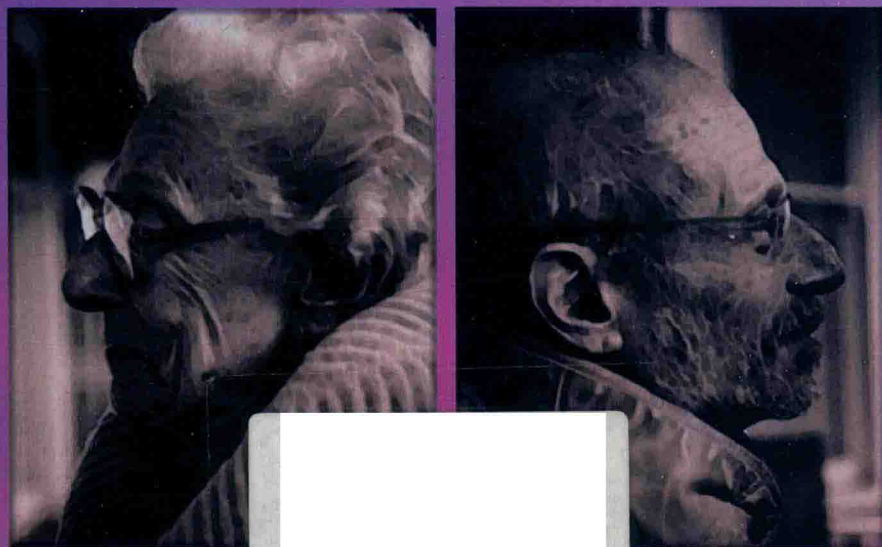


ISSUES IN GLOBAL AGING



Frederick L. Ahearn, Jr.

E d i t o r

Issues in Global Aging

Frederick L. Ahearn, Jr.
Editor

Issues in Global Aging has been co-published simultaneously as
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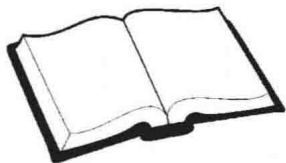
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Issues in Global Aging, edited by Frederick L. Ahearn, Jr., DSW (Vol. 20, No. 3/4, 2001). "*Fine scholarship . . . very useful. Ahearn has assembled a fine cohort of experts on aging who address various issues. The first section approaches them from the western industrial model perspective, but also provides an example of an Islamic traditional approach. The second section deals less with formal religiosity than with issues of spiritual transcendence in older persons. A balanced portrait of the aged as people rather than statistics.*" (Charles Guzzetta, EdD, Professor, Hunter College, City University of New York)

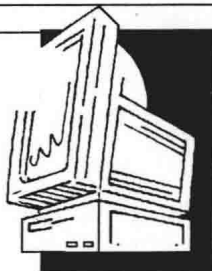
Transpersonal Perspectives on Spirituality in Social Work, edited by Edward R. Canda, PhD, and Elizabeth D. Smith, DSW (Vol. 20, No. 1/2, 2001). "*COMPREHENSIVE . . . provides theoretical and practice-oriented studies on the emerging field of transpersonal social work. The writing is both scholarly and relevant to practice. OF INTEREST TO SCHOLARS, PRACTITIONERS, AND STUDENTS ALIKE.*" (John R. Graham, PhD, RSW, Associate Professor, Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada)

Raising Our Children Out of Poverty, edited by John J. Stretch, PhD, Maria Bartlett, PhD, William J. Hutchison, PhD, Susan A. Taylor, PhD, and Jan Wilson, MSW (Vol. 19, No. 2, 1999). *This book shows what can be done at the national and local community levels to raise children out of poverty by strengthening families, communities, and social services.*

Postmodernism, Religion and the Future of Social Work, edited by Roland G. Meinert, PhD, John T. Pardeck, PhD, and John W. Murphy, PhD (Vol. 18, No. 3, 1998). "*Critically important for social work as it attempts to effectively respond to its increasingly complex roles and demands. . . . A book worth owning and studying.*" (John M. Herrick, PhD, Acting Director, School of Social Work, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan)

Spirituality in Social Work: New Directions, edited by Edward R. Canda, PhD (Vol. 18, No. 2, 1998). "*Provides interesting insights and references for those who seek to develop curricula responsive to the spiritual challenges confronting our profession and the populations we serve.*" (Au-Deane S. Cowley, PhD, Associate Dean, Graduate School of Social Work, University of Utah, Salt Lake City)

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• <i>Applied Social Sciences Index & Abstracts (ASSIA)</i> (Online: ASSI via Data-Star) (CDRom: ASSIA Plus) <www.csa.com>	1998
• <i>BUBL Information Service, an Internet-based Information Service for the UK higher education community</i> <URL: http://bubl.ac.uk/ >	1995
• <i>caredata CD: the social and community care database</i> <www.scie.org.uk>	1995
• <i>Catholic Periodical & Literature Index (CPLI), The</i>	2001
• <i>CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature), in print, EBSCO, and SilverPlatter, Data-Star, and PaperChase</i> <www.cinahl.com>	2000
• <i>CNPIEC Reference Guide: Chinese National Directory of Foreign Periodicals</i>	1995
• <i>EAP Abstracts Plus</i>	2000
• <i>Family & Society Studies Worldwide</i> <www.nisc.com>	2000
• <i>FINDEX</i> <www.publist.com>	1999
• <i>FRANCIS. INIST/CNRS</i> <www.inist.fr>	1999

(continued)

- *Guide to Social Science & Religion in Periodical Literature* 1995
- *IBZ International Bibliography of Periodical Literature*
 <www.saur.de> 1995
- *Orere Source, The (Pastoral Abstracts)* 1998
- *Peace Research Abstracts Journal* 1995
- *Sage Race Relations Abstracts* 1995
- *Sage Urban Studies Abstracts (SUSA)* 1995
- *Social Services Abstracts* <www.csa.com> 1995
- *Social Work Abstracts* <www.silverplatter.com/catalog/swab.htm> 1995
- *Sociological Abstracts (SA)* <www.csa.com> 1995
- *Violence and Abuse Abstracts: A Review of Current Literature*
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ABOUT THE EDITOR

Frederick L. Ahearn, Jr., DSW, was Dean and is now Professor at the School of Social Services of the Catholic University of America. He also holds an appointment as Tutor at the Refugee Studies Centre, Oxford University. Dr. Ahearn served on the Board of Directors of the National Council on Aging and is a member of the Global Center on Ageing founded by Dr. Daniel Thursz. Dr. Ahearn is the author of *Psychosocial Wellness of Refugees* (2000) and *Refugee Children* (1991).



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In Memoriam

Daniel Thursz
1929-2000

This volume is dedicated with much affection and admiration to the memory of Dr. Daniel Thursz, a leader in the field of gerontology. Most of the authors in this volume were students, friends, and/or colleagues of his. He was also an educator and leader in the field of social work, an advocate for the poor and elderly, and an internationalist whose concerns were peace, human rights, and social justice.

Daniel Thursz, the Cardinal O'Boyle Professor of Social Work and Director of the International Center on Global Aging at the Catholic University of America, passed away January 18, 2000, a week before his 71st birthday. Born in Casablanca, Morocco, where his father was active in Zionist activities, he fled to New York with his family as a refugee at the outbreak of World War II. He received his undergraduate degree from Queens College and both his master's and doctoral degrees in social work from The Catholic University of America. During the many summers in between his studies, he spent organizing and participating in youth camp activities under Jewish auspices.

After teaching a few years at the School of Social Service at Catholic University, Dr. Thursz accepted a faculty position at the University of Maryland's School of Social Work where he soon became Dean. Under his leadership, the school grew in stature with new initiatives in community organization, social planning, clinical practice, both at the master's and doctoral levels. During this time, Dr. Thursz also became the Associate Director of Vista (Volunteers in Service to America), a program that was part of the anti-poverty strategy in the 1960s and 70s. Re-

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turning to his life-long interest in Jewish service, he accepted the Vice-Presidency of B'nai B'rith International and later the Presidency of the Jewish Communal Service Association (JCSA). In both roles, he dedicated himself to peace, the care of the poor and needy, linking individuals to community so that they might have the resources and support to enrich their lives.

In 1985, Dr. Thursz took on the Presidency of the National Council on Aging (NCOA) where he advocated for policies and services to improve the lives of the nation's senior citizens. His leadership and influence were evident in the debates on social security reform, community centers, health care, and employment for seniors. When he retired from the NCOA, he returned to the School of Social Service at The Catholic University of America to begin the International Center on Global Aging that sponsored international exchanges, conferences, research, and training for professionals in the field of gerontology.

The authors represented in this volume have written their papers in memory of Daniel Thursz, recognizing his life-long contribution to social work, social justice, Jewish communal and philanthropic services, policy and services for the nation's elder citizens. This fine man, scholar, and change agent will be missed by all of us.

Issues in Global Aging

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PART I:

GLOBAL DIMENSIONS OF AGING

Daniel Thursz, to whom this volume is dedicated, was a unique person who possessed a global vision for peace, human rights, and the needs of the aged. It was in his roles as President of the International Federation on Ageing, President of the National Council on Aging, and Director of The Catholic University's Global Center on Aging that he carried the message that all societies are enriched by their older citizens who are the repositories of values, tradition, culture, and knowledge. However, as the world's population of elders is expected to triple in the next thirty years, countries are facing crises in meeting the needs of their older citizens. Many lack the essentials of life, food, clothing, and shelter. As persons grow older, there are greater needs for health care that is not available in many cases or, if available, is so costly that older persons cannot afford it. Women, the largest cohort of elders, suffer disproportionately from poverty, isolation, poor health, and discrimination. Daniel Thursz traveled the world advocating policies that would give older persons access to work, income, health care, and shelter. Key in Dr. Thursz's vision was the empowerment of older persons as a treasure and resource for their respective societies.

The first article in this section is written by Jeanette C. Takamura, the former Director of the Administration on Aging and Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Service. In it she explores various social and moral meanings that different societies give to the rapid growth of the older population within their respective societies. These meanings influence aging policy and the type of programs that are then planned for this population. She points out that China will soon have more elders than the total U. S. population, while the number of elderly in Latin America will more than double in the next 25 years. Using the U. S. as a case example, Dr. Takamura draws the implications for aging policy and programs in the U. S.