

Video Assignment Planner

Group	
My Name	HANNAH MARI JOHN (Student Number: 2302532)
Other members	Charlene Sadd (0500876)
	Amanda Nobile (1907938)
	Lisa Phillips (1703368)
Our Hot Topic (social issue currently being publicly debated)	
The Hot Topic is Social Isolation.	
Hypothesis / Argument (What will each of us will be arguing in our video?)	
Episode 1 - Hannah will argue that social isolation is prevalent in elderly people, that it has become a concern within health and social care policies, that there are negative effects to the elderly and how to prevent or reintegrate the elderly into society, by promoting social inclusion. Episode 2 - Charlene will discuss children who are socially isolated, and the effects social isolation has had on their health in adulthood and their development throughout childhood Episode 3 - Amanda will discuss the growing universal concern of social isolation for people dealing with mental health, the damaging effects, and interventions on how to combat and prevent this. Episode 4 - Lisa will discuss the effects of isolation on those that take on the caring role and whether welfare and social policies aid organisations striving to mitigate the burden of carers.	
Content (What will I be using to illustrate my argument?)	
I will begin by looking at definitions of old age, through comparison of old age from a global perspective, in the United Kingdom and in Wales, however I argue that although there are global definitions, research shows this is different, by defining old age in Japan and Africa. Old age can be characterised as a social construct, and looking at demographics of age, and to why we have an ageing population. Progressing to define social isolation and its comparison to loneliness, examining reasons as to why the older generation become social isolated linking to disengagement theory. The presentation will then discuss consequences to an individual and the society, before proceeding to discuss ways to prevent or overcome social isolation, with how Wales is approaching to challenge isolation.	

P.T.O.

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References (What research, theory or policies have I used in my Video?)

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Tasks (Other than taking part in the video, who will do what)

Hannah booked a study room on a weekly basis to hold group discussions on planning the video.

Each student was to research social isolation from their chosen characteristic.

Hannah created a new WhatsApp discussion group, as the original group became a social group with students from outside our video group and students from other levels.

Hannah also created a Microsoft Teams group to hold virtual meetings.

The group worked well considering the unprecedented times we find ourselves in.

I have included my slides here, as you may not be able to see them clearly in the video.

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Social Isolation in Old Age

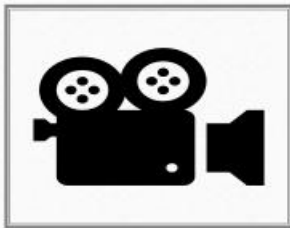
Module Code: SJSI 5002

Student No: 2302532

Student: Hannah Mari John

Video Structure

This is the first of four videos.
Social Isolation from the perspective
of Old Age



Second Video

Charlene – Social Isolation
from the perspective of
Children.



Third Video

Amanda – Social Isolation from
the perspective of people with
mental health concerns.



Fourth Video

Lisa – Social Isolation from the
carers' perspective.



•Content of this video.

- Who are the Elderly?
- Social Constructionism.
- Demographics.
- Social Isolation.
- Causes of Social Isolation.
- Disengagement Theory.
- Effects of Social Isolation.
- Preventing and/or overcoming Social Isolation.

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Who are the Elderly?

- **Globally - People who are 65 years old and over**

(Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development, 2019;
World Health Organization, No Date; United Nations, No Date).

- **For reasons below it could be defined as 65 in the United Kingdom**

- Statistical and policy purposes

(Larkin, 2009)

- Pension

(Gov.uk, 2017)

- **Wales**

- 60 years old and over

(Older People's Commissioner for Wales, 2019)

- **Is this the same globally?**

- Japan – 75 years old and over is defines as old age

(Ouchi *et al.*, 2017)

- Africa – 50 or 55 would be defined as old age

(World Health Organization, No Date)



Social Constructionism

- **Theoretical Viewpoint**

- Reality is observed from the interactions between individuals and groups

(Giddens and Sutton, 2017)

- Derived from the theoretical viewpoint of Symbolic Interactionism

(Galbin, 2014)

- **How does this link to the Elderly?**

- Old age is a socially constructed concept

- Why?

- Because of the difference in definition globally.

- Aging is a biological process

- Young/Old is a form of identification or labelling (Larkin, 2009)

- Social Policy (Hamblin, 2016, cited in Alcock *et al.*, 2016).



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Demographics

•What do we mean by Demographics?

- Study of the population
- Looking at Age (Scott and Marshall, 2009; Grundy, 1983)

•Population in United Kingdom

- In 2016 – 11.8 million people 65 years and over
- Projected that there will be 20.4 million people 65 years and over by 2066 (Office for National Statistics, 2018)

•Population in Wales

- Approx. 830,000 aged over 60 in 2017/2018
- Projected that there will be 1,008,000 people over 60 by 2066 (Older People's Commissioner for Wales, 2019)

• Why is there an increase in older population?

- It is a worldwide aim to have successful aging (von Faber *et al.*, 2001)
- Medical development and improvements (Hamblin, 2016, cited in Alcock *et al.*, 2016; Broody, 1978)
- Increase in life expectancy (Giddens and Sutton, 2017; Hamblin, 2016, cited in Alcock *et al.*, 2016;)
- Lower fertility rates (Giddens and Sutton, 2017; Larkin, 2009)



Image 4 : OBV (2020).

Social Isolation

•What is meant by Social Isolation?

- Objective
- Lack of contacts
 - Social Relationships
 - Family
 - Friends
 - Neighbours
 - Acquaintances (Cottrell, Buffel, Philipson, 2018)

•But different to -

- Loneliness
 - Subjective
 - Can have social networks but feel disconnected (Tobin *et al.*, 2012)

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Social Isolation

•Is it only older people that are at risk of Social Isolation?

- No
- People with illnesses
- People with lower income
- People with mental health issues
- Disabled people
- Single people
- Lone parents
- Children
- Carers

(Larkin, 2009; Machielse, 2006; Henry and Convery, 2006; Simon, 2001)

•What causes Social Isolation?

- Major life events
 - Death of a partner
 - Unemployment
 - Moving
 - Divorce
 - Disability

(Machielse, 2006)

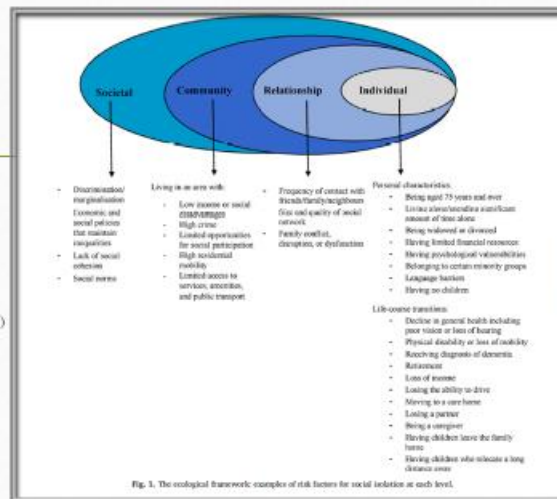


Fig. 3. The ecological framework: examples of risk factors for social isolation at each level.

Image 5: Cotterell, Buffel, Phillipson (2018).

Disengagement Theory

•What is it?

- It is when an older person disengages from society
- It can also be when society disengages with the older people

•Why?

- Retirement
- Less social activities and responsibilities

(Lymbery, 2005; Markson, 1975)

• Functionalist Approach

- Power and control is passed from one generation to another

(Giddens and Sutton, 2017)



Image 6: Ellsbell's48 (No Date).

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Social Isolation

What are the consequences of Social Isolation?

Individual

- Causes Ill-being (Welsh Government, 2020)
- Greater Risk
 - Cardiovascular Disease (Vahorta *et al.*, 2016)
 - Stroke (Vahorta *et al.*, 2016)
 - Depression (Mathews *et al.*, 2016)
 - Dementia (Kupet *et al.*, 2015)
 - Premature Death (Streptoe *et al.*, 2015)

Society

- Increase use
 - Health and Social care services
 - Higher number of emergency admissions
 - GP Consultations (Cotterell, Buffel, Phillipson, 2018)

Social Isolation

- 'Social Isolation remains undetected' (Cotterell, Buffel, Phillipson (2018, p.80).
- Social Isolation is of concern to Social Policy and Public Health (Dickens *et al.*, 2011).



Prevention and Ways to Overcome Social Isolation.

- Working with individuals • Structural interventions • Service provisions
- Technology-based solutions • Community interventions • Group interventions (Cotterell, Buffel, Phillipson, 2018)

Wales

- Strategy
 - Well-being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
 - Social Services and Well-being Act 2014
 - 4 priorities
 - Connecting People
 - Community Services
 - Support
 - Awareness
- (Welsh Government, 2020)

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Conclusion

- *Looked at who the elderly could be – varying definitions globally.
- *How old age is seen as a Social Construct.
- *Demographics – looked at population numbers and the reasons for a growing population
- *Social Isolation – Loneliness
- *Reason for Social Isolation
- *Disengagement Theory
- *Consequences of Social Isolation
- *How to prevent or overcome Social Isolation
- *What is Wales doing to challenge Social Isolation

Thank you
for viewing
this video 😊

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- Brody, E.M. (1978) 'The Aging of Family', *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 438, pp.13-27.
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Image References

- Image 1: Life Care Funding (2014) No Title. Available at: <http://www.lifecarefunding.com/blog/diversity-is-growing-in-senior-housing-and-long-term-care/> (Accessed: 14 May 2020).
- Image 2: Associated Newspapers Ltd (2011) No Title. Available at: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2078261/250-000-elderly-people-II-spending-Christmas-alone.html> (Accessed: 14 May 2020).
- Image 3: Renew Perspectives (No Date) No Title. Available at: <https://renewperspectives.org/courses/course/social-construction-theories-power-to-the-people/> (Accessed: 14 May 2020).
- Image 4: OBV (2020) No Title. Available at: <https://www.obv.org.uk/news-blogs/black-people-socially-isolated-way-covid-19> (Accessed: 16 May 2020).
- Image 5: Cotterell, N., Buffel, T. and Phillipson, C. (2018) 'Preventing Social Isolation in Older People', *Matwitas*, 113, pp.80-84.
- Image 6: Ellsbells48 (No Date) No Title. Available at: <https://ellsbells48.wordpress.com/2014/03/18/d2-evaluate-the-influence-of-two-major-theories-of-ageing-on-health-and-social-care-provision/> (Accessed: 14 May 2020).
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