Combating Ageism

Post-Conference Education Webinar Series

Campaigning: The best way to address ageism?

Translating Evidence for the Decade of Healthy Ageing

The term 'ageism' has existed for 50 years but how much do we know about what it includes?

The recent #AgeingEqual campaign led by AGE Platform Europe from 1 October to 10 December 2018 aimed at shedding light on this pervasive phenomenon and the disastrous consequences it has on the capacity of individuals to fully enjoy their human rights as they age.

In this webinar, IFA and AGE Platform Europe will discuss the opportunity of running campaigns to combat ageism and challenge the myths and stereotypes surrounding older age.



26 Marc 2019



Register Now





Estelle Huchet
Campaign and Project Officer
AGE Platform Europe





Campaigning: the best way to address ageism?

An IFA Post-Conference Education Webinar



POLL



- 1. Ageism, what are we talking about?
- 2. Campaigning: the what
- 3. Campainging: the how
- 4. A collective achievement
- 5. Lessons learnt
- 6. Next steps?

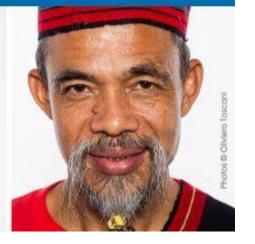
In principle... (Art. 2, UDHR)



We are all equal in dignity and rights







"Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration without distinction of any kind such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status"

In Practice...

Ageism Is The Most Widespread Form Of Discrimination

42 % of Europeans perceive discrimination due to old age (being over 55 years old) as "very" or "fairly" widespread in their country



Ageism affects or will affect everyone

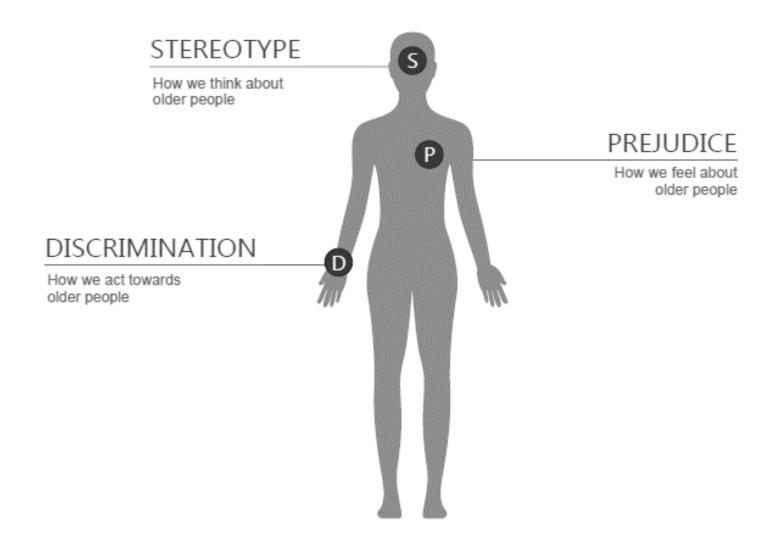
Ageism is the most commonly experienced form of discrimination



Ageism is a harmful discrimination

Ageism has negative effects both for society and for individuals

The three dimensions of ageism



Unlike other forms of discrimination, **ageism is socially accepted and usually unchallenged**,

because of the subconscious internalisation

of ageist prejudices.

Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte
UN Independent Expert on the Enjoyment
of all Human Rights by Older Persons

Campaigning: the what

Cabelos Brancos (Portugal)





Gang des Vieux en Colère (Belgium)



Révolution Senior (France)



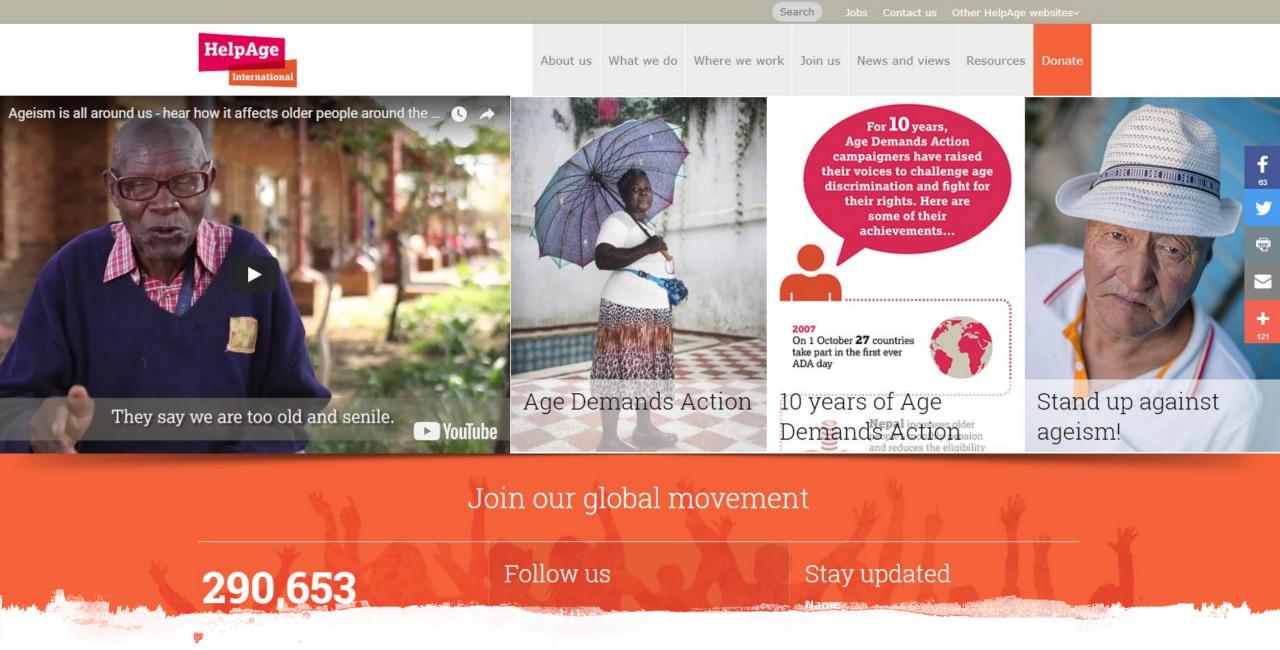
Des Omas gegen Rechts (Austria)



Elders Climate Action (USA)



Age Demands Action HelpAge International





We demand the protection of forcibly displaced elderly

26/04/2018 Syrian Arab Republic

Ageism should stop, aged people have the light to live like other people .Also elderly have wisdom and knowledge that is useful to the society.

결혼 복지를 희망 하는 욕심을 탁 내 려놓는

평화의 청년대학 생 정토회

박신서Parksinseo 26/02/2017 Korea, Republic of

Envelhecer não é um processo patológico, e sim natural. Com a velhice ocorrem perdas e ganhos.. A sociedade, as famílias e o próprios idosos não se preparam para o envelhecer.

Lucas de Pontes 01/02/2017 Brazil Aaj Sari Duniya
Azad hai pr
kashmir ky
logon pr itna
zulm Q...
humain ak
khudmukhtar
kashmir Q nahe
dyte...

Sardar Amad-ud-Din 04/10/2016

Pakistar

We must treat all
as respected
members of
society, every
life matters, and
age only
determines one
thing,
experiences!!
#stopageism

04/10/2016

Jorda

I am taking a stand against ageism because it deprive our older people of citizenship and basic needs.

Wani Gabriel Eric 30/09/2016 Sudan

Treat others the same way you want to be treated. Respect older persons and remember that one day, you will be there.

Paula Garcia 29/09/2016 Brazil



Our value as

Global Campaign To Combat Ageism

World Health Organisation





Health Topics >

Countries v

News v

Emergencies v

About Us v

Ageing and life-course

Ageing and life-course

Commit to action

Age-friendly environments

Health systems that meet the needs of older people

Long-term-care systems

Data and research

Media centre

Publications

Global Campaign to Combat Ageism



Amy Heritage / Age International

Ageism is the stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination against people on the basis of their age. Ageism is pervasive and has profound negative consequences on older adults' health and wellbeing. We need to act now to improve the lives of people everywhere.

In response to a call from Member States, WHO is leading and working with other stakeholders on a Global Campaign to Combat Ageism that aims to build a world for all ages by changing the way we think, feel and act towards age and

What is ageism?



Get involved



Related links

- World report on ageing and health
- Global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016-2020



Data & Evidence

Develop the evidence base for action



Global Coalition

Build a coalition to drive change



Awareness

Inform, advocate and change the representation and discourse around age & ageing



Platform for action

Optimize policy responses & improve lives

Global Campaign to Combat Ageism

4 areas of work

Ageism+
Independent Age
(UK)



Donate



Information

Get support

Get involved

✓

Campaigning V

Support us

Ageism Plus

ndependent

Everyone in later life should be treated fairly and equally. Sadly this isn't the case for many older people. Through their stories, we aim to showcase diversity, call out prejudice and find ways of eliminating discrimination for good.











Sexism>

Read our articles on ageism and sexism



LGBT+>

Personal stories, poetry, and insightful commentary on LGBT issues



Disability and ill health >

Reflections and experiences from older people and other experts



Mental health>

Is older age a guarantee of poor mental health? Find out why we don't think so





Dementia >

This week we're looking at the stigma around dementia





Race and culture >

What is it like to grow old in the UK for people from BAME communities?

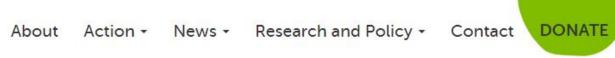


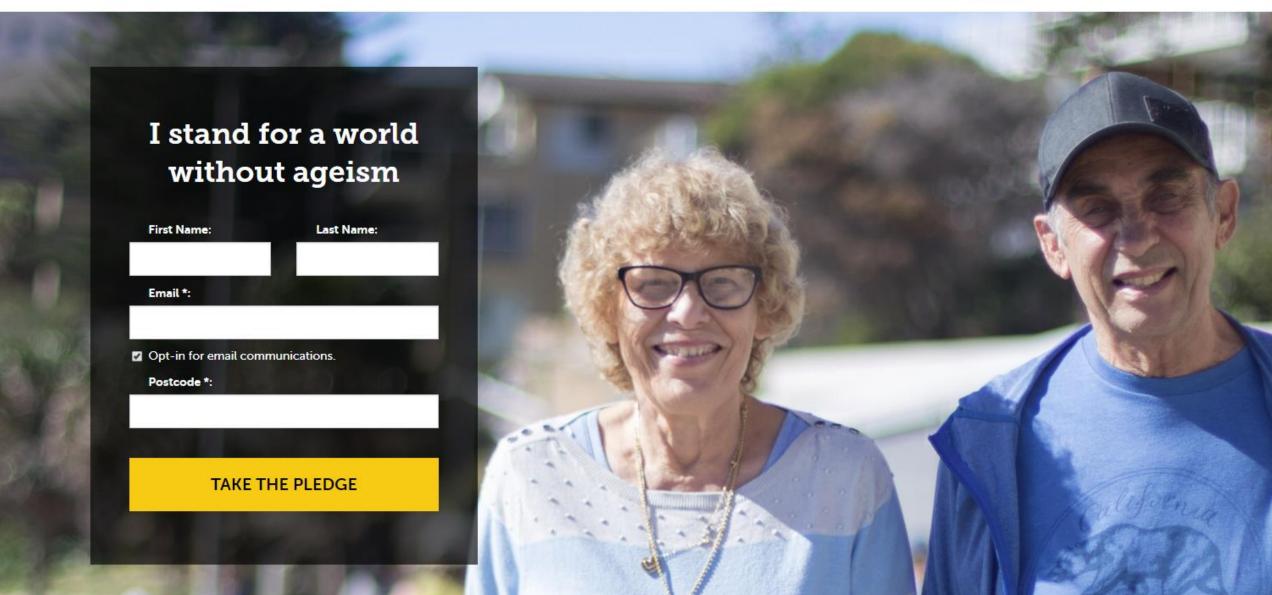
EveryAGE Counts The Benevolent Society (Australia)



















#AgeingEqual AGE Platform Europe (Europe)



Human Rights are not equal if some of us are left behind and excluded because of age.

Human rights do not diminish with age!



#AgeingEqual ageing-equal.org

#AgeingEqual objectives

Raise awareness of ageism

Establish a community of anti-ageism activists

Initiate new collaborations

Infuse other policy dossiers

The U.K.'s Old Decided for the Young in the **Brexit Vote**

Simon Shuster / Margate @shustry | June 24, 2016











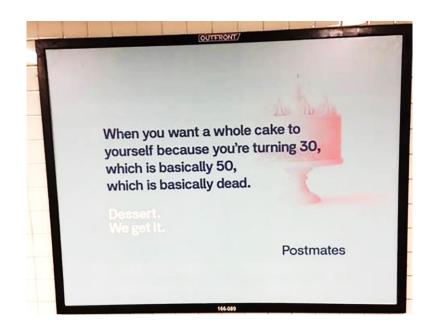
Polls showed that British pensioners were about three times more likely than the youngest voters to want a permanent break with the





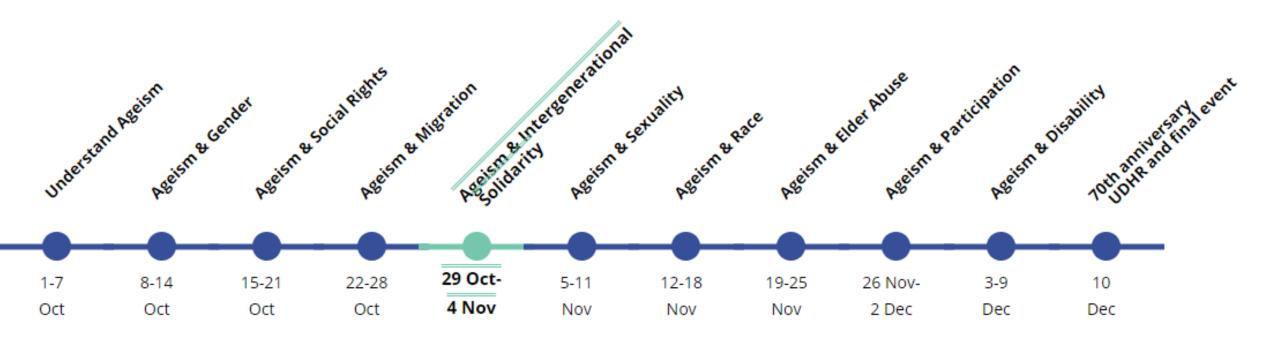
Dankzij minister De Block krijgt iedereen vanaf eind dit jaar enkele sessies bij een psycholoog terugbetaald. Alleen blijkt "iedereen" nu toch niet iedereen. De Vlaamse Ouderenraad vindt het niet kunnen dat 65-plussers uit de boot vallen. "Terwijl de nood bij ouderen net heel hoog is", zegt











For more information: www.ageing-equal.org



The consequences of ageism

"Although the Universal Declaration on Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal, it is evident that the enjoyment of all human rights diminishes with age, owing to the negative notion that older persons are somehow less productive, less valuable to society and a burden to the economy and to younger generations."

UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing, 2017

On our health and wellbeing

Undermined sense of autonomy and self-esteem*

Slower recovery from disability* and reduced life expectancy*

On our capacity to contribute to society

Denied access to educational opportunities, trainings and work*
Struggle to exercise political rights (e.g. inaccessible polling stations)*
Reduced social engagement and increased late-life loneliness**

On our chances to live a life free from abuse

One third of the 8500 annual homicides of older persons in Europe are the result of elder maltreatment*



Tougher for some groups

28% Share of older women have experienced some kind of violence or abuse in the previous 12 months

1/3 older LGBTI report having a mental health problem at some point in their lives

40% Gender pension gap

25% of older Europeans with high care needs suffer maltreatment

Black minority ethnic are diagnosed with dementia 4.5 years younger than their white counterparts

Roma people will die 10 to 15 years earlier than most Europeans

Campaigning: the how

Ageism Is The Most Widespread Form Of Discrimination

42 % of Europeans perceive discrimination due to old age (being over 55 years old) as "very" or "fairly" widespread in their country

1. Rely on evidence



Tip!

Stop thinking about older people as different. Older people are not a group set apart; ageing is a continuous and normal Want To Learn More?

Watch Ashton Applewhite At TED



Are You Ageist?

Did you know that in contrast to common beliefs that portray older people as sad and depressed, according to respeople are happiest at the beginnings and the end lives? To check your ow misconceptions and p

about againg con



Ageism, Ageism and Disability, Testimonies –

December 1, 2018

'Dementia does not mean the end of my world'

Carol is a member of the European Working Group of People with Dementia from Scotland. She tells us about the ups and downs after she was diagnosed with vascular dementia in

READ MORE →



Ageism, Ageism and Race, Testimonies – November 28, 2018

"When I'm 64, will I be living in a community that accepts me and that I can contribute to?"

Dr. Isaiah Durosaiye is an expert of AGE
Platform Europe active in the field of
employment issues. In this video, he talks
people's anxiety about people migrating to
the U.K.

READ MORE →



Ageism, Ageism and Participation, Testimonies –
December 5, 2018

'Quand je suis tombée à la retraite… j'ai monté un projet d'avenir!'

A rebourt des idées reçues sur les personnes âgées, Odile a lancé Or Gris, une association d'éducation populaire visant à promouvoir les politiques et les initiatives des seniors actifs, y compris en

READ MORE →



Ageism, Ageism and Race, Testimonies – November 16, 2018

'Take your money, get out of Denmark and don't come back'

Bashy Quraishy is National Coordinator of ENAR Denmark. In this interview, first published in 2012, he reveals his perceptions and experience of becoming an older ethnic minority in Denmark, and

READ MORE →



Ageism, Ageism and Social Rights, Testimonies – October 15, 2018

'I no longer feel that learning opportunities are encouraged for people of my age'

Salvatore's story is emblematic of the discrimination many people are experiencing due to their age as they are looking for work and learning opportunities. My day starts normally at around

READ MORE →



Ageism, Ageism and Gender, Testimonies – October 10, 2018

'When I am an old woman, shall I wear purple?'

Just like in the poem of Jenny Joseph, Laura Christ, proud member of the Older Women's Network Netherlands (OVN-NL) and OWN Europe, reflects the fantasy of being a different person

READ MORE →



Ageism, Ageism and Participation, Ageism and Social Rights, Testimonies – November 1, 2018

Challenging the perception of retired union members

At a union's recent conference for Retired Members in the UK, one of the last motions to be heard called for the generations to work together to get rid of

READ MORE →

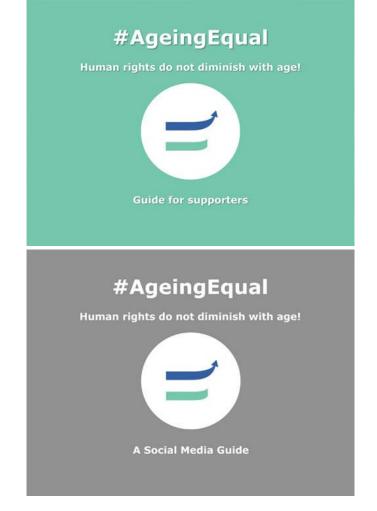
2. Tell stories

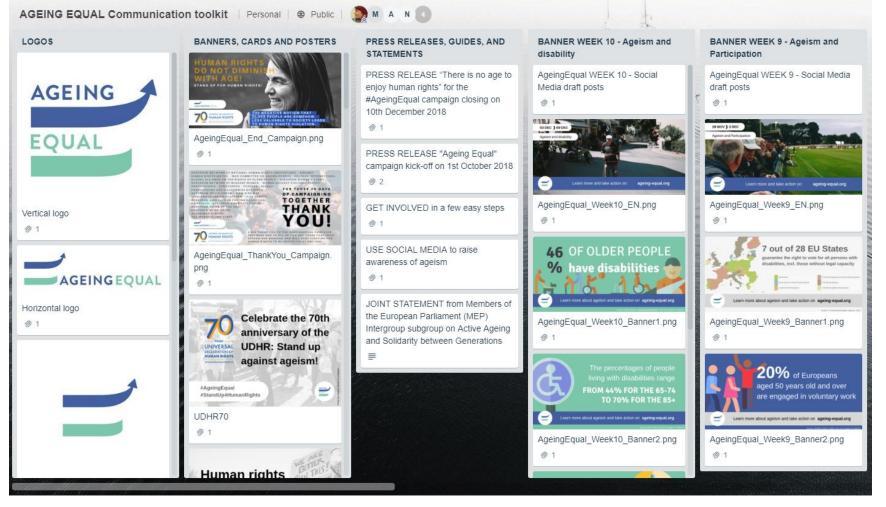
3. Suggest an horizon



We must change our mindsets about ageing

Countering ageism requires changing the way we think, feel and act about ageing and older persons. We all have the capacities and potential to contribute to society regardless of age, but often ageist attitudes limit our opportunities to do so. Providing services and support for the older generation is a right and an investment, not a cost.





4. Support your community

A collective achievement



70th Anniversary Of Universal Declaration Of Human Rights

www.standup4humanrights.org



European Network Of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI)

www.ennhrl.org



Equinet

www.equineteurope.org



Human Rights Watch

www.hrw.org



NGO Committee On Ageing Geneva

www.ageingcommitteegeneva.org



Global Alliance On The Rights Of Older People

www.rightsofolderpeople.org



HelpAge International

www.helpage.org



European Women's Lobby

www.womenlobby.org



European Network Of Migrant Women

www.migrantwomennetwork.org



Women Against Violence Europe

www.wave-network.org



Eurodiaconia

www.eurodiaconia.org



Eurocarers

www.eurocarers.org



Réseau Francophone Des Villes Amies Des Aînés

www.villesamiesdesaines-rf.fr



European Association For The Education Of Adults

eaea.org



FEANTSA

www.feantsa.org



COFACE - Families Europe

www.coface-eu.org



European Youth Forum

www.youthforum.org



European Disability Forum

www.edf-feph.org



LIFELONG LEARNING PLATFORM NAM-AIDS Map

www.aidsmap.com



European Union Of The Deaf

www.eud.eu



ILGA-Europe

www.ilga-europe.org



European Blind Union

www.euroblind.org



Ilipiatform.eu



Alzheimer Europe

www.alzheimer-europe.org



The campaign in figures

In less than 10 weeks...

+70

+30

+30

Blogposts

Testimonies

Good practices

19.5K pages views on ageing-equal.org

Hundreds of tweets with #AgeingEqual

+500K views of AGE tweets

A campaign shared in various **European countries and beyond!**

Lessons learnt







THE NEGATIVE NOTION THAT
OLDER PEOPLE ARE SOMEHOW
LESS VALUABLE TO SOCIETY LEADS
TO HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION.

Empowerment through campaigning

Relate to others' experiences of ageing

Share evidences, good practices, tools and tips

Develop a sense of belonging to the group

Be aware of our capacities of collective action



POLL



Next steps?

In the long-run

Push for a **paradigm shift** towards a human rights approach

In the long-run

Push for a **paradigm shift** towards a human rights approach

Sustain the newly established community of activists

In the long-run

Push for a paradigm shift towards a human rights approach

Sustain the newly established community of activists

Mainstream ageism to address it in **intersection** with other discrimination faced by different groups in society



Age-Ism: Another Form of Bigotry

Robert N. Butler, MD

In the short-run

Bring 'ageism' back to the forefront 50 years after its creation and make sure the term exist in all possible languages

MALCOLM X, the Kerner Commission Report, on the roof of Regency House) for older people and a variety of other persons, events, and who were not accustomed to "luxury." materials have made the concept of racism familiar. Social class discrimination also needs no introduction. However, we may soon have to consider very seriously a form of bigotry we now tend to overlook: age discrimination or age-ism, prejudice by one age group toward other age groups. If such bias exists, might it not be especially evident in America; a society that has traditionally valued pragmatism, action, power, and the vigor of youth over contemplation, reflection, experience, and the wisdom of age?

In the affluent community of Chevy Chase, recent events have revealed a complex interweaving of class, color, and age discrimination that may highlight the impact of these forces in our national life.

On January 30, 1969, the National Capital Housing Authority, the public housing agency of the District of Columbia, held hearings on its proposal to purchase Regency House, a high-rise apartment building in Chevy Chase, for the eldcrly poor. If finally approved, Regency House would be the first public housing project west of Rock Creek Park, the traditional boundary between black and white in Washington, D.C.

The middle-class and middle-aged white citizenry of Chevy Chase appeared at both the hearings and at the Chevy Chase Citizens' Association meeting at a local public school on February 17. They vigorously protested on a variety of grounds the National Capital Housing Authority proposal. Some of these aroused citizens demonstrated that they could practice the politics of protest and confrontation in a manner as impassioned as that of the young and alienated.

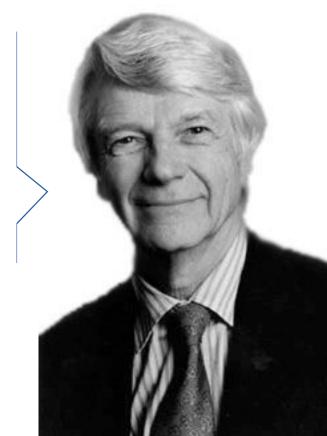
Chevy Chase residents were irritated and angered by a proposal to provide what they considered luxury housing (there is a swimming pool

Among statements heard at the meetings and quoted in the local newspapers were: "You would open the door for people who don't know how to live." "Slums are made by the people who live in them." "It (public housing) has to come sometime but not this time or in this place." "I am not against old folks, believe me." "Who wants all those old people around." Zoning, tax losses, costs, and property values were also mentioned, but it was clear that more than concern over the pocketbook was operating.

Class, color, and age have always been parts of the structure of American communities. Since the passage of the Public Housing Act of 1937, we have tended to increase the divisions within America by separating the poor and segregating the non-white. Today, despite Social Security, the elderly poor are common, and they are frequently black. There has also been a trend in recent years toward segregation of the middle-class elderly in "retirement communities" and "housing for the elderly."

Neighborhood reaction against the use of Regency House for the elderly poor carries implications beyond Chevy Chase. The classic or scapegoat explanation for prejudice turns upon the unconscious effort to justify one's own weaknesses by finding them in others-in other races, religious, or nationalities. Personal insecurity, once generalized, becomes the basis of prejudice and hostility.

Age-ism describes the subjective experience implied in the popular notion of the generation gap. Prejudice of the middle-aged against the old in this instance, and against the young in others, is a serious national problem. Age-ism reflects a deep seated uneasiness on the part of the young and middle-aged-a personal revulsion to and distaste for growing old, disease, disability; and fear of powerlessness, "uselessness," and death.



Washington School of Psychiatry and George Washington University Medical School, 3815 Huntington St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20015.

In the short-run

Reiterate the call for a new United Nations convention for the protection of human rights of people as they age



THANK YOU!

estelle.huchet@age-platform.eu #AgeingEqual

2020

15TH GLOBAL CONFERENCE NIAGARA FALLS, CANADA I 1-3 NOVEMBER 2020

The IFAs 15th Global Conference on Ageing, entitled "Rights Matter," is an international platform to improve our understanding of age-friendly environments, to debate the solutions to address inequalities, to confront the reality of ageism, and to delve into what it means to enable the functional ability of an older person. Driving the agenda of the world's population ageing takes connected, engaged and interested delegates from all parts of the world. Take action and be accountable to current and future generations of citizens who contribute a lifetime of experiences to society.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
VISIT IFA2020.ORG

