

Do Immigrant Adolescents Experience a “Healthy Immigrant” Effect in Israel?



Cheryl Zlotnick RN DrPH
Hadass Goldblatt MSW PhD
Daphna Birenbaum-Carmeli PhD
Omer Taychaw MA
Yael Dishon RN MA
Efrat Shadmi RN PhD



Disclosure Slide

Authors: Cheryl Zlotnick RN DrPH , Hadass Goldblatt MSW PhD, Daphna Birenbaum-Carmeli PhD, Yael Dishon RN MA, Omer Taychaw MA, Efrat Shadmi RN PhD

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the nature of gender differences in health behaviors and the three dimensions of health status (physical, mental and social) found in immigrant and non-immigrant adolescents.
2. Identify differences between the physical, psychosocial, and family factors between male and female immigrant adolescents.
3. Distinguish unique needs of 2nd versus 1st generation immigrant adolescents.

Conflict of Interest:

All authors claim no conflict of interest.

Cheryl Zlotnick RN DrPH	No conflict of interest
Hadass Goldblatt MSW PhD	No conflict of interest
Daphna Birenbaum-Carmeli PhD	No conflict of interest
Yael Dishon RN MA	No conflict of interest
Omer Taychaw MA	No conflict of interest
Efrat Shadmi RN PhD	No conflict of interest

Funding: The authors gratefully acknowledge the support from this study by European Union's Marie Curie Career Reintegration Grant #303525 (PI: Zlotnick).

Healthy Immigrant Effect

Adults: Immigrants versus Non-Immigrants

- **Socioeconomic status** – educated; employable
- **Health behaviors** – less smoking/alcohol/fewer processed foods
- **Chronic Illnesses** - people in ill health tend not to migrate; must undergo medical screening

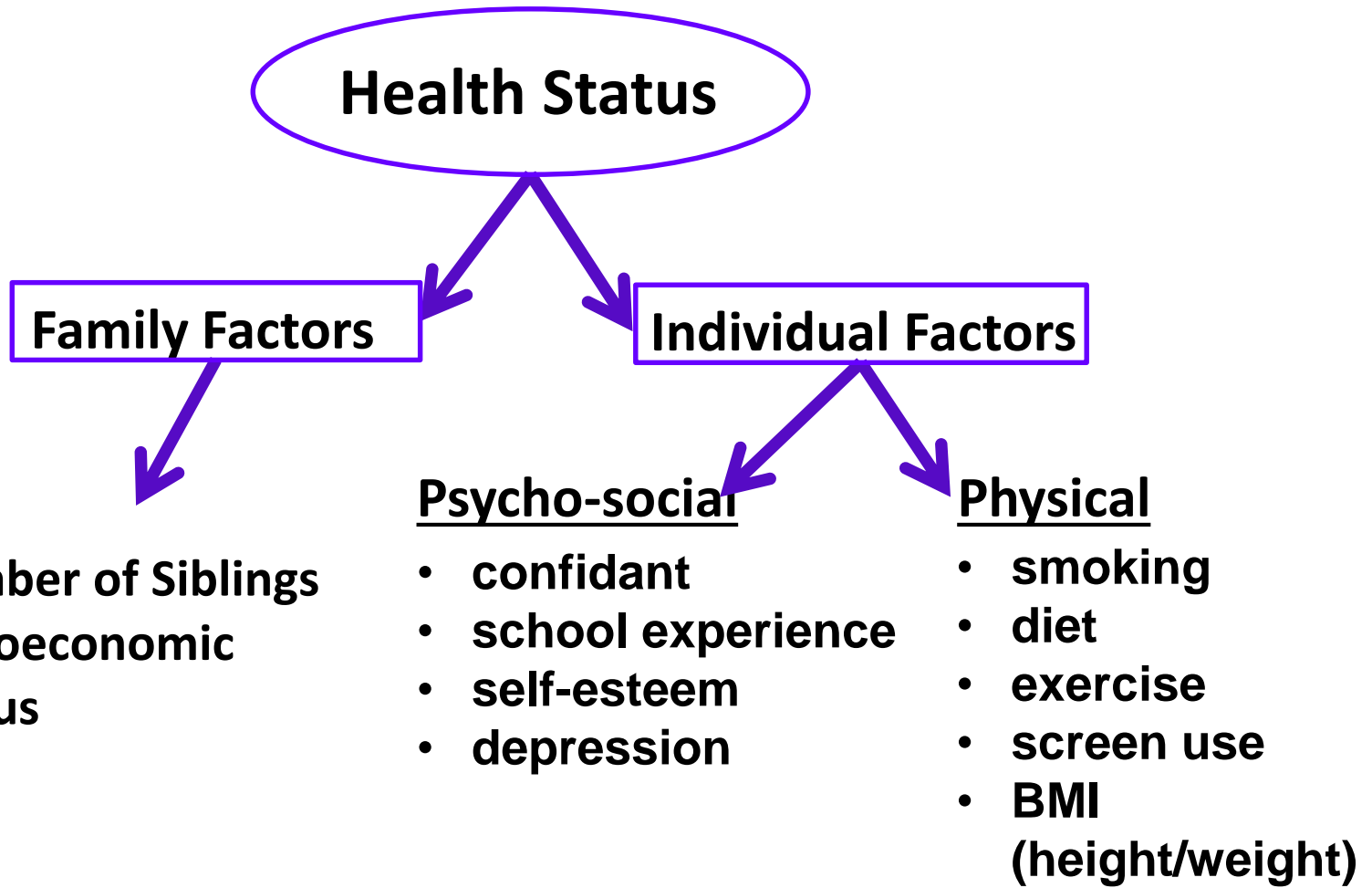
Adolescents: Immigrant Families versus Not

- **Population** – adolescents or immigrants themselves, or parents are immigrants
- **The meaning of Health Status for adolescents**

The Case of Israel - Law of Right of Return



Adolescents



Gender Differences in Adolescents by Immigration Status

Kwak and Rudmin *International Journal for Equity in Health* 2014, **13**:103
<http://www.equityhealthj.com/content/13/1/103>



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR
EQUITY IN HEALTH

RESEARCH

Open Access

Adolescent health and adaptation in Canada: examination of gender and age aspects of the healthy immigrant effect

Kyunghwa Kwak^{1,2*} and Floyd Rudmin³

Health Status

- Immigrants > Non
- Boys ≈ Girls



Available online at www.sciencedirect.com



ScienceDirect

Journal of Adolescence 32 (2009) 109–133

Journal of
Adolescence

www.elsevier.com/locate/jado

Examining the influences of gender, race, ethnicity, and social capital on the subjective health of adolescents

Gunnar Almgren^{a,*}, Maya Magarati^b, Liz Mogford^c

Health Status

- Immigrant boys ≈ Non
- Immigrant girls ≈ Non
- Boys > Girls

Study Objectives

Does the “Healthy Immigrant effect” extend to adolescents?

Are there gender differences in health status and health behaviors for immigrant and non-immigrant adolescents?



Methods

Sample - Tenth grade, high-school students

Procedure

- dissemination by 12-14 university students
- 3-6 classrooms (10th grade) per school
- 3 high schools

Instrument- 6-page questionnaire (e.g., demographic characteristics, dietary information, internet/screen use, exercise, standardized tools e.g., Rosenberg Self-Esteem¹, Short Report Questionnaire or SRQ²)

^{1,2}Cronbach α = 0.82, 0.84

Results - Sample

	Youth Living in		
	Immigrant Families (n=272)	Non-immigrant Families (n=376)	Total (n=648)
	%	%	% (n)
Gender-Girl	48.5	49.3	48.9 (317)
Socioeconomic status**			
• Below average	10.6	3.5	6.7 (42)
• Average	24.8	20.8	22.6 (142)
• Above average	64.5	75.8	70.8 (445)
Health Status: excellent versus not	57.1	63.0	60.3 (385)
P<0.05*, p<0.01**, p<0.001***			

Results – Sample -Generations

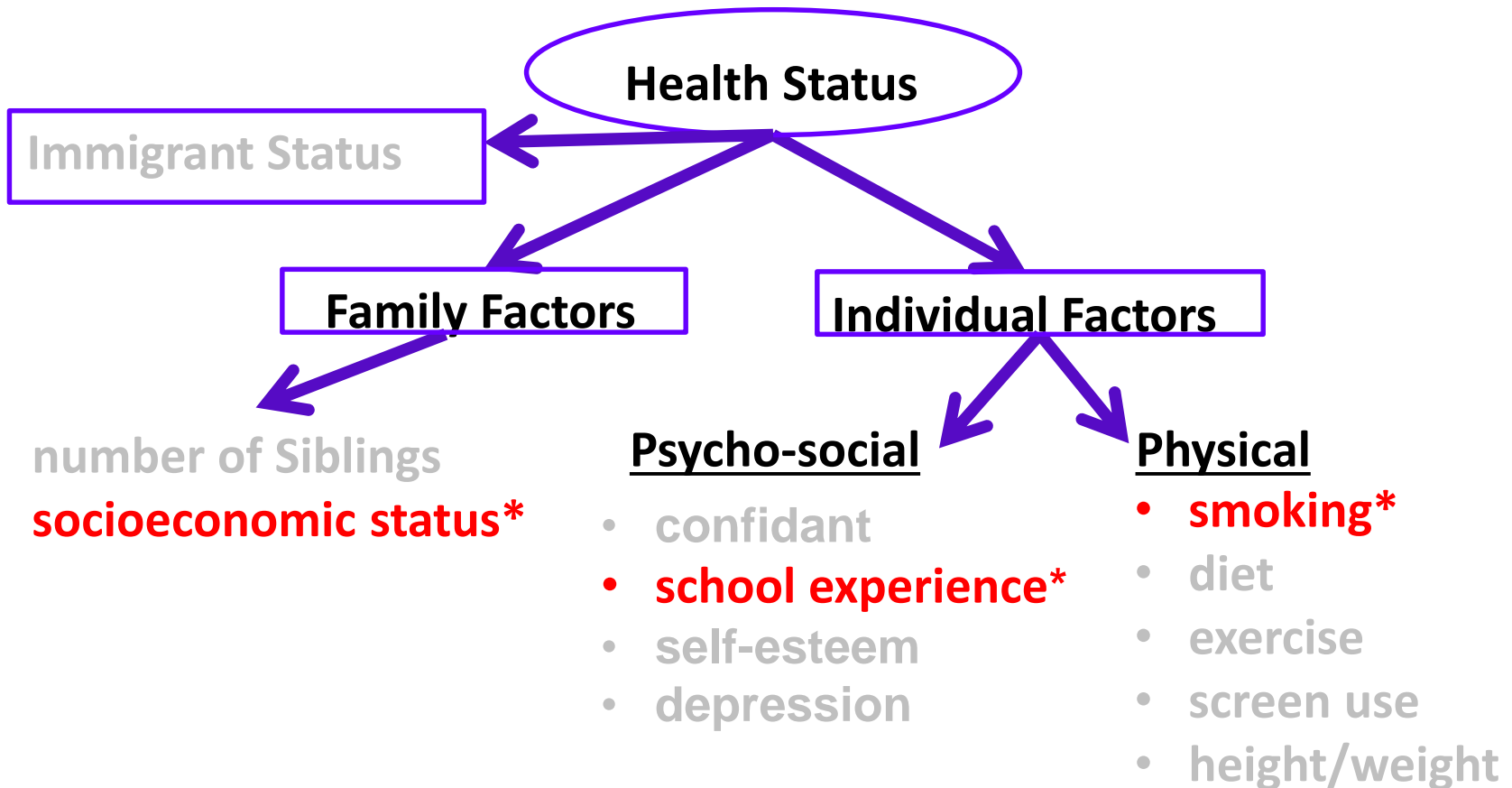
	Immigrant Youth (n=67) %	Native-Born Youth in Immigrant Family (n=205) %	Native-Born Youth in Native-Born Family (n=376) %
Gender-Girl	52.2	46.8	49.5
Socioeconomic status***			
• Below average	18.2	8.1	3.8
• Average	22.7	26.8	20.3
• Above average	59.1	65.1	75.9
Health Status: excellent versus not	55.0	57.4	63.2
P<0.05*, p<0.01**, p<0.001***			

Objective #1

Does the “Healthy Immigrant” effect extend to adolescents?



Results – Immigrants vs Not



*** $p < 0.05$**

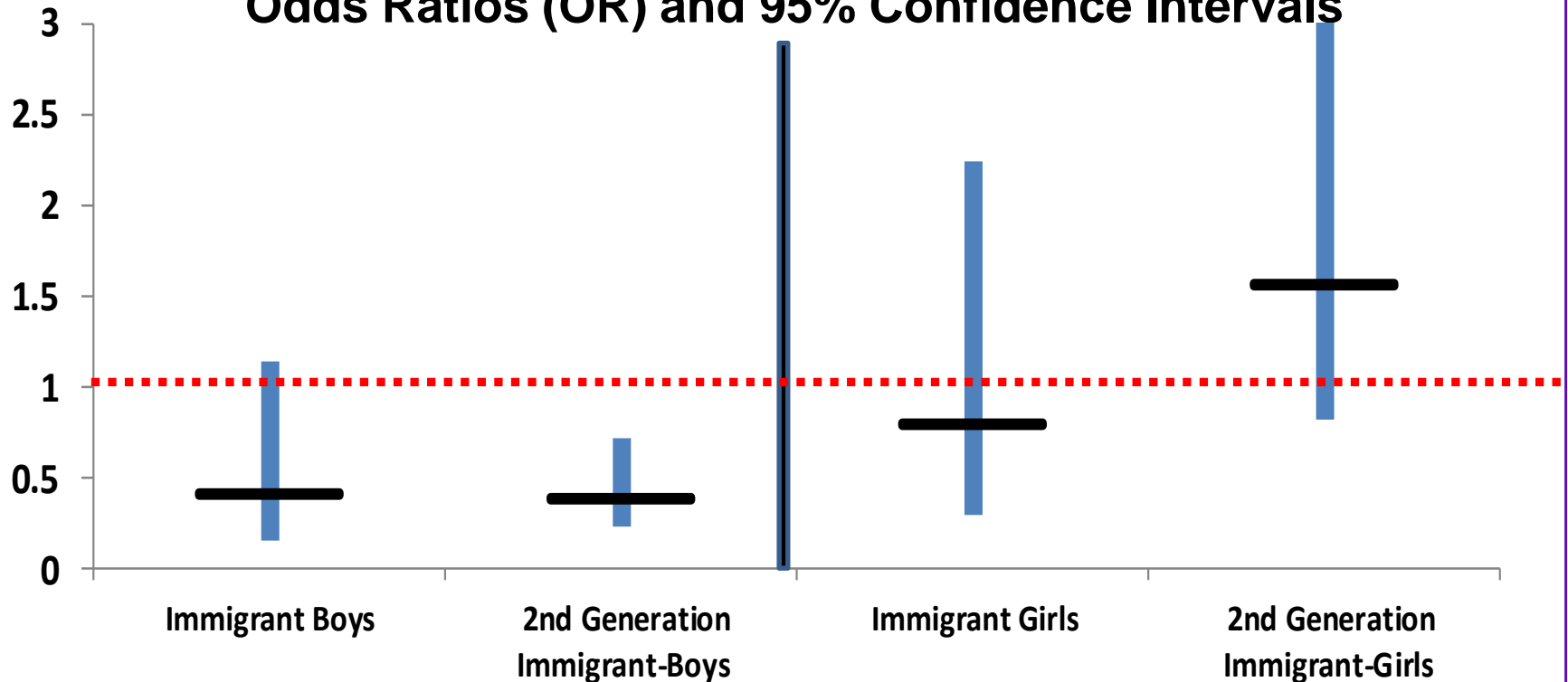
Objective #2

Are there gender differences in health status and health behaviors for immigrant and non-immigrant adolescents?



Results –Health Status – Gender – Immigrant Families versus not

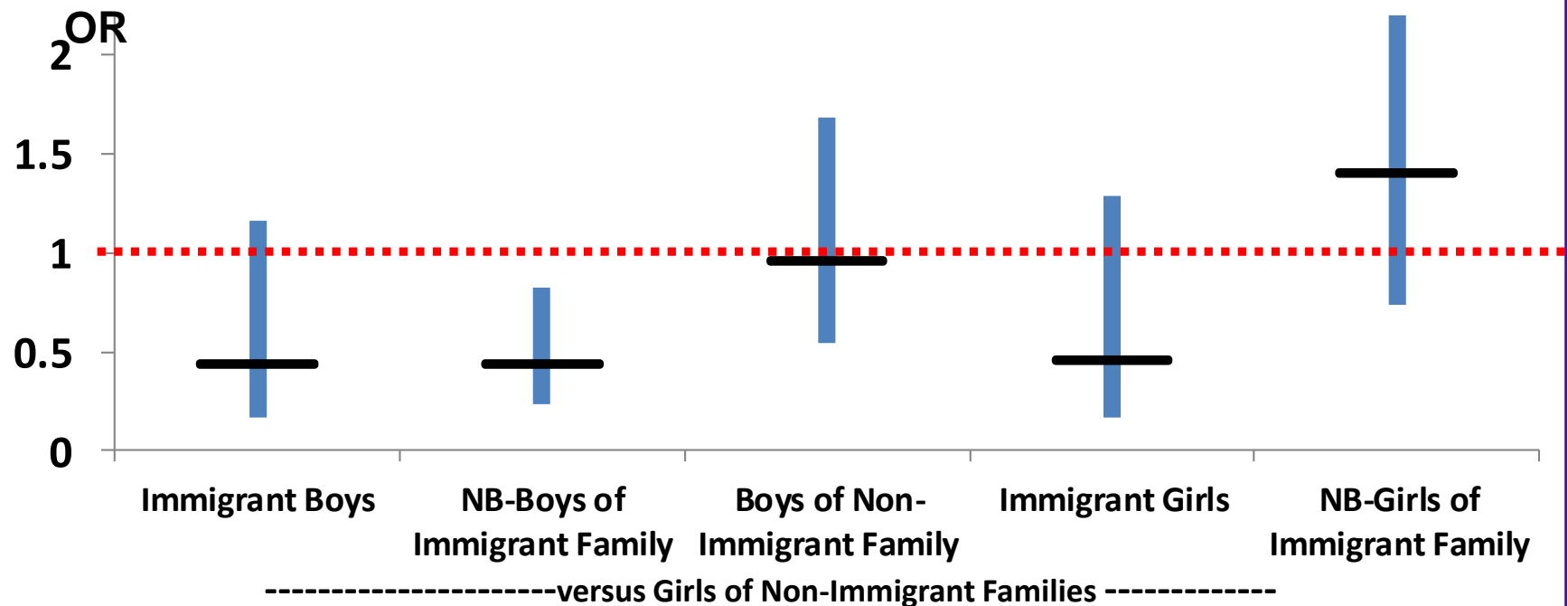
Models Predicting “Excellent” Health Status for 10th Grade Youth Odds Ratios (OR) and 95% Confidence Intervals



Models adjusted by: self-esteem, psychological symptoms, school experience, BMI-85%, good diet, exercise, smoking status, internet use (hours), siblings in household, socioeconomic status.

Results –Health Status – Gender – by Generation of Immigrant Families versus not

Models Predicting “Excellent” Health Status for 10th Grade Youth Odds Ratios (OR) and 95% Confidence Intervals



NB=native-born

Models adjusted by: self-esteem, psychological symptoms, school experience, BMI-85%, good diet, exercise, smoking status, internet use (hours), siblings in household, socioeconomic status.

Discussion

Interventions provided to immigrant families must extend to native-born youth living in immigrant families.

Native-born who live with immigrant parents may not have the same supports as immigrant youth who live with their immigrant parents.

Interventions must be gender-specific.



благодаря

Bedankt



Vielen
Dank

ขอบคุณ

謝謝

Köszönettel

Gracias

תודה

Thanks!

شكراً

शुक्रिया

děkuji



Merci



감사합니다

Cheryl Zlotnick RN DrPH
Associate Professor
University of Haifa
Mt Carmel, Haifa, Israel
czlotnick@univ.haifa.ac.il