

awareness-raising on the role of reporting and how to ask for help. Relatives, friends, and caretakers need to be trained in preventing and early recognizing online fraud impacting older adults.

MULTI-METHOD EXAMINATION OF ELDER MISTREATMENT IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

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A multi-method study exposed COVID-19 influence on the pre-existing epidemic of elder mistreatment in Utah. We found changes in 1) abuse types, 2) service responses, 3) firearm access and 4) policy implications. Gun sales were tracked by news surveillance and FBI National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) for pre-pandemic (2018/2019) and pandemic years (2020/2021). New requests for permits skyrocketed during the pandemic. The 2021 Utah State Legislature loosened restrictions on concealed permits. Domestic violence (DV) Fatality Tracker Data in pre-covid years were compared to 2020-2021. A figure illustrates the prevalence of DV fatalities, ages of victims by year and methods used. We conducted 15 in-depth interviews of stake holders who serve DV victims (shelters, police, etc.). DV shelters had a relative lack of children during the pandemic, but increased use by older persons 60+. Susceptibility to chronic respiratory distress syndrome, required social distance for older persons. DV shelters obtained CARES Act funds to adapt solutions, like placing victims in hotel rooms. Most victims stayed at home, confined with abuser(s), some without technology, so isolation decreased their safety. Evidence suggests some fatalities among elder adults. A case study during the pandemic described a 73-year-old mother's suspicious bank account activity. Bank employees sent police to her home. She was missing, but her co-resident adult son was in possession of her bank cards. She was later found in a shallow grave. Utah households have increased risks of DV fatalities in the wake of the pandemic and for years to come.

SUSCEPTIBILITY TO COVID-19 SCAMS: DOES AGE MATTER?

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The COVID-19 pandemic has lead to a worldwide surge in COVID-19 related mass marketing scams. While COVID-19 poses higher health risks for older adults, it is unknown whether older adults are also facing higher financial risks as a result of such scams. Thus, the present study examined age differences in vulnerability to COVID-19 scams and factors that might help explain them. In June 2020, 68 younger (18 – 40 years, M = 25.67, SD = 5.93), 79 middle-aged (41 – 64 years, M = 49.86, SD = 7.20), and 63 older adults (65 – 84 years, M = 69.87, SD = 4.50) were recruited through Prolific. Participants responded to five COVID-19 solicitations, psychological measures, and demographic questions. Across solicitations, older adults perceived COVID-19 solicitations to offer significantly fewer benefits

than both younger and middle-aged adults did. However, age groups neither differed in their perception of the solicitations' risks and genuineness nor in their willingness to act in response to COVID-19 solicitations. Overall, intentions to respond to COVID-19 solicitations were positively predicted by higher levels of educational attainment, a previous history of fraud victimization, and higher levels of positive urgency. As expected, stronger genuineness and benefit perceptions positively predicted action intentions, whereas stronger risk perceptions negatively predicted action intentions. Older adults did not exhibit greater vulnerability to COVID-19 solicitations: If anything, they were more skeptical of the benefits associated with these solicitations. Irrespective of age, risk, benefit, and genuineness perceptions were the key factors associated with intention to respond to solicitations.

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH CONSEQUENCES OF ELDER ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN SHELTERED HOMES

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Background: Psychological health effects of elder abuse and neglect in sheltered homes are unknown. Objectives: The objective of the present study was to determine if several types of elder abuse were related to an increased likelihood of negative psychological health. Methods: Data were derived from the elder mistreatment in sheltered homes project, a cross-sectional study conducted in 2018 that included 446 older adults living in 43 sheltered homes. A face-to-face interview was carried out to complete structured questionnaires for participants to assess the psychological health effects of different subtypes of elder abuse. Results: All subtypes of elder abuse were significantly associated with increased prevalence rates of depressive symptoms and sleep problems. Similarly, all subtypes except physical abuse were associated with higher rates of anxiety symptoms. In multivariate regression analysis, Older adults who reported physical mistreatment were three times more likely to experience suicidal ideation (OR=3.28, 95% CI=1.14 to 9.44), while no other subtypes were significantly associated with suicidal ideation. Older adults who report at least one type of abuse were eight times more likely to have depressive symptoms (OR=7.99, 95% CI=4.43 to 14.41), twice as likely to screen positive for anxiety symptoms (OR=2.05, 95% CI=1.20 to 3.49), three times more likely to have sleep problems (OR=3.20, 95% (CI=1.78 to 5.75). All subtypes of abuse were significantly associated with the presence of depressive symptoms, sleep problems, and anxiety symptoms except physical mistreatment. Conclusion: Abuse is common among older adults living in sheltered homes and is associated with negative impacts on psychological health.

Session 9235 (Poster)

Emotions in Older Populations

AGE DIFFERENCES IN AWE AMONG YOUNG, MIDDLE-AGED, AND OLDER ADULTS: EXTENSIONS OF SOCIOEMOTIONAL SELECTIVITY THEORY
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