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## The Association Between Sibling Relationships and Personality

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## Introduction

- Differences in self perception (specifically aggression) was discovered in participants with siblings, and no difference of intelligence, outgoing personalities, creativity, competitiveness and family orientation (Van Volkom, Guerguis, & Kramer, 2017).
- Sisters were found to have more empathy than the brothers along with higher intimacy, knowledge, and emotional support (Walecka-Matyja, 2017).
- There is a gap in my research between sibling jealousy and depression, sibling negativity, and intimacy in young adulthood (Hamwey & Whiteman, 2020).
- My study examines the similarity of personality to siblings. Some personality traits may include jealousy, outgoingness, competitiveness, and creativity.

## Research Question

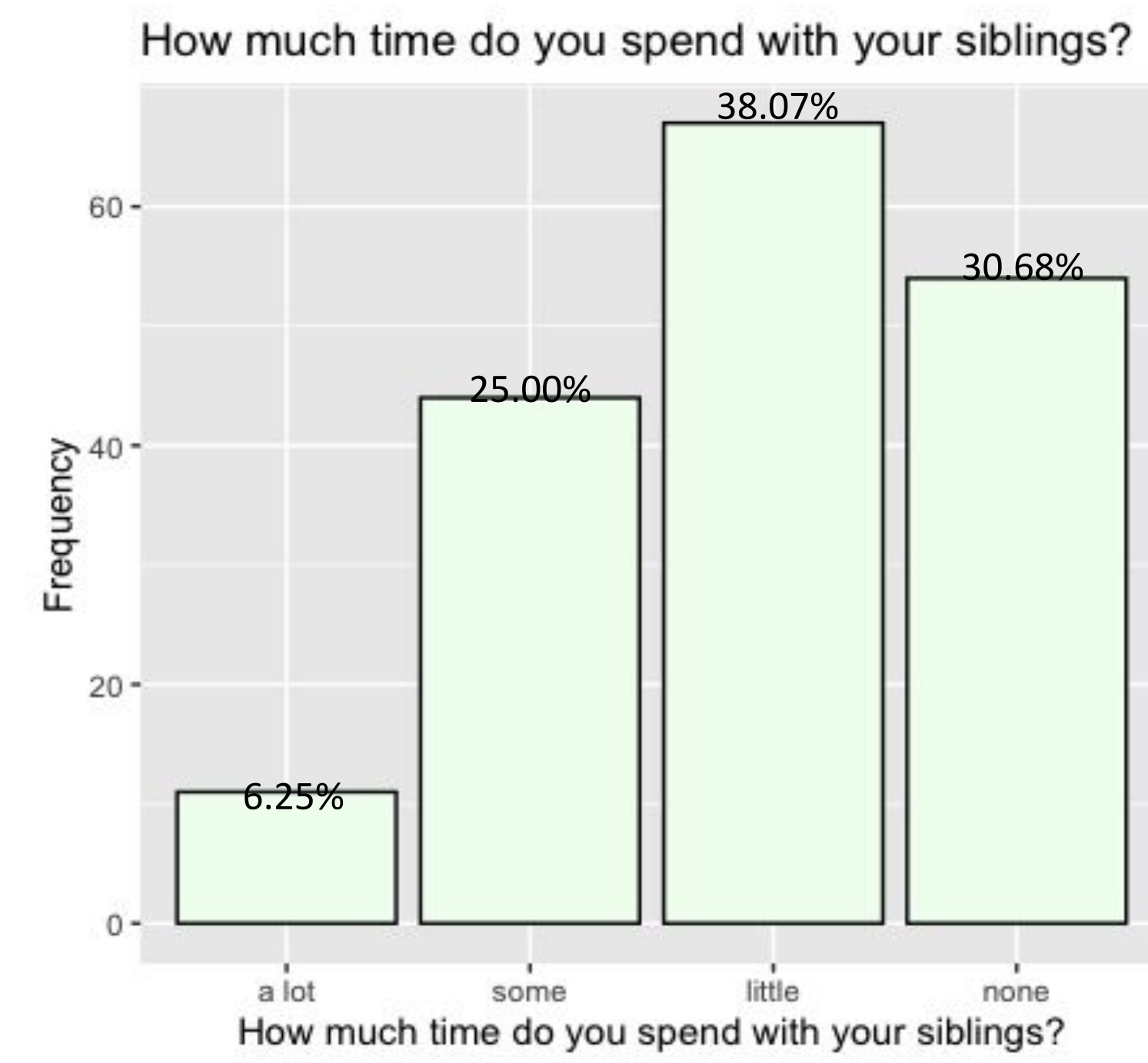
Is there an association between sibling relationships and personality?

## Methodology

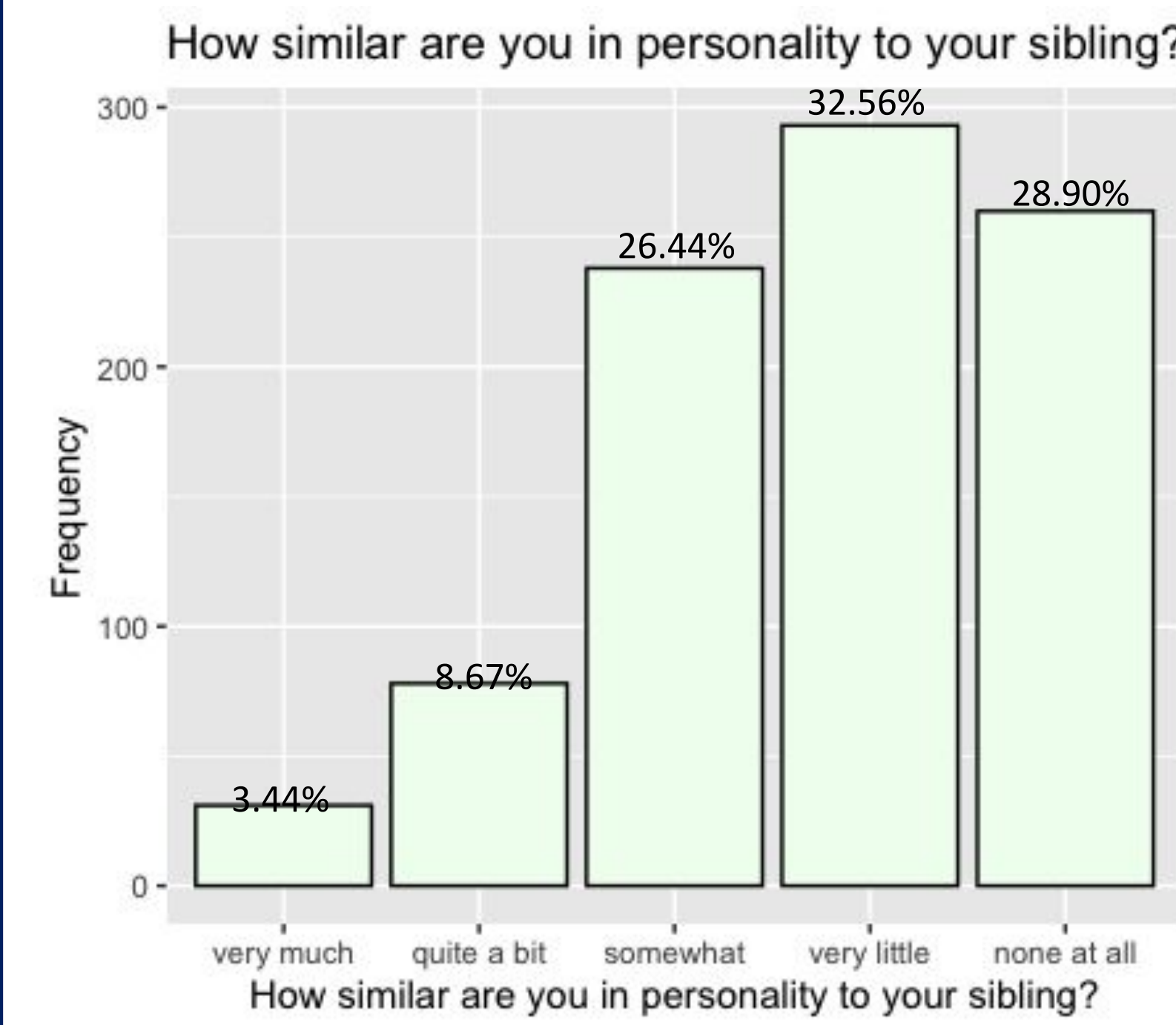
- Sample: Add Health Wave I & IV: 5,114 participants
- Information was collected from a group of adolescents (12 to 21) and when they were in adulthood (25 to 34).
- Procedure: 90 minute computer assisted interview

Question	Response Variable
How many brothers and sisters do you have both living and deceased?	Range:0-20
What child are you, the first, the second, or what?	Range:0-15
How much time do you and your sibling spend together?	None=0; A Lot=1
What level of outgoingness would you describe yourself as	Not Outgoing=1; Very Outgoing=10
How much time do you and your siblings spend with the same or different friend groups?	None=1; A lot=5
How similar are you in personality to your sibling?	Not at All =1; Very Much=5
I feel others' emotions.	Strongly Disagree=1; Strongly Agree=5

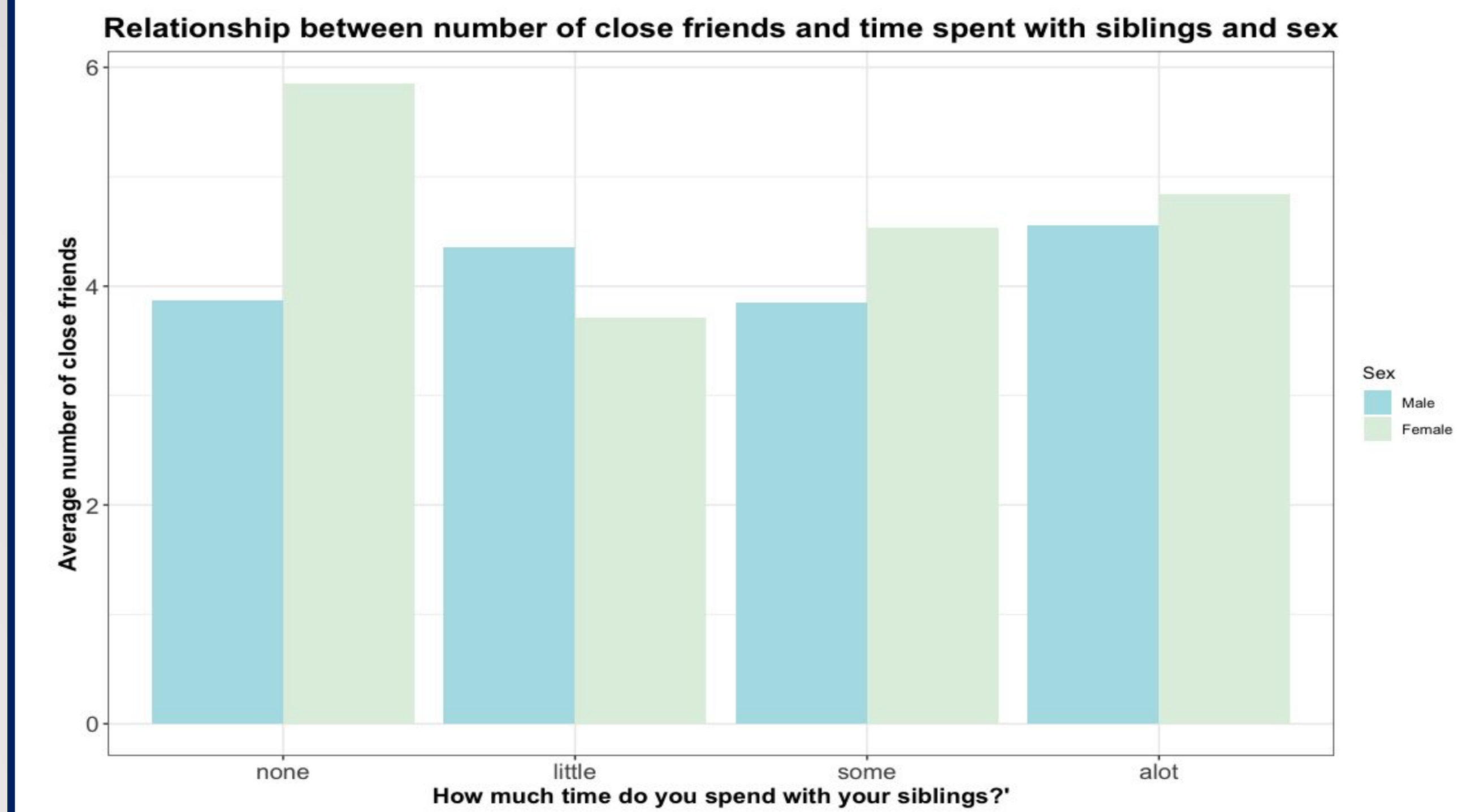
## How much time do you spend with your siblings?



## How similar are you in personality to your sibling?



## Relationship between time spent with siblings and number of close friends, and biological sex



**Time with Siblings:**  
F(3,170)=.456, p=.713  
**Sex:** F(1,166)=.661, p=.525  
**Insignificant interaction:**  
F(3,166)=.714, p=.545

The relationship between the time the participants spent with their siblings and the number of close friends and sex showed an insignificant interaction.

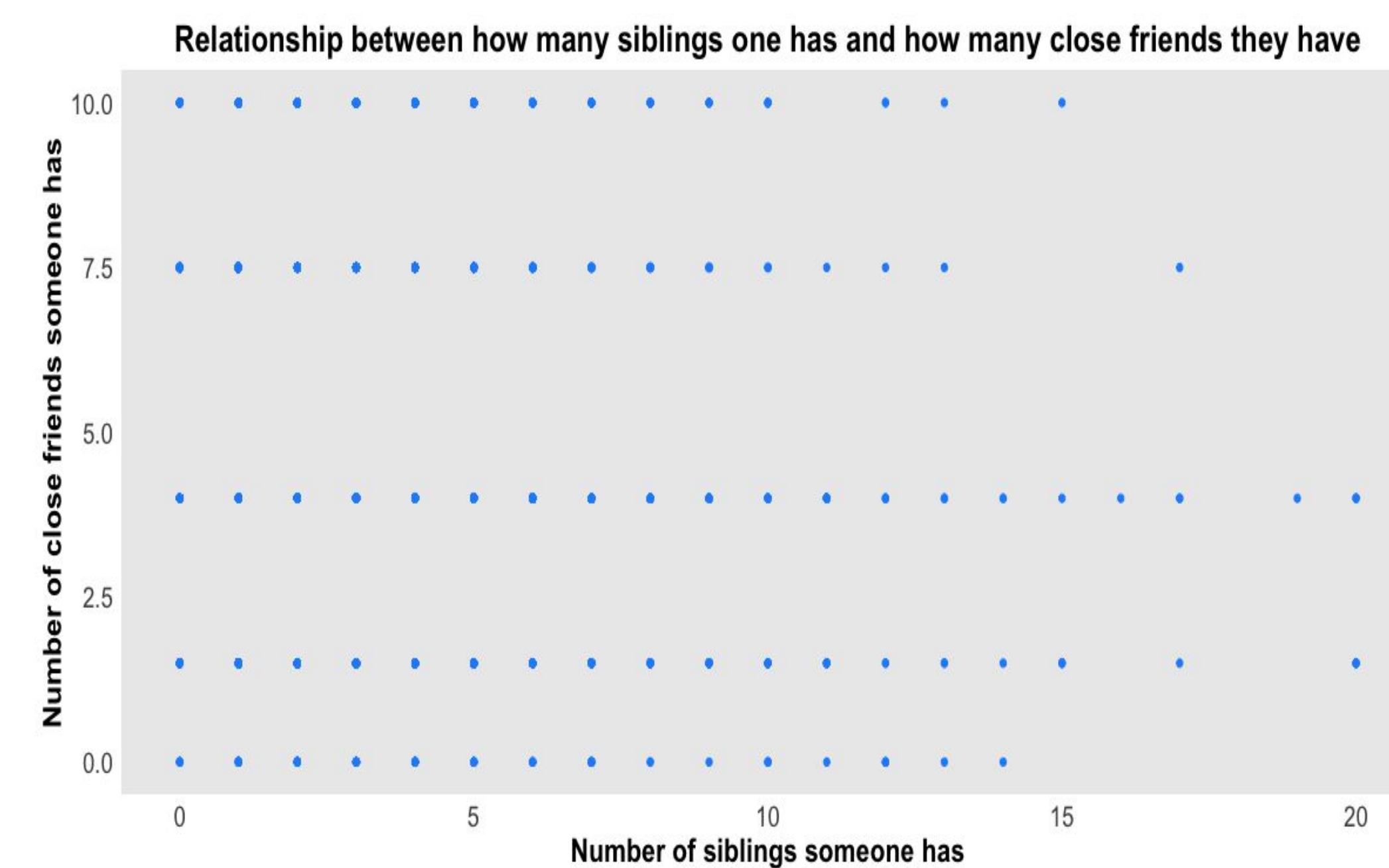
## Relationship between time spent with siblings and the number of close friends

### Correlation

$$r(5053) = -0.12 \quad p < .001$$

$$r^2 = -.0144$$

There was a statistically significant weak negative correlation between how many siblings one has and how many close friends they have.



## Take Home Message

There is very little evidence that shows that there is a correlation between time spent with siblings and personality development.

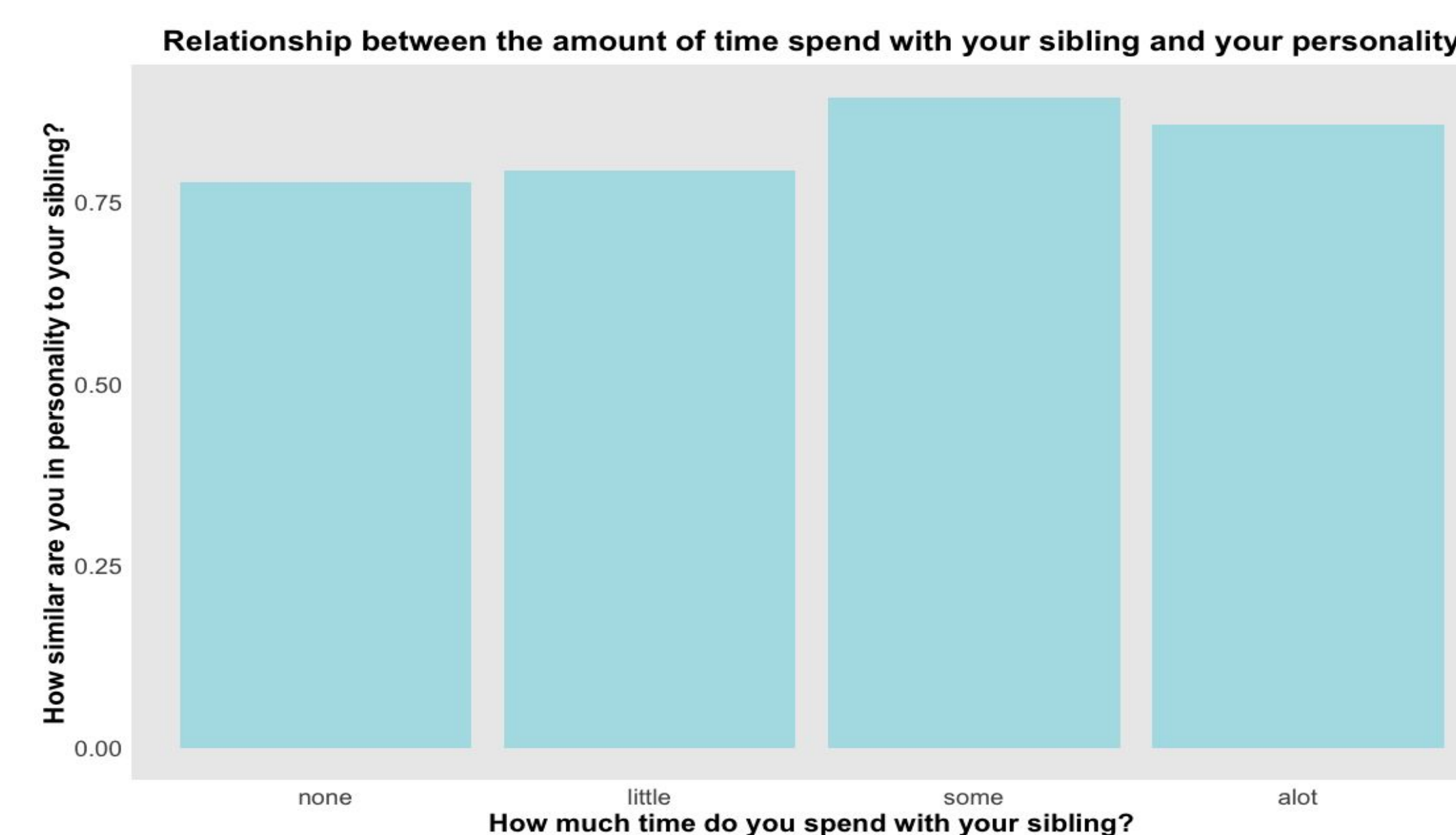
## Relationship between amount of time spent with siblings and similar personalities

### Chi Square

$$\chi^2(3) = 2.1277$$

$$p = .5463$$

There was no statistical relationship between the time you spend with your sibling and similar personalities.



## Discussion

- The association between the time you spend with your siblings has an effect on the amount of close friends a person has. When studying sex as a third variable, there was no significance.
- There was no found evidence of time you spend with with your siblings affecting personality.

## References

- Van Volkom, M., Guerguis, A. J., & Kramer, A. (2017). Sibling relationships, birth order, and personality among emerging adults. *Journal of Psychology*, 5(2), 21-28.
- Walecka-Matyja, K. (2017). Relationship with siblings as a predictor of empathy and humor styles in early adulthood. *Archives of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy*, 19(3), 43-51.
- Hamwey, M. K., & Whiteman, S. D. (2020). Jealousy links comparisons with siblings to adjustment among emerging adults. *Family Relations*, 70(2), 483-497.