

and existing literature, further exploration of age group differences should be considered.

#### RETIREMENT FINANCIAL PLANING AND LIFE SATISFACTION

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Abstract#8232; Retirement has been considered as a major transition in one's life. Financial security in retirement is a major concern for many Americans. Evidence has shown that being financially#8232;prepared for retirement could have a significant, positive impact on one's life satisfaction. Employing data from the 2012 and 2018 National Financial Capability Study (N=1023), this#8232;study analyzes the relationship between participants' retirement planning in 2012 and their financial satisfaction in 2018. An Ordinary Least Squares regression is used in the current study.#8232;This study found relatively low retirement preparedness levels (retirement planning, retirement#8232;saving, retirement plan: employer-based or individually held, investment) among the participants#8232;in 2012. Based on the descriptive results, adults closest to retirement (ages 55 to 64) are more#8232;likely to be planning compared to the other groups, as are adults who were married, highly#8232;educated, males, and white. According to the liner regression results, this study found that adults#8232;who had a retirement savings goal, had a retirement plan (employer- based or individually held),#8232;made regular contributions to retirement plans, and owned investments in 2012 are more likely#8232;to be satisfied with their personal financial condition in 2018. As expected, individuals with#8232;higher incomes, larger net worth, and those who are older are significantly more likely to be#8232;financially satisfied. However, even after controlling for these variables, results show that planning#8232;does indeed impact the level of financial satisfaction. Our findings highlight the importance of#8232;policies and programs to support Americans with retirement planning.

### Session 9010 (Poster)

#### Ageism and Attitudes Toward Aging

##### AN AGING NURSING WORKFORCE: THEMATIC ANALYSIS FROM THE NURSTORY PROJECT

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Background: Nursing in the United States of America is an aging workforce. This study sought to better understand the lived experience of aging nurses. Because nurses work in systems where other forms of interpersonal power dynamics may influence internalized and external stereotype an approach based on intersectional theory was applied. Methods: A qualitative thematic narrative analysis of an existing data set of first-person digital stories in the Nurstory project, authored by a group of nurses, was the data source. An emergent coding method was applied. The collection of five digital stories were analyzed. Results: All stories were first person accounts of experiences that represented their internalized reflections and elements of ageism in how their age

interacted with their work environment. Dominant themes included: 1) Role constriction 2) Strength 3) Tired and (re) Tired 4) Age perceived and 5) Loneliness. Conclusions: These aging nursing stories add to the contextual layers of the aging healthcare workplace and aging nursing workforce. These individual experiences offer a nuanced understanding of the internalized responses to aging and ageism. These stories highlight socially constructed and socially reinforced attitudes that are complicated by the personal and occupational expectations of nurse's work, their role and embedded hierarchies in healthcare. Stories such as these are important individual and collective indicators of lived experiences that offer a deeper understanding into the intersections of social identity and aging, that when listened to, can offer insight and a way forward in addressing the stereotype, discrimination and social inequities of ageism.

##### ASSESSING FRONTLINE PERSONNEL'S RECOGNITION OF AND RESPONSE TO CASES OF ABUSE IN LATER LIFE

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Abuse in later life is experienced by 10% of adults over age 60 (Acierno et al., 2010). Unfortunately, it is estimated that for every one reported case, around 20 remain unreported (APA, 2012). A primary reason for this disparity is the absence of training provided to professionals working at the frontline of elder abuse, such as law enforcement professionals, health care professionals, and aging and victim service providers (e.g., Rose et al., 2016). This leaves the workforce best positioned to intervene in cases of abuse in later life lacking knowledge around what constitutes the different types of abuse and what they should do if they suspect abuse (Rosen et al., 2018). A critical first step to developing the evidence-based training needed to reconcile this gap is to gain a better understanding of the current landscape within this workforce. This qualitative study explored the knowledge and attitudes towards abuse in later life as well as current practices and policies for reporting abuse among law enforcement professionals (n = 1), health care professionals (n = 2), and aging (n = 5) and victim (n = 4) service providers. Participants (N = 12) represented urban (n = 4), suburban (n = 5), and rural settings (n = 2). Themes emerging from the focus groups highlight a number of barriers to identifying and reporting abuse for professionals in each discipline. Our findings also provide strong evidence of the need to intervene and diminish the impact ageist attitudes and behaviors can have on older adults.

##### COLLEGE STUDENTS LIFE COURSE DRAWINGS AND THEIR DESCRIPTIONS

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Drawing as a qualitative method has been employed to elicit views on aging. The subject matter of the drawings, without an explanation from participants, can be misinterpreted. Therefore, in this research, we explored college students' drawings of the life course and the extent to which the content of these drawings corresponded to their written descriptions. A content analysis was performed on 524 college students' life course drawings and their descriptions. Participants drew, on average, five life stages. The majority (75%) of the human beings represented were alone in each life stage. Twelve percent of the drawings were non-human representations of the life course (e.g., flower, tree). The majority of the images (85%) included in the drawings were not mentioned in the written descriptions, for example, hair changes (e.g., from long and straight to curly and short for women). Some physical characteristics (e.g., wrinkles [29%], hunched back [22%]) and some contexts (e.g., tombstones [37%], nursing home [100%]) were present in both the drawing and descriptions. Findings highlight which ideas associated with aging participants thought needed an explanation and which they might have seen as intrinsic to aging, warranting no explanation, emphasizing the importance of examining both drawn and written content when using drawing as a method in aging research. A more thorough and precise examination of the beliefs and perceptions of college students, who will serve as future professionals working with older adults, allows for the development of educational and engagement strategies that accurately target commonly held misperceptions regarding aging.

**NARRATIVE IMAGINATION: DISMANTLING OLD AGE THROUGH THE LITERARY FOODSCAPE IN LORE SEGAL'S "THE ARBUS FACTOR"**

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Being able to take another person's perspective and understanding the Other is a crucial element of reading, understanding, and processing literature. Especially in the context of old age, many literary texts play into the culturally constructed (cf. Gullette 2004) and biased understanding of old age as decline narrative, rather than reading an old person's story as a narrative of possibility. In her short story "The Arbus Factor" which was first published in *The New Yorker* in 2007, Lore Segal offers a different perspective on aging. Through creating a space, coming into existence through foodways and food practices, which in my dissertation I will refer to as 'literary foodscape,' she offers a setting and backdrop for the characters to construct a discourse of possibility, creation, and new opportunities at a later stage in life. Segal wittily dismantles age-related stereotypes and opens up a discourse that goes beyond an easy categorization. This paper is going to analyze the ways in which a literary text, through the 'literary foodscape' is able to rewrite a culturally engrained perspective, and offers a different and more accurate understanding of what it means to be old. Gullette, Margaret Morganroth. *Aged By Culture*. The University of Chicago Press. 2004.

**TOWARD INTERVENTIONS TO REDUCE INTERNALIZED AGEISM**

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Ageism is an insidious form of injustice that is internalized from an early age with accumulating negative health impacts across the lifespan. Internalized ageism is associated with numerous public health outcomes, including physical and mental health, functional impairment, cognition, cardiovascular stress, hospitalizations, and longevity. Research has begun to document how ageism negatively impacts health through psychological, behavioral, and physiological pathways. Yet, limited research has addressed interventions to reduce internalized ageism. This study integrates stereotype embodiment theory, theories of successful and productive aging, and recent scholarly literature to present a conceptual model with potential downstream, midstream, and upstream interventions at micro, meso, and macro levels. Micro interventions include: social, physical, and cognitive engagement, as well as stress management. Meso interventions include: education, intergenerational contact, and narrative reframing. Macro interventions include anti-ageism policy, such as amendments to the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA). The conceptual model is described in detail, and implications for practitioners are discussed. The need to examine how policy influences health through the three pathways in stereotype embodiment theory is discussed. This study provides a working model for scholars and practitioners to use when considering paths toward reducing internalized ageism and optimizing well-being for aging adults.

**Session 9015 (Poster)**

**Ageism and COVID-19**

**"ESPECIALLY FOR PEOPLE OUR AGE": EXPLORING THE CORRELATES OF AGEISM DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

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The COVID-19 pandemic has presented an unprecedented context for older adults where they may feel patronized, isolated, and fearful because of their greater risk of getting COVID-19 and being targets of ageism. Previous researchers have linked ageism negatively with health and well-being; although, the majority of this research has highlighted the negative, or hostile, aspects of ageism, and excluded the overaccommodative and patronizing qualities of benevolent ageism. Since the start of the pandemic, both forms of ageism have been noted to be more salient with claims of an ageism outbreak (Ayalon et al., 2020). The correlates of ageism during the COVID-19 pandemic are widely unknown, and the goal of this study was to explore whether experiences of ageism were related to different affective and health-related responses to the pandemic. In a sample of older adults (N=65) collected in September 2020, we found that benevolent ageism positively correlated with pandemic specific experiences of pity ( $r=.27, p<.05$ ), loneliness ( $r=.30$ ,