



View of Buenos Aires city, Argentina.

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RC11 Newsletter is published semi-annually by the Research Committee on Sociology of Aging (RC11) of the International Sociological Association (ISA), and mailed electronically to all RC11 members. Send contributions to esteban.calvo@udp.cl. Article submissions are limited to 1,000 words, will be reviewed by the RC11 officers for possible publication, and may be edited for clarity or space.

This website will inform you about the diversity of past, current and future activities of the RC11 global network of academics with a research interest in the social aspects of individual, population, and societal ageing.

From the Editor

Esteban Calvo | esteban.calvo@udp.cl



Buenos Aires, the ultimate destination for dancing Argentinean Tango, will also be the destination for many sociologists attending the Second ISA Forum. This international event will take place August 1-4, 2012, and provide an array of opportunities for a global dialogue about aging and the life course. In this issue of the RC11 Newsletter you will find a call for RC11 session proposals for the ISA Forum. RC11 will feature 14 sessions plus a number of sessions organized jointly with other research committees. Session proposals are due on June 15, 2011. Mark your calendars!

This issue of the RC11 Newsletter opens with a letter from our President, Anne Martin-Matthews. Following the call for session proposals and a brief section with news, you will find stimulating contributions by RC11 members, including: key results of the SomnIA project on sleep quality among older adults by Sara Arber and Susan Venn, a vibrant discussion about the Galway Wisdom project by Ricca Edmondson, and a perspective on running an open access journal by Lars Andersson, Editor in Chief of the International Journal of Ageing and Later Life (IJAL). This issue also includes an invitation to join a new section at the American Sociological Association on altruism, morality, and social solidarity. Next, the newsletter includes announcements on a variety of issues, such as: call for papers, meetings, funding, jobs, competitions, websites of interest, data, educational programs, and RC11 members. The final section lists publications and readings suggested by our members.

I look forward continuing receiving your contributions and suggestions for the newsletter and to seeing many of you at the ISA Forum of Sociology. The Forum promises to be a lively occasion for sociologists to convene and share their research on aging.*

Sincerely,

Esteban

SECOND ISA FORUM OF SOCIOLOGY

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND DEMOCRATIZATION
JUSTICE SOCIALE ET DÉMOCRATISATION
JUSTICIA SOCIAL Y DEMOCRATIZACIÓN



AUGUST 1-4, 2012
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Mark your calendars! Session proposals due June 15, 2011. Abstracts due December 15, 2011.

From the President

Anne Martin-Matthews | amm@interchange.ubc.ca



Dear Members of RC11,
Welcome to the spring 2011 newsletter of the Research Committee on Aging. I want to thank Esteban Calvo once again on his diligent efforts to develop an informative array of news items for our members, and to

RC11 Members Sara Arber and Ricca Edmondson for contributing research updates on the UK 'SomnIA Research Project on Sleep among Older People in the Community', and on Ireland's 'Galway Wisdom Project'. As always, your responses to Newsletter items, and your suggestions for further issues, are always welcome.

The big development since our last Newsletter was the decision, announced in late January by the executive of the International Sociological Association, to hold an Inter-Congress Meeting, the Second World Forum of Sociology, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 1 – 4, 2012. Very quickly the RC11 Executive had to make a decision whether to hold our own Inter-Congress meeting in conjunction with this World Forum (as we did with the First World Forum in Barcelona in 2008) or hold our own separate meeting (as we did at the University of Surrey in 2004, in conjunction with the British Society of Gerontology). The consensus was to join the Second World Forum, and hence a program committee was quickly identified and a Call for Sessions has been announced (and appears in this Newsletter). I thank Susan Feldman and Julie McMullin for agreeing to serve as Program Coordinators for the review of proposals, and also Esteban Calvo and Adriana Fassio for joining me as Program Committee members. With this meeting being held in Argentina, we especially welcome the involvement of several Argentinian colleagues on the Program Committee (Adriana Fassio) and in Local Arrangements and development of a special symposium about ageing in Latin America and

Argentina (Maria Julieta Oddone, Director of the Ageing & Society Program, along with long time RC11 member Liliana Gastron). I strongly encourage RC11 Members to develop proposals for the 13 sessions that RC11 is permitted to offer in Buenos Aires.

Those with specific interest in issues of aging in Latin America may wish to attend the 40th Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting of the Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG), October 21-23, 2011, in Ottawa, Canada. This conference will be held jointly with the 4th Pan American Congress of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics.

The recent (April 14-17th, 2011) meeting of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics-European Region in Bologna, Italy, afforded a welcome opportunity for interaction among a number of RC11 members. RC11 Past-Presidents Lars Andersson and Sara Arber and I met at one of the conference social events (as pictured here). Especially in the context of IAGG-ER, with its strong medical and applied health research orientation, our sociologists of aging contributed substantially to the program, with quite thought-provoking papers and sessions on such topics as critical gerontology, carework, and conceptualization of "the fourth age".*

With all good wishes,

Anne Martin-Matthews



LARS, ANNE, SARA.

Call for RC11 Session Proposals For the Second ISA Forum of Sociology in Buenos Aires

*Social Justice and Democratization
Buenos Aires, Argentina | August 1-4, 2012*



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DEADLINES

- 1) Session proposals: June 15, 2011.
- 2) On-line abstract submission will be open from August 25 to December 15, 2011.

Call for Sessions

The Research Committee on Sociology of Aging, RC11, will be organizing a full program of sessions during the Second ISA Forum of Sociology in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1-4 August 2012. We are planning a high quality and intellectually stimulating program, which addresses a wide range of issues within Sociology of Aging relevant to researchers from a diversity of countries.



We invite you to propose RC11 sessions for the ISA Forum. Sessions will be 90 minutes in length. We encourage RC11 members to propose a variety of forms of sessions, as well as 'regular' paper sessions, which might include: regular sessions, symposium, featured or keynote speaker, and roundtables or author meets their critics.

Regular Sessions. Comprising four 15-20 minute presentations (or at most five 15 minute presentations) and 10-20 minutes of collective discussion.

Symposium. Focusing on a key theme with 4 speakers, plus a discussant, from a diversity of countries.

Featured or Keynote Speaker. For example, a session featuring a leading researcher in RC11 (with a presentation of between 35 and 60 minutes duration, followed by a discussion period).

Round Tables or Author Meets Their Critics' Sessions. A debate about a current issue of particular importance within Sociology of Aging, or around an important recent publication presented by the author(s) with commentators.

Please email your proposals for RC11 sessions to the Program Coordinators. Your proposal must include: (1) name of session organizer and email address, (2) title or topic of proposed session, and (3) a short description, 5-10 lines, of the proposed session.

Note: You do not need to send names of paper presenters for 'regular' sessions. We recognize that June 15, 2011 is an early deadline, but ISA requires all RCs to submit the final list of proposed sessions to the ISA Secretariat by July 15 and to issue to call for papers for these sessions by August 25, 2011. This Call for Papers for 'regular' sessions will remain open until December 15, 2011.

If you have any queries, please contact one of the members of the RC11 Program Committee.*



Bolivia Lowers Retirement Age to 58 and Nationalizes Pensions.

According to a December 2010 article from the Associated Press, Bolivia approved legislation to lower the country's retirement age to 58, bucking a global trend towards longer working lives. Bolivia's previous retirement age was 65 for men and 60 for women. The law also nationalizes the pension system and expands coverage to 60% of the working population.*

Demographic Change and Housing Wealth in Europe

DEMHOW, a research project funded by the European Union under its Framework 7 program to investigate demographic change, ageing and housing wealth across Europe, has recently concluded. This 33-months research project delivered about 30 reports that are publicly available on their website. More information at www.demhow.bham.ac.uk/reports*



Fall Prevention Guidelines Updated

The American Geriatrics Society (AGS) and the British Geriatrics Society (BGS) updated their guidelines on preventing falls. Falls are one of the most common health problems experienced by older adults and may result in decrease functional independence and even death. The guidelines include recommendations for clinical practice and interventions, emphasizing multifactorial interventions which suggest exercises for balance, gait and strength training, such as Tai Chi or physical therapy. A summary of the updated guidelines is available at <http://doi.wiley.com/10.1111/j.1532-5415.2010.03234.x>*

New Global Coalition on Aging

A number of global corporations across industry have formed an international partnership to address the social and economic impact of global population aging. The members include: AEGON, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Galderma, Intel, Johnson & Johnson, Novartis, Nutricia, Pfizer, Universal American Corp, and Deloitte Consulting LLP as an advisory member. The coalition is building a strategic plan of action for leaders in government, business and society. Over the next three years, it will roll out this plan in four key areas: education and work, financial planning and security, health and wellness, and innovation in technology and biomedical research. More information at www.globalcoalitiononaging.com*



Optimizing Quality Sleep among Older People in the Community

The SomnIA Research Project

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It is widely known that increasing age is associated with progressive deterioration in the structure, 24-hour distribution, and quality of sleep. Difficulty falling asleep, staying asleep, early awakening and an increase in daytime sleep have all been shown to have a higher prevalence within the older population. Among older people, untreated chronic sleep disturbance degrades quality of later life, inhibits recovery and rehabilitation following illness, is an independent risk factor for falls and depression, and predicts entry into residential care.

Given the lack of research concerning the correlates, meanings and management of sleep disturbances in the older population, the SomnIA (Sleep in Ageing) project aimed to undertake a range of studies relating to understanding poor sleep in later life. SomnIA is a four year UK multidisciplinary research project which comprises eight workpackages aimed at (a) understanding poor sleep in later life in the community and in care homes, (b) devising interventions to help with poor sleep in the community and in care homes, and (c) dissemination through academic and practitioner conferences and workshops, briefing papers and journal articles, and through the creation of a module on 'Sleep

problems in Later Life' for the Healthtalkonline website www.healthtalkonline.org

This article presents key findings from one element of the SomnIA research project, 'Poor Sleep among Community Dwelling Older People' (Workpackage 2)

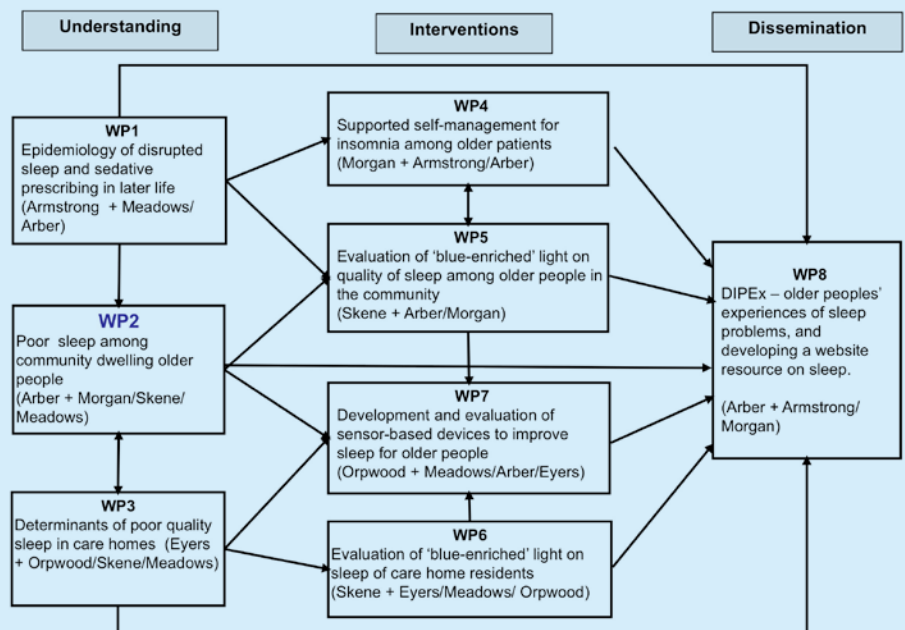
Poor Sleep among Community Dwelling Older People

The primary focus of this part of the SomnIA research was to explore the perspectives and opinions of older men and women with poor sleep who are living in their own homes. The aims were:

- to provide a detailed understanding of older people's experiences of poor sleep, sleep needs, perceptions of causes of poor sleep quality, strategies used to improve sleep, and attitudes to sleeping medication; and
- to find out whether aspects of daily living (for example, light exposure, activities, food and drink consumption and social networks) are associated with poor sleep among older people.



Figure 1: SomnIA (Sleep in Ageing) workpackage interlinkages



Data collection

Data collection was undertaken in two phases:

- Phase 1 comprised sending a self-completion questionnaire to 2400 people, equally divided by gender and age group (65-74 and 75+), via ten GP practices in South East England. The questionnaire contained the Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI) and socio-demographic variables.
- From those who returned the questionnaire (n=1158) and indicated their willingness to take part in further studies, 62 men and women with a score of >5 on the PSQI (an indicator of clinically poor sleep) agreed to take part in the next phase of data collection.
- Phase 2 comprised in-depth interviews in respondents' own homes. Those who agreed to have extracts of their interviews made available on the Healthtalkonline website (www.healthtalkonline.org) were videoed, all other interviews were audio recorded.
- Following the interview, 61 men and women and 15 partners kept a two week audio diary of their sleep patterns.
- They also wore an actiwatch for two weeks (device to detect movement and light) and completed two weeks of sleep, activity and food consumption diaries.

Key findings from Phase 2

Older men and women expected their sleep would deteriorate as they aged, and this expectation influenced whether they would seek professional medical help for their poor sleep. Additionally, many different social factors influenced how they slept, and how they managed their poor sleep. Such factors included caring for partners during times of ill health (Arber and Venn, 2011), worries and concerns for family, and future concerns about health and financial security. Three of the key findings are presented here:

1. Retirement brought opportunities for daytime sleep, but napping was often met with mixed feelings of guilt for wasting time, alongside pleasure at being able to have more energy to do things during the day or evening. Sleeping during the day was

either accepted or resisted, and the rationale for this dichotomous attitude was the desire to be productive and active in later life. Therefore those who resisted daytime sleep did so because it was felt to be a sign of laziness, whereas those who accepted daytime sleep did so because it gave them energy to undertake their daily activities (Venn and Arber, 2011).

2. Older people often get up in the night to go to the toilet, sometimes several times a night. This, along with sleeping during the day, was regarded as 'normal' in later life, so they were unlikely to seek medical help, but tried out a range of strategies instead. These strategies included going to the toilet several times before finally settling down to sleep, and severely restricting fluid intake during the day.
3. A reason for not wanting to visit the doctor for problems sleeping was a concern that sleeping medication would be prescribed. Sleeping tablets, it was believed, would make them feel drowsy during the day and therefore unable to be in control of their daily lives and routines. Women, more than men, tended to use alternative treatments and remedies for poor sleep, such as over the counter remedies and herbal medicines.

For further information, please visit the SomnIA website: <http://www.somnia.surrey.ac.uk/>

Acknowledgements

The SomnIA (Sleep in Aging) research was funded by the New Dynamics of Aging initiative, a multidisciplinary research programme supported by AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC and MRC (RES-339-25-0009). The authors gratefully acknowledge this support, and the support of colleagues on the SomnIA project.

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The Galway Wisdom Project

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For most of human history, 'wisdom' has been thought central to envisaging both the human life course and the organization of human society. Wisdom was traditionally seen as one of the highest aims anyone could pursue; into the nineteenth century and beyond, developing and promoting wisdom was a central aim of education. The pursuit of wisdom gave perennial meaning to the idea of the life course as such. Not all older people were expected to have attained wisdom in a striking way, and it was acknowledged that younger people can also be wise; but aiming to grow wiser could give shape and point to the idea of ageing itself. People's aims for their own lives, and for the lives of others as they aged, could continue to have meanings which were less rigidly constrained by workplace and income—or their absence—than is the case today.

Older people could, at any rate in principle, be expected to have much to contribute to their families, communities and societies (hence the notion of the 'senate' as composed of older citizens). This is by no means to idealize the position of older people in the past, which would be contrary to the facts, but to point out that the idea of wisdom provided a strong alternative, and positive, discourse about ageing. This might offer both a defensive resource and a source of expectations for personal and social development, right until the end of life. Not least, the idea of wisdom as a principle for organizing a society connected the individual life course with that of the community: wisdom was not simply a private matter. The idea of wisdom has much to offer, therefore, to strengthen the position of older people today. Fortunately, even if it is not always acknowledged, it continues to be used in a variety of social situations from which we can learn.

Much international research on wisdom is now connected with the study of ageing: exploring what developing wisdom over the life course means, how it can be encouraged, and what advantages it offers to older people and others. The work of psychologists and sociologists such as Baltes, Sternberg, Staudinger,



More information at www.nuigalway.ie/ssrc/specialised_centres/intercultural_studies.html

Ferrari and Ardelt, for example, suggests strongly that wisdom can be connected with different forms of life satisfaction (even though there is no unanimity about what this means). It has been linked to a range of contributions to interpersonal life, including styles and interventions central to education. Writers such as Kekes and Curnow have begun to interpret the meaning of wisdom in the context of different philosophical approaches.

The Galway Wisdom Project seeks to complement such work by following a three-pronged, multidisciplinary strategy. First, it explores the sociology and ethnography of wisdom, to elicit what wisdom means in practice for individuals and communities living in different circumstances. We do not know in advance exactly what other people mean by wisdom, in terms of negotiating their everyday lives and the details of what they actually do that can be regarded as wise. By observing, participating in, and reconstructing behavior, we can learn more about how life-courses and communities are thought to reflect wisdom, and about the extent to which wise interactive styles might be supported in new circumstances. In this part of

the project we explore a number of social settings: geographical settings, in the rural West of Ireland, or in locations in the Eastern and Western parts of Germany, or the UK; discursive settings, including interactive styles among people using psychotherapeutic or theological discourses (sometimes both); and institutional settings where wise interactive styles might be expected: health-care-team discussions, for example, or behavior in day-care centers for older people. In all these cases, the negotiation of the life course is an important focus of attention. We also stress an approach to ethnographic method which reconstructs underlying patterns of meaning: habits of communication and behavior which may not be consciously used.

This is not to say that efforts to behave wisely across a range of social settings must necessarily be endorsed. Discourse about wisdom in many Western societies has become fragmented and indirect; in some social settings, versions of wisdom might be promulgated that could be misleading in fundamental ways. But it is a guiding principle of this project that in the first instance we try to learn from other people's behavior and what it implies for constructive forms of social interaction.

This requires the support of the second strategic element of the project, extending our understanding of the history of philosophical debate about wisdom. Our research underlines the view that in Western traditions (and in others) there are several historical models of what wisdom is. These models describe different blends of practical and theoretical knowledge, different ways of engaging emotional, social and ethical capacities and experience. Humanistic approaches to wisdom in particular, complementing much that we have observed ethnographically, see moving towards wisdom as a lifetime discursive process, one carried out jointly with other people.

This humanistic tradition puts human activities at the center of theorizing, highlighting commonalities among human beings, what binds them together rather than separating them. Pre-Socratic philosophers in ancient Greece began to discuss how to live better human lives in society. The tradition of Socrates, Aristotle and Cicero explored how reasoning about

important social and political values is an interpersonal project. The Ciceronian tradition stressed the connection of good communication with the good life. Thus Renaissance humanists could draw on the ancient tradition of learning oratory and rhetoric: learning to speak well, for the common good. This tradition can help to re-conceptualize what a 'good' or 'successful' life-course might be.

The third element of the project leads on from the first two, starting to explore how policy and practice could incorporate wise styles and conventions – for example, in relation to nursing homes or social policies for older people. Together, these three foci inspire further investigations: PhD candidates attached to the project are exploring ways in which wise processes can operate in multicultural communities, and the role of older people involved; or charting interactions between argumentation, art and the environment, and the status of older people with skills relevant to those settings.

A significant barrier to progress for older people is caused when they are regarded centrally as problems, or as recipients of care – overlooking their contributions to other people's lives and to society in general. This project, currently involving colleagues not only from Galway (Ricca Edmondson and Markus Woerner) but also from Dublin (Carmel Gallagher), Oxford (Jane Pearce), Salford (Eileen Fairhurst), Wuhan (Hong Chen), and elsewhere, thus seeks to expand the impact of what wisdom implies for our view of the life course. It sees wisdom as a key concept in combating the dominance of discourses of decline.*



The Quadrangle. National University of Ireland. Galway.

IJAL - International Journal of Ageing and Later Life

Lars Andersson | ijal@isv.liu.se
Editor-in-Chief, IJAL

IJAL is a journal with an extensive cooperation and commitment by members of RC11—both in the editorial team and on the editorial board. Through the past five years we have heard from colleagues around the world who are excited about the fact that IJAL is an open access (OA) journal that is available free of charge to anyone with internet access. Our colleagues are in agreement that the possibilities to disseminate research results in this sort of outlet are endless. A look at some of the available OA journals on the web shows that we are all still playing it safe. OA journals resemble, for example, traditional paper journals and this is most likely the case because they are still in the process of establishing themselves as an alternative outlet for scientific communication and need to have a format that is not only recognizable but one that is deemed 'respectable' as well. OA journals will, however, evolve in due time into a dissemination outlet of their own and this evolution will revolutionize the way in which we can advance scientific knowledge in the future. One small example is the possibility, already today, to add a short film to an article (where one, by just clicking on an icon, e.g. can illustrate the area/premises where a study has been done). This is why IJAL was launched as an OA journal from the start and why we are committed to exploiting the various possibilities that are inherent to this specific outlet.

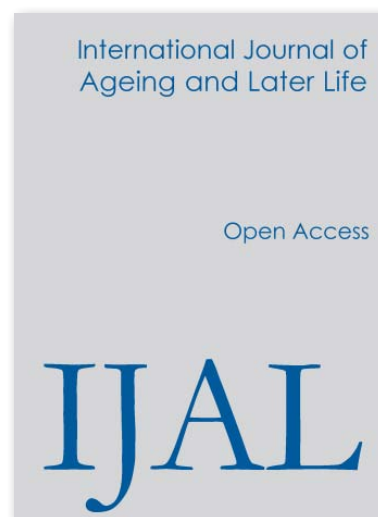
Running an OA journal is, however, a challenge in itself. Surely, launching a journal without the support of a publishing company is manageable nowadays because there are numerous computer programs out there that can handle the submission process, the distribution of manuscripts to reviewers, the layout of the journal and so on and so forth.

High quality is what every editorial staff and board of a scientific journal strives for, regardless of whether they are an OA journal or not. Speaking of acceptance rates and the like therefore seems necessary. Acceptance (and/or rejection) rates are, without a doubt, one of the best indicators we have

of whether a journal abides to high standards of quality or not. Only 30% of the manuscripts that we have received have been accepted for publication, and although this is not a figure we have used to set a standard for ourselves, it surely illustrates that the standards are high. The articles are cited, too: on the IJAL website, articles are followed by information from CrossRef about the publications in which the articles have been cited. Despite the relatively short period of time in which IJAL has been running, a great number of citations have been made. However, CrossRef does not tell the whole truth. A comparison with Google Scholar shows the following differences for a sample of articles: Schwaiger, L. (vol 1, issue 1) CrossRef 2 / Google Scholar 6; Künemund, H. (vol 1 issue 2) CrossRef 3 / Google Scholar 14; Tornstam, L. (vol 2 issue 1) CrossRef 3 / Google Scholar 5; Gillear, C. & Higgs, P. (vol 2 issue 2) CrossRef 5 / Google Scholar 12.

Through the 'double' review process we use at IJAL we are working to guarantee that the highest standards possible for a journal such as IJAL are followed. We believe that the contents of the first five volumes speak to this end and look forward to hearing from those of you who are reading IJAL and have comments and suggestions in this respect.

More information at www.ep.liu.se/ej/ijal*



Invitation to Join ASA Section on Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity

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Acting Chairperson, ASA Section on Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity

A section on “Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity” is in formation at the American Sociological Association. Please consider joining us to participate in the activities and to work toward realizing the goals set forth in our Mission Statement.

Sociologists have long been concerned with how to build the good society. The section on altruism, morality, and social solidarity directly addresses this question.

In the broadest sense, the subject matter of altruism and social solidarity consists of activities intended to benefit the welfare of others. These activities span the micro-macro continuum, from individual, to interpersonal, to organizational, to global. They include phenomena such as generosity, forgiveness, unlimited love, virtue, philanthropy, intergroup cooperation, and universalizing solidarity. The subject matter of morality entails distinctions between good and evil, and between right and wrong. Such distinctions are an important aspect of each person’s thoughts, actions, and moral judgments. They are also a component of all cultural systems, providing meanings that define for each collective some sense of the desirable and the undesirable. Norms regarding individual and intergroup relations are a part of these cultural systems. As a result, altruism and social solidarity are inevitably related to moral culture.

This foundational subject matter includes several general areas of theoretical development and empirical research. The first area is understanding the nature and variability of these phenomena, their forms and processes, and their anticipated and unanticipated consequences, at all levels of analysis. The second area is exploring the relationships that exist between altruism, social solidarity, and morality. This includes investigating the conditions under which cultural systems of morality vary, from mandating behavior harmful to others, to restricting concern for others to particular groups, to promoting a universalizing solidarity that potentially includes all persons and groups. The third area is the relationship between altruism, morality, and social

solidarity and other sociocultural phenomena, such as the unequal distribution of power/authority and resources, the characteristics of social structures and of cultural systems, and the influence of different social institutions.

The intrinsic scientific, policy, and public relevance of this field of investigation in helping to construct “good societies” is unquestionable. The subject matter of the section gives scholars a unique opportunity to contribute to understanding the conditions necessary for a broad vision of the common good that includes all individuals and collectives.

Section activities are directed towards establishing the study of altruism, morality, and social solidarity as a recognized field of theoretical development and empirical research within the discipline of sociology. These activities include the following: providing for regular exchanges of information through the section Newsletter and the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association; formally recognizing outstanding theoretical, empirical, and applied work in the field of altruism, morality, and social solidarity through annual awards; and linking with other scientific groups working on genetic, psychological, and cultural aspects of these phenomena.

In doing so, we seek to develop and augment a community of scholars motivated to gain greater knowledge and understanding of altruism, morality, and social solidarity. We emphasize the importance of the investigation of the policy implications of this knowledge, and the dissemination of information to publics regarding aspects of altruism, morality, and social solidarity that will benefit individual lives, the social organization of society, and the prevailing culture.

More information at www.csun.edu/~hbsoc126*



Announcements



Call for Papers

JAS Special Issue on Widowhood. Deborah van den Hoonaard (St Thomas University, Fredericton, Canada) corresponding editor, Anne Martin-Matthews (University of British Columbia, Canada) and Kate Davidson (University of Surrey, UK) are editing a special issue of the *Journal of Aging Studies (JAS)* for publication in 2013—the 10th anniversary of Helena Znaniecka Lopata's death—celebrating her work on widowhood. This special issue of the *Journal of Aging Studies* welcomes scholarship from a variety of perspectives on widowhood, including international, cross-cultural and gender differences. Articles are invited from the social and behavioral sciences, the humanities, and health and cultural studies, using diverse research concepts and methods. Especially welcomed are submissions from scholars and researchers who knew and/or worked with Helena Lopata. *JAS* features scholarly papers offering new interpretations that challenge existing theory and empirical work. The journal emphasizes innovations and critique—new directions in general—regardless of theoretical or methodological orientation or academic discipline. Critical, empirical, or theoretical contributions are welcome. Deadline: June 1, 2011 (extended abstract of 1,000 words). Contact: Deborah van den Hoonaard at dkvdh@stu.ca*

JIR Special Issue on Active Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity in Europe. The *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships* will do a special *JIR* issue highlighting current research, policies

and practices around intergenerational solidarity and active ageing in the context of the year 2012, which may become the European Year of Active Ageing, according to a draft decision taken by the Council of the European Union on December 2010. Papers encouraged include those that explore the connection between intergenerational solidarity and active ageing, both within and beyond the framework that EU institutions are setting around the European Year. Particularly relevant are papers able to tackle intergenerational solidarity and active ageing across current issues (learning-education, employment, family, pensions, leisure, housing, justice and so on) and across levels (individuals, groups, institutions, and societies). Papers aimed to further develop concepts like community for all ages and/or societies for all ages shall be welcome as well. One of the main objectives of this special issue is to identify where Europe is in terms of social change due to intergenerational work compared with where Europe would like to get to in terms of sustained and systemic social change. The hope is that some papers will be able to include specific strategies and recommendations for where we need to go next after 2012 regarding the promotion of active ageing and intergenerational solidarity across Europe. The special issue will include two categories of peer-reviewed papers: scholarly papers focusing on research, policy, or practice (5,000 words), and from the field papers that include program profiles, reflection essays, book and media reviews (adults' and children's), and discussion forums that provide contrasting position papers on key issues on the theme (900-1,400 words). Deadline: July 15, 2011. Contact: Co-editors Alan Hatton-Yeo (Alan@bjf.org.uk) and Mariano Sanchez (marianos@ugr.es)*

RJS Special Issue on Emerging Areas in Sociological Inquiry. The *Rutgers Journal of Sociology* invites submissions for its second annual

edition, which will focus on Knowledge in Contention. Some overarching questions you might consider are: How do controversies surrounding knowledge claims emerge, escalate, and achieve closure? How is expertise acquired and established, and what are the tensions between credentialed and/or lay perspectives? How do contentious debates affect the generation of knowledge, and how are such debates resolved, mediated, institutionalized, or suppressed? What role does power play in the ability to create legitimate bodies of knowledge, resolve conflicts, and win battles between contentious perspectives? Are there certain social structures, conditions, practices, organizations, individual actors, or environments that are more likely to generate contention over the form and substance of knowledge? The Rutgers Journal of Sociology: Emerging Areas in Sociological Inquiry provides a forum for graduate students and junior scholars to present well-researched and theoretically compelling review articles on an annual topic in sociology. Each volume features comprehensive commentary on emerging areas of sociological interest. These are critical evaluations of current research synthesized into cohesive articles about the state of the art in the discipline. Works that highlight the cutting-edge of the field, in terms of theoretical, methodological, or topical areas, are privileged. Deadline: September 15, 2011. Contact: RJS@sociology.rutgers.edu More information at <http://sociology.rutgers.edu/RJS.html>*



Meetings

Canadian Association on Gerontology, October 21-23, 2011, Ottawa, Canada. The 40th Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting of the Canadian

Association on Gerontology, “New Directions for Aging”, will be welcoming the 4th Pan American Congress of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics. Deadline: April 30, 2011. More information at www.cagacg.ca*

Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology, October 13-15, 2011, New Orleans, LA, USA. “Applied & Clinical Sociology: Making a Difference and Loving It!” Deadline: May 1, 2011. Contact: Augie Dianna at dianaa@nida.nih.gov More information at www.aacsnet.org*

REIACTIS-PGI, January 25-27, 2012, Dijon, France. The REIACTIS-PGI International Symposium, “The Right to Age: Citizenship, Social Inclusion and Political Participation of Older People”, will be held in 2012, the year of the 10th Anniversary of the Declaration of the United Nations on aging (Madrid 2002), and the European year of Active Aging and Solidarity between the Generations. Deadline: May 16, 2011 to symposiumreiactis@gmail.com Contact: Soukey Ndoeye, soukey.ndoye@gmail.com More information at www.reiactis.org*

Alzheimer’s Association, July 16-21, 2011, Paris, France. “Alzheimer’s Association International Conference on Alzheimer’s Disease (AAICAD).” Contact: icad@alz.org More information at www.alz.org/icad/overview.asp*

American Sociological Association, August 20-23, 2011, Las Vegas, NV, USA. “Social Conflict: Multiple Dimensions and Arenas.” More information at www.asanet.org/AM2011*

Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), September 1-2, 2011, Tallinn, Estonia. “3rd International SHARE User Conference.” More information at www.share-project.org*

German, Austrian, and Swiss Sociological Associations, September 29-October 1, 2011. Innsbruck, Austria. The 3rd Joint Conference of the German, Austrian, and Swiss Sociological Associations

will be devoted to “The New Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere.” Contact: frank.welz@uibk.ac.at
More information at www.soziologie2011.eu*

Maastricht University's International Symposium on Cultural Gerontology, October 6-9, 2011, The Netherlands. “Theorizing Age: Challenging the Disciplines.” Contact: Elena Fronk at elena.fronk@maastrichtuniversity.nl*

Gerontological Society of America, November 18-22, 2011, Boston, MA, USA. “Lifestyle, Lifespan.” More information at www.geron.org/annual-meeting*



Funding

Wisconsin Longitudinal Study Pilot Grants. The Center for Demography of Health and Aging at the University of Wisconsin-Madison will award two or three pilot grants to researchers using the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS) data for scholarly research. The WLS provides an excellent opportunity to study the life course, careers, retirement, intergenerational transfers and relationships, family functioning, physical and mental health and well-being, morbidity and mortality, and gene-environment interactions from late adolescence to the retirement years. Deadline: May 27, 2011. More information at www.ssc.wisc.edu/wlsresearch/pilot*

NIA and AoA Research Grants. The National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the U.S. Administration on Aging (AoA) are inviting applications for translational research that foster aging in place efforts by using evidence-based research to inform the development of new interventions, programs, policies, practices, and tools

that can be used by community-based organizations to help older individuals remain healthy and independent in their own homes and communities. This funding opportunity will support collaborations between academic research centers and community-based organizations with expertise serving older adults. Deadline: May 8, 2014. More information at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-123.html>*



Jobs

Post-doctoral Position at Universitat Pompeu Fabra. The DEMOSOC unit within the Universitat Pompeu Fabra seeks to fill two post-doctoral positions linked to an ERC financed five-year research project on cross-national comparisons of changing family dynamics and polarization. The candidate must have strong quantitative skills and be in possession of a PhD prior to September 2011. The positions will last two to three years with an annual stipend of €31.000-32.000 Euros. Deadline: April 1, 2011. Contact: gosta.esping@upf.edu*

Sociology Faculty Member at Fresno Pacific University. The Sociology Program seeks to provide students with an increased understanding of their social world. Upon completion of the major, students are prepared for advanced study or for an appropriate career, as well as to provide service to society, as informed by a Christian/Anabaptist worldview. The program is cross-cultural in nature and purposefully informed by an anthropological perspective. Role: Direct the sociology program; Teach in the sociology and general education programs, including courses in social theory and research methods, as well as

introductory sociology courses; Teach in religious studies, social work and other areas of secondary competence; Recruit, mentor and advise sociology students, as well as advise general education students; Participate in scholarly, departmental and university activities. Qualifications: Ph.D. in sociology (or ABD); Teaching specialties to include research methods and theory; other areas open; Experience in, or aptitude for, college-level teaching; Record or promise of scholarly achievement; Ability to work harmoniously with students and faculty colleagues in a liberal arts environment; Christian commitment and lifestyle, consistent with the university's standards; and, Commitment to the Christian faith and the University's mission of Christ-centered teaching and learning and involvement in a local church. Contact: fpuprov@fresno.edu*



Competitions

Norbert Elias Prize. The prize consists of €1,000 and will be awarded for a significant first major book published between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2010. First-time authors from any part of the world are eligible for the award. The prize is awarded in commemoration of sociologist Norbert Elias (1897-1990), whose writings, theoretical and empirical, boldly crossed disciplinary boundaries to develop a long-term perspective on the patterns of interdependence that human beings weave together. The prize-winning book will not necessarily be directly inspired by Elias's work. Deadline: April 30, 2011. Contact: Marcello Aspria, Secretary to the Norbert Elias Foundation, J.J. Viottastraat 13, 1071 JM Amsterdam, The Netherlands; elias@planet.nl*



Websites

SAGE's Social Science Space,

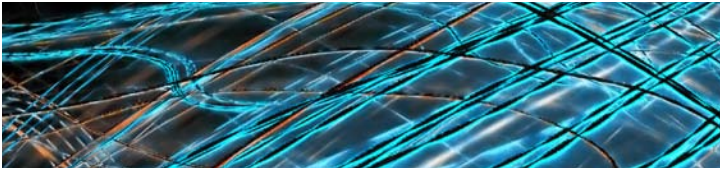
www.socialsciencespace.com This online network aims to support the social sciences by bringing together researchers, funders, societies, think tanks, and policymakers from around the world to explore, share and shape the big issues in social science, from funding to impact.*

AgeWork, www.agework.com This career site focuses specifically on gerontology-related professionals and job searchers. It allows job seekers to search through posted jobs by keyword, location, industry or job function; or a combination of the four job search option.*

The Sociological Cinema,

www.thesociologicalcinema.com This online resource can be highly valuable for sociology instructors wanting to incorporate videos into their classes. The site includes a searchable database of short video clips that are tagged with sociological themes. Each clip includes a summary with suggestions of how to use it in the classroom. The site also includes comment sections and blog.*

Spirituality, www.agewell.com/spiritual/o2-holt-illness-search.aspx This online discussion at AgeWell focuses on the aging process and the search for meaning.*



Data

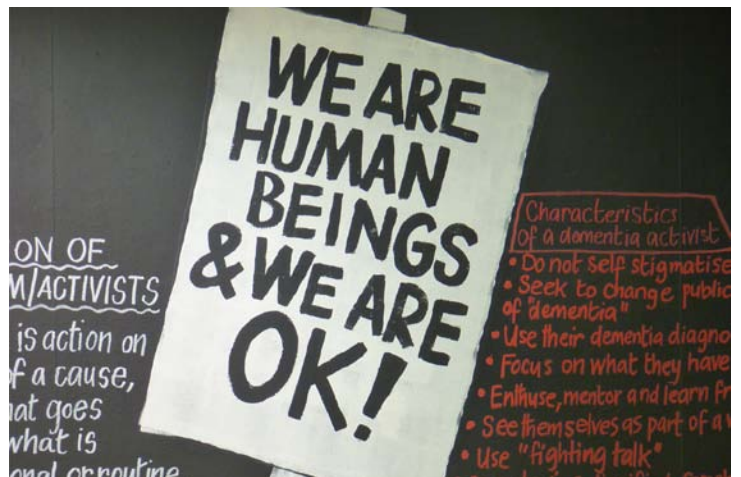
Human Mortality Database. The Human Mortality Database (HMD) provides open access to detailed mortality and population data for 37 countries or areas. The database is the result of a collaborative initiative between researchers and institutions in the USA and Germany, and collaborators around the world that use a variety of input data, including death counts from vital statistics, census counts, birth counts, and population estimates from various sources.*



Training

RAND Summer Institute consists of two conferences addressing critical issues facing our aging population: a Mini-Medical School for Social Scientists (July 12-13) and a workshop on the Demography, Economics and Epidemiology of Aging (July 14-15). The primary aim of the RSI is to expose scholars interested in the study of aging to a wide range of research being conducted in fields beyond their own specialties. More information at www.rand.org/labor/aging/rsi/. Contact: Diana Malouf at malouf@rand.org*

People



A previous exhibition curated by Caroline and Ruth.

Ruth Bartlett (University of Southampton) and **Caroline Hick** (Fellow in Visual Arts, University of Bradford) have been awarded Fellow on Funding by the Economic and Social Research Council to develop and curate a touring exhibition about the lives of active people with dementia. The project - Developing an Aesthetic of Dementia Activism (DADA): Using art to mediate agency-follows on from Ruth's completed qualitative study on dementia activism that involved collecting data (via diary-interview method and participant observation) from sixteen people with dementia who campaign for social change. The new project will involve a residential workshop in which

we will work with five people with dementia involved in the original project, a film-maker and installation artist, to create various pieces of artwork. The artwork will consist of a short film about people's experiences of living with dementia and a series of pieces based around the visual concept of "speakers corner", which will include a set of bespoke banners and an LED display system generating words and statements around dementia. The exhibition is aimed at the general public, particularly individuals and families affected by dementia, including schoolchildren, those who work with, volunteer, or befriend people with dementia, as well as policy makers and politicians. Special events and learning materials will be arranged for these groups. The idea is to raise public awareness of dementia, particularly the work of people who campaign for social change through film, photographs, captions, and other art work. The exhibition will be launched in September at the National Science Festival (University of Bradford) and then tour the Scottish Mental Health Arts & Film Festival, Journal of Dementia Care Congress (Liverpool) and a venue in London (to be confirmed). There will be an on-line exhibition/website too. For more details and/or if you would like your name to be included on a mailing list, please contact c.hick@bradford.ac.uk*



Dr. Laura Merla was awarded a 2-years Return Mandate at the Université Catholique de Louvain, financed by the Belgian Federal Science Policy under the FP7 to conduct a research on "Transnational care-giving in the Belgian

context: An analysis of the intra-familial dynamics at play in the exchange of care between adult migrants and their ageing parents." The specific question this study addresses is the extent to which transnational

adult migrants are able to exchange care and support with their geographically distant parents, and the specific role that intrafamilial dynamics play in the exchange of care between adult migrants, their siblings and their ageing parents. In order to grasp the diversity and complexity of family care within transnational families, the study will focus on three types of caregiving arrangements: (1) long distance caregiving, that is, provision of financial, emotional and practical support from a distance; (2) aged migration, that is, permanent or temporary migration of dependent elderly parents in order to be cared for by their child(ren) in the host country and/or care for their grandchildren; (3) permanent or temporary migrants' repatriation in order to provide personal care to disabled parents.*

José de São José started a new research project on elder care in March 2011 at the University of Algarve – CIEO, Portugal, called "The Other Side of the Caring Relation: The Views of the Older Person" (ElderViews). This project is funded by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology and is coordinated by José de São José. The project takes a perspective that has been underrepresented in previous research: the views of older people about their caring relationships. It aims to contribute to the implementation of better professional practices and social policies related to care. Contact: José de São José at jsjose@ualg.pt*

What Are Members Writing and Reading?



Börsch-Supan, A., M. Brandt, K. Hank and M. Schröder. 2011. *The Individual and the Welfare State*. Heidelberg Germany: Springer.*

Bould, Sally and Sara Falcão Casaca. 2011. "Aging Populations, Chronic Diseases, Gender and the Risk of Disability." Working Paper #02/2011, Research Centre in Economic and Organizational Sociology, Portugal. Available at: http://pascal.iseg.utl.pt/~socius/publicacoes/wp/WP_2_2011.pdf*

Byrne, K., Frazee, K., Sims-Gould, J. and Martin-Matthews, A. Advance online publication 2010. "Valuing the Older Person in the Context of Delivery and Receipt of Home Support: Client Perspectives." *Journal of Applied Gerontology*. doi: 10.1177/0733464810387578.*

Calvo, Esteban, Christopher Tamborini, and Natalia Sarkisian. 2011. "Causal Effects of Retirement Timing on Subjective Well-being: The Role of Culture Norms and Institutional Policies." Working Paper #17, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile. Available at http://www.udp.cl/descargas/facultades_carreras/economia/pdf/documentos_investigacion/wp17_Calvo_Sarkisian_Tamborini.pdf*

Calvo, Esteban and Natalia Sarkisian. 2011. "Retirement and Well-being: Examining Characteristics of Life Course Transitions." Working Paper #2, Institute of Public Policy at Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile. Available at: http://www.politicaspUBLICAS.udp.cl/wp-content/uploads/doc/ipp_udp_dt_2_retirement_well.pdf*

Choi, Namkee G. and Jinseok Kim. 2011. "The Effect of Time Volunteering and Charitable Donations in Later Life on Psychological Wellbeing." *Ageing and Society* 31(4):590-610.*

Hoff, Andreas Feldman, Susan, and Lucie Vidovicova. 2010. "Migrant Home Care Workers Caring for Older People: Fictive Kin, Substitute and Complementary Family Caregivers in an Ethnically Diverse Environment." *International Journal of Ageing and Later Life* 5(2):7-16.*

International Social Security Association. 2011. "Social Security Observer." Report #12, ISSA, Geneva, Switzerland. Available at http://news.issa.int/layout/set/print/newsletter/newsletter_repository/observer/en/social_security_observer_12*

Johnson, Richard W., Gordon B. T. Mermin, and Matthew Resseger. 2011. "Job Demands and Work Ability at Older Ages." *Journal of Aging and Social Policy* 23(2):101-18.*

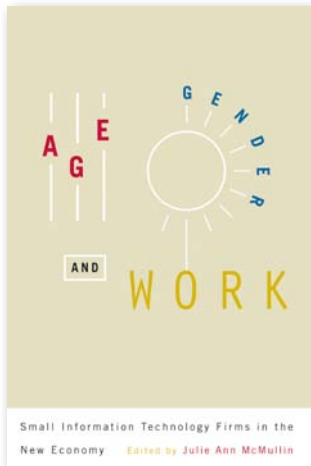
Mair, Christine A. 2010. "Social Ties and Depression: An Intersectional Examination of Black and White Community-Dwelling Older Adults." *Journal of Applied Gerontology* December 29:667-96.*

Martin-Matthews, A., and Sims-Gould, J. 2011. "My Home, Your Work, Our Relationship: Elderly Clients' Experiences of Home Care Services." Pp. 107-24 in C. Benoit and H. Hallgrimsdottir (Eds.), *Valuing Care Work: Comparative Perspectives*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.*

Martin-Matthews, A., Sims-Gould, J., and Naslund, J. 2010. "Ethno-cultural Diversity in Home Care Work in Canada: Issues Confronted, Strategies Employed." *International Journal of Ageing and Later Life* 5(2):77-101.*

Mastrobuoni, Giovanni. 2011. "Do Social Security Statements Affect Knowledge and Behavior?" Issue Brief #11-6, Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.*

McMullin, Julie Ann (Ed.). 2011. *Age, Gender, and Work: Small Information Technology Firms in the New Economy*. Canada: UBC Press.

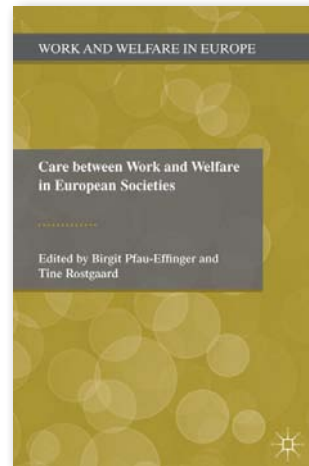


In the new knowledge-based economy, information technology (IT) is a major field of employment. However, the fast pace of technological innovation, globalization, and the volatile stock market have made IT an increasingly risky business – for some employees more than

for others. This volume examines how women and older workers in small IT companies are disproportionately vulnerable to economic uncertainty within their industry. Drawing on original survey and interview data, the authors explore how gender and age affect work and workplace culture to produce a fresh contribution to the literature on inequality.*

Milkie, Melissa A., Dawn R. Norris, and Alex Bierman. 2011. "The Long Arm of Offspring: Adult Children's Troubles as Teenagers and Elderly Parents' Mental Health." *Research on Aging* 33(3):327-55.*

Pfau-Effinger, Birgit and Tine Rostgaard (Eds.) In press 2011. *Care Between Work and Welfare in European Societies*. England: Palgrave Macmillan.



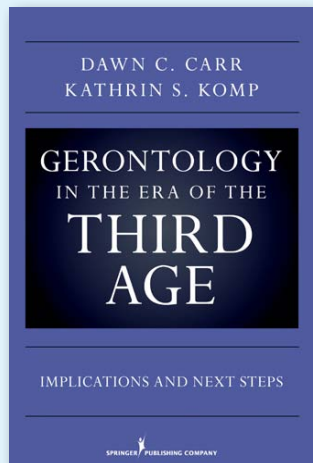
The book makes an original and innovative contribution to the study of child and elder care in that it analyses new tensions that are related to different types and dimensions of care in the context of recent welfare state reforms. It provides insight into the history of theoretical concepts related to care, and

the theoretical framework of 'tensions'. Analyses relate to new tensions that are connected with different types of formal and informal child and elderly care, and with migration related to care. Also, tensions within care cultures, and between the cultural and the institutional framework of care are analysed. Moreover, it is shown if and under which conditions welfare state reforms have contributed to strengthen existing tensions or even to create new tensions, and under which conditions they have contributed to relax such tensions. The volume brings together high-ranking experts in the field of research on welfare and work from different disciplines and from different European countries.*

Porter, Maria. 2010. "Health, Longevity, and the Role of the Family in China." *Journal of Population Ageing* 3(3-4): 103-09.*

Sims-Gould, J., Byrne, K., Beck, C., and Martin-Matthews, A. Advance online publication 2011. "Workers' Experiences of Crises in the Delivery of Home Support Services to Older Clients: A Qualitative Study." *Journal of Applied Gerontology*. doi:10.1177/0733464811402198*

Carr, Dawn C. and Kathrin Komp. 2011. *Gerontology in the Era of the Third Age: Implications and Next Steps*. New York: Springer.



The “third age” is described as the period in the life course that occurs after retirement but prior to the onset of disability, revealing a period in which individuals have the capacity to remain actively engaged. This book serves as a comprehensive discussion about how the emergence of the third age has changed

the way we think about and examine traditional frameworks regarding aging issues and the life course. It introduces the discussion of the unique challenges and opportunities that older adults face while moving through this early phase of later life, proposing new frameworks, concepts, and methods to re-examine later life in the context of the era of the third age.

This book proposes new ways of thinking about how we conceptualize the life course, think about the role of the welfare state in the lives of older people, negotiate social roles in later life, make meaning of our lives as we age, and cultivate relationships with others during later life. It brings together theoretical concepts and frameworks, methodological advances, and emerging themes and controversies that are redefining gerontology in the era of the Third Age. Highlighting important issues that warrant further exploration and discussion, this book advances our understanding of the Third Age and focuses attention on critical issues that should be addressed in future Third Age research and scholarly development.

Key Features:

- Includes up-to-date description and analysis of the third age as a concept, life phase, and social status.
- Addresses multiple perspectives to illustrate the impact of the third age on the way we examine later life.
- Uses disciplinary perspectives such as social policy, demography, gerontology, sociology, social work, anthropology, and social psychology.
- Examines mechanisms that stratify the older population in the context of the third age.*

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