Intergenerational Transmission of Launching

An analysis of matched mother-child data

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Abstract

This paper uses matched mother-child data from the 1979 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth to investigate the presence of an intergenerational component to the launching process. I find that early departures from the parental home by mothers reduce the likelihood of late departures by their offspring, and late departures by mothers correlate with late departures by children. These results are robust to different specifications of "on-time" and "late" departures by mothers and children. Consistent with the coresidence literature, I also find earlier departure ages among whites and females, and later departures among blacks.

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1 Introduction

There are many ways in which parents can support their children as they develop—for example, receiving prenatal care, providing childhood health care, overseeing primary and secondary education, and financing postsecondary education. During the recent economic downturn, one particular type of support has become the focus of much media attention—prolonged coresidence or boomerang behaviors, in which adult children either continue to live with or move back in with their parents past the typical age of launching.

Over the last few decades, researchers have observed a delay in marriage, an increase in parental coresidence, and an increase in financial transfers from parent to child (Glick, 1986; Furstenberg, 2010; Aquilino, 1990). No matter the cause, the traditional path to independence (completing school, full-time employment, independent housing, marriage, children) has lengthened and shifted over the last 30 years, resulting in a lower rate of marriage, a higher rate of extramarital childbearing, and longer and more frequent occurrence of adult children living with their parents.

Research Questions and Previous Work

Previous research has attributed prolonged coresidence to racial (Glick, 1986; Aquilino, 1990) and economic (Boyd, 1989; White, 1997; Jacob, 2008; Kerckhoff, 1992) factors. Aquilino (1990) also investigates the effect of parent characteristics such as marital status and income, but focuses on contemporaneous parent characteristics—characteristics of the (adult) parent while the youth is making his/her residence decisions.

Building on the work of White (1990, 1997), Shengming Tang (1997) separates youth into those leaving "early" (prior to age 18), "on-time" (between age 18 and age 24), and "late" (after age 24) to determine if the factors influencing departure differ among these cohorts. Tang finds that socio-economic status and parenthood distinguish between on-time and late leavers.

This paper will fill a gap in the existing literature by using matched mother-child data to examine decision-making among children of different races and birth cohorts. Specifically, this paper will evaluate whether there is an intergenerational component to the decision process of launching, using the Theory of Planned Behavior (Ajzen, 1991) to assess whether "late" departures by mothers correlate with "late" departures by their offspring.

Importance of the Question

When coresidence is used to smooth a youth's consumption, it takes the place of government aid programs that are also intended to serve as a supplement in times of transition. Coresidence provides an array of public goods to the youth, including housing, electricity, water, and potentially food and transportation. Kaplan (2012) argues that men who have the option of a parental safety net have more successful job searches and fare better in the labor market in the long term, and so identifying factors influencing coresidence among a broader cohort can help direct government aid without crowding out transfers from parental resources.

It is also important to consider the effect of coresidence on the parent generation. Financial support results in a loss of disposable income, but coresidence may also take a toll on parental happiness. Parents with empty nests report higher marital satisfaction (White and Edwards, 1990), and Rosenzweig and Wolpin (1994) find that parents value privacy and prefer for their adult children to live independently. Bures (2009) finds that families with children (adult or otherwise) living at home are less likely to move than those with empty nests. Thus extending the launching process may delay the parent generation from being able to "downsize" or relocate for other reasons. The substitution of parental resources for governmental ones, therefore, is not without cost.

Leopold (2011) finds that late home leavers maintain closer relationships with their parents, although it is unclear whether this is through continued dependence or strengthened family ties. If there are across-the-board benefits for males and females, then this prolonged coresidence process may be a non-financial method of support for parents to better their child's outcomes, and parents who have been helped by this extra parental support may be more willing to pass it on their children.

However, if youths with the option of parental coresidence use fewer government resources and have better labor market outcomes, and coresidence correlates across generations, then the promotion of coresidence during one generation's youth carries benefits for future generations. Furthermore, identifying the generational effect of coresidence may help predict future cycles of behavior—if prolonged coresidence is on the rise and there is a positive intergenerational effect, formation of new households will be delayed for the following generation, incurring both demographic and economic consequences.

2 Data and Sample Characteristics

The data come from the 1979 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, which consists of a panel of almost 5,000 women born between 1957 and 1964 who have been surveyed annually from 1979 to 1994, and biennially after that, and a linked panel constructed of their 11,500 children, born between 1970 and 2009. Questions range from basic demographics to financial practices, job history to sexual behavior, and drug use to political participation. For some categories of questions, participants are asked to recall monthly or weekly characteristics of their life over the last year. The interviews take less than 90 minutes, and participants (in early years, both the parent and the youth) are paid $10 for their time.

Variables

Coresidence

The parental coresidence variable is constructed from several NLSY variables—first, from the household roster, which tracks who else is in the household the youth considers his/her current residence. Second, from the report of residence type—if the youth reports being the

homeowner, this observation is not recorded as coresidence as it indicates that the parents moved in with the youth, rather than the youth moving in with the parent. This constructed variable is verified through available measures on distance from youth to parent(s) and other indicators of residence.

Where age of departure appears as a range (as in "past age 23"), youths without a specified age of departure (those who have resided with their parents for the entire observed sample) are included only if they are observed past that range to still be living with their parents. For example, a youth who is only observed through age 26 but has never exited the parental home would be coded as a youth exiting past 23, even though no exit is observed.

Income

The income variable is constructed from the sum of the mother's income and any reported father figure's income. This could be a biological father, stepfather, or other father figure who is either coresident, or not coresident but still reported. This sum is averaged over the period where the youth was aged 18 to 20, and sorted into quartiles. This variable only includes wage income, and not any trusts, government support, or other unearned income.

Race

Race is the mother's race. There are 3 categories: Hispanic, Black, and Non-Black/Non-Hispanic. While the Non-Black/Non-Hispanic category may contain some mothers of Asian and Pacific Islander descent, this paper will refer to this category as white. It is the reference (omitted) category in all regressions.

Birth cohort

There are four decades in which sample youths are born: 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s. Only two are included in regression results as the youths born in the 1990s and 2000s are not yet old enough to be exhibiting launching behavior.

Sample

The sample is restricted to 1979 NLSY females who are ever observed to have children. However, this does not require the presence of children at the time of departure from the parental household. The only restrictions placed on the youth cohort are that they are either observed to exit the parental home at least once or observed past age 24 (if continually coresident).

As seen in Table 1, the average mother in the sample is white, the third-born child of parents who are still married, in the 38th percentile of the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), born in 1960, lives in the South, completes some post-high school education, is married, has 2.3 biological children, has not lived with a partner while unmarried, is not in the

military, has peak earnings of $33,400 and has a spouse with peak earnings of $46,500. On average, she first leaves her parents' household at 22. About a quarter of the approximately 5,000 mothers identify themselves as black, while about 17 percent identify as Hispanic and almost 60 percent are white.

The average youth in the final sample is white, female, has lived in the South, has a mother who completed some college and exited at age 21, comes from a family earning approximately $40,000, and is the first child born to her parents. On average, she first leaves her parents' household at 22.4, and has an average final exit at 23.5. There are approximately 11,500 youth in the initial sample, which reduces to about 4,300 once we exclude those who were born too recently (post-1990) to have observed exits and those with incomplete residence histories. About 22% of sample youths were born to Hispanic mothers, 36% to black mothers, and about 41% to white mothers. Approximately thirty percent of the sample youths ever return to the parental household during the survey period, compared to almost forty percent of the mother sample (although the survey period is much longer for the mother cohort).

As seen in Table 1, Panel A, late home leaving mothers are most likely to be black or Hispanic. Educational achievement and wages peak with first departures between ages 24 and 27, and this group also experiences the lowest divorce rate. In Panel B, I see suggestive evidence for later mother departures correlating with later child departures (both first and last exit). Youths with very late exits have less education, higher divorce rates, and a greater likelihood of being imprisoned. Females exit earlier than males and whites exit earlier than blacks. Again I see the best income outcomes among youths exiting between age 24 and 27.

3 Model

Ajzen's Theory of Planned Behavior (1991) maps attitudes, norms, and perceived control into intentions and ultimately into behavior (Figure 1). The Theory of Planned Behavior has been applied to fertility models (Schoen, 1999; Ajzen, 2010) to reconcile preferences about decisions with actual decisions. In order to accurately capture norms and control, I turn to the behavioral literature on home-leaving.

Settersen (1998) surveys a random sample of Chicago adults to determine attitudes towards prescriptive and proscriptive age norms in home leaving. He finds almost complete agreement that both men and women should leave home between the ages of 18 and 25, out of concern for development for self and personality. However, he finds that about a third of individuals perceive no consequences from failing to adhere to these social norms. Further, he finds that there are no age norms regarding returning home—a majority perceive that it is acceptable to move back home at any age.

Smith (2003) finds that only 30% of adults surveyed consider independent living to be "extremely important" in transitioning to adulthood, although almost half consider financial independence to be extremely important. The average reported age for when departure from the parental household should occur is 21, consistent with Settersen's findings.

Billari and Liefbroer (2007) apply this theory by examining both the formation of intentions to leave the parental household and the realization of those intentions. They find a significant correlation between perceived opinions of parents and a youth's first departure, but find no significant relationship between departures and peer/social norms.

Thus, the literature suggests that while parent norms are taken under consideration by youth, there are no substantive penalties for failing to adhere to norms. These results motivate the components of the Theory of Planned Behavior model presented, which provides at least two logical channels through which an intergenerational transmission could present itself. First, from child to child, the transmission of Billari and Liefbroer's norms—valuation of independence which affects the likelihood the youth would try to remain in the parental household past the normal age of launching, or also return.

Alternatively, there could be an attitudinal transmission of altruism from parent to parent—permitting the youth to remain in the parental household past the normal age of launching, or return to the parental home after a failed launch. In the language of the Theory of Planned Behavior, altruism functions as an "actual control" component, converting intentions to actions, while values affect the formation of intentions. Thus it is possible that both channels play a role in the intergenerational transmission of coresidence behavior.

Econometric Model

I define a late exit for a youth to be a first departure from the parental home at age 23 or later (which divides my youth sample in half). According to the Theory of Planned Behavior, the probability of a late exit depends on a function of youth norms, the mother's departure, and the mother's control at time of departure:

$$\Pr(late\ exit) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 mom\ early + \beta_2 mom\ late + \beta_3 mom's\ control + \beta_4 youth\ norms + \varepsilon_i$$

I model the youth's likelihood of exiting after age 22 as a linear function of youth's preferences (which form intentions) and components of the mother's control when she made her coresidence decision. Early departures by mothers are those in the 20^{th} percentile for her race/ethnicity. Late departures by mothers are those in the 80^{th} percentile for her race/ethnicity. I model youth preferences as consisting of factors including family income, gender, birth order, the mother's age when the youth was born, and youth birth cohort. Together these variables account for the norms to which the youth is exposed in adolescence. The model cannot include youth control as many of the relevant decisions (fertility, marriage) are made along with the

coresidence decision. Mother's marital status by 22 and educational enrollment by 22 are included to account for the mother's control over realizing her intentions about home-leaving. To control for heteroskedasticity, I cluster standard errors by mother.

Intergenerational transmission of launching is supported if either the coefficient on mothers' early departures is negative or the coefficient on mothers' late departures is positive (or both). Thus β_1 and β_2 allow us to identify the presence of an intergenerational component to launch timing.

4 Results

As seen in Table 2, females tend to leave about half a year earlier than males, and those giving birth before age 18 leave about a year and a half earlier. Youth born in the 1980s leave about two years earlier than those born in the 1970s, suggesting an evolving norm about home leaving or a time-based change in youths' control.

Among white youths, birth decade, gender, birth order, mother's age at birth, and income play significant roles in explaining youth's age at first departure. The probability of a late departure by a white youth is increasing in mother's age when the youth is born up until age 45, at which point mom's age at youth's birth becomes associated with earlier exits. Income and mother's age at birth are not significant explanatory variables for Hispanics' departure process. Early departure by black mothers is associated with youths leaving the parental household about eleven months earlier, and among whites, early departures are associated with a departure about 7 months earlier, while a late departure is associated with a departure about nine months later for Hispanic youth only.

Table 3 presents the effects of selected variables on the likelihood of a youth's late departure (after age 22 for white and Hispanic youths; after age 23 for black youths). Females are between five and eleven percentage points less likely to leave late. Those with lower incomes leave earlier and those with higher incomes leave later, significant for white and Hispanic youths. For all races, teen pregnancy is associated with earlier departures (significant for whites and blacks) and first born youths leave later (significant for whites only).

For all races, early departures by mothers correlate negatively with late departures by youth, and late departures by mothers correlate with late departures by youth. For white youths, a late departure by a mother increases the probability of her child exiting late by 11.5 percentage points. For Hispanic youths, a mother's late departure increases the probability of a youth's first exit by 18 percentage points. Black youths are 16 percentage points less likely to exit late if their mothers exited early.

To further decompose this intergenerational effect, Table 4 presents the effects of selected variables on the likelihood of a youth's late departure by race and gender. Early departure by mothers is correlated with between a nine and 20 point decrease in the probability of late exits of all groups except Hispanic females and white males. Late departures by mothers are correlated with a nearly 25 point increase in the probability of a Hispanic female's late exit, and a 12 percentage point increase in the probability of a late exit by a white female. While white males follow the same trend, there is no significant intergenerational component to their launching process.

Table 5 presents these results by income quartile, as the norms to which children are exposed may vary by income. A mother's early departure is correlated with a 5 to 12 percentage point decrease in the probability of a youth's late departure, significant only for those from the lower half of family incomes. A mother's late departure is positively correlated with late departures by youth but is significant only for those from the lowest income quartile.

Sensitivity Analysis

In order to ensure that my results are not due solely to the way I have defined late and early exits, Appendix B presents results from additional models using different ages for mother and youth departures. Table B1 presents the results of varying the definition of late departure by youths. Depending on the selection of what constitutes late for the youth's departure age, early departures by mothers are associated with between a three and ten percentage point decrease in the probability of a youth's late exit. A late exit by mothers is associated with between a three and 12 percentage point increase in the probability of a youth's late exit. Thus, the intergenerational result is not heavily reliant on the selection of late exit age for the youth.

Table B2 presents results with the same assortment of youth ages, narrowing the "on time" definition for mothers to ages 21 to 23. Here the effect of an early exit remains between three and nine percentage points, and the effect of a late exit remains between two and ten percentage points, neither of which is significantly different from the previous specification.

Table B3 presents the results of regressing youth's age at exit on mother's age at exit, and I find that the significant correlation between these persists across racial/ethnic groups. Thus I can conclude that the presence of an intergenerational effect is not the result of my age group selections or my model specification. I have additionally tested the effects of regional variation and religion (both insignificant), as well as parental education (significant only when income is omitted).

5 Conclusion

This paper presents preliminary evidence for an intergenerational component to launching. The intergenerational transmission is strongest among black and Hispanic mother-youth dyads, while fertility outcomes seem to explain the majority of the variation in whites' departure ages. Consistent with the literature on coresidence, I find that youths with black mothers have later first exits than those with white mothers, and that females exit earlier than males.

Future work will include attempting to identify the nature of the intergenerational transmission, using additional data on values transmission and altruistic behavior to identify correlations with prolonged coresidence behavior. If data on father-child dyads become available, an analysis comparing the transmissions from mothers versus fathers and also between same gender dyads would also shed light on how this intergenerational transmission occurs. Finally, with data on many years of labor and marital status from the mother cohort, it would be useful to have a longer-term (relative to Kaplan's analysis of labor outcomes at age 26) analysis of outcomes for those who exit late versus those who exit on time or early.

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Appendix A: Tables and Figures

Table 1: Summary Statistics by Age at First Exit for NLSY79 Mothers and Children

Panel A: Mother Characteristics by Age at First Exit

	<18	18-19	20-21	22-23	24-25	26-27	28-29	30+
Birth Year	1963.2	1961.8	1960.5	1959.3	1960.4	1960.5	1959.6	1960.0
Hispanic	22.9%	19.9%	15.8%	15.6%	16.3%	20.5%	23.1%	23.1%
Black	23.8%	19.5%	21.0%	26.3%	33.2%	37.6%	45.2%	49.6%
White	53.3%	60.6%	63.1%	58.1%	50.5%	41.9%	31.7%	27.3%
Actual Years Edu	11.3	12.5	13.2	13.9	14.1	14.3	13.5	13.1
Max Spouse Income	$26,160	$29,560	$33,060	$34,701	$36,555	$35,556	$35,500	$30,400
Max Own Income	$39,004	$39,529	$46,779	$48,434	$54,251	$51,375	$33,865	$31,637
Ever Married	89.5%	92.1%	92.1%	90.3%	84.9%	82.5%	72.1%	57.0%
Ever Divorced	49.5%	49.1%	41.0%	35.3%	25.8%	22.3%	26.0%	12.4%
Divorced/Married	55.3%	53.3%	44.5%	39.1%	30.4%	27.0%	36.0%	21.7%
N	105	733	1,565	1,504	570	229	104	121

Panel B: Child Characteristics by Age at First Exit

	<18	18-19	20-21	22-23	24-25	26-27	28-29	30+*
Birth Year	1988.6	1983.9	1983.0	1981.9	1981.0	1980.4	1979.2	1980.4
Hispanic	33.3%	24.7%	22.0%	22.1%	20.6%	20.7%	33.9%	20.8%
Black	31.8%	25.2%	34.0%	37.4%	37.7%	45.4%	40.4%	44.7%
White	34.8%	50.1%	44.0%	40.5%	41.7%	33.9%	25.7%	34.5%
Female	60.6%	62.4%	53.6%	50.0%	47.5%	45.9%	45.0%	36.1%
Mom's First Exit	21.11	20.61	20.96	21.38	21.57	21.79	21.82	21.78
Mom's Last Exit	28.11	24.91	24.76	25.20	25.13	24.93	25.89	25.65
Ideal Years Edu		14.28	14.57	14.79	15.12	15.38	15.12	14.08
Actual Years Edu	10.37	11.64	12.20	12.90	13.33	13.38	13.00	12.16
Ever Jail	2.0%	3.4%	2.9%	2.2%	2.8%	3.0%	7.6%	10.3%
Max Spouse Income	$24,904	$24,655	$28,184	$29,581	$31,767	$31,043	$24,401	$25,459
Max Own Income	$11,661	$20,157	$23,111	$27,061	$30,219	$28,879	$27,242	$26,611
Ever Married	19.6%	33.8%	37.2%	37.2%	34.2%	33.9%	19.0%	20.7%
Ever Divorced	5.9%	11.0%	7.6%	7.2%	6.1%	6.3%	2.9%	7.5%
Divorced/Married	30.0%	32.5%	20.4%	19.3%	18.0%	18.4%	15.0%	36.1%
N	66	519	1,175	1,186	787	357	105	343

*This category includes those who are never observed to exit but are observed to still be coresiding at age 30 or later. “Max” and “ever” terms are over the length of observation, which varies among respondents.

Table 2: OLS Regression for Child's Age at First Exit			
	(1) White	(2) Hispanic	(3) Black
Mother exited early	-0.578***	-0.345	-0.948***
	(0.185)	(0.308)	(0.239)
Mother exited late	0.427	0.774*	-0.0798
	(0.292)	(0.424)	(0.241)
Mother attended college by 22	0.769***	1.189	0.472
	(0.241)	(0.738)	(0.388)
Mother married by 22	-0.000344	-0.0467	-0.275
	(0.196)	(0.266)	(0.212)
Lowest Income Quartile	-0.428*	0.0458	-0.229
	(0.234)	(0.327)	(0.234)
Upper Middle Income Quartile	0.458**	-0.0964	0.267
	(0.218)	(0.301)	(0.288)
Highest Income Quartile	0.795***	-0.121	1.006***
	(0.217)	(0.388)	(0.314)
Female	-0.316**	-0.763***	-0.467**
	(0.142)	(0.233)	(0.193)
Born in 1980s	-2.023***	-2.474***	-1.994***
	(0.415)	(0.602)	(0.468)
Youth is First Born	0.501***	0.215	0.230
	(0.159)	(0.265)	(0.225)
Youth Gave Birth <18	-1.506***	-1.617**	-1.964***
	(0.497)	(0.759)	(0.539)
Mom's Age when Youth Born	1.093***	0.390	0.522
	(0.272)	(0.448)	(0.386)
Mom's Age when Youth Born, Squared	-0.0245***	-0.0116	-0.0153*
	(0.00552)	(0.00906)	(0.00794)
Constant	9.820***	19.67***	19.17***
	(3.359)	(5.559)	(4.676)
Children	1,073	468	679
R-squared	0.123	0.112	0.155

Robust standard errors in parentheses
*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

Notes: Early departures by mothers are defined as by 20, 19, and 20 respectively. Late departures by mothers are defined as after 23, 23, and 24 respectively. Omitted income quartile is lower middle, omitted sex is male, omitted race is white, and omitted child's birth decade is the 1970s. Sample is children of 1979 NLSY mothers who are observed to live in the parental home and exit at some point. Race is mother's race. Income is family income while child was aged 18-20. Standard errors are clustered by mother.

Table 3: Linear Probability Model for Child Exiting Late			
	(1) White	(2) Hispanic	(3) Black
Mother exited early	-0.0297	-0.0531	-0.159***
	(0.0337)	(0.0509)	(0.0410)
Mother exited late	0.115**	0.183***	0.0162
	(0.0515)	(0.0602)	(0.0453)
Mother attended college by 22	0.0721	0.143*	0.0812
	(0.0510)	(0.0779)	(0.0672)
Mother married by 22	-0.0327	-0.000228	-0.0454
	(0.0365)	(0.0458)	(0.0387)
Lowest Income Quartile	-0.113**	0.0102	-0.0294
	(0.0441)	(0.0553)	(0.0411)
Upper Middle Income Quartile	0.0861**	-0.0215	0.0722
	(0.0405)	(0.0525)	(0.0481)
Highest Income Quartile	0.130***	0.0585	0.112*
	(0.0405)	(0.0603)	(0.0592)
Female	-0.0548**	-0.150***	-0.114***
	(0.0262)	(0.0388)	(0.0336)
Born in 1980s	-0.463***	-0.569***	-0.284***
	(0.0603)	(0.0595)	(0.0689)
Youth is First Born	0.0810***	0.0472	0.0478
	(0.0295)	(0.0450)	(0.0380)
Youth Gave Birth <18	-0.199*	-0.149	-0.348***
	(0.102)	(0.113)	(0.0805)
Mom's Age when Youth Born	0.269***	0.0660	0.174***
	(0.0526)	(0.0806)	(0.0646)
Mom's Age when Youth Born, Squared	-0.00535***	-0.00136	-0.00410***
	(0.00109)	(0.00168)	(0.00136)
Constant	-2.754***	-1.012	-0.125
	(0.642)	(0.747)	(0.987)
Observations	-2.845***	-0.198	-1.251
R-squared	(0.638)	(0.967)	(0.765)

Robust standard errors in parentheses
*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

Notes: Late departures by children are defined as after 22, after 22, and after 23, respectively. Early departures by mothers are defined as by 20, 19, and 20 respectively. Late departures by mothers are defined as after 23, 23, and 24 respectively. Omitted income quartile is lower middle, omitted sex is male, omitted race is white, and omitted child's birth decade is 1970s. Sample is children of 1979 NLSY mothers who are ever observed to live in the parental home. Race is mother's race. Income is family income while child was aged 18-20. Standard errors are clustered by mother.

Table 4: Linear Probability Model for Child's First Departure Past Age 22, By Race and Gender

	(1) Black Males	(2) Black Females	(3) Hispanic Males	(4) Hispanic Females	(5) White Males	(6) White Females
Mother exited by 20	-0.218***	-0.138***	-0.0984*	0.00221	-0.00889	-0.0984**
	(0.0545)	(0.0520)	(0.0587)	(0.0745)	(0.0438)	(0.0483)
Mother exits 26+	-0.0119	0.0257	0.110	0.243***	0.0986	0.124*
	(0.0532)	(0.0553)	(0.0722)	(0.0751)	(0.0609)	(0.0716)
Family income ($10,000)	0.0170**	0.0279***	-0.000112	0.000896	0.0116***	0.0129***
	(0.00679)	(0.00741)	(0.00580)	(0.00596)	(0.00443)	(0.00383)
Born in 1990s	-0.518***	-0.410***	-0.612***	-0.536***	-0.459***	-0.449***
	(0.0736)	(0.0880)	(0.0670)	(0.0932)	(0.0756)	(0.0639)
Youth is first born	0.0742	0.0190	0.0683	0.0381	0.151***	0.0457
	(0.0499)	(0.0485)	(0.0535)	(0.0657)	(0.0394)	(0.0398)
Youth gave birth <18	-0.118	-0.281***	-0.0950	-0.183	-0.405***	-0.209*
	(0.190)	(0.0856)	(0.194)	(0.118)	(0.0781)	(0.118)
Mom's Age when Youth Born	0.120	0.129	0.0579	0.0914	0.288***	0.182**
	(0.0804)	(0.0885)	(0.105)	(0.125)	(0.0682)	(0.0830)
Mom's Age when Youth Born, Squared	-0.00263	-0.00274	-0.00111	-0.00176	-0.00572***	-0.00336*
	(0.00169)	(0.00188)	(0.00216)	(0.00263)	(0.00140)	(0.00173)
Constant	-0.746	-1.023	-0.116	-0.717	-3.166***	-1.980**
	(0.949)	(1.039)	(1.263)	(1.473)	(0.833)	(0.997)
Observations	496	536	410	310	715	675
R-squared	0.099	0.092	0.068	0.057	0.080	0.100

Robust standard errors in parentheses

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

Notes: Sample is children of 1979 NLSY mothers who are ever observed to live in the parental home. Coresidence is based on youth's reporting of primary residence during the year. Youths enrolled in educational institutions are not treated separately (residence is as reported). Race is mother's race. Standard errors are clustered by mother.

Table 5: Linear Probability Model for Child's First Departure Past Age 22, by Family Income

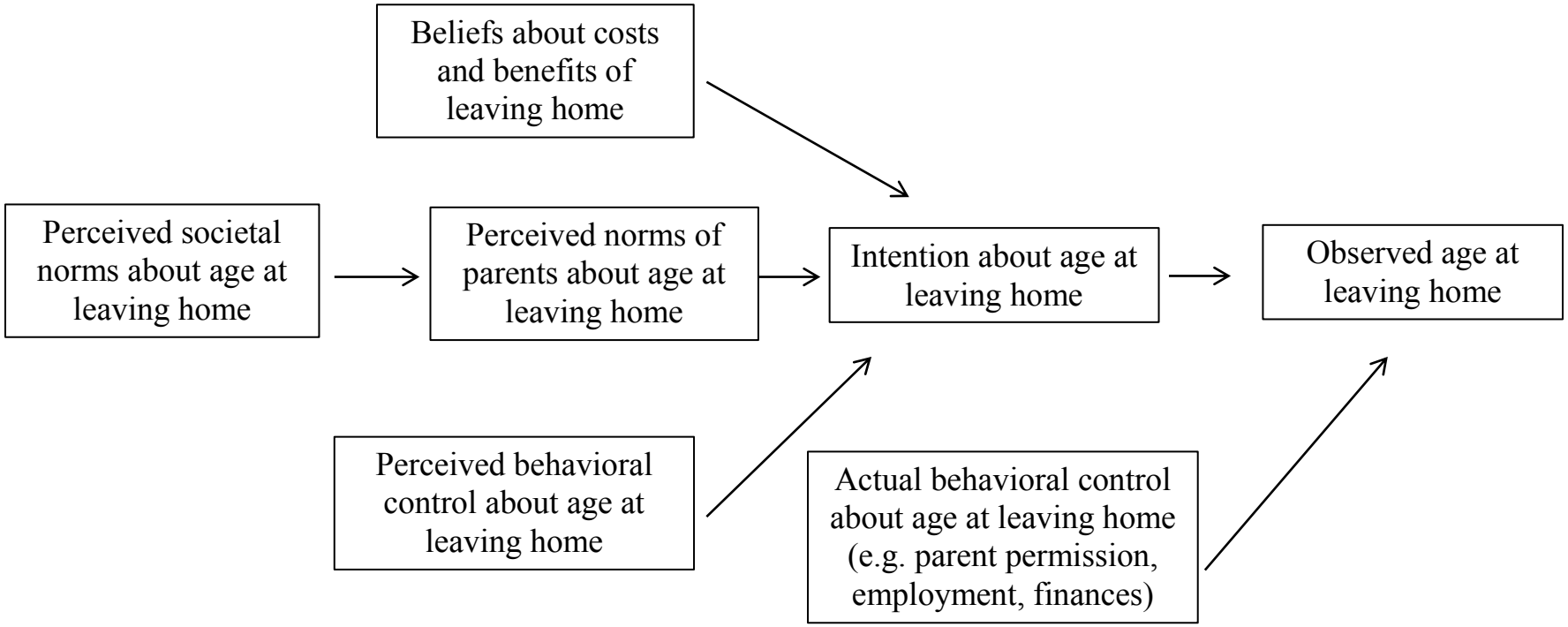
	(1) Lowest Quartile	(2) Lower Middle	(3) Upper Middle	(4) Highest Quartile
Mother exited by 20	-0.121***	-0.0850*	-0.0481	-0.0604
	(0.0428)	(0.0433)	(0.0418)	(0.0472)
Mother exited 26+	0.226***	0.0455	0.0271	0.0892
	(0.0813)	(0.0673)	(0.0817)	(0.0851)
Mother attended college by 22	0.116	0.0778	0.141**	0.0612
	(0.0995)	(0.0891)	(0.0617)	(0.0461)
Mother married by 22	-0.0418	-0.0739*	-0.0232	-0.0859**
	(0.0417)	(0.0436)	(0.0442)	(0.0434)
Hispanic	-0.127***	-0.0906**	-0.0454	-0.100***
	(0.0370)	(0.0371)	(0.0351)	(0.0358)
Black	0.225***	0.109**	0.00259	0.0310
	(0.0497)	(0.0506)	(0.0446)	(0.0488)
Female	0.138***	0.0801*	0.0978**	0.104**
	(0.0480)	(0.0480)	(0.0473)	(0.0502)
Born in 1990s	-0.417***	-0.569***	-0.570***	-0.607***
	(0.0681)	(0.0829)	(0.0768)	(0.0507)
Youth is First Born	0.0387	0.103**	0.0236	0.0450
	(0.0450)	(0.0417)	(0.0376)	(0.0419)
Youth Gave Birth <18	-0.169*	-0.158	-0.444***	-0.262
	(0.0861)	(0.121)	(0.113)	(0.253)
Mom's Age when Youth Born	0.158**	0.110	0.131*	0.328***
	(0.0635)	(0.0812)	(0.0775)	(0.0785)
Mom's Age when Youth Born, Squared	-0.00339**	-0.00212	-0.00261	-0.00673***
	(0.00134)	(0.00171)	(0.00163)	(0.00160)
Constant	-1.357*	-0.861	-1.024	-3.232***
	(0.757)	(0.961)	(0.928)	(0.962)
Observations	675	708	828	672
R-squared	0.119	0.074	0.056	0.097

Robust standard errors in parentheses

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

Notes: Of youths observed to exit at some point. Coresidence is based on youth's reporting of primary residence during the year. Youths enrolled in educational institutions are not treated separately (residence is as reported). Omitted category is mothers leaving home between ages 21 and 25. Race is mother's race. Standard errors are clustered by mother. Family income is the average of mother's income plus mother's spouse's income over ages 18-20. The lowest income quartile contains those with family incomes between $1 and $19,000, the second $19,180-$38,500, the third $38,550-$70,000, and the fourth incomes above $70,000.

Figure 1: Ajzen's Theory of Planned Behavior



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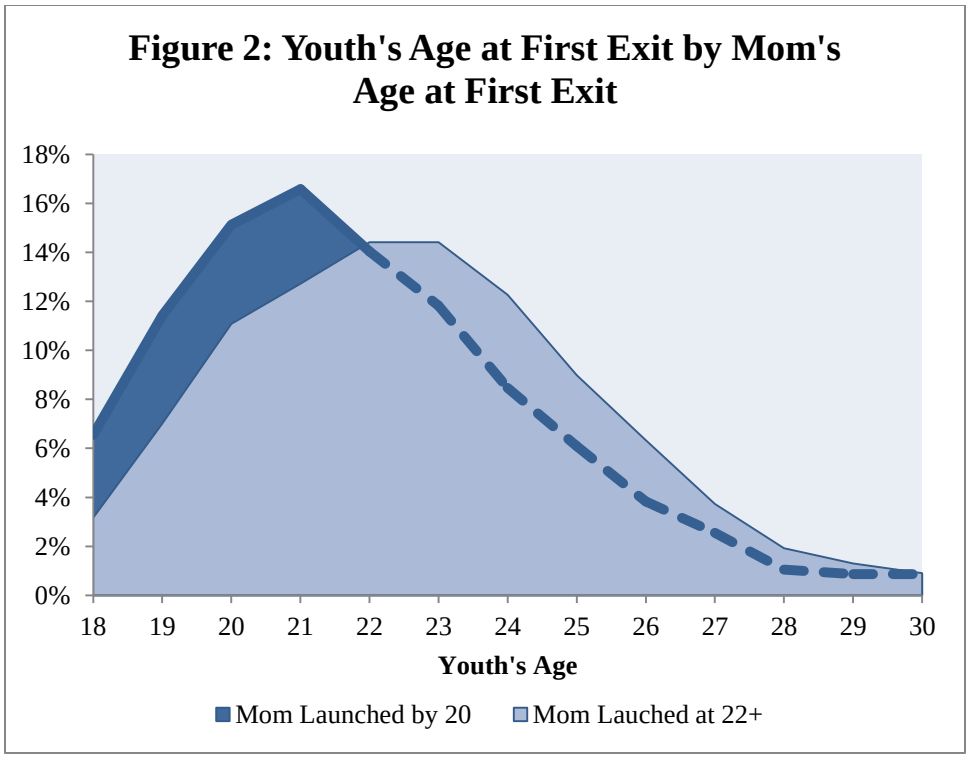
Figure 2: Youth's Age at First Exit by Mom's Age at First Exit
18%
16%
14%
12%
10%
8%
6%
4%
2%
0%
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
Youth's Age
Mom Launched by 20
Mom Lauched at 22+

Appendix B: Robustness Checks

Table B1: Linear Probability Model for Youth Exiting At Specified Ages

Youth exited at age…	(1) 20+	(2) 21+	(3) 22+	(4) 23+	(5) 24+	(6) 25+
Mother exited by 20	-0.0295**	-0.0237	-0.0812***	-0.0777***	-0.0999***	-0.101***
	(0.0140)	(0.0187)	(0.0214)	(0.0222)	(0.0224)	(0.0206)
Mother exited 26+	0.0307**	0.0778***	0.123***	0.0969**	0.0918**	0.0520
	(0.0148)	(0.0222)	(0.0308)	(0.0394)	(0.0458)	(0.0485)
Mother attended college by 22	0.0220	0.0661***	0.0778***	0.0837**	0.0978***	0.0911**
	(0.0150)	(0.0211)	(0.0295)	(0.0333)	(0.0372)	(0.0386)
Mother married by 22	-0.0242*	-0.0439**	-0.0455**	-0.0559**	-0.0500**	-0.0369*
	(0.0125)	(0.0176)	(0.0207)	(0.0222)	(0.0225)	(0.0215)
Female	-0.0549***	-0.0783***	-0.0812***	-0.0875***	-0.0650***	-0.0550***
	(0.0109)	(0.0148)	(0.0171)	(0.0179)	(0.0186)	(0.0177)
Hispanic	0.0360**	0.0577***	0.0723***	0.0804***	0.0739***	0.108***
	(0.0156)	(0.0209)	(0.0239)	(0.0247)	(0.0253)	(0.0248)
Black	0.0701***	0.0958***	0.0934***	0.0932***	0.0767***	0.0908***
	(0.0141)	(0.0198)	(0.0238)	(0.0248)	(0.0251)	(0.0239)
Born in 1990s	-0.0643**	-0.840***	-0.645***	-0.527***	-0.331***	-0.164***
	(0.0288)	(0.0217)	(0.0333)	(0.0350)	(0.0353)	(0.0321)
Youth is First Born	0.0139	0.0445***	0.0451**	0.0524***	0.0498**	0.0417**
	(0.0120)	(0.0158)	(0.0187)	(0.0203)	(0.0208)	(0.0201)
Youth Gave Birth <18	-0.271***	-0.262***	-0.322***	-0.229***	-0.231***	-0.138***
	(0.0637)	(0.0649)	(0.0633)	(0.0606)	(0.0541)	(0.0527)
Constant	0.826***	-0.244	-0.744*	-1.541***	-1.372***	-1.426***
	(0.254)	(0.353)	(0.440)	(0.439)	(0.437)	(0.389)
Observations	3,196	3,045	2,883	2,883	2,765	2,637
R-squared	0.054	0.109	0.100	0.089	0.070	0.065

Robust standard errors in parentheses

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

Notes: Of youths observed to exit at some point. Coresidence is based on youth's reporting of primary residence during the year. Youths enrolled in educational institutions are not treated separately (residence is as reported). Omitted category is mothers leaving home between ages 21 and 25. Race is mother's race. Also included are controls for income quartile and mother's age at youth's birth. Standard errors are clustered by mother. Family income is the average of mother's income plus mother's spouse's income over ages 18-20.

Table B2: Linear Probability Model for Youth Exiting At Specified Ages						
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Youth exited at age…	20+	21+	22+	23+	24+	25+
Mother exited by 20	-0.0275*	-0.0231	-0.0731***	-0.0690***	-0.0874***	-0.0917***
	(0.0144)	(0.0191)	(0.0220)	(0.0227)	(0.0229)	(0.0210)
Mother exited 24+	0.0223*	0.0303	0.0892***	0.0834***	0.103***	0.0710**
	(0.0126)	(0.0199)	(0.0245)	(0.0285)	(0.0311)	(0.0322)
Mother attended college by 22	0.0216	0.0676***	0.0783***	0.0832**	0.0963***	0.0902**
	(0.0149)	(0.0211)	(0.0294)	(0.0332)	(0.0371)	(0.0384)
Mother married by 22	-0.0220*	-0.0435**	-0.0367*	-0.0464**	-0.0364	-0.0270
	(0.0130)	(0.0181)	(0.0212)	(0.0227)	(0.0230)	(0.0221)
Female	-0.0545***	-0.0775***	-0.0795***	-0.0862***	-0.0636***	-0.0541***
	(0.0109)	(0.0148)	(0.0170)	(0.0179)	(0.0185)	(0.0177)
Hispanic	0.0356**	0.0580***	0.0712***	0.0791***	0.0717***	0.107***
	(0.0156)	(0.0210)	(0.0239)	(0.0247)	(0.0252)	(0.0247)
Black	0.0700***	0.0977***	0.0938***	0.0925***	0.0740***	0.0879***
	(0.0141)	(0.0199)	(0.0237)	(0.0248)	(0.0250)	(0.0239)
Born in 1990s	-0.0639**	-0.839***	-0.639***	-0.521***	-0.324***	-0.160***
	(0.0288)	(0.0214)	(0.0333)	(0.0351)	(0.0358)	(0.0325)
Youth is First Born	0.0140	0.0454***	0.0453**	0.0522***	0.0492**	0.0410**
	(0.0120)	(0.0158)	(0.0187)	(0.0202)	(0.0207)	(0.0200)
Youth Gave Birth <18	-0.271***	-0.264***	-0.322***	-0.227***	-0.228***	-0.135**
	(0.0639)	(0.0652)	(0.0639)	(0.0612)	(0.0551)	(0.0532)
Constant	0.824***	-0.226	-0.767*	-1.571***	-1.421***	-1.460***
	(0.254)	(0.354)	(0.439)	(0.438)	(0.437)	(0.389)
Observations	3,196	3,045	2,883	2,883	2,765	2,637
R-squared	0.054	0.108	0.100	0.090	0.073	0.067

Robust standard errors in parentheses
*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

Notes: Of youths observed to exit at some point. Coresidence is based on youth's reporting of primary residence during the year. Youths enrolled in educational institutions are not treated separately (residence is as reported). Omitted category is mothers leaving home between ages 21 and 23. Race is mother's race. Also included are controls for income quartile and mother's age at youth's birth. Standard errors are clustered by mother. Family income is the average of mother's income plus mother's spouse's income over ages 18-20.

Table B3: OLS Regression for Youth's Age at First Exit, by Race				
	(1) All	(2) Black	(3) Hispanic	(4) White
Mom's Age at First Exit	0.167***	0.120***	0.220***	0.212***
	(0.0236)	(0.0331)	(0.0605)	(0.0430)
Mother attended college by 22	0.747***	0.452	1.190*	0.685***
	(0.196)	(0.368)	(0.707)	(0.244)
Mother married by 22	-0.0733	-0.186	0.0760	0.0968
	(0.124)	(0.215)	(0.268)	(0.192)
Lowest Income Quartile	-0.167	-0.158	0.125	-0.371
	(0.147)	(0.238)	(0.321)	(0.233)
Upper Middle Income Quartile	0.333**	0.309	-0.0740	0.485**
	(0.148)	(0.290)	(0.294)	(0.216)
Highest Income Quartile	0.745***	1.096***	-0.119	0.823***
	(0.159)	(0.321)	(0.389)	(0.215)
Female	-0.448***	-0.463**	-0.790***	-0.317**
	(0.102)	(0.195)	(0.229)	(0.142)
Hispanic	0.214			
	(0.146)			
Black	0.471***			
	(0.141)			
Born in 1990s	-2.187***	-2.078***	-2.270***	-2.045***
	(0.265)	(0.452)	(0.591)	(0.418)
Youth is First Born	0.285**	0.251	0.103	0.463***
	(0.114)	(0.229)	(0.264)	(0.159)
Youth Gave Birth <18	-1.655***	-1.848***	-1.576**	-1.492***
	(0.356)	(0.552)	(0.764)	(0.480)
Mom's Age when Youth Born	0.665***	0.583	0.259	0.986***
	(0.203)	(0.390)	(0.451)	(0.275)
Mom's Age when Youth Born, Squared	-0.0170***	-0.0164**	-0.00944	-0.0225***
	(0.00415)	(0.00803)	(0.00911)	(0.00556)
Constant	12.18***	15.28***	16.88***	6.503**
	(2.502)	(4.823)	(5.616)	(3.279)
Observations	2,220	679	468	1,073
R-squared	0.124	0.145	0.128	0.131

Robust standard errors in parentheses
*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

Notes: Of youths observed to exit at some point. Coresidence is based on youth's reporting of primary residence during the year. Youths enrolled in educational institutions are not treated separately (residence is as reported). Race is mother's race. Standard errors are clustered by mother. Family income is the average of mother's income plus mother's spouse's income over ages 18-20.