

Abstract

Family members and friends are important for the psychological well-being of the elderly (e.g. Cornell, 1992; Smyer & Qualls, 1999). Relationship between the elderly and family members and friends has been investigated in terms of quality of relationship and perceived importance of relationship (e.g. Siu & Phillips, 2002; Mullins & Mushel, 1992). The present study provides support that, in general, quality of family relationship contributes more to the well being of the elderly than quality of friendship and perceived importance of relationship do. Independent self-construal was found to moderate the relationship between quality of family relationship and life satisfaction. Extraversion was found to moderate the relationship between perceived importance of family over friends and happiness.