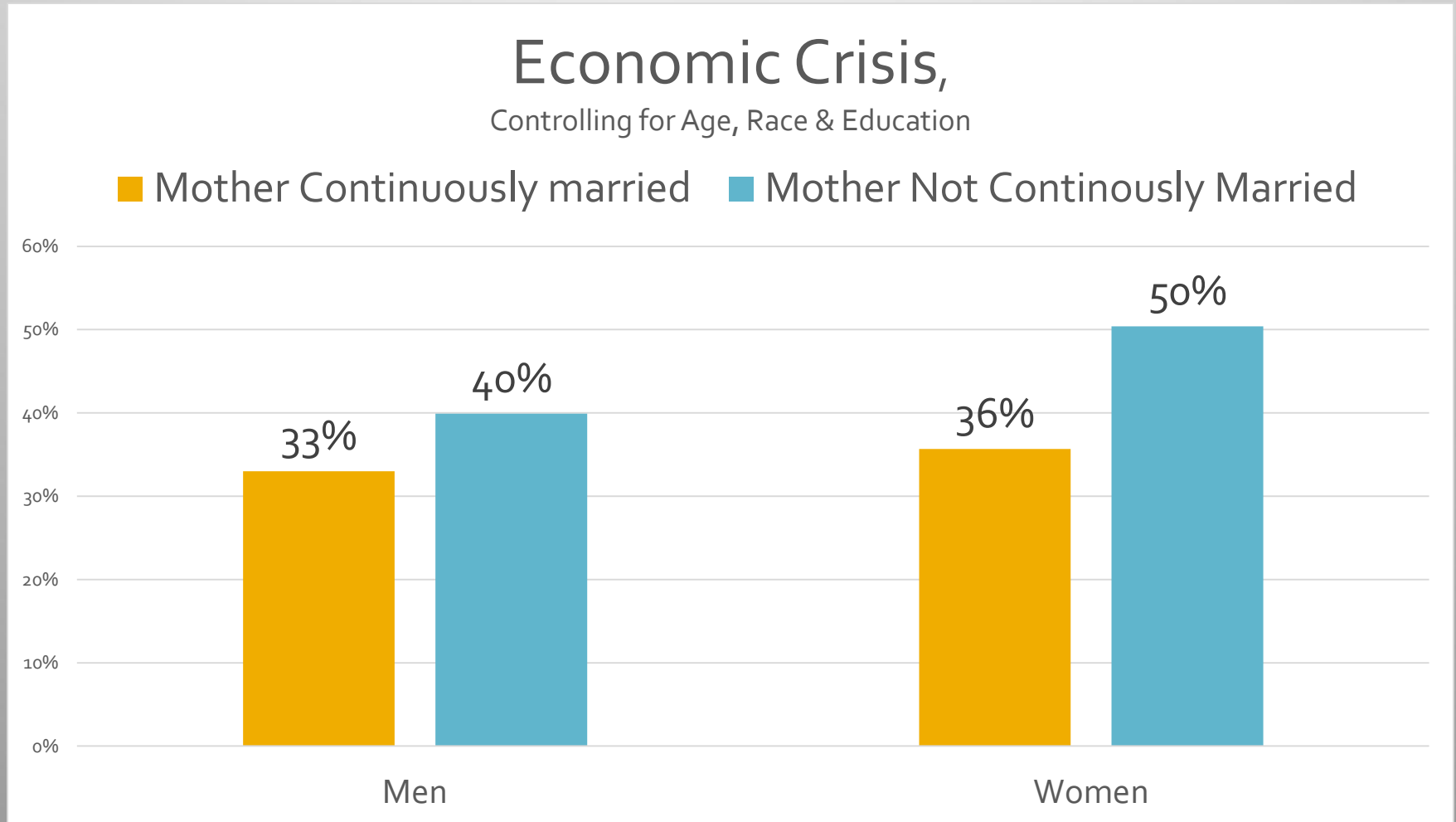
Controlling for Age, Race & Education

■ Mother Continuously married ■ Mother Not Continously Married



Marriage, Gender, & Economic Crisis

(BYU/Deseret News 2016)



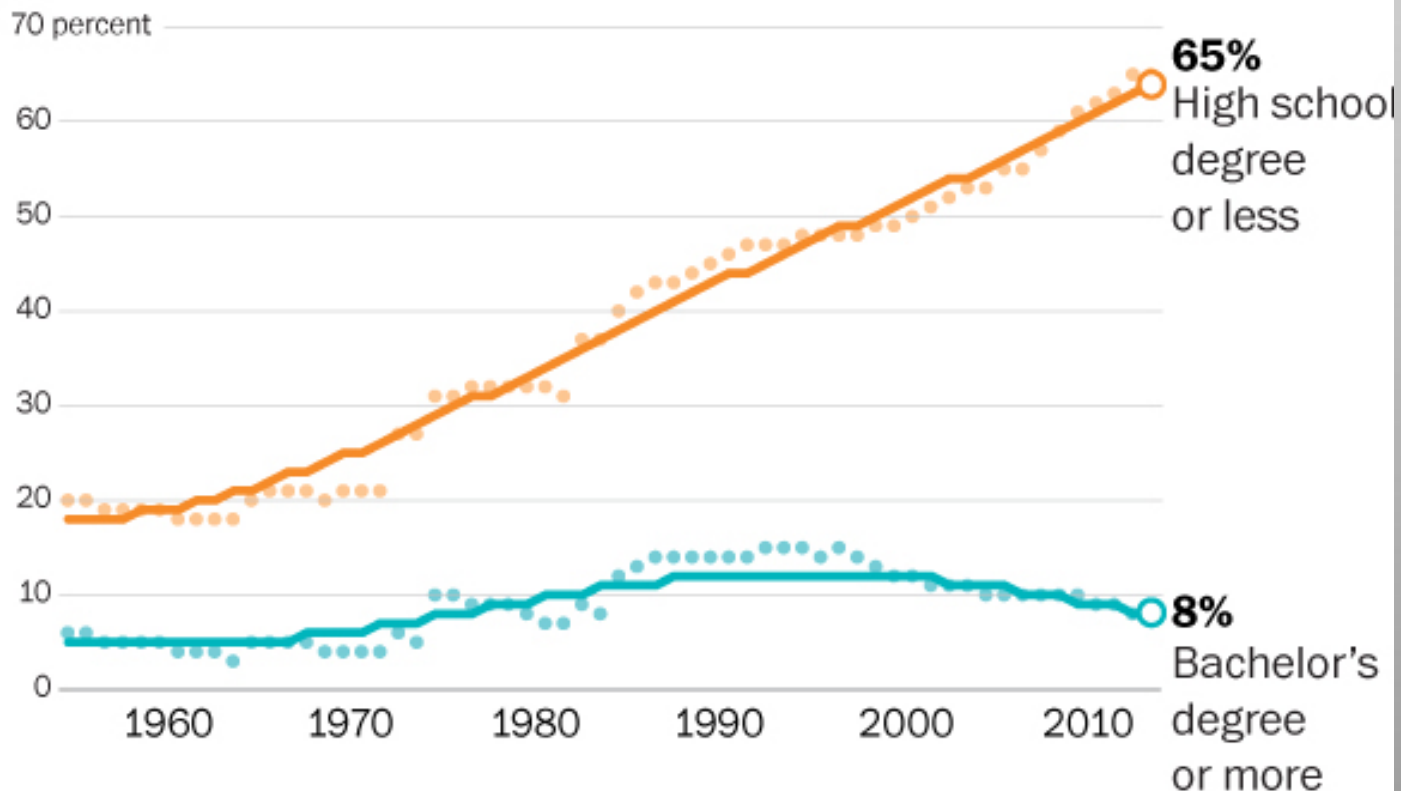
Why? 2 Hypotheses

- Young women may benefit from female role model in navigating relationships:
 - Without a good role model, may pick less ideal mate.
- Young women from non-intact family may be:
 - More likely to end up as single mothers, incurring a bigger motherhood penalty and less financial support for their family.

Extend Marriage to the Masses

Children living in a single-parent home

In 2012, 65 percent of children whose mothers never made it past high school spent at least part of their early childhood in a single-parent household, up from 20 percent in 1953.



For More Information:

www.family-studies.org



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