

## ABSTRACT

The aim of the present was to examine the relationship between sense of community, optimism and loneliness in adolescents. It also aimed to find out the predictive role of sense of community in optimism and loneliness. Convenience sampling was used for data collection. The sample comprised of school and college students ( $N= 300$ ) with the age range of 13-19 years among them (150 men, 150 women) belonging to different socioeconomic status (SES), educational level and subjects were taken. Sense of Community Scale for adolescents (SoC-A; Chiessi et al., 2010), Life Orientation Test –Revised (LOT-R) Scheier, M. F., Carver, C. S., & Bridges, M. W. (1994). UCLA Loneliness (Russell, D, Peplau, L. A. & Ferguson, M. L. ,1978) were administered on the participants along with demographic sheet. Correlational analysis was used to investigate the relationship among study variables. Findings indicated that sense of community was positively correlated with optimism and negatively correlated with loneliness, Optimism was negatively related with life loneliness. Hierarchal Regression analysis revealed that sense of community was predictor of optimism and loneliness. Independent sample *t*-test analysis showed no significant gender differences of gender sense of Community, optimism loneliness. Study 2 was qualitative in nature. Semi structured interviews were conducted with 2 males and 2 females. Data was further analyzed using principles of interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA). The analysis yielded in three major themes that are generated from the verbatim of adolescents. These themes described the experiences of adolescents regarding sense of community, optimism and loneliness. Implications

of the study are discussed. This study has wide implications in clinical and educational, community, social and positive psychology.

**Keywords:** *Sense of community, Optimism, Loneliness, Adolescents*