

A Study of the social and emotional loneliness Scale-Abbreviated SELSA-A in Syrian context

Prof. Dr. Amtanyous Mekhael
Faculty of Education
Damascus University

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to develop an Arabic version of the social and emotional loneliness scale for adults–Abbreviated Form (SELSA-A), and assess its psychometric properties in order to ascertain its suitability to be used in Syria.

Several methods of reliability and validity were used in Studying the instrument under consideration, which was administered to a various samples of university students and others (N=623). Factor analysis by using principal components method and Varimax Rotation was also conducted.

Validation data collected for each of the three subscales of SELSA-A, i, e Family Loneliness, Romantic Loneliness and Social Loneliness subscales showed satisfactory coefficients of consistency and test- retest reliability, established convergent and divergent validity by using seven criterion measures for these subscales. On the other hand, validity was investigated by using contrasted groups method, as well as by factor analysis, which supported validity by displaying three factors. These three factors were accounted for 53,1% of the total variance and confirmed that the instrument under investigation had the same three factor structure as was observed in the original version.

The overall findings suggest the suitability of the Arabic version of SELSA-A to be used in Syrian context. Suggestions were also made to conduct more researches upon this abbreviated form as well as the full version, and other measures of loneliness.

Key words: Loneliness Scale; Emotional Loneliness; Social Loneliness; Overall Loneliness; Social Isolation.

For the paper in Arabic see pages (57-86)