Caravan

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE REFRAMING AGING INITIATIVE

Welcome to the latest edition of ***Caravan***. This bi-monthly newsletter shares information, ideas, and inspiration to help our fellow travelers on our journey to improve the public's understanding of what aging means and the contributions older people bring to society.

Climb aboard the Caravan! For the latest news and updates, follow us on Twitter.

News + Articles

ADDRESSING EVERYDAY AGEISM

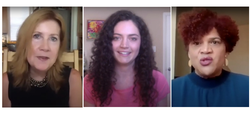
Four in five older Americans experience at least one form of ageism on a daily basis, according to a recent University of Michigan National Poll on Healthy Aging. The poll, which garnered national attention, highlights the prevalence of discrimination and harmful stereotyping based on age in our society today. It also shows how critical our work with the Reframing Aging Initiative is.

The everyday ageism that 82 percent of adults age 50 and older said they experience includes encountering ageist messaging (such as hearing, seeing, and/or reading jokes about old age, aging, or older people) or interpersonal ageism (such as other people assuming they have difficulty using cell phones or computers). But as James Appleby, CEO of The Gerontological Society of America (GSA), wrote, "Ageism Is Rampant, Poll Confirms, But We Can Fight It Together." And you can watch an archived webinar, hosted by the Reframing Aging Initiative, featuring the researchers who worked on the poll sharing information with our facilitators.

For more details about the University of Michigan poll, read the press release or visit the poll website to download a PDF of the full report.

CHANGING THE NARRATIVE AND PBS12 TEAM UP FOR INTERGENERATIONAL VIDEO SERIES

Three Reframing Aging Initiative facilitators recently appeared in an innovative, intergenerational video conversation series on PBS 12 in Colorado titled On the Same Page. The series was the result of a partnership between the local PBS station and Changing the Narrative (CTN), a strategic communications and awareness campaign to increase understanding of ageism and shift how Coloradans think about aging. Kudos to CTN Director Janine Vanderburg; Kristine Burrows, Director of Older Adult Services, Easter Seals of Colorado; and Stephanie Knight, Executive Director for The Senior Hub—three facilitators who participated in the six-part series. You can view all six episodes on CTN's website.



BUILDING MOMENTUM FOR A NEW FUTURE IN POLITICS AND AGING

With the November elections fast approaching, the latest issue of GSA's *Public Policy & Aging Report* focuses on the timely topic, Building Momentum for a New Future in Politics and Aging. And while you're there, check out Reframing Aging Initiative Program Director Patricia M. D'Antonio's article, Reframing Aging in Contemporary Politics: Building Momentum.

GSA, AGS ISSUE REFRAMING AGING JOURNAL MANUSCRIPT GUIDELINES

GSA and the American Geriatrics Society (AGS) have each adopted manuscript guidelines for their journals that incorporate the principles of reframing aging and bias-free language. GSA is requesting that all journal contributors review the Reframing Aging Journal Manuscript Guidelines. The AGS guidelines can be found in ***JAGS, Annals of Long-Term Care, Geriatric Nursing***, and the ***Journal of Gerontological Nursing***. The guidelines align with recent style guide updates adopted by the American Medical Association Manual of Style, the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, and the Associated Press Stylebook.

What We're Reading

We're thrilled to see how many strong voices are being raised to counter ageist tropes that have sprouted like weeds during the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are just a few powerful and persuasive examples:

Congress Must Deliver COVID Relief for Older Adults and Caregivers, Groups Urge

Six nonprofit organizations and associations focused on aging signed a joint letter calling on Congress and the administration to enact COVID-19 relief measures that safeguard older adults and care workers. For more, read: Aging services leaders issue urgent plea for federal plan to end 'national nightmare' of COVID-19.

A Pandemic Lockdown Just for Older People? No!

Proposals to isolate and lockdown adults age 65 and older until a COVID-19 vaccine is found have gained some traction among economists and scholars. Chris Farrell writes: "Orwellian age-based segregation will undermine the economy's vitality, betray society's values and won't contain the virus."

Older Adults and COVID-19: Implications for Aging Policy and Practice

Thanks to the *Journal of Aging* and *Social Policy* for devoting an entire issue to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on older adults. The article "Six Propositions against Ageism in the COVID-19 Pandemic" counters ageist, unjustified, and unethical policy measures that devalue the lives of older adults.

Journal Editors Speak Up Against Ageism During the Pandemic

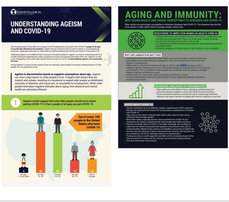
Editors of the nation's leading journals in geriatrics and gerontology have issued a forceful joint statement countering "the emergence of an ageist bias towards older adults as part of the response and public discourse" during the pandemic. Read: COVID-19 Pandemic and Ageism: A Call for Humanitarian Care

Panel Discusses Ageism and COVID-19

Richard Eisenberg writes about the highlights of a recent Longevity Project Zoomcast titled, A New Ageism? Fallout from the Pandemic.

Resources

NEW INFOGRAPHICS ON COVID-19 AND AGING AND AGING AND IMMUNITY AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH.



REFRAMING AGING: A PRIMER FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Watch an archived recording of our webinar, Reframing Aging in the Age of Covid-19: A Primer for Health Care Professionals. Moira O'Neil, PhD, vice president of our partner the FrameWorks Institute, offers four ways that health care professionals can talk about their work without reinforcing negative cultural models. You also can download a PDF of the webinar slides.

The Reframing Aging Initiative is a long-term social change endeavor designed to improve the public's understanding of what aging means and the many ways that older people contribute to our society. This greater understanding will counter ageism and guide our nation's approach to ensuring supportive policies and programs for us all as we move through the life course. The initiative is directed by The Gerontological Society of America on behalf of the Leaders of Aging Organizations.

Learn more at **www.reframingaging.org**.

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