

# Measuring Women's Status in Society

# Introduction

- Proportion of women in parliament as a measure of women's status in society
- How do we enumerate status?

# Overview & Delimitation

- Introduction
- Hypothesis
- Definitions
- Prior Research
- Methods & Data
- Results
- Discussion

# Hypothesis

- The proportion of women in parliaments is positively correlated with other indicators thought to measure women's status.

# Definitions

- Status
- Society
- Parliament
- Old democracy

# Prior Research

- Assertions
- Theoretical
- Not empirical

# Data

IPU

UN

WVS

Social Watch

WEF

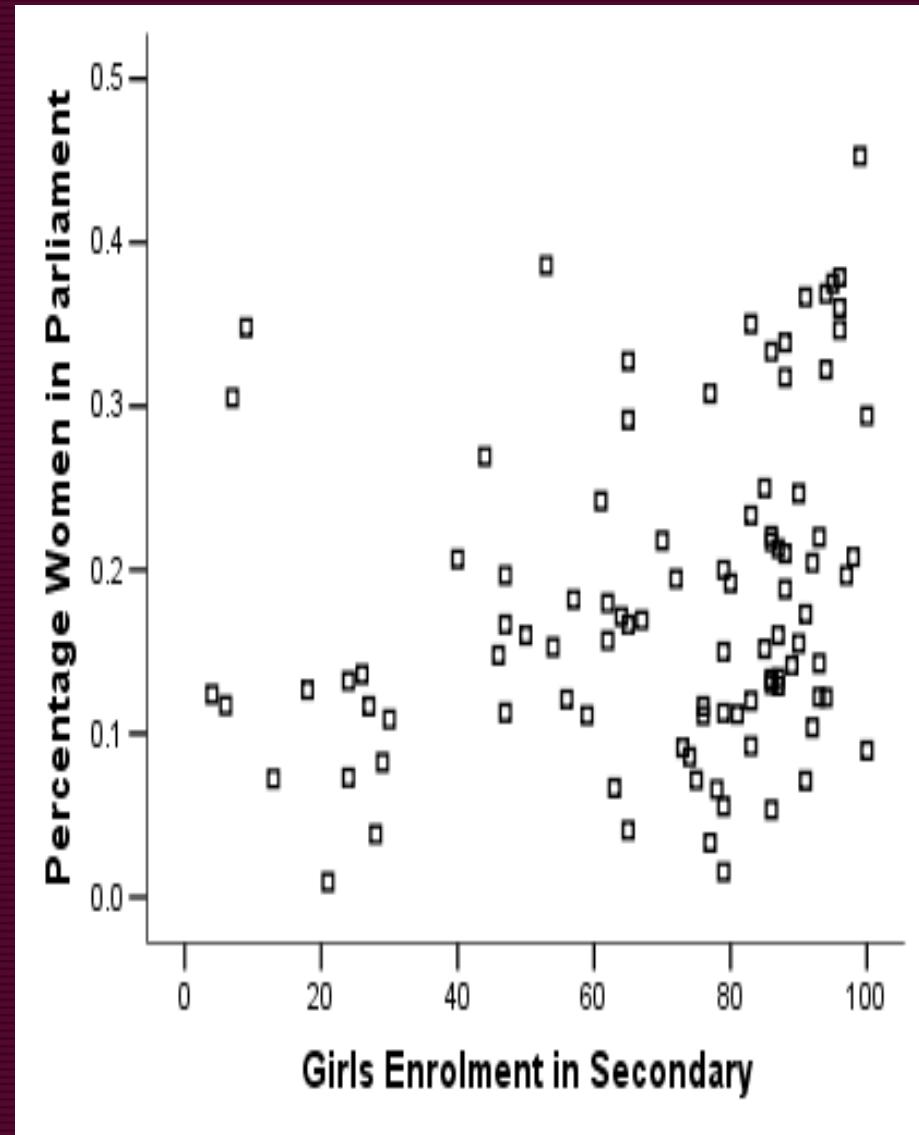
# Methods

- Correlations
- Scatter plots

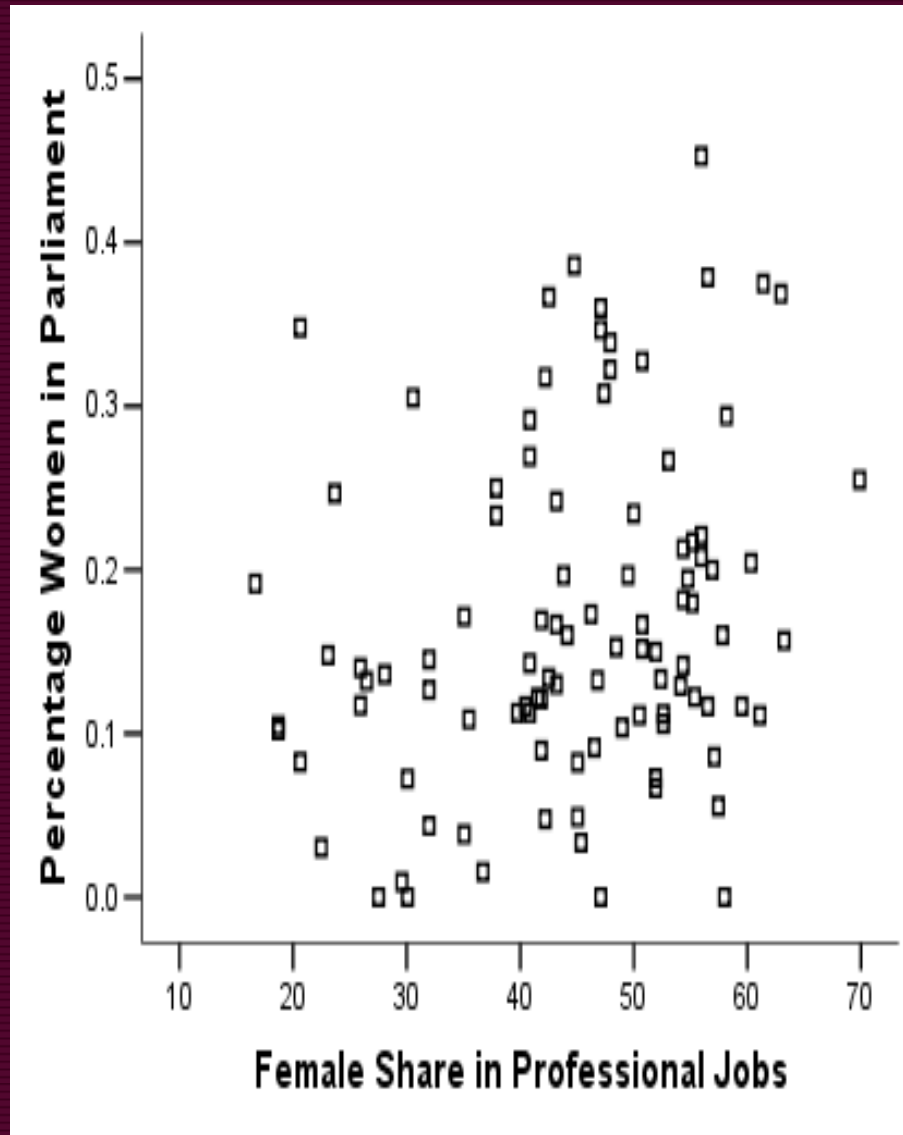


# Educational Participation

- $r=0.23$
- $p<0.05$
- Old democracies:  
 $r=0.45$  ( $p<0.01$ )
- Not new democracies



# Labour Force Participation



□  $r=0.07$ ,  $p>0.1$

□ Unclear

□ Professional Jobs:  
 $r=0.22$ ,  $p<0.05$

# Time since Suffrage

□  $r=0.29$

□  $p<0.001$

□ Mechanism?

# Social Attitudes

- Husband's earnings:  $r=0.50$
- University education:  $r=0.56$
- Approve women's movement:  $r=0.41$
- Prefers boy rather than girl:  $r=0.16$ ,  $p>0.1$

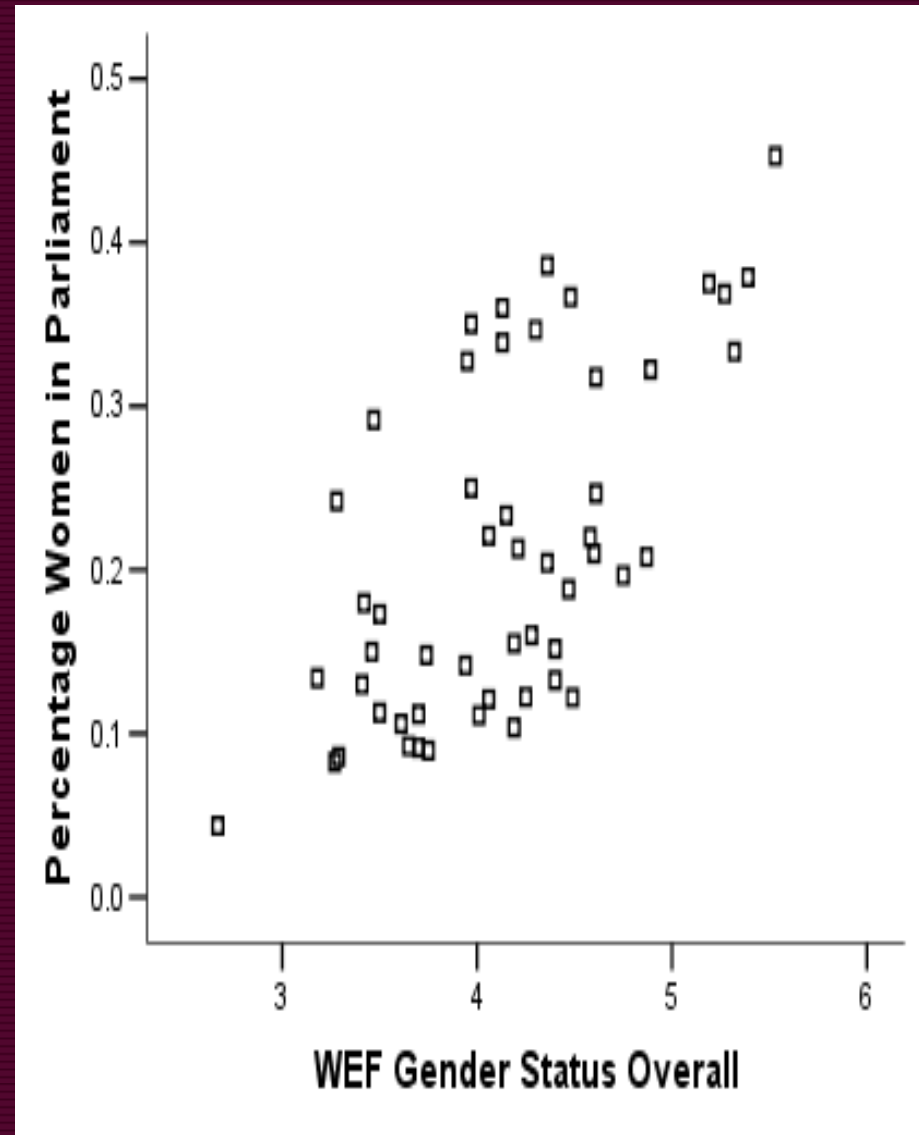
# Social Watch & WEF Scale

□ Social Watch:  $r=0.53$

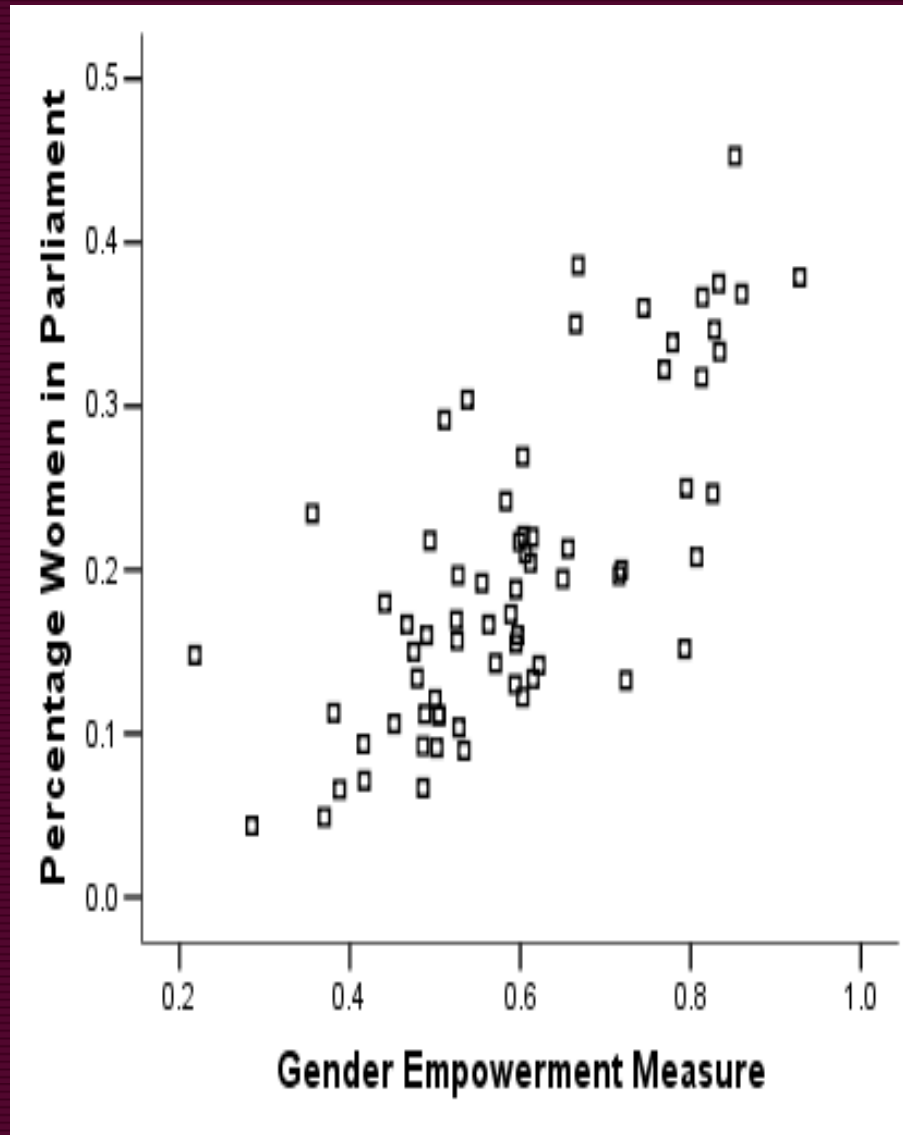
□ WEF:  $r=0.64$

□ WEF in old  
democracies:  $r=0.70$

□  $p<0.000$



# Gender Empowerment Index



□  $r=0.74$

□  $p<0.000$

# Discussion

- ❑ Close association
- ❑ Different dimensions to status
- ❑ Approximation
- ❑ Easy measurement
- ❑ Data availability
- ❑ Beyond gender

# Conclusion

- Reasonable approximation