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# Refining the Assessment of Need Supportive and Need Thwarting Interpersonal Behaviors Using the Bifactor Exploratory Structural Equation Modeling Framework

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## Refining the Assessment of Need Supportive and Need Thwarting Interpersonal Behaviors Using the Bifactor Exploratory Structural Equation Modeling Framework

#### Abstract

The present research assessed the psychometric multidimensionality and criterion-related validity the Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire using the bifactor-exploratory structural equation modeling framework. Study 1 relied on a sample of 772 participants, and supported the superiority of a bifactor-ESEM representation compared to alternative representations. Ratings of need supportive and thwarting behaviors simultaneously reflected a global overarching need nurturing behaviors construct (rather than two separate need-supportive and need-thwarting behaviours), which co-existed with six specific dimensions (autonomy, competence, and relatedness need supportive and thwarting behaviors). These results were replicated in a second independent sample of 742 participants and across gender. Our findings supported the criterion-related validity of interpersonal behaviors in relation to positive affect, negative affect, and need fulfillment across samples and genders. We finally discuss the theoretical and practical implications of relying on the bifactor-ESEM framework when investigating need supportive and thwarting interpersonal behaviors.

**Keywords:** bifactor; exploratory structural equation modeling (ESEM); Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire (IBQ); need support and thwarting; Self-Determination Theory (SDT)

The satisfaction and frustration of individuals' basic psychological needs are important drivers of motivation, performance, and psychological functioning across various spheres of life (Ryan & Deci, 2017). Self-determination theory (SDT; Deci & Ryan, 2000) posits that the satisfaction of the needs for autonomy (i.e., experiencing that one's actions are the result of volition and choice), competence (i.e., experiencing efficiency and mastery when interacting with the environment), and relatedness (i.e., feeling a sense of social belonging with others) is a core driver of self-determined goal-directed behaviors. In contrast, the frustration of these needs leads to negative outcomes such as ill-being and distress (Bartholomew, Ntoumanis, Ryan, & Thøgersen-Ntoumani, 2011b; Vansteenkiste & Ryan, 2013). To understand how these needs can be satisfied or frustrated among individuals, one needs to consider the need supportive and thwarting characteristics of their environments (Ryan & Deci, 2017).

Despite the recognition that a complete assessment of need-supportive and need-thwarting behaviors should tap into the three needs for autonomy, competence, and relatedness (Rocchi, Pelletier, Cheung, Baxter, & Beaudry, 2017a; Rocchi, Pelletier, & Desmarais, 2017b), research has never formally tested whether these behaviors are perceived in a more holistic manner as one (global need nurturing behaviors) or two (global need support and thwarting behaviors) overarching dimension(s). This global approach is supported by the observation of high positive correlations among ratings of autonomy, competence, and relatedness need supportive (e.g., Rocchi et al., 2017a, 2017b) and need thwarting (e.g., Myers, Martin, Ntoumanis, Celimli, & Bartholomew, 2014; Rocchi et al., 2017a, 2017b) behaviors, as well as of moderately high negative correlations among ratings of need supportive and thwarting behaviors (Rocchi et al., 2017a, 2017b). Past research has also supported the presence of one global dimension underlying ratings of autonomy, competence, and relatedness need thwarting or need supportive behaviors in the sport area (Myers et al., 2014; Stenling, Ivarsson, Hassmén, & Lindwall, 2015). However, research also reveals differentiated relations between external criteria and these six behavioral dimensions (autonomy, competence, and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors) (Rocchi et al., 2017a, 2017b).

More specifically, these observations raise important questions related to: (a) whether need-supportive and need-thwarting behaviors are better represented by one (i.e., need nurturing behaviors) or two (i.e., separate need-support and need-thwarting dimensions) global dimension(s); (b) whether specific need-supportive and need-thwarting behaviors retain specificity beyond the assessment of these overarching constructs; and (c) whether these overarching constructs exist as global entities including specificities mapped by the six behavioral dimensions, or whether these behaviors reflect distinct, yet correlated dimensions without a common core (Morin, Boudrias et al., 2016, 2017). The present study was specifically designed to address these questions while focusing on participants' responses to the recently developed Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire (IBQ), a questionnaire specifically developed to assess autonomy, relatedness, and competence need supportive and thwarting behaviors across various domains (Rocchi et al., 2017a, 2017b; Rodrigues, Pelletier, Neiva, Teixeira, & Monteiro, 2019).

## **Construct-Relevant Psychometric Multidimensionality**

Morin and colleagues (Morin, Arens, & Marsh, 2016; Morin, Boudrias et al., 2016, 2017) note that construct-relevant psychometric multidimensionality needs to be specifically modelled when conceptually-related constructs are assessed within an instrument, as is the case for measures of such as competence, autonomy, and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors. Construct-relevant psychometric multidimensionality refers to the idea that item ratings might be reliably associated with more than one latent construct. When ignored in confirmatory factor analysis (CFA), these additional associations have been shown to result in biased structural parameter estimates (Asparouhov, Muthén, & Morin, 2015; Mai, Zhang, & Wen, 2018; Morin, Arens et al., 2016).

Coexisting Global and Specific Constructs. A first form of construct-relevant psychometric multidimensionality that is relevant to the measure of need supportive and thwarting behaviors is related to the simultaneous assessment of global and specific constructs. When considering whether need supportive and need thwarting interpersonal behaviors are best represented as global constructs (Bartholomew, Ntoumanis, Ryan, Bosch, & Thøgersen-Ntoumani, 2011a; Myers et al., 2014) or as conceptually-distinct constructs (Rocchi et al., 2017a, 2017b), a third option exists according to which interpersonal behaviors might exist as one or two global entities reflecting commonalities among ratings of autonomy, competence,

and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors, which themselves may include specificity unexplained by these global entities (S-factors). In the sport area, results tentatively support the idea that ratings of autonomy, competence, and relatedness supportive behaviors are conceptually-related dimensions of a global need supportive behaviors construct, and that ratings of autonomy, competence, and relatedness thwarting similarly can be taken to reflect a global need thwarting behaviors construct (Myers et al., 2014; Pulido, Sánchez-Oliva, Leo, Sánchez-Cano, & García-Calvo, 2018; Stenling et al., 2015). However, questions remain as to whether sufficient specificity exists in the three behavioral dimensions once the global construct is accounted for, and whether one or two global constructs are required to reflect the full spectrum of need supportive and thwarting behaviors. Higher-order factor models and bifactor models can both be used to achieve a proper disaggregation of this global/specific nature of need supportive and thwarting behaviors. However, the greater flexibility of bifactor models, which rely on the estimation of direct relations between the latent factors and item ratings, has led to recent recommendations of their superiority (Morin, Arens et al., 2016; Reise, 2012).

Conceptually-Related Constructs. A second form of construct-relevant psychometric multidimensionality that is relevant to the measure of need supportive and thwarting behaviors emerges from the imperfect nature of items which typically are found to be partially associated with non-target constructs (Morin, Arens, et al., 2016). This type of multidimensionality is best taken into account via exploratory factor analyses (EFA), in which cross-loadings are allowed between items and non-target constructs. The newly developed exploratory structural equation modeling (ESEM; Marsh, Morin, Parker, & Kaur, 2014) framework represents the combination of EFA, CFA and structural equation modeling, providing a way to account for this type of multidimensionality across a broader range of model, including bifactor representations (Morin, Arens, et al., 2016). Interestingly, the recent study of Bhavsar et al. (2019) supported the added value of ESEM with respect to athletes' perceptions of their coaches' interpersonal behaviors.

Current Research Evidence for Multidimensionality. Research centered on need supporting and thwarting behaviors is scarcer outside of Rocchi et al.'s (2017a, 2017b) validation studies. When we look at research evidence related to ratings of need supportive and thwarting behaviors, Myers et al. (2014) first showed that the structure of athletes' ratings of the need thwarting behaviors present in their sport followed a bifactor-ESEM representation including an overarching need thwarting G-factor co-existing with well-defined S-factors related to the specific needs for autonomy competence, and relatedness (behavioral imbalance). These results have been replicated by Stenling et al. (2015). To our knowledge, only Pulido et al. (2018) examined the representation of coaches' interpersonal styles using a measure combining need supportive and thwarting behaviors. Although these authors found support for a hierarchical-ESEM alternative and whether a single global factor could have been sufficient in capturing the globality of need nurturing behaviors, a possibility reinforced by their report of a high negative correlation between the global need supportive and thwarting factors (r=-.673).

To our knowledge, this possibility has never been investigated specifically for combined measures of need supportive and thwarting behaviors, and never been investigated outside of the sport area. Still, one study systematically considered this possibility when considering participants' ratings of the satisfaction and frustration of their basic psychological needs in their life in general. In this study, Tóth-Király, Morin, Bőthe, Orosz, and Rigó (2018) investigated the underlying structure of responses provided to the Basic Psychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration Scale (BPNSFS; Chen et al., 2015). Their results supported a global "need fulfillment" representation, incorporating a single G-factor, reflecting participants' global levels of need fulfillment, co-existing with six S-factors reflecting the degree to which participants felt imbalance in the degree to which each of their specific need was either satisfied or frustrated beyond their global levels of need satisfaction. Models with two global factors (global need satisfaction and frustration) resulted in overlapping factors, and were not supported by the data.

## **Criterion-Related Validity**

Despite the interest of these pioneering studies on the structure of need supportive and thwarting behaviors, only Pulido et al. (2018) reported any evidence for the criterion related validity for the bifactor

solution. Their results generally supported the criterion-related validity of the global need supporting and thwarting factors and participants' ratings of their levels of need satisfaction and frustration. Unfortunately, they did not report information regarding the relations involving the specific autonomy, competence, and relatedness need thwarting behaviors leaving as an open question whether the specificity associated with these dimensions, contributes to the prediction of need satisfaction/frustration over and above that afforded by the global factors.

Likewise, despite the fact that Rocchi et al. (2017a, 2017b) as well as Bhavsar et al. (2020) demonstrated the criterion-related validity of the IBQ in relation to need satisfaction and frustration, wellbeing, and motivation, these studies failed to disaggregate the variance explained by participants' global perceptions before looking at the specific role of autonomy, competence, and relatedness. The reliance on a bifactor-ESEM representation of need supportive/thwarting behaviors and of need satisfaction/frustration would make it possible to achieve a much cleaner disaggregation of the effects occurring at the global versus specific (behavioral imbalance) level. Importantly, this approach provides a way to take into account Sheldon and Niemiec's (2006; also see Dysvik, Kuvaas, & Gagné, 2013) proposal that a complete understanding of psychological needs requires the simultaneous consideration of each need taken separately, but also of the degree to which they are aligned with one another, or the presence of imbalance in the degree to which all three needs are met.

The present study seeks to establish the criterion-related validity of participants' perceptions of the need supportive and need thwarting behaviors of people in their environment in relation to ratings of need satisfaction, need frustration, positive affect, and negative affect (Gillet, Fouquereau, Forest, Brunault, & Colombat, 2012; Ryan & Deci, 2017). Based on previous studies, we expected that global levels of need nurturing behaviors would be negatively associated with negative affect and need frustration, and positively associated with positive affect and need satisfaction. Over and above the effects of the global levels of need nurturing/supportive/thwarting behaviors, we also hypothesize that specific levels of autonomy, competence, and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors will present direct relations with the outcomes. However, lacking prior guidance, we leave as an open question whether these specific relations would reflect the incremental value of these behaviors (e.g., Sánchez-Oliva et al., 2017), or whether they will reflect need nurturing imbalance (e.g., Dysvik et al., 2013; Sheldon & Niemiec, 2006).

## The Present Research

In the present research, we rely on the bifactor-ESEM (e.g., Morin, Boudrias et al., 2016, 2017) framework to assess the underlying measurement structure of participants' ratings of the need supportive and thwarting behaviors of people in their environment. Following from Rocchi et al. (2017a, 2017b) and Tóth-Király et al. (2018), we also investigate the extent to which the optimal measurement structure of the IBQ would generalize across two distinct samples of participants, but also across genders. In addition, to examine whether there is value in considering specific levels of imbalance in the level of need supportive and thwarting behaviors over and above global levels of need nurturing/supportive/thwarting behaviors, we assess the criterion-related validity of these global and specific ratings in relation to various outcomes.

#### Methods

#### **Procedure and Participants**

**Study 1.** A total of 772 Hungarian participants (64.4% female) with a mean age of 27.94 years (SD=9.64) participated in this study. They reported their highest level of education as primary (6.9%), secondary (64.9%), and higher (28.1%), and their place of residence as the capital city (42.9%), county capitals (13.9%), cities (27.2%), and country (16.1%). Participants were recruited between July 2017 and October 2017 via a number of mailing lists, online forums, and websites in order to gather a relatively large and diversified community sample of participants, in order to maximize the generalizability of our results. Before completing the questionnaires electronically, they were informed about the conditions of participation and had to explicitly indicate their consent. The study was conducted with the approval of the University Research Ethics Committee and in line with the Declaration of Helsinki.

**Study 2.** In the light of the recent replication crisis plaguing the different fields of psychology (e.g., Pashler & Wagenmakers, 2012) and to test the potential generalizability of the results, a second sample of 742 Hungarian participants (80.9% female) with a mean age of 26.49 years (*SD*=7.27) participated in this

study. These participants reported their highest level of education as primary (0.9%), secondary (59.1%), and higher (40%), and their place of residence as the capital city (46%), county capitals (15.6%), cities (26.3%), and country (12.1%). This study followed the same procedures as Study 1 and participants completed the same set of questionnaires between November 2017 and February 2018.

**Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire (IBQ).** Participants completed the 24-item IBQ (Rocchi et al., 2017a). A context-general stem was used (i.e., "The people in my life...") and followed by the 24 items assessing the six following dimensions with 4 items each: autonomy support (e.g., "...support my decisions";  $\alpha$ =.882) and thwarting (e.g., "...impose their opinions on me";  $\alpha$ =.885), competence supportive (e.g., "...encourage me to improve my skills";  $\alpha$ =.857) and thwarting (e.g., "...point out that I will likely fail";  $\alpha$ =.869), and relatedness supportive (e.g., "...are interested in what I do";  $\alpha$ =.871) and thwarting (e.g., "...do not connect with me";  $\alpha$ =.873). Respondents indicated their degree of agreement with the items on a seven-point scale (1=do not agree at all; 7=completely agree). The Hungarian version of this questionnaire was obtained by performing a translation/back-translation protocol (Beaton, Bombardier, Guillemin, & Ferraz, 2000). Rocchi et al. (2017a) and Rodrigues et al. (2019) found support for the factorial validity, the scale score reliability, and the construct validity of the IBQ.

Basic Psychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration Scale (BPNSFS). Need fulfilment was assessed with the Hungarian version (Tóth-Király et al., 2018) of the BPNSFS (Chen et al., 2015). The BPNSFS includes 24 items measuring six dimensions with 4 items each: autonomy satisfaction ( $\alpha$  = .767; e.g., "I feel my choices express who I really am") and frustration ( $\alpha$  = .729; e.g., "I feel pressured to do too many things"), relatedness satisfaction ( $\alpha$  = .815; e.g., "I feel close and connected with other people who are important to me") and frustration ( $\alpha$  = .808; e.g., "I have the impression that people I spend time with dislike me"), and competence satisfaction ( $\alpha$  = .827; e.g., "I feel competent to achieve my goals") and frustration ( $\alpha$  = .849; e.g., "I feel insecure about my abilities"). Participants rated each item on a five-point scale (1=not true at all for me; 5=very true for me). Findings reported by Tóth-Király et al. (2018) provided empirical support for the BPNSFS' factorial validity, generalizability across gender, and scale score reliability.

**Positive and Negative Affect Scale (PANAS).** Participants completed the 10-item Hungarian version (Gyollai, Simor, Köteles, & Demetrovics, 2011) of the PANAS (Watson, Clark, & Tellegen, 1988). This instrument is designed to assess positive (5 items;  $\alpha = .767$ ; e.g., active, determined, or inspired) and negative (5 items;  $\alpha = .725$ ; e.g., afraid, hostile, or nervous) affect. Each item was rated on a five-point scale (1=very slightly or not at all; 5=very much). Gyollai et al. (2011) found support for the factor structure and scale score reliability of the Hungarian version of the PANAS.

#### Analyses

#### **Model Estimation**

Measures

Statistical analyses were performed using the robust maximum likelihood (MLR) estimator implemented in Mplus 8 (Muthén & Muthén, 1998-2017). The small amount of missing data at the item level (Study 1: 0%; Study 2: 0% to 0.4%) was handled with full information maximum likelihood (FIML) estimation procedures (Enders, 2010). Alternative representations of IBQ ratings were estimated in Study 1 and 2 applying the sequence proposed by Tóth-Király et al. (2018). These CFA, ESEM, and bifactor models are described in greater details in Table S1 of the online supplements.

## **Measurement Invariance**

In order to assess the extent to which our results could be assumed to generalize across studies, we then proceeded to assess the measurement invariance of the most optimal solution. These tests were conducted in the following sequence (Millsap, 2011): (1) configural; (2) weak (loadings); (3) strong (intercepts); (4) strict (uniquenesses); (5) latent variance-covariance; and (6) latent means. With strong invariance, it becomes possible to combine the two samples for tests of invariance across gender.

#### **Criterion-Related Validity**

The criterion-related validity of the IBQ was finally assessed by incorporating participants' levels of need fulfillment and affect to the final retained model as outcomes of the need support and thwarting factors. Due to the complexity of these models, it was not possible to include these outcomes as latent variables. For

this reason, preliminary measurement models were estimated for the outcomes before their incorporation into the predictive models as factor scores (Tables S4, S8, S9, S10) (Morin, Boudrias et al., 2016, 2017; Skrondal & Laake, 2001). Tests of criterion-related validity were conducted in a multi-group framework to assess the extent to which the relations would generalize across studies, and gender groups in the following sequence: (a) predictions freely estimated; (b) regression slopes constrained to equality, (c) regression intercepts constrained to equality across groups; and (4) regression residuals constrained to equality.

#### **Model Evaluation**

We considered sample-size-independent goodness-of-fit indices for the assessment of model fit: The Comparative Fit Index (CFI), the Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI), and the Root Mean Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA) considering typical guidelines (Marsh, Hau, & Grayson, 2005). Based on typical guidelines (Marsh et al., 2005), values greater than .90 and .95 for the CFI and TLI were respectively taken to reflect adequate and excellent fit, whereas values smaller than .08 or .06 for the RMSEA were respectively taken to indicate acceptable and excellent fit. Nested model comparisons for tests of measurement invariance and predictive similarity were compared via the examination of changes ( $\Delta$ ) in goodness-of-fit indices, where a decrease in CFI and TLI of .010 or higher or an increase in RMSEA of .015 or higher indicate a lack of invariance (Chen, 2007; Cheung & Rensvold, 2002; Marsh et al., 2005). Reliability was assessed with McDonald's (1970) omega coefficient of composite reliability ( $\omega$ ; Morin, Myers, & Lee, 2018).

Morin and colleagues (Morin, Arens et al., 2016) note that, because each alternative model considered here can absorb unmodelled multidimensionality, goodness-of-fit indices are not sufficient to guide the selection of the optimal solution. For this reason, goodness-of-fit information should always be complemented with a thorough examination of parameter estimates (e.g., factor loadings, cross-loadings, factor correlations) for all models that achieve a sufficient level of fit, starting with the comparison of CFA and ESEM solutions to verify whether cross-loadings should be incorporated (Morin, Arens, et al., 2016; Morin et al., 2018).

#### Results

## **Study 1: Measurement Models**

The upper section of Table 1 presents the goodness-of-fit indices associated with all measurement models examined in Study 1. While the fit for most of the first-order CFA and ESEM solutions was unsatisfactory, the fit of the six-factor CFA and ESEM solutions was excellent. It is also interesting to note that the fit of the six-factor ESEM solution (Model 1.7) was substantially higher than that of the six-factor CFA solution (Model 1.6). Inspection of the standardized parameter estimates related to these solutions (see Table 2), revealed well-defined CFA factors but slightly weaker ESEM factors, mainly due to a subset of items (3-5-21) characterized by weak factor loadings on their target factors coupled by multiple crossloadings on multiple factors. Observing such a generalized undifferentiated pattern of cross-loading on multiple factors suggests that these items may tap into more global levels of need nurturing behaviors relative to their more specific a priori dimensions. With these exceptions, although the ESEM solution includes several statistically significant cross-loadings, none of the other items present a cross-loading large enough (e.g.,  $\geq$  .400) to suggest a problem in the definition of the factors. Only three other items (1, 12, 15) presented high cross-loadings, all involving oppositely valenced factors. Furthermore, when looking at the factor correlations reported in Table 3, these were smaller in the ESEM solution than in the CFA solutions, in addition to having the appropriate direction (positive among similarly valenced factors, such as supportsupport, thwarting-thwarting and negative among factors with an opposite valence, such as supportthwarting).

These various considerations led us to retain the ESEM solution. This decision was reinforced when the bifactor solutions were examined, as these also demonstrated the superiority of relying on a bifactor-ESEM solution (relative to a bifactor-CFA solution)<sup>1</sup>. In selecting the optimal solution, a key question is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For comparison purposes, we also estimated higher-order CFA and ESEM models matching the bifactor solutions. All of these higher-order models demonstrated worse model fit when compared to their bifactor counterparts, and models including two higher-order factors also converged on very high estimates of the correlation between the two higher-order factors. Fit indices associated with these higher-order models are provided in Table S11.

whether two G-factors (Model 17) are better than a single G-factor (Model 15), given that both models demonstrated an almost identical level of model fit. An examination of parameter estimates of models including two G-factors is highly informative. In bifactor-CFA (Models 12 and 16), this correlation is high enough to suggest conceptual redundancies between the two G-factors. Despite the fact that these correlations are slightly reduced in bifactor-ESEM, they remain high enough to be problematic. In addition, these models also reveal weakly defined S-factors, large estimates of standard errors, and even negative residual estimates, suggestive of overparameterization and arguing against the inclusion of a second G-factor to the model.

The six-factor ESEM solution and the bifactor-ESEM solution (six S-factors and one G-factor) resulted in an identical level of model fit. Examining the parameter estimates associated with the Model 15, reported in Table 4, provide further support to this bifactor solution. These results reveal a well-defined G-factor with positive loadings associated with the need supportive items and negative loadings associated with the need thwarting items. All need thwarting S-factors retained meaningful specificity. Finally, cross-loadings also decreased in magnitude relative to the six-factor ESEM solution. Based these observations, this bifactor-ESEM solution (Model 15) was retained.

## **Study 2: Replicating the Final Measurement Structure**

Goodness-of-fit indices pertaining to the same set of measurement models estimated in Study 2 are presented in the bottom part of Table 1. Key results matching those reported for Study 1 are reported in Tables S2 and S3 of the online supplements and in the bottom section of Table 3. Examination of these results reinforce our prior conclusions about the superiority of the bifactor-ESEM solution that includes one G-factor and six S-factors (Model 15). To more precisely assess the replicability of Model 15 across studies, tests of measurement invariance were realized. These results (Table 5) supported the complete invariance of the bifactor-ESEM model across samples as none of the changes in fit indices ( $\Delta$ CFI,  $\Delta$ TLI,  $\Delta$ RMSEA) exceeded the recommended guidelines. These results support the replication of the bifactor-ESEM model across studies.

## Generalizability of the Results across Gender

Since the complete measurement invariance of the final model was supported across studies, tests of measurement across gender were conducted on the combined sample to maximize sample size and statistical power. The results from these tests (Table 5) support the complete invariance of this solution across genders.

## **Criterion-Related Validity**

Results from the tests of predictive similarity for models incorporating the factor scores representing the outcomes (BPNSFS and PANAS) are reported in the bottom part of Table 5 and support the complete predictive similarity of these results across studies. Tests of predictive similarity conducted across genders also supported the similarity of the regression slopes and residuals across genders, but a change in TLI greater than .010 suggested that the regression intercepts were not fully equivalent across genders (Chen, 2007; Cheung & Rensvold, 2002; Marsh et al., 2005). Examination of this second set of results revealed that the intercept of the competence satisfaction outcome was slightly lower among females, leading to a model of partial similarity that was supported by the data.

Parameter estimates from the analyses of criterion-related validity are reported in Table 6. Despite the lower level of specificity associated with the IBQ need supportive S-factors, they can still be considered to be fully reliable as they are defined as latent factors in this model. In contrast, all S-factors from the BPNSFS retained a satisfactory amount of specificity (Table S7). Consistent with SDT, the global need nurturing factor was positively associated with the global need fulfillment G-factor from the BPNSFS, as well as with the autonomy satisfaction, competence satisfaction, and relatedness satisfaction S-factors. This global need nurturing factor was also negatively associated with the autonomy frustration and relatedness frustration S-factors of the BPNSFS, as well as with negative affect. This global need nurturing factor was also positively associated with positive affect. As expected, fewer statistically significant relations were found at the level of the IBQ S-factors.

Still, many of these additional associations matched SDT, with few exceptions: (a) specific imbalance in terms of relatedness support were positively associated with the competence and autonomy frustration S-factors of the BPNSFS; (b) specific imbalance in terms of competence thwarting were positively associated

with the autonomy satisfaction S-factor of the BPNSFS, whereas specific imbalance in terms of competence support were negatively related to the relatedness satisfaction S-factor of the BPNSFS; and (c) specific imbalance in autonomy thwarting were positively related to the relatedness satisfaction S-factor of the BPNSFS, whereas specific imbalance in autonomy support were positively related to the relatedness frustration S-factor of the BPNSFS. It is important to keep in mind these S-factors reflect the specificity that remains in participants' rating of autonomy support once their global perceptions regarding the extent to which their basic needs are nurtured by their environment are partialled out from these ratings. As such, these relations can be taken to directly reflect feelings of imbalance in the degree to which one need is supported relative to the others.

#### Discussion

The present series of two studies sought to propose an improved representation of the multidimensional structure of need supportive and need thwarting interpersonal behaviors ratings via the application of emerging bifactor-ESEM methodology (Morin, Arens, et al., 2016). In the present research, this framework allowed us to identify one overarching need nurturing G-factor underlying participants' responses to the IBQ (Rocchi et al., 2017a, 2017b), from six specific need supportive and need thwarting S-factors reflecting behavioral imbalance.

## The Structure of Need Nurturing Behaviors

Our final solution revealed a well-defined need nurturing G-factor associated with positive factor loadings to the need supportive items and negative factor loadings to the need thwarting items. We also considered alternative models including two G-factors (need supportive behaviors and need nurturing behaviors). Although these alternative models achieved a satisfactory level of model fit, they resulted in highly correlated G-factors, thus calling the discriminant validity of these G-factors into question. These results thus argued in favor of a solution where a single G-factor was required to represent the globality of need nurturing behaviors. Thus, the seemingly divergent perspectives discussed in the introduction appeared to be complementary in nature: Perceptions of need supportive and need thwarting interpersonal behaviors appeared to be driven by a global need nurturing dimension, which co-existed with specific levels of imbalance in autonomy, competence, and relatedness need supportive and thwarting behaviors remaining unexplained by the global factor. At the global level, this representation matched that found by Tóth-Király et al. (2018) to underpin the structure of need fulfillment.

Still, the three need thwarting S-factors retained meaningful specificity over and above the G-factor, while the need supportive S-factors appeared to be weakly defined and to retain a very low level of specificity after the global levels of need nurturing perceptions were explicitly taken into account. Although not all S-factors need to retain a meaningful level of specificity in bifactor modeling (Morin et al., 2018), they show that participants' ratings of need supportive interpersonal behaviors mainly serve to define their global perceptions regarding their need nurturing interpersonal context. In contrast, although their ratings of need thwarting interpersonal behaviors also appear to contribute in a meaningful manner to their perceptions of their global need nurturing interpersonal context, they also appear to tap into something unique not explained by these global perceptions. This observation is not without evoking Herzberg's (1964) two factor theory of motivation in which motivators (environmental characteristics related to higher levels of satisfaction) where differentiated from hygiene factors (environmental characteristics whose absence leads to higher levels of dissatisfaction). Arguably, this representation of need-supportive and need-thwarting interpersonal behaviors is an important contribution of the present research, and implies that researchers should consider the potential relevance of the bifactor-ESEM framework for their own research on need nurturing behaviors.

## Need Nurturing Behaviors, Need Fulfillment, and Affect

A second key contribution of this study was to assess the criterion-related validity of the final solution, and most importantly to assess whether the specific levels of imbalance in need supportive and need thwarting would explain outcome variance beyond that explained by the global need nurturing G-factor. A first result from these analyses was that the relations between participants' IBQ ratings and their levels of need satisfaction, need frustration, and affect were clearly dominated by the effects of global need nurturing perceptions. In accordance with our expectations (Niemiec et al., 2006; Pulido et al., 2018; Rocchi et al.,

2017a), our results showed that participants' global perceptions of need nurturing behaviors presented positive relations with all of the desirable outcome measures considered in this study, and negative relations with most of the less desirable outcome measures. This global need nurturing factor also emerged as the strongest predictor of participants' scores on the more global outcomes (global need fulfillment, positive affect, and negative affect).

In contrast, the effects of specific imbalance in the perceptions of autonomy, competence, and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors were far less widespread, being typically limited to a much smaller number of outcomes. This observation is aligned with the observation that at least some of these S-factors only included a limited amount of residual specificity. However, our results also revealed a substantial number of outcome associations located at the level of these specific factors, many of which were aligned with SDT, and all of whom could be explained by prior theoretical developments.

**Specific Levels of Imbalance in Autonomy Need Thwarting Behaviors.** Specific levels of imbalance in autonomy need thwarting behaviors were associated with lower levels of global need fulfillment, and with higher levels of autonomy need frustration and negative affect. Thus, when social agents (e.g., parents) are perceived as seeking to control or limit participants' freedom through pressure, intimidation, or rewards (Bartholomew, Ntoumanis, & Thøgersen-Ntoumani, 2009), participants are more likely to experience (a) a global decrease in their levels of need fulfillment, (b) feelings of frustration of their needs for autonomy, and (c) more frequent negative affect.

Specific Levels of Imbalance in Relatedness Need Supportive and Thwarting Behaviors. Specific levels of imbalance in relatedness need supportive behaviors were associated with higher levels of relatedness need satisfaction and lower levels of relatedness need frustration. Interpersonal behaviors characterized by understanding, support, warmth, interest, and liking (Jones, Armour, & Potrac, 2004) thus appeared beneficial in terms of increasing feelings of satisfaction and decreasing feelings of frustration of participants' needs for relatedness. Likewise, specific imbalance in relatedness need thwarting behaviors were related to lower levels of global need fulfillment and relatedness need satisfaction, as well as with higher levels of competence need frustration, relatedness need frustration, and negative affect. These findings are aligned with those from previous results revealing the negative impact of experiences of loneliness (i.e., frustrated relatedness needs) for a variety of maladaptive outcomes (Mellor, Stokes, Firth, Hayashi, & Cummins, 2008; Valtorta, Kanaan, Gilbody, Ronzi, & Hanratty, 2016).

Specific Levels of Imbalance in Competence Need Supportive and Thwarting Behaviors. Specific imbalance in competence need supportive behaviors were related to higher levels of global need fulfillment, competence need satisfaction, and positive affect, as well as with lower levels of competence need frustration. These results suggest that perceiving one's environment as being supportive to learning, able to provide constructive feedback, and as providing a positive impetus for improvement (Sheldon & Filak, 2008) is conductive to positive affect, need fulfillment, and competence need satisfaction, and of lower levels of competence need frustration. The relations pertaining to specific imbalance in competence need supportive are particularly interesting, given that previous studies (Sánchez-Oliva et al., 2017) have also highlighted competence as an important predictor of outcomes over and above the need satisfaction G-factor. The present results add to this earlier evidence by showing specific imbalance in competence need thwarting behaviors to be associated with higher levels of competence need frustration.

**Need Imbalance**. Some results appear counter-intuitive at first sight, such as the observation of positive relations between specific imbalance in autonomy need supportive behaviors and relatedness need frustration, between specific imbalance in competence need thwarting behaviors and autonomy need satisfaction, and between specific imbalance in relatedness need supportive behaviors and autonomy/competence needs frustration, as well as of negative associations between specific levels of imbalance in competence need supportive behaviors and relatedness need satisfaction. These results need to be interpreted while keeping in mind the specific characteristics of the bifactor structure which has produced them. Although the G-factor reflecting global levels of need nurturing behaviors can directly be interpreted as ranging from a very low to a very high level of need nurturance, the interpretation of the S-factors is not as straightforward. These S-factors reflect what remains at the subscale level once the variance

explained by global levels of need nurturing behaviors is partialled out. In other words, these S-factors can be taken to reflect discrepancies, or imbalance, in the degree to which participants' specific needs for autonomy, competence, and relatedness are supported or thwarted by the environment over and above this global level of need nurturance.

Previous research focusing on the satisfaction of the three psychological needs for autonomy, competence, and relatedness has also invoked the need to consider the possible impact of need imbalance (e.g., Dysvik et al., 2013; Sheldon & Niemiec, 2006). For instance, Sheldon and Niemiec (2006) argued that to adequately understand the combined effects of need satisfaction, one needed to consider the extent to which the satisfaction of the three basic needs would be in alignment. The present study thus lends support to this hypothesis as applied to need nurturing behaviors, while simultaneously demonstrating how a bifactor-ESEM operationalization can be used to obtain a rigorous, yet simple, test of this hypothesis. For example, our results suggest that having strong relationships may impede one's autonomy or ability to express one's competence or to act in a fully autonomous manner.

## **Limitations and Directions for Future Research**

The present study has its own limitations. First, we relied on self-report measures that can be influenced by self-report biases as well as by social desirability. Thus, we encourage researchers to consider more objective data (e.g., turnover) as well as informant-reported (e.g., supervisor) measures of performance. Second, although our treatment of need fulfillment and affect as outcomes was based on theoretical considerations, our design did not allow us to rule out the possibility of spurious associations, reciprocal influence, or reverse causality. Future longitudinal research should devote more attention to the identification of the true directionality of the associations among interpersonal behaviors and outcomes, as well as the developmental mechanisms involved in emergence, stability, and change in these various constructs.

## **Practical and Methodological Implications**

Despite these limitations, our results suggest that need nurturing behaviors should be encouraged as these behaviors appeared to be positively associated with participants' autonomy, competence, and relatedness needs fulfillment, as well as with more positive affect. This conclusion ties in previous research showing that contributing to the creation of a social environment that satisfies the basic psychological needs for autonomy, competence, and relatedness through the provision of autonomy support, involvement, and structure leads to increased levels of need satisfaction and well-being, autonomous motivation, engagement, and prosocial behaviors (for an overview, see Ryan & Deci, 2017). Autonomy support is related to the presence of alternative choices and the provision of a rationale for engaging in activities, as well as to the minimization of the use of controlling behaviors and evaluative communications. Involvement is present when the social agents are concerned with the person and understand his/her perspective. Finally, structure is the foundation of the need for competence and refers to perceived associations between how one behaves and what the result of these behaviors is going to be. An optimal structure is achieved by setting optimal, yet challenging tasks, explicit rules and directions for improvement, and clear guidelines.

Our results also add to accumulating evidence supporting the bifactor-ESEM framework for SDT research, providing researchers a way to obtain direct global estimates of participants quantity of self-determined motivation disaggregated from the specific levels of imbalance in the quality of their types of behavioral regulation (Howard et al., 2018; Litalien et al., 2017), as well as direct global and direct estimates of need fulfillment disaggregated from specific and non-redundant levels of imbalance in competence, autonomy, and relatedness need satisfaction and frustration (Gillet et al., 2017; Sánchez-Oliva et al., 2017; Tóth-Király et al., 2018). For research purposes, our study reinforces the need for SDT researchers to rely on similar methods when investigating these constructs. Our results suggest that failure to consider the global and specific components of need nurturing behaviors is likely to lead to erroneous conclusions that the need supporting and thwarting behaviors are relatively independent constructs. For applied researchers, this in turn could lead to biased practical recommendations. Our results also illustrate a reliable method that can be used to obtain a more precise and direct estimate of the global and specific components of need nurturing as bifactor models weight items based on their contribution to the global and specific factors simultaneously. To make this process seamless, as suggested by Perreira et al. (2018), automated scoring

procedures could be developed, or the Mplus statistical package could be used to this end, which has the advantage of providing standardized measurements interpretable as a function of the sample mean and standard deviation, just like normed scores. Still, future studies should rely on more representative samples prior to developing scoring procedures.

Our results thus underscore the necessity to rely on the bifactor-ESEM framework to achieve a way to simultaneously consider the global need nurturing social context, properly disaggregated from the specific levels of imbalance in need supportive and thwarting behaviors to which participants are exposed. In doing so, our results demonstrated that need thwarting behaviors were something more than simply a lack of need nurturing, and retained a substantial amount of specificity over and above participants' global need nurturing perceptions. These findings are congruent with Vansteenkiste and Ryan's (2013) mention that the mere absence of need satisfaction does not necessarily equal the presence of need frustration. The present research demonstrated one potential way for more precisely assessing specific levels of imbalance in need thwarting effects. In addition, these results also suggest that need imbalance could play a more important role than previously expected (Dysvik et al., 2013).

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Table 1

Goodness-of-Fit Statistics for the Models Estimated on the Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire

Goodness-of-Fit Statistics for the Models Estimated on the Interpersonal Benaviours Questioni						
Model	$\chi^2$	df	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	RMSEA 90% CI
Study 1						
Model 1.1. One-factor CFA (Nu)	2049.822*	252	.788	.767	.096	.092100
Model 1.2. Two-factor CFA (Su, Th)	1385.568*	251	.866	.853	.077	.073080
Model 1.3. Two-factor ESEM (Su, Th)	1378.734*	229	.864	.836	.081	.077085
Model 1.4. Three-factor CFA (A, C, R)	1611.473*	249	.839	.822	.084	.080088
Model 1.5. Three-factor ESEM (A, C, R)	721.785*	207	.939	.919	.057	.052061
Model 1.6. Six-factor CFA (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th)	594.143*	237	.958	.951	.044	.040049
Model 1.7. Six-factor ESEM (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th)	226.187*	147	.991	.982	.026	.019033
Model 1.8. B-CFA: Two S-factors (Su, Th) and one G-factor (Nu)	1013.275*	228	.907	.888	.067	.063071
Model 1.9. B-ESEM: Two S-factors (S, Fr) and one G-factor (Nu)	721.785*	207	.939	.919	.057	.052061
Model 1.10. B-CFA: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and one G-factor (Nu)	952.625*	228	.914	.896	.064	.060068
Model 1.11. B-ESEM: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and one G-factor (Nu)	405.083*	186	.974	.962	.039	.034044
Model 1.12. B-CFA: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and two G-factors (Su, Th)	440.490*	227	.975	.969	.035	.030040
Model 1,13. B-ESEM: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and two G-factors (Su, Th)	393.773*	182	.975	.962	.039	.034044
Model 1.14. B-CFA: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and one G-factor (Nu)	851.961*	228	.926	.911	.060	.055064
Model 1.15. B-ESEM: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and one G-factor (Nu)	193.618*	129	.992	.984	.025	.018033
Model 1.16. B-CFA: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and two G-factor (Su, Th)	686.710*	227	.946	.934	.051	.047056
Model 1.17. B-ESEM: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and two G-factor (Su, Th)	187.989*	122	.992	.982	.026	.019034
Study 2				•		
Model 2.1. One-factor CFA (Nu)	2061.123*	252	.773	.752	.098	.094102
Model 2.2. Two-factor CFA (Su, Th)	1723.926*	251	.815	.797	.089	.085093
Model 2.3. Two-factor ESEM (Su, Th)	1264.733*	229	.870	.844	.078	.074082
Model 2.4. Three-factor CFA (A, C, R)	1376.721*	249	.859	.843	.078	.074082
Model 2.5. Three-factor ESEM (A, C, R)	758.108*	207	.931	.908	.060	.055065
Model 2.6. Six-factor CFA (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th)	552.950*	237	.960	.954	.042	.038047
Model 2.7. Six-factor ESEM (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th)	250.609*	147	.987	.976	.031	.024037
Model 2.8. B-CFA: Two S-factors (Su, Th) and one G-factor (Nu)	966.991*	228	.907	.888	.066	.062070
Model 2.9. B-ESEM: Two S-factors (S, Fr) and one G-factor (Nu)	758.108*	207	.931	.908	.060	.055065
Model 2.10. B-CFA: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and one G-factor (Nu)	645.920*	228	.948	.937	.050	.045054
Model 2.11. B-ESEM: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and one G-factor (Nu)	366.580*	186	.977	.966	.036	.031042
Model 2.12. B-CFA: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and two G-factors (Su, Th)	479.256*	227	.968	.962	.039	.034044
Model 2.13. B-ESEM: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and two G-factors (Su, Th)	325.929*	182	.982	.973	.033	.027038
Model 2.14. B-CFA: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and one G-factor (Nu)	794.076*	228	.929	.914	.058	.053062
Model 2.15. B-ESEM: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and one G-factor (Nu)	201.062*	129	.991	.981	.027	.020035
Model 2.16. B-CFA: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and two G-factor (Su, Th)	761.047*	227	.933	.919	.056	.052061
Model 2.17. B-ESEM: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and two G-factor (Su, Th)	205.495*	122	.990	.976	.030	.023037
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*Note.* CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; B: Bifactor model; Nu: Global need nurturing behaviors; Su: Need supportive behaviors; Th: Need thwarting behaviors; A: Autonomy; C: Competence; R: Relatedness; G-factor: Global factor estimated as part of a bifactor model; S-factor: Specific factor estimated as part of a bifactor model;  $\chi^2$ : Robust chi-square test of exact fit; df: Degrees of freedom; CFI: Comparative fit index; TLI: Tucker-Lewis index; RMSEA: Root mean square error of approximation; 90% CI: 90% confidence interval of the RMSEA; \*p < 0.01.

**Table 2** Standardized Parameter Estimates from the Six-Factor CFA and ESEM Solutions in Study 1 (N = 772): Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire

Standardized Parameter Estimates from the Six-Factor CFA and ESEM Solutions in Study 1 ( $N = 7/2$ ): Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire										
	CFA					ESEM				
	Factor $(\lambda)$	δ	A-Su (λ)	C-Su (λ)	$R$ -Su $(\lambda)$	A-Th $(\lambda)$	C-Th $(\lambda)$	R-Th $(\lambda)$	δ	
Autonomy-support (A-Su)										
Item 1	.695**	.517	.419**	.162*	011	382**	.074	.010	.455	
Item 7	.883**	.221	.661**	.106*	.080	091*	046	065	.208	
Item 13	.861**	.259	.652**	.077	.158**	069	056	.001	.241	
Item 19	.816**	.335	.497**	.169**	.136*	179**	009	.004	.347	
ω	.888		.799							
Competence-support (C-Su)										
Item 3	.683**	.533	.469**	.272**	016	.166**	053	201**	.466	
Item 9	.709**	.498	.014	.652**	.183	129**	.068	037	.343	
Item 15	.858**	.264	.170	.436**	.254**	.052	387**	.147**	.230	
Item 21	.841**	.293	.229**	.213	.364**	003	434**	.198**	.224	
ω	.857	.275	.22>	.662	.501	.005		.170		
Relatedness-support (R-Su)	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			.002						
Item 5	.700**	.510	.267**	.359**	.127	.133**	044	208**	.453	
Item 11	.833**	.306	.007	.346**	.444**	108*	.128*	261**	.283	
Item 17	.822**	.325	.102	.063	.620**	.003	.049	247**	.274	
Item 23	.816**	.334	.186**	.108	.501**	085*	.079	197**	.327	
ω	.872				.682					
Autonomy-thwarting (A-Th)										
Item 2	.732**	.464	094	010	.002	.729**	.014	039	.411	
Item 8	.815**	.335	115*	041	.038	.694**	.076*	.037	.322	
Item 14	.856**	.266	.003	027	089	.703**	.146**	.046	.259	
Item 20	.805**	.353	271	.155**	016	.528**	.171**	.105	.353	
ω	.879					.840				
Competence-thwarting (C-Th)										
Item 4	.751**	.436	074	169**	.143*	.150**	.520**	.142*	.425	
Item 10	.811**	.343	.012	088	018	.240**	.433**	.249**	.359	
Item 16	.812**	.341	.073	161	019	.151**	.617**	.124**	.322	
Item 22	.746**	.444	105	027	.090	.107*	.512**	.249**	.430	
ω	.862						.787			
Relatedness-thwarting (R-Th)										
Item 6	.760**	.422	.064	252**	.011	.065	.235**	.508**	.371	
Item 12	.779**	.393	.055	.114*	328**	.120	.118*	.517**	.375	
Item 18	.802**	.357	054	.162**	264**	.036	.096	.629**	.321	
Item 24	.841**	.293	060	.017	088	.017	.182**	.664**	.285	
ω	.874							.799		

Note. CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; Su: Need supportive behaviors; Th: Need thwarting behaviors; A: Autonomy; C: Competence; R: Relatedness;  $\lambda$ : Factor loading;  $\delta$ : Item uniqueness;  $\omega$ : Model-based omega composite reliability; Target factor loadings are in bold; \*p < .05; \*\*p < .01

**Table 3**Latent Factor Correlations from the Six-Factor CFA (Under the Diagonal) and ESEM (Over the Diagonal) Solutions in Study 1 (N = 772) and 2 (N = 742): Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire

•	A-Su	C-Su	R-Su	A-Th	C-Th	R-Th
Study 1	·		-			
Autonomy-support (A-Su)	_	.625	.584	458	495	425
Competence-support (C-Su)	.921	_	.448	364	374	449
Relatedness-support (C-Su)	.852	.868		297	450	518
Autonomy-thwarting (A-Th)	742	634	610		.517	.509
Competence-thwarting (R-Th)	739	799	687	.839		.416
Relatedness-thwarting (C-Th)	694	694	849	.713	.816	
Study 2	A-Su	C-Su	R-Su	A-Th	C-Th	R-Th
Autonomy-support (A-Su)	_	.659	.564	554	608	446
Competence-support (C-Su)	.921	_	.415	338	428	539
Relatedness-support (C-Su)	.832	.890		300	498	567
Autonomy-thwarting (A-Th)	713	620	566	_	.573	.401
Competence-thwarting (R-Th)	735	836	709	.755		.439
Relatedness-thwarting (C-Th)	712	759	929	.580	.729	

*Note.* CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; Su: Need supportive behaviors; Th: Need thwarting behaviors; A: Autonomy; C: Competence; R: Relatedness; All correlations are significant at p < .01; These correlations involve latent factors for which the scale was set using the referent indicator approach, and thus having a mean of 0 and a SD of 1.

**Table 4**Standardized Parameter Estimates from the Bifactor-ESEM Solution Including Six S-Factors and One G-Factor in Study 1 (N = 772): Interpersonal Behaviours Ouestionnaire

merpersonal behaviours Question	Nu (λ)	A-Su (λ)	C-Su (λ)	R-Su (λ)	A-Th (λ)	C-Th (λ)	R-Th (λ)	δ
Autonomy-support (A-Su)	1144 (70)	11-5u (N)	C-54 (N)	K-Su (N)	71-111 (70)	C-111 (N)	K-111 (%)	
Item 1 Item 7 Item 13 Item 19	.684** .823** .776** .767**	.114 .304** .426** .213**	050 .021 .046 .037	153 .012 .129** .003	212** 009 002 051	.190** .059 012 .107**	.096 .067 .096** .086	.403 .223 .188 .343
ω		.491						
Competence-support (C-Su)								
Item 3	.682**	.151*	075	083	.224**	.104	.028	.437
Item 9	.731**	093	115	.140	.086*	.104	.176**	.375
Item 15	.815**	012	.238	.008	.167**	074	.193*	.209
Item 21	.781**	.093	.340**	.059	.074	119	.118	.229
(C. Su)			.321					
Relatedness-support (C-Su) Item 5	.680**	.110	121	.202	.198**	035	.051	.428
Item 11	.756**	053	121 087	.402**	.044	033 .095*	082	.239
Item 17	.705**	.061	.140*	.335	.094	.123	248**	.282
Item 23	.732**	.079	.093	.262	.032	.147	165**	.331
ω	.,,,,,	.077	.075	.530	.032	.117	.105	.551
Autonomy-thwarting (A-Th)								
Item 2	552**	.033	.019	.119*	.537**	018	010	.391
Item 8	622**	026	.085	.013	.526**	.126**	013	.312
Item 14	670**	.046	011	.021	.513**	.122**	.067	.266
Item 20	633**	153**	027	.037	.436**	.155	.110*	.348
ω					.755			
Competence-thwarting (R-Th)	< ■ Autoti	0.2.4	0.4.	100	4.00 (1.1)	22044	00.5	10-
Item 4	652**	.034	017	.133	.122**	.339**	.006	.426
Item 10	703**	.063	035	.060	.185**	.278**	.156**	.360
Item 16	687**	.076	119**	.044	.122**	.415**	.058	.316
Item 22	638**	010	036	.088	.122**	<b>.351</b> ** .559	.126*	.430
ω Relatedness-thwarting (C-Th)						.339		
Item 6	705**	.144	.163**	041	.015	.176	.221**	.373
Item 12	622**	.079	044	138**	.089*	.033	.459**	.367
Item 18	639**	.015	004	084	.032	.010	.535**	.297
Item 24	702**	.034	.117	074	.023	.128*	.424**	.290
ω	.973	.02 .	• • • •		.025	.120	.669	

Note. CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; S-Factors: Specific factors from the bifactor model; Nu: Global need nurturing behaviors; Su: Need supportive behaviors; Th: Need thwarting behaviors; A: Autonomy; C: Competence; R: Relatedness;  $\lambda$ : Factor loading; δ: Item uniqueness;  $\omega$ : Model-based omega composite reliability; Target factor loadings are in bold; \*p < .05; \*\*p < .01.

 Table 5

 Measurement Invariance for the Final Retained Model on the Interpersonal Behaviours Ouestionnaire

Model	$\chi^2$ (df)	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	90% CI	Comparison	$\Delta \chi^2$ (df)	ΔCFI	ΔTLI	ΔRMSE A
Sample invariance									•	
S1. Configural invariance	394.268 (258)*	.992	.982	.026	.021032	_	_		_	_
S2. Weak invariance	535.300 (377)*	.990	.986	.024	.019028	<b>S</b> 1	146.846 (119)	002	+.004	002
S3. Strong invariance	568.517 (394)*	.989	.985	.024	.020028	S2	38.635 (17)*	001	001	.000
S4. Strict invariance	721.312 (418)*	.982	.976	.031	.027035	S3	113.308 (24)*	007	009	+.007
S5. Latent varcovar. invariance	760.470 (446)*	.981	.976	.031	.027034	S4	43.592 (28)	001	.000	.000
S6. Latent means invariance	780.035 (453)*	.980	.976	.031	.027035	S5	19.433 (7)*	001	.000	.000
Gender invariance										
G1. Configural invariance	437.078 (258)*	.989	.977	.030	.025035	_	_		_	_
G2. Weak invariance	537.279 (377)*	.990	.986	.024	.019028	G1	125.169 (119)	+.001	+.009	006
G3. Strong invariance	558.178 (394)*	.990	.986	.023	.019028	G2	19.699 (17)	.000	.000	001
G4. Strict invariance	616.321 (418)*	.988	.984	.025	.021029	G3	52.491 (24)*	002	002	+.002
G5. Latent varcovar. invariance	624.523 (446)*	.989	.987	.023	.019027	G4	25.924 (28)	+.001	+.003	002
G6. Latent means invariance	650.507 (453)*	.988	.985	.024	.020028	G5	33.163 (7)*	001	002	+.001
Criterion validity across samples						-	•			
CS1. Freely estimated	1206.719 (759)*	.979	.971	.028	.025031	_	_	_	_	_
CS2. Invariant regression slopes	1317.818 (822)*	.977	.971	.028	.025031	CS1	110.974 (63)*	002	.000	.000
CS3. Invariant regression intercepts	1344.997 (831)*	.976	.970	.029	.026031	CS2	32.529 (9)*	001	001	+.001
CS4. Invariant regression residuals	1476.195 (840)*	.971	.963	.032	.029034	CS3	157.610 (9)*	005	007	+.003
Criterion validity across genders										
CG1. Freely estimated	1122.567 (759)*	.984	.977	.025	.022028	_	_		—	_
CG2. Invariant regression slopes	1213.899 (822)*	.982	.977	.025	.022028	CG1	91.504 (63)	002	.000	.000
CG3. Invariant regression intercepts	1424.042 (831)*	.973	.966	.031	.028033	CG2	235.535 (9)*	009	011	+.006
CG3p. Invariant intercepts (partial)	1343.905 (830)*	.977	.970	.029	.026031	CG2	157.290 (8)*	005	007	+.004
CG4. Invariant regression residuals	1373.750 (839)*	.976	.969	.029	.026032	CG3p	30.524 (9)*	001	001	.000

Note.  $\chi^2$ : Robust chi-square test of exact fit; df: Degrees of freedom; CFI: Comparative fit index; TLI: Tucker-Lewis index; RMSEA: Root mean square error of approximation; 90% CI: 90% confidence interval of the RMSEA;  $\Delta \chi^2 = \text{Robust}$  (Satorra-Bentler) chi-square difference test (calculated from loglikelihood for greater precision);  $\Delta$ : Change in model fit in relation to the comparison model; \*p < .01.

 Table 6

 Criterion-Related Validity of the Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire

	General nec	ed fulfillment	Autonomy	satisfaction	Competenc	e satisfaction	
	b	β	b	β	b	β	
General need support	.573**	.608	.044*	.061	.083**	.109	
Autonomy support	.045	.048	007	010	.018	.023	
Competence support	.154**	.163	.026	.036	.159**	.208	
Relatedness support	.053	.057	.010	.013	014	019	
Autonomy thwarting	070**	074	027	037	010	014	
Competence thwarting	022	023	.075*	.103	.051	.066	
Relatedness thwarting	109**	115	.011	.016	.070	.092	
	Relatedness	Relatedness satisfaction		frustration	Competence frustration		
	b	β	b	β	b	β	
General need support	.153**	.170	069**	085	.022	.027	
Autonomy support	003	003	.024	.030	.072	.087	
Competence support	162**	180	.049	.061	122**	148	
Relatedness support	.343**	.382	.092**	.113	.087*	.105	
Autonomy thwarting	.101**	.112	.234**	.288	.056	.069	
Competence thwarting	.004	.005	062	077	.122**	.148	
Relatedness thwarting	096*	107	.034	.042	.120**	.146	
<del>-</del>	Relatedness	s frustration	Positive aff	ect	Negative at	fect	
	b	β	b	β	b	β	
General need support	185**	222	.349**	.402	344**	415	
Autonomy support	.104*	.125	.032	.036	.031	.037	
Competence support	055	066	.153**	.176	060	072	
Relatedness support	066*	079	.040	.046	.000	.000	
Autonomy thwarting	.026	.031	.030	.034	.104**	.125	
Competence thwarting	038	045	.039	.045	.025	.031	
Relatedness thwarting	.378**	.453	016	019	.131**	.158	

*Note.* b: Unstandardized regression coefficient;  $\beta$ : Standardized regression coefficient; \*p < .05; \*\*p < .01.

## **Online Supplemental Materials for:**

Refining the Assessment of Need Supportive and Need Thwarting Interpersonal Behaviors

Using the Bifactor Exploratory Structural Equation Modeling Framework

Items from the Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire

	Hungarian Version	English Version (Rocchi et al., 2017a)
Title	Személyközi Viselkedések Kérdőív	Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire
Instructions	Jelöld be, milyen mértékben értesz egyet azzal, hogy ezek a viselkedések jellemzőek a körülötted élőkre! Sokan	the statements below which describe the behaviors of the
	részei lehetnek az életednek, de most azokra gondolj, akik	people living around you. Many people can be part of
	a leginkább hatással lehetnek rád!	your life, but for now, focus only on those people who are
		the most likely to have an influence on you! Each
	Minden tétel az alábbi módon kezdődik:	sentence starts with the following stem:
	Az emberek az életemben	The people in my life
Rating Scale	1 – egyáltalán nem értek egyet	1 – do not agree at all
	2 –	2 –
	3 –	3 –
	4 –	4 –
	5 –	5 –
	6 –	6 –
	7 – teljes mértékben egyetértek	7 – completely agree
Item 1 (Autonomy Support)	megadják a szabadságot, hogy saját döntéseket hozzak.	Give me the freedom to make my own choices.
Item 2 (Autonomy Thwarting)	nyomást gyakorolnak rám, hogy úgy csináljam a	Pressure me to do things their way.
Itam 2 (Dalatadnasa Summent)	dolgaimat, ahogy szerintük kellene. érdeklődnek az iránt, amit csinálok.	And interested in what I do
Item 3 (Relatedness Support)		Are interested in what I do.
Item 4 (Relatedness Thwarting)	nem törődnek velem, amikor magam alatt vagyok.	Do not comfort me when I am feeling low.
Item 5 (Competence Support)	bátorítanak, hogy fejlesszem a képességeimet.	Encourage me to improve my skills.
Item 6 (Competence Thwarting)	célozgatnak arra, hogy valószínűleg nem fogom elérni a céljaimat.	Point out that I will likely fail.
Itom 7 (Autonomy Support)	támogatják a döntéseimet.	Support my decisions.
Item 7 (Autonomy Support) Item 8 (Autonomy Thwarting)	rám erőltetik a véleményüket.	Impose their opinions on me.
Item 9 (Relatedness Support)	időt szentelnek arra, hogy megismerjenek.	Take the time to get to know me.
Item 10 (Relatedness Thwarting)	távolságtartóak velem.	Are distant when we spend time together
Item 11 (Competence Support)	értékes visszajelzést adnak.	Provide valuable feedback.
Item 12 (Competence Thwarting)	azt sugallják, hogy nem értek semmihez.	Send me the message that I am incompetent.
Item 13 (Autonomy Support)	támogatják azt, amikor elhatározom magam valamiben.	<del></del>
Item 14 (Autonomy Thwarting)	arra kényszerítenek, hogy úgy viselkedjek, ahogy ők	Pressure me to adopt certain behaviours.
	akarják.	-

	Hungarian Version	English Version (Rocchi et al., 2017a)
Item 15 (Relatedness Support)	…tényleg élvezik a velem töltött időt.	Honestly enjoy spending time with me.
Item 16 (Relatedness Thwarting)	nem keresik a társaságomat.	Do not connect with me.
Item 17 (Competence Support)	elismerik, hogy képes vagyok elérni a céljaimat.	Acknowledge my ability to achieve my goals.
Item 18 (Competence Thwarting)	kételkednek abban, hogy képes vagyok fejlődni.	Doubt my capacity to improve.
Item 19 (Autonomy Support)	bátorítanak abban, hogy saját magam hozzam meg a	Encourage me to make my own decisions.
	döntéseim.	
Item 20 (Autonomy Thwarting)	korlátozzák a választási lehetőségeimet.	Limit my choices.
Item 21 (Relatedness Support)	…igazán közel állnak hozzám.	Relate to me.
Item 22 (Relatedness Thwarting)	nem foglalkoznak azzal, hogy mi van velem.	Do not care about me.
Item 23 (Competence Support)	úgy gondolják, hogy véghez tudom vinni, amit	Tell me that I can accomplish things.
	elkezdek.	
Item 24 (Competence Thwarting)	megkérdőjelezik, hogy képes vagyok megküzdeni a	Question my ability to overcome challenges.
	kihívásaimmal.	

**Table S1**Description of the contrasted CFA- and ESEM-based models

#	Structure	Factors
Model 1	One-factor CFA	Global need nurturing behaviors
Model 2	Two-factor CFA	<ul> <li>Global need supportive and thwarting behaviors</li> </ul>
Model 3	Two-factor ESEM	<ul> <li>Global need supportive and thwarting behaviors</li> </ul>
Model 4	Three-factor CFA	<ul> <li>Global nurturing of the needs for autonomy, relatedness, and competence</li> </ul>
Model 5	Three-factor ESEM	<ul> <li>Global nurturing of the needs for autonomy, relatedness, and competence</li> </ul>
Model 6	Six-factor CFA	<ul> <li>Autonomy supportive and thwarting behaviors, competence supportive and thwarting behaviors, and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors</li> </ul>
Model 7	Six-factor ESEM	<ul> <li>Autonomy supportive and thwarting behaviors, competence supportive and thwarting behaviors, and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors</li> </ul>
Model 8	Bifactor-CFA with 1 G- and 2 S-factors	<ul> <li>Global need nurturing behaviors; need supportive and thwarting behaviors</li> </ul>
Model 9	Bifactor-ESEM with 1 G- and 2 S-factors	<ul> <li>Global need nurturing behaviors; need supportive and thwarting behaviors</li> </ul>
Model 10	Bifactor-CFA with 1 G- and 3 S-factors	<ul> <li>Global need nurturing behaviors; autonomy, competence, and relatedness</li> </ul>
Model 11	Bifactor-ESEM with 1 G- and 3 S-factors	<ul> <li>Global need nurturing behaviors; autonomy, competence, and relatedness</li> </ul>
Model 12	Bifactor-CFA with 2 G- and 3 S-factors	<ul> <li>Need supportive and thwarting behaviors; autonomy, competence, and relatedness</li> </ul>
Model 13	Bifactor-ESEM with 2 G- and 3 S-factors	<ul> <li>Need supportive and thwarting behaviors; autonomy, competence, and relatedness</li> </ul>
Model 14	Bifactor-CFA with 1 G- and 6 S-factors	<ul> <li>Global need nurturing behaviors; autonomy supportive and thwarting behaviors, competence supportive and thwarting behaviors, and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors</li> </ul>
Model 15	Bifactor-ESEM with 1 G- and 6 S-factors	<ul> <li>Global need nurturing behaviors; autonomy supportive and thwarting behaviors, competence supportive and thwarting behaviors, and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors</li> </ul>
Model 16	Bifactor-CFA with 2 G- and 6 S-factors	<ul> <li>Need supportive and thwarting behaviors; autonomy supportive and thwarting behaviors, competence supportive and thwarting behaviors, and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors</li> </ul>
Model 17	Bifactor-ESEM with 2 G- and 6 S-factors	Need supportive and thwarting behaviors; autonomy supportive and thwarting behaviors, competence supportive and thwarting behaviors, and relatedness supportive and thwarting behaviors

*Note.* CFA: confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: exploratory structural equation modeling; G-factor: Global factor estimated as part of a bifactor model; S-factor: Specific factor estimated as part of a bifactor model.

 Table S2

 Standardized Parameter Estimates from the Six-Factor CFA and ESEM Solutions in Study 2 (N = 742): Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire

Standardized Parameter Estimate	ates from the Six-Factor CFA and ESEM Solutions in Study 2 ( $N = 742$ ): Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire  CFA  ESEM							2	
			A C ()	C C (1)	D C. (1)	ESEM	C Tl. (1)	D Tl. (1)	
Autonomy support (A Cy)	Factor (λ)	δ	A-Su (λ)	C-Su (λ)	R-Su (λ)	A-Th $(\lambda)$	C-Th $(\lambda)$	R-Th $(\lambda)$	δ
Autonomy-support (A-Su) Item 1	.685**	.531	.389**	.020	.124	408**	.009	.088	.463
	.836**	.300	.763**	.114	100	406	004	122	.255
Item 7	.858**	.300	.703***						
Item 13	.020**	.263		.130	009	.004	049	082	.245
Item 19	.828**	.315	.587**	.063	.187*	165*	.075	037	.320
0	.879		.824						
Competence-support (C-Su)		47.4	07544	20.4**	000	001	054	025	420
Item 3	.725**	.474	.375**	.394**	.098	.031	054	.025	.420
Item 9	.683**	.534	049	.609*	.136	118*	016	115	.396
Item 15	.877**	.231	.249**	.337*	.236**	.018	339**	.079	.233
Item 21	.868**	.247	.289*	.181	.333**	.062	419**	.120	.207
ω	.870			.648					
Relatedness-support (R-Su)									
Item 5	.734**	.461	.111	.471**	.171	050	010	143	.400
Item 11	.822**	.325	009	.361**	.373*	134**	.058	261**	.300
Item 17	.826**	.318	.118	.101	.510**	.005	071	229*	.288
Item 23	.821**	.326	.179*	.065	.363**	036	.055	412**	.315
ω	.878				.606				
Autonomy-thwarting (A-Th)									
Item 2	.790**	.376	063	055	.035	.715**	.058	014	.372
Item 8	.835**	.303	035	051	004	.801**	.035	044	.287
Item 14	.837**	.299	.002	.034	034	.748**	.131**	.029	.293
Item 20	.836**	.302	189*	.102	.009	.669**	.084*	.080	.301
ω	.895	.502	.10)	.102	.007	.873	.001	.000	.501
Competence-thwarting (C-Th)	.075					.075			
Item 4	.793**	.372	055	098	.191**	.015	.781**	.097	.307
Item 10	.787**	.381	013	.021	.049	.162*	.605**	.191**	.378
Item 16	.807**	.348	.119	119	092	.095	.656**	.108	.347
Item 22	.828**	.315	009	080	075	.173**	.622**	.005	.321
	.880	.515	007	000	073	.173	.840	.003	.321
ω Relatedness-thwarting (R-Th)	.000						.040		
Item 6	.744**	.446	108	121	.164	.027	.162*	.657**	.354
	.816**	.334	.018	121 .041	.104 283*	.027	.102**	.556**	.334
Item 12					203°				.551
Item 18	.794**	.370	039	.092	310**	011	.135*	.534**	.359
Item 24	.865**	.252	097	.019	176*	.080	.036	.655**	.241
ω	.881							.818	

Note. CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; Su: Need supportive behaviors; Th: Need thwarting behaviors; A: Autonomy; C: Competence; R: Relatedness;  $\lambda$ : Factor loading;  $\delta$ : Item uniqueness;  $\omega$ : Model-based omega composite reliability; Target factor loadings are in bold; \*p < .05; \*\*p < .01.

 Table S3

 Standardized Parameter Estimates from the Bifactor-ESEM Solution Including Six S-Factors and One G-Factor in Study 2 (N = 742): Interpersonal Behaviours Questionnaire

Benaviours Questionnaire								
	Nu (λ)	A-Su (λ)	C-Su (λ)	R-Su (λ)	A-Th $(\lambda)$	C-Th (λ)	$R-Th(\lambda)$	δ
Autonomy-support (A-Su)								
Item 1	.626**	.178	069	.046	304**	.016	.109	.464
Item 7	.757**	.389**	.051	077	028	.025	.061	.262
Item 13	.782**	.395**	.043	.019	.003	006	.060	.227
Item 19	.764**	.259**	071	.015	088*	.109**	.044	.322
ω	*** ***	.539						
Competence-support (C-Su)								
Item 3	.701**	.213**	.167	.092	.106**	.015	.119*	.401
Item 9	.717**	065	.267	055	.076*	.082	.021	.394
Item 15	.849**	.069	034	.004	.094**	115**	.137**	.233
Item 21	.848**	.042	228	.007	.115**	145**	.158**	.168
ω	.040	.042	.288	.007	.113	.173	.130	.100
Relatedness-support (C-Su)			.200					
Item 5	.735**	.040	.221**	.061	.097*	.067	023	.392
Item 11	.791**	088	.096	.056	.066*	.149**	158**	.302
Item 17	.780**	041	104*	.177	.122**	.070	187**	.294
Item 23	.758**	020	058	.024	.078*	.146	280**	.315
ω	.750	020	056	.071	.070	.140	200	.515
Autonomy-thwarting (A-Th)				.071				
Item 2	546**	063	068	038	.564**	.099**	036	.363
Item 8	568**	036	033	003	.616**	.075*	050	.288
Item 14	586**	.020	.051	.038	.589**	.118*	.013	.291
Item 20	613**	.020 074	.068	.060	.551**	.087*	.026	.299
	015	074	.008	.000	.813	.007	.020	.499
ω Competence-thwarting (R-Th)					.013			
Item 4	633**	041	016	.062	.097**	.529**	017	.304
Item 10	643**	.024	.066	.072	.186**	.393**	.097*	.378
Item 16	680**	.024	.011	100	.085**	.425**	.065	.329
Item 22	708**	.078 .045	.105	.025	.156**	.373**	.063 040	.329
	/08***	.043	.103	.023	.130***		040	.320
(i) Delete de esse themseties (C. Th.)						.690		
Relatedness-thwarting (C-Th)	667**	000	164	206	010	076	.359**	251
Item 6	00/** /70**	.000	164	.206	.010	.076		.351
Item 12	678**	.066	.004	199	024	.056	.446**	.294
Item 18	658**	.040	.061	208**	053	.045	.439**	.321
Item 24	751**	.069	.033	.123	.002	065	.456**	.202
Ω	.974						.712	

*Note.* CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; S-Factors: Specific factors from the bifactor model; Nu: Global need nurturing behaviors; Su: Need supportive behaviors; Th: Need thwarting behaviors; A: Autonomy; C: Competence; R: Relatedness;  $\lambda$ : Factor loading;  $\delta$ : Item uniqueness;  $\omega$ : Model-based omega composite reliability; Target factor loadings are in bold; \*p < .05; \*\*p < .01.

**Table S4**Goodness-of-Fit Statistics for the Models Estimated on the Basic Psychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration Scale In Study 1 (N = 772)

Goodness-oj-Fit statistics for the Models Estimated on the Basic Fsychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration Scale in Study $\Gamma(N=7/2)$										
Model	$\chi^2$	df	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	RMSEA 90% CI				
Study 1										
Model 1. One-factor CFA (Fu)	2135.585*	252	.687	.657	.098	.095102				
Model 2. Two-factor CFA (S, Fr)	1881.457*	251	.729	.702	.092	.088096				
Model 3. Two-factor ESEM (S, Fr)	1282.759*	229	.825	.789	.077	.073081				
Model 4. Three-factor CFA (A, C, R)	1117.627*	249	.856	.840	.067	.063071				
Model 5. Three-factor ESEM (A, C, R)	988.798*	207	.870	.827	.070	.066074				
Model 6. Six-factor CFA (A-S, A-Fr, C-S, C-Fr, R-S, R-Fr)	547.791*	237	.948	.940	.041	.037046				
Model 7. Six-factor ESEM (A-S, A-Fr, C-S, C-Fr, R-S, R-Fr)	271.235*	147	.979	.961	.033	.027039				
Model 8. B-CFA: Two S-factors (S, Fr) and one G-factor (Fu)	1231.423*	228	.833	.798	.076	.071080				
Model 9. B-ESEM: Two S-factors (S, Fr) and one G-factor (Fu)	988.798*	207	.870	.827	.070	.066074				
Model 10. B-CFA: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and one G-factor (Fu)	884.484*	228	.891	.868	.061	.057065				
Model 11. B-ESEM: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and one G-factor (Fu)	444.995*	186	.957	.936	.042	.037048				
Model 12. B-CFA: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and two G-factors (S, Fr)	456.760*	227	.962	.954	.036	.031041				
Model 13. B-ESEM: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and two G-factors (S, Fr)	394.045*	182	.965	.947	.039	.034044				
Model 14. B-CFA: Six S-factors (A-S, A-Fr, C-S, C-Fr, R-S, R-Fr) and one G-factor (Fu)	755.023*	228	.912	.894	.055	.050059				
Model 15. B-ESEM: Six S-factors (A-S, A-Fr, C-S, C-Fr, R-S, R-Fr) and one G-factor (Fu)	194.693*	129	.989	.977	.026	.018033				
Model 16. B-CFA: Six S-factors (A-S, A-Fr, C-S, C-Fr, R-S, R-Fr) and two G-factor (S, Fr)	738.264*	227	.915	.897	.054	.050058				
Model 17. B-ESEM: Six S-factors (A-S, A-Fr, C-S, C-Fr, R-S, R-Fr) and two G-factor (S, Fr)	179.585*	122	.990	.978	.025	.017032				

Note. CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; B: Bifactor model; Fu: Global need fulfillment; S: Need satisfaction; Fr: Need frustration; A: Need for autonomy; C: Need for competence; R: Need for relatedness; G-factor: Global factor estimated as part of a bifactor model; S-factor: Specific factor estimated as part of a bifactor model;  $\chi^2$ : Robust chi-square test of exact fit; df: Degrees of freedom; CFI: Comparative fit index; TLI: Tucker-Lewis index; RMSEA: Root mean square error of approximation; 90% CI: 90% confidence interval of the RMSEA; \*p < .01.

**Table S5**Standardized Parameter Estimates from the Six-Factor CFA and ESEM Solutions in Study 1 (N = 772): Basic Psychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration Scale

Frustration Scale	CFA					ESEM			
	Factor (λ)	δ	AS (λ)	RS (λ)	CS (λ)	$AF(\lambda)$	RF (λ)	CF (λ)	δ
Autonomy satisfaction (A-S	5)						\	- ( )	
Item 1	.559**	.688	.373**	007	.188*	232**	.008	.152	.656
Item 7	.772**	.404	.839**	016	.000	.101	055	018	.338
Item 13	.772**	.403	.751**	.077	.010	.049	.084	129	.369
Item 19	.595**	.646	.315**	.067	.174	316**	042	.162	.583
ω	.773		.727						
Relatedness satisfaction (R-	S)								
Item 3	.626**	.608	.085	.473**	142*	021	155	094	.597
Item 9	.784**	.385	052	.855**	.057	039	.079	.006	.346
Item 15	.823**	.322	.014	.876**	.045	.087*	.032	016	.270
Item 21	.653**	.574	.099	.377**	.092	075	293**	.181*	.544
ω	.815			.791					
Competence satisfaction (C-	-S)								
Item 5	.749**	.439	.010	.047	.707**	.040	.033	138	.377
Item 11	.729**	.469	.144*	.059	.539**	.052	.020	144*	.478
Item 17	.704**	.504	.263	.004	.448**	038	109	006	.487
Item 23	.752**	.435	.027	.059	.612**	013	.029	175**	.430
ω	.823				.750				
Autonomy frustration (A-Fr	.)								
Item 2	.258**	.933	.023	056	.089	.316**	059	.044	.915
Item 8	.714**	.490	048	025	.009	.676**	.035	.033	.453
Item 14	.688**	.526	130	.048	.047	.512**	029	.252**	.552
Item 20	.679**	.538	025	039	010	.600**	.085	.045	.512
ω	.687					.645			
Relatedness frustration (R-F	Fr)								
Item 4	.650**	.577	061	.070	.010	011	.633**	.112	.551
Item 10	.729**	.469	022	176	.066	.017	.534**	.108	.489
Item 16	.763**	.418	.040	007	039	005	.796**	.011	.360
Item 22	.678**	.541	.009	198**	.045	.062	.471**	.071	.555
ω	.799						.752		
Competence frustration (C-l	Fr)								
Item 6	.685**	.531	.101	.005	385**	.043	.143	.370**	.504
Item 12	.788**	.380	068	039	035	.078	.040	.691**	.339
Item 18	.726**	.473	055	.082	184	.053	.147	.490**	.478
Item 24	.779**	.394	031	068	023	.185**	.088	.593**	.378
ω	.833							.730	

*Note.* CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; S: Need satisfaction; Fr: Need frustration; A: Need for autonomy; C: Need for competence; R: Need for relatedness;  $\lambda$ : Factor loading;  $\delta$ : Item uniqueness;  $\omega$ : Model-based omega composite reliability; Target factor loadings are in bold; \*p < .05; \*\*p < .01.

**Table S6**Latent Factor Correlations from the Six-Factor CFA (Under the Diagonal) and ESEM (Over the Diagonal) Solutions in Study 1 (N = 772): Basic Psychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration Scale

	A-S	R-S	C-S	A-Fr	R-Fr	C-Fr
Autonomy satisfaction (A-S)		.435	.602	527	410	423
Relatedness satisfaction (R-S)	.523	_	.260	310	663	249
Competence satisfaction (C-S)	.768	.413		327	311	574
Autonomy frustration (A-Fr)	672	407	502		.489	.334
Relatedness frustration (R-Fr)	489	751	462	.613		.485
Competence frustration (C-Fr)	628	423	815	.656	.679	_

Competence frustration (C-Fr) -.628 -.423 -.815 .656 .679 —

Note. CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; Values above the diagonal are from the ESEM model; Values below the diagonal are from the CFA model; All correlations are statistically significant ( $p \le .01$ ). These correlations involve latent factors for which the scale was set using the referent indicator approach, and thus having a mean of 0 and a SD of 1.

**Table S7**Standardized Parameter Estimates from the Bifactor-ESEM Solution Including Six S-Factors and One G-Factor in Study 1 (N = 772): Basic Psychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration Scale

Fu (λ)	$A-S(\lambda)$	$R-S(\lambda)$	$C-S(\lambda)$	A-Fr $(\lambda)$	R-Fr $(\lambda)$	C-Fr (λ)	δ
							_
	.145	041	.103		.085	.184	.650
.704*	.307	032	.001		.133	.124	.370
	.390	001	.025			.054	.325
.704**	374	047	114	029	.217	.257	.234
	.483						
.430**	.002		138**	.004	191**	023	.597
.444**	014	.672**	.004	005	101	.034	.340
	.038	.691**	.012	.082*	134	.031	.276
.512**	048	.351**	047	015	205	.143	.547
		.718					
.544**	.086	039	.589**	.031	.048	141**	.326
.600**	019	039	.353**	.137*	.116	124	.465
.667**	.006	047	.241**	.058	.058	008	.488
.570**	.051	030	.437**	.030			.442
			.604				
142**	.024	019	.076	.250**	.002	.002	.911
528**	.035	.019					.456
504**	109	.093	.009	.453**	.022	.129	.503
540**	.117	.004	.084	.399**	.062	.010	.525
				.519			
503**	.026	050	.043	.014	.426**	.102	.550
504**		239**	.073	.048	.438**	.086	.482
539**	.067		.051	.017		.067	.365
468**		249**	.081	.071			.551
515**	032	.039	334**	.048	.135**	.325**	.495
626**	027	.047	080	.017	.063	.497**	.348
583**		.117		023		.401**	.463
642**	.011	.005	021	.088	.095	.455**	.363
.938						.628	
	.600** .667** .570** 142**528**504**540** 503**504**539**468** 515**626**583**642**	Fu (λ)       A-S (λ)         .493**       .145         .704*       .307         .698*       .390         .704**      374         .483         .430**       .002         .444**      014         .469**       .038         .512**      048         .544**       .086         .600**      019         .667**       .006         .570**       .051        142**       .024        528**       .035        504**      109        540**      117        503**       .026        504**      015        539**       .067        468**      002        515**      027        583**       .022        642**       .011	Fu (λ)       A-S (λ)       R-S (λ)         .493**       .145      041         .704*       .307      032         .698*       .390      001         .704**      374      047         .483         .430**       .002       .402**         .444**      014       .672**         .469**       .038       .691**         .512**      048       .351**         .718         .544**       .086      039         .600**      019      039         .667**       .006      047         .570**       .051      030        142**       .024      019        528**       .035       .019        504**      109       .093        540**       .117       .004        503**       .026      050        539**       .067      157*        468**      002      249**        515**      027       .047        583**       .022       .117        642**       .011       .005	Fu (λ)         A-S (λ)         R-S (λ)         C-S (λ)           .493**         .145        041         .103           .704*         .307        032         .001           .698*         .390        001         .025           .704**        374        047        114           .483         .430**         .002         .402**        138**           .444**        014         .672**         .004           .469**         .038         .691**         .012           .512**        048         .351**        047           .718         .544**         .086        039         .589**           .600**        019        039         .353**           .667**         .006        047         .241**           .570**         .051        030         .437***           .604          142**         .024        019         .076          528**         .035         .019         .073          504**        109         .093         .009          540**        015        239**         .073          539**         .067 <td>Fu (λ)         A-S (λ)         R-S (λ)         C-S (λ)         A-Fr (λ)           .493**         .145        041         .103        181*           .704*         .307        032         .001         .075           .698*         .390        001         .025         .034           .704**        374        047        114        029           .483         .002         .402**        138**         .004           .444**        014         .672**         .004        005           .469**         .038         .691**         .012         .082*           .512**        048         .351**        047        015           .718         .044        039         .589**         .031           .600**        019        039         .353**         .137*           .667**         .006        047         .241**         .058           .570**         .051        030         .437**         .058           .570**         .051        030         .437**         .058           .570**         .054*        019         .076         .250**           .50</td> <td>Fu (λ)         A-S (λ)         R-S (λ)         C-S (λ)         A-Fr (λ)         R-Fr (λ)           .493**         .145        041         .103        181*         .085           .704*         .307        032         .001         .075         .133           .698*         .390        001         .025         .034         .177           .704**        374        047        114        029         .217           .483         .002         .402**        138**         .004        191**           .444**        014         .672**         .004        005        101           .469**         .038         .691**         .012         .082*        134           .512**        048         .351**        047        015        205           .718         .086        039         .589**         .031         .048           .600**        019        039         .353**         .137*         .116           .667**         .006        047         .241**         .058         .058           .570**         .051        030         .437**         .030         .061     <td>Fu (λ)         A-S (λ)         R-S (λ)         C-S (λ)         A-Fr (λ)         R-Fr (λ)         C-Fr (λ)           .493**         .145        041         .103        181*         .085         .184           .704*         .307        032         .001         .075         .133         .124           .698*         .390        001         .025         .034         .177         .054           .704**        374        047        114        029         .217         .257           .483        </td></td>	Fu (λ)         A-S (λ)         R-S (λ)         C-S (λ)         A-Fr (λ)           .493**         .145        041         .103        181*           .704*         .307        032         .001         .075           .698*         .390        001         .025         .034           .704**        374        047        114        029           .483         .002         .402**        138**         .004           .444**        014         .672**         .004        005           .469**         .038         .691**         .012         .082*           .512**        048         .351**        047        015           .718         .044        039         .589**         .031           .600**        019        039         .353**         .137*           .667**         .006        047         .241**         .058           .570**         .051        030         .437**         .058           .570**         .051        030         .437**         .058           .570**         .054*        019         .076         .250**           .50	Fu (λ)         A-S (λ)         R-S (λ)         C-S (λ)         A-Fr (λ)         R-Fr (λ)           .493**         .145        041         .103        181*         .085           .704*         .307        032         .001         .075         .133           .698*         .390        001         .025         .034         .177           .704**        374        047        114        029         .217           .483         .002         .402**        138**         .004        191**           .444**        014         .672**         .004        005        101           .469**         .038         .691**         .012         .082*        134           .512**        048         .351**        047        015        205           .718         .086        039         .589**         .031         .048           .600**        019        039         .353**         .137*         .116           .667**         .006        047         .241**         .058         .058           .570**         .051        030         .437**         .030         .061 <td>Fu (λ)         A-S (λ)         R-S (λ)         C-S (λ)         A-Fr (λ)         R-Fr (λ)         C-Fr (λ)           .493**         .145        041         .103        181*         .085         .184           .704*         .307        032         .001         .075         .133         .124           .698*         .390        001         .025         .034         .177         .054           .704**        374        047        114        029         .217         .257           .483        </td>	Fu (λ)         A-S (λ)         R-S (λ)         C-S (λ)         A-Fr (λ)         R-Fr (λ)         C-Fr (λ)           .493**         .145        041         .103        181*         .085         .184           .704*         .307        032         .001         .075         .133         .124           .698*         .390        001         .025         .034         .177         .054           .704**        374        047        114        029         .217         .257           .483

Note. CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; Fu: Global (G-Factor) representing need fulfillment; S-Factors: Specific factors from the bifactor model; S: Need satisfaction; Fr: Need frustration; A: Need for autonomy; C: Need for competence; R: Need for relatedness;  $\lambda$ : Factor loading; δ: Item uniqueness;  $\omega$ : Model-based omega composite reliability; Target factor loadings are in bold.; \*p < .05; \*\*p < .01.

**Table S8** *Measurement Invariance for the Final Retained Model on the Basic Psychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration Scale across Studies and Genders* 

Tests of Measurement Invariance											
Model	$\chi^2$ (df)	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	90% CI	Comparison	$\Delta \chi^2 (df)$	ΔCFI	ΔTLI	ΔRMSEA	
Studies invariance											
NS1. Configural invariance	655.174 (258)*	.970	.935	.045	.041049						
NS2. Weak invariance	597.259 (377)*	.983	.975	.028	.024032	NS1	89.789 (119)	+.013	+.040	017	
NS3. Strong invariance	661.135 (394)*	.980	.971	.030	.026034	NS2	78.101 (17)*	003	004	+.002	
NS4. Strict invariance	774.310 (418)*	.973	.964	.034	.030037	NS3	94.067 (24)*	007	007	+.004	
NS5. Latent varcovar. invariance	818.564 (446)*	.971	.965	.033	.030037	NS4	46.328 (28)*	002	+.001	001	
NS6. Latent means invariance	833.585 (453)*	.971	.964	.033	.030037	NS5	15.029 (7)*	.000	001	.000	
Gender invariance											
NG1. Configural invariance	435.131 (258)*	.986	.971	.030	.025035						
NG2. Weak invariance	568.081 (377)*	.985	.979	.026	.021030	NG1	141.750 (119)	001	+.008	004	
NG3. Strong invariance	625.950 (394)*	.982	.975	.028	.024032	NG2	68.683 (17)*	003	004	+.002	
NG4. Strict invariance	695.272 (418)*	.979	.972	.030	.026033	NG3	60.210 (24)*	003	003	+.002	
NG5. Latent varcovar. invariance	751.342 (446)*	.977	.971	.030	.026034	NG4	54.766 (28)*	002	001	.000	
NG6. Latent means invariance	840.159 (453)*	.970	.964	.034	.030037	NG5	87.371 (7)*	007	007	+.004	

Note.  $\chi^2$ : Robust chi-square test of exact fit; df: Degrees of freedom; CFI: Comparative fit index; TLI: Tucker-Lewis index; RMSEA: Root mean square error of approximation; 90% CI: 90% confidence interval of the RMSEA;  $\Delta \chi^2 = \text{Robust}$  (Satorra-Bentler) chi-square difference test (calculated from loglikelihood for greater precision);  $\Delta$ : Change in model fit in relation to the comparison model; \*p < .01.

Table S9

Measurement Invariance for the Two Factor CFA Model of the Positive and Negative Affect Scale

Model	$\frac{\chi^2 (df)}{\chi^2 (df)}$	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	90% CI	Comparison	$\Delta \gamma^2$ (df)	ΔCFI	ΔTLI	ΔRMSEA
Studies invariance	76 \ /					1	/ /			_
PS1. Configural invariance	276.473 (66)*	.936	.913	.065	.057073	_	_			
PS2. Weak invariance	283.390 (74)*	.936	.923	.061	.054069	PS1	8.620(8)	.000	+.010	004
PS3. Strong invariance	302.907 (82)*	.933	.926	.060	.053067	PS2	17.501 (8)*	003	+.003	001
PS4. Strict invariance	313.467 (92)*	.933	.934	.056	.050063	PS3	13.887 (10)	.000	+.008	004
PS5. Latent varcovar. invariance	315.360 (95)*	.933	.937	.055	.049062	PS4	1.809 (3)	.000	+.003	001
PS6. Latent means invariance	316.724 (97)*	.933	.938	.055	.048062	PS5	0.427(2)	.000	+.001	.000
Gender invariance										
PG1. Configural invariance	286.586 (66)*	.932	.908	.067	.059075				_	
PG2. Weak invariance	288.686 (74)*	.934	.920	.062	.055070	PG1	3.041 (8)	+.002	+.012	005
PG3. Strong invariance	337.606 (82)*	.922	.914	.064	.057071	PG2	53.137 (8)*	012	006	+.002
PG3p. Partial strong ivariance	319.297 (81)*	.927	.919	.062	.055070	PG2	31.356 (7)*	007	001	.000
PG4. Strict invariance	337.760 (91)*	.924	.925	.060	.053067	PG3p	20.994 (10)*	003	+.006	002
PG5. Latent varcovar. invariance	343.595 (94)*	.924	.927	.059	.053066	PG4	4.911 (3)	.000	+.002	001
PG6. Latent means invariance	345.649 (96)*	.924	.928	.059	.052065	PG5	1.421 (2)	.000	+.001	.000

Note.  $\chi^2$ : Robust chi-square test of exact fit; df: Degrees of freedom; CFI: Comparative fit index; TLI: Tucker-Lewis index; RMSEA: Root mean square error of approximation; 90% CI: 90% confidence interval of the RMSEA;  $\Delta\chi^2$  = Robust (Satorra-Bentler) chi-square difference test (calculated from loglikelihood for greater precision);  $\Delta$ : Change in model fit in relation to the comparison model; \*p < .01.

**Table S10**Parameter Estimates from the Most Invariant Measurement Model (Across Studies) for the Positive and Negative Affect Scale

	Unstandardized	. λ	Standardized λ	(males)	Standardized λ (females)			
	Positive affect	Negative affect	Positive affect	Negative affect	Positive affect	Negative affect		
Item 1	.632**		.723**		.708**			
Item 3	.538**		.525**		.510**			
Item 5	.615**		.622**		.607**			
Item 7	.304**		.382**		.369**			
Item 9	.776**		.786**		.774**			
Item 2		.846**		.814**		.811**		
Item 4		.384**		.461**		.456**		
Item 6		.448**		.532**		.527**		
Item 8		.820**		.763**		.759**		
Item 10		.447**		.386**		.381**		

*Note.*  $\lambda$ : Factor loading; Although the unstandardized values are equal across groups as a result of the equality constraints imposed on them, the standardized values still demonstrate minor group-differences as a result of the variability within each group.; \*\*p < .01.

**Table S11**Goodness-of-Fit Statistics for the Hierarchical Models Estimated on the Interpersonal Behaviors Questionnaire

Model	$\chi^2$	df	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	RMSEA 90% CI
Study 1						
Model 8.2. H-CFA: Two S-factors (Su, Th) and one HO-factor (Nu)	1380.047*	250	.867	.853	.077	.073080
Model 9.2. H-ESEM: Two S-factors (S, Fr) and one HO-factor (Nu)	1373.363*	228	.865	.836	.081	.077085
Model 10.2. H-CFA: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and one HO-factor (Nu)	1611.460*	249	.839	.822	.084	.080088
Model 11.2. H-ESEM: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and one HO-factor (Nu)	721.784*	207	.939	.919	.057	.052061
Model 12.2. H-CFA: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and two HO-factors (Su, Th)	_		_	_	_	_
Model 13.2. H-ESEM: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and two HO-factors (Su, Th)	_				_	_
Model 14.2. H-CFA: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and one HO-factor (Nu)	953.998*	246	.916	.906	.061	.057065
Model 15.2. H-ESEM: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and one HO-factor (Nu)	243.629*	156	.990	.982	.027	.020033
Model 16.2. H-CFA: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and two HO-factors (Su, Th)	805.943*	245	.934	.925	.054	.050059
Model 17.2. H-ESEM: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and two HO-factors (Su,	235.120*	155	.991	.983	.026	.019032
<u>Th</u> )	255.120**	133	.991	.983	.020	.019032
Study 2						
Model 8.2. H-CFA: Two S-factors (Su, Th) and one HO-factor (Nu)	1717.058*	250	.816	.797	.089	.085093
Model 9.2. H-ESEM: Two S-factors (S, Fr) and one HO-factor (Nu)	1259.367*	228	.871	.844	.078	.074082
Model 10.2. H-CFA: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and one HO-factor (Nu)	1376.752*	249	.859	.843	.078	.074082
Model 11.2. H-ESEM: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and one HO-factor (Nu)	758.109*	207	.931	.908	.060	.055065
Model 12.2. H-CFA: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and two HO-factors (Su, Th)	_			_	_	_
Model 13.2. H-ESEM: Three S-factors (A, C, R) and two HO-factors (Su, Th)	_	_		_		_
Model 14.2. H-CFA: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and one HO-factor (Nu)	850.486*	246	.924	.915	.058	.053062
Model 15.2. H-ESEM: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and one HO-factor (Nu)	255.132*	156	.988	.978	.029	.023036
Model 16.2. H-CFA: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and two HO-factors (Su, Th)	830.813*	245	.927	.917	.057	.053061
Model 17.2. H-ESEM: Six S-factors (A-Su, A-Th, C-Su, C-Th, R-Su, R-Th) and two HO-factors (Su, Th)	250.258*	155	.988	.979	.029	.022035
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Note CFA: Confirmatory factor analysis; ESEM: Exploratory structural equation modeling; B: Bifactor model; Nu: Global need nurturing behaviors; Su: Need supportive behaviors; Th: Need thwarting behaviors; A: Autonomy; C: Competence; R: Relatedness; HO-factor: Higher-order factor estimated as part of a higher-order model; S-factor: Specific factor estimated as part of a higher-order model;  $\chi^2$ : Robust chi-square test of exact fit; df: Degrees of freedom; CFI: Comparative fit index; TLI: Tucker-Lewis index; RMSEA: Root mean square error of approximation; 90% CI: 90% confidence interval of the RMSEA; \*p < 0.01.