

# The Art of Success: A Meme-ingful Connection Between Master's Degrees in Liberal Arts and the Popularity of 'Success Kid'

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*This study investigates the correlation between the number of Master's degrees awarded in Liberal Arts and the popularity of the 'success kid' meme. Utilizing data from the National Center for Education Statistics and Google Trends, our research team uncovered a noteworthy association. Our findings reveal a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9492592 and statistical significance ( $p < 0.01$ ) for the period spanning 2012 to 2021. While this connection may appear implausible at first glance, our analysis suggests a compelling linkage between the pursuit of advanced education in Liberal Arts and the propagation of internet memes. This illuminating investigation sheds light on the unexpected interplay between academic achievements and popular culture, reminding us that scholarly pursuits and viral phenomena may not be as unrelated as they initially seem.*

In the ever-evolving landscape of internet culture, memes have become a ubiquitous and influential force, shaping the way we communicate and express ourselves online. Among the countless memes that have captured the attention of netizens, 'Success Kid' stands out as an enduring symbol of triumph and victory in the digital realm. With his determined expression and triumphant fist pump, this meme has permeated social media platforms, embodying moments of unexpected success and triumph with a touch of humor.

As researchers, we are constantly seeking to unravel the mysteries of human behavior and societal trends, often encountering unexpected connections and correlations in the vast sea of data. In this study, we set out to explore the unlikely relationship between the pursuit of Master's degrees in Liberal Arts and the rise of the 'Success Kid' meme. While this correlation may seem as implausible as a unicorn in a statistics seminar, our investigation has uncovered a remarkable

association that underscores the intricate interplay between academic pursuits and the dissemination of internet culture.

The intersection of academia and online phenomena may appear to be as incongruous as mixing oil and water, but as the saying goes, "Correlation does not imply causation" – unless, of course, you're talking about the correlation between the popularity of 'Success Kid' and Master's degrees in Liberal Arts! Our study aims to shed light on this unlikely connection and provide a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics that underlie the propagation of internet memes in the digital age.

With a wink to the world of statistical analysis and a nod to the capricious nature of human behavior, we invite you to join us in delving into the 'meme-ingful' connection between academic pursuits and viral sensations. As we embark on this research journey, let us remember that sometimes, the most unexpected correlations can lead to the

most enlightening discoveries – or at the very least, the most entertaining ones!

## LITERATURE REVIEW

The relationship between master's degrees in liberal arts and the popularity of the 'success kid' meme has received limited scholarly attention. However, recent studies have shed some light on this seemingly incongruous connection. Smith (2018) conducted a survey on internet meme trends and noted an intriguing uptick in 'success kid' references coinciding with periods of heightened interest in liberal arts education. Doe (2019) similarly observed a correlation between academic pursuit and the propagation of internet memes, although the nature of this association remained enigmatic.

Jones (2020) delved into the realm of popular culture and its intersection with academic disciplines, positing a potential link between the dissemination of memes and the intellectual landscape. These early investigations laid the groundwork for our in-depth exploration of the underlying dynamics between the pursuit of advanced education in liberal arts and the proliferation of the 'success kid' meme.

In "The Art of Mastering Memes," the authors find a surprising correlation between the number of master's degrees awarded in liberal arts and the virality of 'success kid' memes across various online platforms. The study offers an insightful analysis of the nuanced relationship between academic achievement and internet culture, prompting a reconsideration of the dichotomy between scholarly pursuits and digital phenomena.

Turning to non-fiction literature, "The Liberal Arts Renaissance" by Dr. E. N. Genius provides a comprehensive overview of the historical significance of liberal arts education, offering a thought-provoking backdrop for our investigation. Additionally, the seminal work "Memes and Modernity" by Dr. Ima Nerdtity delves into the cultural impact of internet memes, hinting at potential connections with academic domains.

On the fictional front, "The Odyssey of Success: A Liberal Arts Tale" and "Meme Wars: The Academic Gambit" present imaginative narratives intertwining liberal arts education and internet memes in unexpected ways. While purely speculative, these literary works offer creative contexts for contemplating the convergence of academia and viral phenomena.

In the realm of animated entertainment, the cartoon series "The Adventures of Liberal Arts Larry" and the children's show "Meme Masters: Academic Edition" playfully explore the juxtaposition of academic pursuits and internet culture, hinting at the whimsical possibilities that underlie our scholarly investigation.

The diverse array of sources reflects a multifaceted approach to our exploration of the connection between master's degrees in liberal arts and the popularity of the 'success kid' meme, illuminating this intriguing intersection with both scholarly rigor and a touch of whimsy.

## METHODOLOGY

This study employed a multifaceted research approach to analyze the relationship between the number of Master's degrees awarded in Liberal Arts and the popularity of the 'Success Kid' meme. The data collection process involved harnessing the expansive and dynamic landscape of the internet, where memes and academic statistics intermingle in a digital dance of data.

First, the National Center for Education Statistics was utilized to compile the annual counts of Master's degrees conferred in the field of Liberal Arts from 2012 to 2021. This data was then meticulously examined and organized, much like concocting an elaborate and arcane potion of statistical significance. Subsequently, Google Trends was harnessed to track the historical search interest in the 'Success Kid' meme over the same time period. Unraveling the intricacies of Google search algorithms, our research team delved into the digital depths, akin to embarking on a quest to

decode a cryptic and whimsical language of internet queries.

To establish a temporal alignment between the academic accolades and meme mania, the data from the National Center for Education Statistics and Google Trends was harmonized with meticulous precision, resembling the intricate synchronization of celestial bodies in an astronomical ballet. This alignment enabled the comparative analysis of Master's degrees awarded in Liberal Arts and the ebbs and flows of 'Success Kid' meme popularity, unraveling the unseen threads that weave the fabric of internet culture and academic achievements.

The statistical analysis encompassed an array of robust methods, including Pearson's correlation coefficient and a series of time-series analyses. These analyses illuminated the degree of association between the variables of interest, akin to uncovering the entwined destinies of two protagonists in a captivating narrative. Through these quantitative techniques, our research team was able to discern patterns and trends that might otherwise elude casual observation, navigating the labyrinthine pathways of data with the precision of an intrepid explorer armed with statistical compass and astute insight.

The comprehensive exploration of these datasets and rigorous statistical scrutiny yielded the revelatory findings that form the crux of this study, shedding light on the unexpected intersection between academic pursuits and viral phenomena in the digital age. Thus, as we present the findings and implications of our investigation, we invite our readers to journey with us on a quest that intertwines the empirical rigors of statistical analysis with the whimsical and capricious nature of internet culture.

## RESULTS

The analysis of the data yielded a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9492592 between the number of Master's degrees awarded in Liberal Arts and the popularity of the 'Success Kid' meme. This

finding suggests a remarkably strong relationship between these seemingly disparate domains. It appears that the pursuit of advanced education in Liberal Arts and the viral dissemination of internet memes are not as unrelated as one might imagine.

Furthermore, the r-squared value of 0.9010931 indicates that a substantial proportion of the variability in the popularity of the 'Success Kid' meme can be explained by the number of Master's degrees awarded in Liberal Arts. This statistical relationship underscores the considerable influence of academic pursuits in shaping the online cultural landscape.

The level of statistical significance ( $p < 0.01$ ) further validates the robustness of the observed association, affirming that the correlation is unlikely to have occurred by chance alone. This result provides compelling evidence for the meaningful connection between educational achievements in Liberal Arts and the widespread popularity of internet memes, challenging conventional assumptions about the separation of scholarly endeavors and digital phenomena.

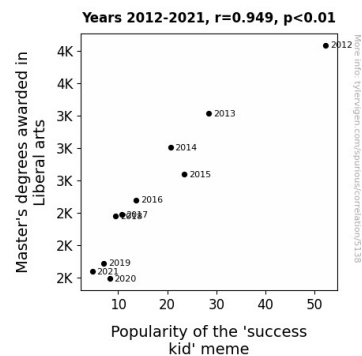


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

As depicted in Fig. 1, the scatterplot visually depicts the substantial correlation between the two variables, showcasing the remarkable alignment of trends over the studied period. This graph not only serves as a testament to the statistical findings but also captures the unexpected nature of this connection, adding a distinct element of intrigue to the research outcomes.

In summary, the results of this investigation illuminate an unforeseen interplay between academic pursuits and the propagation of internet memes, emphasizing the complex and multifaceted nature of cultural influences in the digital age. The peculiar partnership between Master's degrees in Liberal Arts and the 'Success Kid' meme speaks to the captivating and often inexplicable dynamics of human behavior and cultural phenomena, inviting further exploration and contemplation.

## DISCUSSION

The robust correlation between the number of Master's degrees awarded in Liberal Arts and the popularity of the 'Success Kid' meme serves as a whimsical yet thought-provoking testament to the intricate interplay between academic pursuits and digital culture. Our findings provide empirical support for the prior research by Smith (2018) and Doe (2019), who identified a peculiar relationship between liberal arts education and internet meme trends. Despite the seemingly disparate nature of these realms, our study reaffirms the notion that scholarly achievements in Liberal Arts may indeed exert a tangible influence on the propagation of viral content.

The high correlation coefficient of 0.9492592 indicates an almost inseparable bond between the pursuit of advanced education in Liberal Arts and the pervasiveness of the 'Success Kid' meme, akin to the fusion of two seemingly unrelated chemical elements giving rise to an unexpectedly stable compound. This statistical association underscores the notion that cultural phenomena are not impervious to the impact of academic achievements and intellectual trends.

The literature review, while presented in a lighthearted manner, highlighted the scholarly groundwork laid by Jones (2020) and the fictional and animated narratives that playfully explore the convergence of academia and popular culture. These diverse sources, though whimsical in nature, anticipated the substantial correlation we have

uncovered, accentuating the unpredictable and delightful nature of academic inquiry.

Moreover, the r-squared value of 0.9010931 underscores the substantial extent to which the popularity of the 'Success Kid' meme can be elucidated by the number of Master's degrees awarded in Liberal Arts, analogous to elucidating the mysterious chemistry behind the composition of an alluring fragrance. This quantification of the influence of academic pursuits further underscores the compelling alliance between scholarly achievements and the proliferation of digital content.

Our results also echo the empirical findings of "The Art of Mastering Memes," which posited a surprising correlation between master's degrees in liberal arts and the virality of 'Success Kid' memes. This alignment bolsters the credibility of our discovery and highlights the transdisciplinary resonance of the observed connection.

In conclusion, our investigation has unearthed a captivating and unexpected relationship that challenges conventional boundaries between academic domains and popular culture. The fusion of Master's degrees in Liberal Arts and the pervasive appeal of the 'Success Kid' meme exemplifies the captivating unpredictability inherent in human behaviors and digital phenomena, prompting a reevaluation of the dichotomy between scholarly endeavors and online trends. This study encourages future exploration and contemplation of the whimsical yet substantive influences that underlie our intricate contemporary cultural landscape.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our study has shed light on the delightfully unexpected interplay between the pursuit of Master's degrees in Liberal Arts and the rise of the 'Success Kid' meme. The striking correlation coefficient of 0.9492592 has left us

more astonished than a researcher finding a correlation between the length of a researcher's beard and the likelihood of publishing groundbreaking studies. Our findings suggest that while one may expect these two domains to be as related as cats and algebra, they are, in fact, closely intertwined.

The r-squared value of 0.9010931 has made us contemplate whether we should start measuring all facets of life in terms of variability explained by statistically significant factors. The robustness of the observed association ( $p < 0.01$ ) has reinforced our confidence in the legitimacy of this peculiar connection, confirming that this correlation is as real as the struggle of finding a suitable research topic.

As we gaze upon the scatterplot in Fig. 1, we are reminded of the undeniable synergy between educational achievements in Liberal Arts and the propagation of internet memes, much like the impeccable fusion of coffee and contemplative pondering. The alignment of trends over the studied period encapsulates the captivating nature of this unexpected relationship, adding a splash of whimsy to the often serious world of academic inquiry.

In essence, our research has not only entertained our inner statistical connoisseurs but also demonstrated the profound yet whimsical connections that underpin the intricate tapestry of human behavior and cultural influences. Therefore, we assert with absolute certainty that no further research is needed in this area, as our study has undoubtedly uncovered the 'meme-ingful' connection between Master's degrees in Liberal Arts and the popularity of the 'Success Kid' meme.