



The Role of Parental Family in Predicting the Attitudes towards Sexual Liberalization

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Research problem

- Earlier in the traditional society contra-reproductive behaviour (abortion, divorce and homosexuality) was strongly disapproved. Now with the process of value change, increasing general tolerance and diversification of behavior more and more people consider these types of behavior as normal (Inglehart, Norris 2003; Inglehart, Welzel 2010)
- Higher human and cultural capital is largely connected with having emancipative values (contrary to traditional)
- Values and attitudes are to a large extent formed in the parental family (Grusec and Goodnow 1994; O'Shea and Kirrane 2008, etc.)
- Higher cultural capital of parents contributes to values and attitudes of their children

Purpose

- to reveal the impact of parental family's cultural capital on individual level of sexual liberalization across different European countries
- to observe the interaction effects of cultural capital with traditional values (religiosity) and socialist legacy

Specific contribution

- Comparison of the impact of different aspects of parental cultural capital + interaction effects
- Including into analysis a large set of European countries (controlling for macrolevel indicators)

Theoretical framework

‘Plethora of capitals framework’ (Bourdieu, 1986):

- the process of childbearing and socialization is regarded as investment (planned and unintentional) in different forms of capital
- children from wealthier, happier and more cultural families become more educated and cultural, because they have more favorable habitus
- in our research we extend this framework of P. Bourdieu by incorporating into analysis the level of the society. In our viewpoint the process of socialization is affected not only by situation in the family but also in the society on the whole

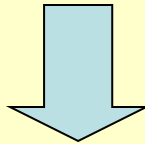
Theoretical framework

- Existential security (R. Inglehart) and human empowerment (C. Welzel) could be regarded as the analogues of cultural capital of Bourdieu.
- Support for reproductive freedoms is one of the crucial aspects of human empowerment (Welzel 2013)
- Countries differ a lot in dominant values and attitudes towards different aspects of gender equality. In more developed countries attitudes towards gender equality are in generally more tolerant (Inglehart, Norris 2003; Inglehart, Welzel 2010; Braun, Gloeckner-Rist 2011). In countries where self-expression values are prevalent attitudes towards homosexuality are more tolerant (Adamszyk, Pitt 2009)

Hypotheses: individual level

Effect of parents' human and cultural capital

- Parental higher level of education leads to more tolerant gender attitudes of the individuals (Grusec & Goodnow, 1994; Guveli, Need, De Graaf 2007; O'Shea & Kirrane 2008)
- Higher parents' cultural capital and material wealth positively contributes to tolerant gender attitudes (Van de Werfhorst & Kraaykamp 2001)



- Higher parental human and cultural capital leads to more tolerant attitudes toward sexual liberalization

Hypotheses: interaction effects

- The effect of parental cultural capital could be hold down or even reversed by:
 1. Socialist legacy
 2. Religiosity (by individual)
 3. Islam as a dominant religion (only in the European context)

- The reasons – sexual liberalization is condemned by educational system and society or there was a gap in traditions and families (socialist legacy)

Data and methods

- European Value Study 2008-2009
- OLS regression with clustered st. er.,
- multilevel analysis – determinants of family values,
- SEM

Dependent variable

Level of sexual liberalization – constructed as an unweighted index (distr. from 0 to 1) Components (3) – “Do you justify?”:

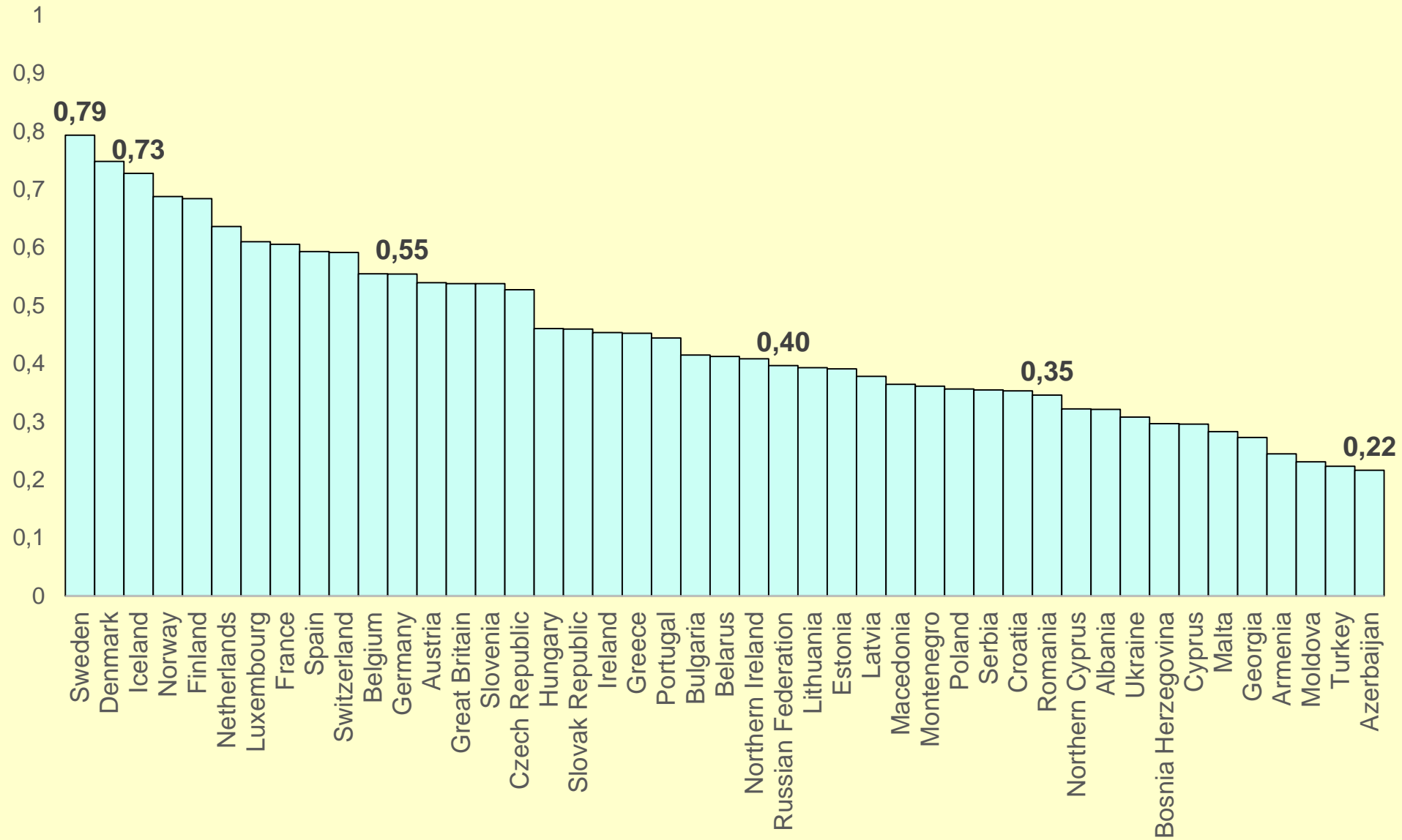
- Homosexuality
- Abortion
- Divorce

Conducted E (exploratory) FA and C (confirmatory) FA. Also included here attitudes to adultery, casual sex and prostitution.

The higher index the higher level of emancipation: it ranges from 0 (low level of sexual liberalization) to 1 (high level of sexual liberalization)

Cronbach alpha – 0.804

Distribution of level of sexual liberalization by country



Independent variables

- family cultural capital: if the parents read books, followed news or discussed political issues with their children (now respondents)

! the respondent answers either about mothers or fathers status

- Conducted CFA to show that this items belong to the single factor
- Effect of the human capital! *Education, but not the cultural capital could be the strong predictor of sexual liberalization!*

In SEM cultural capital keeps the sign and significance, although education is a strong predictor of it. Education of parents as a control – the results are still robust.

Effects on indep. var.

- Religiosity (religious, not religious, atheist)
- Subsamples for Muslim and postcommunist countries
- The effects for postcoms and Muslim countries

Control variables

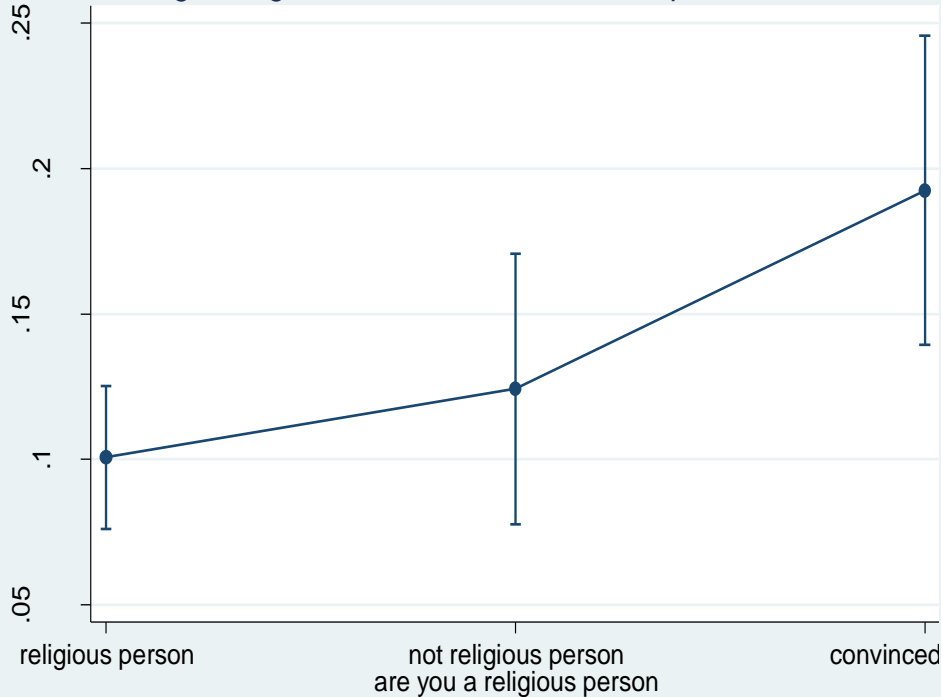
- Gender
- growing up in single-parent family
- Age
- Marital status
 - cohabited, divorced, separated, never married, widowed
- Number of children
- Education (low, middle and higher)
- Household income
- Living with parents now
- Family income when respondent was 14
- Log GDP per capita (macrolevel)
- GII
- HDI

Main results

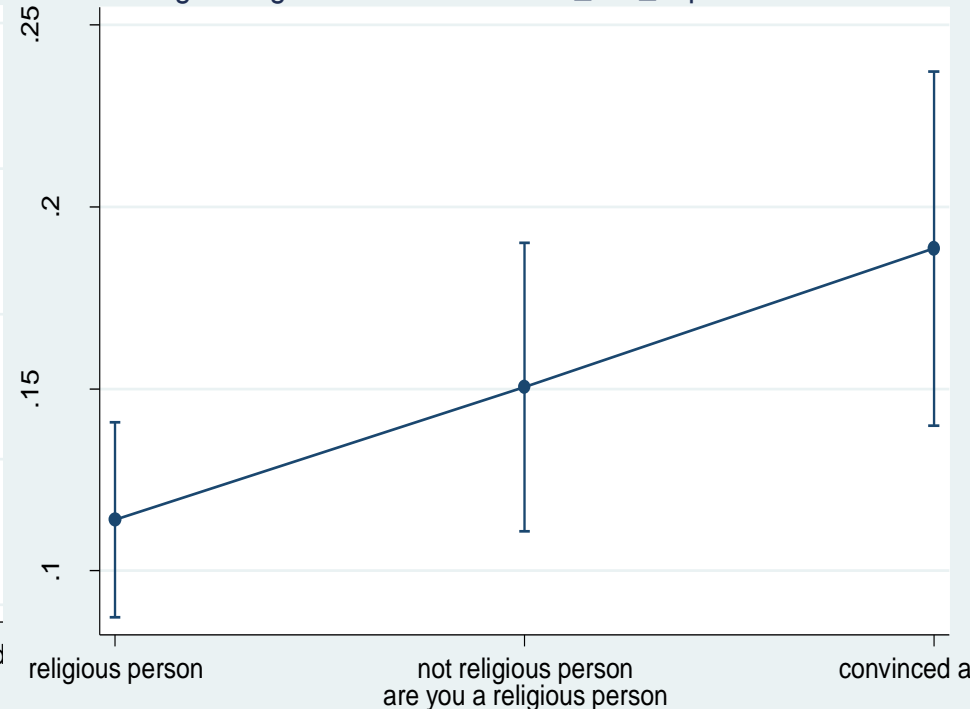
Variables: individual level	effect
<i>Cultural capital of mother</i>	+
<i>Cultural capital of father</i>	+
Being religious	-
Parent's human capital (education)	+
Variables: country level (semi-control)	effect
RDI (religious diversity)	+
Share of Protestants	+
Share of Muslims	-
Post-communist society/ controlling for GDP	-/+
Religious denomination (apart from Islam)	+ (but for Orthodox not signif.)

Marginal effects of cultural capital for different level of religiosity (without controls)

Average Marginal Effects of father_cult_cap with 95% CIs



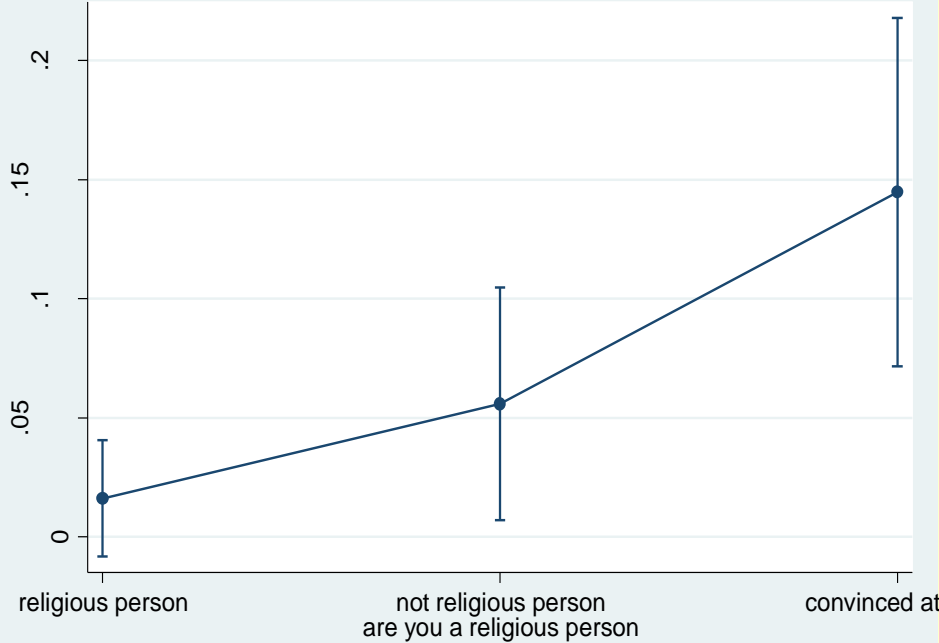
Average Marginal Effects of mother_cult_cap with 95% CIs



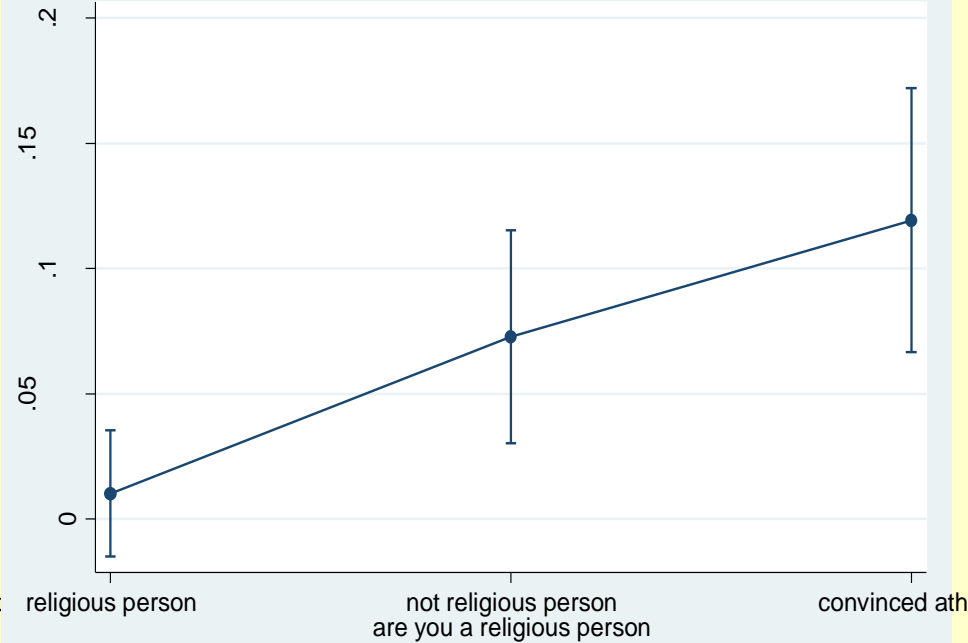
- The effect of parents' cultural capital is the strongest for **atheists**
- For **religious people** there is much weaker effect for the father's/mother's cultural capital

Marginal effects of cultural capital for different level of religiosity (with controls)

Average Marginal Effects of father_cult_cap with 95% CIs

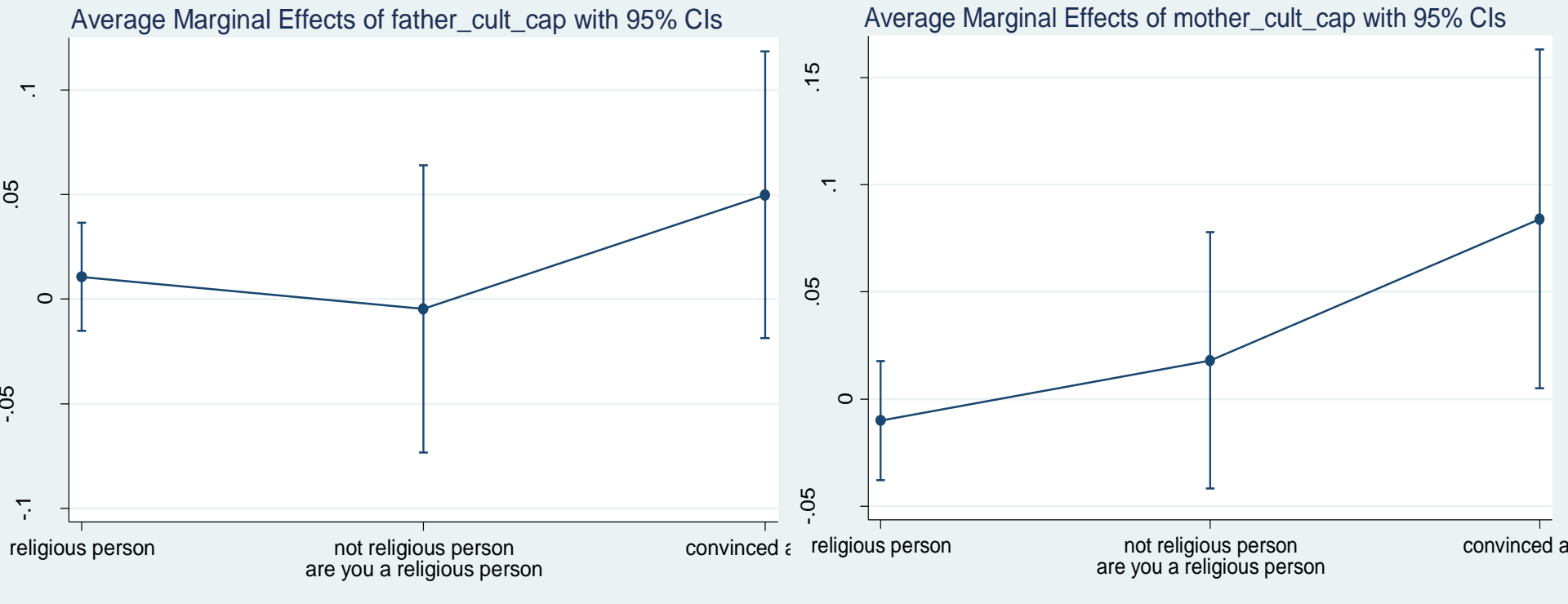


Average Marginal Effects of mother_cult_cap with 95% CIs



- For **religious people** there is no significant effect

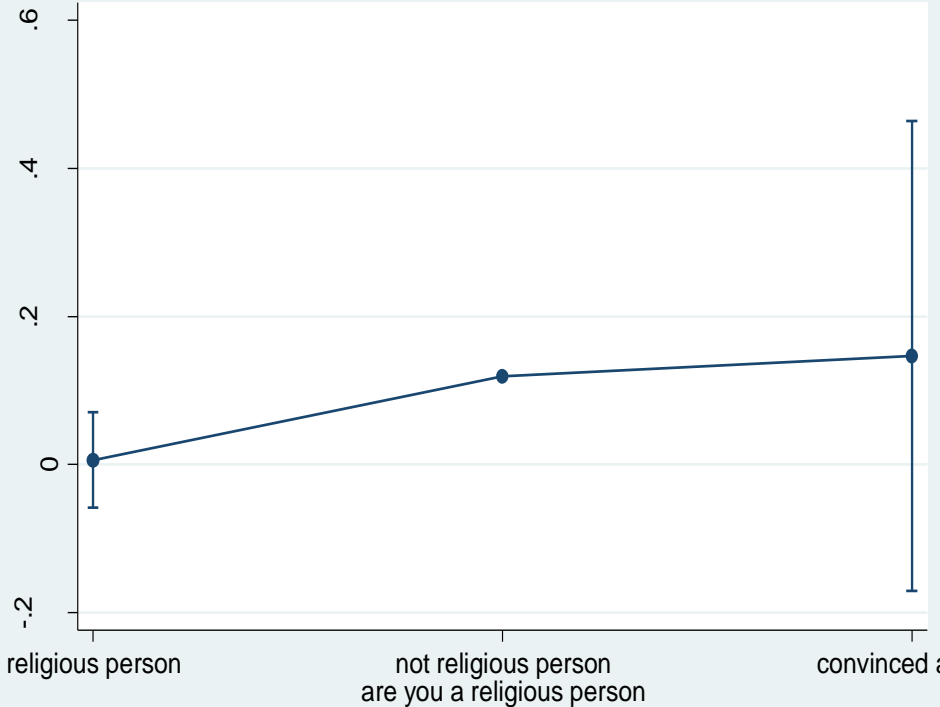
Marginal effects of cultural capital for different level of religiosity (with controls). Postcoms only



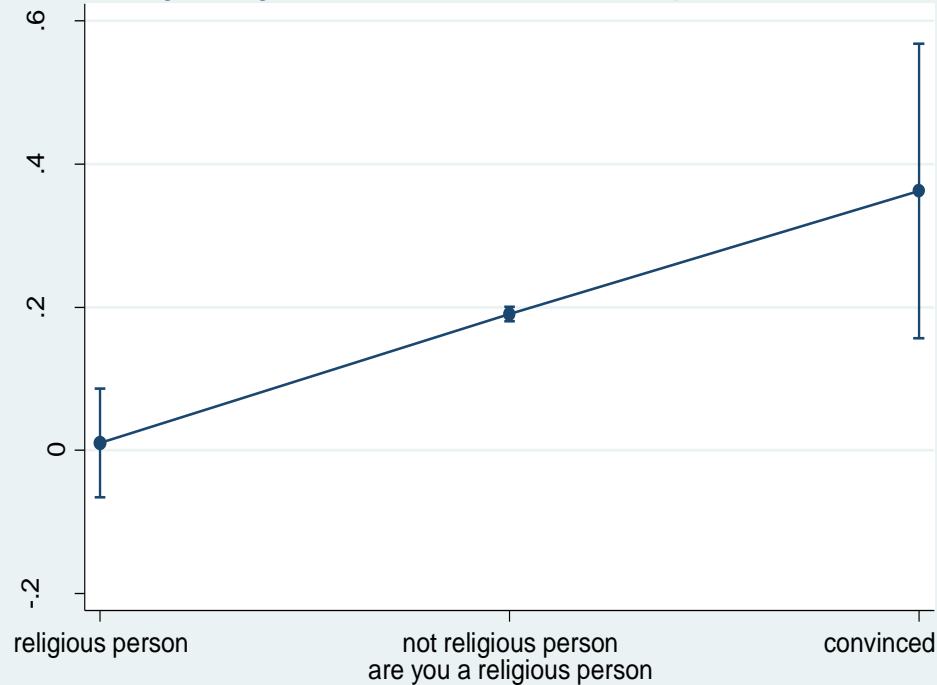
- Only for mother's capital and atheists there is a significant effect

Marginal effects of cultural capital for different level of religiosity (with controls). Muslim countries only

Average Marginal Effects of father_cult_cap with 95% CIs



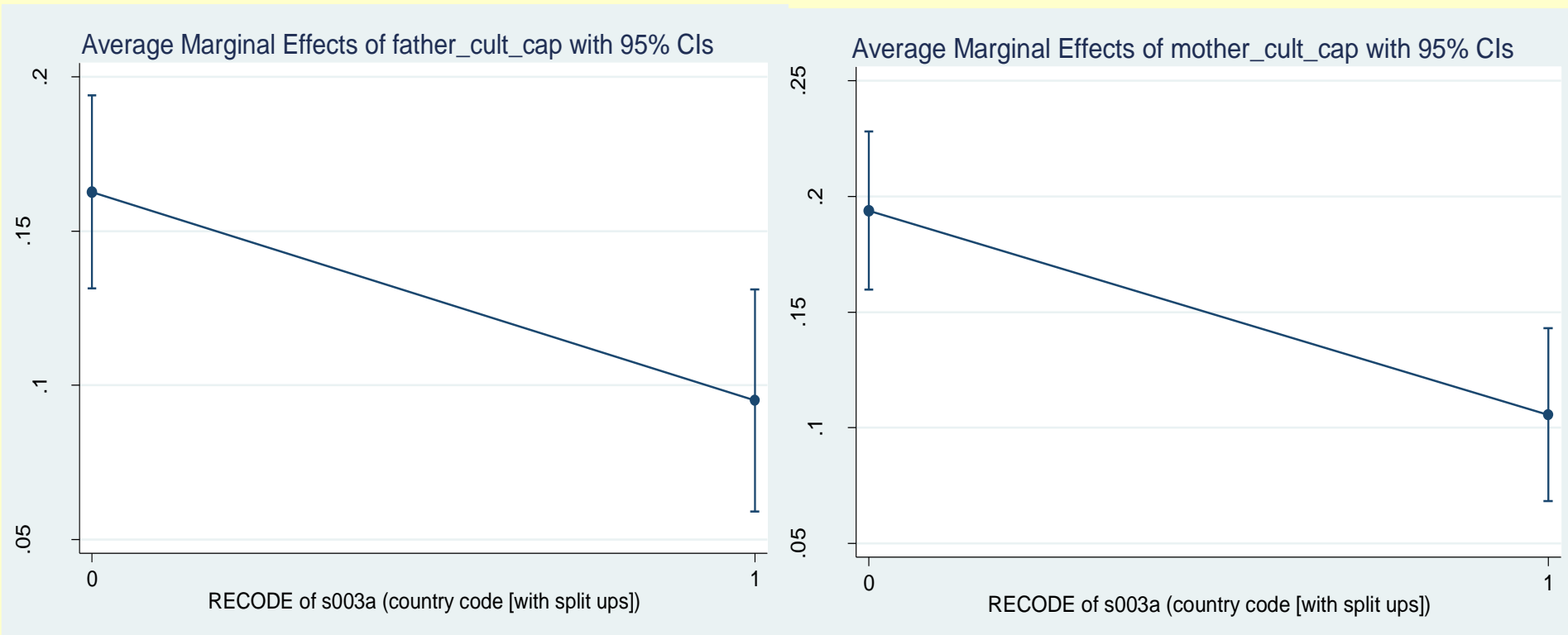
Average Marginal Effects of mother_cult_cap with 95% CIs



- No effect for religious persons. The effects for the atheists are significant only for mothers cultural capital

Interaction effects – macro-level

- The interaction effect on macro-level was found for **post-communist** (social legacy). In post-communist societies the effect of cultural capital on individual level of sexual liberalization is weaker. If we control for GDP the legacy itself has a positive effect



Effects of environment – macro-level

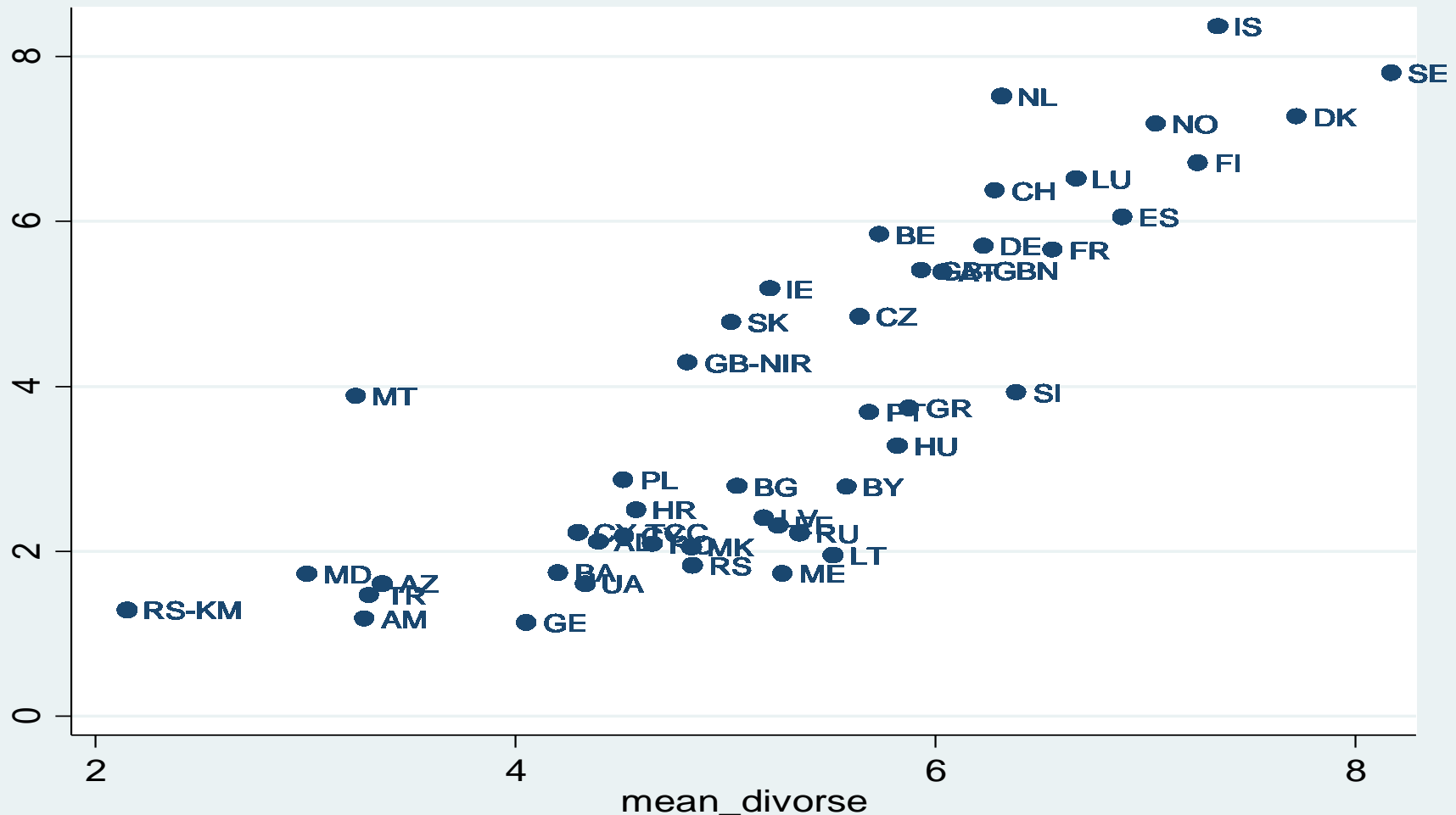
- In countries with higher **RDI and share of protestants** this effect is stronger
- In countries with higher **share of Muslims** this effect is weaker as well as in the **Muslim** (dummy var) countries
- No effect for the share of Muslims and Muslim countries without interaction

Findings

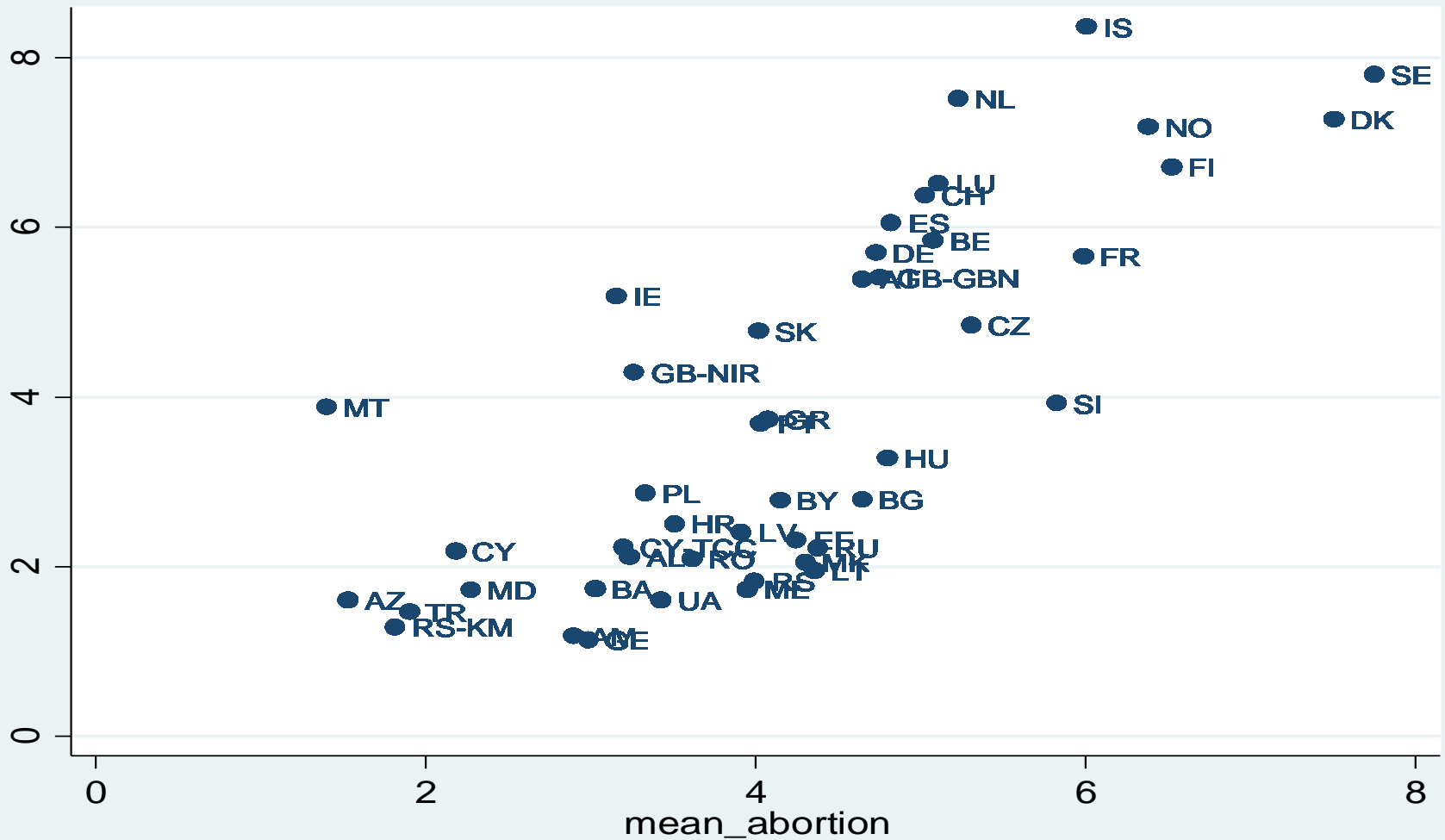
- The study demonstrates the importance of family environment (Bourdieu) and cultural context (Inglehart, Welzel, 2005) in forming individual values system
- There is a robust influence of the cultural capital on the sexual liberalization values, even with the human capital control. However its impact on the individual level is rather low.
- With religiosity the effect of the cultural capital itself became weaker.
- Country level (Islam and post-socialist legacy) influence the results as well as the interaction effects

Thank you for your attention!

Correlations between attitudes towards divorce and homosexuality



Correlations between attitudes towards abortion and homosexuality



Control variables

- Gender (female +)
- growing up in single-parent family (+)
- Age (-)
- Marital status
 - cohabited, divorced, separated, never married (+)
 - widowed (-)
- Number of children (-)
- Education (low, middle and higher) (+)
- Household income (+)
- Living with parents now (-)
- Family income when respondent was 14 (+)
- GDP per capita

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