

**HAPPINESS AND PUBLIC POLICY: WHAT WE KNOW
AND WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW FURTHER**

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Abstract

This paper reviews findings from empirical researches on happiness and evaluates the extent to which these findings can be synthesized to guide economic policy. Unlike other studies on the similar topic, this paper focuses on the connections between empirical findings, the way they are interpreted, and the policies that have been recommended. From the review, it can be concluded that despite sound arguments calling for government involvement, more information is needed to determine the appropriate policy to improve the happiness of the society. Directions for future empirical researches are therefore suggested.

Keywords: Happiness; Life satisfaction; Economic policy

JEL Classification:

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