

## Understanding Society User Support - Support #1220

### Loneliness

07/26/2019 02:15 PM - Sofi Nickson

<b>Status:</b>	Resolved	<b>Start date:</b>	07/26/2019
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>% Done:</b>	100%
<b>Assignee:</b>			
<b>Category:</b>			
<b>Description</b> Is there any documentation on why the response options for loneliness questions are 'hardly ever or never' as opposed to just 'hardly ever'?			

### History

#### #1 - 07/26/2019 03:40 PM - Alita Nandi

- File *Loneliness-Measurement-Guidance1-1.pdf* added
- Status changed from New to In Progress
- Assignee set to Sofi Nickson
- % Done changed from 0 to 50
- Private changed from Yes to No

Dear Sofi,

Response from our Questionnaire Team: We didn't choose the response options. These come from a recognised/validated set of questions (see pages 17-21 in the attached). As indicated in the questionnaire ('Source') we have the UCLA 3-item Loneliness Scale (SCLACKCOM, SCLEFTOUT, SCISOLATE) plus an extra question from ELSA (SCLONELY).

Does this answer your question? If not, please let us know.

Best wishes,  
Alita

#### #2 - 07/29/2019 09:38 AM - Sofi Nickson

Dear Alita,

On the UCLA measure the response options are 'hardly ever', 'some of the time' and 'often', but the documentation I found for U-Soc said 'hardly ever or never' instead of 'hardly ever'.

This is the specific bit I was confused about because I was told it uses the UCLA measure but actually the response options are different.

Thanks,  
Sofi

#### #3 - 07/30/2019 09:21 AM - Alita Nandi

Hi Sofi,

I have passed on your query to the questionnaire team. I will get back to you as soon as I hear from them.

Best wishes,  
Alita

#### #4 - 07/31/2019 03:26 PM - Alita Nandi

- % Done changed from 50 to 80

Hi Sofi,

Our Questionnaire Team have clarified that we used the response options that ELSA used for the UCLA 3-item loneliness scale. The short document that we uploaded earlier implies that there is some variation in how the response options are used as it talks about the UCLA 3-item scale 'generally' using the categories: Hardly ever / Some of the time / Often. The ONS have issued guidance on measuring loneliness and they recommend the wording and response options that ELSA use for the UCLA 3-item loneliness scale. See here

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/methodologies/measuringlonelinessguidanceforuseofthenationalindicatorsonsurvey>

Hope this helps.

Best wishes,  
Alita

**#5 - 08/14/2020 05:30 PM - Alita Nandi**

- Status changed from *In Progress* to *Feedback*

**#6 - 08/15/2022 02:56 PM - Understanding Society User Support Team**

- Status changed from *Feedback* to *Resolved*

- Assignee deleted (*Sofi Nickson*)

- % Done changed from 80 to 100

**Files**

---

Loneliness-Measurement-Guidance1-1.pdf	566 KB	07/26/2019	Alita Nandi
--	--------	------------	-------------