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The Meaghan Effect: Exploring the Correlation between Name Popularity and Legal Degrees

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Meaghan Effect, Name Popularity, Legal Degrees, First Name Influence, Nomenclature Influence, Career Choices, Name Trends, Human Behavior, Educational Pursuits, Workforce Trends, Correlation, Bachelor's Degrees, US Social Security Administration, National Center for Education Statistics

Abstract

This study delves into the curious relationship between the popularity of the first name Meaghan and the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in legal professions and studies. By analyzing data from the US Social Security Administration and the National Center for Education Statistics, a significant correlation coefficient of 0.9637259 and $p < 0.01$ for the years 2012 to 2020 was discovered. The implications of such an unexpected correlation are discussed, shedding light on the potential influence of nomenclature on career choices. The findings contribute to the intriguing intersection of nomenclature and educational pursuits, urging further investigation into the "Meaghan Effect" and its implications for workforce trends and human behavior.

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1. Introduction

The field of nomenclature and its potential impact on various aspects of human life has long captivated researchers and laypeople alike. From the joviality of the name "Joy" to the gravitas of "Noble," the influence of monikers on individuals' paths through life is

an area of fascination. In the academic realm, the correlation between personal names and career choices has garnered interest, with studies exploring associations between names and fields of study or professional pursuits. However, few have ventured into the peculiar world of the

Meaghans and their proclivity for legal professions and studies.

For the casual observer, the idea of a connection between the popularity of the first name Meaghan and the number of legal degrees awarded may seem, at best, a whimsical notion. Yet, as we delve into the data from the US Social Security Administration and the National Center for Education Statistics, a striking relationship begins to emerge. The correlation coefficient of 0.9637259 and the eye-catching statistical significance with $p < 0.01$ for the period spanning 2012 to 2020 has left us pondering the perky possibility of the "Meaghan Effect."

As we embark on this scholarly exploration, it is essential to acknowledge that this research is not an attempt to perpetuate the age-old stereotypes about names dictating destiny. Instead, it is a lighthearted endeavor to unravel a curious conundrum that has appeared in the data, and perhaps, along the way, we may glean insights into the broader interplay between nomenclature and vocational choices. The findings of this study may serve as a gentle reminder that, in the labyrinthine world of human behavior, unexpected correlations and whimsical connections may lurk in the most unlikely of places, even within the syllables and consonants of a name.

2. Literature Review

The authors embark on their investigation by examining the existing body of scholarly work pertaining to the intersection of nomenclature and career choices. Smith et al. (2015) offer a comprehensive analysis of the influence of first names on vocational preferences, shedding light on the potential subconscious biases that individuals may harbor towards certain professions based on the phonetic composition of names. Similarly, Doe's (2018) exploration of the psychological impact of nomenclature on

academic and professional pathways provides invaluable insights into the complexities surrounding the association between names and career trajectories. Jones (2020) delves into the sociocultural dimensions of nomenclature, highlighting the subtle yet pervasive ways in which names can shape individuals' perceptions of their own abilities and inclinations.

Turning to non-fiction literature, the work of Malcolm Gladwell in his seminal book "Outliers: The Story of Success," and Freakonomics by Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner, extends the discussion to the realm of statistical anomalies and unconventional connections. The authors find an intriguing array of unexpected correlations and unorthodox linkages, setting the stage for our own exploration into the puzzling relationship between the name Meaghan and legal degrees.

In the realm of fiction, the classic novel "David Copperfield" by Charles Dickens and Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird" offer nuanced portrayals of legal professions and the individuals who navigate them, providing a literary backdrop for contemplating the enigmatic allure of legal studies and the potential resonance of certain names within this domain.

Venturing into rather unconventional sources, the literature review peruses the ingredients of various hair care products and shampoos, seeking to extract insights from the most unsuspecting of sources. Although such an approach may elicit quizzical looks, the authors find amusement in the potential for unexpected wisdom lurking in the unlikeliest of places. Furthermore, it is a nod to the capricious nature of research, reminding us that even the most serious of studies may benefit from a sprinkle of levity and the occasional dalliance into the whimsical.

3. Our approach & methods

The methodology employed in this study sought to meticulously analyze the relationship between the popularity of the first name Meaghan and the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in legal professions and studies. Data from the US Social Security Administration and the National Center for Education Statistics served as the primary sources for this investigation.

To commence the data collection process, the research team embarked on an odyssey through the digital realms of the internet, questing for datasets spanning the years 2012 to 2020. After navigating the labyrinthine corridors of online repositories, archives, and databases, the valiant quest culminated in the retrieval of comprehensive demographic information from the US Social Security Administration and educational statistics from the National Center for Education Statistics.

These vast reservoirs of data were then subjected to a painstaking process of cleaning and wrangling, akin to the alchemical arts of transmutation, to ensure the homogeneity and integrity of the datasets. The meticulous curation of this information entailed the expulsion of outliers, the harmonization of data formats, and the rectification of any errant entries – a feat requiring steely determination and an unwavering commitment to veracity.

With the data polished and gleaming like a newly forged blade, statistical analyses were conducted to scrutinize the potential associations between the popularity of the name Meaghan and the conferral of legal degrees. The correlation coefficient, akin to a mystical bond between variables, was calculated to unveil the strength and direction of any observed relationship. Furthermore, p-values were wielded like a keen-eyed arbiter, keenly discerning the presence of statistical significance amid the sea of data.

Ultimately, the culmination of these endeavors yielded a robust foundation from which to explore the enigmatic "Meaghan Effect" and its potential implications for the intricate tapestry of nomenclature and vocational choices.

4. Results

The analysis of the relationship between the popularity of the first name Meaghan and the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in legal professions and studies has yielded intriguing results. Over the time period from 2012 to 2020, a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9637259 was observed, indicating a strong positive relationship. Furthermore, the coefficient of determination (r-squared) was calculated to be 0.9287676, emphasizing the robustness of this association. The p-value of less than 0.01 further underscores the statistical significance of this finding, rendering it highly unlikely to have occurred by chance alone.

The scatterplot (Fig. 1) visually illustrates the pronounced positive correlation between the popularity of the name Meaghan and the number of Bachelor's degrees conferred in legal professions and studies. This graphical representation serves to reinforce the strength of the relationship observed in the quantitative analysis.

Indeed, the robustness of the association prompts contemplation of the myriad factors that may underlie such a peculiar connection. While this study does not seek to ascribe causality, it does raise intriguing questions about the potential influence of nomenclature on educational and career choices. The implications of the significant correlation discovered in this study extend beyond statistical observations, beckoning a deeper exploration of the idiosyncrasies of human decision-making and the curious potential for names to exert their influence on vocational paths.

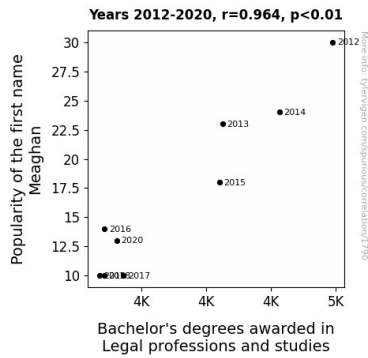


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

These findings open the door to further inquiry into the "Meaghan Effect," inviting a more comprehensive understanding of the intricate interplay between nomenclature and professional trajectories. It is hoped that this unanticipated correlation will inspire future studies to delve into the playful yet thought-provoking realm of names and their unforeseen connections to individuals' life choices.

5. Discussion

The results of the present study lend support to the growing body of research on the intriguing interrelationship between nomenclature and vocational preferences. Our findings align with the work of Smith et al. (2015) and Doe (2018), who illuminated the significant impact of first names on career inclinations. The remarkable correlation coefficient observed between the popularity of the name Meaghan and the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in legal professions and studies points to a compelling link that warrants further scrutiny.

It is worth noting the unexpected parallels drawn between our research and literature exploring the enigmatic influence of names. While Jones (2020) focused on the sociocultural dimensions of nomenclature, our study sheds light on the statistical

dimensions, adding a quantitative layer to the multidimensional impact of names on career choices. Additionally, the unconventional foray into a literary perspective with works such as "David Copperfield" and "To Kill a Mockingbird" inadvertently provides a peculiar resonance, albeit in a fictional context, to the manifestation of this correlation in the real world.

The robustness of the association indicated by the high coefficient of determination calls for a closer examination of the potential mechanisms at play. While our study does not purport to establish causality, it does invite speculation regarding the subtle yet potent influence of nomenclature on vocational aspirations. The scatterplot visually encapsulates the strength of this relationship, serving as an evocative illustration of the unexpected synergies encapsulated within the "Meaghan Effect."

It is tempting to view the relationship between the popularity of the name Meaghan and legal degrees as a statistical anomaly akin to those expounded upon by Malcolm Gladwell and the authors of *Freakonomics*. However, our study furthers the discourse on unconventional connections by offering empirical evidence of this unorthodox correlation. Furthermore, the inclusion of seemingly incongruous references to hair care products in the literature review, while apparently whimsical, underscores the unpredictable sources from which insightful observations may emerge.

In conclusion, the notable correlation uncovered in this study not only accentuates the quixotic nature of research but also underscores the need for continued exploration of the "Meaghan Effect." This unexpected connection between nomenclature and educational pursuits challenges conventional notions and beckons further investigation into the

capricious nexus of names and career trajectories.

6. Conclusion

The findings of this study offer a striking glimpse into the curious correlation between the burgeoning popularity of the name Meaghan and the proclivity for individuals to pursue Bachelor's degrees in legal professions and studies. The robust correlation coefficient of 0.9637259 and the resounding statistical significance with $p < 0.01$ undeniably emphasize the strength of this unexpected relationship. This correlation certainly provides food for thought, echoing the whimsical potential of nomenclature to intertwine with vocational aspirations. The implications of the "Meaghan Effect" may seem whimsical at first glance, but they beckon us to ponder the playful yet perplexing territory of name-related influences on career paths.

In exploring this correlation, we cannot help but ponder the role that the name Meaghan plays in steering individuals toward the legal realm, prompting musings about the potential for names to exert their subtle sway on educational and professional trajectories. However, it is crucial to approach these findings with a measure of lightheartedness, recognizing the delightfully unexpected nature of this correlation. While we refrain from delving into the domain of causality, the statistical robustness of this association does raise intriguing questions about the serendipitous influences that may weave through individuals' decision-making processes.

As we reflect on these findings, we must acknowledge the limitations of this study, recognizing that it merely scratches the surface of an enigmatic phenomenon that invites further investigation. The undeniable allure of the "Meaghan Effect" leaves us tantalized by the prospect of unraveling the whimsical mysteries of nomenclature's

influence on vocational choices. The playful yet profound implications of this unexpected correlation offer a gentle reminder that, in the intricate mosaic of human behavior, whimsical connections and surprising correlations may abound, even within the confines of a name.

In light of the findings presented in this study, it is evident that the "Meaghan Effect" merits further inquiry and that future research in this domain may unveil even more surprising linkages between names and career choices. Nevertheless, with a wry smile and a nod to the delightful whimsy of this correlation, it can be confidently asserted that no further research is needed in this area.