

Center for Public Partnerships  
and Research

# Young Families' Experiences of Social Connection and Responsibility

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# Sample

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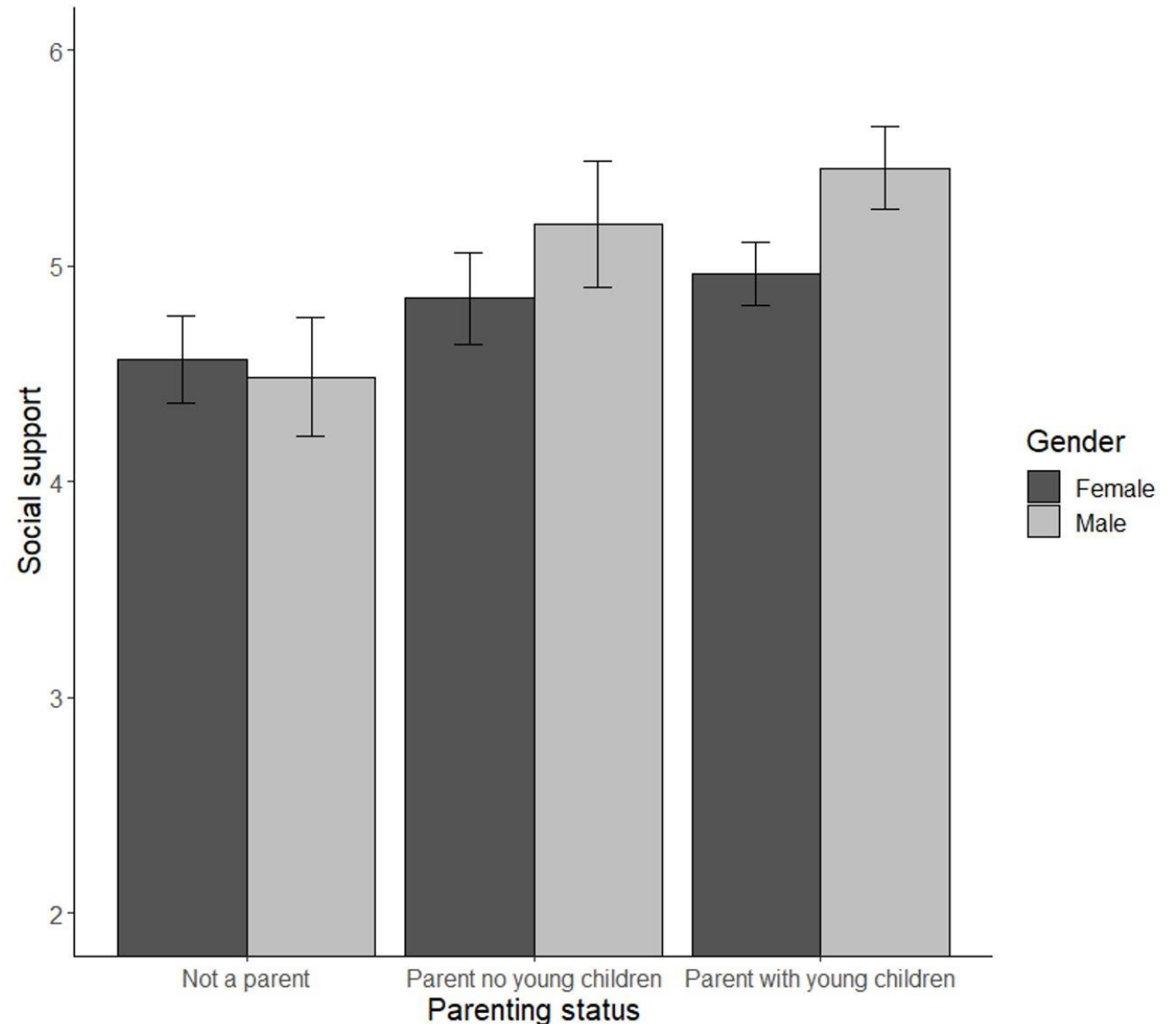
- Panel data collected by Qualtrics via online survey in August 2021
- Total sample size of 1,319 participants
- 65% female, 33% male, 1.5% non-binary, .5% did not answer
- Mean age is 38.66 (15.91)
- 58% white non-Hispanic, 15% African American, 15% Hispanic or Latinx, 12% other or biracial
- 48% are parents with children under 5, 22% are parents of children older than 5, and 29% are people without children.

# Feelings of Social Support

- Social support was measured with 3 items (e.g., “When I need someone to help me out, I can usually find someone.”  $\alpha = .77$ ).
- We calculated a 3(parent status) X 2(gender) ANCOVA, including age as a covariate.
- There is a main effect of parent status, as parents (especially young ones) feel more support than non-parents  $F(2, 1255) = 7.59, p < .001$ .
- This is qualified by a significant interaction, as men who are parents feel more support than women who are parents  $(2, 1255) = 4.56, p = .01$ .

# Effect of parenting status on feelings of social support

This graph shows a significant interaction between parenting status and gender. People who are not parents have equal amounts of social support regardless of gender. Parents with older children have more support than people who are not parents. There is also no significant difference in gender for parents of older children. The group with the most social support is parents with young children. This is especially true for men, as men with young children feel more support than women with young children.

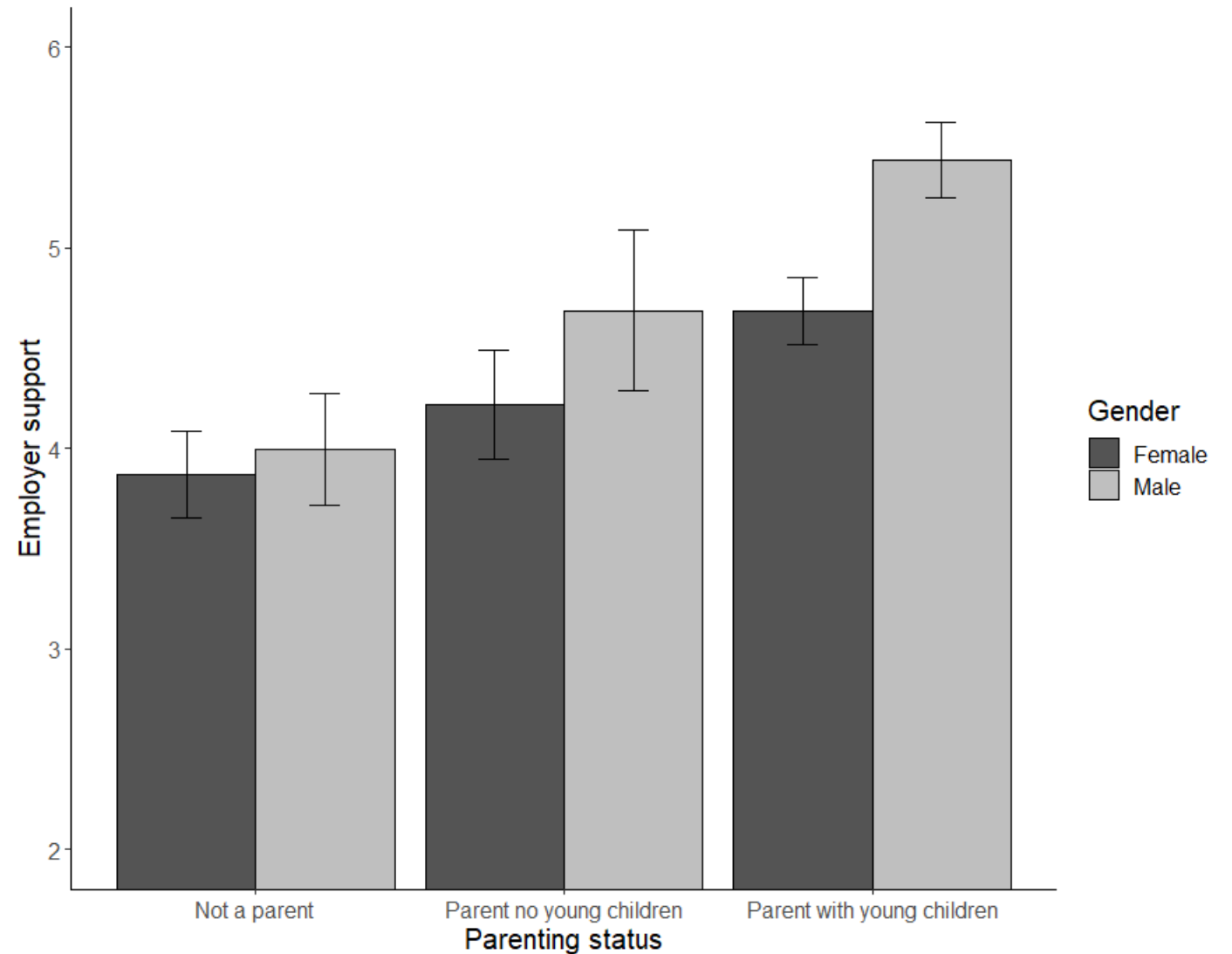


# Feelings of Employer Support

- Social support was measured with 3 items (e.g., “My employer accommodates my responsibilities to my family.”  $\alpha = .85$ ).
- We calculated a 3(parent status) X 2(gender) ANCOVA, including age as a covariate.
- There is a main effect of parent status, as parents (especially young ones) feel more support than non-parents  $F(2, 1256) = 16.2, p < .001$ .
- This is qualified by a significant interaction, as men who are parents feel more employer support than women who are parents  $(2, 1256) = 3.37, p = .03$ .

# Effect of parenting status on feelings of employer support

The graph shows a significant interaction between parenting status and gender on employer support. People who are not parents feel the least employer support, and there is no difference in gender in this group. Parents of older children feel a little more support, and there is a marginal gender difference in this group as men feel more support than women. The group with the most employer support are parents with young children. This is especially true of men, as men with young children feel much more employer support than women with young children.



# Feelings of Neighborhood Connectedness

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- Social support was measured with 5 items (e.g., “Do you think of your neighborhood as your real home?”  $\alpha = .68$ ).
- We calculated a 3(parent status) X 2(gender) ANCOVA, including age as a covariate.
- There were no main effects, but a significant interaction  $F(2, 837) = 4.54, p = .01$ .

# Effect of parenting status on feelings of neighborhood connectedness

The graph shows a significant interaction between parenting status and gender on neighborhood connectedness. All three parenting groups (not parents, parents of older children, parents with young children) have the same amount of neighborhood connectedness. There is no gender difference among the not parents group and the parents of older children group. However, men with young children feel more connected to their neighborhood than women with young children.

