

## CLSA Approved Project

### **Applicant**

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### **Project Title**

The Association between Religious Participation and Social Isolation in Middle- and Older-aged Adults: A Longitudinal Analysis of the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging

### **Project Summary**

We will use information from over 50,000 people who are part of the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) to ask whether religious participation is associated with reduced social isolation in middle- and older-aged adults in Canada. We will look at this relationship with regression analysis. CLSA is measuring religious participation by asking participants how frequently they have taken part in religious activities (choirs, worship services, prayers) over the past year. Social isolation is defined as the absence of social interactions, relationships, and participation in activities outside the home (clubs, sports teams, bands). We will also study how variables such as education, age group, and sex affect the link between religious participation and social isolation. This research will tell us whether aging persons who involve themselves in faith-based activities might be receptive targets for programs designed to prevent or reduce social isolation.

### **Keywords**

CLSA, Cohort study, Epidemiology, Life-course perspective, Religious participation, Social isolation