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Türkiye’de Ekonomik Büyüme ile Mutluluk İlişkisi Üzerine Bir İnceleme/ An Investigation on The Relationship Between Economic Growth and Happiness in Turkey

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A B S T R A C T

Economic growth which gives an opportunity to consume a different and more quantity of goods and services increases material standart of living of peoples and societies. Thus, the higher income has been accompanied by the higher level of economic welfare. However the impacts of this increase on subjective happiness and life satisfaction is paradoxical. Whether or not the increases of the per capita income are contributing significantly to the quality of peoples life has taken into consideration recently by economists. R. Easterlin was one of the first economists to discuss this issue. In that study assumed that the relationship between happiness and income is paradoxial. In that regard, the Easterlin Paradox suggests that there is no relationship between economic growth and society’s average level of happiness. The main aim of this study is to reveal the link between happiness, life satisfaction and real economic growth in Turkey for the period of 1990-2014. In this study, happiness, life satisfaction and suicide data are obtained from the World Values Survey, the Life Satisfaction Surveys and the statistics of suicide.

KEYWORDS Happiness; Economic Growth; Easterlin Paradox; Life Satisfaction; Suicide