

Social Connectedness as a Function of Emotional Regulation and Cultural Tolerance: A Psychological Perspective

Mehdi. Rostami^{1, 2*}, Sefa. Bulut³, Nadereh. Saadati^{1, 2}, Jiantang. Yang⁴

¹ Department of Psychology and Counseling, KMAN Research Institute, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada

² Rehabilitation Department, York Rehab Clinic, Toronto, Canada

³ Department of Counseling Psychology & Head of the Counseling Center, Ibn Haldun University, Istanbul, Turkey



⁴ Coventry University London–University House, UK

* Corresponding author email address: mehdirostami@kmanresce.ca

Editor

Xudong Zhao
Professor, Department of Psychiatry
and Psychology, Tongji University,
Shanghai, China
zhaoxd@tongji.edu.cn

Reviewers

Reviewer 1: Fitim Uka
Department of Psychology, University of Prishtina, Prishtina, Kosovo.
Email: fitimuka@gmail.com
Reviewer 2: Abbie Wilson
Department of Psychology, Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA.
Email: abbiewilson@clarku.edu

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction effectively establishes the topic's significance but could benefit from a clearer gap analysis. For instance, after stating, "Given the increasing concern about social isolation in modern society..." consider adding a sentence that highlights specific limitations in previous studies that this research addresses.

The paper describes the scales used but does not provide sufficient justification for their validity within this specific population. Consider adding psychometric properties (Cronbach's alpha, factor analysis results) for the scales within the current sample.

The sentence, "The mean score for social connectedness was 42.65 (SD = 6.87), indicating a moderate level of social connectedness among participants," could be enhanced by comparing this value with normative data or past studies.

The regression model explains 38% of the variance in social connectedness. While statistically significant, is this effect size meaningful in psychological research? Compare with previous studies or discuss the practical significance of this finding.

The beta values ($\beta = 0.41$ for emotional regulation, $\beta = 0.33$ for cultural tolerance) indicate different effect sizes. Consider discussing why emotional regulation has a stronger predictive role than cultural tolerance, possibly linking it to cognitive-affective processes.

The article briefly discusses cultural tolerance but does not explore whether findings hold across different cultural contexts. If possible, compare with studies from different regions or suggest directions for cross-cultural research.

Response: Revised and uploaded the new document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

While the introduction discusses emotional regulation and cultural tolerance as predictors, it lacks a theoretical model to frame these relationships. Consider incorporating a model such as the Social Cognitive Theory (Bandura) or the Broaden-and-Build Theory (Fredrickson) to provide a structured basis for the hypotheses.

The study used a convenience sampling method but does not discuss its limitations. Consider adding a sentence acknowledging potential biases (e.g., self-selection bias) and suggesting how future research could use random or stratified sampling.

The regression analysis includes emotional regulation and cultural tolerance but does not mention potential control variables, such as demographic factors (age, education level). Address whether these variables were examined or justify why they were omitted.

The discussion section mentions previous studies but does not deeply integrate findings with psychological theories. For instance, the Broaden-and-Build Theory (Fredrickson, 2001) could explain why emotional regulation enhances social connectedness.

The study focuses on adult participants, but it does not address whether findings can be generalized to younger or older populations. Consider discussing potential age-related variations in emotional regulation and cultural tolerance.

Response: Revised and uploaded the new document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.