Aging & Social Change:
Tenth Interdisciplinary Conference

New Ageism in Times of Pandemic: Tensions between Active Aging and Risk-Group Definitions

Virtual Conference
24–25 September 2020

LINKÖPING UNIVERSITY

COMMON GROUND

Aging & Social Change

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"New Ageism in Times of Pandemic: Tensions between Active Aging and Risk-Group Definitions"

Virtual Conference | 24–25 September 2020

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COMMON GROUND

Aging & Social Change Conference

Curating global interdisciplinary spaces, supporting professionally rewarding relationships

About the Conference

Conference History
Founded in 2011, Aging & Social Change Conference provides an international forum for the discussion of: processes of aging, accompanying individual, family, community, national, and international impacts, and social and cultural ramifications or aging on societies.

Aging & Social Change Conference is built upon four key features: Internationalism, Interdisciplinarity, Inclusiveness, and Interaction. Conference delegates include leaders in the field as well as emerging scholars, who travel to the conference from all corners of the globe and represent a broad range of disciplines and perspectives. A variety of presentation options and session types offer delegates multiple opportunities to engage, to discuss key issues in the field, and to build relationships with scholars from other cultures and disciplines.

Past Conferences
- 2011 – University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, USA
- 2012 – University of British Columbia-Robson Square, Vancouver, Canada
- 2013 – University Center, Chicago, USA
- 2014 – Manchester, UK
- 2015 – Catholic University of America, Washington DC, USA
- 2016 – Linköping University, Norrköping, Sweden
- 2017 – Unviersity of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, USA
- 2018 – Toyo University, Tokyo, Japan
- 2019 – University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

Plenary Speaker Highlights
Aging & Social Change Conference has a rich history of featuring leading and emerging voices from the field, including:

- **John L. Graham**, Director of Centre for Global Leadership, Paul Merage School of Business, University of California, Irvine, USA (2011)
- **Kata Heinemann**, Project Co-Director, The Greying of AIDS, New York City, USA (2013)
- **Susanne Iwarsson**, Professor & Director, Centre for Ageing and Supportive Environments, Lund University, Lund, Sweden (2016)
- **Teresa Liu-Ambrose**, Director, Aging, Mobility, & Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada (2012)
- **James Nazroo**, Honorary Professor, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK (2014)
- **Joakim Palme**, Professor, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden (2016)
- **John M. Thompson**, Executive Director, Midlands Community Development Corporation, Columbia, USA (2015)
- **Kieran Walsh**, Acting Director, Irish Centre for Social Gerontology; Director, Project Lifecourse, Institute for Lifecourse and Society (2017)
- **Sharon Wray**, Reader in Sociology, University of Huddersfield, Huddersfield, UK (2012)

About the Conference

Past Partners

Over the years, Aging & Social Change Conference has had the pleasure of working with the following organizations:

Alzheimer Society of British
Columbia
Vancouver, Canada (2012)

The Greying of AIDS
New York City, USA
(2013)

National Institute for the Study
of Ageing and Later Life (NISAL),
Linköping University
Linköping, Sweden (Network
Partner)

Somali Women and Children's
Support Network
Toronto, Canada (2012)

Toyo University
Tokyo, Japan (2018)

Become a Partner

Common Ground Research Networks has a long history of meaningful and substantive partnerships with universities, research institutes, government bodies, and non-governmental organizations. Developing these partnerships is a pillar of our Research Network agenda. There are a number of ways you can partner with a Common Ground Research Networks. Please visit the **CGScholar** Knowledge Base (https://cgscholar.com/cg_support/en) to learn how to become a partner.

Conference Principles and Features

The structure of the conference is based on four core principles that pervade all aspects of the research network:

International

This conference travels around the world to provide opportunities for delegates to see and experience different countries and locations. But more importantly, the Aging & Social Change: Interdisciplinary Conference offers a tangible and meaningful opportunity to engage with scholars from a diversity of cultures and perspectives. This year, delegates from over 17 countries were in attendance, offering a unique and unparalleled opportunity to engage directly with colleagues from all corners of the globe.

Interdisciplinary

Unlike association conferences attended by delegates with similar backgrounds and specialties, this conference brings together researchers, practitioners, and scholars from a wide range of disciplines who have a shared interest in the themes and concerns of this network. As a result, topics are broached from a variety of perspectives, interdisciplinary methods are applauded, and mutual respect and collaboration are encouraged.

Inclusive

Anyone whose scholarly work is sound and relevant is welcome to participate in this network and conference, regardless of discipline, culture, institution, or career path. Whether an emeritus professor, graduate student, researcher, teacher, policymaker, practitioner, or administrator, your work and your voice can contribute to the collective body of knowledge that is created and shared by this network.

Interactive

To take full advantage of the rich diversity of cultures, backgrounds, and perspectives represented at the conference, there must be ample opportunities to speak, listen, engage, and interact. A variety of session formats, from more to less structured, are offered throughout the conference to provide these opportunities.

Research Network Chair

Andreas Motel-Klingebiel, Research Network Chair and Professor, Ageing and Later Life, Department for Social and Welfare Studies, Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden

Dr. Andreas Motel-Klingebiel holds a chair in Ageing and Later Life at the Division Ageing and Social Change, Department for Social and Welfare Studies, Linköping University, Sweden. He is a Sociologist and Gerontologist, as well as the current vice-president of the Swedish Gerontological Society. Before accepting the position in Sweden, he was acting as Head of Research and Deputy Institute Director of the German Centre of Gerontology in Berlin, where he served as the director of the German Ageing Survey. He received a PhD in Sociology from Free University Berlin and taught Gerontology and Sociology at the University of Vechta and at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. He has extensive experience in quantitative research and his research targets the interdependencies between social change, life courses, human ageing and old age with an emphasis on quality of life, diversity, distributions, social inequality and exclusion.

Plenary Speakers

Liat Ayalon, Professor and Deputy Director, School of Social Work, Bar Ilan University, Israel
Ageism & COVID-19: Lessons for the Future

Liat Ayalon, PhD, is a researcher in the School of Social Work at Bar Ilan University, Israel. Prof. Ayalon coordinates an international EU funded PhD program on the topic of ageism (EuroAgeism.eu). She is also the Israeli PI of the EU funded MascAge program to study ageing masculinities in literature and cinema. For the past four years, Prof. Ayalon has led an international research network on the topic of ageism, funded through COST (Cooperation in Science and Technology; COST IS1402, notoageism.com). She consults both national and international organizations concerning the development and evaluation of programs and services for older adults.

Norah Keating, Director, Global Social Issues on Ageing, International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics; Professor of Rural Ageing, Centre for Innovative Ageing, Swansea University, UK; Co-director, Research on Aging, Policies and Practice, University of Alberta, Canada; Extraordinary Professor, Optentia Research Focus Area, North-West University, South Africa
All in This Together? Reducing Inequalities toward a Decade of Healthy Ageing*

Professor Norah Keating is a social gerontologist whose theoretical and empirical research has created evidence, challenged discourses, and influenced policy in global, social, and physical contexts of ageing. She has placed this work on the international stage through the Global Social Issues on Ageing which fosters collaboration and critical thinking about ageing at the interfaces of regional issues and global trends. Professor Keating holds academic appointments in 3 world regions: University of Alberta, Canada; Swansea University, UK; North-West University, South Africa. She is a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, The Gerontological Society of America, and the UK Academy of Social Sciences. In 2017 she was awarded the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics Presidential Award for the global reach of her international work.

EuroAgeism Panel Presentations

Theorising Tomorrow: Ageism and Older Workers
Chairperson: Hanna Kosonen, Tampere University, Finland

Job Loss and Ageism: Agentic Practices in Career Decisions after Redundancy
Katri Keskinen, Tampere University, Finland

Ageism in Age Management Practices in Contemporary Eastern Europe
Maria Varlamova, Jagiellonian University, Poland

Older Workers: Fragile – During the Pandemic - or Knowledgeable – Before the Pandemic: Insights on Discursive Resources to Negotiate Age inside Organisations
Federica Previtali, Tampere University, Finland

Frailty, Social Care, and Engagement among Older Adults
Chairperson: Angela Kydd, Robert Gordon University, United Kingdom

Frailty and Ageism among Older Adults: A Systematic Literature Review
Abodunrin Aminu, Robert Gordon University, United Kingdom

"It's Pure Panic": The Portrayal of Residential Care in American Newspapers during COVID-19
Laura Allen, Bar-Ilan University, Israel

Portrayal of Older Adults in Chinese Social Media during COVID-19
Wanyu Xi, Bar-Ilan University, Israel
Wenqian Xu, Linköping University, Sweden

Emerging Scholars

Irtiqua Ali

Irtiqua Ali is a research scholar at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India. She completed her MPhil in social work (Batch 2018-2020). Her MPhil thesis is "Living Alone in Old Age: A Narrative Study on Life Experiences of Elderly in Delhi." She gained interest in the field of gerontological social work during her master's coursework. She has an MA in social work from the Department of Social Work at the University of Delhi (2014-2016). She is a Gold Medallist for her MA in social work at the University. She also has two years' work experience (2016-2018) at a Delhi-based, non-governmental organization, Chetanalaya, after which she decided to pursue research-based higher education in 2018.

Sarah Assaad

Sarah is a public health researcher from Lebanon currently pursuing her PhD at the University of Cambridge, UK. Her project aims at describing the patterns of change in health and social care needs of the older olds and the role of social well-being in healthy ageing. She is analyzing longitudinal data from a rare cohort study of 28 years of follow up, the Cambridge City over - 75s Cohort (CC75C). She holds a BS in medical laboratory sciences and a master's in public health with emphasis on epidemiology and biostatistics from the American University of Beirut, Lebanon. She also coordinated the implementation of the first 10/66 dementia cohort study in Lebanon (2016-17).

Fathin Hanani

Fathin Hanani is a doctoral candidate at the Universiti Putra Malaysia, Malaysia. She holds a master's degree in economics from Universiti Putra Malaysia. She also holds a bachelor's degree in mathematical science from the International Islamic University Malaysia, Malaysia. The focus of her present research is the economics and retirement life of the retirees in Malaysia. Her research project aims at understanding the socioeconomic factors that influence retirement adjustment and life satisfaction of the retirees' and measuring the retirees' economic contribution. Her research interests are economics of ageing people, retirement adjustment, and life satisfaction of the elderly.

Jonathan Lai

Jonathan Lai is a graduate student in the Department of Human Ecology at the University of Alberta. His master's thesis is concerned with ageism in the workplace and its effects on worker engagement. Jon's education background is in the social sciences, and he believes in the power of social innovation to create a more equitable society. When he is not conducting research, Jon enjoys cycling and visiting art galleries.

Samantha Oostlander

Samantha Oostlander is a first-year doctoral student at the University of Ottawa in the Population Health program. Samantha completed a bachelor of science in neuroscience and mental health from Carleton University in 2016 and a masters of science in occupational therapy from Queen's University in 2018. She practices as an occupational therapist in an acute care setting on a causal basis. Within the Population Health Program, Samantha acts as the communications and social media lead for the graduate student's association. For her doctoral research program, Samantha is interested in pursing research that explores the impacts of climate change on health service delivery with a specific focus on older adults. She is supervised by Dr. Tracey O'Sullivan in the EnRiCH lab at the University of Ottawa.

Gemma Wells

Dr. Gemma Wells is a senior lecturer and professional lead in occupational therapy at Canterbury Christ Church University, England. She was awarded her PhD in 2018 following the successful completion of her thesis titled "Older women as occupational beings: exploring the meanings of occupations within the home environment for older women living alone." Gemma's research interests include older women, narratives of engagement in occupations, and the use of photo-elicitation as a research method.

Public Policy and Public Perspectives on Aging

Ageing-in-place and Informal Care during COVID-19: The Importance of the Neighbourhood

Wesley Gruijthuijsen, KU Leuven Primary PhD Researcher, Earth and Environmental Sciences - Division of Geography & Tourism, KU Leuven, Belgium
Jakob D'herde, PhD Student, Department of Architecture, KU Leuven, Belgium
Veerle Draulans, Tilburg University, Netherlands
Dominique Vanneste, Professor of Geography and Tourism, KU Leuven, Belgium

In Flanders (Belgium) the public health and care policies are increasingly focused on aging in place. The local community and the neighborhood are expected to fulfill an important role in care provision, which is reflected in the new residential care decree (2020). However, not much is known about the influence of the neighborhood on aging in place in Flanders, nor the social networks within them. In the academic debate it is often stressed that the neighborhood has lost importance in our daily lives. However, the COVID-19 crisis may have changed that. Belgium was characterized by a stringent lockdown, wherein not only non-essential stores were closed, but also contacts between generations were restricted or classified as non-essential. Daily life was therefore largely confined to the local neighborhood. An interesting question is if that also resulted in more support from the neighborhood when it comes to informal care provision and social support? To get more insight in this, 10 (but ongoing) semi-structured telephone interviews with informal caregivers were conducted to talk about caregiving in the context of the lockdown and the role of the neighborhood. The results indicate that habitual informal family caregivers took on the extra care needs during the lockdown themselves and that there was in general little to no (additional) appeal on the neighborhood. Additional interviews with neighborhood platforms are being carried out to get more insight in support towards people without family networks, who probably appealed more to the neighborhood.

Current and Future Needs of Gerontological Social Work Practice in Alberta: Findings from the World Café at the Gerontological Symposium in Edmonton

Kathaleen Quinn, Assistant Professor, Social Work, MacEwan School of Social Work, Alberta, Canada

Older adults (65+ years) are the fastest growing population group in Canada, projected to reach 25% of the population by 2030. Given this dramatic demographic shift, there is a critical need for trained practitioners from disciplines such as social work. However, there is scant research on gerontological social work in Canada. This paper reports findings from the Gerontology Symposium at MacEwan University about the perspectives of social workers (N=49 on the current and future needs of gerontological social work in the Canadian province of Alberta. A World Café methodology was used to obtain participants' responses from on the following two questions: 1) What strategies do we need on the micro, mezzo, and macro levels to help better serve older adult population? 2) How can we promote the value and contribution of gerontological social work within the inter-professional community? The data from the World Café was analyzed using qualitative content analysis. Findings indicate the need to raise awareness about the demand for gerontological social work in Alberta; acknowledge and challenge ageism; strengthen the status and voice of the social work profession in practice, policy, and research; increase gerontological education opportunities for social workers, including inter-professional education; and enhancing advocacy on behalf of the aging population to meet the needs. The findings help inform the professional development opportunities for gerontological social work in Alberta and beyond.

Older Adults' and Family Carers' Engagement in Democratic Governance in the Context of Health Care System and Government Change

Andrea Rounce, University of Manitoba, Canada
Danielle Cherpako, Graduate student , Department of Political Studies, University of Manitoba, Canada
Laura Funk, Associate Professor, Sociology and Criminology, University of Manitoba, Canada

Advisory committees are some of the most prominent ways in which older adults and carers are represented in democratic governance in contemporary North America. For the most part, we know little about how older adults and family/friend carers interpret the meaning of their engagement within governmental advisory committees. A thematic, interpretive analysis was conducted using semi-structured qualitative interviews with 24 current and former members of various advisory committees in Manitoba, Canada. Although all participants were motivated by personal experience and/or the common good, interpretive tensions at times arose between their desire for systemic change and/or advocacy and the mandate and/or function of their committee. Perhaps in part to reconcile this tension (and in some cases their own continued membership) participants often characterized these committees as at least partially valuable and effective ways to engage older adults/carers, primarily through talk about personal benefits, meeting quality and efficiency, and feeling valued. Tensions between advocacy and advising may become especially pronounced in the context of changes perceived as threatening both the quality of formal care and chances for meaningfully engaging older adults and carers in governance. For some members, this can generate attempts to reconcile their ongoing involvement through emphasizing alternative meanings of effectiveness.

Rethinking 'Vulnerability Approach' in an Ageing Society: Focus on Safeguarding Law against Elder Abuse

Yukio Sakurai, PhD student, Graduate School of International Social Sciences, Yokohama National University, Japan

We have an assumption in Civil Code that human has capacity and autonomy, even though it might be fiction, and that human behaves in life as reasonable as possible. In this sense, human without full capacity and autonomy is regarded as an exception, who falls short of citizenship, and must be under supervision of others, including guardian by law. This legal system faces a challenge whether it is true or not even in an ageing society where the number of the elderly with dementia is sharply increasing. We need an alternative legal concept to fit better with the reality. The notion of vulnerability is on the basis of understanding that we all are more or less vulnerable. Vulnerability stands out particularly in case of the elderly and persons with disabilities who heavily rely on others. 'Older people have a fundamental human right to protection from abuse. That obliges the state to put in place legal and social structures to combat elder abuse (Herring 2016),' and a general view is to be drawn out that vulnerable adults at risk of harm must be protected from abuse by law and public policy. This general view may change people's perceptions on 'vulnerability approach' based on vulnerability just as a human characteristic, regardless of mental capacity as criteria in the adult guardianship system, and instead encourages to respect human rights as a universal value, affecting law and public policy.

Medical Perspectives on Aging, Health, Wellness

Differences in Health Information Seeking Behaviour between Estonian Students and Elderly People

Marianne Paimre, PhD Student/Lecturer, School of Information Technology, Tallinn University, Harjumaa, Estonia

The digital turn has changed the way people retrieve information on health and diseases. Today most of the health-related information is obtained from the Internet. In a small country Estonia, widely acclaimed for being one of the most digitally advanced nations in the world, making health queries ranks high among young people's favourite online activities. However, the ones that need information on health and diseases the most are seniors. This article sets out to examine online health information seeking behaviour (OHISB) of the Estonian youth and older generation. Interviews with students (10), retirees attending a day care centre (7), and seniors employed by two Estonian universities (7) were conducted. The outcomes revealed that students search for online health information many times a week and are especially interested in various medical conditions (depression, skin problems, sexual health). They also study the online patient ratings of medical specialists and take great interest in online health forums. On the contrary, seniors in full-time retirement make very little use of the Internet and get all the essential health and diseaserelated information from the so-called live sources (mostly from their GPs). However, OHISB of those seniors who continue working and use computers daily was similar to that of students. Thus, attachment to computers is a significant prerequisite for seeking health information online.

Immunosenescence in the Time of COVID: Age Related Immune Changes and Viral Infection

Matthew Sorenson, Professor, College of Nursing, Texas A&M University, Texas, United States

Age related immune changes are associated with increased morbidity and mortality. These changes place the individual at increased risk for the development of infection and in the time of a global pandemic increase the risk of acquiring COVID-19. This paper reviews age related immunologic changes focusing on how older adults are at increased risk. Attention is paid to preventative measures.

Impacts of Obesity on Health and Wellbeing of Older Adults in England

Gargi Ghosh, PhD Research Scholar, College of Nursing, Midwifery, and Healthcare, University of West London, London, United Kingdom

The aim of this paper is to predict the connections between overweight/obesity and their effects on various dimensions of health and wellbeing among older adults in England. Is there any relationship between obesity, disability, and morbidities in older adults? Is there any link between current health status and overall wellbeing of obese older adults in England? A large nationally representative survey dataset the English Longitudinal Study on Ageing (ELSA) wave 8 is accessed and analysed to fulfil the study objectives. Three methods of data collection were used for ELSA wave 8: face-to-face interviews were conducted using computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI), combined with self-completion questionnaires completed using pen and paper (PAPI) and a nurse visit. Exploratory data analysis, correlation and multiple regression analysis models have been applied to test the research questions. Main findings indicate there is a larger number of obese males (about double) than obese females, obese and 81 yrs. plus respondents are more likely to have poor or fair subjective health status (odds ratio

Social and Cultural Perspectives on Aging

A Holistic Approach to Interactive Activities for Older Adults

Madeline Ryan Smith, Master of Arts in Social Science, Child Development Center, Georgia Southern University, United States

While there is currently an abundance of research on the physical health of older adults (Deschodt et al., 2009; Towson, et al. 2011), there is less literature on the mental health and well-being of older adults (Stark, 2018). Older adults thrive from activities that target both mental and physical health. Franke (2013) identified three components in activities that can be used to create a holistic approach to care in order to amplify older adults' engagement, entertainment, and feelings of being challenged: resourcefulness, social connections, and a stimulating environment. With these elements in mind, this workshop will provide attendees with multiple hands-on experiences to learn meaningful ways in which to interact with older adults in ways that achieve this holistic approach to care, which works to enhance day-to-day enjoyment and happiness and that contributes to lower levels of stress (Morita, 2013). In turn, these activities will create a social atmosphere conducive to meaningful interactions between individuals and their environment, while targeting multiple domains of adult development. Attendees will be encouraged to participate in interactive activities, receive resources that will allow improvement within their own care facilities, as well as discuss how activities and environmental components could be modified to improve participation and well-being among the clientele served by professionals.

Aging While Parenting a Child with an Intellectual Disability

Carla Reyna, Masters Student, California State University, Long Beach, California, United States
Molly Ranney, Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator, School of Social Work, California State University, Long Beach, California, United States

This research explores the results of a qualitative study of 15 parents, age 60 years or older, who were the primary caregiver for, and currently living with their adult child with an IDD. Findings reveal that parents feel fortunate and find meaning in their caregiving role. While worry and stress have impacted their lives, a majority reported this stress as being off-set by having a positive outlook. In thinking of their future, all of the caregivers reported feeling scared on who would take over the caregiving role for their adult child with IDD upon their death. Caregivers recommended that entities, such as the Regional Center provide future planning guidance and resources, and that public or private specialized case managers be available to manage their adult child's future care. With adult children with IDD and their parents living longer, this study discusses the unique opportunities and challenges these trends present for the family unit and society in general.

Dementia as Necropolitics: Vulnerability Theory for an Ageing World

Hamish Robertson, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Health, University of Technology Sydney, Australia

As populations age internationally, the numbers of potentially vulnerable older people are growing. Many older people are especially vulnerable in various service and care environments, including acute medical settings and residential aged care facilities. Such systems have a long history of failures in the treatment and care of older pepople, amongst other vulnerable groups, which various inquiries have formally documented (e.g. the UK Gosport Inquiry). Patient safety research has also documented the huge variability in care that older people can experience in 'contested' healthcare environments which can and do represent ageing as a resource problem for health providers. These past systemic behaviours are likely to be compounded as population ageing progresses unless significant changes occur in health and social care systems. In this paper we discuss the role of vulnerability theory in relation to how older people may experience unequal outcomes and mistreatment in such systems. This is particularly evident in how people with dementias are represented and often treated in society at large. We do this through the lens of 'necropolitics' (Mbembe, 2003) as a way of unpacking these inconsistencies and inequalities with a view to analysing how future practices can be reshaped and the rights of older people as patients and care recipients be met more effectively. The consequences of continuing failure in this space can only grow in scale and severity if such changes do not occur.

Development of Pedaling for Health: A Social Exercise Program

Alexis Lopez, Student, Occupational Therapy, Stanbridge University, California, United States

Sydney Hoang, Student, Master's of Science in Occupational Therapy, Stanbridge University, California, United States

Audrey Jenkins, Student, Occupational Therapy Student, Stanbridge University, California, United States

Madison Wright, Student, MSOT, Stanbridge University, California, United States

Due to age-related physical changes and social isolation, adults 65 and older are at high risk for falls (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2015, 2017; Hwang, Wang, Siever, Del Medico, & Jones, 2019). A literature review revealed that aerobic exercise such as biking can help mitigate the decline in quality of life (QoL) experienced by older adults (Hamar, Coberley, Pope, & Rula, 2013; Daly et al., 2015). In addition, it was found that meaningful social connection supports QoL by decreasing feelings of loneliness and social isolation in older adults (Yoo, Kim, Oh, Hwang, & Lee, 2019; Hwang, Wang, Siever, Del Medico, & Jones, 2019). There is ample research that the QoL of adults over the age of 65 benefits from exercise or social participation. However, no research has yet addressed the integration of physical activity along with social participation. Pedaling for Health: We developed Pedaling for Health to fill this gap in the research, one that integrates physical activity with social participation. This exercise program is intended for physical trainers, occupational therapists, and other healthcare professionals to use with older adults who are 65 years and older. Meaningful social connections and a reduced risk for falls are the expected outcomes of implementing Pedaling for Health with older adults 65 years and older.

Digitization of Aging-in-place: An International Policy Comparison of the Role of New Technologies

Alexander Peine, Assistant Professor, Utrecht University, Netherlands

Eugene Loos, Associate Professor, Utrecht University, Netherlands

Daniel Lopez Gomez, Associate Professor, Open University of Catalonia, Spain

Stephen Katz, Professor Emeritus, Trent University, Canada

Nicole Dalmer, Postdoctoral Fellow, McMaster University, Canada

Barb Marshall, Professor, Sociology, Trent University, Canada

Planning for aging populations has been a growing concern for policy makers across the globe. The World Health Organization has been instrumental in developing global strategies around aging and health. Integral to strategies for promoting healthy aging are those designed to bolster older people's independence, which are often linked to services and care that allow them to remain in their homes and communities – frequently referred to as strategies for 'aging in place'. Technological innovations - and especially the development of digital technologies - are viewed as important in helping to meet these goals, and may "offer new approaches to delivering care, while trying to bend the cost curve, and supporting ageing in place"(World Health Organization 2013). In this paper, we examine the discursive framing of technology in aging-in-place policies collected from partners in an international research collaboration on aging and technology. Analyzing policy documents from Spain, the Netherlands and Canada, we explore varying understandings of what 'aging in place' means, what kinds of technologies are mentioned, and what stakeholders are identified. We then analyze the framing of technological interventions in relation to values such as quality of life, autonomy/ independence, risk management, social inclusion, 'active ageing', sustainability/ efficiency of health care delivery, support for caregivers and older peoples' rights. We argue that attention to making explicit these values is important to the role of social policies in imagining aging futures.

How COVID-19 Challenged Connectedness among Staff, Family Caregivers, and Residents in North American Nursing Homes: Reflections on Stories in a Co-created Ethnography

Charlotte Lee, Assistant Professor, Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing, Ryerson University, Canada
Lori Schindel Martin, Associate Professor, Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing, Ryerson University, Canada
Margaret Oldfield, Social Scientist, Disability Scholar, Canada

A year ago, Mildred moved into a nursing home. Her family brought her favorite foods, joined in activities and meals, and phoned at bedtime— helping Mildred transition to nursing-home life. Then COVID-19 hit, with its high death toll among residents. To control infection, dining rooms closed, group programs ended, residents confined to their rooms, and family visits banned. Gone were essential connections between residents, families, and staff. Mildred lost sources of comfort, familiarity, and identity. COVID-19 risk reduction isolates residents, eroding the essential connectedness of touch, of belonging. This erosion evokes powerlessness and despair for all. Already under-resourced and in highly-regulated, cost-containing workplaces that prioritize care tasks, staff have even less time to socialize with residents. Although visiting restrictions exacerbate isolation, nursing homes have responded creatively through videocalls, window visits, and forwarding family cards and photographs. Staff try to balance risk reduction with addressing resident and family needs and wishes. In this paper, we share personal narratives as family caregivers, framed within Buber's I-Thou philosophy of connectedness, which requires meaningful presence. We reflect on how we experienced COVID-19's fragmentation of relationships, what we observed, and what we did to rebuild connectedness. These are our stories of both regret and resilience. Understanding how COVID-19 ruptures connectedness in nursing homes, along with creative efforts to reconnect relationships, can help staff and families flow through turbulence in the pandemic. In the longer term, this understanding can improve relational and person-centred care in nursing homes and, ultimately, improve residents' quality of life.

Imagine a Future without Ageism: Creativity and Curiosity to Reimagine Aging

Erin Partridge, Art Therapy, Notre Dame de Namur, United States

Given the potential risks and biopsychosocial impacts of ageism, we must find ways to address and reduce this bias. Though laws and public policy have a role to play in addressing ageism, particularly in the workplace, we also need to get curious about what ageism is and how it may show up in our lives. Throughout human history, artists and creative people have used their practices to hold up a mirror to society and to imagine different futures. Creative practices can also address the unspoken and nonverbal biases we hold. This workshop presents several intergenerational creative projects to address ageism and the use of art-based research as a means to ameliorate ageist biases in research. Participants will be guided through a creative practice to examine their own internalized ageism and the ageism they see and experience in daily life.

Inclusive Aging-in-place Organizations as Capstones for Intergenerational Communities: The Ten-year-old Successful Establishment of At Home In Darien - a 3,500-member Organization in Darien, Connecticut

Peter F. Eder, Founding Board Member, At Home In Darien, United States

A case history of the development and evolution of At Home In Darien, an inclusive aging in place, not for profit organization. The study lays out the phases and steps that led to a now established ten year old institution. We present the research that underlies and measures the program, the pitfalls to be avoided, what has made it successful and the view of what lies ahead. We also present how the organization is an integral part of the entire community and a vital component of the town's intergenerational commitment and focus. With 250 aging-in-place organizations active at at some stage in he U.S. and the senior population increasing, and that age cohort lengthening, this model becomes increasingly important and more valuable.

Informal Networks versus Retirement Savings in the United States

Joelle Saad Lessler, Associate Industry Professor, School of Business, Stevens Institute of Technology, United States
Karen Richman, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Latino Studies, University of Notre Dame, United States

The majority of Americans do not save enough for retirement: one in three Americans has no accumulations in retirement accounts, 56% saved less than $10,000, and 13% saved a minimum of $300,000. Understanding why is essential to addressing the retirement savings shortfall. This research project explains how Americans today are building social capital, supporting and caring for one another, and investing in informal networks instead of accumulating formal savings. The study marries economic methodology with anthropological theory to produce a novel approach to measuring the relationship between collectivist and savings behaviors. The study analyzes a large national data set: the re-engineered 2014 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), which covers all demographics including by age, net worth, income level, gender, ethnicity, race, partner status, citizenship and residence. The project's findings provide tangible evidence of how Americans across demographics are employing collectivist practices as a bulwark against insecurity, as a substitute for employment-based retirement savings and as a caregiving safety net for elders.

Life Experiences of Elderly Living Alone in Delhi, India

Irtiqua Ali, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India

Population ageing is rapid across the globe as mortality rate has decreased and longevity has increased. The demographic and socio-economic conditions emphasise the need to focus more on the older generations. This is the case of the developing nations today including India with urbanization, modernization, migration on one hand and the challenges of poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, corruption, inadequate formal structures on the other which needs to be tackled for creating an elderly-friendly society. Among the various concerns for the elderly population at different levels including individual, family, community, and State, the concern raised by this paper is based on their experiences. The elderly population is heterogeneous but has been considered as a homogeneous for various programs/ policies. It is important that their voices be heard and given consideration. Those living alone are often the most neglected ones among the elderly population at different levels. The proportion of elderly living alone is increasing due to the changing socio-economic and cultural situations. Since the numbers are increasing, it is not just an individual but a societal and policy level concern. This paper is based on the qualitative study on the life experiences of the elderly living alone in Delhi. Data was collected through in-depth interview with thematic analysis. Participant led purposive sampling was used in the study. It looks at the reasons for the elderly living alone, their perceptions, challenges and the support system. The study highlights the experiences and way ahead in creating a more elderly-friendly society.

The Development of a Successful Aging Scale: What Attributes are Important to Older People?

Barbra Teater, Professor of Social Work, College of Staten Island, City University of New York, United States
Jill Chonody, Associate Professor, Social Work, Boise State University, Idaho, United States

As researchers and theorists have sought to develop a cohesive definition of successful aging, the experiences and perspectives of older adults' have largely been overlooked. This study sought to redress that gap through an online survey using convenience sampling. Participants (N = 477) were asked how important 25 specific attributes of successful aging were to them, which were compiled from the substantive literature that examined successful aging from the perspective of older adults. Eleven attributes were reported as important or very important to them as they age for more than 90% of the participants. These attributes included "remaining free of chronic diseases" and "feeling good about myself." Results of an exploratory factor analysis indicated four dimensions of successful aging (Autonomy, Adaptation and Coping; Being Healthy; SelfDetermination and Engagement with Life; and Social Relationships and Interactions), which explained 57.06% of the variance. These findings suggest that older adults' definition of what is important to them as they age is multidimensional, with having access to affordable healthcare and remaining alert and mentally active as critical elements followed by elements of autonomy, self-determination, physical health, and social engagement. A multidimensional assessment of successful aging can assist health and social service providers in determining the dimensions that are important to an older client, which in turn will inform prevention and intervention programs.

The Self-determination Continuum: Motivators Influencing Technology Use Among Older Adults

Katherine Anthony, PhD Student, School of Education and Gerontology, Iowa State University, United States

With the shift of Baby Boomers into the 65+ demographic beginning, learning more about the relationship older adults have with technology could help when resources begin to deplete. Technology is one way to aid in that depletion of resources. This systematic review of the literature looked at five databases, reviewing peer-reviewed journals for original research that looked at the relationship between motivation (specifically self-determination theory), technology use, and the older adult (60+) demographic. After applying the inclusion criteria, 30 articles were included for full review. Findings showed that existing research is heavily intrinsically motivated as it relates to older adults and technology use. Tablets and training programs were also heavily focused on in current research. Communication with friends and family and self-efficacy were two top environmental factors influencing motivation. Going forward, researchers should focus closer on self-determination theory as it relates to older adults and technology use and incorporate more elements of andragogy along with expanding technology beyond a singular device (specifically tablets) or program.

Third Age and Well-being: An Alternative Approach to Health Interventions

Gaizka Pérez, University of Deusto, Spain

Health interventions in old age are often approached taking into consideration objective measures of health such as life expectancy or functional autonomy. Conversely, subjective measures (well-being or vital satisfaction) are often considered simply a consequence of the objective ones. Due to this way of thinking, subjective indicators are not directly addressed in most interventions. Recent studies suggest that both measures may show some independence to one another. For instance, perceived well-being appears to be greater in the old adulthood than in younger adults, even though old adults suffer from "objectively" lower levels of health. Thus, I consider how health promotion and intervention strategies should change regarding this issue, finding an adequate middle ground between these approaches.

Vaccination vs. Healthy Ageing: The Role of Scientific Knowledge Channels in the Increasingly Positive Preferences for Vaccines among Elderly People

Izabela Warwas, Head of the Department of Labour and Social Policy, Faculty of Economics and Sociology, University of Lodz, Poland

The demographic changes that occurred in the last century have led to a consistent increase in life expectancy and a growth (in the non-relative and relative sense) of the elderly population. In this context, the increased vulnerability to infection of the elderly makes them a particularly important target population for vaccination. Infectious diseases are indicated as a major barrier to healthy ageing. The vaccination recommendations established in the USA and Europe include the elderly, but compliance with vaccine recommendations is lower for this population, and the burden of vaccine-preventable diseases in terms of morbidity, mortality, and direct and indirect costs remains high. Thus, promoting vaccination among the elderly is a crucial task for healthcare, the social care system, as well as scientists. As previous research shows, age is one of the factors that most influence knowledge about vaccinations, with the young being more informed than the old. The aim of paper is to assess perceptions of vaccination among older Poles, and to present the preferred information channels and main actors who elderly citizens trust. An important goal is also to increase the understanding of the role that vaccinations play in the healthy ageing of this population. In the paper, the empirical results of a citizens consultation with over 100 Poles, conducted within the H2020 CONCISE project (Communication role on perception and beliefs of EU Citizens about Science,) are presented. The aim of the consultations was to understand how individuals perceive scientific communications and make decisions on relevant topics (e.g. vaccines).

Virtual Presentations

The Risks of Workplace Ageism for an Ageing Labour Force

Jonathan Lai, Graduate Student, Human Ecology, University of Alberta, Canada

Ageism in the workplace is a complex phenomenon that encompasses acts of age discrimination and cognitive biases that can contribute to differential treatment of workers based on their age. Previous studies have demonstrated the detrimental effects that perceived and experienced age discrimination can have on worker engagement, which is an immersive and positive psychological state that an individual can experience while in their job role. The absence of positive psychosocial job factors, such as perceived organizational support, peer and co-worker support, meaningful work, and access to workplace education and training, can also reduce the engagement of workers. This study provides insight into this important issue by asking: does worker age moderate the relationship between positive psychosocial job factors and worker engagement? To address this question, data collected by Statistics Canada in the General Social Survey (GSS), Cycle 30: Canadians at Work and Home, was analyzed using structural equation modelling (SEM) techniques. Results show that older workers did not experience disparity in the level of these positive psychosocial job factors or in the level of engagement in comparison to young and middle aged workers. Worker engagement has been recognized as a vital component of psychological health and safety in the workplace. As a growing proportion of the labour force becomes older, it is important that ageing workers are not subject to social exclusion and the loss of growth and learning opportunities in their workplaces.

Understanding the Multidimensional Factors Associated with Post-retirement Work: In-depth Analysis of the Chilean Case

Milda Galkute, Research Assistant, Department of Sociology, Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, Chile

Formal labor market conditions no longer fit older adults' needs in Chile, "pushing" them towards informal employment. This shows an urgent need to make specific work arrangements to accommodate older workers in their jobs. We investigate the extent to which demographic, psychosocial, and work-related factors are associated with working beyond legal retirement age in Chile. Quantitative data is based on the national survey on Work and Elderly People (2017), while qualitative data consists of ten semi-structured interviews with older workers. The quantitative results show that good health conditions, occasional care of grandchildren, good job quality, and intrinsic motivation were positively and significantly associated with extended working lives among elderly Chileans. The qualitative data reveal that apart from the economic need, the main reasons to continue working included the willingness to stay up-to-date and to preserve significant interpersonal relations. The findings suggest that intrinsic motivation to continue working past legal retirement age is just as significant as the work-related factors. This research highlights the aspects associated with older adults' predisposition to continue working after legal retirement age in Chile, and thus could help develop appropriate age-friendly work policies to retain older adults within organizations.

New Ageism in Times of Pandemic: Tensions between Active Aging and Risk-Group Definitions

Covid-19 Safety Measures: Obstacles to Successful Aging?

Theresa Heidinger, Researcher, Gerontolgy, Karl Landsteiner University, Austria

The Covid-19 pandemic poses a great challenge for older people both in terms of the severity of the disease and the negative consequences of social distancing. Assumptions about negative effects on the lives of the elderly, affecting dimensions of successful aging (such as the preservation of social relationships), have thus far been hypothetical and have lacked empirical evidence. The aim of this study is to shed empirical light on the effects of Covid-19 on the everyday life of older people against the background of the concept of successful aging. Data of a standardized, representative telephone survey with residents of Lower Austria was used for this secondary analysis. The sample included 521 persons aged 60 years and older. The empirical data show that Covid-19 safety measures can pose an obstacle to two of the three dimensions of successful aging: productive activity, which often includes an interactive component, as well as physical activity (exercise) have been drastically reduced during social distancing measures.

Does the Covid-19 Pandemic Encourage Ageism?: Should Age Matter in Allocation of Scarce Resources?

Felicia Nimue Ackerman, Professor, Philosophy, Brown University, Rhode Island, United States
Dena Davis, Professor, Religion Studies, Lehigh University, Pennsylvania, United States

Health interventions in old age are often approached taking into consideration objective measures of health such as life expectancy or functional autonomy. Conversely, subjective measures (well-being or vital satisfaction) are often considered simply a consequence of the objective ones. Due to this way of thinking, subjective indicators are not directly addressed in most interventions. Recent studies suggest that both measures may show some independence to one another. For instance, perceived well-being appears to be greater in the old adulthood than in younger adults, even though old adults suffer from "objectively" lower levels of health. Thus, I consider how health promotion and intervention strategies should change regarding this issue, finding an adequate middle ground between these approaches.

Failing Health and Social Care in the UK: Austerity, Neoliberal Ideology, and Precarity

Bethany Adela Joanna Simmonds, Senior Lecturer, School of Education and Sociology, The University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom

This paper presents national-level analysis, discussing the impact of globalisation and neoliberalism on health and social care policy in the UK, using Grenier et al's (2020) theorisation of precarity as a framework for analysis. They argue that a paradigm shift from welfare to active to precarious ageing has taken place. From the 1990s, neoliberalism and deregulation of employment protection and pension provision has led to an emphasis on extending working lives, participation in unpaid labour and the maintenance of independence. In contrast, since 2008, when the economic crisis hit, there has been an erosion of secure labour, increasing gaps emerging between generations and a weakening of rights to social protection in law. The analysis in this paper begins with a discussion of austerity policy and the ensuing erosion of social protections in relation to employment and working rights of health and social care staff. This is followed by discussion of the effects of large private shareholding organisations entering the (low-risk and high-yield) social care market. The conglomerates Southern Cross and Four Seasons are used as case studies, illustrating how asset-stripping, reductions in labour costs, and the weakening of employment law has led to greater precarity for both health and social care workers and for older people. The Covid-19 pandemic shone a very bright light on these issues and their devastating effects.

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Aging & Social Change Research Network

Exploring the changing social dynamics of aging

About the Research Network

Founded in 2011, the Aging & Social Change Research Network is a forum for discussion of challenges and opportunities for a rapidly growing segment of the population worldwide. The process of aging is a concern for individuals, families, communities, and nations. The social context of aging provides a rich background for community dialogue on this, one of the critical questions of our time.

Present

The annual Aging & Social Change: Interdisciplinary Conference is built upon three key features: Internationalism, Interdisciplinarity, and Inclusiveness. Delegates include leaders in the field, as well as emerging scholars and practitioners, who travel to the conference from all corners of the globe and represent a broad range of disciplines and perspectives. A variety of presentation options and session types offer delegates multiple opportunities to engage, to discuss key issues in the field, and to build relationships with scholars from other cultures and disciplines.

Publish

The Research Network enables members to publish through two media. First, network members can enter a world of journal publication. *The Journal of Aging and Social Change* provides a framework for member based double-blind peer review, enabling authors to publish into academic journals of the highest standard, but also to participate in the validation of knowledge that is produced by the Research Network. The second publication medium is through the Aging & Social Change Book Imprint, where we publish cutting edge books in print and electronic formats.

Build Community

When you join The Image Research Network, you become part of an international network of scholars, researchers, and practitioners. Membership makes our independent organization possible. As a Research Network member you have access to a broad range of benefits, tools, and resources:

- Digital subscription to *The Journal of Aging and Social Change* for one year
- Digital subscription to the Aging & Social Change Book Imprint for one year
- One article publication per year (pending peer review).
- Participation as a reviewer in the peer review process, with the opportunity to be listed as a Reviewer.
- Subscription to the e-newsletter, providing access to news and announcements for and from the Research Network.
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Themes

Changing demographic profile of populations around the world will have significant economic impacts, at the community, regional, national, or international level

Theme 1: Economic and Demographic Perspectives on Aging
- The economic impacts of aging communities
- Working into older age; changes in productivity; attracting and managing an older workforce
- Changes in consumption, income, and assets
- Government economic policies, including taxation, welfare, social security
- Increase in the demand and cost of health care
- Economic status and the well-being of the elderly

The aging of populations is going to require changes in the public discourse regarding government policy and community support for the aged

Theme 2: Public Policy and Public Perspectives on Aging
- Public policies may be related to legal rights, economic provision of health care, or guarantees of access to housing and social services
- Community support may be related to policies and programs that enable civic engagement, provide continuing education, or support diversity
- Public health policies related to the aged
- Defining and protecting the human rights of older people across populations and groups
- Legal issues for older people—policy and practice
- Age-friendly design for accessibility—initiatives for the public built environment, houses, retirement, and care facilities
- Civic engagement and volunteerism for the aged
- Community programs for maintaining physical health, social well-being, and mental cognition into older age
- Epidemiology of aging

The growing proportion of people living longer has significant implications for the provision of health services, and for strategies to maintain health and well-being into old age

Theme 3: Medical Perspectives on Aging, Health, Wellness
- Medical developments in a variety of areas impact the ways in which aging is viewed and managed from individual and societal perspectives
- The biology and physiology of aging
- Food and nutrition needs for the aging population
- Brain function and cognition in the aged
- Management of chronic and/or age-related disease
- Identification and management of disease in specific populations
- Regenerative and anti-aging medical interventions
- Aging and sexual expression
- Genetics and aging
- Medications, dietary supplements, and regulatory oversight

An aging population will also have significant social and cultural impacts—on all age groups, as well as the aged themselves

Theme 4: Social and Cultural Perspectives on Aging
- Increased demands on family and community resources are viewed--and managed--differently across cultures, as is end-of-life care
- For the aging individual, changes in social relationships, living arrangements, and levels of independence must be navigated
- The societal impact of population aging
- Social support and networks
- Family structure, relationships, and responsibilities
- Spirituality, religious involvement, and mortality
- Cultures of end-of-life care and culturally specific responses to the aging
- Qualities of life for older people living in developing and developed countries
- Historical and anthropological perspectives on social response to aging
- Lifestyles of the aged
- Media representations of the aged

Aging & Social Change:
Tenth Interdisciplinary Conference

New Ageism in Times of Pandemic:
Tensions between Active Aging and Risk-Group Definitions

24–25 September 2020

Aging & Social Change Research Network   LiU LINKÖPINGS UNIVERSITET

New Ageism in Times of Pandemic: Tensions between Active Aging and Risk-Group Definitions

The COVID-19 pandemic sets the stage for a gigantic epidemiological, economic, social, and cultural global experiment under which we face a rise of ageism around the world. With mortality risks by COVID-19 being unequally distributed by chronological age, public policies to control the spread of the virus and its consequences for individuals and societies are often focusing on this and apply ageist language and practice, e.g., when defining risk groups or allocating resources. The pandemic and related policies pave the way for an exacerbation of negative stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination towards people because of their age, or at least their social relevance, and have the potential to outlast the health crisis. At the same time, active aging goals, norms, and expectations prevail and create tensions of various kinds, e.g., in late work or elder care with effects for participation/autonomy, well-being, exclusion, and (in)equality. The Aging and Social Change: Tenth Interdisciplinary Conference invites discussion on ageism in times of pandemic from the overall perspective of aging and social change.

Scope and Concerns

The Economic Outlook of an Aging Society

The growth in the older population is a relatively new phenomenon that began during the second half of the twentieth century, first in developed countries and more recently across developing countries as well. It is grounded in two recent developments: a reduction in birthrate, and developments in medical science that have significantly increased life expectancy.

Generally, men aged 65 and women aged 60 are classified as older people. In the richer, more developed countries, by 2050 about 30 percent of the population will be over the age of 60 years. A declining working population will have to create the income, wealth, and tax revenues needed to support the economic needs of the rising number of retired people, and this is likely to have enormous financial and political consequences. By 2050, the ratio of working people to those over age 65 in the United States will be about 3:1. This will have major implications for Social Security taxes and retirement planning. As a consequence of the large numbers retiring from the labor force, Social Security and other retirement systems will require re-organization. Key challenges include the financing of public pensions, health care costs of the aged, and long term care. Other significant issues include changes in labor, immigration, and family policies. There will be also a rising risk of retiree poverty for millions of people, especially for those who have been unable to save enough through their pension and retirement plans

Economic growth, taxation, consumption, investments, and the welfare system will all impact society across all age groups. The public sector will undergo new stresses, as will free market systems and economic growth. In this context, the world economy will demand increased cooperation of governments to resolve socioeconomic and political problems and to assist state and local communities in providing adequate services for the older citizens.

Public Health, Public Policy, and Government and Community Practices

Even with all the changes the aging population will bring, the aging phenomenon can be seen as a success for current public health policies – policies that are increasing the physical health, psychological and social well-being, and the cognitive and functional abilities of older people.

Opportunities for active aging abound, grounded in better health and longer work participation and security. Active aging programs are allowing people to realize their potential for extended physical, social, and mental well-being throughout their life course. These developments may significantly enhance the quality of life for people as they age. For continued success, our future public health policies and institutions will have to assume a leadership role, creating initiatives for the aged that apply both to individuals and population groups. Education programs must be initiated, work policies regarding age must adapt, and health promotion must be at the forefront. Such programs will position the growing, global aged community to continue to be productive, independent participants in life and the new world demographics. There is much knowledge about aging that can be applied, but societies have a record of responding slowly to crisis. Now is the time to prepare for the changes that will face all global societies in the coming decades.

Health, Wellness, and Aging

Health promotes productivity, and the opportunity to be productive encourages good health. A productive aged society would be a positive gain for society as a whole, as well as for the aged individuals.

The health of older people is improving over time. Recent generations have a lower disease occurrence and fewer health problems. Older people can live vigorous and more active lives until a much older age than in the past. Current intensive biomedical anti-aging interventions are helping to extend the health and productivity of human life. For instance, research has shown that a daily active fitness program will not only maintain physical health and cognitive abilities but can enhance physical and mental abilities. With encouragement and the need to be productive, older people can continue to be economic contributors, to the advantage of both the individual and the larger community and society.

Scope and Concerns

Population aging also poses a great challenge for health care systems world-wide. As the proportion of the aged populations of nations increase, so can the occurrence of disability, frailty, and chronic diseases including Alzheimer's, cancer, and cardiovascular, and cerebral diseases. The demand for health services increases as people age. It has been estimated that nearly 60% of a person's health costs occur in the year before their death. As the population ages, the expenses of health care will increase, especially for the care of those with chronic ailments and diseases. Planning for these future demographics and the demands on both individuals and society needs to be proactive—not retroactive—when the situation reaches crisis proportions.

Social and Cultural Aspects of Aging

There is a societal obligation to understand how the needs and abilities of individuals can change with age and create programs, strategies, and sensibilities to aid this growing segment of population and society.

More people than ever are spending a significant amount of their lives in a non-work environment. These numbers will grow at a quickening pace. Living in a society where social lives are structured around work and its organization, how can we cope with a situation in which a large and now ever-growing segment of the population is leaving the domain of formally organized work? Will this new paradigm create a new structure of social inequality? Will we witness the grown of a new affluence divide, between age-defined welfare classes and production-based classes. Will age become an increasingly acute differentiator of poverty juxtaposed with productivity and achievement for the producer class?

With the current retirement structure, large shifts from the working population into retirement can be anticipated, often at the expense of the potential contributions of the aged to social well-being. Not only is the ratio of the older to younger adults increasing, but also the proportion of well-educated, healthy, and economically secure adults who are entering old age and who have the ability to continue to make significant contributions, but whose opportunities to do so may be limited. Concern over this growing disconnect between aged abilities and the roles they are expected to fill suggest we need urgent social policy reform. How can social policy increase the productivity of the aged and reduce the social and financial burden of supporting a growing older population? We need to develop better methods and strategies to integrate and keep aged citizens members of productive society. This leads to a key question: how will the large population of aged be able to live and function independently, carrying out activities and tasks essential to an acceptable quality of life?

Aging is marked by changes in physiology and psychological functioning, accompanied by difficulties in adjusting to new social conditions and everyday technologies. It also involves lost abilities such as visual acuity or physical impairment. There is a societal obligation to understand how the needs and abilities of individuals can change with age and create programs, strategies and sensibilities to aid this growing segment of population and society. To maintain a positive self-image, the aged person must develop new interests, roles, and relationships to replace those that have become diminished or lost. Society should not demand declining involvement of its aging members. Rather, we should take measures to avoid the injustices of aging by continuing to apply the same norms to old age as it does to other ages in the negotiation of variables such as ethnicity, gender, lifestyle, and socioeconomic status.

Advisory Board

The Aging & Social Change Research Network is grateful for the foundational contributions, ongoing support, and continued service of the following world-class scholars and practitioners

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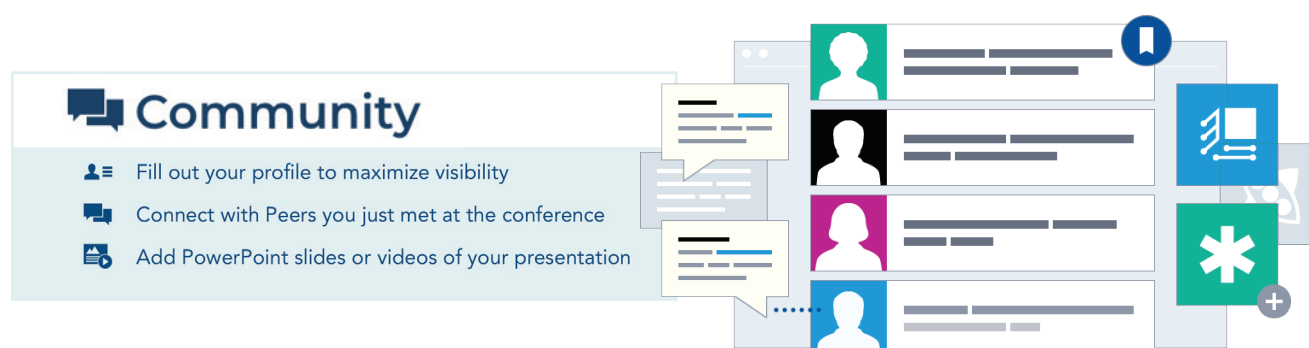
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Since 2009 we have had the fortune of being based the University of Illinois Research Park while building our latest platform – **CGScholar**. This is a suite of apps based on the theoretical work of world-renowned scholars from the College of Education and Department of Computer Science at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. **CGScholar** has been built with the support of funding from the US Department of Education, Illinois Ventures, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The **CGScholar** platform is today being used by knowledge workers as diverse as: faculty in universities to deliver e-learning experiences; innovative schools wishing to challenge the ways learning and assessment have traditionally worked; and government and non-government organizations connecting local knowledge and experience to wider policy objectives and measurable outcomes. Each of these use cases illustrates the differing of knowledge that **CGScholar** serves, while also opening spaces for new and emerging voices in the world of scholarly communication.

We aim to synthesize these use cases to build a platform that can become a trusted marketplace for knowledge work, one that rigorously democratizes the process of knowledge-making, rewards participants, and offers a secure basis for the sustainable creation and distribution of digital knowledge artifacts.

Our premise has been that media platforms – pre-digital and now also digital – have often not been designed to structure and facilitate a rigorous, democratic, and a sustainable knowledge economy. The Common Ground Media Lab seeks to leverage our own platform – **CGScholar** – to explore alternatives based on extended dialogue, reflexive feedback, and formal knowledge ontologies. We are developing AI-informed measures of knowledge artifacts, knowledge actors, and digital knowledge communities. We aim to build a trusted marketplace for knowledge work, that rewards participants and sustains knowledge production.

With 27,000 published works and 200,000 users, we have come a long way since our first web app in twenty years ago. But we still only see this as the beginning.

As a not-for-profit, we are fundamentally guided by mission: to support the building of better societies and informed citizenries through rigorous and inclusive social knowledge practices, offering in-person and online scholarly communication spaces.

CGNetworks.org/MediaLab

Aging & Social Change Journal

A forum for the discussion of a rapidly growing segment of the population, in developed countries as well as in developing countries

About the Journal

The Journal of Aging and Social Change provides an international forum for the discussion of a rapidly growing segment of the population, in developed countries as well as in developing countries. Contributions range from broad theoretical and global policy explorations to detailed studies of the specific human physiological, health, economic, and social dynamics of aging in today's global society. The journal is a focal point for interdisciplinary research involving psychology, neuroscience, economics, sociology, anthropology, demography, nursing, biology, medicine, public health, epidemiology, gerontology, pharmacology, dentistry, health behavior and health education, "third age" education, management, marketing, and communications. Articles cover a range from big picture questions of public policy to the fine detail of research and practice-based discussion.

The Journal of Aging and Social Change is peer-reviewed, supported by rigorous processes of criterion-referenced article ranking and qualitative commentary, ensuring that only intellectual work of the greatest substance and highest significance is published.

Editor

Andreas Motel-Klingebiel, Professor, Ageing and Later Life, Department for Social and Welfare Studies, Linköping University, Sweden

Reviewers

Articles published in *The Journal of Aging and Social Change* are peer reviewed by scholars who are active members of the Aging & Social Change Research Network. Reviewers may be past or present conference delegates, fellow submitters to the collection, or scholars who have volunteered to review papers (and have been screened by Common Ground's editorial team). This engagement with the knowledge community, as well as Common Ground's synergistic and criterion-based evaluation system, distinguishes *The Journal of Aging and Social Change's* peer review process from journals that have a more top-down approach to refereeing. Reviewers are assigned to papers based on their academic interests and scholarly expertise. In recognition of the valuable feedback and publication recommendations that they provide, reviewers are acknowledged as Reviewers in the volume that includes the paper(s) they reviewed. Thus, in addition to *The Journal of Aging and Social Change* Editors and Advisory Board, the Reviewers contribute significantly to the overall editorial quality and content of the journal.

Submission and Publication Process

The Publication Process

Step 1: Review the Requirements

All article submissions must meet the requirements listed: https://cgscholar.com/cg_support/en/docs/38. Before submitting your article, please thoroughly review these requirements and revise your article to follow these rules. Initial submissions that do not meet these requirements will be returned to the author(s) for revision.

Step 2: Upload the Submission

Once you have revised your initial submission to meet the article requirements, please visit our Article Submission page: https://cgscholar.com/cg_support/en/docs/39.

Step 3: Initial Submission Accepted for Peer Review

Submitted articles are then verified against the article requirements. If your article satisfies these requirements, your identity and contact details are then removed, and the article is matched to two appropriate reviewers and sent for review. Please note, during this time authors are eligible to be selected as reviewers. Full details regarding the rules, expectations, and policies on peer review can be found on our Publication Ethics page: http://cgnetworks.org/journals/publication-ethics.

Step 4: Peer Review Decision

When both reviewer reports are returned, and after the reviewers' identities have been removed, you will be notified by email and provided with the reports. Articles that have been rejected once in the peer review process are allowed a second opportunity to be reviewed by two new reviewers. To be reviewed by two new reviewers, you will need to make revisions based on the comments and feedback of the first round of review, and these changes must be detailed using a change note: https://cgscholar.com/cg_support/en/docs/41-change-note. If an article is not accepted by peer review after this second opportunity, it will be withdrawn from consideration.

Step 5: Membership Confirmation

If your article has been accepted or accepted with revisions, it will enter the membership confirmation stage. We require at least one author associated with the article to have a unique Network Membership or conference registration: https://cgscholar.com/cg_support/en/docs/33-how-to-register. Please note that a paid conference registration includes a complimentary Research Network membership. The benefits of network membership are listed here: https://cgscholar.com/cg_support/en/docs/65-membership-benefits.

Step 6: Publication Agreement

Next, you will be asked to accept the Publishing Agreement. If you are interested in Hybrid Open Access, this step is the best time to register for Open Access publication: https://cgnetworks.org/journals/hybrid-open-access.

Step 7: Prepare the Final Submission

After the publication agreement is accepted, you will have thirty days to complete any revisions to your final submission. Please ensure your final submission meets the final submission requirements before returning your article: https://cgscholar.com/cg_support/en/docs/53. This includes criteria such as the correct use of the Chicago Manual of Style (seventeenth edition) and the other listed requirements: https://cgscholar.com/cg_support/en/docs/42. Articles that have been accepted with revisions will require a change note to be included with the final submission. Articles that do not meet these requirements will be returned for revision.

Step 8: Final Checks

Once we have received the final submission of your article, our publishing department will review your final article submission.

Step 9: Copy Editing and Proof Inspection

If the final submission meets the final submission requirements, the article will enter copy editing. During copy editing, our editorial staff will note minor problems with citations, references, grammar, spelling, or formatting. The author(s) will be responsible for correcting these noted problems. Careful adherence to the article template and the citation style guide will greatly minimize the need for corrections. After all copy editing notes have been resolved, we will create a typeset proof for the author(s) to inspect.

Step 10: Article Publication

Individual articles are published "Online First" to our CGScholar bookstore: https://cgscholar.com/bookstore. After online-first publication, complete journal issues follow annually, biannually, or quarterly, depending on the journal. Online-first published articles include a full citation and a registered DOI permalink. Be sure to keep your CGScholar profile up-to-date (https://cgscholar.com/identity) and add your ORCID iD (https://orcid.org/register) to maximize article visibility.

Submission Timeline

You may submit your article for publication to the journal at any time throughout the year. The recommended rolling submission deadlines are as follows:

- Submission Round One – 15 January
- Submission Round Two – 15 April
- Submission Round Three – 15 July
- Submission Round Four – 15 October

Common Ground Open

Aligning with our model, works published using Hybrid Open Access are free to download from the CG Scholar webstore. Common Ground's open access journal articles are available in one central location—Common Ground Open. This dedicated space is accessible to open access listing organizations and aggregators. Hybrid Open Access content is also actively promoted across all of our Research Networks. Visit Common Ground Open at https://**CGScholar**.com/bookstore/collections/common-ground-publishing/series/common-ground-open.

Our Position and Our Model

Common Ground Research Networks believes firmly in the principles of sustainable knowledge production and accessible knowledge. We also have a commitment to our Research Network members to be engaged in the current trends in the publishing industry. Common Ground Open is one such engagement. Common Ground Open offers our authors the ability to make their articles freely available upon publication in our subscription-based journals. It also enables authors to satisfy a variety of trending needs—institutional repositories, academic evaluative criteria, research grants, and academic funding—all of these are often insistent or dependent on published content being free, accessible, and open. When publishing open access is a funding stipulation, Common Ground Open offers the publishing solution.

The standard cost of open access in the publishing industry often excludes authors from open access opportunities. Our standard rate of US$250 reflects our position that publishing does require skilled labor, but we must keep open access affordable to provide greater opportunities for authors and their audiences. Our open access publications are licensed using the Creative Commons license, "Attribution-Non-Commercial-No-Derivatives 4.0 International" (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0).

Hybrid Open Access

All Common Ground journals are Hybrid Open Access. Hybrid Open Access is an option increasingly offered by both university presses and well-known commercial publishers.

Hybrid Open Access means some articles are available only to subscribers, while others are made available at no charge to anyone searching the web. Authors pay an additional fee for the open access option. Authors may do this because open access is a requirement of their research-funding agency, or they may do this so non-subscribers can access their article for free.

Common Ground's open access charge is US$250 per article–a very reasonable price compared to our hybrid open access competitors and purely open access journals resourced with an author publication fee. Digital articles are normally only available through individual or institutional subscriptions or for purchase at US$5 per article. However, if you choose to make your article Open Access, this means anyone on the web may download it for free.

Paying subscribers still receive considerable benefits with access to all articles in the journal, from both current and past volumes, without any restrictions. However, making your article available at no charge through Open Access increases its visibility, accessibility, potential readership, and citation counts. Open Access articles also generate higher citation counts.

Subscriptions and Access

Research Network Membership and Personal Subscriptions

As part of each conference registration, all conference participants (both virtual and in-person) have a one-year digital subscription to *The International Journal of the Image*. This complimentary personal subscription grants access to the current volume as well as the entire backlist. The period of access is twelve months, beginning on the date that the registration is completed. Delegates may also purchase a personal subscription to extend this access.

To view articles, go to https://cgscholar.com/bookstore and select the "Sign in" option. After logging into your account, you should have free access to download electronic works in the bookstore. If you need assistance, select the "help" button in the top-right corner, or visit the CGScholar Knowledge Base for further information (https://cgscholar.com/cg_support/en).

Journal Subscriptions

Common Ground offers print and digital subscriptions to all of its journals. Subscriptions are available to *The International Journal of the Image* and to custom suites based on a given institution's unique content needs. Subscription prices are based on a tiered scale that corresponds to the full-time enrollment (FTE) of the subscribing institution.

For more information, please visit: https://cgscholar.com/cg_support/en/docs/58-institutional-subscriptions

Institutional Open Access

Common Ground is proud to announce an exciting new model of scholarly publishing called Institutional Open Access.

Institutional Open Access allows faculty and graduate students to submit articles to Common Ground journals for unrestricted open access publication. These articles will be freely and publicly available to the world through our hybrid open access infrastructure. With Institutional Open Access, instead of the author paying a per-article open access fee, institutions pay a set annual fee that entitles their students and faculty to publish a given number of open access articles each year.

The rights to the articles remain with the subscribing institution. Both the author and the institution can also share the final typeset version of the article in any place they wish, including institutional repositories, personal websites, and privately or publicly accessible course materials.

For more information on how to make your article Open Access, or information on Institutional Open Access, please visit the **CGScholar** Knowledge Base for further information https://**CGScholar**.com/cg_support/en).

International Award for Excellence

The Journal of Aging and Social Change presents an annual International Award for Excellence for new research or thinking in the area of diversity. All articles submitted for publication in *The Journal of Aging and Social Change* are entered into consideration for this award. The review committee for the award is selected from the International Advisory Board for the collection and the annual International Conference on the Image. The committee selects the winning article from the ten highest-ranked articles emerging from the review process and according to the selection criteria outlined in the reviewer guidelines.

Award Winners, Volume 9

Ceri Wilson
Anna Dadswell
Carol Munn-Giddings
Hilary Bungay

For the Article

"The Role of Participatory Arts in Developing Reciprocal Relationships amongst Older People: A Conceptual Review of the Literature" *The Journal of Aging and Social Change*, Volume 9, Issue 4

Abstract

This conceptual review focuses on the impact of participatory arts in promoting reciprocal relationships for older people receiving care in residential or community settings between older people and caregivers, older people themselves, and older people and the wider community. Findings from forty-four studies demonstrate the role that participatory arts can play in maintaining well-being amongst older people through enabling and facilitating reciprocal relationships. Through enabling older people to have a voice, power, and to contribute within relationships, participatory arts facilitate reciprocity, thereby facilitating well-being. Through creating deeper and more reciprocal social connections between older people, caregivers, and the community, participatory arts can help address the prevalence of social isolation and loneliness amongst older people. However, further research is needed to explore the key mechanisms which facilitate these relationships and how to sustain relational impacts. The compelling findings thus far should prompt arts organisations, funders, and policy makers to utilise participatory arts in reducing social isolation and loneliness amongst older people.

This article makes a significant contribution to the growing arts and health field, by providing the first review of the impact of participatory arts activities exclusively on social outcomes for older people (as opposed to impacts on health, wellbeing, quality of life, and behavioural outcomes). The need for such a review is evident by growing concerns around loneliness and social isolation amongst older people which negatively impacts on wellbeing and quality of life, and the emerging evidence that the arts may help address these concerns. We review 44 studies which outline the impact of participatory arts in promoting reciprocal relationships for older people receiving care in residential or community settings between older people themselves, older people and caregivers, and older people and the wider community. We also explore the mechanisms behind this impact. We conclude that through enabling older people to have a voice, power, and to contribute within relationships, participatory arts can facilitate reciprocity, thereby promoting wellbeing. Through creating deeper and more reciprocal social connections between older people, caregivers, and the community, participatory arts can help address the prevalence of social isolation and loneliness amongst older people. This conceptual review forms part of a larger project, 'Creative Journeys', conducted in collaboration with the formerly named Essex County Council Culture and Community Engagement Team and the Older People's Research Group Essex, which was funded by the Arts Council England Research Grants Programme 2016–2018. We are continuing to publish findings from this substantial project, which demonstrate the impact of arts in promoting social relationships and reducing loneliness amongst older people. The compelling findings from this project should prompt arts organisations, funders, and policy makers to utilise participatory arts in reducing social isolation and loneliness amongst older people.

—Ceri Wilson, Anna Dadswell, Carol Munn-Giddings, and Hilary Bungay

Aging & Social Change
Book Imprint

Aiming to set new standards in participatory knowledge creation and scholarly publication

About the Book Imprint

Call for Books

The Aging & Social Change Research Network is setting new standards of rigorous academic knowledge creation and scholarly publication. If your book is a brilliant contribution to a specialist area of knowledge that only serves a small intellectual community, we still want to publish it.

Book Proposal Guidelines

Books should be between 30,000 and 150,000 words in length. They are published simultaneously in print and electronic formats. To publish a book, please send us a proposal including:

- Title
- Author(s)/editor(s)
- Draft back-cover blurb
- Author bio notes(s)
- Table of contents
- Intended audience and significance of contribution
- Sample chapters or complete manuscript
- Manuscript submission date

Submit proposals by email to books@cgnetworks.org. Please note the book imprint to which you are submitting in the subject line.

What We Publish?

We welcome proposals or completed manuscripts between 30,000 words and 150,000 words in length that fall into one of the following categories:

New Works
We accept proposals that are individually or jointly authored books.

Collections
Edited collections addressing a clear theme or collections of articles previously published in Common Ground Research Networks journals.

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Re-issued or out-of-copyright classics with new introductions.

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We're not focused solely on the size of potential markets or competition from other books. We're only interested in the quality of the work.

Inclusive
Submissions from across national origins, experiences, and disciplinary perspectives.

Broad or Niche
We are not driven solely by potential sales, but by the quality of the work. Books on niche topics or specialized subjects are welcome.
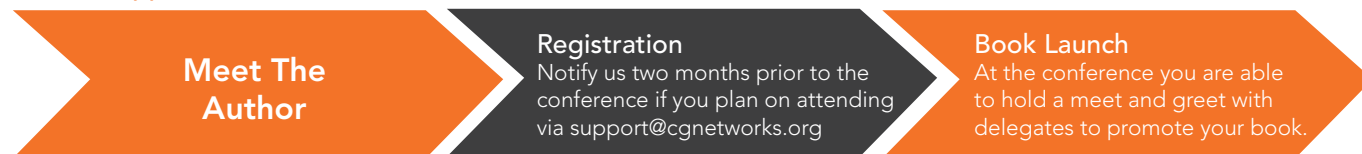
Better Feedback
Our process pairs authors with reviewers specialized in the area topic.

About the Book Imprint

Author Support

Meet The Author

Registration
Notify us two months prior to the conference if you plan on attending via support@cgnetworks.org

Book Launch
At the conference you are able to hold a meet and greet with delegates to promote your book.

Five Minute Q&A Video

Newly published authors are encouraged to send in a five minute video about themselves that will allow them to interact with their readers. Once approved, the video will be uploaded to scholar, and shared through Common Ground Research Networks social media.

- What made you write about this subject?
- What is your favorite chapter of the book?
- What is your writing process like?
- What is the message that you would take away from your book?

Advertise with a flyer

Contact a local bookstore

Promoting Yourself

Common Ground works with our authors to promote their publishings, but we also urge them to market themselves.

Send out a mailing

Contact a local radio station

Social Media

Your book as part of a curriculum

Scholar Account

Every author is given a Common Ground Scholar Account. This account will allow learners to represent their knowledge multi-modally in the 'cloud' - with text, image, audio, video and dataset, all in the one space. A space to interact with people who have read or who are interested in your book. Scholar acts as your own scholarly social network for you to promote your book and interact with peers in a similar field of study.

Call for Book Reviewers

Common Ground Research Networks is seeking distinguished peer reviewers to evaluate book manuscripts.

As part of our commitment to intellectual excellence and a rigorous reviewing process, Common Ground sends book manuscripts that have received initial editorial approval to peer reviewers to further evaluate and provide constructive feedback. The comments and guidance that these reviewers supply is invaluable to our authors and essential part of the publication process.

We recognize the important role of reviewers by acknowledging book reviewers as members of the Editorial Review Board for a period of at least one year. The list of members of the Editorial Review Board will be posted on our website.

If you would like to review book manuscripts, please send an email to books@cgnetworks.org with:

A brief description of your professional credentials

A list of your areas of interest and expertise

A copy of your CV with current contact details

Living Longer: A Resource for the Family, An Opportunity for Society

Eugenia Scabini and Giovanna Rossi (eds.)

Active seniors are given increasing attention in Italy and Europe. Active aging involves both an individual and a social dimension. Choosing to play an active role even in later life is, first of all, a subjective option, that calls into play the full range of physical, psychological, relational, ethical resources of the individual. This option acquires a specific social relevance because, through activity, it is possible for the older person to experience an inter-subjective and prosocial dimension, crucial to the pursuit of a successful social role.

Through the presentation of findings from a quantitative research carried out in Italy and similar analysis at European level, the book aims to provide a comprehensive reflection on this phenomenon, in particular in terms of intergenerational exchanges, well-being and life satisfaction, use of multimedia technologies, prosocial behaviors and volunteering.

This book is for students and professionals interested in intergenerational exchanges, well-being, personal and intersubjective satisfaction, multimedia technologies, prosocial behaviors, volunteering in active ageing.

Editor Bios:

Eugenia Scabini is Professor Emeritus of Social Psychology and President of the Family Studies and Research University Centre of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. She authored many books and articles on the main national and international scientific journals. She was awarded the gold medal and the first class Diploma for Merits in Science, Culture and Arts by the President of the Italian Republic and received the Distinguished Professor Award from the Universidad del Rosario, Bogotà.

Giovanna Rossi is Full Professor of Sociology of the Family, Faculty of Psychology, and Director of the Family Studies and Research University Centre, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. She carried out extensive and documented research focusing on Family, Social Policy and Third Sector. She is author and co-author of many books and over 160 scientific contributions on national and international journals.

Book Imprint

Men's Stories for a Change: Ageing Men Remember

The Older Men's Memory Work Group:
Randy Barber, Vic Blake, Jeff Hearn, David Jackson, Richard Johnson, Zbyszek Luczynski, and Dan McEwan
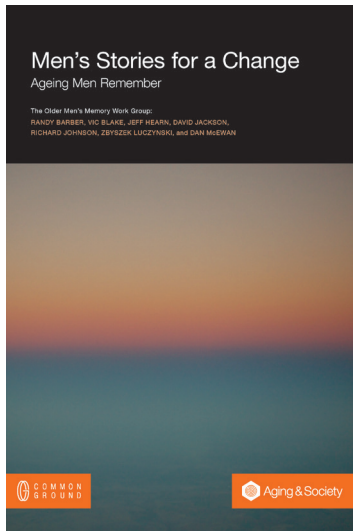
Men's Stories for a Change records and analyses stories written by a group of older men who met over thirteen years to share memories about ageing and masculinity. So here there are stories of love and sex, bodily change, crisis and disturbance, politics and power, struggles with violent feelings and action, work, sport, clothes, peeing, hair, and hairlessness. These men share a view of manhood, gender, and ageing that, while critical of dominant frames and inspired by feminist politics, is optimistic without underestimating the challenges of older age and old age, including the approach to the end of life. They see ageing as an opportunity for personal and social and, indeed, political change, for dealing with longstanding issues, especially around gender and power, and as a time of innovating too. This project aims to help, if only in some small way, in opening up these issues, freeing up in a profeminist direction the voices of other men individually or collectively, ageing or otherwise.

The authors have all been involved in some kind of men's anti-sexist, profeminist politics, and/or men's personal development work, along with other personal and political activism in such arenas as anti-nuclear, anti-racism, green, left, socialist, and peace politics over the years. Using the methods of memory work, the writers are both subjects and objects; the text cuts across that division too. Similarly, this volume can be located in various traditions, genres, and forms of writing. This is a project that is both finished and unfinished.

Author Bios:

The Older Men's Memory Work Group ran for thirteen years from 2002 to 2015, and in the final phases comprised Randy Barber, Vic Blake, Jeff Hearn, David Jackson, Richard Johnson, Zbyszek Luczynski, and Dan McEwan; in addition, Jean-Pierre Boulé, Harry Ferguson, Ray Marshall, David Morgan, Rob Pattman, and Linn Sandberg attended at different times. The authors, in the core group, are white, though with different ethnic backgrounds, gender and sexual identities, and educational pathways even with various forms of higher education. Several members of the group have been involved with writing and publishing on men, masculinities, gender, and politics.

Previously Published Books
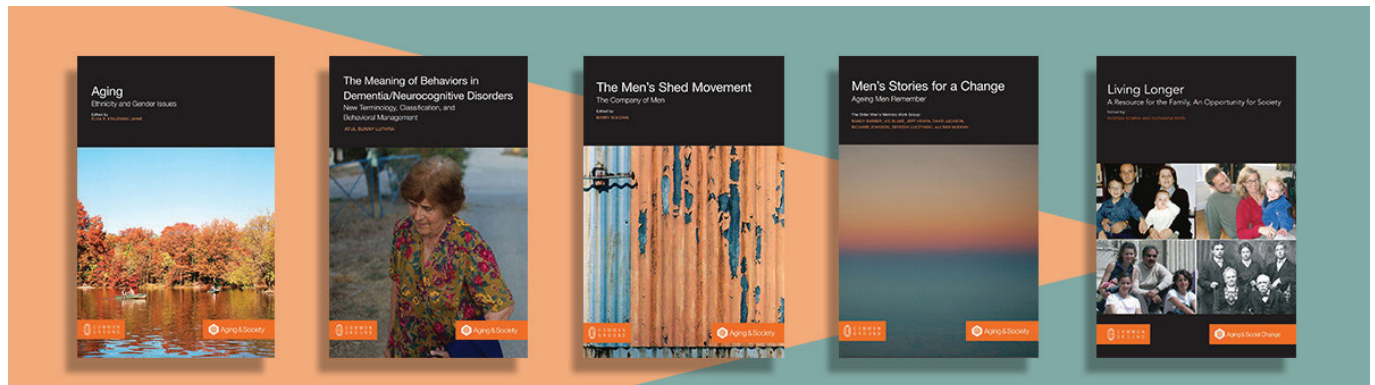
The Men's Shed Movement: The Company of Men

Barry Goanna Golding (ed.)

Invented in Australia, the remarkable men's shed movement has spread from the back blocks of Australia to reach a total of more than 1,400 Men's Sheds in diverse countries on opposite sides of the world. Many nations are struggling to meet the needs and interests of men beyond the workplace. This book provides a fascinating, carefully evidenced and definitive story of men's sheds for the first time.
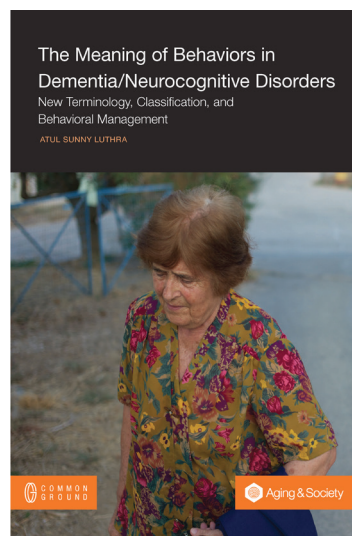
The Meaning of Behaviors in Dementia/Neurocognitive Disorders

Atul Sunny Luthra

Understanding the meaning of behaviors in dementia/major neurocognitive disorder is proposed as an essential step to make substantive progress in developing pharmacological and behavioral interventions. This book encompasses the synopsis of the direction sought from behavioral and developmental psychology and dementia literature to achieve the aforementioned goal.
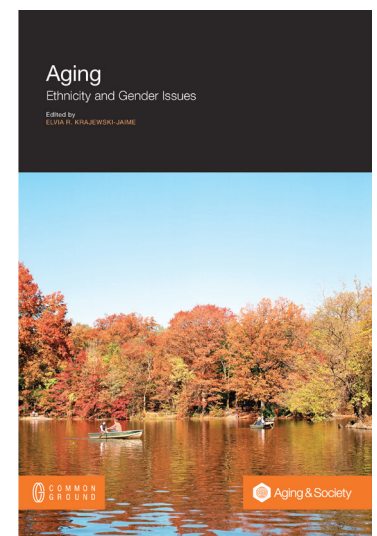
Aging: Ethnicity and Gender Issues

Elvia R. Krajewski-Jaime (ed.)

This book is ideal for students in the health and human service professions. It focuses on the field of aging and it examines ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation, areas that are recognized by gerontologists as critical in understanding the social and behavioral factors that influence the life course of individuals as they age.

⫴ COMMON GROUND

*Founded in 1984, we are committed to building new kinds of knowledge communities,
innovative in their media and forward thinking in their messages.*

Heritage knowledge systems are characterized by vertical separations—of discipline, professional association, institution, and country. Common Ground Research Networks takes some of the pivotal challenges of our time and curates research networks which cut horizontally across legacy knowledge structures. Sustainability, diversity, learning, the future of humanities, the nature of interdisciplinarity, the place of the arts in society, technology's connections with knowledge, the changing role of the university—these are deeply important questions of our time which require interdisciplinary thinking, global conversations, and cross-institutional intellectual collaborations.

Common Ground Research Networks are meeting places for people, ideas, and dialogue. However, the strength of ideas does not come from finding common denominators. Rather, the power and resilience of these ideas is that they are presented and tested in a shared space where differences can meet and safely connect—differences of perspective, experience, knowledge base, methodology, geographical or cultural origins, and institutional affiliation. These are the kinds of vigorous and sympathetic academic milieus in which the most productive deliberations about the future can be held. We strive to create places of intellectual interaction and imagination that our future deserves.

Common Ground Research Networks offer integrated programs of action: international conferences, scholarly journals, book imprints, and online dialogue spaces using our path-breaking social knowledge software, *CGScholar.com*

Aging & Social Change Research Network	The Arts in Society Research Network
Communication and Media Studies Research Network	Constructed Environment Research Network
e-Learning & Innovative Pedagogies Research Network	Food Studies Research Network
The Image Research Network	The Inclusive Museum Research Network
New Directions in the Humanities Research Network	On Sustainability Research Network
Spaces & Flows Research Network	Sports & Society Research Network

Books, Publishing & Libraries Research Network	Climate Change: Impacts & Responses Research Network
Design Principles & Practices Research Network	Diversity in Organizations, Communities & Nations Research Network
Global Studies Research Network	Health, Wellness & Society Research Network
Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Research Network	The Learner Research Network
Organization Studies Research Network	Religion in Society Research Network
Technology, Knowledge & Society Research Network	Tourism and Leisure Research Network

Aging & Social Change: Tenth Interdisciplinary Conference
www.agingandsocialchange.com

First published in 2020 in Champaign, Illinois, USA
by Common Ground Research Networks, NFP
www.cgnetworks.org

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Designed by Ebony Jackson and Brittani Musgrove