



Elder Abuse

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Elder abuse

- ▶ Definition of abuse varies depending on different countries, ethnic groups and cultures
- ▶ Broadly defined as mistreatment of older people, either intentionally or unintentionally, that causes harm or potential harm



Types of Abuse

- ▶ Physical Abuse
- ▶ Psychological Abuse
- ▶ Financial Abuse
- ▶ Neglect



Adult Protective Services

- ▶ Outline risk
- ▶ Definition
- ▶ Reporting
- ▶ Protection
- ▶ Penal code 368



Theories of Elder Abuse

Ageism

Family Violence Theory

Violence is a learned behavior

Transgenerational abuse



Theories of Elder Abuse

Dependency Theory

Physical Dependence triggers abuse

Caregiver stress theory

Stress of role fatigue

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Victims and Abusers

Victims (Abused)

White Women - older than 75 years old

Abusers

Most commonly a relative

Health Professional's Responsibilities

1. Educate the public about the normal aging process
2. Be alert to signs of abuse and neglect
 1. Elderly usually do not report the abuse
3. Mandated by law to report ASAP
 1. Verbal report by phone asap to adult abuse registry hotline: 1-800-451-5155
 2. Long-term care ombudsman at 714-479-0107 or 1-800-4024(CRISIS LINE)

FAILURE TO REPORT IS A MISDEMEANOR AND RESULTS IN PUNISHMENT
4. Assist overburdened caregivers in finding resources to relieve a stressful situation
 4. Caregivers need training and respite

Community Resources

- ▶ Mobility impaired transportation services
- ▶ Support groups
- ▶ Senior groups
- ▶ Senior centers
- ▶ Adult day health centers
- ▶ Respite care
- ▶ Home health care
- ▶ Churches/worship centers
- ▶ Meals on wheels
- ▶ Hospice care
- ▶ Companion services
- ▶ Hospital clinics

Orange County's Office on Aging

- ▶ Provides information about older adult services
- ▶ Phone number 1-800-510-2020
- ▶ www.officeonaging.ocgov.com

Legal Protection for the Vulnerable Aged

- ▶ Adult Protective services
- ▶ Conservatorship
- ▶ Guardianship
- ▶ Power of attorney
- ▶ Elderlaw attorney vs. estate law attorney

Planning in Legal aspects

- ▶ Elderlaw-Legal arrangements for older adults
- ▶ Estate Law – for Estate Planning

