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Integration at Late Life: Inclusion, Participation, and Belonging among the Elderly

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Theories of Aging and Integration over the Life Course

The question of integration into - or its opposite, the withdrawal from – society among the elderly has generated a number of theories. The disengagement theory of aging, for example, holds that as people get older, their abilities decline and hence, they seek to decrease their activities, assume more passive roles, and interact less frequently with others. As an adaptive process, they shed or lose many of their societal roles including those related to work. This disengagement is seen as normal and beneficial to both the persons involved and the society. The latter is benefited by the orderly means of transfer of power and roles to the younger cohorts (Cumming and Henry, 1961). However, the theory's assumption that the process is inevitable, functional, and universal has been justly criticised (Huyman and Kiyak, 1988, Roadburg, 1989, McPherson, 1998). It fails to explain why there are many who choose not to disengage, and of those who do disengage, many do so involuntarily.

The activity theory, on the other hand, offers an explanation of why older persons choose to remain engaged; that is, as active people grow old, they maintain activities done in their middle age in order to lead a satisfying and well-adjusted life (Havighurst, 1963, 1968). A similar socio-psychological theory of adaptation is the continuity theory. It assumes that persons have different personalities and life styles and that as a means of adaptation in old age, they seek to hold on to their core characteristics and values. They continue to maintain the same means of adaptation to their environment and seek to replace with new roles the old ones that they lose. For satisfaction in life, those who were active in their younger years would, as much as they can, continue to be so in their old age. (Neugartern, Havighurst, and Tobin, 1968). Obviously, these two theories fail to account for the life satisfaction and successful adjustment of those who do choose to disengage, those who, after many years of active life, would prefer 'take things easy' in their old age (Huyman and Kiyak, 1988, Roadburg, 1989, McPherson, 1998).

There are a number of other theories of aging such as exchange theory, conflict theory, phenomenological theory, and adjustment theory, but not one of these theories fully explains the aging process. Roadburg (1989) thinks that attempting to formulate an allencompassing theory of aging is not possible just as there are no theories to explain childhood, teen-age years, or adulthood. In the same manner, while these theories are useful in viewing elderly integration, not one of these theories is expected to fully explain it. An alternative useful way of viewing integration is through a life course perspective, which is a conceptual framework rather than a formal theory. (Hareven, 1990; Gee and Kimbal, 1987). It stems from an assumption of age stratification; that is, each society has strata dividing people into age categories or stages (childhood, young, middle-age, old) and that each stratum has defined social roles and responsibilities (Riley, 1985; Foner, 1975). Chronological age provides an approximate division among these strata. Social age defines the timing at which roles are assumed or at which transitions to certain stages are expected to occur. Age cohort is another determinant of role assumption in that people of the same cohort go through the same historical periods and events (such as war, economic downturn, social movements) that influence the timing of life course transitions (Elder, 1978; Elder and Caspi, 1990, Giele and Elder, 1998)

While broadly based on age stratification, life course perspective takes into account individual, structural, and cohort differences. This assumes that timing of transitions into life course stages could differ, for example, by sex, social class, and ethnic background and that political and economic structural changes could affect life courses of individuals. And, not only do cohorts' experiences influence the timing of transitions but later cohort may challenge age prescriptions and set new trends in the life course transitions (Waring, 1975; Hooyman and Kiyak, 1988).

Integration or the process of coming "into equal participation in or membership of society" (Canadian Oxford Dictionary, 1998) varies with the life course. As children, integration is mainly through school. The youth stage is transitional and thus integration is still through school but the process of getting integrated through work is started. As adults, the most likely means of integration is through work although this is more true for men than women. Many women's means of integration is through volunteering (Ravanera, Rajulton, and Turcotte, 2001). At late life, the means of integration changes yet again from one that is work-oriented to one that is community-oriented through volunteering in organizations, or for some, the change may be from integration to disengagement. This outlines the formal means of integration involving institutions such as schools, work places, and organizations. But, there are informal means of integration as well such as through neighbourhood playgrounds in childhood, socializing with friends in youth and adulthood, and through leisure activities, particularly in late life. These are not dealt with in detail in this paper although "sense of belonging to the community", which is examined in this paper, may be an end result of some of these types of informal integration.

Dimensions of Integration

Integration is social cohesion measured at the individual level. Thus, just as social cohesion is a concept that includes economic, political, and socio-cultural dimensions (Jenson, 1998; Bernard, 1999), so does integration (Ravanera, Rajulton, and Turcotte, 2001). An indicator of economic integration or *inclusion* is labour force participation. Economic integration starts in childhood through education and training in preparation for paid work in adulthood and ends with retirement from work at late life. For the past 3 decades, the trend has been towards early retirement or economic disengagement at younger ages (McDonald and Chen, 1994). This paper re-examines the current trend with use of survey data and speculates on the future based on determinants of economic inclusion and on factors related to the life course.

One political dimension of integration is *participation* in organizations¹. An active and substantial means of integration is spending one's time voluntarily on unpaid activities

¹Another political dimension of social cohesion is 'legitimacy', which refers to how well political groups and institutions represent their constituents (Jenson, 1998, Bernard, 1999).. Individual-level equivalent of legitimacy would be the level of interest and engagement of citizens in the political processes including the choice of their representatives. This could be manifested in their voting behaviour, with the simplest indicator being whether or not they voted in elections.

for the benefit others. The activity theory of aging posits that to maintain their wellbeing, older persons replace the loss of their work roles by volunteering. And, the continuity theory assumes that, for a satisfying life, those who have been volunteering in their younger days would continue to do so at late life (Regula Herzog and Morgan, 1993; Hooyman and Kiyak, 1988). Thus, political participation through volunteering would be beneficial both to the older persons and to society. A life course perspective would assume that the time spent, the motives, the nature of volunteer work and types of organizations would vary according to the life stage of the individuals. While it would be interesting to examine this political dimension of integration in depth, this paper examines only the trends in volunteering over time and the determinants of volunteering among the elderly².

Labour force participation and volunteering in late life are components of what is referred to as "productive aging" that is defined by Caro, Bass and Chen (1993) as "any activity by an older individual that produces goods or services, or develops the capacity to produce them, whether they are to be paid for or not" (p. 6). This definition covers both paid employment and formal volunteering but excludes many other activities of the elderly such as visiting and helping family and friends, education for personal growth, travelling, and leisure activities such as sports and entertainment. Components of productive aging (and hence, the economic and political dimensions of integration) "can be counted, aggregated and assigned some economic value" (Caro, Bass and Chen, 1993, p. 7). In contrast, sense of belonging, a socio-cultural dimension of integration³, is more amorphous. It is likely that those who are economically included and politically active feel that they belong. But those who are not productively aging can feel a strong sense of belonging as well. Informal activities such as socializing, helping family and friends, and engaging in leisure activities could promote integration among the elderly. And, as will be shown below, the nature of communities themselves regardless of individual activities and characteristics is a factor that could affect sense of belonging.

In sum, the integration at late life is distinct from that of earlier life course stages. It consists of economic, political, and socio-cultural dimensions, and the manner of integration is affected by individual characteristics, structural changes, and community factors.

Data and Methodology

The study utilizes data obtained through the Canadian General Social Survey on Time Use conducted in 1986, 1992, and 1998. The analysis is confined to those aged 55 and older, categorized into 3 age groups: 55 to 64 (also referred to as the "*young old*", 65 to 74 (the "*mid-old*"), and 75 and older (the "*oldest old*"). The total weighted cases included are: 2584 in 1986, 2273 in 1992, and 2763 in 1998.

² A more in depth study of volunteering over the life course will be the subject of a separate study using the National Surveys of Giving, Volunteering and Participating.

³ Another dimension is *recognition*, referring to tolerance of pluralism, where people of different beliefs and values peacefully co-exist (Berger, 1998). Elimination of 'ageism', which refers to adverse myths about the elderly, would be a means of promoting 'recognition'.

The surveys gathered data from respondents recording in diaries the time spent on activities in a day. This allows the estimation of average hours spent in various activities by a given group of people, for example men aged 55-64. A comparison of estimates from the three surveys provides a trend over a 12-year period on time spent on paid work, unpaid work including domestic work and volunteering in organizations, and on leisure activities of the elderly.

From the 1998 survey, indicators of dimensions of integration are derived from the data as follows:

Economic: Inclusion - whether or not the respondent has a full or a part-time job. Political: Participation - whether or not the respondent volunteered in the past year.

Socio-cultural: Belonging - whether or not the respondent feels a strong sense of belonging to the community.

These are used as dependent variables in binary logistics regressions with the following independent individual-level variables: *socio-demographic* – age groups, sex, marital status, and education; *health* – self-assessed health status, and activity limitation; *cultural*- first language learned, immigration status, and religious attendance. The use of these variables assumes that integration differ with individual characteristics and circumstances (Rosow, 1965, Hooyman and Kiyak, 1988, Regula Herzog and Morgan, 1993).

In addition, community-level variables were included to examine the influence of neighbourhood characteristics on the dimensions of integration. These variables, derived by Statistics Canada from the 1996 census for each enumeration area, were appended to the individual survey record of each respondent. The percent of population aged 60 and over is used as an indicator of age structure in the community and its inclusion in the analysis assumes that concentration of elderly people in a community promotes greater social integration (Rosow, 1967). Community affluence is indicated by percent with postsecondary education and percent of households with income below the low-income cutoff. Availability of community resources including facilities but also human resources that can serve as role models have been found to influence children and youth outcomes (Kohen et al. 1998, Brooks-Gunn et al, 1993, Jencks and Mayer, 1990). In the case of the elderly, role models may no longer have salience, but opportunities in affluent communities could encourage greater economic inclusion. Availability of facilities could be conducive for group activities and greater social contacts, thereby fostering strong sense of belonging. Joseph and Martin Matthews (1994) show that size and location of communities affect living conditions at late life mainly because rural and urban areas differ in terms of availability of human resources, facilities and services for the elderly. Social environment could also differ. Dayton-Johnson (2001), for example, shows that the level of trust, organization membership, and level of volunteering are higher in rural than in urban areas. Finally, percent of immigrants is used here as a rough indicator of ethnic homogeneity of population, and percent of separated or divorced, an indicator of

normative traditional family values in the community, both of which are postulated to affect the social integration of the elderly.

Disengaged and Enjoying Life? Time Allocation Among Major Activities

With aging, there is a definite shift in time allocation from paid work to leisure activities. Table 1 shows that for both men and women, the time spent on paid work decreases while the time for leisure activities increases with age. Men aged 55-64 in 1986, for example, spent 4 hours on paid work, whereas those aged 75 and over spent 0.4 hours. In contrast, for leisure activities, the young old spent 5.6 hours while the oldest old spent 7.5 hours. Although women spent less time in both paid work and leisure activities, the trend by age is similar to the men's.

For men, the decrease over age in the amount of time spent on paid work holds over the 12-year period (from 1986 to 1998) as well. In all age groups, time spent on paid work is smaller in 1998 than in 1986. The average time spent on paid work by men 55 and older decreased from 2.4 in 1986 to 1.8 hours in 1998 while the time for leisure activities increased from 6.4 in 1986 to 7.2 hours in 1998.

The period trend is different for women in that the younger age groups (55-64 and 65-74) experienced an increase of hours spent for paid work between 1986 and 1998. But, the time they spent on leisure activities was still higher in 1998 than in 1986.

In contrast to paid work, time for volunteering activities of elderly men shows a different trend. In 1992 and 1998, men aged 75 and older spent about the same amount of time volunteering as men aged 55 to 64. This is not true for women in that the oldest women volunteer the shortest time. But overall, the time spent volunteering increased between 1986 and 1998 for both men and women.

The trend toward early retirement and decreasing labour force participation among the elderly, which started as early as the mid 1940s (McDonald and Chen, 1994), has continued up to recent times. Would this decreasing trend continue in the future?

What About the Boomers? Would they Reverse the Trends in Economic Inclusion and Participation?

While the data on time use until 1998 shows a decreasing trend, there are signs that a change in the trend may be happening. Data from the Labour Force Surveys (Table 2), for example, show that while the estimated percentages of full time employed Canadian men aged 55 and older decreased between 1992 and1997, the magnitude of decline (1.3%) is less than that between 1986 and 1992 (6.9%). And, part-time employment of men aged 55-64 increased between 1986 and 1997. For women, the sign that the pattern may be changing is clearer. Young old women's full time employment increased between

1986 and 1997 (from 21.6 to 22.6) and part time employment increased, albeit slightly, for all age-groups.

The cohort that reached age 55 in 1998 were born in 1943, thus, the respondents in both the Time Use and Labour Surveys do not as yet include the 'baby boom' cohorts. Our studies on early and mid-life courses (Ravanera, Rajulton, and Burch, 1998, 1999a, 1999b) have shown that the life courses of the boomers have deviated from those of earlier cohorts. They have, for example, set the trend towards older age at first marriage and first birth and greater variations in the timing of transitions, which point to deviation from age norms. In addition, they have also changed the norm on family formation through popularisation of cohabitation. And, their lower fertility could make a difference in later life in that they will have less family members (children and grandchildren) with whom to spend their leisure days. It would not be surprising therefore if the baby boomers lead a lifestyle at late life different from those of earlier cohorts. The deviation could come in later disengagement from the labour force but also in different means of economic inclusion such as through after-retirement careers, return to colleges and universities, part-time work, or other novel work arrangements.

As will be shown in the results of binary logistics below, education and health are the greatest determinants of employment and volunteering. The future elderly would be more highly educated and are expected to be in better health and to live longer. But the favourable trends in education and health have started some time ago without a commensurate increase in labour force attachment. This indicates that while high education and good health are necessary they are not sufficient conditions for the extension of economic inclusion and political participation at late life. There are other conditions, which, together with education and health, could bring about the change in trend. Foot and Gibson (1994) and McDonald and Chen (1994) have pointed to the coming labour shortage because of the smaller cohorts following the baby boom generation. The changing nature of work, mainly through changes in industrial and occupational structures, is another factor that could bring about longer stay in the work force (McDonald and Chen, 1994). Intense globalisation is changing the nature of work even more. But, while there will be a need for older workers, both papers (by Foot and Gibson and McDonald and Chen) have enumerated the challenges and efforts that the employers and the government have to make in order to make a longer stay in the labour force attractive to the elderly. In similar way, volunteering can also be made more attractive to the highly educated and healthy elderly.

Economic, Political, and Socio-Cultural Integration: What else does the 1998 Survey Tell Us?

In addition to gathering data on time allocation, the 1998 General Social Survey on Time Use asked questions about the labour force participation in the past week, whether or not the respondents volunteered in the past year, and the level of sense of belonging to the

community. Table 3 shows a similar picture of economic inclusion as the time use data⁴. Among Canadian men aged 55-64, 54.6% were employed (50.2% full time and 4.4% part time) but at age 75 and older, only 4.1% are still employed (1.6% full time and 2.5% part time). As expected the level of employment of women is lower: 37.3% at age 55-64 and 0.3% at 75 and older.

While percent volunteering is higher among those aged 55-64 (31.8% for men and 31.5% for women) than among the 75 and older (22.8% and 15.1% respectively), the number of hours spent volunteering per month among those who volunteered is higher for the latter. The oldest men volunteered by about 50 minutes more per month (0.8 of an hour) while the oldest women spent about 4.5 hours more than the young old.

Table 3 shows an indicator of productive aging; that is, the percent of those who were employed in the past week, volunteered in the past year, or did both. Of the young old men, 69.5% were aging productively, 41.5% among the mid old, and 25.3% among the oldest old.

Socio-cultural integration is higher than integration through economic inclusion and political participation. Among elderly men, 74.1% feel a strong sense of belonging to their community with those aged 65-74 having the highest percentage (78.9%). The percentage among women is lower (70.8%) but with also the mid old having the highest percentage at 72.8%. These are remarkably high as among those aged 15-29, the comparable figure is 57% (Ravanera, Rajulton and Turcotte, 2001). This is an indirect indication that the elderly have ways and means of societal integration other than through the formal attachment to institutions such as work and organizations. No doubt informal socializing, visiting and helping friends and families, and doing leisure activities contribute a lot towards integration.

Education and Health: Main Individual Level Determinants of Economic and Political Integration

A multivariate analysis of the three dimensions provides a more detailed understanding of the factors affecting integration. To put into perspective the results of the analysis, it is helpful to recall the profile of the elderly. Table 4 (obtained from the 1998 Survey on Time Use) shows the following well-known facts about the elderly in Canada and will not be discussed extensively:

- There are more women than men and the women to men ratio increases with age.
- The young old are more highly educated with men being more highly educated than women.
- A greater percentage of men are married whereas a higher percentage of women are widows, consequently, more women live alone.

⁴ Note that this is not comparable with the data from the Labour Force Survey as data were collected from different samples.

- Men have a higher proportion of immigrants.
- Women are more frequent attendees of religious services.
- Men at older ages are in better health conditions and less of them have activity limitations.

Table 5 shows the binary logistic coefficients, their significance level, and their exponentials that indicate the likelihood of being employed, have volunteered, or feel a strong sense of belonging relative to the reference category. The control for other variables does not change the age and sex differences already mentioned above; that is, men and the young old are more likely to be employed or economically included. There is no sex differential in volunteering, and as mentioned above, the young old are more likely to have volunteered. Note that this does not consider the time spent volunteering, which is greater among the oldest old than the young old.

The two greatest determinants of economic inclusion are education and health status. Those who have the highest education are about 2.8 times more likely to be employed than those who have low education. And those of good to excellent health are twice as likely as those in poor health to be employed. Expectedly, those with activity limitations are half as likely to be working as those with no limitation.

Similarly, those who have high education are 3.2 times more likely to have volunteered in the past year. Those who are in good health are about 1.5 to 2.0 times more likely to have volunteered, although surprisingly, those with activity limitation are slightly more likely to volunteer than those with no limitations.

Some other variables have significant effects as well. Widows are significantly less likely to be working. In comparison to those born in Canada, the most recent immigrants are less likely to be employed whereas immigrants who arrived before 1970 are more likely to be employed. And, those whose first language is neither English nor French are less likely to volunteer.

Churches are among the organizations that one can volunteer with, thus it is no surprise that those who frequently attend religious services are the most likely to have volunteered over the past year.

Unlike employment and volunteering, sense of belonging to the community is not as greatly influenced by individual-level variables. Marital status, education and activity limitations do not have significant effects on sense of belonging to the community. And, it is only weakly associated with age, gender and first language. But, three variables do have significant effects: Those who consider themselves to be of excellent health, frequent attendees of religious services, and those born in Canada are significantly more likely to feel a strong sense of belonging to their communities.

Do Community Characteristics Matter for Elderly Integration?

The results of binary logistic regression (Table 5, continued) indicate that communities do matter to elderly integration particularly for belonging. The elderly, for example, are more likely to feel a strong sense of belonging though less likely to be employed, in communities with a high density of elderly residents.

They are somewhat more likely to volunteer and to feel a strong sense of belonging in communities rich in human resources, that is, in places where there are high proportions of residents with post-secondary education. They are also more likely to be employed in affluent communities indicated by the small percentage of people below the low-income cut-off.

Size and location of communities do not have an effect on the likelihood of being employed, but the elderly do tend to volunteer and feel a strong sense of belonging in rural areas. And, the relationship seems to be linear; that is, the likelihood that the elderly would volunteer or feel a strong sense of belonging declines as the size of an urban area increases.

And, homogeneity of population and predominant family values seem to matter; that is, the elderly are more likely to feel a strong sense of belonging in communities with low percentage of immigrants and low percentage of separated and divorced. But, they do tend to volunteer more in communities with high levels of immigrants.

Discussion and Conclusion

If sense of belonging were the sole measure of integration, it would seem that the elderly in Canada are well integrated indeed given that a little over 70% of them feel a strong sense of belonging to their communities. This good assessment is bolstered by the findings that sense of belonging does not vary by levels of education, by marital status or by activity limitation and that age, sex, and language are only weakly associated with belonging.

A negative point however is that immigrants are less likely to feel a strong a sense of belonging to their community. More recent elderly immigrants are also less likely to be economically included. These, together with the finding that homogenous communities (communities with low level of immigrants) are conducive to strong sense of belonging, could be taken as indications of societal issues that need to be addressed.

The two other dimensions of integration, namely, economic and political, do not readily lead to general conclusions. At a certain point in the life course, many people do need to disengage from formal involvement in work. However, whether or not the disengagement is a deliberate choice or forced upon the elderly needs to be pondered upon. That the more highly educated and those in good health are more likely to stay in the labour force longer seem to be an indication that, for some, the disengagement might not have been entirely voluntary. Had some been healthier, or in jobs that were more self-fulfilling, would they have chosen to be employed longer?

While there is indeed disengagement at old age, there are many who do choose to be engaged. For this analysis, it does not seem to matter whether they do so because they substitute for activities engaged in at mid-life (as posited by the activity theorists) or continue what they have been used to doing (according to continuity theorists). What is remarkable is that a good proportion of the elderly are economically included and politically active. Forty percent of the mid-old and a quarter of the oldest old men are productively aging. Productively aging women are lower in proportion but are greater in absolute numbers. It seems reasonable to expect that productive aging will increase in the coming years.

If their earlier life courses are any indication, members of the baby boom generation may yet re-define the process of integration at late life. We have mentioned some of the factors that will help bring this about (such as changing nature of work, labour force squeeze, higher education and better health, transformation of families). Rather than being content with informal means of integration that result in strong sense of belonging to communities, they may seek to be integrated through the economic and political dimensions. It becomes imperative to meet the challenges (outlined in earlier studies, for example, by Macdonald and Chen, 1994; Foote and Gibson, 1994) of making the work places conducive to retaining the elderly in the work force. The voluntary sectors will need similar adjustments to be able to take advantage of the resources that could be available with the aging of the baby boom generation. The Canada Volunteerism Initiative is a good step towards this accommodation.

This study has also highlighted the importance of communities, particularly for the sociocultural dimension of integration. The concentration of elderly in communities enhances sense of belonging, which means that social integration of elderly (through having friends and interacting with neighbours) is indeed facilitated by their living among other older people (Rosow, 1961). Affluent communities make economic integration of the elderly easier but they do not necessarily foster strong sense of belonging. It is communities that are rich in human-resource; that is, higher concentration of highly educated individuals enhances sense of belonging. In spite of globalisation, communities are important in the lives of the elderly, which behoves us to nurture and support communities. However, that strong sense of belonging is more likely in rural, homogenous, and communities with traditional family values presents challenges to integration (and to social cohesion), as more communities become urbanized, more heterogeneous, and less traditional.

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Table 1: Time Allocation Among Major Activities Canadians Aged 55 and over, By Age and Sex General Social Survey on Time Use: 1986, 1992, and 1998

Panel 1: Ave	erage Hours	s of Paid V	Vork						
		Males		F	emales				
	1986	1992	1998	1986	1992	1998			
55-64	4.0	3.6	3.4	1.5	1.9	2.0			
65-74	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.3			
75 plus	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0			
55 plus	2.4	2.1	1.8	0.8	0.9	0.9			
Panel 2: Ave	erage Hours	s of Volun	teer Work						
	Males				Females				
	1986	1992	1998	1986	1992	1998			
Volunteer W	ork								
55-64	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.7			
65-74	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.6			
75 plus	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4			
55 plus	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.6			
Panel 3: Ave	erage Hours	s of Leisur	e						
		Males		Females					
	1986	1992	1998	1986	1992	1998			
55-64	5.62	6.28	6.39	5.62	6.31	6.12			
65-74	7.16	7.67	7.92	6.85	7.09	7.41			
75 plus	7.48	7.87	7.90	6.88	7.47	7.68			
55 plus	6.44	7.03	7.22	6.30	6.84	6.97			

Table 2: Estimated Percentage of Full- and Part-Time Employed	
Canadians Aged 55 and Older	
Labour Force Surveys, 1986, 1992, and 1997 by Sex and Age	

Males	Full-Time			Part-Time				
	1986	1992	1997	1986 1992	1997			
55-64	59.36	50.94	50.31	4.28 5.02	5.80			
65-69	12.58	11.88	11.47	5.44 5.43	5.27			
70+	4.06	3.48	3.66	3.44 2.82	2.48			
55+	33.85	27.67	26.40	4.24 4.38	4.53			
Females								
	1986	1992	1997	1986 1992	1997			
55-64	21.61	22.38	22.63	9.43 10.82	10.97			
65-69	18.21	15.53	14.44	3.18 4.03	4.15			
70+	1.98	1.54	1.35	1.00 0.86	1.09			
55+	13.96	12.83	12.13	5.25 5.57	5.55			

Table 3: Labour Force Participation, Volunteering in Past Year, and Sense of Belonging
Canadians Aged 55 and Over, By Age Group and Sex
GSS on Time Use 1998

	Ν	Percent Working Full-Time P	Percent Working Part-Time	Total Percent Working	Percent Volunteer Sj in Past Year Pe	Hours Sent Vol. 3	Percent ductively Aging	Percent with Strong Sense of Belonging
Males								
55-64	567	50.2	4.4	54.6	31.8	15.39	69.5	71.1
65-74	417	10.8	4.1	14.9	30.1	20.09	41.5	78.9
75 plus	245	1.6	2.5	4.1	22.8	16.18	25.3	72.9
55 plus	1229	27.1	3.9	31.0	29.4	17.18	51.2	74.1
Females								
55-64	603	27.2	10.2	37.3	31.5	20.25	58.2	69.5
65-74	489	1.4	3.5	4.9	31.2	17.05	34.8	72.8
75 plus	383		0.3	0.3	15.1	24.80	15.1	70.4
55 plus	1475	11.5	5.4	16.9	27.2	19.69	39.3	70.8

	Males			Females					
	55-64	65-74	75 +	Total	55-64	65-74	75 +	Total	
Sex									
Males / Females	49.6	46.5	39.0	45.9	50.6	53.5	61.0	54.1	
Ν	649	481	286	1416	666	554	447	1667	
Respondent's Education									
Elementary	6.8	17.8	14.6	12.1	12.0	16.4	16.4	14.6	
High School	41.1	46.5	47.0	44.1	45.1	54.1	56.9	51.1	
College	52.0	35.7	38.3	43.8	42.9	29.5	26.6	34.2	
Ν	586	426	253	1265	616	499	383	1498	
Marital Status									
Married or Common-Law	83.8	83.6	70.1	81.0	69.2	54.5	28.3	53.4	
Widowed	2.3	6.9	20.4	7.5	12.8	35.6	62.5	33.7	
Single/Separated/Divorced	13.9	9.6	9.5	11.5	17.9	9.9	9.2	12.9	
Ν	649	481	284	1414	663	554	445	1662	
Living Arrangement									
Alone	12.5	13.3	25.3	15.3	20.6	35.9	58.3	35.8	
With Spouse Only	56.5	69.7	58.9	61.5	53.2	44.9	23.3	42.4	
With Spouse and Children	25.5	11.8	7.4	17.2	13.7	7.2	1.3	8.2	
With Children Only	2.5	2.5	4.2	2.8	6.8	7.6	14.1	9.0	
Other	3.1	2.7	4.2	3.2	5.9	4.5	2.9	4.6	
Ν	648	482	285	1415	666	555	446	1667	
First Language									
English	66.3	67.0	68.2	66.9	65.7	63.4	66.2	65.1	
French	22.5	19.3	17.2	20.4	25.0	24.3	22.7	24.2	
Other	11.2	13.7	14.6	12.7	9.3	12.3	11.1	10.8	
Ν	578	415	239	1232	601	489	370	1460	

Table 4: Profile of Respondents, By Ten-Year Age Groups and Gender, 1998 GSS

Table	4 (cont'd)	: Profile of	Respondents.	Bv Tei	n-Year A	ae Gro	ups and	Gender.	1998 GSS	5
			,			3		,		

	Males							
	55-64	65-74	75 +	Total	55-64	65-74	75 +	Total
Immigration Status								
Born in Canada	72.1	75.7	78.3	74.5	83.4	81.4	79.1	81.6
Immigrated before 1970	20.3	21.9	20.0	20.8	12.1	16.0	14.2	13.9
Immigrated 1970 - 1998	7.6	2.4	1.7	4.7	4.5	2.7	6.7	4.4
Ν	577	415	240	1232	602	488	373	1463
Frequency of Religious Attend	dance							
At Least Once a Week	20.8	28.5	32.4	25.7	31.5	37.2	40.0	35.7
Sometimes	34.3	30.8	26.1	31.4	31.6	30.1	22.0	28.6
Never	23.2	19.3	18.3	20.9	19.7	15.2	16.4	17.3
No Religion	21.7	21.4	23.2	21.9	17.2	17.5	21.6	18.5
Ν	650	481	284	1415	664	554	445	1663
Health Status								
Poor or Fair	14.9	14.6	16.9	15.2	19.1	20.1	22.2	20.2
Good	25.4	27.1	35.2	27.8	25.2	32.8	30.4	29.1
Very Good or Excellent	59.8	58.3	47.9	57.0	55.6	47.1	47.4	50.7
Ν	579	410	236	1225	602	488	365	1455
Activity Limitation								
Yes	24.4	27.8	44.7	29.5	25.1	34.2	43.8	32.8
Ν	578	414	237	1229	602	489	365	1456

Table 5: Coefficients of Binary Logistic Regression of Indicators of Inclusion, Participation, andBelonging, Canadians Aged 55 and older, 1998 General Social Survey on Time Use

	Inclusion B Coeff Exp(B)		Particip B Coeff	ation Exp(B)	Belonging B Coeff Exp(B)		
Individual Characteristics							
Age Groups							
55-64 (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
65-74	-2.13 ***	0.12	0.05	1.05	0.21 *	1.23	
75 plus	-3.50 ***	0.03	-0.68 ***	0.51	-0.03	0.97	
Sex	0100	0.00	0.00	0101	0.00	0.01	
Female (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
Male	0.72 ***	2.06	0.04	1.04	0.17 *	1.19	
Marital Status							
Married or Common-Law (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
Widowed	-0.57 ***	0.57	-0.21	0.81	-0.21	0.81	
Single/Separated/Divorced	0.15	1.16	-0.08	0.92	-0.11	0.89	
Respondent's Education							
Elementary (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
High School	0.55 **	1.73	0.56 ***	1.74	0.07	1.08	
College	1.01 ***	2.75	1.17 ***	3.22	-0.06	0.94	
Health Status	-	-		-			
Fair or Poor (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
Good	0.78 ***	2.18	0.43 ***	1.54	0.52 ***	1.68	
Very Good or Excellent	0.73 ***	2.07	0.69 ***	1.99	0.75 ***	2.11	
Activity Limitation							
No Limitation (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
Has Activity Limitation	-0.92 ***	0.40	0.25 **	1.28	0.02	1.02	
First Language							
English (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
French	0.07	1.08	0.10	1.11	-0.24 *	0.79	
Other	-0.04	0.96	-0.72 ***	0.49	0.01	1.01	
Immigration Status							
Born in Canada (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
Immigrated before 1970	0.48 ***	1.62	0.07	1.08	-0.41 ***	0.67	
Immigrated in 1970-1998	-1.14 **	0.32	-0.50	0.61	-0.63	0.53	
Religious Attendance							
At least Once a Week (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
Sometimes	0.47 ***	1.59	-0.96 ***	0.38	-0.60 ***	0.55	
Never	-0.05	0.95	-1.39 ***	0.25	-1.09 ***	0.34	
No Religion	0.25	1.29	-0.92 ***	0.40	-0.97 ***	0.38	

Table 5 (Cont'd): Coefficients of Binary Logistic Regression of Indicators of Inclusion, Participation, and Belonging, Canadians Aged 15-29, 1998 General Social Survey on Time Use

	Inclusion		Particip B Cooff	ation	Belonging B Cooff Exp(B)		
	B COell	схр(б)	B Coeli	схр(в)	B Coen	схр(с)	
Community Characteristics							
Percent of Population Aged 60	0 and over						
0-9% (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
10-19%	-0.15	0.86	0.17	1.19	0.31 **	1.37	
20-29%	-0.59 ***	0.55	0.15	1.16	0.43 ***	1.54	
30% and over	-0.35	0.70	0.22	1.25	0.49 ***	1.63	
Percent with Post-Secondary	Educ						
0-40% (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
41-60%	-0.11	0.89	-0.16	0.85	0.10	1.10	
61% or higher	-0.30	0.74	0.27 *	1.31	0.33 **	1.39	
Percent below Low Income Cu	ut-Off						
30% or over (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
20-29%	0.48 **	1.62	-0.01	0.99	0.30 *	1.35	
10-19%	0.49 **	1.63	0.15	1.16	-0.06	0.95	
0-9%	0.41 *	1.50	0.15	1.16	-0.07	0.94	
Size and Location							
Rural (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
Urban < 1000 - 99999	-0.16	0.85	-0.09	0.91	-0.22	0.80	
Urban 100000 or more	0.27	1.31	-0.46 ***	0.63	-0.48 ***	0.62	
Percent Immigrants							
0% (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
1-5%	-0.15	0.86	0.22	1.25	-0.49 **	0.61	
6-14%	0.16	1.18	0.57 ***	1.78	-0.40 *	0.67	
15% or higher	0.37	1.44	0.41 *	1.51	-0.30	0.74	
Percent Separated/Divorced							
0-3% (R)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	
4-8%	-0.09	0.91	0.06	1.06	-0.18	0.84	
9% or higher	0.04	1.04	0.10	1.10	-0.41 **	0.66	
Constant	-2.15 ***	0.12	-1.85 ***	0.16	1.44 ***	4.20	
Number of Weighted Cases	2590		2636		2539		
Nagelkerke R Squared	44.6%		18.1%		12.0%		

Levels of Significance: *** 1%, ** 5%, * 10%