

## Abstract

Socioemotional selectivity theory suggests that when individuals' future time perspective is limited, they will prioritize emotionally meaningful goals as these goals provide immediate payoffs. Most experimental research which tested this theory has relied on paradigms in which younger and older participants are asked to make choices on social goals. The present study tested whether other emotionally meaningful goals such as self-transcendent and hedonism goals are prioritized under perceived time limitations by asking younger and older participants to card-sort goals. Findings revealed that older participants prioritized self-transcendent and hedonism goals more than did younger participants. Experimentally manipulating future time perspective generally did not alter these age differences in goals. These findings suggest that the emotionally regulatory goals examined in previous studies may not fully cover all the emotionally meaningful goals that get prioritized with age.