

Handbook on Women and Aging

Edited by Jean M. Coyle



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Statistics show that women live longer than men, and they constitute a substantial most the UNITED STATES population over age 50. The first section provides a historical and theoretical perspective on women and aging and covers topics such as sexism and ageism, representations of old women in the arts, and the attitudes of culture toward aging women. Twenty years ago, for example, there is a presumption that only males worked and just males retired, though ladies often held jobs outside the home and these careers were sometimes their just income source. Chapters are written by expert contributors and are grouped in a number of broad sections. Many fallacies still remain, despite a growing body of analysis conducted by women investigators. The final section studies the human relationships of older women, including the impact of widowhood and the importance of friendship patterns. Studies of retirement, therefore, hardly ever treated the experience of women. But even more study has been completed on the lives of older men, and having less empirical data on ageing women has perpetuated numerous myths and stereotypes. The next section treats economic problems related to employment and pension. The fourth section looks at this concerns of ladies from varied racial and ethnic groups. The 3rd section explores the psychological and physical wellness of women and includes related info on topics such as voluntarism and religious activity. It also includes a chapter on the special requirements of the rural elderly. This reference offers a comprehensive overview of current study on females and aging and helps right many mistaken assumptions. Each chapter cites current research and the volume closes with a chosen bibliography of major studies.



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