

# Eating disorders during adolescence may have lasting socioeconomic consequences for women

April 7 2015

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In a recent study, females with eating disorders in late adolescence were more likely to have lower levels of educational attainment and personal income in early adulthood. They were also less likely to own a home. These associations were not seen in males.

Disordered eating behaviors may set some individuals on a different trajectory whereby they do not have the same life chances or opportunities for success in adulthood.

"Although the negative physical and mental health consequences of eating disorders have been well documented, much less is known about the adult development of individuals with eating disorders, particularly their social wellbeing," said Jennifer Tabler, lead author of the *International Journal of Eating Disorders* study.

"This research emerged from a larger research agenda to examine the influence of eating disorders on the transition to adulthood."

**More information:** Tabler, J. and Utz, R. L. (2015), The influence of adolescent eating disorders or disordered eating behaviors on socioeconomic achievement in early adulthood. *Int. J. Eat. Disord.*.. [DOI: 10.1002/eat.22395](https://doi.org/10.1002/eat.22395)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Eating disorders during adolescence may have lasting socioeconomic consequences for women (2015, April 7) retrieved 5 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-04-disorders-adolescence-socioeconomic-consequences-women.html>

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