

# DOMESTIC ABUSE IN LATER LIFE: A RESEARCH REVIEW

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with

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This chart highlights findings from a review of 54 studies published from 1988 to 2002. Studies focusing on younger victims of domestic violence, other forms of elder abuse, and those conducted outside the United States or Canada are excluded.

For the purposes of this review, domestic abuse in later life is defined as male and female victims 50 and older, abused by someone in a trusted, ongoing relationship such as spouse or partner, family member, and/or some caregivers.

## 1) Prevalence and Incidence

<b>Author(s), Pub. Date</b>	<b>Sample size and demographics</b>	<b>Type(s) of abuse covered</b>	<b>Selected finding(s) (page number/s in parentheses)</b>
Hudson and Carlson 1999 (a)	424 Caucasians, 318 African Americans, and 202 Native Americans aged 40+ (mean age 62) residing in six North	Elder abuse (not including neglect) as defined by a 1988 experts' taxonomy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 7.5% of 452 answering had been abused since turning 65. (195)</li><li>• 19.1% of 930 who answered said they had been abused at some time in their lives. (195)</li><li>• 6.2% of 917 answering said they had abused an elder. (195)</li></ul>

	Carolina counties		
Hudson, et al 1999 (b)	Interviews of 944 community dwelling persons in NC ages 40 – 93 years old. 424 White Americans; 318 African American; and 202 Native Americans. Half of the sample was aged 40-64, half 65+. Half were female, half male.	<p>“Elder mistreatment: destructive behavior that is directed toward an older adult, occurs within the context of a relationship connoting trust and is of sufficient intensity and/or frequency to produce harmful physical, psychological social and/or financial effects of unnecessary suffering, injury, pain, loss, and/or violation of human rights and poorer quality of life for the older adult.”</p> <p>“Elder abuse: aggressive or invasive behavior/action(s) or threats of same, inflicted on an older adult and resulting in harmful effects for the older adult.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Been abused at some time in life: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ White Americans 18%</li> <li>○ Native Americans 25.5%</li> <li>○ African Americans 16.6%</li> <li>○ Total 19.1% (924)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ever abused another person <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ White Americans 6.7%</li> <li>○ Native Americans 8.1%</li> <li>○ African Americans 4.3%</li> <li>○ Total 6.2% (924)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Abused after age 65 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ White Americans 7.7%</li> <li>○ Native Americans 4.3%</li> <li>○ African Americans 9.2%</li> <li>○ Total 7.5% (924)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ever abused an elder <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ White Americans 3.6%</li> <li>○ Native Americans 1.5%</li> <li>○ African Americans 0.3%</li> <li>○ Total 2.0% (924)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Mouton 1999	257 women ages 50 – 79 who participated in the Women’s Health Initiative in Newark, New Jersey	Physical assault or threat of assault by a spouse/partner or “someone important to you”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 31.9% (82) of the women had experienced domestic physical assault or threat at some time in their lives. (1175)</li> <li>• Thirty-one (15%) had been physically assaulted; 51 (22.6%) had been physically threatened. (1175)</li> <li>• Of those experiencing assault/threat, 11 (4.3%) were currently in an abusive relationship. (1176)</li> </ul>
NCEA National	APS reports and community “sentinel”	Physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional or psychological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimates 449,924 elderly persons, aged 60 and over, experienced abuse and/or neglect in</li> </ul>

Elder Abuse Incidence Study 1998	reports of abused and neglected persons age 60+ from 20 counties in 15 states in U.S.	abuse, neglect, abandonment, financial or material exploitation	domestic settings in 1996. (Standard error suggests an actual count of 210,900 to 688,948.) (4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only 21% of cases are reported to and substantiated by APS agencies. (4)</li> </ul>
Lachs, et al 1997 (a)	2,812 adults 65 and older from a stratified sample of residence types in Connecticut	Elder abuse (the willful infliction of physical pain, injury, or mental anguish, or the willful deprivation by a caretaker of services necessary to maintain physical and mental health); neglect (an elderly person who is not able to provide self the services necessary to maintain physical and mental health, or who is not receiving those services from a responsible caretaker); exploitation (taking advantage of an older adult for monetary gain or profit). Self-neglect cases were excluded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 47 (1.6%) elders had been abused, neglected, or exploited within a nine-year period. (471)</li> </ul>
Harris 1996	5168 couples 19+ from the 1985 U.S. National Family Violence Resurvey, separated into under 60 (4476) and 60+ (842)	Physical violence, defined as “an act carried out with the intention or perceived intention of causing physical pain or injury to another person”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18.2% of couples under age 60 and 5.8% of couples aged 60+ experienced physical violence in their relationship within the past year. (13)</li> <li>• “More than half of the older respondents reported that spousal abuse began more than 10 years ago. 40% of this group reported the first incidence of violence occurred 25 or more years ago.” (19)</li> </ul>
Pittaway 1993	605 adults aged 55-100 who accessed health and social	Physical abuse (including sexual abuse), chronic verbal aggression, material abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The overall prevalence rate for all forms of abuse, physical, chronic, verbal aggression, attempted and actual material abuse, is 31.9%.</li> </ul>

	service organizations in London, Ontario during a 3-month period	(actual and attempted), and neglect (intentional and unintentional)	For intentional and unintentional neglect, it is 16.4%.” (89) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Just over a quarter (28.3%) of the sample, [sic] reported at least one form of physical violence over the lifetime.” (84)</li> </ul>
Podnieks 1992(a)	Random sample telephone survey of 2008 persons 65+ living in community settings in Canada	Physical abuse (measured by Conflict Tactics Scale); neglect (caregiver did not meet elder’s needs 2-10 times in past year); psychological abuse (insulted, sworn at, or threatened 10+ times in past year); financial exploitation (defined as <i>trying</i> to exploit, not necessarily succeeding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Estimated 98,000 – 137,000 elders abused in Canada.” (48)</li> <li>• “40 persons per 1,000 elderly population recently experienced some serious form of maltreatment in their own home, at the hands of a partner, relative, or significant others.” (5)</li> </ul>
Brown 1989	Random sample of 37 Southwest reservation-dwelling male and female Navajo aged 60+ , and their family members	5 types of neglect; 5 types of verbal/ psychological abuse; 4 types of physical abuse; financial exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59.4% of sample had experienced at least one form of abuse [time frame unspecified]. (24)</li> </ul>
Pillemer and Finkelhor 1988	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston, Massachusetts; 63 cases of elder abuse found	Physical assault since turning age 65; psychological abuse (“elderly person being insulted, sworn at, or threatened at least 10 or more times in the preceding year”); neglect (deprivation of some assistance the elder needed for important ADLs 10 or more times in the preceding year, or neglect “termed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Estimates between 701,000 and 1,093,560 abused elders in the nation.” (54)</li> <li>• Rate of 32 maltreated elderly per 1,000. (53)</li> </ul>

		somewhat or very serious by the respondent”)	
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## 2) Relationship Between Abuser/Abused

<b>Author(s), Pub. Date</b>	<b>Sample size and demographics</b>	<b>Type(s) of abuse covered</b>	<b>Selected finding(s) (page number/s in parentheses)</b>
Phillips, et al 2000	93 cases of women aged 55+ caring for dependent spouse or other elder family member	Being yelled or sworn at; verbally threatened; being pushed, grabbed, or shoved; having something thrown at them; being threatened by a gun or knife; having a gun or knife used on them – all by the elder for whom they were caring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29% of the caregivers had been abused by the elder they were caring for. (128)</li> <li>• Wives reported significantly more abuse than did daughters. (134)</li> </ul>
Teaster, et al 2000	42 substantiated cases of sexual abuse against persons 60+, collected over a 3-year period in Virginia	APS-substantiated cases of elder sexual abuse	<p>Relationship to victim included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family member in household (7.5%)</li> <li>• Non-relative in household (5.0%)</li> <li>• Non-relative living outside household (5.0%)</li> <li>• Facility staff (7.5%)</li> <li>• Facility resident (75%) (10)</li> </ul>
Brownell, et al 1999	401 cases of abuse of elders 60+ (with 404 identified abusers) known to Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center in New York City; subanalysis done of 218 abusers for whom mental health status was reported	Physical, psychological, financial abuse and neglect (one case of sexual abuse was counted as physical abuse)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 39% of abusers adult children (86)</li> <li>• 22% of abusers non-relatives (86)</li> <li>• 15% of abusers relatives other than child/spouse (86)</li> <li>• 8% of abusers partners/spouses (86)</li> </ul>

Crichton et al 1999	50 Canadians age 60+ abused by adult child; 50 abused by spouse from Elder Abuse Resource Center in Winnipeg	Agency-substantiated cases of physical, psychological, and material abuse; neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of 50 adult child cases, 34 perpetrators were sons, 19 daughters. (122)</li> <li>• Of 50 spouse cases, 43 perpetrators were husbands, 7 wives. (122)</li> </ul>
Lithwick and Beaulieu 1999	128 cases of mistreatment of adults aged 60+ brought to the attention of community service agencies in Quebec	Physical or sexual abuse; psychological abuse; financial and material exploitation; neglect (both active and passive) by family members and acquaintances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spouse was perpetrator in 48% cases; adult child in 30% of the cases. (101)</li> </ul>
Vladescu, et al 1999	26 abused elders (age limit unspecified) served between 1/1/97 and 1/1/99 by Seniors' Case Management program in Hamilton, Ontario; focus group of 3 case managers	Physical, psychological, and financial abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Son or daughter (including in-law) was abuser in 61.5% of cases. (13)</li> <li>• Spouse was abuser in 23.1% of cases. (13)</li> </ul>
Bachman, et al 1998	Data from National Crime Victimization Survey for 1992 – 1994, approximately 50,000 housing units and 101,000 persons annually.	Robbery and assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The majority of [assault] victimizations [for both younger and older men and women] are perpetrated by friends and acquaintances.” (193)</li> <li>• “Females...have a distinctive vulnerability to assault by intimates (husbands, boyfriends etc) and other family members. Approximately one-quarter of all lone-offender assaults against women were perpetrated by intimates or other family members.” (193)</li> </ul>
NCEA National	APS reports and community “sentinel”	Physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional or psychological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “[F]amily members were the perpetrators in nine out of ten (89.7%) substantiated incidents of</li> </ul>

Elder Abuse Incidence Study 1998	reports of abused and neglected persons age 60+ from 20 counties in 15 states in U.S.	abuse, neglect, abandonment, financial or material exploitation	domestic elder abuse and neglect.” Actual breakdowns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 47.3% adult children of victim</li> <li>○ 19.3% spouses</li> <li>○ 8.8% other relatives</li> <li>○ 8.6% grandchildren</li> <li>○ 5.7% siblings (7, 4-28)</li> </ul>
Otiniano 1998	24,648 Hispanic elders referred to the Texas APS system from 1991-1995	Cases referred to APS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The most common perpetrator was adult children (47.7%), followed by spouse (12.3%). (194)</li> </ul>
Lachs, et al 1997 (a)	2,812 adults 65 and older from a stratified sample of residence types in Connecticut; 47 were substantiated cases of abuse, neglect, or exploitation by someone else	Elder abuse (the willful infliction of physical pain, injury, or mental anguish, or the willful deprivation by a caretaker of services necessary to maintain physical and mental health); neglect (an elderly person who is not able to provide self the services necessary to maintain physical and mental health, or who is not receiving those services from a responsible caretaker); exploitation (taking advantage of an older adult for monetary gain or profit). Self-neglect cases were excluded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The most common perpetrators of mistreatment were adult children (45%), followed by spouses (26%). (471)</li> </ul>
Lachs, et al 1997 (b)	182 victims of physical abuse aged 60+ from New Haven, Connecticut	APS-substantiated cases of physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adult son was abuser in 28.9% of cases. (450)</li> <li>● Spouse was abuser in 26.8% of cases (450)</li> <li>● Adult daughter was abuser in 21.6% of cases (450)</li> </ul>

Wolf and Pillemer 1997	73 abused women aged 60+ from New York City, San Francisco, Honolulu, and Madison, Wisconsin. 22 were abused by husband, 51 by children (review of written case assessment data)	Physical abuse, psychological abuse, neglect, financial exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 57% of adult child abusers were sons; 43% were daughters. (328)</li> <li>• “[W]ives were more apt to experience physical abuse from their husbands than the mothers from the sons (77.3% vs. 48.3%).”<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>
Seaver 1996	132 women aged 50+ who have attended older abused women’s program in Milwaukee, WI	Unspecified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 58% of the abusers were husbands. (16)</li> <li>• 42% were adult children or other kin. (16)</li> </ul>
Pittaway 1993	605 adults aged 55-100 who accessed health and social service organizations in London, Ontario during a 3-month period	Physical abuse (including sexual abuse), chronic verbal aggression, material abuse (actual and attempted), and neglect (intentional and unintentional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Most physical abuse and all cases of sexual assault in later life are perpetrated by spouses.” (84)</li> <li>• “Spouses are the most common source of chronic verbal aggression.” (86)</li> </ul>
Vinton 1992	25 battered women’s shelters in Florida; “older” was defined as 60+	Unspecified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 95% of older women were battered by spouse; 3% by son; 2% by daughter, and 2% by other relative or nonrelative. (68)</li> </ul>
Podnieks 1992 (a)	Random sample telephone survey of 2008 persons 65+ living in community settings in Canada	Physical abuse (measured by Conflict Tactics Scale); neglect (caregiver did not meet elder’s needs 2-10 times in past year); psychological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of 11 physical abuse cases, spouse was the abuser in 9 cases, a son and a roomer the abuser in the other 2 cases. (26)</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> This quote was cut off in the version of the article published by the *Journal of Mental Health and Aging*. A paper including the rest of the quote was obtained directly from one of the authors; the quote was on page 7 of this version.

		abuse (insulted, sworn at, or threatened 10+ times in past year); financial exploitation (defined as <i>trying</i> to exploit, not necessarily succeeding)	
Ramsey-Klawnsnik 1991	28 community-dwelling older (ages 65 – 101) women suspected by MA APS workers of being sexually abused	APS suspicion elder was sexually abused	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “In 81% of the cases, the suspected offenders were caregivers, and 78% were family members (primarily sons and husbands.) (81)</li> <li>• Relationship to victim (n = 28) husband--7; boyfriend--1; son--11; grandson--1; brother--2; boarder--2; friend--1; distant relative--1; and unrelated caregiver--1 (81)</li> </ul>
Greenberg et al 1990	204 cases of abuse of person 60+ by adult child in Wisconsin	APS-substantiated cases of physical abuse, material abuse, and neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 61% of perpetrators were sons, 39% daughters. (77)</li> <li>• Dyads were 43% mother-son; 33% mother-daughter; 19% father-son; 5% father-daughter. (77)</li> <li>• 67% of father-son cases involved physical abuse. (78)</li> </ul>
Godkin, et al 1989	59 abused elders (60 years and older) compared to 49 non-abused elders, both served by a Massachusetts home care program	Physical, psychological, and material abuse; active and passive neglect by a caregiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In all but 12% of cases, the abuser was a family member. (212)</li> <li>○ Husbands were abusers in 25% of cases; sons in 23%, and daughters in 18.6% of cases. (212)</li> </ul>
Pillemer and Finkelhor <sup>2</sup> 1988	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston,	Physical assault since turning age 65; psychological abuse (“elderly person being insulted, sworn at, or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nearly three-fifths of the perpetrators were spouses (23 wives, 14 husbands); in 15 cases the abusers were adult children (10 sons, 5 daughters); and in 11 cases, the abusers were grandchildren,</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Pillemer and Finkelhor used the Conflict Tactics Scale, which not differentiate between levels of physical violence or identify the primary physical aggressor.

	Massachusetts; 63 cases of elder abuse found	threatened at least 10 or more times in the preceding year”); neglect (deprivation of some assistance the elder needed for important ADLs 10 or more times in the preceding year, or neglect “termed somewhat or very serious by the respondent”)	<p>siblings, or boarders. (54)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 43% of the physical violence cases were of wife assaulting husband, and 17% were of husband assaulting wife. (54)</li> <li>• “Many more elders were abused by spouses (58%) than adult children (contrary to predominant image).” (55)</li> <li>• “There were no statistically significant differences between spouse perpetrators and child perpetrators in the level of violence they inflicted, in the number of injuries they caused or in the degree of upset they engendered in their victims.” However, only 6% of males abused by wives were injured versus 57% of women abused by husbands, and the abused women were almost twice as likely as the abused men to be “very upset” by the abuse. (55-56)</li> </ul>
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### 3) Cultural Issues

<b>Author(s), Pub. Date</b>	<b>Sample size and demographics</b>	<b>Type(s) of abuse covered</b>	<b>Selected finding(s) (page number/s in parentheses)</b>
Moon and Benton 2000	Interviews of 100 African American, 95 Korean American and 90 white elders age 60 or older living in LA County, CA in 1997. Purposive and convenience sampling methods were used to find participants. 2/3	Physical, medical, verbal, psychological, financial, and neglect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In general, African Americans and White elderly had similar responses compared to Korean American elderly. (298)</li> <li>• “White elderly respondents were significantly more likely to tolerate verbal abuse than the other groups.” 30% of whites, 8.4% of Korean Americans, and 3% of African Americans said it was okay for adult children to occasionally yell at their parents. (293)</li> <li>• 45.3% of Korean Americans agreed it was okay for an adult child to use his parent’s money for</li> </ul>

	participants were female.		<p>himself, compared to 2.2% of whites and 2% of African Americans. (293)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 58.1% of Korean Americans, 37% of African Americans, and 24.4% of white elders believed elder abuse is committed mostly by mentally ill persons or substance abusers. (295)</li> <li>• “Korean American respondents were significantly more likely than respondents in the other groups to blame the victims for the occurrence of elder abuse.” (299)</li> <li>• “Korean American elderly respondents held significantly more negative attitudes toward involvement of persons outside the family in elder abuse incidents, as well as toward reporting of such incidents to the authorities and the consequences for perpetrators.” (299)</li> <li>• “[T]he majority of respondents from all 3 groups studied believed that incidents of elder abuse should not be reported to the authorities until they are absolutely sure that abuse has occurred.” (300)</li> <li>• “Ethnic-specific approach to public outreach and educational efforts may be more effective than a more general approach in increasing the awareness and understanding of elder abuse issues pertinent to each ethnic community.” (301)</li> <li>• “Public educational outreach efforts for prevention of and intervention in elder abuse should target recent immigrant populations who are not familiar with the American legal and social service systems related to elder abuse.” (301)</li> </ul>
Hudson and Carlson 1999 (a)	424 Caucasians, 318 African Americans, and 202 Native	Elder abuse (not including neglect)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “[Responding to 37 possible abuse scenarios,] [t]he Native Americans ranked [4] more items as abusive and 22 items at a higher level of abuse</li> </ul>

	Americans aged 40+ (mean age 62) residing in six North Carolina counties		severity than did the African Americans, who in turn rated [3] more items as abusive and 15 at a higher level of severity than did the Caucasians.” (196)
Hudson, et al 1999 (b)	Interviews of 944 community dwelling persons in NC ages 40 – 93 years old. 424 White Americans; 318 African American; and 202 Native Americans. Half of the sample was aged 40-64, half 65+. Half were female, half male.	<p>“Elder mistreatment: destructive behavior that is directed toward an older adult, occurs within the context of a relationship connoting trust and is of sufficient intensity and/or frequency to produce harmful physical, psychological social and/or financial effects of unnecessary suffering, injury, pain, loss, and/or violation of human rights and poorer quality of life for the older adult.”</p> <p>“Elder abuse: aggressive or invasive behavior/action(s) or threats of same, inflicted on an older adult and resulting in harmful effects for the older adult.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “[T]he majority of each of the groups indicated that one incidence of yelling or swearing at, slapping, or hitting an elder is sufficient to warrant the label of elder abuse. This view contrasts with the experts’ view...[that abuse must be] ‘of sufficient frequency and/or intensity.’” (925)</li> <li>• “What may not be perceived as abuse by a professional who represents one racial or cultural group, may well be perceived as such by the abuse participants who represent another racial or cultural group. The reverse may also be true.” (936)</li> </ul>
Moon and Evans-Campbell 1999	Interviews of 95 Korean-Americans and 90 Caucasian elders age 60 and over in Los Angeles	Awareness of formal or informal sources of help for elder mistreatment or abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Only 28% of Korean-Americans, compared to 62% of Caucasians, knew of an agency, organization, or a professional to turn to for help if they were abused or mistreated.” (8)</li> <li>• Of the 27 Korean Americans who knew of a professional source of help, 22 named Korean American agencies. The remaining 5 mentioned</li> </ul>

			<p>the police. (8-9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Over one-quarter of Korean Americans (28%) and 3% of Caucasians could not identify a signal source of help, informal or formal, to turn to if they were being abused.” (10)</li> <li>• “Most elderly respondents, regardless of ethnicity, would turn to an informal source of help, the police, or a general social service agency providing services to the elderly rather than APS.” (20)</li> </ul>
Sanchez 1999	62 individuals age 60+, Mexican immigrants or self-identified as Mexican-American, who participated in community centers in Detroit, Michigan, and Carson City, Nevada.	Physical abuse, neglect, financial abuse, and denial of shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Forty respondents (64.5%) indicated that they believe that parents are responsible for helping their children with issues of care for grandchildren and with providing money and other resources as needed and do not consider this exploitative.” (71)</li> <li>• “Conversely, 52 respondents (83.9%) believe that adult children are responsible for helping their parents with care issues and, if necessary, providing financial assistance to their parents.” (71)</li> <li>• If a neighbor were being mistreated, fewer than ¼ would report to authorities; more than half would talk to family members; the remainder would say nothing. (72)</li> <li>• If the elder themselves were being abused by a family member, two-thirds would discuss the problem with family members before contacting authorities. Only about 15% would contact authorities. (73)</li> <li>• “Admitting such abuse brings shame to the family.” (75)</li> </ul>
Tomita	Two focus groups of	Purpose of study was to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The primary Japanese approach to conflict is</li> </ul>

1999	Japanese-Americans (age unclear) and 25 interviews of Japanese Americans in Seattle and Hawaii, aged 65+, “who were willing to share their recollections and understanding of conflict and elder mistreatment in their families and communities”	“capture the Japanese American definitions of mistreatment” (120)	<p>“group above self,” leading to conflict avoidance and an acceptance of suffering. (125-136)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The cultural message is to protect the community by not revealing or discussing with outsiders anything that would dishonor it [including abuse].” (129)</li> </ul>
Anetzberger 1998	62 adults from Cleveland and Seattle, divided by racial group (European-American, African-American, Puerto Rican, and Japanese-Americans) and age (“baby boomer caregiver” and elders 60+)	“What are the three BEST things (in order of importance) that a family member can do for an elderly person?” “What are the three WORST things (in order with the worst thing first) that a family member can do to an elderly person?”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answers varied based on racial background. The worst thing for older European American and Puerto Ricans was psychological neglect. For older Japanese Americans and African-Americans, it was psychological abuse.</li> <li>• For the younger generations, Puerto Ricans and Japanese Americans said psychological abuse, but European Americans and African Americans named physical neglect as worst. (144)</li> <li>• 100% of the older Japanese Americans but only 28.6% of younger Japanese Americans said providing emotional support was the most important thing family members could offer elders. (144)</li> </ul>
Otiniano 1998	24,648 Hispanic elders referred to the Texas APS system from 1991-1995	Cases referred to APS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Reluctance of Hispanic victims to become involved in services to ameliorate their situation is a major barrier to effective intervention.” (194)</li> </ul>
Le 1997	20 Vietnamese age 60+, living in a house	Verbal, emotional, financial and physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victims were more likely than non-victims to be female, unable to speak English, and financially</li> </ul>

	headed by an adult child, at least somewhat dependent on child, in Southern California		<p>dependent on their child/ren. (57)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80% do not know how to report abuse; 70% would not want to complain about family mistreatment. (56)</li> <li>• Most of the respondents preferred to keep their problems to themselves because of their reluctance to reveal family problems and risk potential embarrassment and fear of raising conflicts among their children or relatives. (56-57)</li> </ul>
Griffin 1994	10 abused African Americans age 60+ and 6 of their perpetrators from 3 rural counties in North Carolina	APS-substantiated cases of financial exploitation (6), self-neglect (5), verbal abuse (2), and neglect (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “African-American perpetrators of elder abuse are adults involved in dependent, mutually beneficial relationships with elders. These relationships may involve emotional maltreatment of the adult children in the form of ‘encouraged’ infantilism.” (23)</li> </ul>
Moon and Williams 1993	30 African American, 30 Caucasian American and 30 Korean American women aged 60-75 in Minneapolis, Minnesota	Participants rated whether and how much 13 scenarios involved abuse. “The scenarios aimed to cover various dimensions of elder abuse or mistreatment, including physical, psychological, verbal, sexual, medical mistreatment, neglect, and financial exploitation.”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “[C]onsiderable ethnic group differences exist in the perceptions of elder abuse, and the Korean Americans on the average were less sensitive to or more tolerant of potentially abusive situations than the other two groups.” (389)</li> <li>• “The data...clearly indicate that perceiving a situation as abusive or problematic is a strong predictor of the person’s intention to seek help.” However, “the overall average percentage of those who would seek help was somewhat lower than the percentage of those who identified the scenarios as elder abuse cases.” (390-1)</li> <li>• Only 17.7% of the African-American elders would turn to family for help with abuse, vs. 55.5% of the Korean-Americans and 30.1% for the Caucasian Americans. (391)</li> </ul>
Brown 1989	Random sample of 37 Southwest	5 types of neglect; 5 types of verbal/psychological abuse; 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most elders perceived by researcher as “financially exploited” felt they were voluntarily</li> </ul>

	reservation-dwelling male and female Navajo aged 60+ , and their family members; 22 cases of elder abuse found	types of physical abuse; financial exploitation	sharing their income. (23)
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#### 4) Sexual Abuse

<b>Author(s), Pub. Date</b>	<b>Sample size and demographics</b>	<b>Type(s) of abuse covered</b>	<b>Selected finding(s) (page number/s in parentheses)</b>
Acierno, et al 2002	U.S. National Women’s Study household probability sample of 4009 adult women randomly selected and interviewed by phone. Data used from women 18 –35 (n = 2669) and ages 55 – 89 (n = 549)	Physical assault and vaginal, anal, digital and oral sexual assault at any point in life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Although older and younger women evidenced great differences in reported prevalence of ...[rape] (6.2% vs. 17.4%), they did not report that the characteristics of their assault were hugely different.” (691)</li> <li>• “Statistically similar proportions of both groups reported that they had seen the perpetrators before, that the event was one in a series, that they or the perpetrator or both were under the influence of a substance, that they actually experienced injury and that they reported the assault to authorities.” (691)</li> <li>• “The average age of first rape for both older and younger adult victims was about 14 years.” (690)</li> <li>• Authors speculate the reasons for differences in victimization rates between ages may include reporting bias (older women may not perceive coerced sexual contact as rape, may blame themselves for the rape, or may believe the rape was a personal, private matter) and cohort effects (younger women live in a more violent society). (693)</li> </ul>

Burgess, et al 2000	20 civil cases brought by/on behalf of a sexually assaulted nursing home resident; 2 were under age 55	Sexual assault of a nursing home resident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of the 20 victims, 18 were female. (12)</li> <li>• Five of the residents could ambulate on their own; the rest were bedridden or used a wheelchair. (13)</li> <li>• Twelve of the victims had a primary diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease or dementia. (13)</li> <li>• Ten of the victims told a family member (7) or a staff member (3) of the assault; 6 assaults were witnessed by staff; clues detected by staff or family led to identification of 4 assaults. (13)</li> <li>• Forensic examinations were made on 10 of the cases; 8 of these showed physical evidence of assault. (14)</li> <li>• Victims showed many trauma-related symptoms, including expressions of fear or avoidance of male staff; withdrawn behavior; staying near nurses station; lying in bed in a fetal position; reenacting parts of the assault; sexualized behavior; refusing to sleep on the bed; and refusing to cooperate with usual routines such as bathing or having vital signs taken. “More than half of the residents made new comments of feeling cold.” (15-16)</li> <li>• Eleven of the victimized residents died within a year of their assault. (16)</li> <li>• Researchers identified two distinct responses to assault: compounded rape trauma (“victims have a past and/or current history of psychiatric, psychosocial, or physical problems that compound the effects of the sexual assault”) and silent rape trauma (in which “expression of assault-related symptomatology is muted, undetected, or absent”). (17)</li> </ul>
Teaster, et al 2000	42 substantiated cases of sexual abuse	APS-substantiated cases of elder sexual abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of the 42 victims, 40 were female. All of the identified perpetrators were male. (5, 9)</li> </ul>

	<p>against persons 60+, collected over a 3-year period in Virginia</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80.9% of the victims lived in a nursing home; 70.7% of the incidents took place in a nursing home. Other assault sites were victim's home (12.2%), adult care residence (2.4%), and perpetrator's home (14.6%). (5, 8)</li> <li>• Nearly all of the victims were unable to manage their own finances (92.7%), the majority had orientation difficulties in at least two of three areas (orientation to person, time and place); and fewer than a quarter (21.4%) could walk without assistance. (5-6)</li> <li>• In more than a third of the cases (35.7%), the sexual abuse was known to be ongoing over a period of time. (7-8)</li> <li>• Vaginal rape was relatively uncommon (5.8% of cases); sexualized kissing and fondling was most prevalent (48.2% of cases), followed by unwelcome sexual interest in victim's body (23.2%) and digital penetration of vagina or anus (13.5%). (7)</li> <li>• In three-quarters of the cases (75.0%), the perpetrator was a facility resident. Other perpetrators were: 7.5% family members in household; 7.5% facility staff; 5.0% non-relative in household; 5.0% non-relative living outside the household. (10)</li> <li>• In only two cases was the alleged offender prosecuted in court. Other outcomes for perpetrators were: relocation (47.8%); psychiatric treatment (34.8%); behavior modification (13.0%); and monthly hormone injection (4.4%). (11, 14)</li> <li>• Victims were relocated 38.5% of the time. Only</li> </ul>
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			<p>38.5% of victims received treatment for the abuse. 23.0% of victims were classified as remaining at risk for sexual abuse. (14)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The vast majority of cases were witnessed; only 23.8% of the substantiated cases had no witnesses. (9)</li> </ul>
Mouton 1999	257 women ages 50 – 79 who participated in the Women’s Health Initiative in Newark, New Jersey	Forced sexual intercourse with a spouse or partner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eighteen women (7%) had been forced to have sexual intercourse with their spouse or husband at some time. (1176)</li> </ul>
Pittaway 1993	605 adults aged 55-100 who accessed health and social service organizations in London, Ontario during a 3-month period	Physical abuse (including sexual abuse), chronic verbal aggression, material abuse (actual and attempted), and neglect (intentional and unintentional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Husbands were the abusers in 100% of sexual abuse cases. (84)</li> </ul>
Muram et al 1992	53 female clients of the Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center aged 55-87, matched with 53 female clients aged 18-45 as controls	Sexual assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Genital injury was more common and more serious among older women: 50.9% of older women were genitally injured compared to 13.2% of the younger women, and 28% of older women vs. 6% of younger women required surgical repair. (74)</li> <li>• “The majority of assaults involving elderly women took place in the victim’s home by an assailant who was unknown to the victim. This is in contrast to younger women for whom the majority of assaults occurred outside the home” by friends or acquaintances. (75)</li> <li>• “Younger victims were more likely to report a previous sexual assault – 24.5% of the younger women compared to 9.4% of the elderly victims.”</li> </ul>

			(75)
Ramin et al 1992	Medical record review of 129 postmenopausal women (ages 50-100) matched with 129 women age 14-49, all sexually assaulted in Dallas, TX between 1986-1991	Sexual assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postmenopausal women represented 2.2% of women reporting sexual assault in the county. (860)</li> <li>• “Genital trauma was more common in the postmenopausal group (43 versus 18%).” (860)</li> </ul>
Ramsey-Klawnsnik 1991	28 community-dwelling older (ages 65 – 101) women suspected by Massachusetts adult protective services workers of being sexually abused	APS suspicion elder was sexually abused	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 71% of victims were described as “totally dependent” or functioning “very poorly” or “poorly.” (78)</li> <li>• Rape was suspected in 61% of the cases. (79)</li> <li>• 32% of victims disclosed sexual abuse; two more made coded or hinted disclosure. (80)</li> <li>• 29% of suspected perpetrators were spouses/boyfriends; 39% were sons; 7% were brothers. A total of 81% perpetrators were caregivers; 78% were family members. (81)</li> <li>• All but 1 perpetrator was male. (73)</li> <li>• In almost 1/3 of cases, sexually abusive acts were witnessed by others; in 71% of the cases, other service providers suspected sexual abuse. (79, 81)</li> </ul>

## 5) Homicide/Suicide

Author(s), Pub. Date	Sample size and demographics	Type(s) of abuse covered	Selected finding(s) (page number/s in parentheses)
Malphurs et al 2001	27 men aged 55+ who perpetrated spousal homicide-suicides matched by age with 36 married men who committed suicide in Florida	Instances of homicide/suicide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “A dependent-protective attachment to the spouse and the need to control the relationship...play an important role in spousal homicide-suicides.” (54)</li> <li>• “A common feature of all spousal/consortial homicide-suicides is a perception by the perpetrator of an unacceptable threat to the integrity of a highly valued relationship.” (54)</li> <li>• Homicide-suicide perpetrators were almost three times more likely to be in caregiving roles than men who only committed suicide.” (48.1% of the h-s perpetrators were in caregiving roles) (53)</li> <li>• 51.9% of homicide-suicide and 61.1% of suicide perpetrators had psychiatric symptoms, although only 5% of both groups were receiving psychiatric care at time of death. (53)</li> <li>• 11% of the murdered wives lived in a nursing home at the time of death. (51)</li> </ul>
Cohen et al 1998	137 spousal/consortial homicide-suicides from 7 Florida counties between 1988 – 1994. 48 involving perpetrators 55+ were compared to 89 involving perpetrators <55.	Instances of homicide/suicide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0.4 – 0.9 per 100,000 occurrence of homicide-suicide for persons age 55+. (392)</li> <li>• Rates of homicide-suicides were higher for older persons than younger in all but 2 years. (394)</li> <li>• All older perpetrators were men; 2 younger perpetrators were women. (392)</li> <li>• Many characteristics varied significantly based on whether couple lived in west central Florida (all older couples white) or southeastern Florida (more than 2/3 of older couples Hispanic). (393)</li> <li>• Prior physical violence was rare among older couples, but verbal discord was common. (393)</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illness, declining health, and pain and suffering were common among both perpetrators and victims in west central Florida (25.9% to 55.6%), but less common (4.8% to 19.0%) in southeastern Florida. (393)</li> <li>• 29% of older perpetrators were depressed and 18.7% had talked of suicide, but only one tested positive for antidepressants at autopsy. (393)</li> </ul>
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## 6) Victim Characteristics

<b>Author(s), Pub. Date</b>	<b>Sample size and demographics</b>	<b>Type(s) of abuse covered</b>	<b>Selected finding(s) (page number/s in parentheses)</b>
Dunlop, et al 2000	319 substantiated cases of abused persons aged 60+ in Miami-Dade County, Florida	APS substantiated cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nearly one-half of victims (48.5%) were aged 80+, although this age group comprises only 18.9% of the population 60+. (106)</li> <li>• 66.3% of victims were female. (107)</li> </ul>
Phillips, et al 2000	93 cases of women aged 55+ caring for dependent spouse or other elder family member	Being yelled or sworn at; being verbally threatened; being pushed, grabbed, or shoved; having something thrown at them; being threatened by a gun or knife; having a gun or knife used on them – all by the elder for whom they were caring.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 14 of 27 cases of abuse (51.8%), the abuse had occurred at least monthly. (128)</li> <li>• 29% of caregivers reported that they had been mistreated by the elder; however, 39% answered positively when asked whether specific abusive behavior had occurred. “This suggests that for at least some women, mistreatment was viewed as normal behavior for the elder and not mistreatment at all...” (139-140)</li> <li>• This study did not find that living in the same household was related to abuse. (139)</li> </ul>
Teaster, et al 2000	42 substantiated cases of sexual abuse against persons 60+,	APS-substantiated cases of elder sexual abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victims were primarily female (95.2% of cases). (5)</li> <li>• Victims were ages 60 – 69 (7.1%); 70 – 79 (31%);</li> </ul>

	collected over a 3-year period in Virginia		<p>80 – 89 (47.7%); 90+ (14.2%). (5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living arrangements: with family members (16.7%); in adult care residence (2.4%); in nursing home (80.9%). (5)</li> <li>• The majority of victims were unable to care for or protect themselves. (6)</li> </ul>
Crichton et al 1999	50 Canadians age 60+ abused by adult child; 50 abused by spouse from Elder Abuse Resource Center in Winnipeg	Agency-substantiated cases of physical, psychological, and material abuse; neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of 50 spouse cases, 43 victims were women, 7 were men. (122)</li> <li>• Of abused parents, 40 victims were mothers, 10 victims were fathers. (122)</li> </ul>
Lithwick and Beaulieu 1999	128 cases of mistreatment of adults aged 60+ brought to the attention of community service agencies in Quebec	Physical, sexual or psychological abuse; financial and material exploitation; neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three-quarters of the victims were women, 65% of the perpetrators were men. (101)</li> <li>• “Almost half of spousal mistreatment involved cognitive impairment on the part of one spouse.” (102)</li> </ul>
Sanchez 1999	62 individuals age 60+, Mexican immigrants or Mexican-American, from community centers in Detroit, MI, and Carson City, NV	Physical abuse, neglect, financial abuse, and denial of shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Victims often justified [violent elder abuse], claiming they had instigated the violence.” (75)</li> </ul>
Vladescu, et al 1999	26 abused elders (age limit unspecified) served between 1/1/97 and 1/1/99 by Seniors’ Case Management	Physical, psychological, and financial abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 84.6% of the victims were female. (13)</li> <li>• 50% of victims were widows, 34.6% were in married or common-law relationships. (13)</li> <li>• 57.7% of victims lived with their abusers; 26.9% lived alone. (13)</li> </ul>

	program in Hamilton, Ontario; focus group of 3 case managers		
Anetzberger 1998	29 Cleveland APS cases from 1987 to 1995	Psychological abuse and psychological neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effects of psychological abuse/neglect included: fear (60%); depression (50%); anxiety (20%), hopelessness (10%) and denial (10%). (147)</li> </ul>
Bachman, et al 1998	Data from National Crime Victimization Survey for 1992 – 1994, approximately 50,000 housing units and 101,000 persons annually	Robbery and assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Elderly female assault victims were still more likely than other assault victims to sustain injuries and require medical care for these injuries.” (195)</li> <li>• “Elderly women were more likely to be assaulted in their homes than in any other location.” (195)</li> </ul>
Lachs et al 1998	2,812 adults 65 and older from a stratified sample of residence types in Connecticut; 176 were seen by Elder Protective Services	Elder abuse (the willful infliction of physical pain, injury, or mental anguish, or the willful deprivation by a caretaker of services necessary to maintain physical and mental health); neglect (an elderly person alone who is not able to provider self the services necessary to maintain physical and mental health, or who is not receiving those services from a responsible caretaker); exploitation (taking advantage of an older adult for monetary gain or profit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After 13 years, survival rates were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 9% for those who were abused</li> <li>○ 17% for self-neglecters</li> <li>○ 40% for those not seen by EPS</li> <li>○ 39% for those seen by EPS but whose abuse/neglect allegations were not verified. (430)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• “Reported and corroborated elder mistreatment and self-neglect are associated with shorter survival after adjusting for other factors associated with increased mortality in older adults.” (428)</li> </ul>
NCEA National	APS reports and community “sentinel”	Physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional or psychological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People aged 80+ were 19% of the elder population in 1996, yet made up 51.8% of neglect, 48.0% of</li> </ul>

Elder Abuse Incidence Study 1998	reports of abused and neglected persons age 60+ from 20 counties in 15 states in U.S.	abuse, neglect, abandonment, financial or material exploitation	<p>exploitation, 43.7% of physical abuse, and 41.3% of emotional/psychological elder abuse cases. (6)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women make up 76.3% of emotional/psychological abuse victims; 71.4% of physical abuse cases; 63.0% of financial/material exploitation victims; and 60.0% of neglect cases. Men make up 62.2% of abandonment cases. (6)</li> <li>• “Approximately one-half (47.9%) of the substantiated incidents of elder abuse involved elderly persons who were not able to care for themselves, 28.7% were somewhat able to do so, and 22.9% were able to care for themselves.” (6)</li> <li>• Approximately 60% of victims experienced some degree of confusion. (6)</li> <li>• About 44% of victims were depressed. (7)</li> </ul>
Older Women’s Network 1998	106 Canadian women aged 50+ suspected of being victims of domestic abuse (58% voluntarily disclosed abuse) and 134 stakeholders	Physical, emotional, financial and sexual abuse; neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abused older women most often reported issues of isolation, loneliness, fear, guilt and shame. (23)</li> </ul>
Otiniano 1998	24,648 Hispanic elders referred to the Texas APS system from 1991-1995	Cases referred to APS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women were twice as likely as men to suffer abuse of any kind. (194)</li> </ul>
Reis and Nahmiash 1998	341 cases of elders (aged 55+) being cared for by unpaid family or friends, in Montreal, Canada. Abuse was assessed as “likely” in 69	Physical, psycho-social, and financial abuse; both passive and active neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ranking 27 caregiver and care receiver characteristics associated with abuse, care receiver characteristics were: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Has been abused in the past</li> <li>5. Has marital/family conflict</li> <li>8. Lacks understanding of medical condition</li> <li>11. Is socially isolated</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

	cases; “not likely” in 272 cases.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. Lacks social support</li> <li>16. Has behavior problems</li> <li>18. Is financially dependent</li> <li>19. Has unrealistic expectations</li> <li>20. Has alcohol/medication problem</li> <li>21. Has poor current relationship (with caregiver)</li> <li>22. Has suspicious falls/injuries</li> <li>23. Has mental/emotional difficulties</li> <li>25. Is a blamer</li> <li>26. Is emotionally dependent</li> <li>27. No regular doctor (478)</li> </ul>
Lachs, et al 1997 (a)	2,812 adults 65 and older from a stratified sample of residence types in Connecticut; 47 were substantiated cases of abuse, neglect, or exploitation by someone else.	Elder abuse (the willful infliction of physical pain, injury, or mental anguish, or the willful deprivation by a caretaker of services necessary to maintain physical and mental health); neglect (an elderly person who is not able to provide self the services necessary to maintain physical and mental health, or who is not receiving those services from a responsible caretaker); exploitation (taking advantage of an older adult for monetary gain or profit). Self-neglect cases were excluded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Several risk factors emerged as potent predictors of reported elder mistreatment including poverty, race [non-White], functional and cognitive impairment, worsening cognitive impairment, and living with someone.” Gender conferred no additional risk. (Researchers note poverty and race findings may be due to sample coming from APS). (473)</li> <li>• Elders who suddenly became cognitively impaired were more at risk for abuse. (473)</li> </ul>
Lachs, et al 1997 (b)	182 victims of physical abuse aged 60+ from New Haven, CT	APS-substantiated cases of physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76.3% of victims were female. (450)</li> <li>• Abusers cohabitated with victims in 87% of cases. (451)</li> </ul>

Le 1997	20 Vietnamese age 60+, living in a house headed by an adult child, at least somewhat dependent on child, in Southern California	Verbal, emotional, financial and physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All of the victims were recently (most &lt;5 years) settled in US. (56)</li> <li>• Depression due to abuse and missing homeland was very common. (60)</li> <li>• Most would not report abuse. (56)</li> </ul>
Reis and Nahmiash 1997	136 family caregivers, divided into 3 groups: confirmed abuser receiving agency services (44); confirmed nonabuser using agency services (46); confirmed nonabuser not using agency services (46); 128 care receivers (age 55+), divided into 3 groups: confirmed abuse victim receiving agency services (39); confirmed nonabused elders receiving agency services (47); confirmed nonabused elders not receiving agency services (42). All from Montreal, Canada.	Physical, psycho-social, and financial abuse; both passive and active neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abused care receivers were more unhappy and reported poorer caregiver/care receiver relationships than did nonabused care receivers. (347)</li> <li>• “Abused care receivers are no more disagreeable or more neurotic than care receivers who are not abused.” (351)</li> </ul>
Seaver	132 women aged 50+	Unspecified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No common profile of victims, commonality was</li> </ul>

1996	who have attended older abused women's program in Milwaukee, Wisconsin		<p>that they live with an abusive mate or family member. (17)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of 132 women, only 11 have had major impairments; of these, only 5 were directly dependent on their abusers for care. (15)</li> <li>• Of 77 cases where husband was abuser, 76% were first marriages of 40+ years, 24% were second or third husbands. (16)</li> <li>• These women "have been eager to learn, use resources well, and respond enthusiastically to the idea that they deserve more peaceful lives." (19)</li> </ul>
Griffin 1994	10 abused African Americans age 60+ and 6 of their perpetrators from 3 rural counties in North Carolina	APS-substantiated cases of financial exploitation (6), self-neglect (5), verbal abuse (2), and neglect (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victims and perpetrators minimize and neutralize abusive behavior. (21)</li> </ul>
Muram, et al 1992	53 female clients of the Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center aged 55-87, matched with 53 female clients aged 18-45 as controls	Sexual assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Genital injury was more common and more serious among older women: 50.9% of older women were genitally injured compared to 13.2% of the younger women, and 28% of older women vs. 6% of younger women required surgical repair. (74)</li> <li>• In contrast, "there was no difference in the prevalence of nongenital injuries between the two groups." (74)</li> <li>• "The majority of assaults involving elderly women took place in the victim's home by an assailant who was unknown to the victim. This is in contrast to younger women for whom the majority of assaults occurred outside the home" by friends or acquaintances. (75)</li> </ul>
Podnieks	Random sample	Physical abuse (measured by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29% of victims versus 7% of non-victims said</li> </ul>

1992 (a)	telephone survey of 2008 persons 65+ living in community settings in Canada	Conflict Tactics Scale); neglect (caregiver did not meet elder's needs 2-10 times in past year); psychological abuse (insulted, sworn at, or threatened 10+ times in past year); financial exploitation (defined as <i>trying</i> to exploit, not necessarily succeeding)	they wished their life would end. (44) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nearly 60% of victims reported their health was fair or poor, compared to 37% of non-victims. (45)</li> <li>“Victims of physical violence reported far less satisfaction with their lives than other victims.” (46)</li> <li>30% of victims of chronic verbal aggression and 20% of physical abuse victims felt the abuse was their own fault. (47)</li> <li>[G]ender is not a risk factor associated with elder abuse.... This pattern holds for all forms of maltreatment, with the exception of physical abuse, in which more men than women were victims.” (42-43)</li> </ul>
Podnieks 1992 (b)	42 elder abuse victims in Canada identified through Podnieks, 1992(a) study	See Podnieks, 1992(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong evidence of adaptive strengths and hardiness of victims. (59)</li> <li>“[I]t is abundantly clear that they have had a realistic perspective on life and have been able to cope with “the hand dealt to them” – even when this meant enduring mistreatment.” (73)</li> </ul>
Ramsey-Klawnsnik 1991	28 community-dwelling older (ages 65 – 101) women suspected by MA APS workers of being sexually abused	APS suspicion elder was sexually abused	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All 28 victims were female. (78)</li> <li>46% were in their 70's (78)</li> <li>21% were in their 80's (78)</li> <li>“These women were quite limited in their capacity to protect and care for themselves.” (78)</li> </ul>
Greenberg et al 1990	204 cases of abuse of person 60+ by adult child in Wisconsin	APS-substantiated cases of physical abuse, material abuse, and neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>51% of victims were frail. (76)</li> <li>20% of victims were homebound. (76)</li> <li>14% of victims had no health problems (76)</li> <li>73% of victims lived with an adult child, ¾ of them lived in the parent's home. (77)</li> <li>76% of victims were female, 24% male. (77)</li> </ul>

Brown 1989	Random sample of 37 Southwest reservation-dwelling Navajo aged 60+, and their family members; 22 cases of elder abuse found	Neglect, verbal/ psychological and physical abuse, and financial exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The more sudden the elder’s dependency, the more frequent neglect, psychological abuse, and exploitation. (25)</li> <li>• The more the elder perceived as dependent by family, the more frequent neglect. (26)</li> <li>• Elders perceived as depressed and/or confused were abused most. (27)</li> </ul>
Godkin, et al 1989	59 abused elders (60 years and older) compared to 49 non-abused elders, both served by a Massachusetts home care program	Physical, psychological, and material abuse; active and passive neglect by a caregiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “61% of the elderly cases had suffered a recent decline in mental health prior to their being abused or neglected; for the comparison group the figures was 6.4%.” (213)</li> <li>• “There were no significant differences between abused/neglected elderly with respect to the numbers of impairments requiring attention, nor the numbers of prescribed medications. A significant percentage of the maltreated elderly was reported to have experienced a recent decline in physical health (81.4%) in contrast to about one-fifth (21.3%) of the non-victimized elders.” (213)</li> <li>• “Generally, elders who were abused and neglected had significantly lower cognitive functioning when compared to the non-abused group except in the area of remote memory....” (213)</li> <li>• “83% of the abused/neglected elderly reside with their caregivers compared to 42.9% of those elderly with caregivers who are not abused or neglected.” (219)</li> <li>• “Almost 19% of the abused elderly have no social contacts, whereas only 6.1% of the controls are without contacts. Over one-third (35.6%) of this group have suffered recent losses in their support system, compared to 4.3% in the comparison</li> </ul>

			<p>group.” (219)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“...it appears that both abused elders and the abusers experience emotional problems which contribute to interpersonal difficulties in their relationship.” (223)</li> </ul>
Pillemer and Finkelhor 1989 <sup>3</sup>	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston, Massachusetts; 46 abused elders were reinterviewed and compared to 215 controls	Physical assault; psychological abuse (“elderly person being insulted, sworn at, or threatened at least 10 or more times in the preceding year”); neglect (deprivation of some assistance the elder needed for important ADLs 10 or more times in the preceding year, or neglect (“termed somewhat or very serious by the respondent”)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Maltreated elderly did not appear to be more ill or functionally disabled. The victims of maltreatment showed only a small, nonsignificant trend toward greater sickness in the last year, and scored as no more disabled than other elderly. Perhaps most important, maltreated elders were no more dependent on their abusers than were other elderly on their relatives.” (184)</li> <li>This study is consistent with other research that “has found abuser characteristics more powerful predictors than victim characteristics.” (186)</li> <li>“In this study, roughly equal numbers of abused men and women (52% to 48%) were found; further, the risk of abuse for elderly men is double that of elderly women (51 per 1000 versus 23 per 1000).” (55)</li> </ul>
Pillemer and Finkelhor 1988	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston, Massachusetts; 63 cases of elder abuse found	Physical assault since turning age 65; psychological abuse (“elderly person being insulted, sworn at, or threatened at least 10 or more times in the preceding year”); neglect (deprivation of some assistance the elder needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abuse rates were no higher for older (over 75) than for younger (65-74) elderly. (54)</li> <li>Elders living alone were abused about one-fourth as often as those living with others; “those living with a spouse and at least one other person seemed particularly vulnerable to maltreatment.” (54)</li> <li>Those in poor health were 3 to 4 times as likely to be abused. (54)</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> Pillemer and Finkelhor used the Conflict Tactics Scale, which not differentiate between levels of physical violence or identify the primary physical aggressor.

		for important ADLs 10 or more times in the preceding year, or neglect “termed somewhat or very serious by the respondent”)	
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## 7) Abuser Characteristics

<b>Author(s), Pub. Date</b>	<b>Sample size and demographics</b>	<b>Type(s) of abuse covered</b>	<b>Selected finding(s) (page number/s in parentheses)</b>
Dunlop, et al 2000	319 substantiated cases of abused persons aged 60+ in Miami-Dade County, Florida	APS substantiated cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The researchers were able to match 8 cases of elder abuse to cases of child abuse in a common household by the same perpetrator. (110)</li> <li>• 53.5% of all abusers were female; 56.2% of abusers of elder men were female. (108)</li> </ul>
Phillips, et al 2000	93 cases of women aged 55+ caring for dependent spouse or other elder family member	Verbal and physical abuse; threatened with gun/knife; gun or knife used -- all by the elder for whom they were caring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29% of the caregivers had been abused by the elder they were caring for. (128)</li> </ul>
Teaster, et al 2000	42 substantiated cases of sexual abuse against persons 60+, collected over a 3-year period in Virginia	APS-substantiated cases of elder sexual abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of the 42 victims, 40 were female. All of the identified perpetrators were male. (5, 9)</li> </ul>
Brownell, et al 1999	401 cases of abuse of elders 60+ (with 404 identified abusers) known to Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center in New York City;	Physical, psychological, financial abuse and neglect (one case of sexual abuse was counted as physical abuse)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 56% of abusers male; 44% female (86)</li> <li>• 74% of abusers suffered from impairment (substance abuse, mental illness, mental illness/chemical addiction, or dementia). Of those 161 impaired abusers, 51% were alcohol/drug abusers; 26% were mentally ill; 17% were both; and 6% had dementia. (86)</li> </ul>

	subanalysis done of 218 abusers for whom mental health status was reported		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impaired victims were more likely to live with abusers, be unemployed and have history of encounters with criminal justice system. (81)</li> </ul>
Crichton et al 1999	50 Canadians age 60+ abused by adult child; 50 abused by spouse, from Elder Abuse Resource Center in Winnipeg	Agency-substantiated cases of physical, psychological, and material abuse; neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of 50 adult child cases, 34 perpetrators were sons, 19 daughters. (122)</li> <li>• Of 50 spouse cases, 43 perpetrators were husbands, 7 wives. (122)</li> </ul>
Lithwick and Beaulieu 1999	128 cases of mistreatment of adults aged 60+ brought to the attention of community service agencies in Quebec	Physical, sexual or psychological abuse; financial and material exploitation; neglect by family members and acquaintances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 65% of the perpetrators were men. (101)</li> </ul>
Anetzberger 1998	29 Cleveland APS cases from 1987 to 1995	Psychological abuse and psychological neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The perpetrator of psychological neglect [3 cases] was always a woman (wife or niece).” (146)</li> <li>• “The perpetrator of psychological abuse [26 cases] was slightly more likely (57.1%) to be a man (son, husband, ex-husband, or male companion).” (146)</li> </ul>
Cohen et al 1998	137 spousal/consortial homicide-suicides from 7 Florida counties between 1988 – 1994. 48 involving perpetrators 55+ were compared to 89 involving	Instances of homicide/suicide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All older perpetrators were men; 2 younger perpetrators were women. (392)</li> <li>• 29% of older perpetrators were depressed and 18.7% had talked of suicide, but only one tested positive for antidepressants at autopsy. (393)</li> </ul>

	perpetrators <55.		
NCEA National Elder Abuse Incidence Study 1998	APS reports and community “sentinel” reports of abused and neglected persons age 60+ from 20 counties in 15 states in U.S.	Physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, neglect, abandonment, financial or material exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 34.3% of perpetrators were aged 60+. (7)</li> <li>• “Overall, men were the perpetrators of abuse and neglect 52.5% of the time. Of the substantiated cases of abuse and neglect, males were the most frequent perpetrators for abandonment (83.4%), physical abuse (62.6%), emotional abuse (60.1%) and financial/material exploitation (59.0%). Only in cases of neglect were women slightly more frequent (52.4%) perpetrators than men.” (7)</li> </ul>
Reis and Nahmiash 1998	341 cases of elders (aged 55+) being cared for by unpaid family or friends, in Montreal, Canada. Abuse was assessed as “likely” in 69 cases; “not likely” in 272 cases	Physical, psycho-social, and financial abuse; both passive and active neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ranking 27 caregiver and care receiver characteristics associated with abuse, caregiver characteristics were: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has behavior problems</li> <li>2. Is financially dependent</li> <li>3. Has mental/emotional difficulties</li> <li>6. Has alcohol/substance abuse problems</li> <li>7. Has unrealistic expectations</li> <li>9. Lacks understanding of medical condition</li> <li>10. Caregiving reluctance</li> <li>12. Has marital/family conflict</li> <li>13. Has poor current relationship (with care receiver)</li> <li>14. Caregiving inexperience</li> <li>17. Is a blamer</li> <li>24. Had poor past relationship (478)</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
Lachs, et al 1997 (b)	182 victims of physical abuse aged 60+ from New Haven, Connecticut	APS-substantiated cases of physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult son was abuser in 28.9% of cases. (450)</li> <li>• Spouse was abuser in 26.8% of cases. (450)</li> <li>• Adult daughter was abuser in 21.6% of cases. (450)</li> <li>• Abusers cohabitated with victims in 87% of cases. (451)</li> </ul>
Reis and	136 family	Physical, psycho-social, and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The abusive group were more depressed and had</li> </ul>

<p>Nahmiash 1997</p>	<p>caregivers, divided into 3 groups: confirmed abuser receiving agency services (44); confirmed nonabuser using agency services (46); confirmed nonabuser not using agency services (46); 128 care receivers (age 55+), divided into 3 groups: confirmed abuse victim receiving agency services (39); confirmed nonabused elders receiving agency services (47); confirmed nonabused elders not receiving agency services (42). All from Montreal, Canada.</p>	<p>financial abuse; both passive and active neglect</p>	<p>fewer available social supporters than each of the two nonabusive groups.” (347)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Abusive caregivers are, on the whole, no less agreeable or more neurotic than are nonabusive ones.” (347)</li> <li>• “Less social support (according to caregiver reports rather than care receiver ones) and greater caregiver depression are confirmed in this study as abuse markers.” (347)</li> </ul>
<p>Wolf and Pillemer 1997</p>	<p>73 abused women aged 60+ from New York City, San Francisco, Honolulu, and Madison, Wisconsin. 22 were abused by husband, 51 by children (review of written</p>	<p>Physical abuse, psychological abuse, neglect, financial exploitation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 54.2% of adult child abusers were single; 20.8% divorced. (328)</li> <li>• 76.6% of adult child abusers were somewhat to entirely financially dependent on abused mother. (331)</li> <li>• 64.6% of adult child abusers were somewhat to entirely dependent on abused mother for housing. (331)</li> </ul>

	case assessment data)		
Seaver 1996	132 women aged 50+ who have attended older abused women's program in Milwaukee, Wisconsin	Unspecified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eleven of the husbands (14%) were dependent on the women for caregiving.</li> <li>• 35 (66%) of the adult children were financially dependent on their mothers. (15)</li> <li>• 38% of the abusers had problems with drugs and/or alcohol. (16)</li> <li>• 51% of the adult kin had substance abuse problems, and 30% had psychiatric problems. (16)</li> </ul>
Griffin 1994	10 abused African Americans age 60+ and 6 of their perpetrators from 3 rural counties in North Carolina	APS-substantiated cases of financial exploitation (6), self-neglect (5), verbal abuse (2), and neglect (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victims and perpetrators minimize and neutralize abusive behavior. (21)</li> </ul>
Ramsey-Klawnsnik 1991	28 community-dwelling older (ages 65 – 101) women suspected by MA APS workers of being sexually abused	APS suspicion elder was sexually abused	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All but 1 perpetrator was male. (73)</li> </ul>
Greenberg et al 1990	204 cases of abuse of person 60+ by adult child in Wisconsin	APS-substantiated cases of physical abuse, material abuse, and neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25% of abusers were financially dependent on elder. (78)</li> <li>• 44% of male abusers and 14% of female abusers had alcohol/drug problems. (78)</li> <li>• 11% of abusers had mental illness; 58% of these were primary caregivers to the elder parent. (82)</li> </ul>
Brown 1989	Random sample of 37 Southwest reservation-dwelling male and female Navajo aged 60+ ,	5 types of neglect; 5 types of verbal/ psychological abuse; 4 types of physical abuse; financial exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caregivers with personal problems were more likely to physically abuse; this was not true of perpetrators of other types of abuse. (31)</li> </ul>

	and their family members; 22 cases of elder abuse found		
Godkin, et al 1989	59 abused elders (60 years and older) compared to 49 non-abused elders, both served by a Massachusetts home care program	Physical, psychological, and material abuse; active and passive neglect by a caregiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “[M]embers of abusive families are more likely to have emotional problems which contribute to interpersonal difficulties. Abused elders are not more dependent on caregivers for many of their daily needs. However, the abused elderly and their caregivers have become increasingly interdependent prior to the onset of abuse because of the loss of other family members, increased social isolation, and the increased financial dependency of the perpetrator on the elderly person.” (207)</li> <li>• 55.9% of abusers were under the age of sixty. (212)</li> <li>• “A significantly higher percentage of caregivers in abuse/neglect cases had a history of mental or emotional illness (40.7%) or had suffered a decline in their mental health prior to the abuse (45.8%) than the caregivers in the non-abuse samples (5.3% and 5.0%, respectively).” (212)</li> <li>• Alcohol abuse occurred in one-third of abuse cases but was absent in the comparison group. (212)</li> <li>• 74.4% of abusing caregivers were financially dependent on the elder, compared to 36.8% of the non-abusing caregivers. (217)</li> <li>• “Nearly two-thirds (60.3%) of the abusers had undergone a recent change in their family relationships and two-fifths (41.4%) in living arrangements prior to the onset of abuse or neglect compared to 15.0% and 0.0%, respectively, for the</li> </ul>

			<p>caregivers in the non-abuse situations.” (218)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “...it appears that both abused elders and the abusers experience emotional problems which contribute to interpersonal difficulties in their relationship.” (223)</li> </ul>
Pillemer and Finkelhor 1989	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston, Massachusetts; 46 abused elders were reinterviewed and compared to 215 controls	Physical assault; psychological abuse (“elderly person being insulted, sworn at, or threatened at least 10 or more times in the preceding year”); neglect (deprivation of some assistance the elder needed for important ADLs 10 or more times in the preceding year, or neglect (“termed somewhat or very serious by the respondent”))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The abusers were much more likely than comparison relatives to have some manifestation of socioemotional maladjustment...[they] had a very high incidence of having been arrested, hospitalized for a psychiatric condition, involved in other violent behavior or limited by some health problem.” (183)</li> <li>• “The abusers were also described as substantially more dependent on the elderly they victimized than were comparison relatives. They were particularly likely to be dependent for financial assistance, household repairs, transportation, and housing. They were also more likely to have suffered two life stresses in the previous year: an</li> </ul>

			illness, or the death of a relative.” (184)
Pillemer and Finkelhor <sup>4</sup> 1988	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston, Massachusetts; 63 cases of elder abuse found	Physical assault since turning age 65; psychological abuse (“elderly person being insulted, sworn at, or threatened at least 10 or more times in the preceding year”); neglect (deprivation of some assistance the elder needed for important ADLs 10 or more times in the preceding year, or neglect “termed somewhat or very serious by the respondent”)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “[E]lder abuse has much more in common with spouse abuse than child abuse.” (55)</li> <li>• 43% of the physical violence cases were of wife assaulting husband, and 17% were of husband assaulting wife. (54)</li> </ul>

## 8) Causation Theories

<b>Author(s), Pub. Date</b>	<b>Sample size and demographics</b>	<b>Type(s) of abuse covered</b>	<b>Selected finding(s) (page number/s in parentheses)</b>
Phillips, et al 2000	93 cases of women aged 55+ caring for dependent spouse or other elder family member	Being yelled or sworn at; verbally threatened; being pushed, grabbed, or shoved; having something thrown at them; being threatened by a gun or knife; having a gun or knife used on them – all by the elder for whom they were caring.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Other investigators...have suggested an important reason for abuse of caregivers is cognitive impairment of the elder. These data do not support that assertion.” (138)</li> <li>• “It is reasonable to assume that based solely on propinquity that living in the same household is related to abuse of caregivers, yet no relationship was found in this study.” (139)</li> </ul>
Reis and	341 cases of elders	Physical, psycho-social, and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “[T]he caregiver stress theory of abuse is not</li> </ul>

<sup>4</sup> Pillemer and Finkelhor used the Conflict Tactics Scale, which not differentiate between levels of physical violence or identify the primary physical aggressor.

<p>Nahmiash 1998</p>	<p>(aged 55+) being cared for by unpaid family or friends, in Montreal, Canada. Abuse was assessed as “likely” in 69 cases; “not likely” in 272 cases</p>	<p>financial abuse; both passive and active neglect</p>	<p>supported by the findings of this study. Nor does caregiver burden consequent to increased impairment or need for ADL [activities of daily living] assistance signal abuse.” (478)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caregiver characteristics associated with abuse included personal ones (abuses alcohol or other substances; is depressed/has personality disorder; has other mental health problems; has behavioral problems; and caregiving inexperience or is reluctant to give care) and interpersonal ones (has poor relationships generally or with care receiver; has current marital and family conflict; lacks empathy/understanding for receiver; and is financially dependent on receiver). (479)</li> <li>• Care receiver characteristics associated with abuse were past abuse and lack of social support. (479)</li> </ul>
<p>Lachs, et al 1997 (a)</p>	<p>2,812 adults 65 and older from a stratified sample of residence types in Connecticut; 47 were substantiated cases of abuse, neglect, or exploitation by someone else.</p>	<p>Elder abuse (the willful infliction of physical pain, injury, or mental anguish, or the willful deprivation by a caretaker of services necessary to maintain physical and mental health); neglect (an elderly person who is not able to provide self the services necessary to maintain physical and mental health, or who is not receiving those services from a responsible caretaker); exploitation (taking advantage of an older adult for monetary gain or profit). Self-neglect</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depression, urinary incontinence, and prevalence of chronic disease were all NOT associated with abuse. (472)</li> <li>• Elders who suddenly became cognitively impaired were more at risk for abuse. (473)</li> </ul>

		cases were excluded.	
Reis and Nahmiash 1997	136 family caregivers, divided into 3 groups: confirmed abuser receiving agency services (44); confirmed nonabuser using agency services (46); confirmed nonabuser not using agency services (46); 128 care receivers (age 55+), divided into 3 groups: confirmed abuse victim receiving agency services (39); confirmed nonabused elders receiving agency services (47); confirmed nonabused elders not receiving agency services (42). All from Montreal, Canada.	Physical, psycho-social, and financial abuse; both passive and active neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Abused care receivers are no more disagreeable or more neurotic than care receivers who are not abused.” (351)</li> <li>• “Caregiver stress does not distinguish abusers and non-abusers who receive agency assistance....Greater caregiver stress is...directly connected with needing help and being an agency client, but not with abuse. Stress is only linked with abuse indirectly, through greater caregiver depression....” (351)</li> <li>• “It is the caregivers’ depression and lack of social support, and care receiver unhappiness and appraisals of relationship difficulties that signal abuse.” (353)</li> </ul>
Wolf and Pillemer 1997	73 abused women aged 60+ from New York City, San Francisco, Honolulu, and Madison, Wisconsin. 22 were abused by husband,	Physical abuse, psychological abuse, neglect, financial exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abused wives were far more likely to be dependent on abuser than abused mothers were. (331)</li> <li>• 76.6% of adult child abusers were somewhat to entirely financially dependent on abused mother. (331)</li> <li>• 64.6% of adult child abusers were somewhat to</li> </ul>

	51 by children (review of written case assessment data)		entirely dependent on abused mother for housing. (331)
Harris 1996	5168 couples 19+ from the 1985 U.S. National Family Violence Resurvey, separated into under 60 (4476) and 60+ (842); violence in the past year was reported by 819 couples aged 19-59 and 49 couples 60+	Physical violence, defined as “an act carried out with the intention or perceived intention of causing physical pain or injury to another person”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Spouse abuse over 60 is not significantly different from spouse abuse in the under 60 population.” (24)</li> <li>• “More than half of the over 60 respondents from violent relationships reported that violence in their marital relationship began more than ten years ago. Forty percent of this group reported that the first incidence of violence occurred 25 or more years ago.” (19)</li> <li>• There was a significant positive relationship between perceived stress and couple violence and the depression index and couple violence in both older and younger groups. (19)</li> <li>• “Nine of the 17 risk factors included in this study were significantly related to couple violence in the over 60 subsample...education, racial/ethnic group, family income, verbal aggression, drug abuse, reasoning, depression, perceived stress, and marital conflict.” (19)</li> </ul>
Seaver 1996	132 women aged 50+ who have attended older abused women’s program in Milwaukee, WI	Unspecified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eleven of the husbands (14%) were dependent on the women for caregiving. (15)</li> <li>• 35 (66%) of the adult children were financially dependent on their mothers. (15)</li> </ul>
Korbin et al 1995	23 adult offspring abusers of elders (age 60+); 21 parent abusers of children (age 2-5) in Ohio	Physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child abusing parents and elder abusing adult offspring did not differ significantly in their childhood experiences of “over-all violence,” but “two-thirds of child abusing parents reported experiencing severe violence from their parents, while approximately one-fourth of elder abusing</li> </ul>

			<p>adult offspring were subjected to these behaviors by their parents.” (7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “These results suggest that while intergenerational transmission of family violence is not an inevitable process, it is a more useful construct for explaining violence towards children than violence towards elder parents.” (1)</li> </ul>
Griffin 1994	10 abused African Americans age 60+ and 6 of their perpetrators from 3 rural counties in North Carolina	APS-substantiated cases of financial exploitation (6), self-neglect (5), verbal abuse (2), and neglect (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fewer hours of family care provided, the greater the likelihood of neglect. (29)</li> <li>• The more hours of family care provided, the greater the likelihood of physical abuse and exploitation. (29)</li> <li>• Sharing caregiver responsibilities raised likelihood of abuse. (30)</li> </ul>
Podnieks 1992 (b)	42 elder abuse victims in Canada identified through Podnieks, 1992(a) study	Physical abuse (measured by Conflict Tactics Scale); neglect (caregiver did not meet elder’s needs 2-10 times in past year); psychological abuse (insulted, sworn at, or threatened 10+ times in past year); financial exploitation (defined as <i>trying</i> to exploit, not necessarily succeeding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “There were some veiled references to strong disciplinary measures: ‘I had to keep my kids in line,’ ‘I was strict with my children – they have to learn.’ Victims revealed that their own parents had used physical force to ensure compliance when they were growing up. Victims also reported violence between their parents and siblings. It would appear that the social learning model is a relevant theory to apply to the present study.” (104)</li> </ul>
Brown 1989	Random sample of 37 Southwest reservation-dwelling male and female Navajo aged 60+ , and their family members; 22 cases of elder abuse found	5 types of neglect; 5 types of verbal/psychological abuse; 4 types of physical abuse; financial exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The more sudden the elder’s dependency, the more frequent neglect, psychological abuse, and exploitation. (25)</li> <li>• The more the elder perceived as dependent by family, the more frequent neglect. (26)</li> <li>• Daily hours of help needed was not related to abuse. (26)</li> <li>• Elders perceived as depressed and/or confused were abused most. (27)</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fewer hours of family care provided, the greater the likelihood of neglect. (29)</li> <li>• The greater the number of hours of family care provided, the greater the likelihood of physical abuse and exploitation. (29)</li> <li>• Sharing caregiver responsibilities raised risk of abuse. (30)</li> </ul>
Godkin, et al 1989	59 abused elders (60 years and older) compared to 49 non-abused elders, both served by a Massachusetts home care program	Physical, psychological, and material abuse; active and passive neglect by a caregiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “[M]embers of abusive families are more likely to have emotional problems which contribute to interpersonal difficulties. Abused elders are not more dependent on caregivers for many of their daily needs. However, the abused elderly and their caregivers have become increasingly interdependent prior to the onset of abuse because of the loss of other family members, increased social isolation, and the increased financial dependency of the perpetrator on the elderly person.” (207)</li> <li>• “There were no significant differences between abused/neglected elderly with respect to the numbers of impairments requiring attention, nor the numbers of prescribed medications. A significant percentage of the maltreated elderly was reported to have experienced a recent decline in physical health (81.4%) in contrast to about one-fifth (21.3%) of the non-victimized elders.” (213)</li> <li>• “The relationship between elders and caregivers was considered ‘poor’ in 77.2% of the [abuse] cases and 4.8% of the controls.” (217)</li> <li>• “Caregivers were said to have unrealistic expectations of their elderly counterparts in 67.9% of the abuse/neglect situations. Unrealistic</li> </ul>

			<p>expectations were reported at a rate of 5.6% in the comparison group.” (217)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “An analysis of the data indicates that all four factors under study play a role in cases of elderly abuse/neglect: the characteristics of the elder and caregiver, dependency and exchange relationships, external stresses, and social isolation.” (219)</li> <li>• “...it appears that both abused elders and the abusers experience emotional problems which contribute to interpersonal difficulties in their relationship.” (223)</li> </ul>
Pillemer and Finkelhor 1989	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston, Massachusetts; 46 abused elders were reinterviewed and compared to 215 controls	Physical assault; psychological abuse (“elderly person being insulted, sworn at, or threatened at least 10 or more times in the preceding year”); neglect (deprivation of some assistance the elder needed for important ADLs 10 or more times in the preceding year, or neglect (“termed somewhat or very serious by the respondent”))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Elder abuse results NOT from the increased needs of victim but from the deviance and dependence of abusers.” (186)</li> <li>• “Overall, the items which distinguished the abused group were those pertaining to the abuser and his/her behavior and circumstances, and not items pertaining to the victim.” (183/186)</li> </ul>
Pillemer and Finkelhor 1988	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston, MA; 46 abused elders were reinterviewed and compared to 215 controls	Physical assault; psychological abuse; or neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The findings of this study suggest “a fundamental reformation of the problem of elder maltreatment is necessary. In the past, elder abuse was described primarily in analogy with child abuse. The present study suggests that elder abuse has much more in common with spouse abuse than child abuse.” (55)</li> </ul>

## 9) Services and Interventions

Author(s), Pub. Date	Sample size and demographics	Type(s) of abuse covered	Selected finding(s) (page number/s in parentheses)
Dunlop, et al 2000	319 substantiated cases of abused persons aged 60+ in Miami-Dade County, Florida	APS substantiated cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agencies should “develop and fund new program initiatives, including specialized shelters, support groups, family counseling and other appropriate services.” (119)</li> <li>• Professionals in the aging field should become familiar with domestic violence and resources. (119)</li> <li>• Policies and practices of services should be culturally competent. (118)</li> </ul>
Moon and Benton 2000	Interviews of 100 African American, 95 Korean American and 90 white elders age 60 or older living in LA County, CA in 1997. Purposive and convenience sampling methods were used to find participants. 2/3 participants were female.	Physical, medical, verbal, psychological, financial, and neglect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “[T]he majority of respondents from all 3 groups studied believed that incidents of elder abuse should not be reported to the authorities until they are absolutely sure that abuse has occurred.” (300)</li> <li>• “Ethnic-specific approach to public outreach and educational efforts may be more effective than a more general approach in increasing the awareness and understanding of elder abuse issues pertinent to each ethnic community.” (301)</li> <li>• “Public educational outreach efforts for prevention of and intervention in elder abuse should target recent immigrant populations who are not familiar with the American legal and social service systems related to elder abuse.” (301)</li> </ul>
Phillips, et al 2000	93 cases of women aged 55+ caring for dependent spouse or other elder family member	Being yelled or sworn at; verbally threatened; being pushed, grabbed, or shoved; having something thrown at them; being threatened by a gun or knife; having a gun or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In none of the 27 cases of abuse had the victim called police; only one had sought medical treatment for her injuries. (128)</li> <li>• The fact that only 29% of caregivers said they were abused while 39% reported specific instances of abuse “has important implications for</li> </ul>

		knife used on them – all by the elder for whom they were caring	how health professionals approach the topic of abuse with caregivers, and the types of interventions and prevention strategies that are likely to work.” (140)
Brownell, et al 1999	401 cases of abuse of elders 60+ (with 404 identified abusers) known to Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center in New York City; subanalysis done of 218 abusers for whom mental health status was reported	Physical, psychological, financial abuse and neglect (one case of sexual abuse was counted as physical abuse)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 70% of all victims accepted services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 28% police intervention</li> <li>○ 19% case management</li> <li>○ 18% order of protection</li> <li>○ 14% referral to District Attorney</li> <li>○ 12% health care</li> <li>○ 11% lock replacement</li> <li>○ 8% mobile crisis services</li> <li>○ 8% housing assistance</li> <li>○ 7% eviction of abuser</li> <li>○ 6% financial management</li> <li>○ 2% mental hygiene warrant (89)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• “Victims of <i>impaired</i><sup>5</sup> abusers refused 85% of offered services.... One explanation, requiring further study, is that the victims’ desire to stop the abuse is often contingent upon their ability to ensure their abusers receive assistance as well. If services are offered that only address the victim’s well being, it appears the victim will be more likely to refuse them.” (89)</li> <li>• “The risk of elder abuse may be most effectively reduced in many cases by addressing the needs of [impaired] abusers.” (92)</li> </ul>
Hightower, et al 1999	57 domestic violence transition houses, second stage houses and safe houses in	Unspecified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ¼ had no clients age 60 + in previous year, and ¾ had fewer than 2 older women in previous year. Overall estimate is that 2% of women served are 60+. (45-47)</li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> Emphasis added to explain difference from 70% accepted services figure noted in bullet one.

	Canada		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35.6% of facilities were fully handicapped accessible. (49)</li> <li>• 5 of 46 (10.9%) of programs provide special programming or outreach services for older women. (53)</li> <li>• “[H]ealth care workers cannot come to a transition house due to house confidentiality and...there were not the resources to transport women to various services and medical appointments.” (51)</li> <li>• Because of wait lists and program policies, older women victims had trouble accessing homemaker services and subsidized housing. (51-2)</li> <li>• Asked what they would need to provide in-house or outreach services for older women, the shelters answered: training for all staff (60.4%); house renovations (41.7%); special equipment (41.7%); access to community support services (41.7%); a trained staff specialist (27.1%); or other (16.7%). (53)</li> <li>• “[A]lmost all of the transition houses clearly supported the admittance of older women abused by partners, family, or unrelated caregivers.” (54)</li> </ul>
Lithwick and Beaulieu 1999	128 cases of mistreatment of adults aged 60+ brought to the attention of community service agencies in Quebec	Physical or sexual abuse; psychological abuse; financial and material exploitation; neglect (both active and passive) by family members and acquaintances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interventions received in cases of spouse abuse were: external medical services (44%); homemaker services (41%); in-house medical services (38%); private services (38%); day centers and day respite programs (38%); psychiatric intervention (21%); interim placement (20%); placement of the perpetrator (16%); legal services (15%); placement of the victim (10%); and residence or group home placement (8%). (103)</li> <li>• In cases of spouse abuse, if one member of the</li> </ul>

			<p>couple was cognitively impaired, it was more likely that the perpetrator would be placed (31%) than if there was no impairment (3%). Furthermore, the victims who were placed in a residential setting (10%) all had cognitive impairment. (102)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In cases with adult child perpetrators, interventions included homemaker services (46%); private services (41%); external medical services (39%); in-house medical services (36%); placement of the victim (30%); legal services (28%); residence or group home placements (21%); psychiatric intervention (10%); and interim placement (8%). (103-104)</li> <li>• “The victim who is mistreated by an adult child is more apt to be placed in an institutional setting than one mistreated by a spouse.” (104)</li> <li>• Abuse was stopped or diminished in 60% of all cases: 52% of psychological abuse; 55% of financial abuse; 80% of neglect; 65% of physical abuse. (103)</li> <li>• Services were declined by 58% of victims and 47% of perpetrators. (104)</li> </ul>
Moon and Evans-Campbell 1999	Interviews of 95 Korean-Americans and 90 Caucasian elders age 60 and over in Los Angeles	Awareness of formal or informal sources of help for elder mistreatment or abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Only 28% of Korean-Americans, compared to 62% of Caucasians, knew of an agency, organization, or a professional to turn to for help if they were abused or mistreated.” (8)</li> <li>• Of the 27 Korean Americans who knew of a professional source of help, 22 named Korean American agencies. The remaining 5 mentioned the police. (8-9)</li> <li>• “Over one-quarter of Korean Americans (28%) and 3% of Caucasians could not identify a signal</li> </ul>

			<p>source of help, informal or formal, to turn to if they were being abused.” (10)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Most elderly respondents, regardless of ethnicity, would turn to an informal source of help, the police, or a general social service agency providing services to the elderly rather than APS.” (20)</li> </ul>
Tomita 1999	Two focus groups of Japanese-Americans (age unclear) and 25 interviews of Japanese Americans in Seattle and Hawaii, aged 65+	Purpose of study was to “capture the Japanese American definitions of mistreatment” (120)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggests interventions be focused on “the we-self and not the I-self, perhaps involving third parties to support or carry out professionals’ interventions.” (137)</li> <li>• Interventions should focus on respite, safety, and group harmony promoted through conflict-avoidance and management techniques. (137)</li> </ul>
Vladescu, et al 1999	26 abused elders (age limit unspecified) served between 1/1/97 and 1/1/99 by Seniors’ Case Management program in Hamilton, Ontario; focus group of 3 case managers	Physical, psychological, and financial abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 34.6% of cases, the abuse was eliminated; in an additional 30.8% of cases, the situation was improved for victim. (14)</li> <li>• Abuse was eliminated in 27.3% of cases where duration was less than two years, but in 40% of cases where abuse had lasted longer than two years. (14)</li> <li>• 34.6% of resolved cases involved the victim relocating away from abuser. (16)</li> <li>• There was no significant relationship between the amount of time the case manager spent on the case and whether or not the abuse was eliminated. (15)</li> <li>• “When information is available and the abused senior is aware of his/her options, ending an abusive situation is chosen over harm reduction.” (13)</li> <li>• “[This study] supports a client-centered approach that empowers abused seniors rather than rescuing them.” (20)</li> </ul>

Wolf 1999	20 elder shelters in US, Canada and Japan	Unspecified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of 20 shelters identified, 10 were in operation, 6 being planned, and 4 were closed. (3)</li> <li>• Shelters were of various types: rooms in residential care homes, safe homes, apartments in housing for the elderly, designated floors or areas in building that have other functions, and buildings designed as shelters. (3)</li> <li>• Domestic violence programs were involved in only two of the 20 shelters. (4)</li> <li>• Three programs had only 1 bed; the average was 8. (4)</li> <li>• About ½ of the beds were filled the day of the survey. (4)</li> <li>• Two programs admitted persons 18+ (with emphasis on elders); 5 admitted age 55+; the balance admitted age 60+. (4)</li> <li>• All programs accepted both women and men. (4)</li> <li>• About two-thirds of the programs admitted only elders who could care for themselves or needed minimal assistance; the remaining third took persons with two or more ADL needs. (4)</li> <li>• Because of limited numbers (some are one bed shelters), length of stay, and philosophy, “[t]he [abused elder’s] opportunity for sharing experiences and forming healthy relationships which is such an important feature of the battered women’s shelters is lacking.” (6)</li> <li>• “It has been very difficult to quantify the need for the shelters.” (7)</li> <li>• Researcher concluded, “As to whether elder shelters are a viable solution, it is too early to say.” (8)</li> </ul>
Older	106 women aged 50+	Physical, emotional, financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seven programs for older battered women are</li> </ul>

<p>Women's Network 1998</p>	<p>suspected of being victims of domestic abuse (58% voluntarily disclosed abuse) and 134 stakeholders in Canada</p>	<p>and sexual abuse; neglect</p>	<p>briefly discussed. (11-13)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older abused women are most likely to turn to family, friends, and cultural/faith groups. (25)</li> <li>• No need to establish separate facilities for older women; existing shelters should play a role. (39)</li> <li>• Older women most wanted peer support groups, 24-hour multilingual crisis line. (27)</li> <li>• Embarrassment and fear are primary reasons women 50+ don't use shelters. (31)</li> </ul>
<p>Vinton 1998</p>	<p>428 domestic violence shelters in the U.S., surveyed about services to women 60+</p>	<p>Unspecified</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/3 had sheltered at least one women age 60+ in previous year; 13.6% had sheltered 10 or more. (565)</li> <li>• 61 programs (14.8%) said they had specialized programming for older victims. Most frequent programming: outreach efforts (34%); individual interventions (19%); educational materials featuring older couples (18%); staff/volunteer training (16%); support groups for older women (9%). (567-8)</li> <li>• “[S]helters that offered special programming were significantly more likely to have sheltered 10 or more women age 60 and over.” (568)</li> <li>• 76.2% of the shelters were handicapped accessible; 60.3% stored but did not dispense medications; an additional 25.7% both stored and dispensed medications. (564)</li> </ul>
<p>Wolf 1998</p>	<p>30 support groups for older battered women in U.S. and Canada</p>	<p>Unspecified</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Similarities in programming whether the group was sponsored by DV or aging services. (23)</li> <li>• All but one of the aging services-sponsored programs were open to women age 60+ (the exception was 55+); nine DV-sponsored programs used 50+, five used 55+, and one used 60+. (10)</li> <li>• Half of the aging services-sponsored and one of</li> </ul>

			<p>the DV-sponsored groups were open to men, although few participated/stayed. (11)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only one DV-sponsored group was limited to victims of intimate partner abuse; all the other groups accepted persons who had been abused by relatives and those who were victims of financial exploitation. (15)</li> <li>• Group leaders felt the groups were “very” to “somewhat” successful at improving participants’ self-esteem, abuse awareness, feelings of personal growth, and coping ability. They also felt successful in helping participants develop safety plans, decrease isolation, problem-solve, decrease dependency, reduce anxiety, and know how to obtain an order of protection. (18)</li> <li>• Many of the groups had as few as 2 or 3 members. (22)</li> <li>• “As state policy, a partnership should be encouraged among a state’s domestic violence coalition, the state unit on aging, adult protective services agency and victim assistance programs so that the experience and skills in these areas can be tapped for the benefit of abused elders.” (26)</li> </ul>
Lachs, et al 1997 (b)	182 victims of physical abuse aged 60+ from New Haven, Connecticut	EPS-substantiated cases of physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 114 of 182 had been seen 628 times at hospital emergency department (ED) within 5 years of EPS case, with a median of 3 visits/elder. (448)</li> <li>• 37.8% of 111 community-dwelling elders had at least one ED visit rated “high probability” of being abuse related, yet only 9.1% of all the ED visits were referred to EPS. (451)</li> </ul>
Le 1997	20 Vietnamese age 60+, living in a house headed by an adult	Verbal, emotional, financial and physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations include address post traumatic stress disorder, provide respite care, emergency shelter, increase public awareness, address</li> </ul>

	child, at least somewhat dependent on child, in Southern California		isolation, fund in-home care, promote education on intergenerational issues, hire bilingual/bicultural staff, encourage seniors to take responsibility for their lives, and alleviate the fear of reporting. (61)
Wolf and Pillemer 1997	73 abused women aged 60+ from New York City, San Francisco, Honolulu, and Madison, WI. 22 were abused by husband, 51 by children (review of written case assessment data)	Physical abuse, psychological abuse, neglect, financial exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “For dependent victims of spouse and parent abuse, the shelter movement provides a model: reducing the dependency of the victim on the perpetrator through temporary shelter, group and individual counseling, legal advocacy, social service referral, transitional housing and health care.” (8)</li> <li>• “Decreasing the dependency of the perpetrator on the victim is a second approach – especially for adult children. A much more comprehensive program for perpetrators is needed than what is available today.” (9)</li> </ul>
Harris 1996	5168 couples 19+ from the 1985 U.S. National Family Violence Resurvey, separated into under 60 (4476) and 60+ (842)	Physical violence, defined as “an act carried out with the intention or perceived intention of causing physical pain or injury to another person”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Paternalism and medicalization may be appropriate responses for other types of elder abuse but are clearly inappropriate for the majority of older couples represented by the data.” (26)</li> <li>• APS workers should be encouraged to develop working relationships with domestic violence services already in existence. (27)</li> </ul>
Seaver 1996	132 women aged 50+ who have attended older abused women’s program in Milwaukee, Wisconsin	Unspecified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program includes weekly support group, volunteer mentors, shelter and community education, and case management. (14)</li> <li>• 39% of women in the program freed themselves from abuse; 5% are working on it; and 56% are still in the abusive situation. (16)</li> <li>• Women who left abusive mates were of all ages; including 4 women over age 80. (17)</li> <li>• “Those most likely to stay in abusive relationships</li> </ul>

			<p>were themselves disabled or had highly dependent spouses or adult children.” (17)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twelve women have used the shelter since the program began; because the support groups use a room in the shelter for their meetings, “some older women have been emboldened to use the shelter by becoming familiar with the exact place they can flee to, thus answering the first of many troubling questions, ‘Where can I go?’” (15, 18)</li> <li>• “Access to state or non-state resources is critical for older women because of the likelihood they are neither employed nor have a pension. Social Security, Medicare, and public housing have been crucial to the present cohorts of older women.” (19)</li> <li>• Most visible impact of program was through the support group. (18)</li> </ul>
Allen 1995	4 forums, 88 total participants, in Minnesota. 46 participants were battered women and battered women’s advocates; the balance represented a broad range of professionals working at community, county, and state levels to provide services to seniors	Unspecified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Two broad categories began to emerge as participants brainstormed barriers to safety and services for older battered women. The first related to lack of resources and could be grouped roughly into financial, housing, and health-related concerns. The second related to community attitudes about violence against women and could be divided into attitudes held by the religious community, helping professionals (institutionalized attitudes), family, and society at large.” (7)</li> <li>• “Education was listed more times, in more variations than any other single topic, as a recommendation for change. Education – to accurately identify battering and to know what help is available – for people working in the</li> </ul>

			media, churches, senior centers, schools, extension programs, medical and health care professions, the aging network, law enforcement, and social services would facilitate the best use of the limited resources currently available. This could be most efficiently accomplished by cross-training, at a local level, between these services providers and advocates in battered women’s programs.” (15)
Podnieks 1992 (a)	Random sample telephone survey of 2008 persons 65+ living in community settings in Canada	Physical abuse (measured by Conflict Tactics Scale); neglect (caregiver did not meet elder’s needs 2-10 times in past year); psychological abuse (insulted, sworn at, or threatened 10+ times in past year); financial exploitation (defined as <i>trying</i> to exploit, not necessarily succeeding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victims felt the following services would be helpful to them: individual counseling (21%), self-help groups for victims (18%), emergency shelters (12%), household help (5%), medical help (1%) and English language assistance (1%). (48)</li> </ul>
Podnieks 1992 (b)	42 elder abuse victims in Canada identified through Podnieks, 1992(a) study	See Podnieks, 1992(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “An important insight gained from this study is that abused elder people will talk about their mistreatment, and for some it can be very therapeutic. In this survey they revealed that they had not previously discussed their maltreatment with anyone.” (107)</li> <li>• Service recommendations include peer counseling, telephone counseling, alternative living options, and prevention. (102-103)</li> </ul>
Vinton 1992	25 battered women’s shelters in Florida; “older” was defined as 60+	Unspecified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only 2% of women using shelters and .3% of other service users were 60+ (percentage of women in Florida 60+: 27%). (68)</li> <li>• Only 2 of 25 had specialized programming. (69)</li> </ul>
Korbin et al 1991	29 people aged 60+ who “seeking legal	Physical or sexual abuse and financial exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compared to elders physically abused by adult offspring who chose NOT to prosecute, the</li> </ul>

	recourse as a result of maltreatment by an adult offspring” in Cuyahoga County, Ohio over a two-year period; 7 were interviewed		<p>prosecutors were significantly younger (mean age 66.7 vs. 77.5) and more likely to be African-American (62.1% vs. 9.1%). (5-6)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six of seven interviewees said they sought legal action after a specific violent incident that was more severe or frightening than previous ones. (11)</li> <li>• Elders often chose the formal legal system because that’s how they could access help for the abuser. (12)</li> <li>• More communities should employ elder victim specialists, who understand old people and can help them through the criminal justice system if their abuser is prosecuted. (15)</li> </ul>
Pillemer and Finkelhor 1989	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston, Massachusetts; 46 abused elders were reinterviewed and compared to 215 controls	Physical assault; psychological abuse (“elderly person being insulted, sworn at, or threatened at least 10 or more times in the preceding year”); neglect (deprivation of some assistance the elder needed for important ADLs 10 or more times in the preceding year, or neglect (“termed somewhat or very serious by the respondent”))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “[V]ictims would benefit from services similar to those offered to younger battered women.” (186)</li> </ul>
Pillemer and Finkelhor 1988	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston, Massachusetts; 63 cases of elder abuse found	Physical assault since turning age 65; psychological abuse (“elderly person being insulted, sworn at, or threatened at least 10 or more times in the preceding year”); neglect (deprivation of some	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service providers to elderly and elderly themselves need to learn more about spouse abuse. (56-57)</li> <li>• Services need to be tailored to spouse abuse among elderly, like shelters or safe apartments and support groups. (57)</li> </ul>

		assistance the elder needed for important ADLs 10 or more times in the preceding year, or neglect “termed somewhat or very serious by the respondent”)	
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## 10) Types of Abuse

<b>Author(s), Pub. Date</b>	<b>Sample size and demographics</b>	<b>Type(s) of abuse covered</b>	<b>Selected finding(s) (page number/s in parentheses)</b>
Brownell, et al 1999	401 cases of abuse of elders 60+ (with 404 identified abusers) known to Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center in New York City; subanalysis done of 218 abusers for whom mental health status was reported	Physical, psychological, financial abuse and neglect (one case of sexual abuse was counted as physical abuse)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 54% of cases involved psychological abuse (86)</li> <li>• 51% of cases involved financial abuse (86)</li> <li>• 28% of cases involved physical abuse (86)</li> <li>• 19% of cases involved neglect (86)</li> </ul>
Crichton et al 1999	50 Canadians age 60+ abused by adult child; 50 abused by spouse from Elder Abuse Resource Center in Winnipeg	Agency-substantiated cases of physical, psychological, and material abuse; neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 41% of incidents were psychological abuse (123)</li> <li>• 27% of incidents were financial abuse (123)</li> <li>• 25% of incidents were physical abuse (123)</li> <li>• 7% of incidents were neglect (123)</li> <li>• “Financial abuse was more likely to be committed by an adult child (37 instances) than a spouse (13 instances);...no other relationship between types of abuse and whether the perpetrator was an adult child or a spouse was found.” (124)</li> </ul>
Lithwick and Beaulieu	128 cases of mistreatment of	Physical or sexual abuse; psychological abuse; financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of cases perpetrated by a spouse: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 87% included psychological abuse;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

1999	adults aged 60+ brought to the attention of community service agencies in Quebec	and material exploitation; neglect (both active and passive) by family members and acquaintances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 13% included financial exploitation;</li> <li>○ 23% included neglect; and</li> <li>○ 31% included physical abuse. (103)</li> <li>● Of cases perpetrated by an adult child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 59% included psychological abuse;</li> <li>○ 59% included financial exploitation;</li> <li>○ 49% included neglect; and</li> <li>○ 13% included physical abuse. (103)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Where there was physical abuse by spouse, it was always accompanied by psychological abuse. (102)</li> </ul>
Sanchez 1999	62 individuals age 60+, Mexican immigrants or self-identified as Mexican-American, who participated in community centers in Detroit, Michigan, and Carson City, Nevada.	Physical abuse, neglect, financial abuse, and denial of shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Of the 20 respondents (33%) who knew of at least one incident of elder abuse in the Mexican American community, the types of mistreatment cited were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 40.3% denial of shelter</li> <li>○ 22.6% neglect</li> <li>○ 12.9% financial abuse</li> <li>○ 11.3% physical abuse (72)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Vladescu, et al 1999	26 abused elders (age limit unspecified) served between 1/1/97 and 1/1/99 by Seniors' Case Management program in Hamilton, Ontario	Physical, psychological, and financial abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 73.1% of the cases involved psychological abuse (13)</li> <li>● 39.2% of cases involved financial exploitation (13)</li> <li>● 30.8% of cases involved physical abuse (13)</li> </ul>
Anetzberger 1998	289 cases receiving protective services investigation in Cleveland from 1987	Cases investigated by a Cleveland APS agency from 1987 to 1995, focusing particularly on psychological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 10% of the cases included psychological abuse or neglect. (146)</li> <li>● In cases where there was psychological abuse or neglect, additional forms of abuse were present</li> </ul>

	to 1995	abuse (ex: threats of injury or property damage, yelling, name-calling) and psychological neglect (ex: isolation, inadequate supervision)	89.7% of the time, including (in 50.0% of the cases) physical neglect and (in 46.2% of the cases) exploitation. (146)
NCEA National Elder Abuse Incidence Study 1998	APS reports and community “sentinel” reports of abused and neglected persons age 60+ from 20 counties in 15 states in U.S.	Physical abuse; sexual abuse; emotional or psychological abuse; neglect; abandonment; financial or material exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types of abuse substantiated by APS agencies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 48.7% neglect (43.2% of perpetrators were adult children; 30.3% spouses)</li> <li>○ 35.4% emotional/psychological abuse (53.9% adult children; 12.6% spouses)</li> <li>○ 30.2% financial/material exploitation (60.4% adult children; 4.9% spouses)</li> <li>○ 25.6% physical abuse (48.6% adult children, 23.4% spouses)</li> <li>○ 3.6% abandonment (79.5% adult children, 6.4% spouses)</li> <li>○ 0.3% sexual abuse</li> <li>○ 1.4% other (pages 4-7, 4-28, and 4-29)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Otiniano 1998	24,648 Hispanic elders referred to the Texas APS system from 1991-1995	Cases referred to APS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-neglect was present in 47.1% of the cases.</li> <li>• Caretaker neglect was present in 25.3% of cases.</li> <li>• Abuse [undefined] was present in 16.2% of the cases.</li> <li>• Exploitation was present in 11.4% of the cases. (194)</li> </ul>
Lachs, et al 1997 (a)	2,812 adults 65 and older from a stratified sample of residence types in Connecticut; 47 were substantiated cases of abuse, neglect, or exploitation by	Elder abuse (the willful infliction of physical pain, injury, or mental anguish, or the willful deprivation by a caretaker of services necessary to maintain physical and mental health); neglect (an elderly person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of 47 cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 30 (64%) were neglect;</li> <li>○ 9 (19%) were abuse;</li> <li>○ 8 (17%) were exploitation. (471)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	someone else	who is not able to provide self the services necessary to maintain physical and mental health, or who is not receiving those services from a responsible caretaker); exploitation (taking advantage of an older adult for monetary gain or profit). Self-neglect cases were excluded.	
Le 1997	20 Vietnamese age 60+, living in a house headed by an adult child, at least somewhat dependent on child, in Southern California	Verbal, emotional, financial and physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only one case of financial abuse and no cases of physical abuse was detected. (55)</li> <li>• There were 13 cases of elder encouraged to leave the house if unhappy; 10 cases of coercion to stay in the house; 9 cases of insult, 1 case of eviction without advance notice. Researcher classed all of these as verbal abuse. (55)</li> <li>• There were 5 cases of harassment by daughter-in-law; 14 cases of silent treatment; 9 cases of avoidance. Researcher classed all of these as emotional abuse. (55)</li> </ul>
Wolf and Pillemer 1997	73 abused women aged 60+ from New York City, San Francisco, Honolulu, and Madison, WI. 22 were abused by husband, 51 by children (review of written case assessment data)	Physical abuse, psychological abuse, neglect, financial exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 61.9% of spouse, 31.4% of parent abuse was primarily physical. (329)</li> <li>• 23.8% of spouse, 31.4% of parent abuse was primarily psychological. (329)</li> <li>• 0% of spouse, 21.6% of parent abuse was primarily financial exploitation. (329)</li> <li>• 14.3% of spouse, 15.7% of parent abuse was primarily neglect. (329)</li> </ul>
Pittaway 1993	605 adults aged 55-100 who accessed	Physical abuse (including sexual abuse), chronic verbal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20% reported actual or attempted material abuse. (87)</li> </ul>

	health and social service organizations in London, Ontario during a 3-month period	aggression, material abuse (actual and attempted), and neglect (intentional and unintentional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14.3% of sample had been physically abused since turning 55. (84)</li> <li>• 14% of the sample had been chronically verbally abused. (84)</li> <li>• 13.8% had been intentionally or unintentionally neglected. (89)</li> </ul>
Podnieks 1992 (a)	Random sample telephone survey of 2008 persons 65+ living in community settings in Canada	Physical abuse (measured by Conflict Tactics Scale); neglect (caregiver did not meet elder's needs 2-10 times in past year); psychological abuse (insulted, sworn at, or threatened 10+ times in past year); financial exploitation (defined as <i>trying</i> to exploit, not necessarily succeeding)	Of the 2008 elders interviewed, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.5% of elders materially abused (41)</li> <li>• 1.4% of elders chronically verbally abused (41)</li> <li>• .5% of elders physically abused (41)</li> <li>• .4% of elders neglected (41)</li> <li>• 19% of victims were victims of more than one type of abuse (41)</li> </ul>
Podnieks 1992 (b)	42 elder abuse victims in Canada identified through Podnieks, 1992(a) study	See Podnieks, 1992(a)	Of the 42 elder abuse victims found from the random sample of 2008 persons, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 57.1% were materially abused (50% of men, 61.5% of women). (70)</li> <li>• 18.0% were physically abused (25% of men, 15.4% of women). (70)</li> <li>• 16.7% were verbally abused (25% of men, 11.5% of women). (70)</li> <li>• 7.1% were neglected (0% of men, 11.5% of women). (70)</li> </ul>
Greenberg et al 1990	204 cases of abuse of person 60+ by adult child in Wisconsin	APS-substantiated cases of physical abuse, material abuse, and neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 39% of cases physical abuse (77)</li> <li>• 20% material abuse (77)</li> <li>• 21% neglect (77)</li> <li>• 20% multiple forms of abuse (77)</li> </ul>
Brown 1989	Random sample of 37 Southwest reservation-dwelling	5 types of neglect; 5 types of verbal/psychological abuse; 4 types of physical abuse;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 45.9% of sample neglected (24)</li> <li>• 21.6% psychologically abused (24)</li> </ul>

	male and female Navajo aged 60+ , and their family members; 22 cases of elder abuse found	financial exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 21.6% financially exploited (24)</li> <li>• 16.2% physically abused (24)</li> </ul>
Godkin, et al 1989	59 abused elders (60 years and older) compared to 49 non-abused elders, both served by a Massachusetts home care program	Physical, psychological, and material abuse; active and passive neglect by a caregiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types of abuse perpetrated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 72.9% included psychological abuse;</li> <li>○ 57.7% involved neglect;</li> <li>○ 44% included physical abuse; and</li> <li>○ 39% included material abuse. (212)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Pillemer and Finkelhor 1988	Random sample of 2020 community dwelling people aged 65+ in Boston, Massachusetts; 63 cases of elder abuse found	Physical assault since turning age 65; psychological abuse (“elderly person being insulted, sworn at, or threatened at least 10 or more times in the preceding year”); neglect (deprivation of some assistance the elder needed for important ADLs 10 or more times in the preceding year, or neglect “termed somewhat or very serious by the respondent”)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rate of physical violence: 20 per 1,000 (53)</li> <li>• Rate of chronic verbal aggression: 11 per 1,000 (53)</li> <li>• Rate of neglect: 4 per 1,000 (53)</li> </ul>

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