



Is personality related to social well-being? Associations between social health measures and personality pathology dimensions



Kassandra Gray, BS & Jeffrey M. Girard, PhD
The University of Kansas

Background

Social Health:

- The extent to which social/interpersonal relationships, functioning, participation, quantity, quality, & satisfaction contribute to one's well-being¹ (Table 1)
- well-researched within physical health
- less studied in mental health

Personality Pathology:

- DSM-5's Alternative Model of Personality Disorders² (AMPD)
- Disturbed self and social functioning
- 5 pathological trait domains³ (Table 2)

Integration:

- Theoretically, Detachment and Antagonism are especially social

Research Question

How do the AMPD personality pathology domains relate to different aspects of social health?

Methods

Procedure: two-stage recruitment:

1. IIP-3 screener⁴ to determine eligibility (high risk for personality pathology)
2. Eligible participants were invited to complete longer self-report battery

Participants:

- Online American adult sample at high risk for personality pathology (n=297)
- 85% White, 12% Hispanic/Latino, 7% Black, 7% South/East Asian
- 36% men, 59% women, 4% non-binary
- 35% single, 60% in a relationship

Measures:

- Personality Inventory for the DSM-5 (PID-5-FSF) domain scores⁵
- Self-report measures of social health (many from PROMIS[®])⁶⁻⁸

Analyses

- Zero-order correlations between PID-5 and social health measures

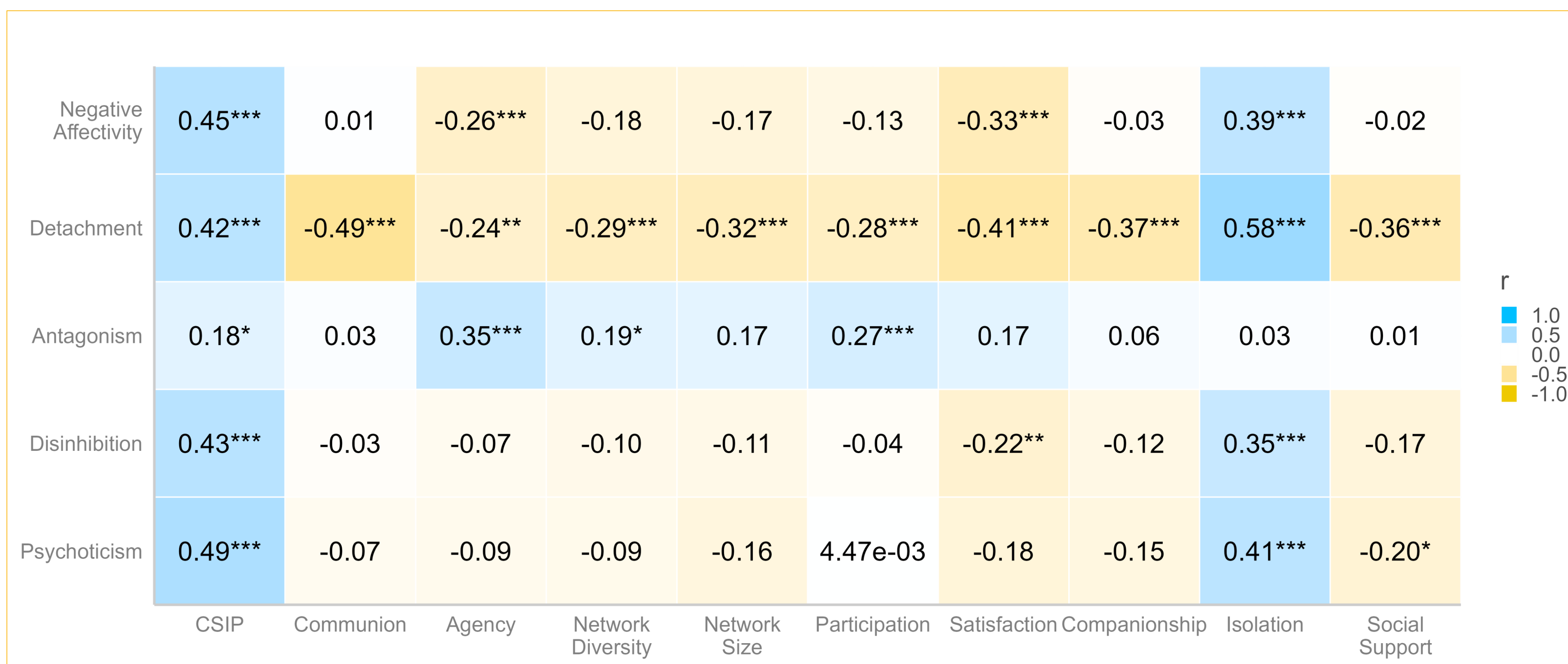
Table 1

Social Health Measure	Definition
Network Size ⁷	Number of people in one's social network
Network Diversity ⁷	Number of domains/groups participated in
Social Participation	How often one participates in their social network & societal activities with others
Social Role/Activity Satisfaction ⁸	One's satisfaction with their ability to fulfill their desired social roles and activities
Social Support ⁸	Having another to provide emotional, instrumental, & informational support
Companionship ⁸	The extent to which one has a companion with whom to participate in activities
Isolation ⁸	The extent to which a person feels emotional and social distance from others
Interpersonal Problems (CSIP) ⁶	Common problems in social settings organized around Agency & Communion

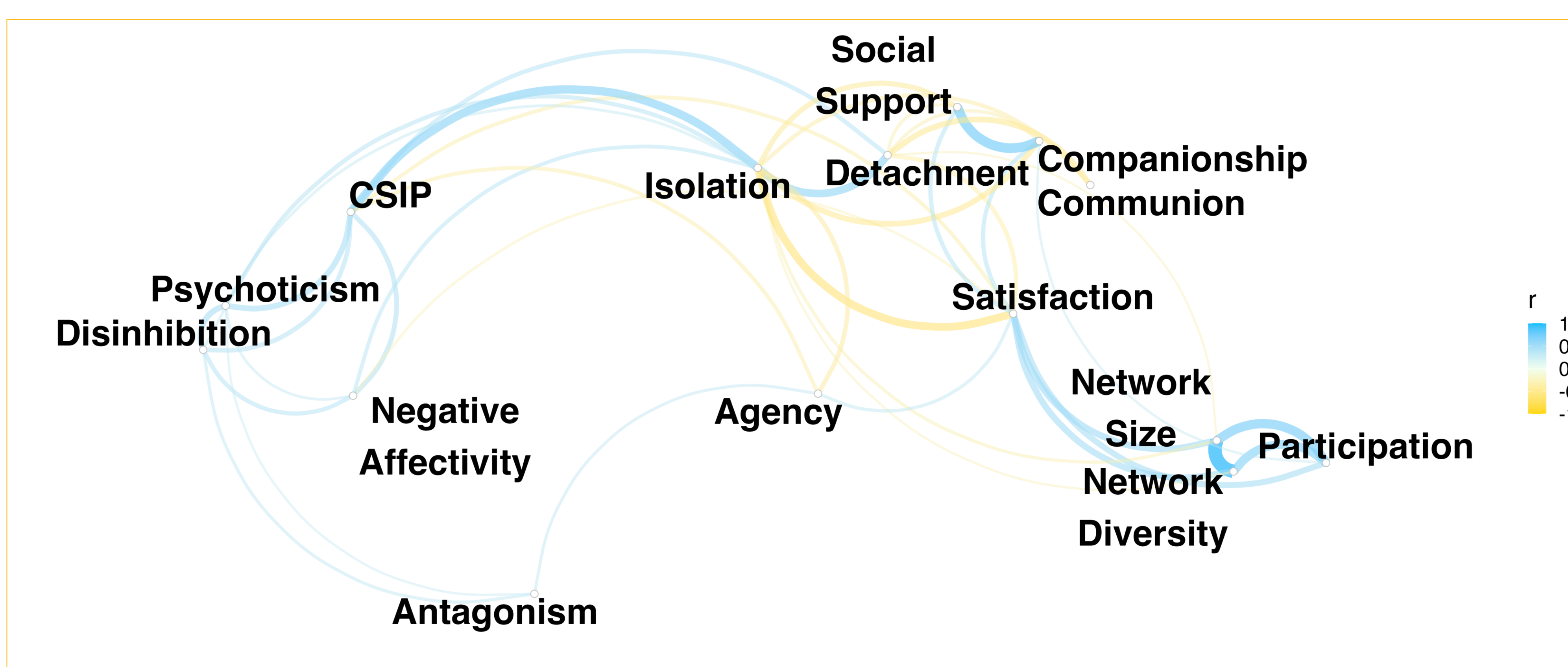
Table 2

AMPD Domain ^{2,5}	Primary PID-5 Facets/Traits ^{2,5}
Negative Affectivity	Emotional Lability, Anxiousness, Separation Insecurity
Detachment	Withdrawal, Anhedonia, Intimacy Avoidance
Antagonism	Manipulativeness, Deceitfulness, Grandiosity
Disinhibition	Irresponsibility, Impulsivity, Distractibility
Psychoticism	Unusual Beliefs or Experiences, Eccentricity, Perceptual Dysregulation

Results



Heatmap of Correlation Matrix (*p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .001)



Network Plot of Correlation Matrix (position by multidimensional scaling)

Conclusion

Findings:

- Negative Affectivity: +CSIP, -Agency, -Satisfaction, +Isolation
- Detachment: +CSIP, +Isolation, -All Other Social Health Variables
- Antagonism: +CSIP, +Agency, +Network Diversity, +Participation
- Disinhibition: +CSIP, -Satisfaction, +Isolation
- Psychoticism: +CSIP, +Isolation, -Social Support

Implications:

- Treatment: address further areas of social functioning & participation
- Personality pathology is potentially more characterized by social factors than previously thought⁹
- Disorders & symptoms related to PID-5 domains might be more interpersonal in nature than currently outlined in HiTOP
- HiTOP currently focuses on symptoms, but our results call for greater consideration of the social consequences of those symptoms

Future Directions:

- Use factor analysis to organize social health variables into a nomological network
- Test relationships with more sophisticated latent variable models

References

1. Bode et al. (2010). Measuring participation: The patient-reported outcomes measurement information system experience.
2. American Psychiatric Association. (2022). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed., text rev.).
3. Kotov et al. (2017). The Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP): A dimensional alternative to traditional nosologies.
4. Pilkonis et al. (2019). Screening for personality disorders: A three-item screener from the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems (IIP-3).
5. Maples et al. (2015). Testing whether the DSM-5 personality disorder trait model can be measured with a reduced set of items: An item response theory investigation of the personality inventory for DSM-5.
6. Boudreaux et al. (2018). Development and validation of the Circumplex Scales of Interpersonal Problems. Cohen et al. (1997). Social ties and susceptibility to the common cold.
7. Cohen et al. (1997). Social ties and susceptibility to the common cold.
8. HealthMeasures. (2023). <https://www.healthmeasures.net/>.
9. Wright, et al. (2022). It's time to replace the personality disorders with the interpersonal disorders.

