



## Research on mistreatment of older adults in Quebec:

summaries of scientific articles



### Aging Without Violence: The Role of Municipalities.

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#### REFERENCE

Malouin, D. and Girard, C. (1991). Aging Without Violence: The Role of the Municipalities. *Municipalité*, March-April, 4-6.

#### TEXT TYPE

**Format:** Scientific article

**Content:** Reflection

#### DISCUSSED THEMES

Definition, extent of the phenomenon, forms of mistreatment at home and in institutions, risk factors, perpetrator of mistreatment, consequences, barriers to reporting, intervention, burden and stress, role of municipalities, consultation.

#### GOAL OR RESEARCH QUESTION

This article aims at highlighting examples of consultation within the municipalities in connection with the phenomenon of violence against older people.

#### PROBLEM

Despite the aging of the population, little mention is made about the subject of violence against seniors. The symposium "Aging without violence" has brought together more than 600 people in Montreal in the fall of 1990. The extent of the phenomenon is substantial, it is necessary that the municipalities must take concrete steps in order to counteract it. A committee was appointed to address the issue of mistreatment on older adults and has tabled in October 1989, the report *Vieillir en toute liberté* (Aging freely). The violence would affect four percent of seniors aged 65 and over, and can take different forms: physical, psychological, physical and financial abuse as well as neglect.

#### METHODOLOGY

No methodology section is presented in this article.

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## RESULTS

Through examples of the municipality of St-Cuthbert where an action program was implemented and was aimed at increasing the sense of security of seniors, the Matawini and Montcalm regional county municipalities (RCMs) where an awareness day on the issue was held and the RCM of l'Assomption where various actors met for a round table on the issue, this article highlights the role of the municipalities with respect to seniors' rights. These roles are multiple and include, among others, applying existing regulations, applying fire prevention measures, monitoring health activities and tracking illegal activities, supporting the police service in establishing round tables, implementing a program to raise staff awareness, as well as adapting municipal services to seniors' needs.

## DISCUSSION

The discussion is included with the results above.

## CONCLUSION

The symposium "Aging without violence" was an essential step to counter violence and to take action. The creation of a Seniors' council, which would act as an intermediary between the levels of government and the groups concerned is one of the proposed recommendations. Moreover, consultation has emerged as a priority element to counteract the negative effects of violence.

## AVENUES FOR PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

The consolidation of links between various actors and working in consultation remain essential elements to minimize the consequences of violence toward older adults as well as to limit the expansion of the problem. This is a kind of safety net to protect seniors.

## DRAFTING DATE

July 02, 2014

