



Parental Structure's Influence on Adverse Childhood Experiences

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INTRODUCTION

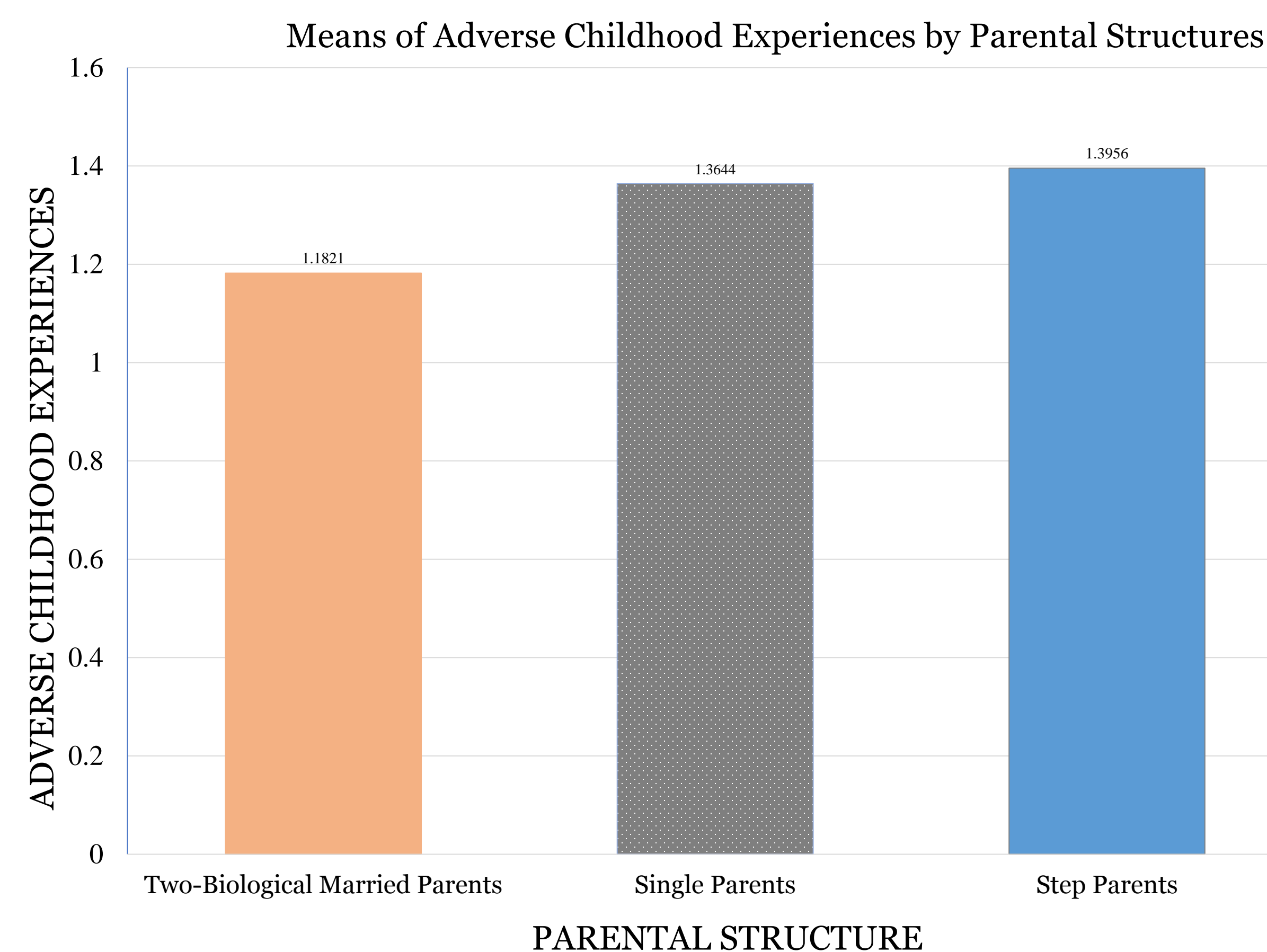
- At least 1 in 7 kids experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in past year
- Connect parental structures of two-biological parents, step parents, and single parents to the number of ACEs in child's developing years



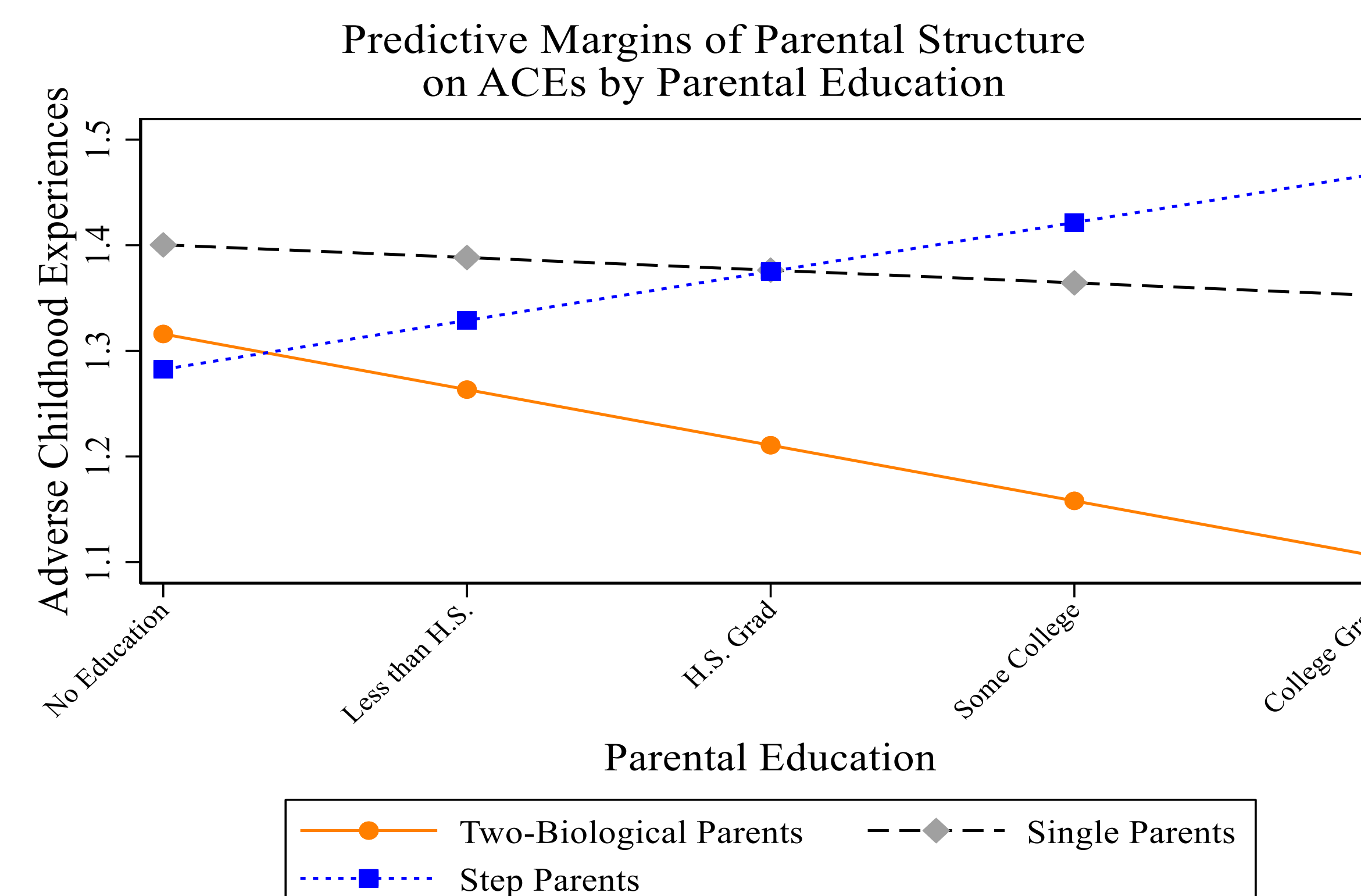
HYPOTHESIS

- Children in step parent and single parent structures will experience more ACEs than children in two-biological married parent structures

Children in **single** and **step** parent families experience **more** Adverse Childhood Experiences.



Children in Step parent families experienced **more** ACEs when parent had **more education**.



DATA & METHODS

- Add Health Data, 1994-95
- Children interviewed = 6, 442
- DV: ACEs, Waves 3-4
- IV: Parental Structure, Wave 1
- Control Variables: Sex, Parent Education, Race, and Income
- OLS Regression

CONCLUSION

- ACEs score increased in single and step parent families
- Only a fraction of a difference between parental structures, yet statistically significant
- Education acts as a mediating variable- possibly due to step parent adjustment
- Further research should look deeper into the effect of education on ACEs