Perceived Social Connectedness in Senescence: A Human-Centered Approach for the Digital Age

Supplementary Table. Exploratory Factor Analysis Items and Factor Loadings

Survey item	Factor Loading		
	1	2	3
Factor 1: Perceived Social Value & Desire to Connect			
I want to connect with other people in person.	**.76**	-.16	-.04
I am willing to share my interests with others.	**.74**	-.08	.02
I am willing to learn other ways to connect or communicate with people in my life.	**.72**	.04	-.26
I am willing to invest the time needed to form new connections with others.	**.70**	.15	-.07
I would like to make others aware of the support I can offer them.	**.68**	-.06	-.02
I communicate regularly with others through technology.	**.62**	-.07	.46
I want to be aware of what is happening in my community.	**.60**	.16	.02
I want to be aware of what is happening with others in my life.	**.57**	.26	-.03
I turn to others for help when I need important information or to learn something new.	**.57**	-.05	.03
People can rely on me.	**.55**	-.18	.13
I am eager to make new friends.	**.55**	.36	-.23
The people in my life provide tangible support.	**.52**	-.07	.22
I can turn to others for emotional support.	**.48**	.17	.02
I am satisfied with the level of support I have from others in my life.	**.48**	.22	.29
I often leave my home to attend appointments or participate in community events or activities.	**.41**	.07	.27
I feel that I spend enough time involved in social activities.	**.39**	.30	.07
I want to connect with other people through technology.	**.38**	.30	-.11
Factor 2: Existing Social Engagement			
I contribute in important ways to the community and society.	.02	**.75**	.07

I have formed new technology-enabled connections (e.g., online friends) over the past few months.	-.07	**.68**	-.30
I contribute in important ways to my community.	-.06	**.64**	.27
I have formed new in-person connections (e.g., friendships) over the past few months.	.11	**.59**	-.17
I feel a strong sense of companionship with others.	.31	**.51**	.10
I have important knowledge that can be used to help address the problems of society.	-.01	**.48**	-.13
I make new friends easily.	.34	**.48**	.04
I often use technology to attend appointments or participate in community events or activities.	.19	**.46**	.06
There are many people I feel close to.	.20	**.37**	.31
I would be willing to friend or follow someone on social media.	-.05	**.36**	-.06
I am just as likely to work well in teams as other people.	.29	**.32**	.22
Factor 3: Perceived Social Isolation			
I feel lonely most of the time. (R)	-.07	-.05	**.88**
Even when I am around others, I feel alone. (R)	-.07	.11	**.82**
I feel like I just do not belong. (R)	.38	-.23	**.53**
I have challenges in my life that make it difficult to connect with others. (R)	-.03	-.06	**.50**
Most of my interactions with others do not feel meaningful. (R)	.16	.29	**.43**
I tend to avoid social gatherings. (R)	.31	.20	**.39**

Note. $N = 71$. The extraction method was maximum likelihood with Oblimin (oblique) rotation. Factor loadings above .32 are shown in bold. Reverse-coded items are denoted with an (R).