Abstract
This article examines the relationship between female breadwinning in heterosexual couples and wellbeing, measured by life satisfaction. Results reveal lower wellbeing for couples when she is breadwinning versus if he is breadwinning or partners are employed for similar hours. This wellbeing ‘penalty’ is negligible when the man is part-time employed, small when he is economically inactive, and larger when he is unemployed – but with differences by gender.

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