Heterogeneous spillover effects of disability on life satisfaction among couples in France#

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Abstract: Using the 2017 and 2022 waves of the French Statistics on Income and Living Conditions survey, this study investigates the spillover effects of partners' disabilities on individuals' life satisfaction. It explores heterogeneity by disability type (motor, cognitive, visual, hearing), disability severity, gender, and age. The results indicate that a partner's disability is negatively associated with life satisfaction, though less so than having a disability oneself or being both disabled. We find no gender difference in spillover effects. Nonetheless, the effects differ according to age, disability type, and severity, with motor impairment having the most negative spillover effects on life satisfaction. These findings highlight that individuals' subjective experiences of having a partner with a disability are not homogeneous.

Keywords: disability, couple, spillover effects, life satisfaction

JEL classification: D10, D60 I10, I31, J12

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We remain solely responsible for any errors or omissions.

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