Supplement A - Mean, standard deviation (SD), and range for child age (in years) at each round for every country.

	Child age (years)											
	Ethiopia			India			Peru			Vietnam		
	M	*SD*	Range	*M*	*SD*	Range	*M*	*SD*	Range	*M*	*SD*	Range
Round 1	0.97	0.30	0.33-1.42	0.99	0.29	0.42-1.75	0.96	0.30	0.42-1.83	0.97	0.26	0.42-1.50
Round 2	5.15	0.32	4.33-6.25	5.36	0.32	4.50-6.33	5.29	0.39	4.42-6.25	5.25	0.31	4.00-6.67
Round 3	8.12	0.34	7.17-11.50	7.95	0.32	7.17-8.83	7.91	0.30	7.08-8.83	8.05	0.31	6.75-9.33
Round 4	12.12	0.32	11.33-13.00	11.98	0.32	11.17-12.83	11.92	0.31	11.25-13.67	12.20	0.31	11.25-13.58
Round 5	15.08	0.31	14.25-16.00	15.00	0.31	14.17-15.83	14.94	0.31	14.08-15.83	15.20	0.30	14.25-16.58

Supplement B - Testing the instability hypothesis distinguishing between relationship formations and dissolutions.

The instability hypothesis assumes that *all* family structure transitions are stressful, and so in the main analyses in this paper, all types of transitions were combined into one family structure transition variable. It is possible, though, that some family structure transitions could be more financially stressful than others. For example, experiencing a relationship dissolution (e.g., going from a two-parent family to a single-parent family) may be more financially stressful than a relationship formation (e.g., going from a two-parent family to a single-parent family). In these additional analyses, separate models were run for relationship formations and dissolutions. The relationship formation variable included transitions from a single-parent family to a two-parent family, and transitions from a single-parent family to a stepfamily. The relationship dissolution variable included transitions from a two-parent family to a single-parent family, and transitions from a stepfamily to a single-parent family. Transitions from a two-parent family to a stepfamily and vice versa were not included because these transitions are both relationship formations and dissolutions, and so they do not fit exclusively into the formation or dissolution categories. Further, only a very small number of children experienced these types of transitions (n<40 of children experienced these transitions across all rounds in each of the four countries).

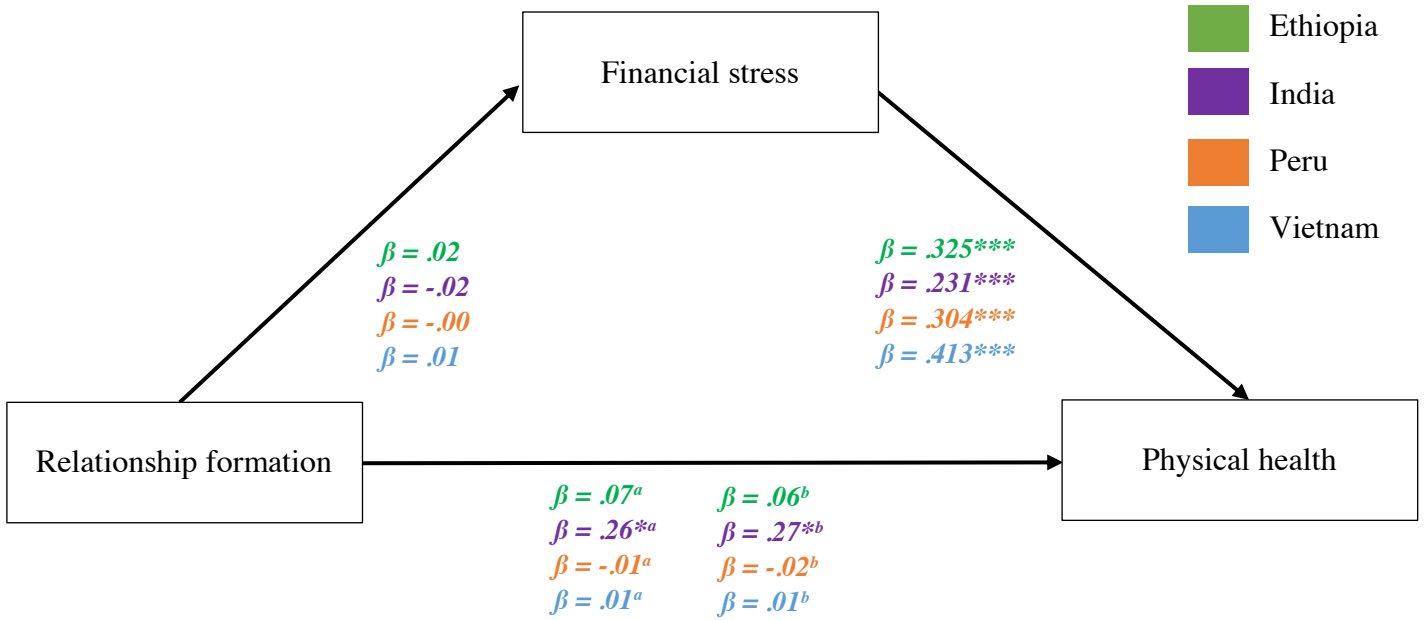
Using Linear Mixed Models (LMMs), we first tested the direct association between relationship formations and children's general physical health. Our analyses revealed that experiencing a relationship formation was associated with better general physical health for children in India (p = .020, B = .26). Relationship formations were not associated with children's general physical health in Ethiopia, Peru, and Vietnam. Next, we identified whether financial stress mediated the relationship formation – child general physical health

association. Although financial stress was associated with worsened physical health for children (*p*s<.05), relationship formations were not associated with financial stress in any of the Young Lives countries (*p*s>.05) (Figure 1). That is, there was no support for the instability hypothesis in any of the four Young Lives countries when focusing specifically on relationship formations.

We then tested the direct association between relationship dissolutions and children's general physical health. The analyses revealed that relationship dissolutions were not associated with children's general physical health in any of the four Young Lives countries (*p*s>.05). Next, we identified whether financial stress mediated the relationship dissolution – child general physical health association. As mentioned above, financial stress was associated with worsened physical health for children (*p*s<.05), but relationship dissolutions were not associated with financial stress in any of the Young Lives countries (*p*s>.05), and so there was no support for the instability hypothesis in any of the Young Lives countries when focusing specifically on relationship dissolutions (Figure 2). Taken together, the findings of this paper reveal that there is no support for the instability hypothesis in the four Young Lives countries, even when treating relationship formations and dissolutions discretely.

Supplement Figure 1

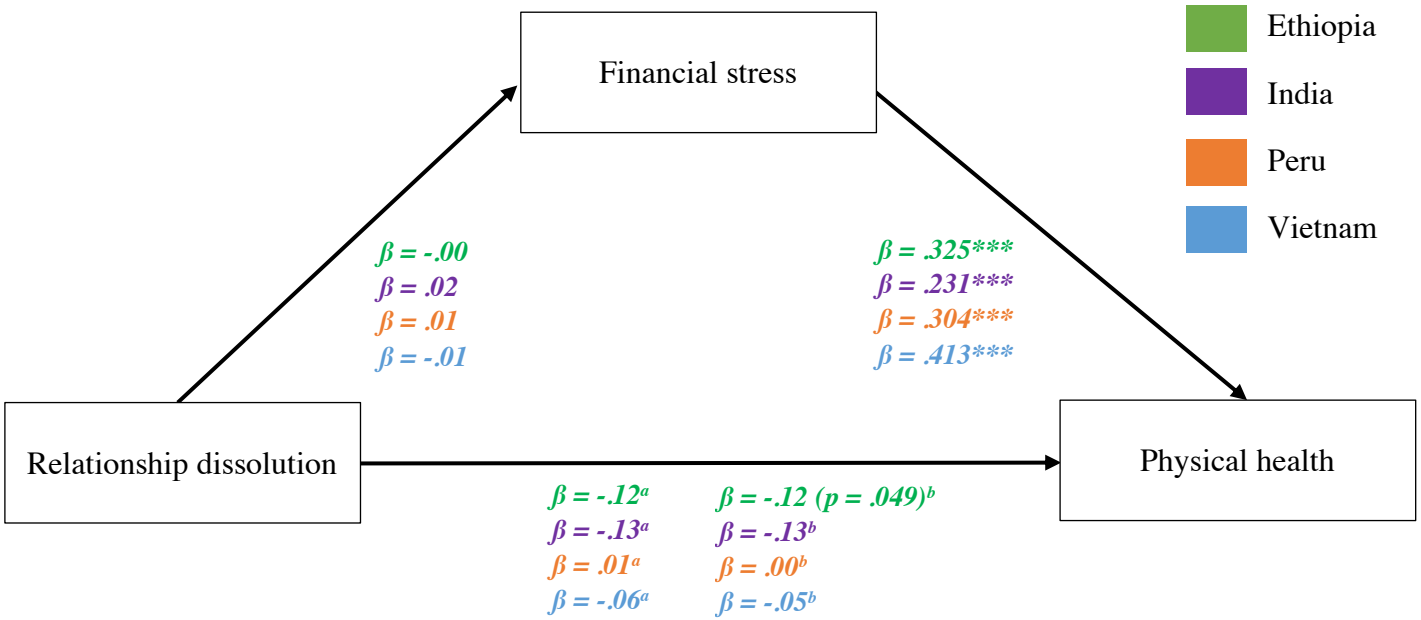
Mediation analyses testing the association between relationship formation, financial stress, and children's general physical health.



Note. *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001. [a]Betas before the mediation was included in the model, [b]Betas after the mediation was included in the model.

Supplement Figure 2

Mediation analyses testing the association between relationship dissolution, financial stress, and children's general physical health.



Note. *p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001. [a]Betas before the mediation was included in the model, [b]Betas after the mediation was included in the model.

Supplement C - Mean financial stress score at each round for those who had and had not experienced a family structure transition.

	Ethiopia				India				Peru				Vietnam			
	R2	R3	R4	R5	R2	R3	R4	R5	R2	R3	R4	R5	R2	R3	R4	R5
Experienced a transition	.26 (.15)	.35 (.19)	.38 (.17)	.47 (.16)	.46 (.18)	.48 (.17)	.57 (.16)	.68 (.14)	.53 (.23)	.56 (20)	.63 (.17)	.65 (.17)	.47 (.20)	.56 (.16)	.63 (.14)	.71 (.14)
Not experienced a transition	.29 (.18)	.33 (.17)	.36 (.17)	.41 (.17)	.46 (.20)	.52 (.18)	.59 (.17)	.64 (.16)	.46 (.23)	.54 (.21)	.59 (.20)	.63 (.18)	.49 (.18)	.61 (.19)	.61 (.13)	.71 (.14)

Note. Standard deviation is in brackets. The financial stress variable has a minimum score of 0 (lower socioeconomic status, higher financial stress) and a maximum score of 1 (higher socioeconomic status, less financial stress). The mean financial stress score for round one is not presented here because our analysis predicts round two stress from a family structure transition which occurred between round one and two, and so the round one financial stress variable is not included in the analysis.