

Environmental features and subjective well-being in Italy: a local level analysis

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Abstract

The community environment where people live in is embedded in the factors affecting subjective well-being. Hitherto, the role played by physical and social environment characteristics has been little explored mainly due to the paucity of data at disaggregated level linking these two aspects. This paper aims at investigating the role of local community characteristics on life satisfaction in Italy by using individual level data. The evidence suggests that even controlling for a range of factors, social features of the local community, such as trust in neighbours and service accessibility, significantly influence the entire distribution of life satisfaction.

Keywords: local community, quantile regression models, subjective well-being.

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