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Impatience among Preschool Children and their Mothers

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Abstract:

Using experimental data of children and their mothers, this paper explores the intergenerational relationship of impatience. child's impatience stems from a delay of gratification experiment. Mother's impatience has been assessed by a choice task where the mothers faced trade-offs between a smaller-sooner and a larger-later monetary reward with a delay of six or twelve months. The findings demonstrate an intergenerational relationship in short-run decision making. Controlling for mother's and child's characteristics the child's impatience at preschool age is significantly correlated with the six month maternal reservation interest rate.

Text: See [Discussion Paper No. 6247](#)



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