

Mistreatment and Bullying Experienced by Older Adults: A Systematic Literature Review

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Introduction

This poster aims to present the results of a systematic review looking at older adults experience of help seeking (received or not) after they realized being mistreated or bullied.

Method

- ❖ Systematic review of English and French literature (2011-2016) on hinderers and facilitators experienced by older adults in mistreatment or bullying.
- ❖ Steps: **1)** keywords identification (a) English: **denunciation/denouncement/reporting/disclosure/revelation; abuse/violence/ mistreatment/neglect/bullying/ageism; elder/older/aged/senior/older people;** b) French : **personnes âgées/personnes âgées/aînés/vieux/vieillards; signalement/dénonciation/révélation; maltraitance/négligence/violence/intimidation/séVICES;**
2) Inclusion (data collection must include older adults voices) and exclusion criteria (hinderers or facilitators from professionals, public policy or legal point of view); **3)** selection of computerised data banks; **4)** Inventory of relevant titles according to keywords; **5)** Inter-judge validation on abstracts; **6)** analysis of articles.

The majority of deleted articles don’t address mistreatment or bullying from an older adults point

Results

- ❖ English data banks: total (n) = 1 141 and final (n)= 23 articles.
- ❖ French data banks: total (n)= 8 906 and final (n)= 0 article.
- ❖ 2 articles discuss briefly about the experience of older adults after they seek help ⁸⁻¹¹.
- ❖ Overall, there is a stronger collaboration from mistreated older adults who sought help (more than the ones sought by a 3rd party) and they are satisfied with the services received⁸.

Country of publication	Number of texts	Specific to immigrants	Domestic violence among older couples	Help seeking behaviors	Older adults experienced mistreatment
Canada	4 4-10-18-22	2 10-18		1 18	
United States	13 3-5-6-7-8-9-12-13-14-15-19-20- 23	5 5-12-13-14-15	2 13-20	7 3-6- 7-8-12-20-23	4 7-8-19-20
Ireland	3 1-11-17			1 17	1 11
Netherlands	1 16				
Hong Kong	1 21			1 21	1 21
Israel	1 2		1 2		1 2

Discussion/ Conclusion

Many authors and experts identify hinderers or facilitators for older adults but seldom are the studies presenting voices of older adults on the issue. This finding justifies a doctoral thesis focussing on these voices.

- ❖ Participants of a study said that they received emotional and moral support from their family, friends, volunteers and from statutory services¹¹.
- ❖ Factors that hinder older adults to seek help are strongly related to the cultural context, violence and domestic violence.
- ❖ The notion of fear has a silencing effect on older adults (fear that as they get older, their ability to make decisions and choices is being denied; fear of being neglected by their family and excluded from participating in social interactions; fear of being admitted to a nursing home against their will, of being institutionalized)¹.
- ❖ No article specifically addresses older adult bullying.

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