

Brief Sense of Community Scale

Below is a measure of sense of community (SOC), the Brief Sense of Community Scale (BSCS), which was published in Peterson, Speer & McMillan (2008). The BSCS was designed to assess the dimensions of needs fulfillment, group membership, influence, and emotional connection as defined in the McMillan and Chavis (1986) theoretical model. This scale was developed to address method bias and other limitations of previous SOC measures, which demonstrated poor reliability and validity or which could not be conveniently and efficiently administered in applied community contexts (see Peterson, Hughey & Speer, 2006, for a review). The BSCS items were designed to reference respondent neighborhood and use a 5-point, Likert-type response option format ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree. The BSCS was found to have strong internal consistency. Cronbach's alpha for the overall BSCS was .92. Alphas among the subscales were .86 for needs fulfillment, .94 for group membership, .77 for influence, and .87 for emotional connection. Confirmatory factor analysis supported the first-order and second-order structures of the BSCS, providing evidence for the factorial validity of the measure. Furthermore, in support of the measure's construct validity, the overall BSCS scale and its subscales were also found to be correlated as expected with community participation, psychological empowerment, mental health, and depression.

Below are a set of statements about your neighborhood. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with these statements by placing a check mark in the appropriate box.

* Indicates required question

Questions 1-2

Scoring Scale

- 1= Strongly Disagree
- 2= Somewhat Disagree
- 3= Neutral
- 4= Somewhat Agree
- 5= Strongly Agree

1. 1. I can get what I need in this neighborhood. *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Stro Strongly Agree

2. 2. This neighborhood helps me fulfill my needs. *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Stro Strongly Agree

Questions 3-5

Scoring Scale

1= Strongly Disagree

2= Somewhat Disagree

3= Neutral

4= Somewhat Agree

5= Strongly Agree

3. 3. I feel like a member of this neighborhood. *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Stro Strongly Agree

4. 4. I belong in this neighborhood. *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Stro Strongly Agree

5. 5. I have a say about what goes on in my neighborhood. *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Stro Strongly Agree

Questions 6-8

Scoring Scale

1= Strongly Disagree

2= Somewhat Disagree

3= Neutral

4= Somewhat Agree

5= Strongly Agree

6. 6. People in this neighborhood are good at influencing each other. *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Stro Strongly Agree

7. 7. I feel connected to this neighborhood. *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Stro Strongly Agree

8. 8. I have a good bond with others in this neighborhood. *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Stro Strongly Agree

Survey Submission

If you have decided not to participate, please close your browser window now.
If you are still willing, then click the submit button below.

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