Aging In Rural Places

In western countries, our knowledge of ageing has been developed primarily through an urban lens with rural issues typically considered in relation to urban research, policy and programme outcomes. This title provides a much-needed corrective by focusing on diversity among rural communities. China, which is fast on its way to becoming the most powerful economic force in the world, has four unique characteristics that distinguish it from other countries in Asia: (1) The proportion of aging population is growing faster than that of Japan (the country previously recognized as having the fastest rate) and much faster than nations in western Europe. (2) An early arrival of an aging population before modernization has fully taken place, with social policy implications. It is certain that China will face a severely aged population before it has sufficient time and resources to establish an adequate social security and service system for older people. (3) There will be fluctuations in the total dependency ratio. The Chinese government estimates are that the country will reach a higher dependent burden earlier in the twenty-first century than was previously forecast. (4) The government’s fertility policy (single child per family) and its implementation has a strong influence on the aging process. Fewer children are being born, but with more elderly people a conflict arises between the objectives to limit population increase and yet maintain a balanced age structure (Peng and Guo 2001). The intersection of these fourfold factors means that the increased aging population is giving rise to serious concerns among Chinese social policy makers. There is a chronic lack of good resource materials that attempt to make sense of social policy in its relationship to examining the problems and possibilities of human aging grounded in an analysis of economic of social policy in China and impact on rural and urban spaces. Such analysis of China will be covered by conceptual, theoretical, and empirical approaches. The book will also discuss substantive topics of housing, community care, family care, pensions, and mental health. The book brings together a truly world class array of researchers to provide discussions of critical implications of aging social policy and the economic impact in China.

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How are the elderly who reside in rural areas affected by the social and physical context in which they live? Aging in Rural America addresses this question by pulling together the latest research and findings on rural older persons. Leading scholars review the latest information, highlight the controversies, and examine the methodological and substantive issues in current research. Following an introductory section that looks at the demographic characteristics of the rural elderly, the contributors survey issues related to resource development and look at the rural elderly in terms of their social needs, their economic contributions to communities, the development of senior centers as community focal points, and the need for transportation alternatives. Physical and mental health issues are
also explored in terms of social support and psychological consequences, health promotion, and mental service dilemmas. Finally, social supports such as formal long-term care, home and community care, informal supports, and family relations are examined. Aging in Rural America is of major interest to researchers, policymakers, and advanced students in the area. "This is a comprehensive collection characterized by high quality original essays and current data. . . . Strongly recommended for all programs in gerontology."

--Choice "Aging in Rural America, edited by C. Neil Bull, provides an excellent blend of review papers and original empirical studies examining aspects of aging in rural environments. The volume is an informative reader.... For those just beginning an exploration of rural aging, the volume will be especially useful because contributors have paid attention to construct definition. --Contemporary Gerontology "This well-organized collection of essays leaves little to criticize as it addresses the major research issues and focuses on a clearly defined area of research. . . . This volume admirably covers a broad range of salient research topics, with several chapters discussing services for the elderly." --Rural Development Perspectives

In reading Old, Female, and Rural, you'll discover just that--the reality concerning the daily living situations of the nation’s older female populations in rural places. This scholarly collection will help you and others dispel the romantic frontier myths of the stoic, tenacious, and independent rural woman. Instead, you'll find real direction for change in the statistics that truly reflect the older rural woman’s mental, physical, economical, and social existence. Old, Female, and Rural will show you stark realities concerning the older rural female’s economic well-being, intergenerational family relationships, health care and service delivery availability, and long-term care concerns. The candid demographic and epidemiological data you discover in this book will not only expose the myths for what they are, but also allow you and others to transform the myths into daily realities of better policies and better living standards for the women who belong to this population subgroup. Specifically, you’ll read about: one woman’s subjective evaluation of growing old in a rural area rural women’s experiences of accessing health care the economic well-being of women aging in nonmetro areas changes in the informal support networks of women aging in the rural southwest a comprehensive synthesis of the above isolated topics, which provides future implications for research, education, and policy While the legends of the old American frontier have died, the older female populations in America’s rural areas live on--and they deal with some very challenging realities. Old, Female, and Rural takes you into the homes, lives, and minds of this complex and unique subgroup of America’s elders and points you and public administrators, government officials, educators, and civil servants toward the unsettled frontier of real social change.

Includes case study of Andhra Pradesh.

Learn the skills you need to work with geriatric populations in rural areas!
Gerontological Social Work in Rural Towns and Communities provides a range of intervention and community skills aimed precisely at the needs of rural elders. This book fills a gap in the literature by focusing on the specific practice concerns for social workers assisting older adults in rural areas, including the aging experience, social worker skills, professional functions, working with special populations, and health and long-term care concerns. This valuable resource will benefit social workers, gerontologists, allied health professionals in rural areas, health and human services administrators and managers. Gerontological Social Work in Rural Towns and Communities explores the challenges social workers need to overcome when working with the elder community in rural areas. This book's significance to social workers will only increase as more adults choose to live and grow old away from the cities. Experts in the field suggest strategies to overcome barriers in planning and providing services such as: a longer distance for the elderly to travel to use social service centers a narrower range of available services in the local area increased poverty levels for the elderly a stronger dependency by elderly on family rather than public assistance This book is divided into five sections: Rurality and Aging--introduces the concept of rurality and examines the demographics of aging from a rural perspective Practice Dimensions of Social Work with Rural Elders--includes clinical practice models, intervention and advocacy techniques, program planning, and marketing approaches Special Populations--gives attention to four special population groups: indigenous elders, African-American older adults, elderly Latinos, and disabled elders Special Issues Pertaining to Rural Elders--covers five essential issues for rural gerontological social workers: health promotion, older workers and retirement preparation, aging in place, specialized housing, and ethical practice Training and Policy Recommendations--future training and education recommendations for social workers are explored, as well as service capacity building, the aging network, and the future of long-term care While a variety of theoretical perspectives are explored in Gerontological Social Work in Rural Towns and Communities, the book's empowerment orientation and strengths-based approach will enhance your abilities to improve quality of life for elderly individuals in rural communities. Each chapter contains a comprehensive review of the literature on the subject it addresses, and several chapters include tables and graphs to further establish their revealing empirical findings. An appendix provides additional sources to turn to for more information.

Aging in Rural Places

Programs, Policies, and Professional Practice

Springer Publishing Company

Americans are living longer, and the elder population is growing larger. To meet the ongoing need for quality information on elder health, the Encyclopedia of Aging and Public Health combines multiple perspectives to offer readers a more accurate and complete picture of the aging process. The book takes a biopsychosocial approach to the complexities of its subject. In-depth introductory chapters include coverage on a historical and demographic overview of aging in America, a guide to biological changes accompanying aging, an analysis of the diversity of the U.S. elder population, legal issues commonly affecting older adults, and the ethics of using cognitively impaired elders in research. From there, over 425 entries cover the gamut of topics, trends, diseases, and phenomena: -Specific populations, including ethnic minorities, custodial grandparents, and centenarians -Core medical conditions associated with aging, from
cardiac and pulmonary diseases to Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s - Mental and emotional disorders - Drugs/vitamins/alternative medicine - Disorders of the eyes, feet, and skin - Insomnia and sleep disorders; malnutrition and eating disorders - Sexual and gender-related concerns - And a broad array of social and political issues, including access to care, abuse/neglect, veterans’ affairs, and assisted suicide Entries on not-quite-elders’ concerns (e.g., midlife crisis, menopause) are featured as well. And all chapters and entries include references and resource lists. The Encyclopedia has been developed for maximum utility to clinicians, social workers, researchers, and public health professionals working with older adults. Its multidisciplinary coverage and scope of topics make this volume an invaluable reference for academic and public libraries.

This perceptive volume presents conceptual, theoretical, and empirical approaches to social policy analysis comparing China and Nordic countries in their treatment of the elderly. An international panel of experts offers valuable policy insights into issues of housing, community care, family care, pensions and social security, and mental health as China translates and adapts Western examples, particularly those set by Norway, Sweden, and Finland. The book contrasts shared issues in the contexts of economic history, accountability and service improvements, and sustainability while also examining specifically Chinese problems such as care gaps between urban and rural elders. Coverage also considers the centrality of aging policy in China as the nation works toward its long-term goal of eradicating poverty. Included among the topics: Building a welfare system with Chinese characteristics: from a residual type to moderate universalism. “Aging in community”: historical and comparative study of aging welfare and social policy. Sweden: aging welfare and social policy in the 21st century. Policy responses to aging: care services for the elderly in Norway. China’s elderly care policy and its future trends. Aging Welfare and Social Policy will interest professionals and researchers addressing questions of Chinese and comparative social policy, health psychologists, and sociologists focused on family, youth, and aging.

Rural America and the nation as a whole has entered a phase of significant demographic change, as the number of Americans over the age of 65 is estimated to double by 2050. Nebraska counties and the state are, too, experiencing this shift in the age demographic. As the population ages, consideration must be given to the housing options for older adults, specifically those who reside and wish to remain in rural areas. While broad consideration is given to either population aging or housing in rural areas, there is limited county level analysis adjoining these demographic and housing realities. This study connects these somewhat disparate concepts by providing a framework from which to consider housing for older adults in rural Nebraska counties. The concepts of housing affordability, accessibility and availability present an evaluation tool for the analysis of county level community data for Nebraska’s oldest aged rural counties that have populations with the greatest median age and percent of population over the age of 65, Scotts Bluff, Keith and Hooker Counties as compared to the state as a whole. Data, as collected from the US Census Bureau and state agencies is used to establish a set of variables for consideration and to present rural housing affordability, accessibility and availability for elders in the defined counties. Disparities in housing between the
counties and the state are evident, yet a consistent correlation between population age, rurality and housing does not emerge. Further framing the analysis is terminology and policy analysis critical to understanding concepts of an aging population and aging in place and within the context of a rural locality. The purpose of this study is to explore the distinct opportunities of aging in rural locations through the lens of housing for elders in rural Nebraska’s oldest aged counties.

The aged in Rural America

This fascinating book examines rural retirement migration from the older in-migrants’ perspective and from the vantage point of the destination communities to which they move. This integrated approach permits the authors to view older in-migrants as embedded in environments that facilitate and/or constrain their opportunities for productive living during older age. It also permits the examination of positive and negative effects of older in-migration for destination communities.

Learn the skills you need to work with geriatric populations in rural areas! Gerontological Social Work in Rural Towns and Communities provides a range of intervention and community skills aimed precisely at the needs of rural elders. This book fills a gap in the literature by focusing on the specific practice concerns for social workers assisting older adults in rural areas, including the aging experience, social worker skills, professional functions, working with special populations, and health and long-term care concerns. This valuable resource will benefit social workers, gerontologists, allied health professionals in rural areas, health and human services administrators and managers. Gerontological Social Work in Rural Towns and Communities explores the challenges social workers need to overcome when working with the elder community in rural areas. This book’s significance to social workers will only increase as more adults choose to live and grow old away from the cities. Experts in the field suggest strategies to overcome barriers in planning and providing services such as: a longer distance for the elderly to travel to use social service centers a narrower range of available services in the local area increased poverty levels for the elderly a stronger dependency by elderly on family rather than public assistance This book is divided into five sections: Rurality and Aging—introduces the concept of rurality and examines the demographics of aging from a rural perspective Practice Dimensions of Social Work with Rural Elders—includes clinical practice models, intervention and advocacy techniques, program planning, and marketing approaches Special Populations—gives attention to four special population groups: indigenous elders, African-American older adults, elderly Latinos, and disabled elders Special Issues Pertaining to Rural Elders—covers five essential issues for rural gerontological social workers: health promotion, older workers and retirement preparation, aging in place, specialized housing, and ethical practice Training and Policy Recommendations—future training and education recommendations for social workers are explored, as well as service capacity
building, the aging network, and the future of long-term care. While a variety of theoretical perspectives are explored in Gerontological Social Work in Rural Towns and Communities, the book’s empowerment orientation and strengths-based approach will enhance your abilities to improve quality of life for elderly individuals in rural communities. Each chapter contains a comprehensive review of the literature on the subject it addresses, and several chapters include tables and graphs to further establish their revealing empirical findings. An appendix provides additional sources to turn to for more information.

Major concepts. Aging-in-place and political economy of aging in a rural area. This book investigates sociological, demographic and geographic aspects of aging in rural and nonmetropolitan areas of the United States. Population aging is one of the most important trends of the 20th and 21st centuries, and it is occurring worldwide, especially in more developed countries such as the United States. Population aging is more rapid in rural than urban areas of the U.S. In 2010, 15 percent of the nonmetropolitan compared to 12 percent of the metropolitan population were 65 years of age and older. By definition rural communities have smaller sized populations, and more limited healthcare, transportation and other aging-relevant services than do urban areas. It is thus especially important to study and understand aging in rural environments. Rural Aging in 21st Century America contributes evidence-based, policy-relevant information on rural aging in the U.S. A primary objective of the book is to improve understanding of what makes the experience of rural aging different from aging in urban areas and to increase understanding of the aged change the nature of rural places. The book addresses unique features of rural aging across economic, racial/ethnic, migration and other structures and patterns, all with a focus on debunking myths about rural aging and to emphasize opportunities and challenges that rural places and older people experience.

This Is The Age Of Aging, Demographically It Is Understood Due To Low Fertility And Mortality. Ageing Population Are More In Developing Countries And Rural Areas, And Old Population Is More In Developed And Urban Areas Because Of Advanced Medicare. The Demographic Transition Effectively Transforms The Various Regions Of Countries From Mature Societies To Ageing Societies.

The Handbook of Rural Aging goes beyond the perspective of a narrow range of health professions, disciplines, and community services that serve older adults in rural America to encompass the full range of perspectives and issues impacting the communities in which rural older adults live. Touching on such topics as work and voluntarism, technology, transportation, housing, the environment, social participation, and the delivery of health and community services, this reference work addresses the full breadth and scope of factors impacting the lives of rural elders with contributions from recognized scholars, administrators, and researchers. This Handbook buttresses a widespread movement to garner more attention for rural America in policy matters and decisions, while also elevating awareness of the critical circumstances facing rural elders and those who serve them. Merging demographic, economic, social, cultural, health, environmental, and political perspectives, it will be an essential reference source for library professionals, researchers, educators, students, program and community administrators, and practitioners with a combined interest in rural issues and aging. This book provides an underexplored view of ageing, one that conceives older people as valuable resources in their communities, as active citizens with both voice, and an agency that includes the capacity for resistance. It acknowledges that becoming old with dignity means also paying attention to caring, good health services and the possibility of good death. The book defines age and ageing as multiple, culturally and historically constructed phenomena that are only loosely connected to the years of one’s life. In focusing on the peripheral North
located in the Nordic, Canadian and Russian north, it highlights important questions and viewpoints that can be found and adapted to other rural areas. The book answers the following questions: What is the relevance of legislation and international legal agreements in ensuring the rights of elderly people under political and economic changes? What challenges do geographic isolation, changing age structure, and cultural and ecological transformations pose to possibilities for meeting older people’s needs for engagement in society as well as for their care? As such this book will be of interest to all those working in population aging.

This book describes a wide-ranging set of research approaches which have been used to study the health care problems of adults living in rural areas. It shows how these approaches can be used to define health care problems, measure levels of illness and health, and evaluate health care practices. For each approach, contributors provide a theoretical background from the health care delivery literature, details of how it can be carried out in the field, its strengths and weaknesses, and illustrative examples from both the literature and their own work.

Seniors in rural areas are vastly under-researched compared to their urban counterparts. This innovative book offers a unique interdisciplinary perspective on this issue, focusing on seniors’ roles as assets in rural civic society. The authors examine the ways in which rural elders are connected to community and place, the contributions they make to family and neighbors, and the organizations and groups to which they belong. They explore topics such as financial security, leisure, access to services, mobility, civic engagement, and digital inclusion, offering a comprehensive look at the lives of older people that challenges problem-focused views of aging in rural areas.

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