

Social Capital and Participation of Elderly Woman Based on the Sport Acceptance

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

While the definitions are concise, consider briefly elaborating on how these dimensions differ functionally in the context of elderly populations, especially within Iranian culture.

There are at least three tables labeled "Table 1." Please revise the numbering system for all tables for coherence and proper referencing.

These p-values suggest a violation of normality, yet the paper does not discuss how this impacts the use of PLS-SEM. This contradiction should be addressed explicitly.

A factor loading of 0.016 is far below acceptable thresholds and typically indicates deletion. Please justify its inclusion or report that it was excluded from the final model.

The formatting error ("0842") suggests a lack of careful proofreading. It should be corrected to "0.842," and the presentation of reliability coefficients should be standardized.

While many studies are cited in support of findings, theoretical models (e.g., Bourdieu's theory of social capital or Putnam's distinction between bonding and bridging capital) are not discussed. Integrating such frameworks would deepen interpretive strength.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The introduction references global aging trends and social capital dimensions but lacks a contextual discussion of sport participation rates and barriers specific to elderly women in Lahijan or Iran. Adding local statistics would enhance contextual grounding.

The introduction is densely packed with citations but would benefit from clearer distinction between theoretical claims and empirical findings. Some sentences cite up to four sources, which may overwhelm the reader without adding clarity.

This contradicts the earlier description of the sample as “inactive elderly women.” If participants are still employed, please clarify how “inactive” was operationally defined.

The paper does not justify the chosen sample size of 227 respondents. Consider adding a rationale based on power analysis or referencing methodological standards for SEM in social sciences.

Although the AVE square roots exceed inter-construct correlations, the discussion does not include thresholds or implications for validity. Include a sentence confirming that Fornell-Larcker criteria are met.

Since the study is cross-sectional, causal terminology such as “has a significant effect” should be replaced with “is significantly associated with” to reflect correlational design.

The discussion lacks emphasis on the limited generalizability of the findings due to the highly localized and gender-specific sample. This should be discussed more prominently.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.