

## Reply to the Discussant 1 Comment

Thank you so much such valuable comment.

I will start answering from the beginning.

1. About the three indices, i.e. social, physical and financial. The comment was to give more justification. All through my review of literature all the empirical and theoretical studies that I have quoted have given scenario of any of this three dimension, i.e. economic dependency and discrimination faced by elderly because of that, feeling of not being important, lack of care from the children, and moreover poor functional status and disability in older ages constraining their satisfaction about life. So I think as per as justification about using these three dimensions are concern, it's pretty justified as this encompasses almost all the dimensions of life of an individual especially elderly.
2. Comment regarding the questions involved in the Social Support Index, if one go through SAGE data and the chapter 7 i.e. subjective wellbeing, they can clearly find the question regarding the satisfaction about living arrangement, decision-making role, and elderly's perception about their importance in family. Literature too support that these more so in elder ages are very crucial dimension and have a huge role in developing the elderly's perception about quality of life. Also the query regarding the term "social support index" is pretty valid. But what I feel is that since the title of my study clearly mentions the term familial care in it, so it is implied that all the dimensions used in the study are in lieu of family relationship, so index of social, financial are all in relation to the family perspective. Thus I think it's pretty valid to use the term "social support index" (which implies social support from family).
3. Here the care variable is more of support and care which I have used synonymously at the beginning of my study, and it's properly checked and aligned with the title and name of index. Still I will check it once more as per the suggestion. Thank you for this comment.
4. Thank you for this valuable comment about discussion on the three categories, cut-off point, coding of this variable. Due to word limit I have not been able to include the detail in the paper, which is there in the full paper. So here I am putting that part of the paper which states it.

*"Our social support index is a weighted average of three questions asked in the survey to the elderly, which signifies three dimension of social life of elderly. They are "feel about present living arrangement", "change of role in decision-making with age", "perception about importance of oneself in the family". Initially the survey questions had five categories from very unsatisfied to very satisfied, which for the purpose of simplicity and get substantial frequency have been recoded into three categories, where bottom two form "bad", middle one the "average" and top two "good". Equal weightage have been given to the all three aspects while creating the index which consists of three categories. For economic support we have used the data about what percentage of the sample elderly population thinks children, spouse and others as their first choice of economic support. In this case the proportions of elderly sample that are not at all dependent on anybody are not considered and hence it has resulted in reduction of the sample to some extent. But through thorough examination it was revealed that this was the best aspect of showing economic support and also the sample is still quite satisfactory for carrying out multinomial estimation. And for physical support, the*

*question of proportion of sample elderly population expressing spouse, children and others as physically accompanying them for ailments is taken as a proxy for providing physical support to the elderly, as it was found to be most suitable question from the study.”*

5. It is true that more on the methodology has to be mentioned and it is in-details mentioned in the full paper. I will surely check on the multi-co linearity aspect of the variable. I am grateful for this suggestion. But on the inclusion of the states. Initially I did include them initially, but surprisingly there was not much variation in the perception of level of care and support among the elderly in the eight states where this survey is conducted. But as you have suggested I will again look into the matter.
6. Yes you are absolutely right about including a table with the background characteristics marital status of the respondents, number of children they have, age composition, health status, financial status, which I dropped because of the restriction of the length of the paper. I will surely put up that table.
7. Actually though gender differential is a very significant in perception about life, and during analysis we have discussed a lot on it, the focus of this study has been to study the perception of elderly (overall) about the quality of familial care, and incorporating gender dimension in this paper will broaden the horizon too much and will be too big for one paper. Surely gendered perception about the quality of familial care is a very poignant topic to another study.
8. I will surely take care of this technical suggestion regarding the presentation.