

Social capital, loneliness and mental well-being in an ageing population

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To understand individual health, there is an increasing recognition that one must look into the individuals' environment such as family and friendship relationships, relationships within more formal institutions and trust between individuals or into the level of social capital. Although social capital has been extensively studied during the last decade, there are still open issues in current empirical research. These concern for instance the measurement of the concept in different contexts, as well as the association between different types of social capital and different dimensions of health.

The present thesis addresses these questions. This research promotes the understanding of social capital and health in different population groups and contributes to the discussion on methodological issues in social capital and health research. The focus in present thesis is on social capital and health among people aged 85 and above and among Swedish- and Finnish-speakers in Finland.

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Fredrica Nyqvist: Social Capital and Health

2009

Social Capital and Health

Variations, Associations and Challenges



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Social capital (we-attitude)

features of social organization, such as networks, norms, and trust that facilitate action and co-operation for mutual benefits (Putnam, 1993)

To study the major social determinants of ageing related outcomes such as mental well-being, and specifically the role of social capital and loneliness in influencing this outcome



GERDA



Western Finland
Mental Health Survey



COURAGE, ESS

GERDA

GErontological Research Database and Resource Centre



<http://web.novia.fi/gerda>

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- ITALY (coordinator)
- FINLAND
- SPAIN
- POLAND
- WHO

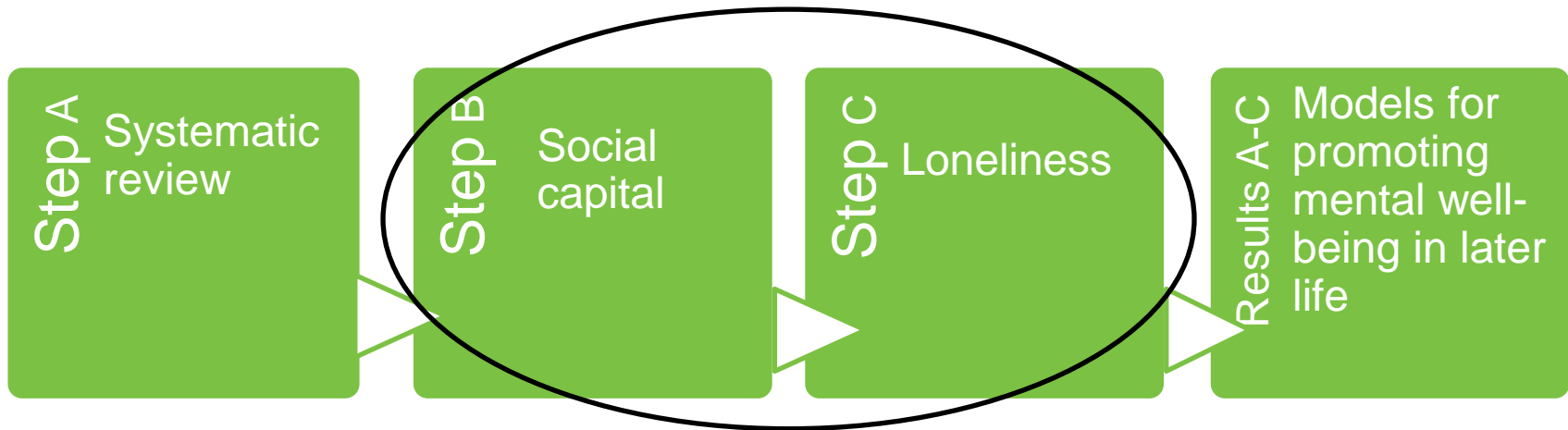
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views & perspectives of the older adults

Study steps



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Thank you!



European
Research
Area in
Ageing 2

