

ADVOCACY FOR SENIORS --> "ELDER ABUSE AND THE ELDER JUSTICE MOVEMENT"

To help change elderly isolation and negligence

WHAT MOVEMENT? WHAT PROBLEM?

- Became a “thing” in 1970s
- Not typical movement (no specific incident ignited it)
- About 10% of elderly (people ages 60+) experience elderly abuse in some form or another
- That makes about 5 million cases per year
 - Of those 1 in 14 are reported to authorities
- In 60% of cases, a family member is perpetrating with the other $\frac{2}{3}$ being young adult or spouse



PROBLEM (CONT'D)

- Not all “classic” signs of abuse
- Physical (neglect) - bruises, pressure marks, abrasions, burns and broken bones
- Emotional - no normal activity → change in alertness and/or depression, tense relationships/arguments → weakness
- Financial
- Verbal/emotional - lies, threats, undue influence, duress



WHO MUST CHANGE?

- Caregivers
- Family and friends
- Facilities and care homes
- Society (all non-elders)
- <http://da.co.la.ca.us/seniors>



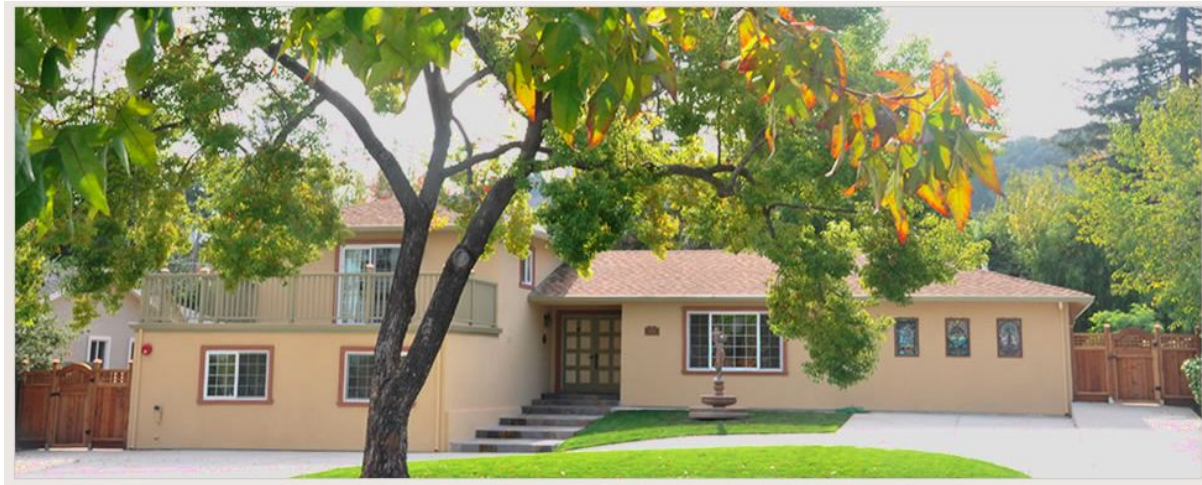
WHY?

- A call for equality
- A world where company and proper care for the elderly is not a privilege
- Seniors have a lot to give to the world
- 300% higher risk of death, and elder financial abuse in US → 2,9-36.5 billion each year
- Every living human being has something to contribute

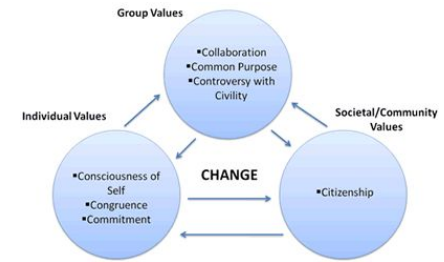


WHY IS THIS AN IMPORTANT PROBLEM TO ME?

- My personal @ Blossom Hill Gardens
- Negligence and isolation so common
- “Oh they are pretty much dead”, “They got nothing left to give”
- <http://www.blossomhillgardens.com/>
- Family, friends, visitors, activities (use brain)
- Has helped me understand aging and it's unpredictability



SCM APPLIED- INDIVIDUAL, GROUP, AND SOCIETY



- Individual
 - Consciousness of self - what motivates you?
 - Congruence - behavior/actions consistent with deeply held beliefs
 - Commitment - motivation to serve (implies passion/investment)
- Group
 - Common purpose - work with shared goals and values, analysis of issue and work to be done
- Society
 - Citizenship (analyzed and conversed about in DLS) - the bigger goal, purpose → actions connected to society by trying to make positive change

ANOTHER C → CHANGE

- Legislation should continue to support and improve the lives of those least “able” (ex: Social Security)
- Volunteer at RCFE’s to be hands on in making a difference
- Business analysis (kinda like undercover boss) by administrators to find out the truth
- Donate to corporations that provide emotional support and visit care homes
- Take time to visit/call/contact your own family and friends → show them you care





1. Reach out to an organization (RCFE) that I can volunteer with in SLO
2. Try to create a branch of “Epion CBD” for the elderly, in order to deliver and support their needs in the most convenient (for them) and affordable (for them) way possible.
3. Donate to organizations who send emotional and mental support to RCFE’s for free in order to serve the common good.

COMPLEX IDENTITIES



- Age → since a young age



- Childhood family structure → my mom ran her own RCFE

SO WHAT

- We will all be old someday
- We care
- Everyone matters
- Never too late
- Sometimes an issue that is hard to discover
- We all have older family and friends



As a result, my experience in DLS has changed my Personal Leadership Philosophy...

I HAVE EVOLVE!! → LIKE POKEMON

- Greater insight on characteristics of leaders
- Controversy with civility and citizenship
- I am more understanding and considerate
- I feel ready to make social change!



REFERENCES

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK98805/>

<http://da.co.la.ca.us/seniors>

<http://www.blossomhillgardens.com/>

<https://www.ncoa.org/public-policy-action/elder-justice/elder-abuse-facts/>