

# Sources of Friendship and Structurally-Induced Homophily Across the Life Course

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## **Abstract**

How people meet new friends changes throughout life in ways that change the potential for diverse friendships. This study presents results from the first U.S. survey with data on how respondents met their friends, specifically the two non-family friends they most often socialize with. The most common sources of new friendships shift across life from the dominance of schooling during youth, to the centrality of work in midlife, to neighbors and voluntary groups in later life. Educational homophily peaks for friendships made in midlife, and is strongest for friendships made in higher education and at work. Racial homophily generally declines as people age, but is lowest for men in midlife, while decreasing later for women. Friendship sources largely account for life course changes in racial homophily, but not educational homophily. The racial homophily induced by friendship sources also changes as people age, but in different ways for women and men.

Friendship choice is an exemplar of a decision that is both intensely personal and profoundly shaped by social structure. It is the most voluntary form of strong ties in modern societies, entailing far more choice than family, with easier exit than long-term romances and marriages. Yet this freedom of association mostly results in friendships formed among those closely situated in social structures, creating ties that are homogenous on most social characteristics. The informal social networks created by friendships are conduits for information, social influence, aid, and introductions to others, all of which become sequestered within group boundaries when

networks are segregated (Tilly 1998), heightening inequality between groups. Crucial to the reproduction of this segregation are the sources of new friendships, which are typically the settings and networks that dominate time and identity. As the contexts people are embedded within change through their lives, so too do the characteristics of the people within them, which in turn impact the characteristics of the new friendships they produce. The life course of the sources of friendships and friendship homophily has been largely overlooked, but this study shows that the combination of when in life and through which sources friends are made has important implications for the segregation of interpersonal social networks, and the reinforcement or weakening of group boundaries.

Where and how people find new friends has been a remarkably persistent blind spot in our empirical knowledge of social life, despite attention to the importance of friendship networks in general. In fact, this is the very first nationally representative study of the sources of friendships in the United States<sup>1</sup>, and perhaps only the second of any country (Mollenhorst, Völker and Flap 2008). This is also the first to show a link between the sources of friendships and racial homophily, a proposition that has long been accepted (McPherson, Smith-Lovin and Cook 2001) but never really tested at a societal level. This study also breaks new ground by exploring how life stages and friendship sources interact to induce different kinds of homophily, specifically educational and racial/ethnic homophily. While there has been evidence of friendship sources' effects on some homophilies, such as age assortativity (Feld 1982), and there has been evidence of life stage effects on those homophilies (Kalmijn and Vermunt 2007), the relationships between these two homophily-inducing factors have not been established. This is partly a

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<sup>1</sup> While the General Social Survey's ego network modules in 1985 and 2004 did collect information about alter's roles, which allows some friendship sources to be inferred (Burt 1990; Marsden 1990), such as coworkers, it is not known how most of the non-kin alters in these samples were met.

question of mediation, whether and the extent to which the life stage effects on homophily are due to life stage effects on friendship sources. This is also a question of moderation, whether the sources of friendships change in their diversity across life. Some of the answers to these questions are different for men and women, and as such this study adds an important new contribution to the body of research on gender differences in social networks (Smith-Lovin and McPherson 1993). As life courses are gendered, changes in friendship sources and the homophilies they induce across life are likewise gendered.

I will begin by defining the sources of friendship in terms of social foci and network brokerage, and how they structurally-induce homophily. I'll then discuss what our existing knowledge suggests should be the primary sources of friendships in each major life stage, gender differences in these, and the typical racial/ethnic and social class diversity of potential friends within those sources. These descriptions lead to hypothesized relationships between life stage, friendship sources, gender, and structurally-induced homophily.

### **Social Foci, Catalyst Brokerage & Structurally-Induced Homophily**

Potential new friends are a small subset of the overall population, constrained by the opportunities presented through the social structures people participate in (Blau 1977). These opportunity structures are constrained by geography, but also by the formal and informal groups, settings and activities that constitute social lives, or 'social foci' (Feld 1981). All foci entail opportunities for creating new social ties, but these opportunities are not equal. Settings vary in the quality, quantity and cultural appropriateness of interactions within them, and may hold different friendship-creation potential for different subgroups of people, which can also vary by life stage.

The sources of friendships can also be thought of in terms of network brokerage, specifically

catalyst brokerage (Obstfeld 2005; Stovel and Shaw 2012), the third-party introduction and facilitation of new relationships. Introduction to potential new friends through family and existing friends is a network process of triadic closure (Granovetter 1973), but so too is introduction through co-participation in an organization, when viewed as a two-mode network of persons and groups (Breiger 1974). Even informal social foci can broker new ties without interpersonal brokerage, such as a self-introduction between unacquainted surfers at a popular surfing spot. While it may seem strange to attribute the social action of brokerage to non-persons such as beaches or churches, conscious decision making is not required for interpersonal brokerage either, as people often accidentally act as conduits for new friendships among those they know, sometimes without being aware of it. Just as social settings can be conceived as brokering nodes in networks, social network entities such as families or friendship circles can also be considered social foci (Feld 1981:1018-1019). Friendship origins typically begin within a social focus, and entail catalyst brokerage that is interpersonal and/or organizational. These settings and network components vary in their composition along many social dimensions, and thus the potential diversity of friendships begun within them likewise varies. Whether we call it homophily, segregation or assortativity<sup>2</sup>, disproportionate homogeneity in relationship pairings is a likely outcome from disproportionate homogeneity in the social subunits that relationships begin within (Blau 1977; Feld 1982). This is structurally-induced homophily, often contrasted with choice homophily (McPherson and Smith-Lovin 1987), or the tendency towards homogeneous ties that can be attributed to individual preferences. Also referred to as supply-side

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<sup>2</sup> There is some movement towards giving these three distinct definitions, defining segregation as a biased pattern of homogeneity in subunits, homophily as bias in preferences, and assortativity as bias among network ties or pairings, but I don't think such distinctions hold up well. Segregation in group membership is equivalent to two mode network assortativity (Breiger 1974), and homophily, the oldest of the three terms, has long been used to describe any such pattern and a variety of mechanisms responsible for it (McPherson et al. 2001). In practice, the three terms are used in overlapping ways both within and between academic disciplines.

versus demand-side perspectives (Mollenhorst et al. 2008), this distinction does not include segregating mechanisms that can exist in between opportunities and preferences, such as easier communication between those with more shared cultural knowledge (Carley 1991), or interaction dynamics that temporarily alter perceptions of group boundaries (Lewis 2013). Yet among the wide array of potential homophily mechanisms, the supply constraints on opportunities for interaction set the range of possibilities for diverse relationships before most other mechanisms can even come into play.

### **The Structure of Opportunities for Friendship & Homophily Across the Life Course**

The pools of potential new friends that people encounter can vary dramatically across their life courses, and so too the types and extent of structurally-induced homophily can vary by life stage. The descriptions below, following earlier work on social foci and homophily (McPherson et al. 2001), are based on generalizations about the recent structure of social life in the U.S., but are general enough to apply more widely. Life-stages are not universal nor universally sequenced (Elder 1975), however, and the foci discussed below often overlap within lives.

#### *Childhood Foci: Family and Residential Proximity*

The first social ties in life are typically made through the family, negotiated by parents, creating initial networks that are reflections of caregivers' networks. Ties based on residential proximity are often the first childhood friendships that are not strictly caregiver-redundant. School settings soon come to dominate children's time, and schools' internal networks and hierarchies (McFarland et al. 2014) typically dominate their social lives. Most schools reflect the composition of the neighborhoods the students live within (Rivkin 1994). Many children also become involved in youth voluntary organizations, sports and clubs, which typically connect them to homogenous subsets of their schools and neighborhoods (Clotfelter 2002). The general

effect of these youthful foci are to create early friendships that reflect neighborhood composition, which demographically resemble families: homogeneous by race and ethnicity, religion and social class (Charles 2003; Lichter et al. 2007; Massey and Denton 1993). However, note that all of these homogeneities are with respect to the child's social statuses at the time of friendship formation. Most of these statuses will not change over the life course, but significant social class mobility from childhood to adulthood can render once homogeneous childhood friendships more class-diverse later in life.

### *Social Foci in Adulthood*

The transition into adulthood typically entails social opportunities less correlated with residential proximity. For many, including most of the newer generation of adults (Ryan and Bauman 2016), the transition from childhood to adult social foci begins through post-secondary education, including colleges and vocational training, even for those who do not eventually earn a degree. The full spectrum of these ranges from total institutions that entirely encompass their students' lives to more instrumental settings with few out-of-classroom social opportunities, but they typically involve exposure to a more racially and ethnically diverse range of people than childhood schooling entailed (Hinrichs 2015). The role of colleges in social stratification, however, ensures a degree of social class homophily in the friendships they facilitate, as they produce a more educationally-homogenous group of alumni from the body of students that enter them.

Work dominates most adults' pre-retirement life, typically drawing together coworkers from multiple and diverse neighborhoods. Workplaces tend to be segregated along most social dimensions, but to different extents than the youth settings discussed above. Though workplace segregation by race in the US remains quite significant (Tomaskovic-Devey et al. 2006),

workplaces are on average much more racially and ethnically diverse than the other settings in peoples' lives. In fact, coworker is the role in Americans' ego-networks most likely to be interracial (Marsden 1990). This greater racial diversity, however, is matched by stronger social class segregation. While work settings can be educationally diverse, the norms of the workplace, structures of collaboration, and professional homophily all strongly encourage friendships between occupational equals (Brass 1985; Lazega 1997). Coworkers have been found to be more educationally similar than other types of relationships (Marsden 1990; Mollenhorst et al. 2008). The effects of the workplace on friendship homophily may differ by gender, however, as men continue to spend more of their lives formally employed than do women (Toossi and Morisi 2017), and men's social networks' size and role composition have been shown to be more impacted by their employment status (Moore 1990).

Adults who become parents are drawn back into children-centered foci. Parenting duties continue to disproportionately fall to women (Umberson, Pudrovska and Reczek 2010), affecting women's daily lives and networks more strongly. New parents often experience an initial reduction in the size of their ego networks (Bost et al. 2002), but this rebounds as they are soon drawn into local networks through their children's activities, typically with residentially proximate parents of similarly-aged children (Klärner, Keim and von der Lippe 2016).

Friendships formed in child-centered settings may be similar in homophily for both the parents and their children, but this can be quite different from the structurally-induced homophily the parents experienced in their childhoods. Each recent new cohort of Americans has been more racially and ethnically diverse than the last (Frey 2014), and as a result the baseline probability for childhood interracial friendships has been increasing. While U.S. parents are part of a more

homogenous generation of Americans than their children, the parents of their children's friends will be a disproportionately racially diverse subset of the parents' generation.

Adult social life outside of family, education and work can be structured by organized groups and activities that vary in their formality. These can include sports, hobby clubs, political groups, religious organizations, fraternal organizations, adult enrichment classes, volunteering, etc. For some people such activities are primary sources of friendships, for others not at all. While the voluntary organizations of youth are mostly drawn from within schools and neighborhoods, often with heavy membership overlap, adult organizations are more likely to draw from a wider geographic slice, with less overlap. Considerable variation exists in the diversity within these organizations. Organizations that primarily recruit through occupations or occupational interests tend to have little social class diversity (McPherson and Smith-Lovin 1987), but their racial and ethnic diversity depends upon the diversity of their corresponding occupations. Organizations based upon ethnicity, religion or cultural interests that are correlated with ethnicity can be expected to be more segregated on that dimension, but perhaps less by social class. Churches have been characterized as the most racially segregated subunits of U.S. society (King 1963), and the great majority of religious congregations continue to be homogeneous by race and ethnicity (Edwards, Christerson and Emerson 2013). Voluntary organizations have also historically differed in size by their gender composition, with men participating in larger groups than women (McPherson and Smith-Lovin 1982). Larger groups tend to produce more expansive networks of weak ties but more homogenous strong-friendship ties within them (McPherson and Smith-Lovin 1987). Women tend to be more involved in religious activities than men, and also tend to perceive inter-religious differences as more important (Brashears 2008), which may lead their networks to more resemble the composition of religious congregations.



Later life stages are characterized by a shift away from workplace and child-centered settings, and towards voluntary and religious organizations, existing family and friendship networks, and residential and neighborhood social foci (Cornwell, Laumann and Schumm 2008), though the extent of this varies by life course trajectory (Crosnoe and Elder 2002). Gender inequality in network size reverses later in life (Fischer and Oliker 1983), as men's networks shrink, while women's tend to expand and become less kin-based (McLaughlin et al. 2010). This may cause women's networks to see a late life bloom in race and class diversity, while men's may see a decline in the racial diversity gained through work.

Introductions to new friends through existing relationships occur throughout life. This is a transitive process, which has been shown to amplify homophily (Goodreau, Kitts and Morris 2009), creating more homogenous ties than would be expected from personal preferences alone. One's friends' friends tend to be similar to one's friends, so befriending them typically creates more homogenous ties. However, interpersonal introductions can also act to desegregate when the broker bridges group boundaries, or when a diverse foci creates friendships that in turn broker more intergroup ties (Mark and Harris 2012). Even friends made in the racially homogeneous settings of childhood age into more diverse adult settings, potentially bridging those networks. Men's and women's networks differ (Smith-Lovin and McPherson 1993) in ways that have important implications for the homophily induced by introductions. Among children, boys' friendship circles tend to be more expansive than girls' (Eder and Hallinan 1978). This continues into adulthood, as men's networks more often bridge into diverse areas of social space (Brashears 2008), while women's are more often densely interconnected with redundant pathways (Smith-Lovin and McPherson 1993). Men's networks have been shown to be more affected by life transitions such as divorce (Kalmijn 2007; McLaughlin et al. 2010), employment

status (Moore 1990) and retirement (Fischer and Oliner 1983; Kalmijn 2012), while women's networks are more affected by parenthood (Campbell 1988). Even once factors such as employment are accounted for, women's networks tend to be more kin-based than men's, and women's employment status affects the kin-proportion of their networks, while it does not for men (Moore 1990). Friendship introductions may be more likely to produce a diverse connection for those with more expansive networks, but more often foster demographically similar new ties for those with kin-heavy networks. The greater stability of women's networks across most life course transitions may limit the impact of life stages on their homophily, compared to men.

### *Summary and Hypotheses*

To summarize, racial and ethnic homogeneity within friendship formation settings is expected to be at its peak at the beginning of the life course, when social foci are centered on family, residential proximity, and residentially-derived organizations. The stages of life centered on work then represent the peak potential for interracial and interethnic friendships, as workplaces and their related midlife networks and settings create more diverse opportunities. Post-work social foci may entail less racial diversity, but are still likely less segregated than youth foci. Social class homogeneity in new friendships is expected to be greatest in workplace-dominant midlife. Early life settings are segregated on the parents' social class, and intergenerational social mobility results in some once-homogenous childhood friendships becoming class-diverse in adulthood. As adults enter later life stages more centered on communities and voluntary organizations, the potential for social class diversity in new friendships increases.

*Hypothesis 1:* Friendships formed in midlife are the most likely to be drawn from work, compared to early life friendships drawn more from schooling, family, and neighborhoods, and

later-life-formed friendships drawn more from voluntary organizations and neighborhoods.

*Hypothesis 2:* Friendships formed through family and early schooling are more racially and ethnically homogenous than those formed through other sources, while those formed through work are the most diverse.

*Corollary 2:* Assuming Hypotheses 1 and 2, then friendships formed in early life are the most racially and ethnically homogenous, while those formed in midlife are the least.

*Hypothesis 3:* Friendships formed in the workplace and through post-secondary education are the most homogenous by social class.

*Corollary 3:* Assuming Hypotheses 1 and 3, then friendships formed in midlife are the most homogenous by social class.

While the above corollaries concern the life stage effects on homophily that occur through the mechanism of social foci change across the life course, I also hypothesize that there are life stage effects on homophily not mediated by the sources of friendship. This can occur from second order and “ripple effects” of social foci: if a setting is very dominant within a life stage, it can become the pathway into other major friendships sources as well, and produce homogeneity across social foci that is similar to the dominant setting. For instance, if a person’s midlife is largely organized around their workplace, that organization can also determine the voluntary organizations and informal activities they engage, and the composition of much of their acquaintanceship network. All of these would then induce similar homophily. This can likewise occur in education focused stages of life, or in a life stage based around a residential community. In addition to these structural ripple effects, there also may be changes in choice homophily across the life course, and these may coincide and align with the shifts in the dominate settings at each life stage. This could occur as a cultural ripple effect of a dominant social focus, as it

becomes the central social organizing principle of a life stage.

*Hypothesis 4:* Friendships formed in midlife are the least racially homogeneous, regardless of the source of friendship.

*Hypothesis 5:* Friendships formed in midlife are the most homogeneous by social class, regardless of the source of friendship.

Gender differences in foci and networks across the life course lead me to hypothesize that life stage effects on racial and social class homophily should be stronger for men than women. The mid-life dominance of work is typically stronger for men, and more strongly affects their social networks (Moore 1990), and so the related midlife reduction in racial homophily and peak in social class homophily should be strongest for men. Women, on the other hand, typically see a late life expansion of their personal networks, as men's shrink, and this expansion is related to an increase in non-kin ties (Fischer and Oliker 1983). This should result in a reduction of racial homophily later in life for women, whereas men's racial homophily can be expected to rebound as the effects of workplace networks fade and their personal networks shrink. The overall effect should be flatter relationships between life stage of friendship onset and both homophilies for women compared to men.

*Hypothesis 6:* The life stage of friendship formation has a stronger effect on racial homophily for men than for women, with less of a midlife homophily trough for women.

*Hypothesis 7:* The life stage of friendship formation has a stronger effect on social class homophily for men than for women, with less of a midlife homophily peak for women.

## **Methods**

In the analyses that follow, I use a unique U.S.-representative dataset, the Geographic Mobility & Homophily Survey (GMHS), which includes open-ended responses on how people met the

two friends they most often socialize with. I designed the survey, and contracted Knowledge Networks (KN, since acquired by the German company GfK) to administer it to a sample of 1,077 respondents in January of 2007. KN selected these respondents at random from their panel of over 40,000, which were in turn drawn from a probability sampling of the U.S. population, selected through a stratified national telephone random digit dialing method. Persistent recruitment by registered mail and telephone follow-ups resulted in an initial panel recruitment rate of 32.6%, reduced to 18.5% when factoring in the completion rate for the basic demographic survey (Callegaro and DiSogra 2008). KN's surveys were conducted through a web interface, and they supplied respondents with Internet access through a television set-top box, if needed. Respondents received 3-4 surveys a month, which required an average of 15 minutes to complete. Out of 1666 panel members who received my survey, 1077 respondents (or 64.6%) completed it<sup>3</sup>. KN samples have been shown to provide more accurate population estimates than traditional random digit dial telephone surveys (Chang and Krosnick 2009; Fricker et al. 2005). See Appendix Table A1 for unweighted descriptives of all measures included in the analyses below.

### *Sampling Friendships*

The ego network generator (or name generator) used in this survey focuses on identifying non-kin and non-significant-other relationships that constitute the core of the respondents' social lives. The survey began with the instruction: "Think about the 2 friends you most often socialize with face-to-face. Do not include family members or boyfriends/girlfriends." I chose the phrase

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<sup>3</sup> Combined with the initial panel recruitment and later attrition, the overall effective response rate could be considered 12%. However, this is not equivalent to typical survey non-response: KN collected information about respondents at each of the stages above, resulting in some demographic data for most of the attrited potential respondents, which allows for more effective non-response weighting than with most survey recruitment methods.

“most often socialize with” to elicit the friendships most involved in the respondents’ non-work, recreational time. This did not ask the respondents’ to choose based on strength of bond or affection, but purely on frequency of shared social activities, in the present tense. Fischer’s (1982) comparison of ego network name generators found that joint social activities was the best predictor that the alter would be labeled a ‘friend,’ better than discussing personal matters, or any of the other several name generators he used. The specification “face-to-face” discouraged respondents from listing long-distance confidants or other people who were outside of their regular social activities. Though non-local ties can be very strong, and important in many ways, they cannot provide many types of support that local ties can (e.g. child-care), cannot participate in most physical social events (dinners, parties, etc.) and are thus much less likely to have ties to other members of the respondents’ local social networks (Martin and Yeung 2006), or introduce new alters. The focus on local friendship ties in this study is an effort to measure the characteristics of the cores of the non-kin informal social networks that respondents are embedded within. Twenty-seven of 1,077 respondents declared that they had no such friends (2.51%), and 23 responded that they only had one such friend (2.14%), while over 95% of the respondents gave information about two of their friends.

#### *Social Foci & Brokerage: How They Met*

The survey asked respondents how they met each friend, and provided a text box to type in their answers in their own words. The majority of answers were very simple and to the point, such as “at church” or “work.” Some answers were too ambiguous or minimal to provide any clear information, such as “since childhood” or “at home,” which I coded as missing. I defined voluntary organizations loosely to include hobbies, sports and similar activities as well as more formal organizations. I use the label “college” to include all post-secondary education, including

when respondents used the word “school” to describe an educational setting in adulthood. I coded as “neighbor” friends who were introduced by a neighbor, but the great majority of this category are friends who are/were the respondents’ neighbors. A small number of answers involved chains of introductions, such as “he’s the brother of my wife’s friend.” In these instances, I coded the response by the connection most immediate to the respondent (e.g. spouse, in the previous sentence), as the most likely gateway to the opportunity for meeting this person. I condensed these codes into two categorization schemes: a detailed eleven category coding, and one of five broader categories. The later simpler scheme is useful in easing model convergence when friendship source is the outcome variable, as well as maximizing statistical power in all models. It also simplifies interpretation of model results, which is particularly helpful when interacting those categories with other independent variables. However, there are some interesting differences in the structurally-induced homophily among the more detailed categories, so I include results using both the five and eleven category schemes of friendship sources in the models predicting homophily.

### *Alters’ Characteristics*

The survey asked for each friend’s race/ethnicity and highest educational degree. The measure of the respondents’ alters’ race and ethnicity mirrored the KN panel’s question, which included Hispanic as one of the mutually exclusive options, along with White and Black, but combined Asian and Native American with the remaining Other Race category. Nonetheless, this simple measure does map onto the major social divides in U.S. society (Massey and Denton 1993). Education is only a partial measure of social class (or a proxy), but it is strongly predictive of the social and economic outcomes associated with class in the U.S. (Hout 2012). The question about alters’ highest educational degree also mirrors KN’s, distinguishing between less than high

school, a high school degree or equivalent, some college, a college degree, or a graduate degree. To measure the educational heterogeneity of friendships, I use the absolute difference between the respondent's and the friend's value on this 5 point scale. Models that instead predict heterogeneity by a binary indicator of college degree status, or predict a less-versus-same-versus-more educated friend with a multinomial model, produced consistent results (see Appendix Figure A2 and Appendix Table B4).

### *Age of Friendship Formation*

Ideally, the life stage of friendship formation could be most accurately determined by using detailed data on the respondents' timings of major life events and transitions in conjunction with their timing of friendship formation. This data set lacks that level of detail, so I use the age the respondent met each friend as a proxy for the life stage the friendship was formed within. This may be a coarser measure, as there is variance in the timing of life transitions (Shanahan 2000). However, for the broadly defined life stages crucial to the hypotheses, keyed on the transition from schooling to work and parenting, and away from both later in life, the institutionalization of timing is strong (Meyer 1986): the variance between people is measured in years, not decades (Ravanera, Rajulton, and Burch 2004), and as such age is a good proxy here.

### *Other Control Variables*

In the models that follow, I control for a number of potentially confounding factors, including respondent's gender, age, marital status, children in the household, employment and income. I also control for the frequency of the respondents' contact with relatives: variance in embeddedness within extended family networks could be related both to how/when friends are met and to the homogeneity of those friendships. The survey asked "How often do you see or visit relatives? (including your parents, grandparents, aunts/uncles, etc.)," with responses on a six



point scale including "Almost every day," "Almost once a month," to "Less often than once a year or Never." Contextual controls include U.S. region and the population size of the place or city the respondent lives in, as well as measures of local diversity, including the percentage of college graduates in their current zip code, and the percentage of people in the same racial/ethnic category as the respondent, both of their zip code and their metropolitan statistical area or county.

### *Models*

The models presented here predict sources of friendships and friendship heterogeneity, using friendship dyads as the unit of analysis, with one or two friendships nested within each respondent. I use multinomial logistic regressions to predict friendship source, binomial logistic regressions to predict whether the friendships cross racial/ethnic categories, and OLS regressions to predict the absolute difference between ego and alter on the educational degree scale. The national sampling strategy makes it highly unlikely that any of the respondents are also alters of another respondent, so network autocorrelation is not a concern. I report single-level models with clustered standard errors here, but results were substantively consistent when using multilevel models. All models are adjusted with sampling weights provided by Knowledge Networks. Below I'll interpret the logit coefficients as odds ratios, but I'll also report average marginal effects, as both predicted probabilities and changes in predicted probabilities, reporting p-values from z-tests where appropriate. Some of the hypotheses posit non-linear relationships between age at friendship formation and outcomes, such as a midlife minimum in the educational heterogeneity of new friends, which I test these with a squared term for age-met. See Appendix Tables A2-3 for robustness tests comparing the effects of age at friendship formation using categorical versus linear and polynomial coding. I exclude 12.9% of the cases from the analyses

below due to missing data on some of the variables, and also exclude one of the two possible friends for 8.8% additional cases. Listwise deletion of cases with missing data is the most conservative solution for assessing statistical significance without underestimating uncertainty (Allison 2009), and the results presented here are consistent with the results from models using multiple imputation of the missing data.

## **Results**

### *Sources of Friendship across the Life Course*

The foci and brokers that introduce new friendships vary significantly across the life course. The top panels of Figure 1 display locally-weighted regression lines for the stacked proportions of friendships made through each source, for women and men separately, by the respondent's age when the friend was first met<sup>4</sup>. The general pattern is as predicted by Hypothesis 1. The most common sources of new friendships are very distinct by age: educational settings are the biggest source in early life, workplace-formed friendships predominate in the middle stages, and brokerage through neighboring (as neighbors or introduced by neighbors) is most common in the later stages of life. The formally organized settings of education and work are the most exceptionally life stage dependent, brokering almost no friendships outside of their dominant stages. Voluntary organizations become a more common friendship source later in life, while religious organizations are more steadily a minority source of friendships across life. Introductions through friends and family, viewed together, are also a mostly steady source of

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<sup>4</sup> Note that left and right censoring alters how the areas near the edges of these graphs should be interpreted: as all respondents were 18 years or older, the friendships sources before 18 are representative of youth friendships that survived into adulthood, not necessarily of all youth friendships. On the right side of the graph, the N of new friendships decreases sharply as it approaches the right edge, as the numbers of surviving adults decreases while their friendships from earlier years still predominate. See Appendix Figure A1 for the unstacked proportions and local regression lines corresponding to Figure 1.

friendships, but the specific type of kin brokerage changes with age, with parents and other relatives the most common introducer of children's new friends, spouse and children-brokered ties more common in adulthood. Neighbor ties, as expected, are a significant source of lasting friendships from early childhood, but decrease in importance in midlife, and then become the most common source of new friends late in life. There are some notable gender differences in the sources of friends: women's friendships are less often made at work than men's, by a difference of 6% ( $p < .05$ ), and more often made through their children, by 3.8% ( $p < .01$ ). Lumping together introductions through children, spouses, and other family, women's friends are 3.7% more often made through familial brokerage than men's ( $p < .05$ ). The broad relationships visible in Figure 1 between the age a friend was met and the source of the friendship hold when controlling for potentially confounding factors. See Appendix Section A for discussion of results from models predicting how the friend was met from age-met (Appendix Table A2).

Figure 1 also shows the local regression lines for stacked proportions of friendship sources by the respondent's age at the time of the survey (bottom row), again by gender. This illustrates that the importance of friendship sources often lasts well beyond the life stage they occur within. Even though friendships formed in educational settings begin almost entirely during youth, they represent a substantial portion of friendships throughout life. For U.S. adults in their 40s, an estimated 21.6% of their core friendships began in school or college, with this estimate still over 11% for those over the age of 65. Likewise, workplace formed friendships remain common after the typical retirement age. The persistence of friendships has a fairly smooth and heteroskedastic linear pattern, with age of friendship formation both increasing in mean and variance as age increases. For instance, Americans in their 40s met their friends on average at age 29.3, with an observed interquartile range from 20 to 38, while those older than 65 met their friends at an

estimated mean age of 44.4, with an observed interquartile range from 25 to 60. Friendships from the earliest life stages are common in every age group, but so too are new friendships.

### *Structurally-Induced Homophily Across the Life Course*

*Racial & Ethnic Homophily.* Sources of friendship are predictive of racial and ethnic homophily in ways consistent with Hypothesis 2. Table 1 displays logistic regression coefficients and odds ratios predicting a racially/ethnically diverse friendship, using both the broader 5 category scheme of friendship sources as well as the more detailed 11 category scheme. Compared to friendships formed in workplaces, friendships made in educational settings are much less likely to cross racial and ethnic boundaries, with less than one quarter the odds (Table 1, Model 2). The educational effect is even stronger when focusing on friends made in pre-adulthood schooling (Model 4), which have less than one-fifth the odds of being interracial compared to work friends. Friends made through informal social networks of kin or other friends have less than half the odds of crossing racial and ethnic boundaries as work friends. Of the more specific types of introductions, however, only spousal introductions have a statistically significant (and very strong) negative effect on racial diversity compared to work. Non-religious voluntary organizations also produce more racially homogenous friendships than do workplaces, but neighbor friendships and introductions through children are predicted to produce roughly the same racial friendship diversity as workplaces.

The panels on the left in Figure 2 display predicted probabilities of interracial friendship for each setting, using average adjusted predictions from Models 2 and 4, with the top left panel using the broader categories of friendship sources, the bottom left using the more detailed categories.

Among the broad categories, education-formed friends stand out as the least likely to be racially diverse, at a predicted rate of 12.6%, while workplace- and neighbor/public-formed friendships

stand out as the most likely to be interracial, both at 23.3%. Introductions through family/friends and voluntary/religious organizations also have very similar predicted rates of diversity (17.4% and 17.3%, respectively), in between the extremes of schooling and work. The differences in the predicted rates between family/friends and workplaces ( $p < .05$ ) and neighbors/public ( $p < .05$ ) are both statistically significant, but the difference between family/friends and educational settings are not. Voluntary/Religious organizations' predicted rate of interracial friendships is only significantly different from that of workplaces ( $p < .05$ ). For the most part, the more specific sources of friendship have similar effects on racial friendship diversity within their broader categories, with the exception of family/friend introductions. Friendships made through one's children are predicted to be surprising racially diverse, with a similar rate (22.9%) to those made at work (23.3%) and through/as neighbors (24.1%). Friendships made through spouses (11.0%) and other family (12.6%), however, are among the least likely to be racially diverse. Note that while most social foci effects on racial homophily do not differ significantly between racial/ethnic groups, I do find that Black Americans are more likely to find a different-race friend through schooling rather than through friends and family, whereas the opposite is true for White Americans (interaction effects model not shown,  $p < .05$ ). Social foci effects on racial homophily are not significantly different between educational or income groups.

The age at which a friendship began is linearly predictive of racial/ethnic heterogeneity, partially supporting Corollary 2, once potentially confounding factors are controlled for (Table 1, Model 1). Each year later in life that a friendship began increases the odds that it is interracial by 2.7%, which nearly doubles the odds with a twenty five year difference in age-met. The predicted curvilinear relationship between age-met and racial heterogeneity is not generally supported (but see the discussion of interactions with gender below): polynomial age-met terms are not

significant (not shown), and the age-met categories' effects (see Appendix Table A3) do not clearly exhibit a non-linear pattern. The top left panel of Figure 3 illustrates the linear relationship from Model 1 with average adjusted predictions. The range of these predicted probabilities is a little over .15. Given that 17% of friendships in this data were observed to be interracial, this represents a substantial change across life. Contrary to the prediction of Hypothesis 4, the effect of the age of friendship formation on racial homophily is largely mediated by the setting of friendship formation (Models 3 and 5): the inclusion of the 11 categories of friendship sources reduces the age-met coefficient by over 63%, and renders it statistically insignificant. Both workplace ( $p < .05$ ) and educational settings ( $p < .01$ ) each separately have statistically significant mediating effects on the age of friendship formation's coefficient predicting racial homophily (see Appendix Table B5 for the full mediation test models, following Sobel [1986]). On the other hand, the differences in homophily between social foci are not changed much by controlling for the age of friendship formation.

*Educational Homophily.* Friends met through work are more educationally homogenous than those met through family/friend introductions and neighbors/public settings (Table 2, Model 3), as predicted by Hypothesis 3. Looking at more specific social foci, work friends are more homogenous than friends made through other friends, spouses, public places, and neighbors (Table 2, Model 6). The sizes of these significant effects are all within a range of one fifth to more than one third of step increase in the five category highest degree scale. Counter to expectations (Hypothesis 3), however, workplace friends are not significantly more educational homogeneous than those made through schooling or voluntary organizations, including religious settings. The two rightmost panels of Figure 2 display predicted education scale differences for each friendship source, from Models 3 and 6. Here, education and work settings roughly line up

as the most homogenous friendship sources (top right panel), while family/friend brokerage and neighbors/public settings are predicted to be the most educationally diverse. Looking at the more specific categories (bottom right panel), college friendships are predicted to be exceptionally educationally homogenous, significantly more so than those from every other source except for work. Workplace friendships are predicted to be less educationally diverse than those made as neighbors ( $p < .01$ ), through one's spouse ( $p < .05$ ), in public settings without an introduction ( $p < .05$ ) and through other friends ( $p < .05$ ). Religious organizations are also predicted to be particularly educationally homogenous, more so than neighbors ( $p < .05$ ) and spouse introduced friends ( $p < .05$ ). These effects do not differ significantly by gender, race, education or income. The expected nonlinear relationship between the age a friend was met and educational homophily, peaking in midlife (Corollary 3), is supported by both the age-met category effects (see Appendix Table A3) and the polynomial regression models (Table 2, Models 2, 5 and 8). Figure 3's top right panel illustrates the curvilinear age-met-squared effect from Model 2: the transition from childhood to early adulthood entails less educationally diverse new-friendships, but the transition to later-middle adult life stages increases their diversity once again, soon producing more educationally diverse friendships than ever. While this curve seems to neatly mirror the rise and fall of the importance of work in the life course, this relationship remains unchanged when controlling for the sources of friendships (Table 2, Models 5 and 8), supporting Hypothesis 5. Unlike racial homophily, the age-met effect on educational homophily is not significantly mediated by friendship sources (not shown, following Sobel [1986]), meaning that there is not statistical evidence here that the age-met effect on educational homophily is even partly due to the age-met effect on friendship sources.

### *Gendered Differences in Structurally-Induced Racial Homophily Across the Life Course*

There are no detectable gender differences in the changes in educational homophily across the life course (not shown), contrary to Hypothesis 7, but there are significant differences between men and women in how their racial homophily changes as they age, supporting Hypothesis 6. The linear age-met effect on racial homophily is much stronger for men than women ( $p < .05$ ; Figure 3, middle left panel), but the gender difference in the squared effect of age-met ( $p < .01$ ) is more telling (Figure 3, middle right panel; see Appendix Table B6 for full interaction model coefficients). The hypothesized nonlinear relationship between age of friendship formation and racial homophily (Corollary 2) is observed for men, with their interracial friendship potential peaking in later-midlife (a 27.5% probability at age 51), and then dropping as they age. Women's potential for making new friends that are interracial does not peak, but rises later in life, and is largely flat before then, with a slight trough in early adulthood (a 17.8% probability at age 23). This may correspond to the previously noted later life expansion of women's networks, and the dominance of kinship ties prior to that (Fischer and Oliker 1983; McLaughlin et al. 2010). Note that the models control for current employment status, but they do not control for employment at the time of friendship formation, which may be responsible for some of this gender difference. However, men's networks have been shown to be more dependent upon their employment status than are women's (Moore 1990), and as such men's racial friendship homophily may simply be more affected by transitions into and out of the working stages of life.

There are no significant interaction effects<sup>5</sup> between gender and friendship sources predicting either type of homophily, meaning that in general I do not find that social foci induce racial or

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<sup>5</sup> I also do not find significant three-way interactions effects between race and gender and age-met, nor between race, gender and friendship source, predicting either homophily, regardless of how I operationalize race. There is also not a significant three way interaction between gender, age-met, and friendship source on educational homophily.



educational homophily differently for women than for men. I also do not find any significant change in the homophily effects of social foci across the life course, in general, for either homophily. But I do find that the racial homophily associated with social foci changes across the life course in significantly different ways for women and men. The bottom panels of Figure 3 display average predicted probabilities from a three-way interaction between gender, age at friendship formation, and friendship source (see Appendix Table B6 for the full model's coefficients). To aid in both the interpretation and statistical power for this interaction, I only use the 5-category coding of friendship sources. I also omit the school/college category from these figures (but not from the models), as they are so confined to early life stages that most of the area of these graphs are outside of the range of observations for those foci, and their extrapolated effects into later life would not be reliable. Looking at gender differences in the structurally-induced homophily of social foci across the life course, we see that workplaces and introductions through friends and family become increasingly likely to introduce men to new friends of a different race/ethnicity as they age. For instance, men's friends formed at work at age 22 are predicted to be 18.9% interracial, while those made at work at the typical retirement age of 65 have a 41.8% probability to cross racial/ethnic lines. The opposite is true for women: as they age, workplaces and family/friends introduce them to more racially homogeneous new friendships than earlier in life. Women's work friendships made at age 22 are predicted to be 27.5% interracial, but by age 65 their new work-formed friends have only a 15.5% probability of being interracial. Voluntary organizations show the opposite pattern, becoming more racially segregated for men's friendships as they age, but slowly increasing the likelihood of interracial friendships for women as they get older. Neighbor friendships show a similar life course trend for both genders, becoming more interracial as people age. As the transition into later life

increases neighbor and voluntary organization-formed friendships at the expense of other sources, for both men and women, these gender differences in the induced racial homophily of neighbors and voluntary groups help create the downward turn in interracial friendships observed for men later in life, and the increase for women.

These interaction effects also predict that at some life stages the sources of friendship do not differ much in the racial homophily they induce, but this occurs at different life stages for men and women. Among men, friendships made in their 20s have similar rates of racial homogeneity regardless of where they were formed (including through schooling and college), while the interracial rates of women's friendships made in their 20s are significantly affected by their source. At age 20, women's new friends made through work have the highest probability of being interracial, on average a 8.8% higher predicted probability compared to neighbor/public setting formed friendships ( $p < .05$ ), a 12.7% higher probability than voluntary and religious organization friends ( $p < .05$ ), and a 17.1% higher probability compared to friends met through education ( $p < .001$ ). Of friendships made between 40 and 60, women's friendships do not differ significantly in racial homophily by their source, but men's do. At age 50, men's new friendships made through voluntary and religious organizations are the least racially diverse, with a 16.9% lower predicted probability of being interracial compared to work-formed friends ( $p < .01$ ), and 14.9% lower compared to neighbor/public settings friends ( $p < .05$ ). Men's early adulthood social foci are aligned in racial diversity, and then diverge as they age, but for women this alignment occurs in later-midlife, with divergent foci-induced racial homophily earlier and later.

## **Discussion**

There is clear evidence here that sources of friendship change across life, and are related to differences in the racial/ethnic and educational homophily of the friendships they produce. The

workplace and educational settings stand out as the most exceptionally life stage dependent sources of friendships, dominant within their stages, and strongly related to both the racial/ethnic and educational composition of friends met within them. Neighbor and voluntary organization friendships are also life stage dependent, most common later in life, and neighbor friendships are more likely to be racially/ethnically diverse than previous literature has suggested (Marsden 1990). There is also clear evidence that the life stage of friendship formation impacts homophily, but with important gender differences. Age at friendship formation is linearly related to racial diversity, though for men this diversity peaks in midlife, while for both genders there is a midlife trough in educational diversity of new friendships. The life course effect on racial homophily is largely statistically accounted for by the effect of where and how friends were met, but this is not the case for educational homophily. The midlife peak in educational homophily, independent of brokerage or foci, suggests either that social class segregation in midlife extends beyond the workplace to other midlife social settings and networks, or that there is a midlife peak in the preference for educationally similar friends. The racial homophily effects of some friendship sources change across the life course, but differently by gender. Women's family/friend and work introductions lead to less racially diverse new friends as they age, while both become more diverse later in life for men. On the other hand, women's voluntary and religious group friendships become more racially diverse later in life, but men's become less diverse. Correspondingly, there is a midlife, pre-retirement peak in racially diverse new friends for men, but a late life increase in the potential for interracial friendships for women. These findings do come with some caveats. The friendships sampled here are the two non-kin, non-significant-others the respondents' spend the most time with socially, in-person. Friendships sampled by other definitions (e.g. trust, help, discussion of important matters), or in ways that

include long-distant ties, may exhibit different patterns of sources and homophily across the life course. These findings are also about relatively strong ties, and may not be generalizable to weaker relationships. Another important caveat is that the respondents' age when they formed their friendships is used as a proxy for their life stage: this may be appropriate for the broadly defined life stages tested in the hypotheses here, but a more detailed and precise understanding of the effects of life stages on homophily will require detailed data on life event timing. Such information could partly explain the observed gender differences: for instance, the difference between men and women in which time of life all friendship sources converge or diverge in racial homophily may in part be due to gender differences in the timing of child-rearing. It is also important to remember that this is a sample of English speakers within the 50 U.S. states and Washington D.C. Ethnic and racial minorities were not oversampled, and so their subsamples may have been insufficient to detect racial/ethnic differences in the effects of social foci and life stages on homophily, particularly gendered racial differences. As the findings here are most generalizable to White non-Hispanic English-speaking Americans, one should not assume that these dynamics operate the same for other groups, in the U.S. or elsewhere.

A surprising finding of this study is that meeting friends through one's children predicts about as much likelihood of interracial contact as do workplaces, other things being equal. As discussed above, this may be due to the greater racial diversity of the networks and settings that younger generations live within (Frey 2014), compared to their parents, which allows children to act as bridges across the stronger racial boundaries of their parents' generations. Children-brokered ties are also similar to workplace-formed friendships in their educational homophily, suggesting a general alignment of parenting foci with occupational foci. Another counter-intuitive result here is that neighbor-formed friendships are among the most likely to cross racial and ethnic

boundaries, other things being equal. This is not only seemingly in contradiction to what we know about residential segregation in the United States, but also differs from previous findings about neighbor alters (Marsden 1990; but see Mollenhorst et al. 2008 on the interreligiousness of neighbor alters in the Netherlands). However, neighbor and neighbor-brokered friendships in this data have a nearly identical rate of being interracial as non-neighbor ties, bivariately speaking. For a large subset of respondents who are otherwise particularly unlikely to have interracial friendships, mainly older respondents and White Non-Hispanics, neighbors are where those boundary-crossing friendships are especially likely to occur. This does not mean that neighborhoods themselves are actually racially diverse, just that friendships formed through neighboring are less homogeneous than other common sources of friendship.

Though only homophily with respect to race/ethnicity and education are examined here, extensions to other homophilies may be straightforward, depending on how exposure to diversity changes across the life course. For instance, age segregation is strongest in early life, so friendships formed later should be more age diverse, perhaps with a modest return to age segregated new friendships late in life. Gender homophily may be less straightforward, as youthful settings are gender diverse and yet tend to produce gender homophilous friendships by other mechanisms (Smith-Lovin and McPherson 1993). Adult settings may conversely be more gender segregated and yet produce more cross-gender ties, as well as friendships made through cross-gender romantic partners for many adults. Extending the above framework to homophilies by tastes, interests and values is complicated by the transmission of culture between friends, particularly during the more impressionable early life stages. Cultural similarity among children may be due more to peer influence, while adult cultural homophily may result more from choosing friends and groups based upon shared interests and attitudes.

Other types of relationships may have different patterns of life course foci segregation. Romantic couples, for instance, are much more likely than friends to meet without interpersonal or organizational brokerage (Mollenhorst et al. 2008), particularly since the advent of online dating (Rosenfeld and Thomas 2012). This is life-stage dependent, with educational settings more common for early life romantic partners, a time of maximal educational endogamy (Mare 1991), and online romantic sources peaking in early midlife (Rosenfeld and Thomas 2012), when potential partners become scarcer. Weaker ties, such as acquaintances, are not necessarily formed in the same ways as stronger friendships (Mollenhorst et al. 2008). Even when the sources are the same, the effects of foci composition on weak tie networks might be more lasting. Unlike the strong friendships sampled here, acquaintances do not require much time or effort to maintain, and can last a lifetime, reflecting more fully the whole array of settings and networks a person has participated in since childhood, and the cumulative diversity those entailed. Also unexamined here is how different types of ego networks can shape the effects of foci and brokerage on homophily across the life course. Some people lead lives embedded in dense networks of overlapping relationships, while others maintain more separate ego network components (Bott 1957). Personal networks can also vary greatly by their size, intensity of social activity, and embeddedness in familial and organizational contexts (Burt 1990; Giannella and Fischer 2016). Some people's rosters of strong friendships remain very stable across their lives, while others change dramatically between life stages and major life transitions (Wrzus et al. 2013). These may all affect the extent to which friendships endure beyond particular life stages, as well as which social foci within stages are more likely to foster new relationships.

## **Conclusion**

I've shown above that both how and when in life social ties are formed impacts their racial and

educational composition. This study is the first to provide population-generalizable evidence that the sources of friendships impact their racial diversity, and the above also shows that this largely accounts for changes in racial friendship diversity across the life course. This paper also unearths previously unknown gender differences in personal networks, showing that the life course trend in racial homophily differs for women and men, and also that sources of friendship change in their interracial potential in different and important ways for women and men across their lives. These findings suggest that attempts to understand homophily should consider not just the opportunity constraints for diverse relationships, but also their gendered change over life courses.

Where and how friendships and similar relationships are formed has been an unfortunately neglected topic, but need not be. These non-kin relationships are core to the informal social structure of societies, with implications for most social phenomena. Too often their origins are taken for granted, or treated as a matter of personal choice in a social landscape of minimal structural constraints, or simply considered too difficult to measure. A social demography of interpersonal relationships is incomplete without an account of the origins of those relationships, as these origins shape the composition of the ties that result, as well as reflect the cultural and structural pathways into forming bonds within a society. These are the reasons we care about the origins of romantic partnerships, and the non-romantic and non-familial bonds of social life deserve similar attention. The data presented here are only about the two friendships in respondents' lives that occupy most of their social time, but there is much more to the social networks surrounding people than these ties. There is still very little population-generalizable information about the sources of other kinds of friendships, confidants, and acquaintances. The opportunities are there to greatly expand our knowledge of the recurring origins of informal social structure.

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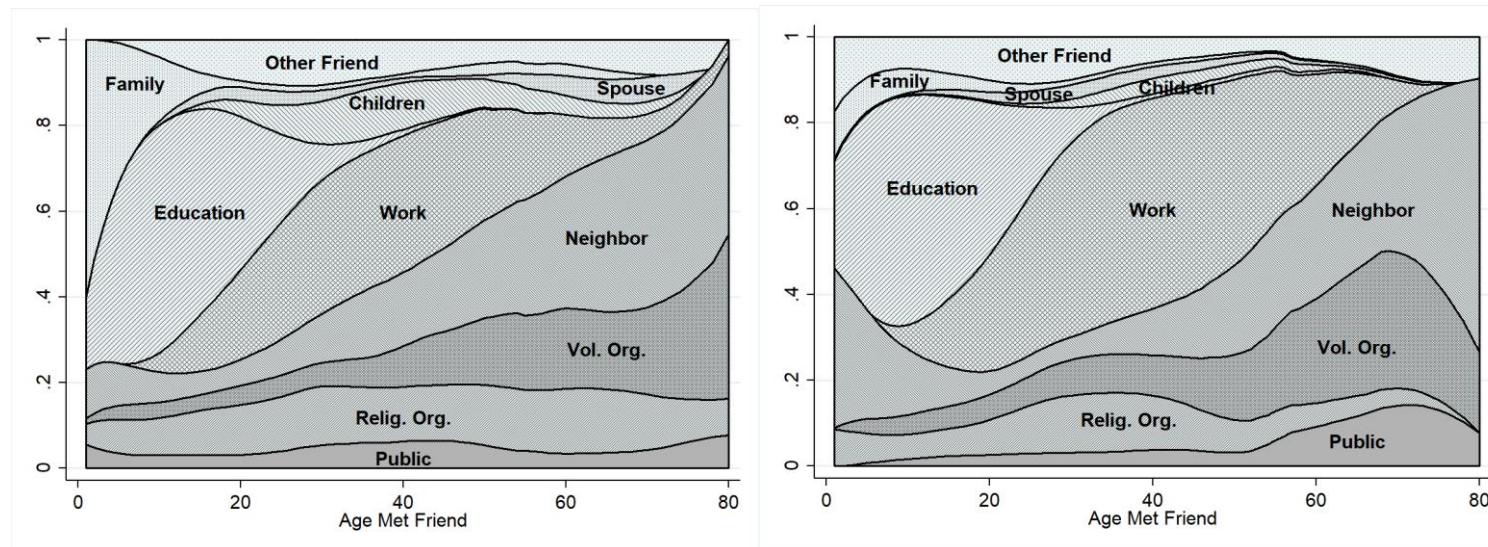
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**Figure 1.** Stacked Proportions of How Friends were Met, by Gender, Age-Met and Age at Survey

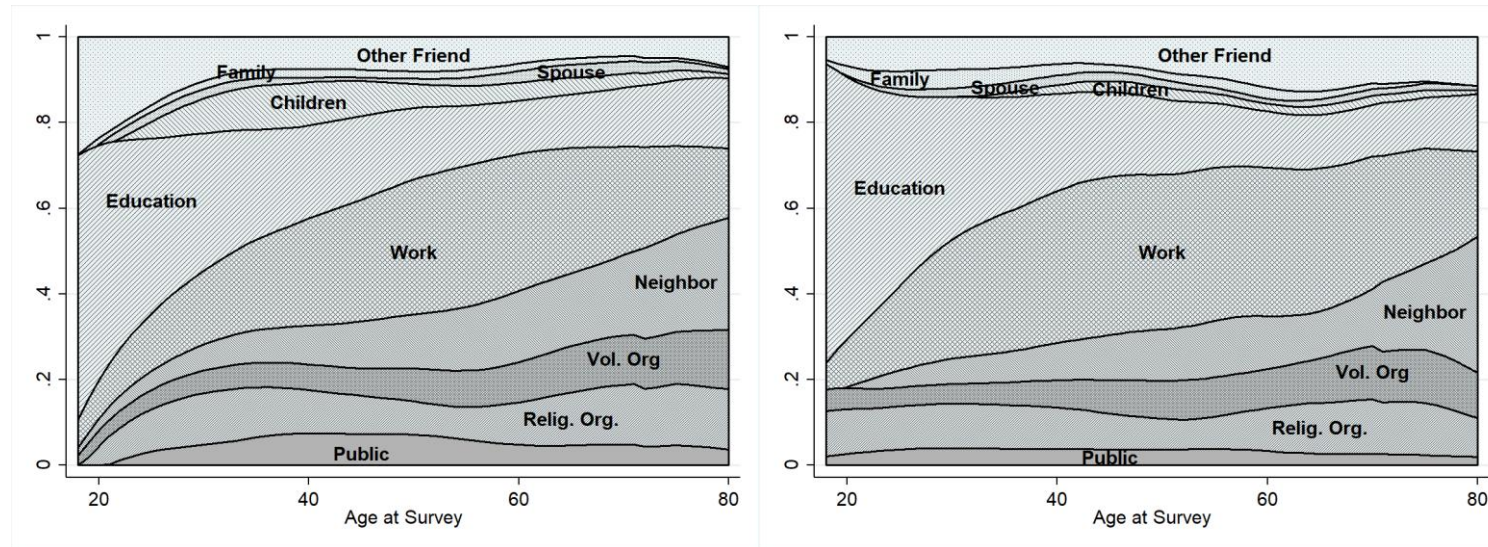
Women:

Men:



Women:

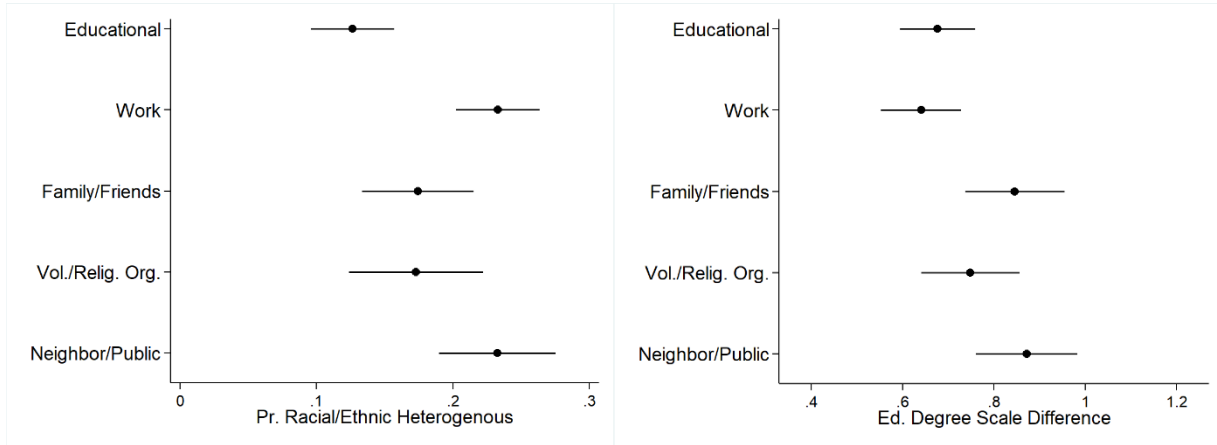
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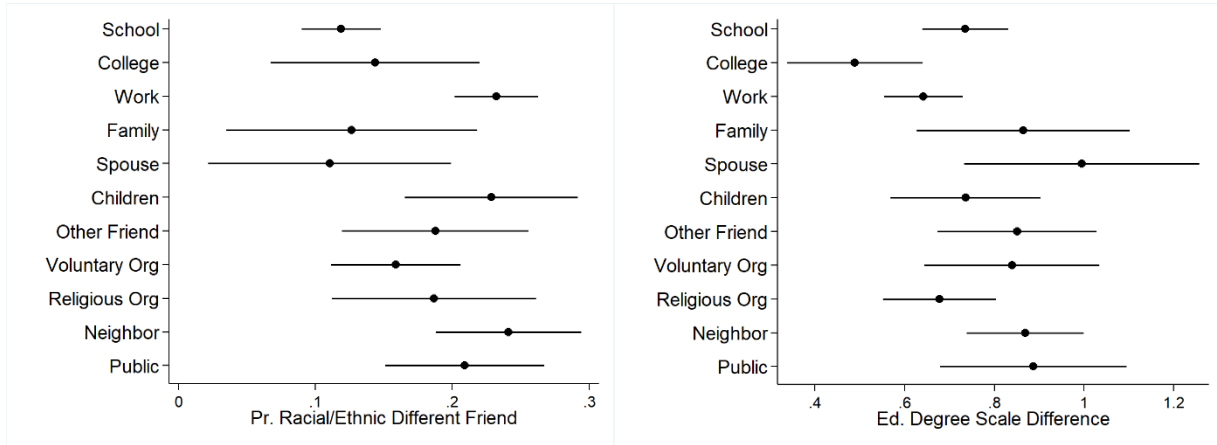
Notes: Locally-weighted regression lines of survey-weighted observed proportions (bandwidth .5). See Appendix Figures A1a-b for unstacked proportions.

**Figure 2.** Predicted Probability of Racial/Ethnic Heterogeneity and Educational Degree Difference in Friendships, by Friendship Source

By Five Categories:



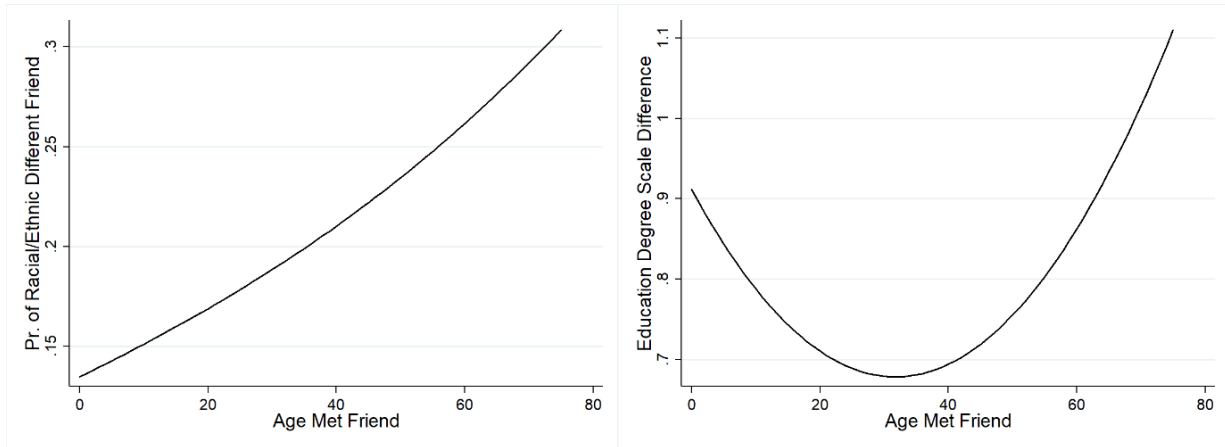
By Eleven Categories:



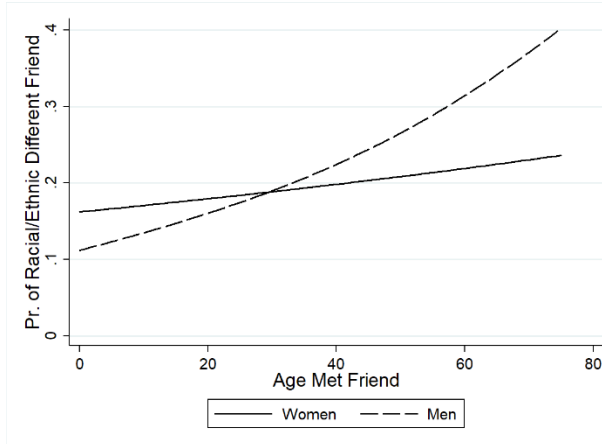
*Notes:* Average Adjusted Predictions. Racial Heterogeneity is predicted by a binomial logistic regression model, while Education Difference is predicted by an OLS regression model. All models control for age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, education level, US nativity, marital status, frequency of contact with relatives, region of US, population size of MSA, % of MSA R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code college graduates. For full models, see Appendix Tables B2 & B3a.



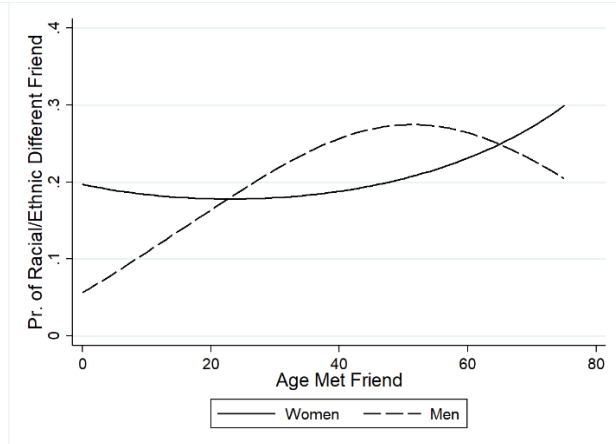
**Figure 3. Predicted Friendship Diversity by Respondent's Age when Friend was Met**  
 Linear Age-Met Effect on Interracial Probability: Squared Age-Met Effect on Education Difference:



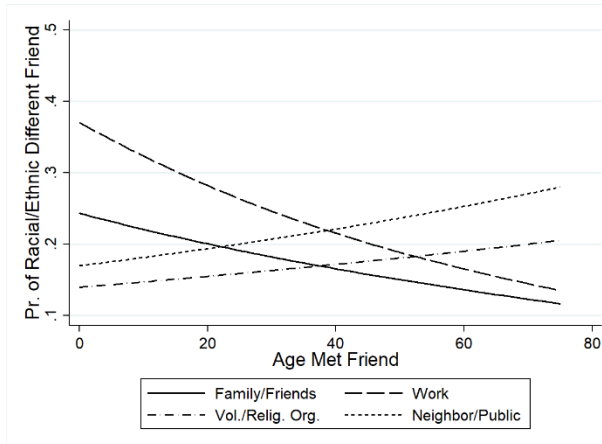
Linear Age-Met Interracial Effect, by Gender:



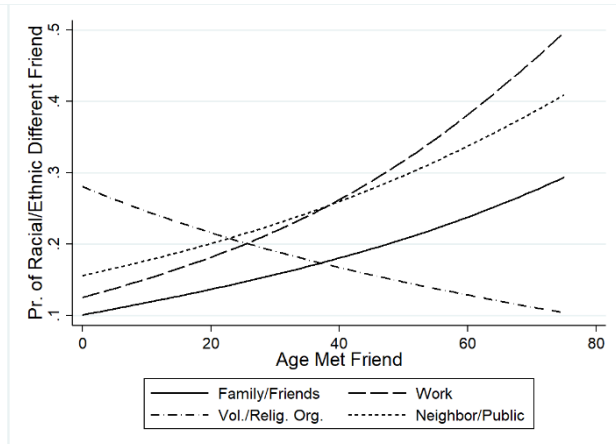
Squared Age-Met Interracial Effect, by Gender:



Interracial Effect by Friend Source, Women:



Interracial Effect by Friend Source, Men:



*Notes:* Average Adjusted Predictions, from OLS (Education Difference) and binomial logistic regression models (Interracial). Results in row 2 are from two-way interaction effects, row 3 from three-way interaction effects. All models control for age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, education level, US nativity, marital status, frequency of contact with relatives, region of US, population size of MSA, % of MSA R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code college graduates. For full models, see Appendix Tables B2, B3b and B6.

**Table 1.** Logit Coefficients and Odds Ratios Predicting a Racially/Ethnically Diverse Friendship

	(1)	(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)		
	b	b	OR	b	OR	b	OR	b	OR	
Age Met Friend	0.027**			0.013				0.010		
<i>Friendship Source (vs Work)</i>										
Educational Org.		-1.531***	0.216	-1.364***	0.256					
School						-1.686***	0.185	-1.537***	0.215	
College						-1.230 <sup>+</sup>	0.292	-1.149 <sup>+</sup>	0.317	
Family/Friends		-0.738*	0.478	-0.702*	0.496					
Family						-1.538 <sup>+</sup>	0.215	-1.398	0.247	
Spouse						-1.850*	0.157	-1.867 <sup>+</sup>	0.155	
Children (as Parent)						-0.040	0.961	-0.070	0.932	
Other Friend						-0.549	0.577	-0.523	0.593	
Voluntary Orgs.		-0.757 <sup>+</sup>	0.469	-0.750 <sup>+</sup>	0.472					
Non-Religious						-0.976*	0.377	-0.993*	0.370	
Religious						-0.561	0.571	-0.543	0.581	
Neighbor/Public		-0.003	0.997	-0.022	0.978					
Neighbor						0.096	1.101	0.077	1.080	
Public Place						-0.269	0.764	-0.264	0.768	
McFadden's Pseudo R <sup>2</sup>	0.441	0.455		0.456		0.460		0.461		
BIC	1116.053	1115.914		1121.020		1151.715		1157.858		

*Notes:* N=1758. All models control for age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, education level, US nativity, marital status, frequency of contact with relatives, region of US, population size of MSA, % of MSA R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code college graduates. For full models, see Appendix Table B2.

\*\*\* p < .001, \*\* p < .01, \* p < .05, + p < .1

**Table 2.** OLS Regression Coefficients Predicting Absolute Educational Scale Difference Between Ego and Alter

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Age Met Friend	0.001	-0.015**		-0.001	-0.018**		0.000	-0.016*
(Age Met Friend) <sup>2</sup>		0.000**			0.000**			0.000*
<i>Friendship Source</i>								
<i>(vs Work)</i>								
Educational Org.			0.036	0.028	-0.060			
School						0.093	0.096	-0.004
College						-0.152 <sup>+</sup>	-0.151 <sup>+</sup>	-0.175 <sup>+</sup>
Family/Friends			0.205**	0.204**	0.175*			
Family						0.223 <sup>+</sup>	0.225 <sup>+</sup>	0.129
Spouse						0.353*	0.353*	0.325*
Children (as Parent)						0.094	0.094	0.093
Other Friend						0.209*	0.209*	0.191 <sup>+</sup>
Voluntary Orgs.			0.108	0.109	0.073			
Non-Religious						0.198 <sup>+</sup>	0.197 <sup>+</sup>	0.159
Religious						0.036	0.036	0.011
Neighbors/Public			0.231**	0.232**	0.187*			
Neighbor						0.228**	0.227**	0.182*
Public Place						0.245*	0.245*	0.222 <sup>+</sup>
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.064	0.071	0.075	0.074	0.082	0.079	0.078	0.083
BIC	4173.047	4165.553	4172.348	4179.691	4171.792	4203.274	4210.739	4207.692

*Notes:* N=1758. All models control for age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, education level, US nativity, marital status, frequency of contact with relatives, region of US, population size of MSA, % of MSA R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code college graduates. For full models, see Appendix Tables B3a-b.

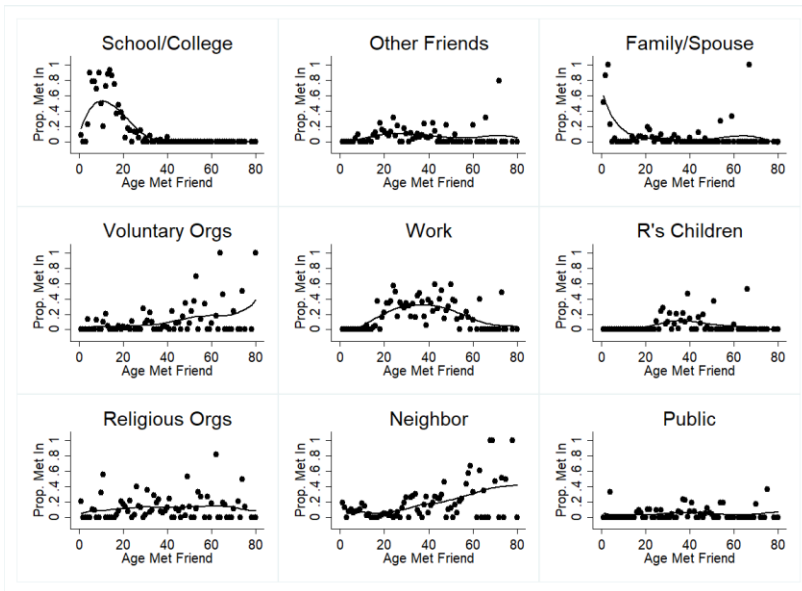
\*\*\* p < .001, \*\* p < .01, \* p < .05, + p < .1

# “Sources of Friendship and Structurally-Induced Homophily Across the Life Course” Online Appendix

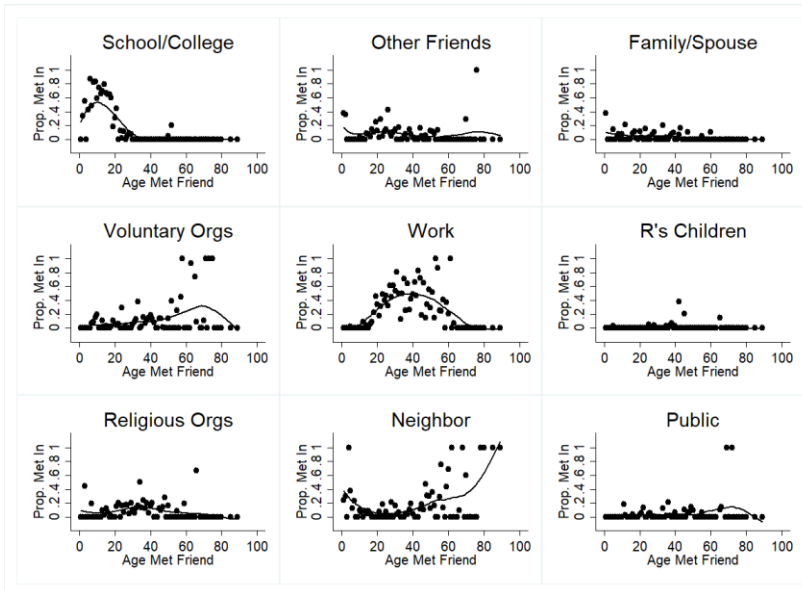
## Appendix A: Supplementary Figures and Tables

Figure A1a. Sources of Friendships by Age Friend was Met

Women:



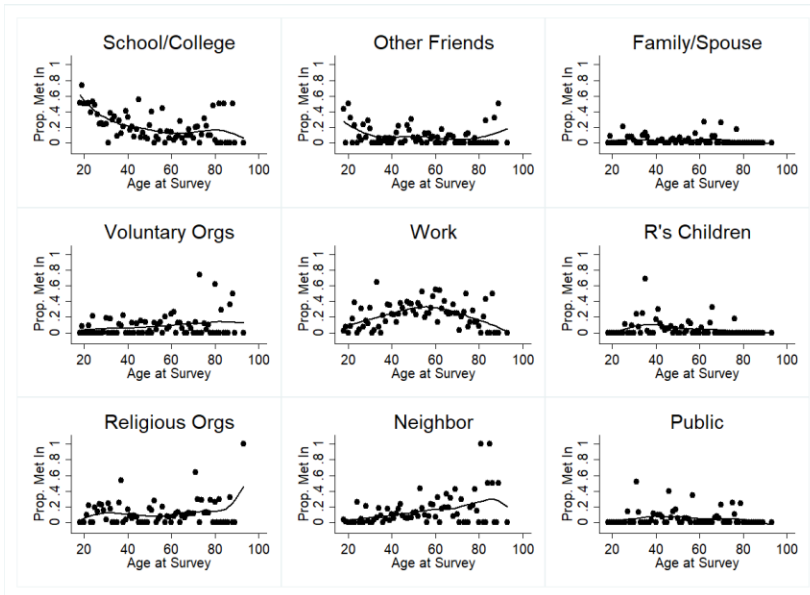
Men:



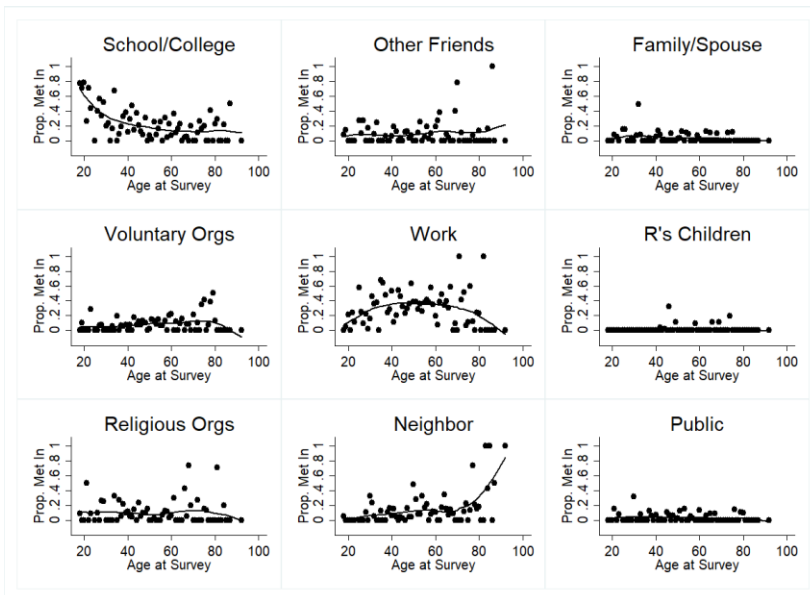
Notes: Survey-weighted observed proportions by Age Met Friend, with locally-weighted regression lines (bandwidth .5).

Figure A1b. Sources of Friendships by Age of Respondent when Surveyed

Women:

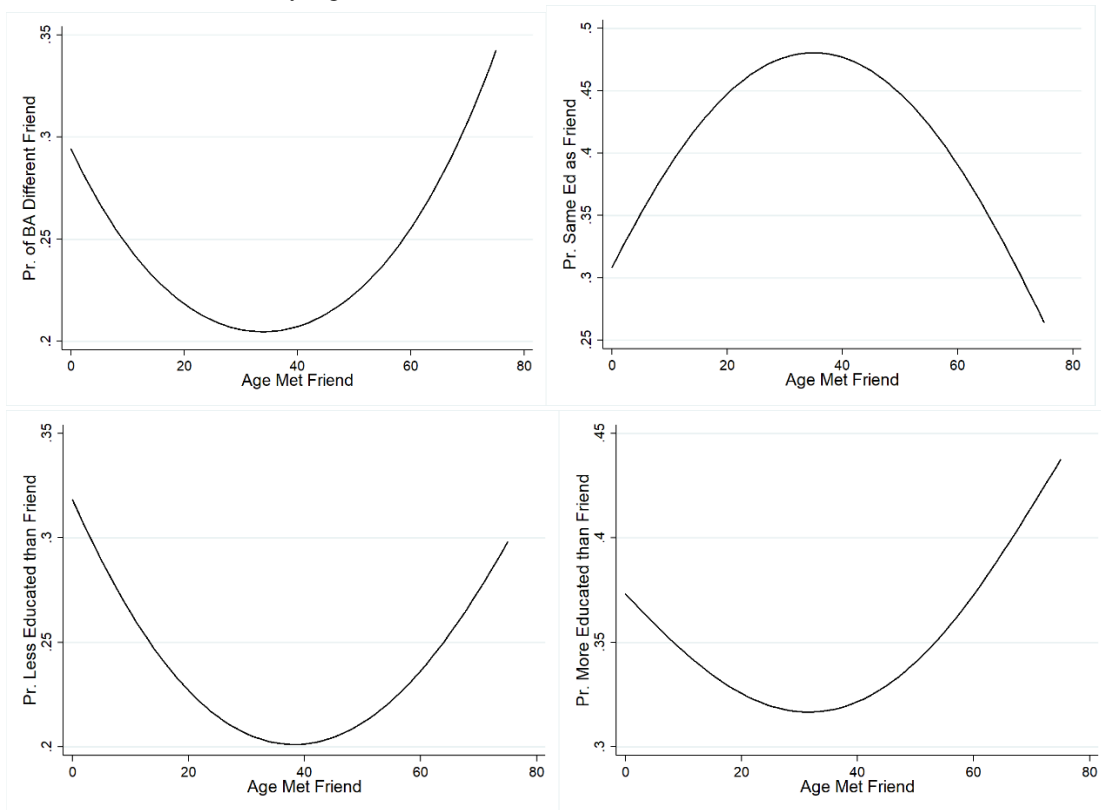


Men:



Notes: Survey-weighted observed proportions by Age Surveyed, with locally-weighted regression lines (bandwidth .5).

Figure A2. Predicted Probability of Educational Degree Difference in Friendships (Alternate Measures of Educational Difference), by Age Friend was Met



Notes: Average Adjusted Predictions. BA Heterogeneity is predicted by a binomial logistic regression model, while Same-vs-Less-vs-More Educated Friend panels display predictions from a multinomial logistic regression model, all with a squared term for Age Met Friend. All models control for age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, education level, US nativity, marital status, frequency of contact with relatives, region of US, population size of MSA, % of MSA R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code college graduates. For full models, see Appendix Table B4, Models 1 and 3.

Table A1. Unweighted Sample Descriptives

	Count	Proportion	Mean	Standard Deviation
<i>Friendship Dyad Variables</i>				
Racially/Ethnically Diverse	288	0.164		
Educational Degree Scale Difference			0.760	0.786
<i>Friendship Source</i>				
Work	486	0.277		
<i>Educational Setting</i>				
School	300	0.171		
College and other Post-Secondary	102	0.058		
<i>Through Family/Friends</i>				
Family, Introduced by	40	0.023		
Spouse, Introduced by	37	0.021		
R's Child, Introduced by	59	0.034		
Other Friend, Introduced by	154	0.088		
<i>In a Voluntary/Religious Org.</i>				
Voluntary Org. (Non-Religious)	133	0.076		
Religious Org.	175	0.995		
<i>As/Through a Neighbor, or in Public</i>				
Neighbor, or Introduced by Nghbr.	200	0.114		
In a Public Place, Self-Introduced	72	0.041		
Age Met Friend			29.899	16.013
<i>Respondent Variables</i>				
Age			48.559	17.144
Female	487	0.527		
Married	535	0.578		
Number of Children in HH			0.434	0.886
HH Income (\$10ks)			54.641	40.499
Highest Degree of Education			2.937	1.183
< High School (1)	100	0.108		
High School (2)	265	0.287		
Some College (3)	265	0.287		
College (4)	183	0.198		
Graduate Degree (5)	112	0.121		
<i>Work Status</i>				
Part-time or Less	224	0.242		
Fulltime	414	0.448		
Retired	185	0.200		
Student	102	0.110		
<i>Race/Ethnicity</i>				
White/Non-Hispanic	741	0.801		
Black/Non-Hispanic	62	0.067		
Hispanic	81	0.088		
Other Race/Non_Hispanic	41	0.044		
Born in U.S.	903	0.976		
Freq. Contact w/ Relatives (1-6 scale)			3.191	1.600
<i>Region</i>				
Northeast	187	0.202		
Midwest	221	0.239		
South	316	0.342		
West	201	0.217		

% of Metro/County R's Race	0.606	0.258
% of Zipcode R's Race	0.697	0.302
% of Zipcode with College Degree	0.248	0.093
Pop. of Metro/County (10k)	297.987	460.239
<hr/>		
Friend Dyad N	1758	
Respondent N	925	
<hr/>		



Table A2. Multinomial Logit Coefficients Predicting Friendship Source (vs Work)

	School/ College	Family/ Friend	Voluntary/ Relig. Org.	Neighbor/ Public
<i>Model 1:</i>				
Age Met Friend	-0.187***	-0.020*	0.013	0.003
<i>McFadden's Pseudo R<sup>2</sup></i>	0.193			
<i>BIC</i>	5151.647			
<i>Model 2:</i>				
Age Met Friend	-0.131	-0.195***	-0.196***	-0.214***
(Age Met Friend) <sup>2</sup>	-0.004	0.003***	0.003***	0.003***
<i>McFadden's Pseudo R<sup>2</sup></i>	0.216			
<i>BIC</i>	5059.859			
<i>Model 3:</i>				
<i>Age Met Friend (vs 30-45)</i>				
0-9	9.320***	4.398***	4.083***	4.631***
10-17	6.498***	1.319**	1.172**	1.051*
18-29	3.085***	0.366	-0.087	-0.565*
46-64	0.398	-0.270	1.059***	0.669*
65 up	-9.468***	2.728**	3.459**	3.099**
<i>McFadden's Pseudo R<sup>2</sup></i>	0.224			
<i>BIC</i>	5105.454			

*Notes:* N=1758. All models control for age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, education level, US nativity, marital status, frequency of contact with relatives, region of US, population size of MSA, % of MSA R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code college graduates. For full models, see Appendix Tables B1a-c.

\*\*\* p < .001, \*\* p < .01, \* p < .05, + p < .1

## **Predicting Friendship Source from Age Met**

Table A2 above displays coefficients from multinomial logistic regression models predicting how the friend was met, by different operationalizations of the age at which the friend was met. In the age categories operationalization, the key dividing points for the categories are at age 18 (legal adulthood, the end of secondary schooling) and age 65 (the traditional legal retirement age in the U.S.). The other cut points are more arbitrary, dividing early childhood from preteen and teen years, defining the break between early adulthood and middle adulthood at age 30, and dividing middle adulthood into two units at age 45. Alternate cut-points yielded consistent results (not shown). Friendships formed through educational settings become less likely than workplace formed friendships as people age, in a clear and strong linear relationship (Model 1): a ten year newer friendship has less than one sixth the odds of forming in an educational setting vs work. Introductions through family and friends also become less likely sources of new friends as people age, though the linear relationship is less strong, with twenty year newer friendships having roughly two thirds the odds of beginning through these introductions than at work. Family/friends and the other non-educational foci have non-linear relationships with age friend was met relative to the workplace, as illustrated both by the age-met-friend squared effect in Model 2 and the age-met-friend category effects in Model 3. Workplace formed friendships peak in likelihood in midlife, while by comparison to work the other non-educational categories are more likely to be friendship sources closer to the beginning and end of the life course. Comparisons not involving the workplace show largely linear effects (not shown), in keeping with the descriptive results

presented in the main text: increased age of friendship formation makes neighbor/public and voluntary/religious organization friendships more likely than education and family/friend introductions, and makes education formed friendships less likely than every other source. Predicted values from the polynomial multinomial model (not shown) largely mirror the observed patterns and descriptive local regression lines in Figure 1 in the main text. Despite the significant bivariate differences in friendship sources between men and women noted above, gender is not a significant predictor of the friendship source categories in these multinomial models. Interaction effects between gender and age of friendship formation predicting friendship source (not shown) are mostly insignificant, aside from one gender difference: neighbor and public sources of friendship have a sharp non-linear uptick late in life for men, but not for women.

Table A3. Coefficients Predicting Friendship Diversity: Comparing Alternate Measures of Age at Friendship Formation

<b>Racial/Ethnic Difference (Logit)</b>		b	Odds Ratio
<b>Model 1:</b>			
<i>Age Met Friend (vs 0-9)</i>			
10-17		-0.204	0.815
18-29		0.632	1.881
30-45		0.915*	2.500*
46-64		1.442**	4.230**
65 up		1.319+	3.739+
<i>McFadden's Pseudo R<sup>2</sup></i>	0.446		
<i>BIC</i>	1137.698		
<b>Model 2:</b>			
Age Met Friend		0.027**	
<i>McFadden's Pseudo R<sup>2</sup></i>	0.441		
<i>BIC</i>	1116.053		
<b>Educational Difference (OLS)</b>		b	
<b>Model 3:</b>			
<i>Age Met Friend (vs 30-45)</i>			
0-9		0.168*	
10-17		0.071	
18-29		0.067	
46-64		0.108	
65 up		0.520**	
<i>Adjusted R<sup>2</sup></i>	0.074		
<i>BIC</i>	4180.007		
<b>Model 4:</b>			
Age Met Friend		0.001	
<i>Adjusted R<sup>2</sup></i>	0.064		
<i>BIC</i>	4173.047		
<b>Model 5:</b>			
Age Met Friend		-0.015**	
(Age Met Friend) <sup>2</sup>		0.000**	
<i>Adjusted R<sup>2</sup></i>	0.071		
<i>BIC</i>	4165.553		

Notes: N=1758. All models control for age, gender, race/ethnicity, household income, education level, US nativity, marital status, frequency of contact with relatives, region of US, population size of MSA, % of MSA R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code R's race/ethnicity, % of zip code college graduates. For full models, see Appendix Tables B2 and B3a-b.

\*\*\* p < .001. \*\* p < .01. \* p < .05. + p < .1

**“Sources of Friendship and Structurally-Induced Homophily Across the Life Course”  
Online Appendix**

**Appendix B: Tables of Full Regression Models**

Table B1a: Multinomial Logistic Regression Coefficients Predicting Social Foci (vs Work), by Age Met

	Family/Friends	School/College	Vol./Relig. Org.	Neighbor/Public
Age Met	-0.020* (0.009)	-0.187*** (0.015)	0.013 (0.008)	0.003 (0.008)
Age	-0.021* (0.009)	-0.002 (0.009)	-0.018 (0.011)	-0.002 (0.010)
Female	0.294 (0.219)	0.055 (0.222)	0.118 (0.200)	0.153 (0.218)
Married	-0.183 (0.220)	0.251 (0.224)	0.339 (0.222)	-0.146 (0.212)
Children in HH	-0.042 (0.317)	0.129 (0.298)	0.156 (0.306)	-0.291 (0.338)
HH Income \$10k	0.001 (0.003)	0.002 (0.003)	-0.003 (0.003)	-0.008* (0.003)
<i>Highest Degree (vs College)</i>				
< H.S.	0.687 (0.444)	-0.752 (0.503)	0.078 (0.413)	0.579 (0.461)
H.S.	-0.011 (0.301)	-0.404 (0.335)	-0.390 (0.324)	0.416 (0.320)
Some College	-0.538+ (0.302)	-0.755* (0.306)	-0.688* (0.285)	-0.518 (0.322)
Graduate Degree	-0.411 (0.341)	0.647+ (0.361)	-0.565+ (0.343)	-0.447 (0.408)
<i>Employment (vs PT or Not)</i>				
Fulltime	-1.321*** (0.289)	-1.260*** (0.313)	-1.002*** (0.271)	-1.234*** (0.280)
Retired	-0.470 (0.371)	-1.071* (0.482)	0.133 (0.398)	-0.398 (0.389)
Student	-1.033* (0.434)	0.091 (0.356)	-0.546 (0.400)	-1.621*** (0.444)
<i>Race/Ethnicity (vs White NH)</i>				
Black	-0.175 (0.462)	0.160 (0.496)	0.172 (0.461)	-0.499 (0.483)
Hispanic	0.063 (0.462)	0.052 (0.426)	-0.003 (0.407)	-0.468 (0.440)
Other Race	-0.987 (0.693)	-0.516 (0.605)	-0.766 (0.638)	-1.652* (0.801)
Born in U.S.	-0.804 (0.662)	-0.877 (0.572)	-1.276** (0.464)	1.707 (1.104)
<i>Region (vs Midwest)</i>				
South	0.501+ (0.268)	0.327 (0.281)	0.456 (0.282)	0.294 (0.280)
West	0.301	-0.213	0.013	0.194

	(0.321)	(0.308)	(0.315)	(0.313)
Northeast	0.406	-0.203	0.114	0.036
	(0.324)	(0.321)	(0.358)	(0.334)
% of Metro Area R's Race	-0.273	-0.614	-0.072	-1.340 <sup>+</sup>
	(0.802)	(0.763)	(0.815)	(0.805)
% of Local Area R's Race	0.208	0.582	0.210	0.543
	(0.626)	(0.549)	(0.604)	(0.575)
% of ZIP College Grad	-0.516	-0.007	0.248	1.906 <sup>+</sup>
	(1.296)	(1.264)	(1.111)	(1.102)
MSA Pop (10k)	0.000	0.000	-0.000	0.000
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Second Friend Mentioned	-0.068	-0.209	-0.144	-0.095
	(0.163)	(0.172)	(0.156)	(0.173)
Freq. of Contact w/ Relatives	0.088	0.049	-0.076	0.103
	(0.065)	(0.069)	(0.064)	(0.065)
Constant	2.427 <sup>*</sup>	5.625 <sup>***</sup>	2.052 <sup>*</sup>	-1.405
	(1.164)	(1.135)	(0.960)	(1.479)
Observations	1758			
Pseudo $R^2$	0.193			
<i>BIC</i>	5151.647			

Standard errors in parentheses

<sup>+</sup>  $p < 0.10$ , \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$

Table B1b: Multinomial Logistic Regression Coefficients Predicting Social Foci (vs Work), by Age Met Squared

	Family/Friends	School/College	Vol./Relig. Org.	Neighbor/Public
Age Met	-0.195*** (0.034)	-0.131 (0.129)	-0.196*** (0.035)	-0.214*** (0.037)
(Age Met) <sup>2</sup>	0.003*** (0.000)	-0.004 (0.004)	0.003*** (0.000)	0.003*** (0.001)
Age	-0.024* (0.010)	-0.001 (0.010)	-0.020+ (0.012)	-0.006 (0.010)
Female	0.342 (0.226)	0.113 (0.233)	0.179 (0.202)	0.236 (0.219)
Married	-0.114 (0.230)	0.226 (0.236)	0.410+ (0.225)	-0.058 (0.216)
Children in HH	-0.022 (0.324)	0.146 (0.316)	0.170 (0.308)	-0.277 (0.337)
HH Income \$10k	0.002 (0.003)	0.002 (0.003)	-0.001 (0.003)	-0.006+ (0.003)
<i>Highest Degree (vs College)</i>				
< H.S.	0.517 (0.449)	-0.931+ (0.511)	-0.104 (0.412)	0.427 (0.457)
H.S.	-0.103 (0.307)	-0.527 (0.341)	-0.494 (0.324)	0.334 (0.312)
Some College	-0.556+ (0.306)	-0.973** (0.328)	-0.718* (0.289)	-0.503 (0.317)
Graduate Degree	-0.403 (0.346)	0.595 (0.405)	-0.600+ (0.359)	-0.432 (0.421)
<i>Employment (vs PT or Not)</i>				
Fulltime	-1.351*** (0.296)	-1.372*** (0.326)	-1.028*** (0.277)	-1.249*** (0.289)
Retired	-0.729+ (0.384)	-1.302** (0.478)	-0.206 (0.411)	-0.740+ (0.420)
Student	-1.175** (0.447)	-0.156 (0.373)	-0.720+ (0.394)	-1.784*** (0.454)
<i>Race/Ethnicity (vs White NH)</i>				
Black	-0.091 (0.461)	0.206 (0.524)	0.272 (0.468)	-0.388 (0.470)
Hispanic	0.080 (0.456)	0.015 (0.440)	0.017 (0.408)	-0.475 (0.446)
Other Race	-0.979 (0.698)	-0.645 (0.629)	-0.732 (0.620)	-1.671* (0.832)
Born in U.S.	-0.867 (0.642)	-1.043+ (0.627)	-1.373** (0.445)	1.558 (1.089)
<i>Region (vs Midwest)</i>				
South	0.544* (0.275)	0.482+ (0.288)	0.521+ (0.281)	0.353 (0.286)
West	0.277 (0.331)	-0.102 (0.332)	-0.011 (0.323)	0.174 (0.327)
Northeast	0.381 (0.338)	-0.208 (0.340)	0.085 (0.355)	0.029 (0.344)

% of Metro Area R's Race	-0.395 (0.817)	-0.547 (0.829)	-0.180 (0.822)	-1.546 <sup>+</sup> (0.801)
% of Local Area R's Race	0.274 (0.628)	0.477 (0.605)	0.251 (0.614)	0.606 (0.580)
% of ZIP College Grad	-0.372 (1.341)	-0.070 (1.315)	0.367 (1.130)	1.943 <sup>+</sup> (1.116)
MSA Pop (10k)	0.000 (0.000)	0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)
Second Friend Mentioned	-0.083 (0.167)	-0.269 (0.184)	-0.156 (0.161)	-0.124 (0.182)
Freq. of Contact w/ Relatives	0.092 (0.066)	0.059 (0.073)	-0.074 (0.065)	0.107 (0.067)
Constant	5.166 <sup>***</sup> (1.265)	6.590 <sup>***</sup> (1.492)	5.395 <sup>***</sup> (1.119)	2.169 (1.614)
Observations	1758			
Pseudo $R^2$	0.216			
<i>BIC</i>	5059.859			

Standard errors in parentheses

<sup>+</sup>  $p < 0.10$ , \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$



Table B1c: Multinomial Logistic Regression Coefficients Predicting Social Foci (vs Work), by Age Met Categories

	Family/Friends	School/College	Vol./Relig. Org.	Neighbor/Public
<i>Age Met (vs 30-45)</i>				
0-9	4.398*** (1.082)	9.320*** (1.136)	4.083*** (1.106)	4.631*** (1.065)
10-17	1.319** (0.454)	6.498*** (0.574)	1.172** (0.449)	1.051* (0.444)
18-29	0.366 (0.249)	3.085*** (0.489)	-0.087 (0.259)	-0.565* (0.285)
46-64	-0.270 (0.383)	0.398 (0.912)	1.059*** (0.292)	0.669* (0.291)
65 up	2.728** (0.995)	-9.468*** (1.192)	3.459** (1.090)	3.099** (1.123)
Age	-0.023* (0.009)	-0.005 (0.010)	-0.023* (0.011)	-0.013 (0.011)
Female	0.321 (0.223)	0.069 (0.244)	0.166 (0.202)	0.228 (0.215)
Married	-0.120 (0.228)	0.166 (0.239)	0.436* (0.222)	0.022 (0.217)
Children in HH	-0.092 (0.329)	-0.147 (0.335)	0.102 (0.309)	-0.376 (0.344)
HH Income \$10k	0.002 (0.003)	-0.001 (0.003)	-0.002 (0.003)	-0.007* (0.003)
<i>Highest Degree (vs College)</i>				
< H.S.	0.591 (0.437)	-1.333* (0.522)	-0.142 (0.422)	0.409 (0.460)
H.S.	-0.052 (0.309)	-0.735* (0.335)	-0.538 (0.339)	0.303 (0.320)
Some College	-0.526+ (0.305)	-1.134*** (0.338)	-0.736* (0.289)	-0.470 (0.321)
Graduate Degree	-0.373 (0.339)	0.603 (0.397)	-0.616+ (0.348)	-0.439 (0.418)
<i>Employment (vs PT or Not)</i>				
Fulltime	-1.321*** (0.292)	-1.382*** (0.319)	-1.061*** (0.275)	-1.270*** (0.283)
Retired	-0.683+ (0.386)	-1.315** (0.482)	-0.096 (0.410)	-0.559 (0.408)
Student	-1.038* (0.437)	0.005 (0.392)	-0.620 (0.388)	-1.570*** (0.454)
<i>Race/Ethnicity (vs White NH)</i>				
Black	-0.091 (0.458)	0.253 (0.529)	0.346 (0.469)	-0.338 (0.461)
Hispanic	0.096 (0.458)	0.196 (0.446)	0.035 (0.410)	-0.458 (0.442)
Other Race	-1.012 (0.700)	-0.844 (0.654)	-0.671 (0.619)	-1.698* (0.847)
Born in U.S.	-1.017 (0.654)	-1.353+ (0.748)	-1.430** (0.453)	1.584 (1.111)

<i>Region (vs Midwest)</i>				
South	0.541*	0.496 <sup>+</sup>	0.532 <sup>+</sup>	0.341
	(0.275)	(0.301)	(0.285)	(0.282)
West	0.291	-0.311	-0.010	0.172
	(0.327)	(0.337)	(0.318)	(0.326)
Northeast	0.425	-0.157	0.130	0.080
	(0.336)	(0.371)	(0.364)	(0.340)
% of Metro Area R's Race	-0.281	-0.549	-0.116	-1.496 <sup>+</sup>
	(0.794)	(0.843)	(0.803)	(0.790)
% of Local Area R's Race	0.245	0.581	0.386	0.744
	(0.625)	(0.625)	(0.624)	(0.559)
% of ZIP College Grad	-0.394	0.361	0.574	2.320*
	(1.298)	(1.260)	(1.121)	(1.112)
MSA Pop (10k)	0.000	0.000	-0.000	-0.000
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Second Friend Mentioned	-0.067	-0.275	-0.162	-0.126
	(0.166)	(0.191)	(0.160)	(0.179)
Freq. of Contact w/ Relatives	0.073	0.031	-0.082	0.099
	(0.066)	(0.075)	(0.066)	(0.066)
Constant	1.768	-0.957	2.390*	-1.059
	(1.176)	(1.273)	(1.007)	(1.483)
Observations	1758			
Pseudo R <sup>2</sup>	0.224			
BIC	5105.454			

Standard errors in parentheses

<sup>+</sup>  $p < 0.10$ , \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$

Table B2: Logistic Regression Coefficients Predicting a Racial/Ethnic Heterogenous Friendship, by Age Met, Age Met Categories and Social Foci

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Age Met	0.0024 (0.0054)				0.0272** (0.0090)				0.0128 (0.0094)	0.0099 (0.0096)
<i>Age Met (vs 0-9)</i>										
10-17		0.0936 (0.4144)				-0.2043 (0.4563)				
18-29		0.3809 (0.3736)				0.6317 (0.4310)				
30-45		0.3712 (0.4042)				0.9149* (0.4448)				
46-64		0.4514 (0.4248)				1.4422** (0.5373)				
65 up		-0.3134 (0.5746)				1.3188+ (0.7545)				
<i>How Met (vs Work)</i>										
Family/Friends			-0.2957 (0.2899)				-0.7382* (0.3475)		-0.7017* (0.3512)	
School/College			-0.6865* (0.2833)				-1.5311*** (0.3448)		-1.3641*** (0.3525)	
Vol./Relig. Org.			-0.5308* (0.2531)				-0.7571+ (0.4237)		-0.7501+ (0.4247)	
Neighb./Public			-0.2664 (0.2372)				-0.0029 (0.2833)		-0.0222 (0.2823)	
<i>How Met (vs Work)</i>										
Friends				-0.3166 (0.3336)				-0.5491 (0.5048)		-0.5233 (0.5130)
Kids				0.3044 (0.5687)				-0.0403 (0.3958)		-0.0702 (0.3996)
School				-0.8169* (0.3462)				-1.6862*** (0.3346)		-1.5371*** (0.3481)
College				-0.3476 (0.3814)				-1.2297+ (0.7001)		-1.1494+ (0.6933)

Voluntary Org	-0.4672 (0.3378)				-0.9762* (0.4197)		-0.9932* (0.4222)
Religious Org	-0.5808+ (0.3190)				-0.5606 (0.5679)		-0.5426 (0.5654)
Neighbor	-0.3269 (0.2640)				0.0964 (0.3186)		0.0769 (0.3154)
Public	-0.1040 (0.3853)				-0.2689 (0.4158)		-0.2640 (0.4152)
Family	-0.6030 (0.5674)				-1.5379+ (0.8999)		-1.3979 (0.9030)
Spouse	-1.5003** (0.5784)				-1.8504* (0.9272)		-1.8672+ (0.9577)
Female		-0.0234 (0.2380)	-0.0332 (0.2428)	-0.0456 (0.2366)	-0.0812 (0.2404)	-0.0499 (0.2387)	-0.0835 (0.2421)
Age		-0.0159 (0.0126)	-0.0174 (0.0126)	-0.0091 (0.0117)	-0.0114 (0.0109)	-0.0160 (0.0131)	-0.0162 (0.0127)
Married		0.1838 (0.2576)	0.1461 (0.2524)	0.1451 (0.2524)	0.1581 (0.2577)	0.1602 (0.2513)	0.1674 (0.2579)
Childs in HH		-0.1610 (0.1649)	-0.1469 (0.1681)	-0.1361 (0.1625)	-0.1485 (0.1583)	-0.1532 (0.1629)	-0.1589 (0.1583)
HH Inc. \$10k		-0.0016 (0.0029)	-0.0012 (0.0029)	-0.0015 (0.0028)	-0.0015 (0.0029)	-0.0015 (0.0028)	-0.0015 (0.0029)
<i>Highest Degree (vs College)</i>							
< H.S.		-0.1730 (0.5109)	-0.0041 (0.4939)	-0.2341 (0.5061)	-0.1889 (0.4536)	-0.1996 (0.5132)	-0.1773 (0.4623)
H.S.		0.3667 (0.3530)	0.4195 (0.3548)	0.2684 (0.3650)	0.2947 (0.3548)	0.2799 (0.3702)	0.2914 (0.3590)
Some College		0.1855 (0.3567)	0.2081 (0.3530)	0.0061 (0.3596)	0.0309 (0.3514)	0.0163 (0.3635)	0.0265 (0.3544)
Graduate Degree		-0.1506 (0.4484)	-0.1836 (0.4664)	-0.1034 (0.4311)	-0.1375 (0.4341)	-0.1246 (0.4339)	-0.1537 (0.4352)
<i>Employment (vs PT or Not)</i>							
Employed Fulltime		-0.1609	-0.1756	-0.3224	-0.2656	-0.2958	-0.2478

	(0.2605)	(0.2620)	(0.2653)	(0.2597)	(0.2644)	(0.2603)
Retired	-0.5289	-0.4254	-0.5282	-0.4412	-0.4962	-0.4264
	(0.4420)	(0.4652)	(0.4422)	(0.4318)	(0.4500)	(0.4392)
Student	0.1121	0.1171	0.3527	0.3376	0.3235	0.3251
	(0.4352)	(0.4405)	(0.4263)	(0.4266)	(0.4368)	(0.4333)
<i>Race/Ethnicity</i>						
<i>(vs White NH)</i>						
Black	-0.5972	-0.5793	-0.7139	-0.6127	-0.6834	-0.6037
	(0.4504)	(0.4563)	(0.4590)	(0.4626)	(0.4619)	(0.4665)
Hispanic	2.2750***	2.3103***	2.3049***	2.4035***	2.3381***	2.4256***
	(0.3452)	(0.3426)	(0.3292)	(0.3293)	(0.3342)	(0.3343)
Other Race	2.4961***	2.6234***	2.3759***	2.4642***	2.4705***	2.5302***
	(0.6005)	(0.6225)	(0.5862)	(0.6037)	(0.6119)	(0.6235)
Born in U.S.	0.9255	0.9860	0.5824	0.6980	0.6729	0.7555
	(0.6431)	(0.6520)	(0.6327)	(0.6413)	(0.6433)	(0.6478)
<i>Region (vs</i>						
<i>Midwest)</i>						
South	-0.7156*	-0.7316*	-0.6316+	-0.6234+	-0.6750+	-0.6567+
	(0.3420)	(0.3478)	(0.3571)	(0.3548)	(0.3614)	(0.3564)
West	-0.2355	-0.2088	-0.2003	-0.1538	-0.2384	-0.1918
	(0.3513)	(0.3475)	(0.3589)	(0.3399)	(0.3631)	(0.3401)
Northeast	-0.4052	-0.3849	-0.4282	-0.4482	-0.4231	-0.4474
	(0.4690)	(0.4801)	(0.4597)	(0.4674)	(0.4633)	(0.4693)
% of Metro Area R's Race	-0.8479	-0.8962	-0.8860	-0.6829	-0.8180	-0.6372
	(0.8272)	(0.8552)	(0.7859)	(0.8013)	(0.8007)	(0.8109)
% of Local Area R's Race	-2.8936***	-2.8253***	-2.9873***	-3.0879***	-2.9995***	-3.0987***
	(0.5173)	(0.5234)	(0.5143)	(0.5070)	(0.5169)	(0.5092)
% of ZIP College Grad	1.1011	1.0208	0.9052	0.6753	0.9272	0.7112
	(1.1909)	(1.1857)	(1.1783)	(1.1593)	(1.1899)	(1.1687)
MSA Pop (10k)	-0.0001	-0.0001	-0.0001	-0.0001	-0.0001	-0.0001
	(0.0003)	(0.0003)	(0.0003)	(0.0003)	(0.0003)	(0.0003)
Second Friend Mentioned	0.6479***	0.6535***	0.6516**	0.6446**	0.6451**	0.6406**
	(0.1962)	(0.1976)	(0.1982)	(0.2026)	(0.2001)	(0.2038)

Freq. of Contact w Relatives					0.0469	0.0550	0.0473	0.0504	0.0449	0.0488
					(0.0790)	(0.0793)	(0.0772)	(0.0771)	(0.0783)	(0.0780)
Constant	-1.5377***	-1.7648***	-1.1416***	-1.1416***	-1.3089	-1.2649	0.3179	0.2154	0.0849	0.0401
	(0.1999)	(0.3655)	(0.1555)	(0.1555)	(1.1184)	(1.1909)	(1.1408)	(1.1593)	(1.1480)	(1.1604)
Observations	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758
Pseudo $R^2$	0.000	0.004	0.010	0.018	0.441	0.446	0.455	0.460	0.456	0.461
<i>BIC</i>	1650.7259	1673.6183	1656.5223	1689.1646	1116.0529	1137.6975	1115.9138	1151.7154	1121.0204	1157.8577

Standard errors in parentheses

+  $p < 0.10$ , \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$

Table B3a: OLS Regression Coefficients Predicting Educational Degree Scale Difference, by Age Friendly Categories and Social Foci

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
<i>Age Met (vs 30-45)</i>								
0-9	0.0882 (0.0862)			0.1676* (0.0838)			0.2393* (0.0941)	0.1778+ (0.1034)
10-17	-0.0191 (0.0657)			0.0713 (0.0666)			0.1607* (0.0787)	0.0962 (0.0881)
18-29	-0.0035 (0.0602)			0.0667 (0.0639)			0.0924 (0.0654)	0.1042 (0.0663)
46-64	0.1420+ (0.0766)			0.1078 (0.0785)			0.1023 (0.0771)	0.0890 (0.0777)
65 up	0.6086*** (0.1760)			0.5195** (0.1754)			0.4722** (0.1780)	0.4476* (0.1774)
<i>How Met (vs Work)</i>								
Family/Friends		0.2064** (0.0745)			0.2054** (0.0731)		0.1699* (0.0733)	
School/College		-0.0155 (0.0655)			0.0361 (0.0616)		-0.0675 (0.0733)	
Vol./Relig. Org.		0.1455+ (0.0753)			0.1078 (0.0726)		0.0686 (0.0715)	
Neighbor/Public		0.2549*** (0.0747)			0.2313** (0.0725)		0.1853* (0.0737)	
<i>How Met (vs Work)</i>								
Friends			0.1875+ (0.1072)			0.2089* (0.1037)		0.1850+ (0.1036)
Kids			0.1205 (0.1000)			0.0940 (0.0975)		0.0892 (0.0981)
School			0.0296 (0.0729)			0.0930 (0.0663)		0.0268 (0.0912)
College			-0.1541+ (0.0857)			-0.1524+ (0.0891)		-0.1938* (0.0915)
Voluntary Org			0.2195* (0.1102)			0.1975+ (0.1106)		0.1632 (0.1055)
Religious Org			0.0896 (0.0843)			0.0357 (0.0792)		0.0093 (0.0810)
Neighbor			0.2707** (0.0844)			0.2275** (0.0810)		0.1910* (0.0826)

Public	0.2094 <sup>+</sup> (0.1126)			0.2449* (0.1141)		0.2180 <sup>+</sup> (0.1147)
Family	0.2506* (0.1129)			0.2227 <sup>+</sup> (0.1261)		0.1668 (0.1273)
Spouse	0.3807** (0.1261)			0.3531* (0.1405)		0.2975* (0.1510)
Female		0.1076* (0.0464)	0.0953* (0.0468)	0.0998* (0.0472)	0.1012* (0.0460)	0.1032* (0.0463)
Age		0.0016 (0.0023)	0.0021 (0.0020)	0.0025 (0.0020)	0.0021 (0.0022)	0.0023 (0.0022)
Married		0.0897 <sup>+</sup> (0.0515)	0.0858 <sup>+</sup> (0.0518)	0.0948 <sup>+</sup> (0.0536)	0.0957 <sup>+</sup> (0.0512)	0.1001 <sup>+</sup> (0.0528)
Children in HH		-0.0506* (0.0248)	-0.0576* (0.0243)	-0.0542* (0.0244)	-0.0535* (0.0246)	-0.0498* (0.0243)
HH Income \$10k		0.0000 (0.0006)	-0.0001 (0.0006)	-0.0002 (0.0007)	0.0001 (0.0006)	-0.0000 (0.0007)
<i>Highest Degree (vs College)</i>						
< H.S.		0.2421** (0.0925)	0.2163* (0.0905)	0.2014* (0.0941)	0.2028* (0.0927)	0.2048* (0.0947)
H.S.		-0.1956** (0.0725)	-0.2057** (0.0728)	-0.2292** (0.0738)	-0.2141** (0.0730)	-0.2257** (0.0735)
Some College		-0.0412 (0.0620)	-0.0462 (0.0626)	-0.0693 (0.0629)	-0.0434 (0.0636)	-0.0596 (0.0640)
Graduate Degree		0.1134 (0.0869)	0.1316 (0.0890)	0.1422 (0.0886)	0.1343 (0.0875)	0.1426 (0.0879)
<i>Employment (vs PT or Not)</i>						
Fulltime		0.0039 (0.0585)	0.0300 (0.0584)	0.0249 (0.0584)	0.0248 (0.0580)	0.0238 (0.0581)
Retired		-0.0018 (0.0920)	0.0548 (0.0929)	0.0368 (0.0929)	-0.0001 (0.0926)	-0.0082 (0.0928)
Student		-0.1876* (0.0758)	-0.1264 <sup>+</sup> (0.0757)	-0.1072 (0.0774)	-0.1422 <sup>+</sup> (0.0754)	-0.1256 (0.0775)
<i>Race/Ethnicity (vs White NH)</i>						
Black		0.1980 <sup>+</sup> (0.1025)	0.1873 <sup>+</sup> (0.1024)	0.1839 <sup>+</sup> (0.1035)	0.2060* (0.1008)	0.2041* (0.1023)
Hispanic		0.0866 (0.0883)	0.0939 (0.0870)	0.0820 (0.0882)	0.0940 (0.0866)	0.0854 (0.0878)



Other Race				-0.0535 (0.1414)	-0.0367 (0.1409)	-0.0586 (0.1440)	-0.0298 (0.1421)	-0.0416 (0.1443)
Born in U.S.				0.0331 (0.1963)	0.0724 (0.1906)	0.0600 (0.1959)	0.0307 (0.1902)	0.0252 (0.1938)
<i>Region (vs Midwest)</i>								
South				0.1670** (0.0597)	0.1506* (0.0589)	0.1435* (0.0587)	0.1595** (0.0589)	0.1520* (0.0590)
West				0.0749 (0.0682)	0.0624 (0.0677)	0.0457 (0.0682)	0.0612 (0.0679)	0.0493 (0.0677)
Northeast				0.1372+ (0.0715)	0.1220+ (0.0710)	0.1174 (0.0716)	0.1259+ (0.0708)	0.1210+ (0.0714)
% of Metro Area R's Race				0.0378 (0.1641)	0.0621 (0.1622)	0.0235 (0.1638)	0.0541 (0.1611)	0.0245 (0.1633)
% of Local Area R's Race				0.1442 (0.1301)	0.1383 (0.1294)	0.1362 (0.1294)	0.1408 (0.1266)	0.1399 (0.1277)
% of ZIP College Grad				-0.3587 (0.2656)	-0.4199 (0.2628)	-0.3737 (0.2595)	-0.3845 (0.2624)	-0.3615 (0.2605)
MSA Pop (10k)				-0.0000 (0.0001)	-0.0000 (0.0001)	-0.0000 (0.0001)	-0.0000 (0.0001)	-0.0000 (0.0001)
Second Friend Mentioned				0.0209 (0.0396)	0.0186 (0.0399)	0.0265 (0.0407)	0.0194 (0.0399)	0.0257 (0.0406)
Freq. of Contact w/ Relatives				0.0028 (0.0146)	0.0041 (0.0145)	0.0032 (0.0145)	0.0008 (0.0142)	-0.0002 (0.0143)
Constant	0.6984*** (0.0420)	0.6422*** (0.0454)	0.6422*** (0.0455)	0.3520 (0.2924)	0.2704 (0.2875)	0.3089 (0.2892)	0.2573 (0.2864)	0.2808 (0.2905)
Observations	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.019	0.017	0.019	0.074	0.075	0.079	0.084	0.086
BIC	4120.5875	4117.0606	4152.0560	4180.0071	4172.3478	4203.2744	4186.7343	4222.1564

Standard errors in parentheses

+  $p < 0.10$ , \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$

Table B3b: OLS Regression Coefficients Predicting Educational Degree Scale Difference, by Age Met Squared and Social Foci

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Age Met	0.0042*	-0.0125*	0.0006	-0.0147**	-0.0006	0.0001	-0.0180**	-0.0154*
	(0.0017)	(0.0055)	(0.0019)	(0.0053)	(0.0021)	(0.0022)	(0.0060)	(0.0065)
(Age Met) <sup>2</sup>		0.0002**		0.0002**			0.0003**	0.0002*
		(0.0001)		(0.0001)			(0.0001)	(0.0001)
<i>How Met (vs Work)</i>								
Family/Friends					0.2038**		0.1747*	
					(0.0733)		(0.0724)	
School/College					0.0278		-0.0604	
					(0.0689)		(0.0709)	
Vol./Relig. Org.					0.1087		0.0725	
					(0.0720)		(0.0718)	
Neighbor/Public					0.2322**		0.1865*	
					(0.0725)		(0.0746)	
<i>How Met (vs Work)</i>								
Friends						0.2093*		0.1911+
						(0.1042)		(0.1028)
Kids						0.0935		0.0932
						(0.0980)		(0.0974)
School						0.0955		-0.0042
						(0.0754)		(0.0815)
College						-0.1514+		-0.1750+
						(0.0909)		(0.0903)
Voluntary Org						0.1970+		0.1587
						(0.1094)		(0.1076)
Religious Org						0.0356		0.0111
						(0.0792)		(0.0804)
Neighbor						0.2272**		0.1819*
						(0.0811)		(0.0843)
Public						0.2448*		0.2216+
						(0.1141)		(0.1153)
Family						0.2247+		0.1293
						(0.1278)		(0.1267)

Spouse				0.3532*		0.3250*
				(0.1407)		(0.1447)
Female	0.1032*	0.1077*	0.0960*	0.0996*	0.1016*	0.1039*
	(0.0474)	(0.0467)	(0.0468)	(0.0471)	(0.0462)	(0.0467)
Age	0.0019	0.0013	0.0024	0.0024	0.0019	0.0020
	(0.0023)	(0.0023)	(0.0022)	(0.0022)	(0.0022)	(0.0022)
Married	0.0798	0.0953 <sup>+</sup>	0.0852	0.0950 <sup>+</sup>	0.1010 <sup>+</sup>	0.1070*
	(0.0525)	(0.0526)	(0.0520)	(0.0538)	(0.0519)	(0.0537)
Children in HH	-0.0552*	-0.0534*	-0.0572*	-0.0543*	-0.0560*	-0.0532*
	(0.0248)	(0.0249)	(0.0244)	(0.0245)	(0.0245)	(0.0244)
HH Income \$10k	-0.0002	-0.0001	-0.0001	-0.0002	0.0000	-0.0001
	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0006)	(0.0007)	(0.0006)	(0.0007)
<i>Highest Degree (vs College)</i>						
< H.S.	0.2427**	0.2324*	0.2154*	0.2015*	0.2016*	0.1985*
	(0.0915)	(0.0917)	(0.0909)	(0.0941)	(0.0917)	(0.0947)
H.S.	-0.1956**	-0.2036**	-0.2061**	-0.2293**	-0.2153**	-0.2290**
	(0.0725)	(0.0723)	(0.0729)	(0.0738)	(0.0726)	(0.0737)
Some College	-0.0556	-0.0442	-0.0463	-0.0694	-0.0412	-0.0585
	(0.0615)	(0.0616)	(0.0626)	(0.0629)	(0.0629)	(0.0634)
Graduate Degree	0.1127	0.1150	0.1323	0.1420	0.1379	0.1439
	(0.0884)	(0.0868)	(0.0892)	(0.0888)	(0.0878)	(0.0880)
<i>Employment (vs PT or Not)</i>						
Fulltime	-0.0017	0.0038	0.0292	0.0250	0.0251	0.0238
	(0.0587)	(0.0585)	(0.0582)	(0.0583)	(0.0580)	(0.0583)
Retired	0.0465	0.0099	0.0530	0.0371	0.0125	0.0069
	(0.0931)	(0.0927)	(0.0933)	(0.0931)	(0.0928)	(0.0928)
Student	-0.1683*	-0.1828*	-0.1250 <sup>+</sup>	-0.1075	-0.1345 <sup>+</sup>	-0.1206
	(0.0760)	(0.0752)	(0.0757)	(0.0774)	(0.0746)	(0.0768)
<i>Race/Ethnicity (vs White NH)</i>						
Black	0.1769 <sup>+</sup>	0.1935 <sup>+</sup>	0.1860 <sup>+</sup>	0.1841 <sup>+</sup>	0.2011*	0.2009*
	(0.1041)	(0.1030)	(0.1026)	(0.1037)	(0.1009)	(0.1022)
Hispanic	0.0833	0.0830	0.0930	0.0822	0.0902	0.0833
	(0.0887)	(0.0876)	(0.0868)	(0.0882)	(0.0858)	(0.0872)
Other Race	-0.0773	-0.0667	-0.0399	-0.0579	-0.0377	-0.0541

Born in U.S.			(0.1420)	(0.1410)	(0.1405)	(0.1438)	(0.1397)	(0.1428)
			0.0644	0.0530	0.0698	0.0605	0.0519	0.0488
			(0.1973)	(0.1951)	(0.1914)	(0.1963)	(0.1889)	(0.1934)
<i>Region (vs Midwest)</i>								
South			0.1620**	0.1605**	0.1516*	0.1432*	0.1521*	0.1467*
			(0.0599)	(0.0596)	(0.0592)	(0.0592)	(0.0590)	(0.0592)
West			0.0730	0.0706	0.0633	0.0454	0.0590	0.0487
			(0.0686)	(0.0681)	(0.0677)	(0.0683)	(0.0673)	(0.0679)
Northeast			0.1322+	0.1325+	0.1218+	0.1174	0.1207+	0.1173
			(0.0720)	(0.0721)	(0.0711)	(0.0717)	(0.0712)	(0.0719)
% of Metro Area R's Race			0.0370	0.0340	0.0606	0.0238	0.0506	0.0212
			(0.1644)	(0.1641)	(0.1617)	(0.1638)	(0.1610)	(0.1631)
% of Local Area R's Race			0.1436	0.1357	0.1379	0.1363	0.1336	0.1337
			(0.1324)	(0.1310)	(0.1292)	(0.1295)	(0.1274)	(0.1284)
% of ZIP College Grad			-0.3888	-0.3766	-0.4219	-0.3729	-0.4110	-0.3805
			(0.2664)	(0.2622)	(0.2634)	(0.2600)	(0.2594)	(0.2583)
MSA Pop (10k)			-0.0000	-0.0000	-0.0000	-0.0000	-0.0000	-0.0000
			(0.0001)	(0.0001)	(0.0001)	(0.0001)	(0.0001)	(0.0001)
Second Friend Mentioned			0.0180	0.0223	0.0189	0.0265	0.0215	0.0264
			(0.0395)	(0.0396)	(0.0400)	(0.0408)	(0.0399)	(0.0407)
Freq. of Contact w/ Relatives			0.0070	0.0056	0.0043	0.0032	0.0034	0.0022
			(0.0149)	(0.0147)	(0.0146)	(0.0145)	(0.0144)	(0.0144)
Constant	0.6146***	0.8349***	0.3820	0.6072*	0.2796	0.3068	0.5995+	0.5808+
	(0.0534)	(0.0831)	(0.2909)	(0.2995)	(0.2918)	(0.2922)	(0.3072)	(0.3117)
Observations	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.007	0.016	0.064	0.071	0.074	0.078	0.082	0.083
BIC	4115.7106	4105.4591	4173.0465	4165.5534	4179.6912	4210.7387	4171.7915	4207.6916

Standard errors in parentheses

+  $p < 0.10$ , \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$

Table B4: Binary and Multinomial Logistic Regression Coefficients Predicting Alternative Specifications of Friend's Educational Difference, by Age Met Squared

Model Dependent Variable	(1)	(2)	(3)		(4)	
	Binary Different BA	Binary Different BA	Multinomial, vs Same Ed. R Less Educated	Multinomial, vs Same Ed. R More Educated	Multinomial, vs Same Ed. R Less Educated	Multinomial, vs Same Ed. R More Educated
Age Met	-0.0323 <sup>+</sup> (0.0167)	-0.0354 <sup>+</sup> (0.0198)	-0.0565 <sup>**</sup> (0.0191)	-0.0382 <sup>*</sup> (0.0170)	-0.0535 <sup>*</sup> (0.0261)	-0.0439 <sup>*</sup> (0.0222)
(Age Met) <sup>2</sup>	0.0005 <sup>*</sup> (0.0002)	0.0005 <sup>+</sup> (0.0003)	0.0008 <sup>**</sup> (0.0003)	0.0006 <sup>*</sup> (0.0002)	0.0006 <sup>+</sup> (0.0003)	0.0006 <sup>*</sup> (0.0003)
<i>How Met (vs Work)</i>						
Friends		0.7011 <sup>*</sup> (0.2858)			0.4277 (0.3113)	0.3156 (0.3155)
Kids		-0.2940 (0.4078)			0.3047 (0.4135)	0.4446 (0.3643)
School		-0.0372 (0.2894)			0.1367 (0.3324)	-0.1465 (0.3033)
College		-0.4726 (0.3628)			-0.8006 <sup>*</sup> (0.3596)	0.6145 (0.4003)
Voluntary Org		0.5745 <sup>+</sup> (0.3067)			0.1980 (0.3149)	0.3498 (0.2988)
Religious Org		0.1344 (0.2817)			-0.2861 (0.2776)	0.1388 (0.2864)
Neighbor		0.3589 (0.2570)			0.9877 <sup>**</sup> (0.3679)	0.3191 (0.3150)
Public		0.2566 (0.3735)			0.9616 <sup>*</sup> (0.4426)	0.2019 (0.3773)
Family		0.4538 (0.5199)			0.1061 (0.6311)	1.0958 <sup>*</sup> (0.4906)
Spouse		0.7496 (0.4932)			1.1910 <sup>*</sup> (0.5966)	1.3316 <sup>*</sup> (0.5260)
Female	0.3920 <sup>*</sup> (0.1579)	0.4072 <sup>*</sup> (0.1626)	0.0583 (0.1900)	0.3237 <sup>*</sup> (0.1625)	0.0174 (0.1892)	0.2917 <sup>+</sup> (0.1647)
Age	0.0212 <sup>**</sup> (0.0076)	0.0240 <sup>**</sup> (0.0074)	0.0086 (0.0081)	-0.0054 (0.0076)	0.0114 (0.0083)	-0.0041 (0.0075)
Married	0.2270 (0.1731)	0.2737 (0.1789)	0.0435 (0.1957)	0.3735 <sup>*</sup> (0.1746)	0.1043 (0.2004)	0.3522 <sup>*</sup> (0.1757)
Children in HH	-0.1648 <sup>+</sup> (0.0927)	-0.1408 (0.0961)	-0.1285 (0.1038)	-0.1684 <sup>+</sup> (0.0963)	-0.1433 (0.1075)	-0.1715 <sup>+</sup> (0.0980)
HH Income \$10k	0.0007 (0.0021)	0.0007 (0.0022)	-0.0044 <sup>+</sup> (0.0023)	0.0059 <sup>**</sup> (0.0023)	-0.0046 <sup>+</sup> (0.0024)	0.0067 <sup>**</sup> (0.0023)
<i>Highest Degree (vs College)</i>						
< H.S.	-2.7980 <sup>***</sup> (0.4592)	-2.9034 <sup>***</sup> (0.4649)	-17.8001 <sup>***</sup> (0.3510)	2.5860 <sup>***</sup> (0.3776)	-17.0857 <sup>***</sup> (0.3699)	2.6791 <sup>***</sup> (0.3812)
H.S.	-1.4210 <sup>***</sup> (0.2400)	-1.4857 <sup>***</sup> (0.2451)	-2.3137 <sup>***</sup> (0.3240)	0.3658 (0.2347)	-2.5057 <sup>**</sup> (0.3087)	0.4754 <sup>*</sup> (0.2415)
Some College	-0.0817 (0.1989)	-0.1010 (0.2108)	-0.2212 (0.2145)	0.5784 <sup>*</sup> (0.2333)	-0.3008 (0.2181)	0.6722 <sup>**</sup> (0.2348)
Graduate Degree	-0.7187 <sup>**</sup>	-0.6442 <sup>*</sup>	0.5551 <sup>*</sup>	-17.5351 <sup>***</sup>	0.6761 <sup>**</sup>	-16.6321 <sup>***</sup>

	(0.2615)	(0.2677)	(0.2359)	(0.2355)	(0.2511)	(0.2451)
<i>Employment (vs PT or Not)</i>						
Employed Fulltime	0.2899	0.3221	-0.0997	-0.1706	0.0044	-0.1310
	(0.2037)	(0.2076)	(0.2605)	(0.1993)	(0.2573)	(0.2006)
Retired	-0.2764	-0.3450	-0.3509	-0.0314	-0.3981	-0.0458
	(0.2883)	(0.2945)	(0.3327)	(0.3454)	(0.3427)	(0.3529)
Student	-0.0507	0.0619	-1.0857**	-0.5878+	-0.8446*	-0.5449+
	(0.3079)	(0.3119)	(0.3598)	(0.3120)	(0.3583)	(0.3125)
<i>Race/Ethnicity (vs White NH)</i>						
Black	0.6984*	0.7229*	0.2264	0.6072+	0.2972	0.6215+
	(0.3202)	(0.3265)	(0.4148)	(0.3430)	(0.4174)	(0.3447)
Hispanic	0.3531	0.3521	-0.1124	0.3193	-0.1218	0.3504
	(0.3101)	(0.3110)	(0.3607)	(0.3078)	(0.3675)	(0.3038)
Other Race	-0.1891	-0.1466	-0.3752	-0.0181	-0.3638	0.1580
	(0.4473)	(0.4544)	(0.5034)	(0.7391)	(0.5361)	(0.7304)
Born in U.S.	0.6531	0.7348	0.8754+	-0.0139	0.7288	0.0440
	(0.5521)	(0.5416)	(0.5136)	(0.5604)	(0.5106)	(0.5466)
<i>Region (vs Midwest)</i>						
South	0.2572	0.2054	0.5659*	0.2972	0.5258*	0.2997
	(0.2122)	(0.2166)	(0.2538)	(0.2114)	(0.2576)	(0.2104)
West	0.0076	-0.0800	0.4512+	-0.1285	0.3749	-0.1005
	(0.2308)	(0.2389)	(0.2719)	(0.2589)	(0.2744)	(0.2613)
Northeast	0.1245	0.0596	0.4811	0.1572	0.4363	0.1827
	(0.2353)	(0.2411)	(0.2981)	(0.2451)	(0.3048)	(0.2427)
% of Metro Area R's Race	0.6409	0.5533	-0.0212	-0.3235	0.0112	-0.2492
	(0.6145)	(0.6130)	(0.6312)	(0.5758)	(0.6361)	(0.5675)
% of Local Area R's Race	-0.0888	-0.0636	-0.0161	0.7141	-0.1076	0.7547+
	(0.4440)	(0.4375)	(0.4778)	(0.4595)	(0.4765)	(0.4455)
% of ZIP College Grad	-1.9860*	-1.9874*	-1.0440	-0.2337	-1.1082	-0.3183
	(0.9263)	(0.9606)	(1.0148)	(0.7933)	(1.0320)	(0.8070)
MSA Pop (10k)	0.0004*	0.0004*	-0.0003	-0.0001	-0.0004	-0.0001
	(0.0002)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)
Second Friend Mentioned	0.1405	0.1571	-0.0123	0.2889*	0.0289	0.3069*
	(0.1226)	(0.1274)	(0.1280)	(0.1389)	(0.1333)	(0.1432)
Freq. of Contact w/ Relatives	0.0766	0.0701	-0.0099	-0.0116	-0.0206	-0.0140
	(0.0504)	(0.0507)	(0.0587)	(0.0498)	(0.0593)	(0.0498)
Constant	-2.6732**	-2.8857**	-0.0181	-1.0446	-0.0274	-1.4218
	(0.9736)	(1.0293)	(0.9307)	(0.9570)	(1.0075)	(1.0004)
Observations	1748	1748	1758		1758	
Pseudo R <sup>2</sup>	0.109	0.122	0.195		0.212	
BIC	1808.0327	1859.0623	3322.3653		3410.8285	

Standard errors in parentheses

+  $p < 0.10$ , \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$

Table B5: Logistic Regression Coefficients Testing Schooling- and Work-Friendship-Formation Mediation of Age-Friended Effect on Racial/Ethnic Homophily

<i>Dependent Variable</i>	Racial/Ethnic Different Friend	Met at Work	Racial/Ethnic Different Friend	Racial/Ethnic Different Friend	Met at School/College	Racial/Ethnic Different Friend
Age Met	0.0272** (0.0090)	0.0281*** (0.0052)	0.0237* (0.0093)	0.0272** (0.0090)	-0.1833*** (0.0156)	0.0152 (0.0094)
Met at Work			0.6537** (0.2356)			
Met at School/College						-1.0000** (0.3332)
Female	-0.0234 (0.2380)	-0.1483 (0.1521)	-0.0197 (0.2369)	-0.0234 (0.2380)	-0.0600 (0.2010)	-0.0672 (0.2398)
Age	-0.0159 (0.0126)	0.0077 (0.0073)	-0.0165 (0.0128)	-0.0159 (0.0126)	0.0066 (0.0086)	-0.0146 (0.0130)
Married	0.1838 (0.2576)	0.0469 (0.1631)	0.1554 (0.2559)	0.1838 (0.2576)	0.2991 (0.2138)	0.1528 (0.2572)
Children in HH	-0.1610 (0.1649)	-0.0106 (0.0958)	-0.1529 (0.1633)	-0.1610 (0.1649)	-0.0349 (0.0942)	-0.1750 (0.1676)
HH Income \$10k	-0.0016 (0.0029)	0.0015 (0.0020)	-0.0019 (0.0028)	-0.0016 (0.0029)	0.0026 (0.0028)	-0.0017 (0.0029)
<i>Highest Degree (vs College)</i>						
< H.S.	-0.1730 (0.5109)	-0.3106 (0.3586)	-0.1526 (0.4898)	-0.1730 (0.5109)	-1.1146* (0.4465)	-0.2338 (0.5371)
H.S.	0.3667 (0.3530)	0.0056 (0.2301)	0.3576 (0.3522)	0.3667 (0.3530)	-0.3905 (0.3154)	0.3469 (0.3651)
Some College	0.1855 (0.3567)	0.6407** (0.2230)	0.0646 (0.3518)	0.1855 (0.3567)	-0.3735 (0.2841)	0.1133 (0.3720)
Graduate Degree	-0.1506 (0.4484)	0.2293 (0.2587)	-0.1920 (0.4363)	-0.1506 (0.4484)	0.9314** (0.3291)	-0.0576 (0.4291)
<i>Employment (vs PT or Not)</i>						
Employed Fulltime	-0.1609 (0.2605)	1.2078*** (0.2183)	-0.3042 (0.2661)	-0.1609 (0.2605)	-0.4021 (0.2688)	-0.2126 (0.2656)
Retired	-0.5289 (0.4420)	0.1763 (0.3089)	-0.5074 (0.4453)	-0.5289 (0.4420)	-0.8591* (0.4358)	-0.5050 (0.4516)
Student	0.1121 (0.4352)	0.4878+ (0.2861)	0.1139 (0.4365)	0.1121 (0.4352)	0.7934* (0.3183)	0.3301 (0.4416)

<i>Race/Ethnicity</i>						
<i>(vs White NH)</i>						
Black	-0.5972 (0.4504)	0.1565 (0.3582)	-0.6478 (0.4552)	-0.5972 (0.4504)	0.2032 (0.4585)	-0.6369 (0.4616)
Hispanic	2.2750*** (0.3452)	0.1564 (0.3159)	2.2636*** (0.3338)	2.2750*** (0.3452)	0.0895 (0.4007)	2.3102*** (0.3547)
Other Race	2.4961*** (0.6005)	1.0152* (0.5004)	2.3915*** (0.5932)	2.4961*** (0.6005)	0.1321 (0.5867)	2.5696*** (0.6229)
Born in U.S.	0.9255 (0.6431)	0.8214+ (0.4686)	0.7918 (0.6257)	0.9255 (0.6431)	-0.3023 (0.5357)	0.9250 (0.6331)
<i>Region (vs Midwest)</i>						
South	-0.7156* (0.3420)	-0.3816+ (0.2020)	-0.6638+ (0.3567)	-0.7156* (0.3420)	0.0273 (0.2500)	-0.7365* (0.3439)
West	-0.2355 (0.3513)	-0.0814 (0.2308)	-0.2163 (0.3593)	-0.2355 (0.3513)	-0.3537 (0.2879)	-0.2647 (0.3548)
Northeast	-0.4052 (0.4690)	-0.1264 (0.2480)	-0.3647 (0.4609)	-0.4052 (0.4690)	-0.3583 (0.2920)	-0.4441 (0.4558)
% of Metro Area R's Race	-0.8479 (0.8272)	0.4844 (0.5770)	-0.8346 (0.8189)	-0.8479 (0.8272)	-0.3668 (0.7362)	-0.9286 (0.8056)
% of ZIP R's Race	-2.8936*** (0.5173)	-0.3098 (0.4197)	-2.9476*** (0.5161)	-2.8936*** (0.5173)	0.4030 (0.5367)	-2.8691*** (0.5202)
% of ZIP College Grad	1.1011 (1.1909)	-0.1897 (0.8509)	1.0529 (1.1522)	1.1011 (1.1909)	-0.2058 (1.1558)	1.1264 (1.1988)
MSA Pop (10k)	-0.0001 (0.0003)	-0.0000 (0.0002)	-0.0001 (0.0003)	-0.0001 (0.0003)	0.0000 (0.0003)	-0.0001 (0.0003)
Second Friend Mentioned	0.6479*** (0.1962)	0.1370 (0.1232)	0.6200** (0.1982)	0.6479*** (0.1962)	-0.1488 (0.1511)	0.6477*** (0.1957)
Freq. of Contact w Relatives	0.0469 (0.0790)	-0.0434 (0.0471)	0.0492 (0.0792)	0.0469 (0.0790)	0.0224 (0.0629)	0.0536 (0.0785)
Constant	-1.3089 (1.1184)	-3.8371*** (0.8070)	-1.0865 (1.1153)	-1.3089 (1.1184)	2.9920** (1.0548)	-0.7316 (1.1084)
Observations	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758
Pseudo R <sup>2</sup>	0.441	0.088	0.447	0.441	0.400	0.449
BIC	1116.0529	1988.3601	1113.2653	1116.0529	1316.3157	1109.9511
Mediated Effect			0.0184*			0.1833**



S.E. of Mediated Effect	(0.0075)	(0.0630)
Proportion of Age Met Effect Mediated	0.1281	0.4394

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Standard errors in parentheses

+  $p < 0.10$ , \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$

Table B6: Logistic Regression Coefficients Predicting A Racially Heterogenous Friendship, with Two- and Three-Way Gender Interaction Effects

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Age Met	0.0417*** (0.0119)	0.1362*** (0.0349)	0.0129 (0.0093)	-0.0062 (0.0216)	-0.0337 (0.0267)
Female	0.8638+ (0.4873)	2.6603*** (0.7876)	-0.3254 (0.7180)	-0.0586 (0.2391)	-1.8207 (1.6837)
Female * Age Met	-0.0293* (0.0138)	-0.1584*** (0.0462)			0.0472 (0.0397)
(Age Met) <sup>2</sup>		-0.0013** (0.0005)			
Female * (Age Met) <sup>2</sup>		0.0018** (0.0006)			
<i>How Met</i> (vs Vol./Relig. Org.)					
Family/Friends			-0.4214 (0.7526)	-0.2249 (1.2091)	-2.5932 (1.6357)
School/College			-0.7230 (0.7015)	-1.8721+ (1.0473)	-3.8222** (1.2639)
Work			0.5242 (0.5944)	0.3636 (1.0301)	-2.0909 (1.3199)
Neighbor/Public			0.7580 (0.6656)	-0.4137 (1.0284)	-1.5335 (1.3091)
Family/Friends * Female			0.8010 (0.9352)		4.0484+ (2.2818)
School/College * Female			0.1337 (0.9451)		4.2022* (2.0339)
Work * Female			0.4022 (0.8324)		4.6207* (2.0798)
Neighbor/Public * Female			-0.0746 (0.8886)		2.0455 (1.9115)
Family/Friends * Age Met				0.0057 (0.0315)	0.0699 (0.0435)
School/College * Age Met				0.0609 (0.0400)	0.1554*** (0.0434)
Work * Age Met				0.0115 (0.0258)	0.0817* (0.0342)
Neighbor/Public * Age Met				0.0314 (0.0245)	0.0671* (0.0325)

Family/Friends * Female *					-0.1087 <sup>+</sup>
Age Met					(0.0597)
School/College * Female *					-0.2162 <sup>**</sup>
Age Met					(0.0762)
Work * Female * Age Met					-0.1300 <sup>*</sup>
					(0.0527)
Neighbor/Public * Female *					-0.0632
Age Met					(0.0466)
Age	-0.0153	-0.0165	-0.0159	-0.0139	-0.0188
	(0.0126)	(0.0127)	(0.0130)	(0.0127)	(0.0124)
Married	0.1239	0.0852	0.1500	0.1370	0.1303
	(0.2605)	(0.2622)	(0.2538)	(0.2561)	(0.2578)
Children in HH	-0.1682	-0.2026	-0.1544	-0.1485	-0.1598
	(0.1710)	(0.1791)	(0.1605)	(0.1652)	(0.1672)
HH Income \$10k	-0.0013	-0.0018	-0.0017	-0.0009	-0.0020
	(0.0029)	(0.0029)	(0.0029)	(0.0028)	(0.0029)
<i>Highest Degree (vs College)</i>					
< H.S.	-0.0710	-0.0448	-0.1436	-0.1442	0.0349
	(0.5160)	(0.5157)	(0.4988)	(0.5117)	(0.5125)
H.S.	0.4260	0.3889	0.2741	0.3339	0.3748
	(0.3642)	(0.3592)	(0.3730)	(0.3729)	(0.3665)
Some College	0.2065	0.1569	0.0045	0.0223	0.0390
	(0.3674)	(0.3688)	(0.3646)	(0.3654)	(0.3640)
Graduate Degree	-0.1230	-0.1461	-0.0992	-0.1442	-0.2343
	(0.4435)	(0.4455)	(0.4277)	(0.4445)	(0.4616)
<i>Employment (vs PT or Not)</i>					
Employed Fulltime	-0.1764	-0.2298	-0.2964	-0.3333	-0.3534
	(0.2613)	(0.2631)	(0.2629)	(0.2587)	(0.2657)
Retired	-0.5444	-0.4176	-0.5288	-0.5695	-0.4663
	(0.4475)	(0.4255)	(0.4512)	(0.4409)	(0.4474)
Student	0.0814	0.0445	0.3059	0.2360	0.2014
	(0.4461)	(0.4465)	(0.4449)	(0.4253)	(0.4329)
<i>Race (vs White)</i>					
Black	-0.6448	-0.6073	-0.6959	-0.7006	-0.7732
	(0.4649)	(0.4716)	(0.4579)	(0.4676)	(0.4839)

Hispanic	2.2977*** (0.3439)	2.3377*** (0.3518)	2.3785*** (0.3272)	2.3630*** (0.3436)	2.3916*** (0.3384)
Other Race	2.5654*** (0.6008)	2.6765*** (0.6310)	2.4663*** (0.6079)	2.5095*** (0.6171)	2.5781*** (0.6443)
Born in U.S.	0.8655 (0.6548)	0.9061 (0.6738)	0.6903 (0.6637)	0.6308 (0.6571)	0.6937 (0.6958)
<i>Region (vs Midwest)</i>					
South	-0.7683* (0.3419)	-0.8334* (0.3437)	-0.6704+ (0.3557)	-0.6892+ (0.3628)	-0.7745* (0.3479)
West	-0.2988 (0.3553)	-0.2927 (0.3493)	-0.2189 (0.3608)	-0.2400 (0.3541)	-0.2097 (0.3477)
Northeast	-0.4480 (0.4604)	-0.4871 (0.4688)	-0.4086 (0.4658)	-0.4570 (0.4553)	-0.5044 (0.4529)
% of Metro Area R's Race	-0.7504 (0.8414)	-0.7149 (0.8650)	-0.8209 (0.7975)	-0.6903 (0.8143)	-0.7009 (0.8242)
% of Local Area R's Race	-2.9323*** (0.5328)	-2.9483*** (0.5456)	-3.0029*** (0.5171)	-3.0836*** (0.5176)	-3.1167*** (0.5317)
% of ZIP College Grad	1.1265 (1.1992)	1.0131 (1.2204)	1.0002 (1.1838)	0.8684 (1.1813)	0.9996 (1.1903)
MSA Pop (10k)	-0.0001 (0.0003)	-0.0000 (0.0003)	-0.0001 (0.0003)	-0.0001 (0.0003)	-0.0000 (0.0003)
Second Friend Mentioned	0.6638*** (0.1948)	0.6693*** (0.1972)	0.6501** (0.2029)	0.6441** (0.2001)	0.7199*** (0.2129)
Freq. of Contact w Relatives	0.0379 (0.0803)	0.0343 (0.0813)	0.0458 (0.0771)	0.0361 (0.0790)	0.0392 (0.0789)
Constant	-1.6990 (1.1230)	-2.8747* (1.2391)	-0.5297 (1.3061)	-0.0549 (1.3612)	1.0797 (1.6380)
Observations	1758	1758	1758	1758	1758
Pseudo R <sup>2</sup>	0.445	0.452	0.458	0.459	0.473
BIC	1116.9757	1121.1293	1148.2854	1145.9265	1191.0728

Standard errors in parentheses

+  $p < 0.10$ , \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$