Ideation Phase Literature Surevey

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For older people, mitigating loneliness is already challenged by the often-irreplaceable nature of lost social contacts in later stages of life (e.g., a spouse), feeling trapped at home alone if chronically ill (Bennet & Victor, 2012), and the effects of being left behind by digital technology (Coelho & Duarte, 2016;Lim et al., 2020). Combined with COVID-19 restrictions limiting older people's ability to engage in typical social activities or visit locations that alleviate loneliness (Schellekens & Lee, 2020), or access social services, this crisis will likely not only cause loneliness but also make many established coping strategies untenable. ...

... However, there has been some discussion that video calls and other digital technologies have not been a panacea for pandemic-related isolation and loneliness. Also, digital interventions are frequently considered to be ill-suited for older adults due to decreased internet access and lack of digital communication skills (Coelho & Duarte, 2016; Office for National Statistics, 2020). Some research on older people's experiences of using technology for social connections has found that they primarily use technology to maintain in-person relationships for example, using messaging to make plans to meet, or video calls to check in on family who live far away.

Preprint - Loneliness in Older People and COVID-19: Applying the Social Identity Approach to Digital Intervention Design

They use social media to both exchange information and enhance relationships with others (Sims et al., 2016). These activities on social media improve cognitive competence and social connectedness, further reducing loneliness and enhancing feelings of self-worth or self-esteem Older adults' use of social media can be roughly categorized into two types based on its purposes: (1) socioemotional use, that is, to keep in touch and stay connected with others; and (2) informational use, that is, to obtain or share content for functional, leisurely, or entertainment purposes .Informational use is increasingly making up a significant part of older adults' social media use.

Facebook has been adopted as a regular source of news by a third of Americans, 15% of whom are older than 65 years. Many previous studies have focused on socio-emotional use (e.g., Coelho & Duarte has investigate informational use of social media. It is unclear how specifically informational use can affect older adults' mental well-being

Effects of Social Media Self-Efficacy on Informational Use, Loneliness, and Self-Esteem of Older Adults

... Counts of friends and reviews are plotted on a logarithmic scale, and show a "long tail" distribution that is common in online phenomenon. 8 Compared to the popular Epinions data set, where nearly 80% of reviews are 5 stars. ...

... It would be valuable to be able to carefully advise this demographic about misleading content, and personalized trust link prediction via clustering may thus be of use. We have begun to examine the special considerations of this user base when it comes to misinformation; we note that other research has already identified notable differences for older adults in social media. The framework presented in this paper could expand to integrate prior knowledge of its users in the following way.

Personalized multi-faceted trust modeling to determine trust links in social media and its potential for misinformation management

In contrast, "privacy, the need for media richness, preference for familiarity, the triviality of communication, time commitment, and frustration with site tools" were the main reasons older adults gave for not using Facebook (Jung et al., 2017. To overcome these barriers, improvements to the user interface to increase the ease that older users engage with Facebook are suggested, along with Facebook education and training

... Future research could explore whether negative feelings, such as envy, are elicited in older adults using Facebook. Additionally, concerns around privacy and frustration with site tools will continue to be barriers to older adults using Facebook if improvements to the user interface are not made