1. Title
Time at home, togetherness, and subjective well-being

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3. Abstract
The confinement caused by Covid-19 has clear implications for time allocation decisions of families. In this sense, leisure with spouse or with kids may increase as a consequence of the confinement, which may have implications for households’ well-being as couples prefer to spend time together and leisure with others is superior in terms of “instant utility” than leisure alone. But this higher opportunity to spend time together does not limit to leisure, but members of the household may have a higher synchronization in the timing of their housework activities. In one wants to have a complete view of the wellbeing implications of confinement, the analysis of time use patterns is needed, and where the comparison of the SWB experienced between joint and solo activities of couples at home may be of interest. We use unique time use data from the UK Time Use Survey (UK TUS) for the years 2014-2015, which includes detailed time use diaries for individuals in interviewed households, along with information about where, and with whom, the reported activities were done. More importantly, the UK TUS includes information about the (instant) enjoyment experienced during these activities, which is a key dimension in the analysis of individual preferences regarding time allocations.

4. Data description
This database provides us with a rich set of socio-economic variables about the interviewed households and individuals in them, but also with information on individual time use, based on diaries where respondents report their activities during the 24 hours of the day, from 4 am to 4 am of the next day. Time use diaries have become the gold standard in the analysis of daily behaviors. A particular advantage of the UK TUS, relative to other time use surveys, such as the American Time Use Survey, is that it first includes information for all members of the interviewed households, who each fill two diaries per survey to avoid biases arising from atypical days. Additionally, he UK TUS includes
unique information about the instant enjoyment experienced by respondents while doing all the activities (excluding sleeping) recorded in their diaries, which supposes an advantage over other time use diaries where such information is included for only some activities (e.g., 3 randomly-chosen variables in the American Time Use Survey) or not included at all. This variable is defined in a 7-point scale, from 1 (“not at all”) to 7 (“very much”), and reports the instantaneous well-being experienced by individuals in their daily activities (i.e., hedonic feelings).

Once the sample is restricted to individuals with non-missing information in the key socio-demographics, we find a sample of 43,591 observations at the diary level, corresponding to 1,210 individuals, where 28,283 episodes correspond to couples, and the remaining 15,308 correspond to single individuals. Almost 45% of the activities of spouses are reported as being done together with the spouse, and the average level of enjoyment of such episodes is 5.31 out of 7, vs 4.62 for activities done alone (4.73 for activities alone, 5.22 for activities with children). Furthermore, the average enjoyment associated with activities done at home is 5.01 (5.36 if with the spouse, 4.63 otherwise), vs 4.75 if activities are not at home. This preliminary descriptive evidence suggests the existence of significant differences in the instant enjoyment associated with the time allocation decisions of individuals, depending on the presence of a partner or spouse, and also in terms of where the activities take place. However, these magnitudes can depend on several socioeconomic factors. Thus, to control for observed individual heterogeneity, we will estimate different microeconometric models, such as OLS regressions, logistic regressions, and/or tobit models, to net out the role of observed heterogeneity.

5. JEL codes for the project
I31, J22, I12

6. Key-words
Time use; Covid-19; Time at home; togetherness; subjective well-being