

Abstract

While we are celebrating the fact that people are living longer nowadays, the inevitable expansion in aging population has caught attention of the society and many researchers of the field. Despite the increase in aged population, people generally hold negative attitude towards elderlies, which not only harms the well-being of old people but also themselves as they grow old. While many other current studies have been focusing on attitude towards aging as a precursor of age-related outcomes such as declining health, this study attempt to assess how one's self-evaluation on current situation could predict the attitude towards aging regarding to close social relationships, peripheral relationships and health. Using a cross-cultural dataset of Hong Kong, USA and Germany with participants aged 30-85, current situation was found to positively predict the attitude towards aging. Results also suggested the moderation effect of culture on the association, with peripheral relationships affected by culture the most among the three life domains, followed by close relationships and health. Furthermore, it was found that stronger association between current situation and the attitude towards aging were more likely to be found in more collectivist cultures than individualistic ones.