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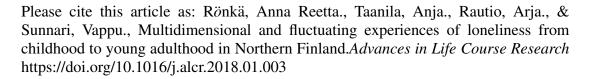
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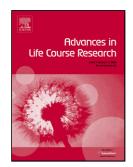
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RE-SUBMISSION, REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Multidimensional and Fluctuating Experiences of Loneliness from Childhood to Young Adulthood

in Northern Finland

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**Abstract** 

Loneliness is a negative, involuntary experience, common among children and adolescents. It has

been recently suggested that young adults are especially prone to loneliness, as they experience

many transitions while establishing their own lifestyles; however, there is a lack of research on the

experience of loneliness among this age group. In the present study, the lived experiences of past

and current loneliness from childhood to young adulthood in people (aged 27–28 years) born in

Northern Finland were examined. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 35 participants

who self-reported that they were very lonely in adolescence. Their responses were analyzed with a

theory-guided, qualitative content analysis method, in which the meanings of loneliness over their

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