Determinates of Youth Saving Habit in Kembeta Timbaro Zone: 
Case of Doyogena Woreda

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Abstract
Most youths have low rate of saving behavior, so that improving saving behavior is a primary goal for people living in this part of the world. Improving saving behavior of individuals is given attention to look at a variety of savings services used by customer in the community. Improving this depends not only on attending of government provider but also on appropriate execution of recommending components of saving in household of the community and institutions or sectors. The objective of the study is to assess the saving habits of the youths (those in the age range of 18 to 30) and associated factors that determine the saving behavior of these youths in Doyogena Woreda. Both descriptive and econometrics methods used and data from questionnaire were analyzed using SPSS and presented accordingly. The study found that there is a low saving behavior of the youths in Doyogena Woreda and they have a poor awareness of the financial services and packages. The factors determining the low saving behavior of the youths were the low financial literacy of the youths, the less parental socialization regarding saving the money, peer influence and less self-control practices of the respondents. The researcher recommended that it would be better if they get financial literacy from financial institutions and multimedia to alleviate their saving behavior. It would be much better if they control themselves towards managing the money they have and avoid bad temper. Good interaction between youths and their parents was recommended.

Keywords: Saving behavior, peer influence, financial literacy, and linear regression.

1. Introduction
1.1. Background of the Study
The motive of many countries’ economic policy is maintaining stabilized and sustainable economic growth. The Ethiopian government has been undertaking different actions to ensure the country's economic growth. For instance, the first and second five years growth and transformation plans (GTP) are mentionable. The ultimate goals of these plans are to transform the agriculture sector leading economy in the country to industrialization in coming decades. The transformation, however, requires intensive capital accumulation and investment in infrastructures, educations, agriculture, science and technology, business and financial institutions. Thus, resources accumulated in the form of capital available for current and future investment are the foundation of economic development. Saving is one of the best mechanisms of accumulating capital.

According to Deaton (2005), serious problem confronting poor countries including Ethiopia is savings and investment gap. Because of this gap, these countries faced challenges to finance investments needed for growth from domestic saving. It is also common to see these countries to finance their investment in the short run partly through domestic government borrowings and/or foreign loan and grants but this can significantly increase debt burden and cannot be a solution in the long run (Rogg, 2006). In this context, a household saving is a crucial means of providing an insurance against the economic and social shocks. Likewise, savings at the household level are important for the welfare of family members in the course of economic development as a means to smooth income, to fund education and health for old age support when members become non-earners, and to leave as bequests to children. Additionally, a better practice of households saving behavior could develop the potential to finance investments (Girma et al., 2013; Kifle, 2012; Abdelkhalek, et al., 2009).

Despite the important roles of saving in economic development process at a country level or household level in developing nations in general and in Ethiopia in particular, very few studies have been conducted on saving behavior of Youth. In line with this, the motive of this study was to investigate the factors that determine the saving behavior of youths’ in Doyogena Woreda.

1.2. Statement of the Problems
Saving is a driving force of economic success and stability. Domestic household saving have become a major contributor to a country’s economic success (Chengeet al., 2006). However, youth saving practice and culture in Ethiopia is very low and found at worst level (Anttansio (2001; Girma et al., 2013). In addition, no adequate practice has been performed to educate the community about saving behavior. This was happened due to lack of adequate empirical result about the public savings practice and factors hindering the public to save.

The close relation between savings and growth makes the analysis of savings behavior naturally important for policy analysis. According to Agrawel et al (2009) saving behavior shows considerable variation across
countries depending upon level of development and socio-economic structure and so one cannot be sure whether
the results of a region or country under study may be applicable to a particular country or region of interest. Thus,
cross-country regression analysis based on the assumption of homogeneity cannot be used as definitive study for
any specific country of interest. For this reason, country and regional studies have an importance of their own
(Agrawal et al, 2009). Most of the developing countries have low rate of saving behavior, so that improving saving
behavior is a primary goal for people living in this part of the world (Michael et al 2001).

Improving saving behavior of individuals is given attention to look at a variety of savings services used by
customer in the community. Improving this depends not only on attending of government provider but also on
appropriate execution of recommending components of saving in household of the community and institutions or
sectors (Klaus et al, 1992). Investigation of factors associating with saving behavior assumes critical importance;
 Provision of saving services varies widely across individuals in Doyogena Woreda understanding these variations
at the individual and in the community level in order to successfully implement any saving related policies and
programs. As Gina et al (2012) offers brief on a glimpse into saving patterns and performance of a large sample
of in-school youth in Ghana. Findings from the baseline surveys in the Youth Save Ghana Experiment highlight
the fact that these youth are active savers. However, they tend to save small amounts using informal methods over
short periods of time, and for mostly consumptive purposes.

Thus, this study assessed the current status of youths’ saving behavior both in household and in financial
institutions and factors that influence utilization of these services, and to find out the possible reasons for
underutilization of saving behavior using primary data & secondary data source. The researcher thought that there
is a relationship between age, gender, marital status, educational level family size, occupation, salary financial
literacy, parental socialization, peer influence, self-control and saving behavior.

1.3. Objective of the Study
The general objective of this study is to assess the determinants of saving behavior of these youths in Doyogena
Woreda. Specifically; to assess the youth saving behavior in Doyogena Woreda, to assess the awareness and use
of bank services and essential packages and to assess factors affecting saving behavior and examine the
relationship between the variables financial literacy, parental socialization, peer influence in Doyogena Woreda.

2. Research Methodology
2.1. Research Design
The research design of this study was descriptive survey method, which focuses on investigating the current status,
practice, gaps or constraints of youth saving Habit of Doyogena Woreda.

2.2. Participant of the Study
The target population estimated in this study was youth in Doyogena Woreda.

2.3. Linear Regression Model
As econometric model linear regression model was applied in factors that determines the saving habits of the youth
in study area to saw the effect of such variables. Accordingly, independent variable are defined and putted as
determinants of saving habits of the youths’ in the form of model as follows:

\[ SH = \alpha + \beta_1 prsp + \beta_2 fl + \beta_3 prtsocio + \beta_4 prsp. + \beta_5 selc. \]

\[ prsp= \text{ Peers pressure, fl}= \text{ Financial literacy, prtsocio} = \text{ Parental socialization, selco} = \text{Self-control and} \]

2.4. Sampling Techniques
A simple random sampling technique was used in this study to collect primary data. The sample size was
determining formula (Dixon. C. and B. Leach, 1977) since target population was less than 10,000, Z is 95%
confidence limit that is 1.96, p is 0.1(proportion of the population to be included in the sample that is 10%) q is 1-
p=0.9, N is total number of population, e is margin or degree of accuracy desired (0.05), thus from total of 3430
youth’s, 130 were randomly drawn.

\[ n = \frac{Z^2pq}{e^2} = \frac{1.96^2(0.1 \times 0.9)}{0.05^2} = 130 \text{ youth} \]

2.5. Tools of Data Collection
Source of data to this study were both primary and secondary data. Primary data collected using a structured
questionnaire with the help of trained enumerators. The questionnaire includes personal information, socio
demographic profile of respondents, and outcome variables income of youths’.

2.6. Data Analysis Methods
Data generated from different sources were analyzed using SPSS. The objectives of data analysis include
measuring central tendency and variability, testing reliability and the hypotheses developed for the study. It is important to prevent error that may invalidate the conclusions.

3. Data Analysis and Interpretation

3.1. Demographic Profile of youth

The most frequently observed category of Gender was Female 80(62%). The most frequently observed category of Marital Status was single 101(78%). The observations for Age ranged from 18.00 to 30.00, with an average of 23.44 \((SD = 3.41)\). Frequencies and percentages are presented in Table 1.

| Variable           | n  | %  | N  |
|--------------------|----|----|----|
| Gender             |    |    | 130|
| Female             | 80 | 62 |    |
| Male               | 50 | 38 |    |
| Marital Status     |    |    | 130|
| Married            | 27 | 21 |    |
| Single             | 101| 78 |    |
| Widowed            | 2  | 2  |    |
| Age                |    |    | 130|
| 20 and below       | 26 | 20 |    |
| 21 to 25           | 61 | 46.9|   |
| 26 to 30           | 43 | 33.1|   |

Source: - survey of, 2018

The most frequently observed category of respondents live with alone 68(52%). This means most of the surveyed youths were living alone and this may be difficult for saving. The most frequently observed category of Highest Level of Education was diploma 36(28%) followed by degree holders which is 27%. The most frequently observed category of Occupation was employed 68(52%). Meaning the most of the respondents of the questionnaire was employed. The most frequently observed category of having Additional Work was no 102(78%). This clearly means most of the respondents didn’t have additional. The observations for the number of the dependent ranged from 0.00 to 5.00, with an average of 0.66 \((SD = 0.98)\).Table 2: the number of economic dependents

| number of your family size under your economical responsibility (if there is) | Frequency | Percent |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| .00                                                                           | 76        | 58.5    |
| 1.00                                                                          | 34        | 26.2    |
| 2.00                                                                          | 11        | 8.5     |
| 3.00                                                                          | 7         | 5.4     |
| 4.00                                                                          | 1         | .8      |
| 5.00                                                                          | 1         | .8      |
| Total                                                                         | 130       | 100.0   |

Source: - Survey, 2018

The observations for monthly Income from Salary ranged from 0.00 to 9000.00, with an average of 2489.62 \((SD = 1989.13)\). This does not mean they don’t get money by simply looking at the smaller one. They may get it from other sources. The observations for monthly Income from Rent ranged from 0.00 to 0.00, with an average of 0.00 \((SD = 0.00)\). The observations for monthly Income from Remittance ranged from 0.00 to 1000.00, with an average of 91.54 \((SD = 204.71)\). The observations for monthly Income from Remittance ranged from 0.00 to 500.00, with an average of 3.91 \((SD = 44.19)\). The observations for monthly Income from Other Sources ranged from 0.00 to 12500.00, with an average of 339.23 \((SD = 1241.25)\).

3.2. Saving Behavior of youth

The most frequently observed category of habit of saving and Rate of Saving Habit was70(54%) and 42 (32%) were bad and very bad respectively. Those who didn’t have a saving habit were taken to be very bad at their saving habit.
### Table 4: Saving Behavior

| Variable                              | Response          | N   | %  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----|----|
| Have Habit of Saving                  | No                | 70  | 54 |
|                                       | Yes               | 60  | 46 |
| The Saving Habit of the respondents is| Excellent         | 4   | 3.1|
|                                       | Very good         | 9   | 6.9|
|                                       | Good              | 42  | 32.3|
|                                       | Bad               | 42  | 32.3|
|                                       | Very bad          | 33  | 25.4|

Source: - Survey, 2018

According to most often the interviewees they don’t have a good habit of saving. Their rate of saving was so poor. The proportion they save using different saving institutions and traditional methods of saving was very low. But they explained that they had a potential to save but they didn’t save. There is a large gap between what they save and what they can save. The observations for Percent of youth Money they Saved ranged from 0.00 to 50.00, with an average of 14.52 (SD = 16.31).

### Table 5: Percent of their Income that they save

| Frequency | Percent |
|-----------|---------|
| below 10  | 7.7     |
| 11-20     | 7.7     |
| above 20  | 36.2    |
| None      | 48.5    |
| Total     | 51.5    |

Source: - Survey, 2018

The most frequently observed category of Places that the youths preferred to Save Money was bank 81(62%). The most frequently observed category of How often do the youth save money was monthly 52(40%) followed by quarterly which accounts for 7%.

### Table 6: Preferences and places of saving

| Variable                              | N   | %  |
|---------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Places the youths prefer to Save Money| Bank          | 81  | 62 |
|                                       | credit union  | 10  | 8  |
|                                       | No preference | 39  | 30 |
| places the youths save Money          | Bank          | 57  | 44 |
|                                       | credit union  | 10  | 8  |
|                                       | don’t save    | 63  | 48 |
| How often do youths save money        | Monthly       | 52  | 40 |
|                                       | quarterly a year | 9  | 7  |
|                                       | when I get money | 6  | 5  |
|                                       | I don’t save  | 63  | 48 |

Source: - Survey, 2018

The most frequently observed category of the variable in agreement level saying in order to save, they often compare prices before they make a purchase was agree 58(45%). Often consider whether the real necessity before making a purchase was agreeing66(51%). Respondents who always follow a careful monthly budget were agreeing and disagree, each with an observed frequency of 50 (38%). The most frequently observed category always have money available in the event of emergency was disagree 72(55%). The most frequently observed category of In order to save, respondentsplan to reduce my expenditure was agree 54(42%). The most frequently observed category of save to achieve certain goals was agree 48(37%). Frequencies and percentages are presented in Table 8 below. Most of the interviewees used banks for saving, but they also save in IQUB to save their money.
Table 7: saving behavior

| In order to save, I often compare prices before I make a purchase | strongly disagree | n  | %   | valid % | Com % |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----|-----|---------|-------|
| Disagree                                                      | 20               | 15.4 | 15.5 | 15.5    |       |
| Undecided                                                     | 5                | 3.8  | 3.9  | 48.1    |       |
| agree                                                         | 58               | 44.6 | 45   | 93      |       |
| strongly agree                                               | 8                | 6.2  | 6.2  | 100     |       |

| In order to save, I always follow a careful monthly budget.   | strongly disagree | n  | %   | valid % | Com % |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----|-----|---------|-------|
| Disagree                                                     | 50               | 38.5 | 38.5 | 54.6    |       |
| Undecided                                                    | 2                | 1.5  | 1.5  | 56.2    |       |
| Agree                                                        | 50               | 38.5 | 38.5 | 94.6    |       |
| strongly agree                                               | 7                | 5.4  | 5.4  | 100     |       |

Source: - Survey, 2018

### 3.3. Awareness and Use of Bank Services and Essential Packages

The most frequently observed category of knowing bank services and packages was yes 73(56%). This means the respondents were asked whether they know the bank services and packages most of them (56%) did know the services and the packages. However very significant number of youths 54(42%) didn’t know the services and the packages provided by the banks or saving institutions.

![Figure 3 Knowledge of bank services](source)

Source: Survey, 2018

Regarding their knowledge about the advantages and the risks of bank services most of them showed that they don’t know it. The most frequently observed category of knowledge of the risks and advantages of the bank services and packages was no 70(54%).

### 3.4. Factors Affecting Saving Behavior

Here the factors affecting the saving behavior of the youths are presented. The three scale agreement level was found by adding the frequency and percentages of the STRONGLY AGREE and the AGREE to call it on to the AGREE SIDE and the STRONGLY DISAGREE and the DISAGREE added up to be on the DISAGREE SIDE.

#### 3.4.1. Financial Literacy

The table shown below details about the agreement level of the respondents the most frequently observed better understanding on how to invest money was agree 60(46%). And hence according to most of the respondents (55%) have better understanding of how to invest their money. But significant number of them 59(45%) don’t.

The most frequently observed category of the youths have a very clear idea of their financial needs during retirement was disagree 58(45%). Most of the respondents 70(54%) disagree on the idea that have a very clear idea of their financial needs during retirement. The most frequently observed category of the youths have the habit of financial records for my income and expenditure was disagree 65(50%). And hence most of the respondents 77(55%) disagreed on the idea that have the habit of financial records for their income and expenditure. The most frequently observed category of the youths have little or no difficulty in managing my money was agree 51(39%). Most of the respondents (48%) disagree on the idea that they have little or no difficulty in managing my money. The most frequently observed category of the youths have the ability to prepare my own weekly (monthly) budget was disagree 57(44%). And most of the respondents disagree on the idea that they have the ability to prepare my own weekly (monthly) budget and this was on the disagree side 69(53%).
### Table 8: Financial Literacy

| Variable                                                                 | Five Scale |            | Three Scale |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|
|                                                                          | SD         | D          | U           | A          | SA         | D          | U           | A          |
| I have better understanding of how to invest my money                     | N          | 12         | 47          | 0          | 60         | 11         | 59          | 0          | 71         |
|                                                                          | %          | 9          | 36          | 0          | 46         | 9          | 45          | 0          | 55         |
| I have a very clear idea of my money                                     | N          | 12         | 58          | 6          | 47         | 7          | 70          | 6          | 54         |
|                                                                          | %          | 9          | 45          | 5          | 36         | 5          | 54          | 5          | 42         |
| I have the habit of financial records for my income and expenditure       | N          | 12         | 65          | 0          | 46         | 7          | 77          | 0          | 53         |
|                                                                          | %          | 9          | 50          | 0          | 35         | 5          | 59          | 0          | 41         |
| I have little or no difficulty in managing my money                       | N          | 12         | 49          | 8          | 51         | 10         | 62          | 8          | 61         |
|                                                                          | %          | 9          | 39          | 5          | 39         | 8          | 48          | 5          | 47         |
| I have the ability to prepare my own                                     | N          | 12         | 57          | 4          | 47         | 10         | 69          | 4          | 57         |
|                                                                          | %          | 9          | 44          | 3          | 36         | 8          | 53          | 3          | 44         |

Source: - Survey, 2018

### 3.4.2. Peer Influence

The most frequently observed category of As far as I know, some of my friends regularly do save with a saving account was agree 60(46%). And hence according to most of the respondents 67(52%), the friends of the respondents regularly do save with a saving account. The most frequently observed category of I always discuss about money management issue (saving) with my friends was disagree 63(48%). And hence according to most of the respondents 75(58%), they disagree that they always discuss about money management issue (saving) with their friends. he most frequently observed category of I always compare the amount of saving and spending with my friends was disagree 66(51%). And hence according to most of the respondents 68(52%), they disagree with the idea that they always compare the amount of saving and spending with their friends. The most frequently observed category of respondent always involved in money spending activities with friends was agree 69(53%). And hence according to most of the respondents 78(60%), they agree with the idea that they always involve in money spending activities with friends.

### Table 9: Peer Influence

| Variable                                                                 | Obs. | Five Scale  |            | Three Scale |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
|                                                                          |      | SD          | D          | U           | A          | SA         | D          | U           | A          |
| As far as I know, some of my friends                                     | N    | 12          | 47         | 4           | 60         | 7          | 59         | 4           | 67         |
|                                                                          | %    | 9           | 36         | 3           | 46         | 5          | 45         | 3           | 52         |
| I always discuss about money with friends                                 | N    | 12          | 63         | 2           | 46         | 7          | 75         | 2           | 53         |
|                                                                          | %    | 9           | 49         | 2           | 35         | 5          | 58         | 2           | 41         |
| I always compare the amount of saving                                    | N    | 2           | 66         | 4           | 46         | 12         | 68         | 4           | 58         |
|                                                                          | %    | 2           | 51         | 3           | 35         | 9          | 52         | 3           | 45         |
| I always involve in money spending activities with friends               | N    | 2           | 45         | 5           | 69         | 9          | 47         | 5           | 78         |
|                                                                          | %    | 2           | 35         | 4           | 53         | 7          | 36         | 4           | 60         |

Source: - Source: Our survey, 2018

### 3.5. Relationship between Factors and Saving Behavior

There was a significant positive correlation between financial literacy and saving habit ($r = 0.738, p<0.01$). The correlation coefficient between financial literacy and saving habit was 0.738 indicating a large effect size. This indicates that as the financial literacy of the respondents increased, saving habit tends to increase. The regression analysis also showed the same result which is shown in the following table. The correlation coefficient 0.738 indicates that the there is a high correlation between the two variables.
4. Conclusion and Recommendation

4.1. Conclusion

There was a less rate of saving habit in the study area. Most of the youths prefer banks and financial institutions to save their money. In order to save the respondents, most often compare prices before they make a purchase, often consider whether the real necessity before make a purchase and careful monthly budget were agree and disagree and the respondents don’t have money available in the event of emergency and they a little bit plan to save their money. In order to save the respondents, most often compare prices before they make a purchase, careful monthly budget. And hence they have very small financial literacy. Most of them don’t save because their parents don’t want them to save when they were little.

It is good that the friends of the respondents regularly do save with a saving account. But the friends, they don’t always discuss about money management issue (saving) with their friends, and they don’t compare the amount of saving and spending with their friends but instead they friends involved in money spending activities with friends. There was a significant positive correlation between saving habit and each of the variables gender, who the respondents live with, occupation, having additional work, financial literacy, parental socialization and self-control. And there was a significant negative correlation between saving habit and each of the variables number of economic dependents, peer influence. There were no any significance between the other demographic profiles and saving habit.

Table 10: Correlation Matrix

| Have a habit of Saving | Pearson Correlation | Sig. (2-tailed) | Pearson Correlation | Sig. (2-tailed) | Pearson Correlation | Sig. (2-tailed) | Pearson Correlation | Sig. (2-tailed) | Pearson Correlation | Sig. (2-tailed) |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Financial Literacy     | .738**              | .000            | .866**              | .000            | .514**              | .000            | -.888**             | .000            |                   |                 |
| Parental Socialization | .590**              | .000            | 1                   | .000            | .267**              | .000            | -.773**             | .000            |                   |                 |
| Peer Influence         | -.547**             | .000            | .514**              | .000            | .267**              | .000            | 1                   | .000            | -.435**             |                 |
| Self-control           | .834**              | .000            | -.888**             | .000            | -.773**             | .000            | -.435**             | .000            | 1                   |                 |

Source: Our survey, 2018

There was a significant positive correlation between Parental Socialization and saving habit ($r_s = 0.59, p<0.01$). The correlation coefficient between Parental Socialization and saving habit the respondents save was 0.59 indicating a large effect size. This indicates that as the Parental Socialization of the respondents increased, saving habit tends to increase. The linear Analysis result also showed that there is strong evidence that the two variables are correlated.

Table 11: Linear regression between determinants and saving habit

| Model | R    | R Square | Adjusted Square R | Std. Error of the Estimate |
|-------|------|----------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1     | .738* | .545     | .542              | .03879                    |
|       | .590* | .348     | .343              | .40555                    |
|       | .547* | .299     | .293              | .42070                    |
|       | .834* | .695     | .693              | .27728                    |

a. Predictors: (Constant), financial literacy, Parental Socialization, peer pressure and self-control Source: our survey, 2018

There was a significant negative correlation between peer influence and saving habit ($r_s = -0.547, p<0.01$). The correlation coefficient between peer influence and saving habit of the respondents save was -0.547 indicating a large effect size. This indicates that as the peer influence of the respondent’s increases, saving habit tends to decrease. The linear Analysis result also showed that there is strong evidence that the two variables are negatively correlated and it is shown in the table below. There was a significant negative correlation between self-control and saving habit ($r_s = 0.834, p<0.01$). The correlation coefficient between monthly self-control and saving habit was 0.834 indicating a large effect size. This indicates that as the self-control of the respondents increases, saving habit tends to decrease. The linear Analysis result also showed that there is very strong evidence that the two variables are positively correlated and it is shown in the table below.
4.2. Recommendations

Based on our research findings, the following points are recommended

- The community has to provide awareness how to saving habit exercising it starting today deciding to save for tomorrow;
- Giving training and awareness on how to develop saving habit based on factor affecting the saving habit of youth in Doyogena Woreda and
- Significant number of the youths don’t have better understanding of how to invest their money and most of the youths don’t have a very clear idea of their financial needs during retirement, the habit of financial records for their income and expenditure, have little or no that the municipality might consider as an option of waste management thereby income generating.

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