

## MISSING FRIENDS

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The article is based on friendship information in Wave I (1994-95) in the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health). The sample includes students from 16 schools. The key information is about friendship links and the characteristics of those friendship networks.

However, the article does not report the number of students who report no friendships and friends that cannot be matched (e.g., outside school) to information necessary for the analysis. The number of students with no friends (is this a valid observation?), missing friends and non-matched friends is non-trivial (Fletcher JM, Ross SL. Estimating the effects of friends on health behaviors of adolescents. *Health Econ.* 2018;27(10):1450-1483. doi:10.1002/hec.3780).

While the article makes both theoretical and empirical contributions, the potential for measurement error regarding friendship networks, which is unlikely to be random, may diminish the empirical contribution. The focus on 16 schools in 1994-95 also limits the external validity of the policy simulations.

I hope the author will provide information about the measurement issue I raise and whether it is likely to be important. Perhaps it is not.

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