

Contents

INTRODUCTION	1
The Road to Theory in the Field of Social Support <i>Barbara R. Sarason, Irwin G. Sarason, and Gregory R. Pierce</i>	
PART ONE THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS OF DEFINING AND ASSESSING SOCIAL SUPPORT	7
1 Traditional Views of Social Support and Their Impact on Assessment	9
<i>Barbara R. Sarason, Irwin G. Sarason, and Gregory R. Pierce</i>	
The Historical Origins of Assessment Approaches, 12	
The Need for Redefinition and Reconceptualization, 20	
2 What Structural Equation Modeling Can Tell Us About Social Support	26
<i>Michael D. Newcomb</i>	
Components of Structural Equation Models, 27	
Social Support Applications of Structural Equation Modeling, 37	
Advantages, Limitations, and Future Research, 58	
3 Social Support in Young Children: Measurement, Structure, and Behavioral Impact	64
<i>Ana Mari Cauce, Molly Reid, Sharon Landesman, and Nancy Gonzales</i>	
Measurement Issues in Assessing Children's Social Support, 67	
Young Children's Social Support Networks, 73	
Summary and Overview, 85	
Tips for Selecting Measures of Children's Social Support, 86	
Future Directions in Social Support Research with Young Children, 88	
PART TWO SOCIAL SUPPORT IN PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS	95
4 Social Support: The Sense of Acceptance and the Role of Relationships	97
<i>Barbara R. Sarason, Gregory R. Pierce, and Irwin G. Sarason</i>	
Social Support as a Personality Characteristic, 98	
The Attachment Experience as a Source of Perceived Social Support, 100	
Research on Predicted Correlates of Perceived Social Support as Derived from Attachment Theory, 104	

	Perceived Social Support as the Sense of Acceptance,	109
	The Role of Relationships in Social Support,	110
	A Quick Survey of Relationship Research,	110
	Social Support in Relationships,	116
	Conflict and Social Support in Relationships,	117
	Understanding the Role of Specific Types of Relationships in Social Support,	117
	A Theoretical Model,	118
	A New Approach to Social Support,	121
5	Social Support, Interdependence, and the Dilemmas of Helping	129
	<i>James C. Coyne, John H. Ellard, and David A. F. Smith</i>	
	Unsupported Assumptions in the Study of Social Support,	130
	Stress, Coping, and Support in Close Relationships: The Michigan Family Heart Study,	132
	Interdependence and the Dilemmas of Helping,	138
	Summary: The Dilemmas of Helping and the Paradox of Interdependence,	145
6	From Self to Health: Self-verification and Identity Disruption	150
	<i>William B. Swann, Jr. and Jonathon D. Brown</i>	
	The Nature and Function of Self-conceptions,	151
	Developing a Self-confirmatory Social Environment,	153
	The Psychological Consequences of Self-confirmatory Feedback,	158
	The Mind-Body Link: Stress, Identity Disruption, and Health,	161
	The Cognitive-Affective Crossfire and Health,	165
	Summary and Conclusions,	167
7	The Role of Reciprocity in Social Support	173
	<i>Toni C. Antonucci and James S. Jackson</i>	
	Theoretical Issues,	174
	Empirical Data on Reciprocal Relationships in Older Age,	181
	Correlates of Support Relationships,	184
	Summary and Conclusions: Implications for a Theory of Life-span Reciprocity and Well-being,	193
8	Stress and Support in Stepfamily Formation: The Cultural Context of Social Support	199
	<i>David Jacobson</i>	
	A Paradigmatic Shift in the Study of Social Support,	199
	Psychosocial Transitions and the Study of Meaning,	201
	Culture and Meaning,	202
	Stepfamilies and Stress,	203
	Psychological and Structural Explanations of Stepfamily Stress,	204
	Cultural Explanations of Stepfamily Stress,	206
	Stepfamily Support,	209
	Stepfamily Support Groups,	209
	Directions for Future Research,	213
9	Social Relationships as a Source of Companionship: Implications for Older Adults' Psychological Well-being	219
	<i>Karen S. Rook</i>	
	Companionship and Social Support,	221

Processes That Link Companionship to Psychological Well-being,	225
The Construct of Need in Analyses of Companionship,	231
Solitude and Companionship,	236
Conclusion,	240

PART THREE SOCIAL SUPPORT AND COPING WITH STRESS 251

10 Social Support, Stress, and the Immune System 253

Susan Kennedy, Janice K. Kiecolt-Glaser, and Ronald Glaser

Background: Immune Function,	253
Basic Research: Stress and Immune Function,	254
Interpersonal Relationships and Health,	255
Loneliness and Immune Function,	256
Marital Disruption and Immune Function,	257
Caregiving and Immune Function,	259
Self-disclosure, Immune Function, and Health,	260
Health Implications,	262

11 Differentiating the Cognitive and Behavioral Aspects of Social Support 267

Christine Dunkel-Schetter and Tracy L. Bennett

The Distinction Between Available and Received Support,	269
Possible Explanations of the Discrepancy Between Available and Received Support,	275
Possible Mediators of the Discrepancy Between Available and Received Support,	280
The Effects of Social Support,	284
Further Theoretical Implications of the Distinction,	288

12 Hardiness and Social Support 297

Paul H. Blaney and Ronald J. Ganellen

The Constructs and Their Measurement,	298
The Relation Between Hardiness and Social Support,	301
Hardiness and Social Support as Sources of Well-being,	303
Hardiness and Social Support as Buffers,	307
Hardiness \times Social Support \times Stress Effects,	309
Hardiness and Coping,	310
Future Directions,	312

13 Type of Social Support and Specific Stress: Toward A Theory of Optimal Matching 319

Carolyn E. Cutrona and Daniel W. Russell

Multidimensional Models of Social Support,	321
Dimensions of Stress,	324
A Model of Optimal Matching Between Stress and Social Support,	329
A Review of Social Support Research,	332
Evaluation of Fit into the Theoretical Model,	357

14 The Role of Social Environments in Social Support 367

Barton J. Hirsch, Alexis Engel-Levy, David L. DuBois, and Patrick H. Hardesty

Early Adolescence and the School–Nonschool Ecology of Peer Support,	367
---	-----

School Networks and the Quality of Work–Nonwork Life, 375
Social Network Density, 383
Conclusions, 389

PART FOUR SOCIAL SUPPORT APPLICATIONS AND INTERVENTIONS IN CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY SETTINGS 395

15 The Role of Coping in Support Provision: The Self-presentational Dilemma of Victims of Life Crises 397
Roxane Cohen Silver, Camille B. Wortman, and Christine Crofton
The Victimization Perspective, 399
Conveying Distress: Social Versus Personal Consequences, 401
The Self-presentational Dilemma of Support Seeking, 402
The Study, 406
Implications of Our Analysis, 416
Directions for Future Research, 419

16 The Functional Effects of Social Relationships on Chronic Illnesses and Disability 427
Robert M. Kaplan and Michelle T. Toshima
The Relationship Between Social Support and Physical Health, 427
Childhood Illnesses, 431
Social Support and Health Outcomes in Adults, 436
Conclusions, 443

17 Social Support During Extreme Stress: Consequences and Intervention 454
Stevan E. Hobfoll and Mary Ann Parris Stephens
The Concepts of Social Support and Stress, 455
The Conservation-of-Resources Model, 456
The Nature of Major Stressors, 458
Illness as a Major Stressor, 459
War as a Major Stressor, 465
Intervention Efforts Based on Social Support, 468
A Blueprint for Intervention, 472
Future Directions for Graduate Training, Service Planning, and Research, 475

18 The Role of Social Support in Community and Clinical Interventions 482
Kenneth Heller, Richard H. Price, and John R. Hogg
The Definition and Scope of Social Support and Support Interventions, 483
Prisms of Social Support: Gender, Social Class, and Life Stage, 490
Conclusions, 503

Author Index 509

Subject Index 521