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The Association of Maternal Relationships and Acts of Violence in Adults

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Introduction

- Through research it has been found that people who do not feel close to their parents are more likely to react with violence (Cano-Lozano et al., 2020)
- Studies have also shown that people who reported adverse relationships as children, tend to have more violence-related outcomes (Duke, 2010).
- There is currently a gap in explaining the association between maternal closeness and violent tendencies.
- This study is meant to help fill that gap and bring cognizance to the relationship between maternal closeness and violence.

Research Questions

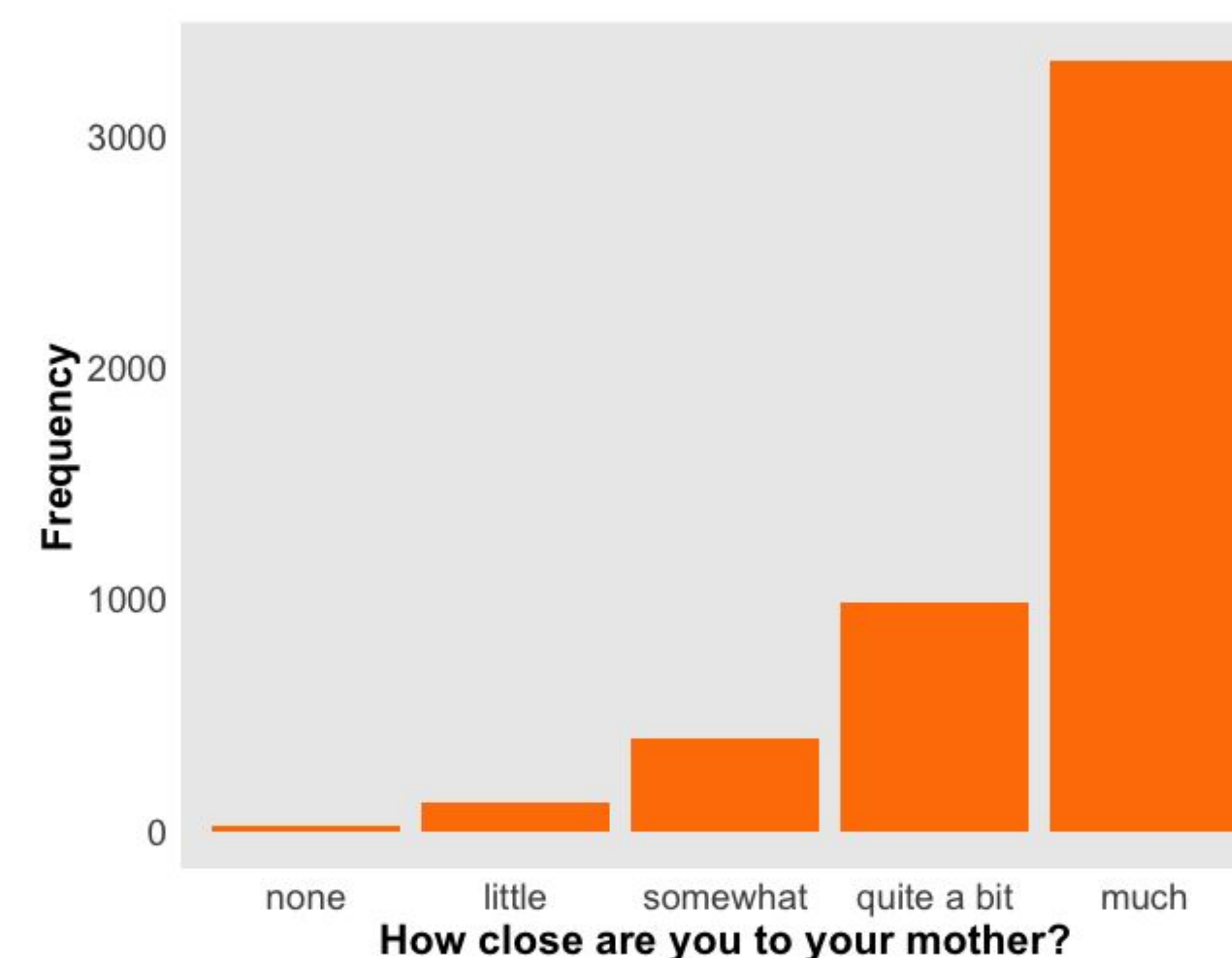
Is there an association between relationships with mother figures and violence?

Methodology

Sample:

- AddHealth Wave IV
 - 5,114 participants between ages 24 and 32.
 - 46.01% male, 53.99% Female.
 - Data was collected via in-home interviews and using CAPI/CASI instruments.
- Measurements:
- Relationships: Participants were asked how close they felt to their mother figure.
 - Violence: Participants were asked how many fights they've been involved in, and how many people they've stabbed/shot.

How close do you feel to your mother figure?



Percentages

much: 65%
quite a bit: 19.2%
somewhat: 7.72%
little: 2.4%
none: 0.39%

Is there a relationship between maternal closeness and fighting?



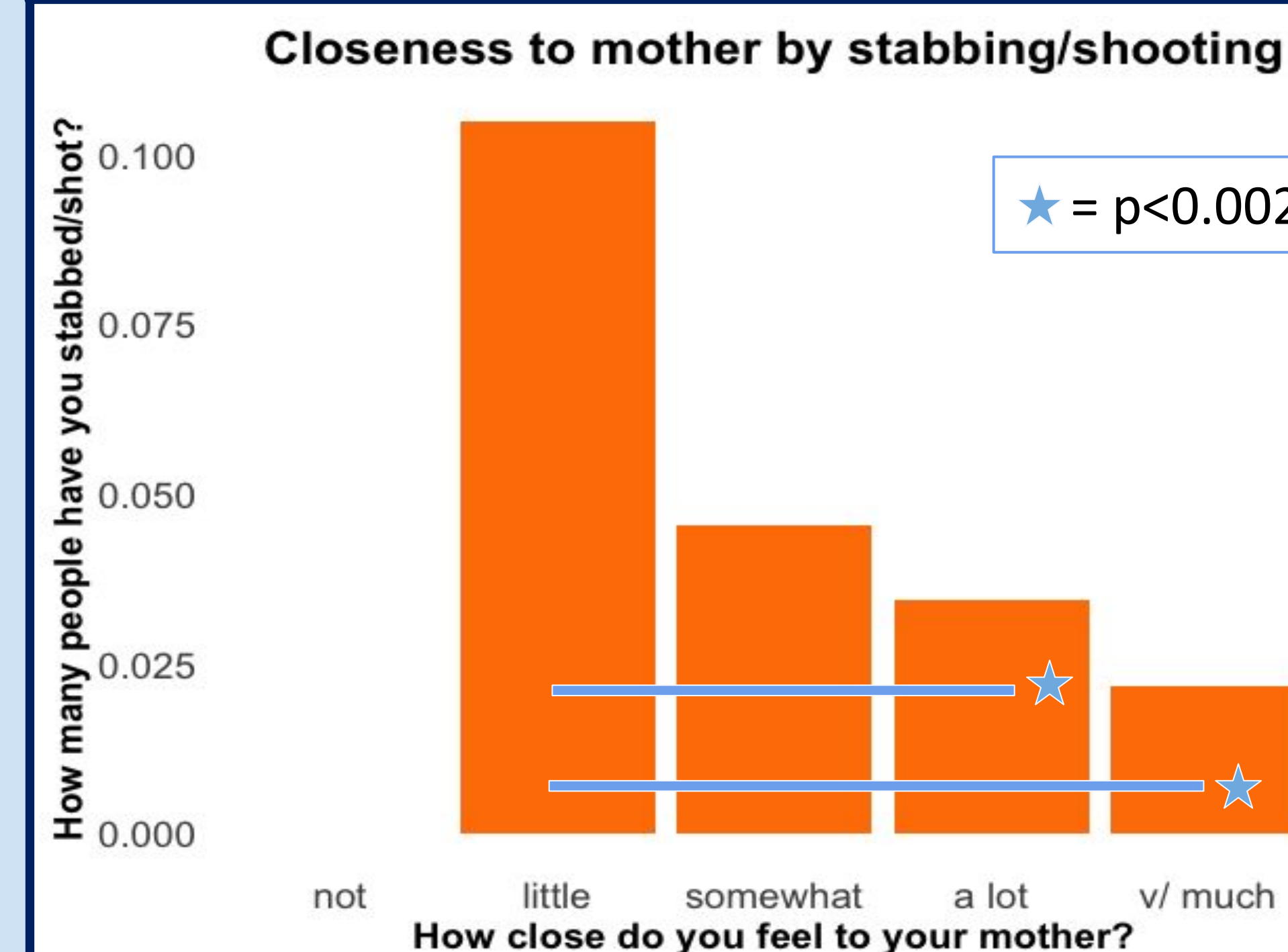
Chi Square:

$X^2(4)=7.146$

$P=0.1284$

I found no evidence of a relationship between closeness to a mother and frequency of fighting.

Is there a relationship between maternal closeness and stabbing/shooting people?



ANOVA

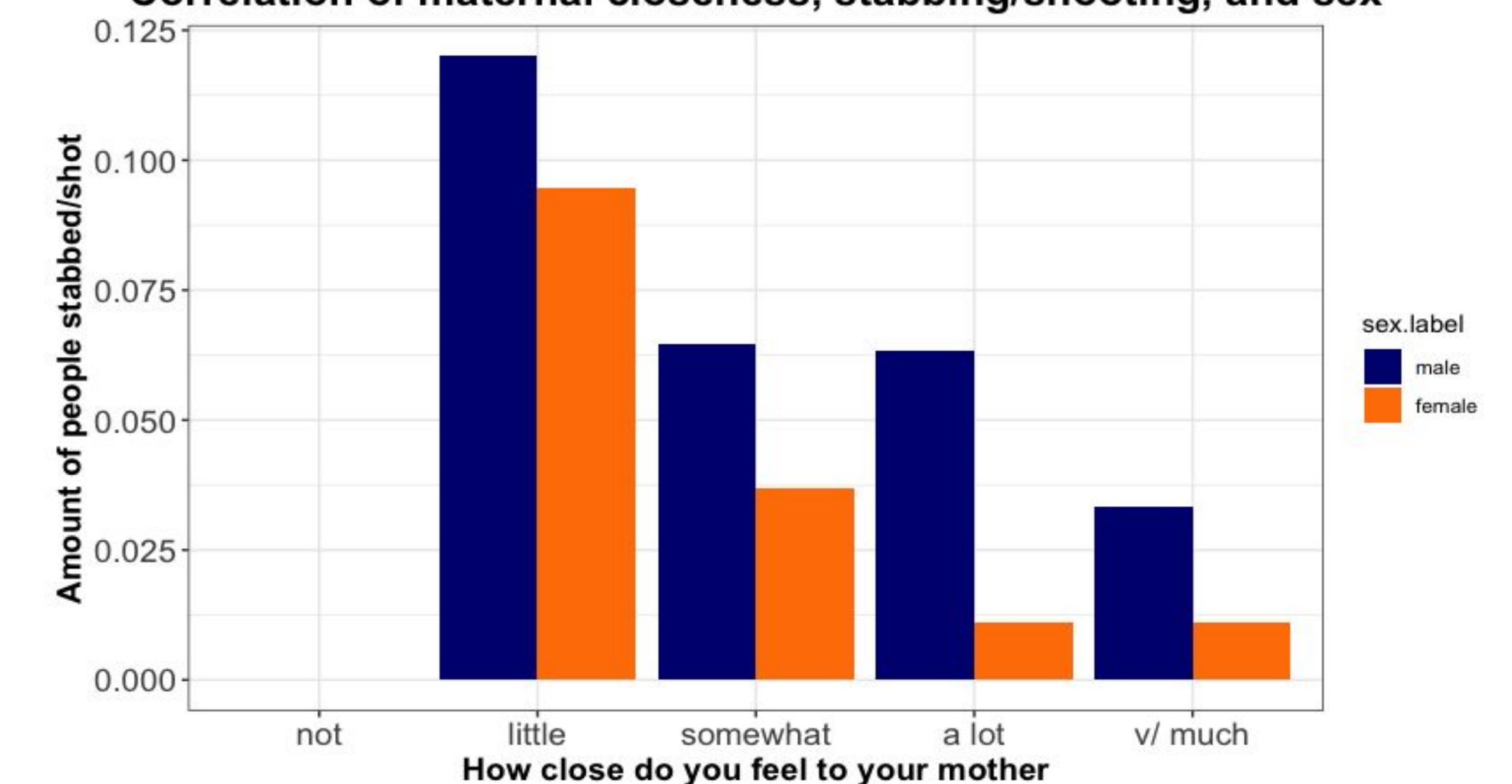
$F(4, 4842)=4.616$

$P=0.001$

I have a negative correlation between how close people feel to their mothers and how many people they've stabbed or shot.

Is there correlation between maternal closeness, stabbing/ shooting and gender?

Correlation of maternal closeness, stabbing/shooting, and sex



ANOVA with Moderation

Main Effect of Closeness to Mother: $F(4, 4837)=4.63$ $P<0.001$

Main Effect of Sex: $F(1, 4837)=17.5$ $P<0.001$

Interaction: $F(4, 4837)=0.751$ $P=0.55$

After I added sex as a variable I found no evidence of an interaction when adding sex as a moderator. I did find however that males were more likely to stab or shoot people.

There is a negative correlation between people's relationships with their mothers and how many people they've stabbed/shot.

Discussion

- My finding that people who are less close to their mother agrees with prior literature that parental relationships do have a negative affect violence.
- People who were closer to their mother had a lower frequency of stabbing or shooting.
- For studies in the future, I would recommend investigating a wider range of violent activity

References

- Cano-Lozano, M. C., Rodriguez-Diaz, F. J., León, S. P., & Contreras, L. (2020). Analyzing the relationship between child-to-parent violence and perceived parental warmth. *Frontiers in psychology, 11*, 2998. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.590097/full>
- Duke, N. N. (2010). Adolescent violence perpetration: associations with multiple types of adverse childhood experiences. *Pediatrics, 125*(4), 778-786. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2921159/>