Supplemental Materials 2

Aggregate destabilization and destandardization when excluding college attendance

Mean estimates and SDs of alternative (i.e., with college status excluded) aggregate wave-to-wave social role instability broken out by birth-year group and age group for the full sample as well as by sociodemographic moderators (i.e., gender and educational attainment) are presented in Tables S5 and S6, respectively. Generally speaking, excluding college attendance from the aggregate measures of social role instability and variability did not alter the overall pattern of destabilization and destandardization, aside from the following exception: among the young adult age groups (and the 18-24 age group in particular) excluding college attendance did reduce the magnitude of social role instability and variability as well as the extent of destabilization (i.e., extent of increase in social role instability across cohort) and extent of destandardization (i.e., extent of increase in social role variability across cohort). These findings indicate that for young adults (and the 18-24 age group in particular), college attendance is an important driver of destabilization and destandardization. These findings are not surprising, given that young adults (and those within the 18-24 age group in particular) have increasingly delayed transitions into other social roles, such as marriage and work in order to attend college (Arnett, 2000; 2007; Mortimer, 2015), suggesting that these other social roles should not be drivers of destabilization and destandardization. These findings are also consistent with Table S3 provided in Supplemental Materials 1, which indicates substantial destabilization and destandardization in college attendance among young adults and among the 18-24 age group in particular, regardless of gender and educational attainment. Excluding college attendance did not alter the overall pattern of findings with respect to both gender and educational attainment.

Table S5

Mean and SDs of Alternative Aggregate Social Role Instability (i.e., college attendance excluded) by Data Source, Birth-year Group, and Age Group

	Monitoring the Future (MTF)					Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)							Health and Retirement Survey (HRS)				
				Net D	NET SD Δ/%Δ						Net D	NET SD Δ/%Δ				Net D	NET SD Δ/%Δ
	1950-69	1970-89	≥1990			≤1929	1930-49	1950-69	1970-89	≥1990			≤1929	1930-49	1950-69		
Between ages 18-24	.78 (.55)	.76 (.57)	.76 (.59)	-.04	.04/7%			.36 (.40)	.51 (.49)	.57 (.59)	.48	.19/48%					
Between ages 24-30	.67 (.55)	.71 (.58)	.89 (.78)	.38	.23/42%			.32 (.37)	.42 (.48)	.43 (.63)	.28	.26/70%					
Between ages 30-45	.55 (.52)	.54 (.62)		-.02	.10/19%		.21 (.28)	.24 (.32)	.36 (.41)		.42	.13/46%					
Between ages 45-60						.17 (.26)	.19 (.27)	.19 (.30)			.07	.04/15%		.18 (.33)	.23 (.36)	.15	.03/9%
Between ages 60-75						.11 (.18)	.17 (.24)	.34 (.33)			.98	.15/83%	.12 (.23)	.15 (.23)	.20 (.39)	.25	.16/70%
Between Ages 75+						.06 (.15)	.15 (.24)				.54	.09/60%	.06 (.16)	.10 (.21)		.20	.05/31%

Note. SDs are in parentheses. Net *D*, Net Δ *SD*, and Net %Δ in *SD* compare youngest available cohort to oldest available cohort.

Table S6

Mean and SDs of Alternative Aggregate Social Role Instability (i.e., college attendance excluded) by Data Source, Birth-year Group, Age Group, and Sociodemographic Moderators

	Monitoring the Future (MTF)					Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)							Health and Retirement Survey (HRS)				
	1950-69	1970-89	≥1990	Net D	*NET SD Δ/%Δ*	≤1929	1930-49	1950-69	1970-89	≥1990	Net D	*NET SD Δ/%Δ*	≤1929	1930-49	1950-69	Net D	*NET SD Δ/%Δ*
Men																	
Between ages 18-24	.75 (.56)	.73 (.57)	.66 (.57)	-.16	.01/2%			.36 (.41)	.47 (.48)	.53 (.54)	.38	.13/32%					
Between ages 24-30	.64 (.56)	.69 (.58)	.78 (.77)	.24	.21/38%			.33 (.38)	.41 (.49)	.48 (.60)	.38	.22/58%					
Between ages 30-45	.44 (.52)	.51 (.62)		.13	.10/19%		.21 (.29)	.22 (.34)	.25 (.41)		.11	.12/41%					
Between ages 45-60						.18 (.28)	.19 (.28)	.19 (.31)			.03	.03/10%		.19 (.33)	.26 (.36)	.18	.03/9%
Between ages 60-75						.13 (.20)	.18 (.25)	.36 (.34)			.94	.14/70%	.16 (.25)	.17 (.24)	.16 (.41)	.02	.16/64%
Between ages 75+						.07 (.18)	.06 (.28)				-.05	.10/56%	.07 (.18)	.10 (.21)		.19	.03/17%
Women																	
Between ages 18-24	.78 (.55)	.77 (.57)	.74 (.60)	-.07	.05/09%			.40 (.38)	.53 (.49)	.61 (.58)	.49	.20/53%					
Between ages 24-30	.63 (.55)	.70 (.57)	.83 (.80)	.35	.25/45%			.32 (.36)	.42 (.47)	.48 (.65)	.41	.29/81%					
Between ages 30-45	.53 (.51)	.58 (.61)		.09	.10/20%		.21 (.27)	.26 (.30)	.28 (.40)		.20	.13/48%					
Between ages 45-60						.15 (.24)	.19 (.26)	.19 (.30)			.14	.06/25%		.17 (.33)	.21 (.35)	.11	.02/6%
Between ages 60-75						.08 (.16)	.17 (.23)	.34 (.32)			1.19	.15/88%	.12 (.21)	.13 (.21)	.24 (.37)	.43	.16/76%
Between ages 75+						.05 (.12)	.19 (.21)				.99	.09/75%	.06 (.14)	.09 (.20)		.20	.06/43%
Bachelor's degree																	
Between ages 18-24	.61 (.45)	.64 (.46)	.65 (.46)	.09	.01/2%			.28 (.40)	.50 (.49)	.56 (.56)	.65	.16/40%					
Between ages 24-30	.67 (.51)	.70 (.55)	.93 (.78)	.47	.27/53%			.31 (.33)	.40 (.44)	.46 (.69)	.40	.36/109%					
Between ages 30-45	.45 (.49)	.54 (.60)		.16	.11/22%		.20 (.24)	.19 (.25)	.20 (.36)		.00	.12/50%					
Between ages 45-60						.12 (.26)	.18 (.25)	.17 (.26)			.19	.00/0%		.12 (.33)	.24 (.33)	.32	.00/0%
Between ages 60-75						.11 (.17)	.17 (.24)	.36 (.31)			.92	.14/82%	.16 (.23)	.16 (.23)	.23 (.40)	.21	.17/74%
Between ages 75+						.10 (.15)	.26 (.22)				.87	.07/47%	.07 (.17)	.10 (.19)		.16	.02/12%
No Bachelor's degree																	
Between ages 18-24	.83 (.59)	.83 (.63)	.78 (.63)	-.08	.04/7%			.38 (.39)	.51 (.48)	.58 (.57)	.46	.18/46%					
Between ages 24-30	.60 (.57)	.67 (.61)	.81 (.89)	.36	.32/56%			.33 (.38)	.42 (.50)	.39 (.61)	.15	.23/61%					
Between ages 30-45	.50 (.53)	.56 (.64)		.11	.11/21%		.21 (.28)	.27 (.33)	.32 (.43)		.31	.15/54%					
Between ages 45-60						.17 (.24)	.19 (.27)	.21 (.31)			.14	.07/29%		.20 (.33)	.23 (.36)	.09	.03/9%
Between ages 60-75						.10 (.18)	.17 (.24)	.33 (.34)			1.03	.16/89%	.12 (.23)	.15 (.23)	.19 (.39)	.26	.16/70%
Between ages 75+						.05 (.15)	.10 (.22)				.30	.07/47%	.06 (.15)	.11 (.21)		.24	.06/40%

Notes. SDs are in parentheses. Net D, Net Δ SD, and Net %Δ in SD compare youngest available cohort to oldest available cohort.