

Palgrave Studies in Victims and Victimology

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In recent decades, a growing emphasis on meeting the needs and rights of victims of crime in criminal justice policy and practice has fuelled the development of research, theory, policy and practice outcomes stretching across the globe. This growth of interest in the victim of crime has seen victimology move from being a distinct subset of criminology in academia to a specialist area of study and research in its own right.

Palgrave Studies in Victims and Victimology showcases the work of contemporary scholars of victimological research and publishes some of the highest-quality research in the field. The series reflects the range and depth of research and scholarship in this burgeoning area, combining contributions from both established scholars who have helped to shape the field and more recent entrants. It also reflects both the global nature of many of the issues surrounding justice for victims of crime and social harm and the international span of scholarship researching and writing about them.

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Hannah Bows
Editor

Violence Against Older Women, Volume I

Nature and Extent

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Preface

Despite over four decades of scholarly and activist commitments to examining and responding to violence against women, there remain significant gaps in knowledge in relation to specific groups of women who experience violence by men. In particular, despite the increase of intersectionality as a guiding principle in feminist research, taking sensitivity to the importance of gender, class and ethnicity in women's risk of victimisation and lived experiences of violence, age has been all but ignored in the majority of these efforts. However, there has been a slow and steady increase in research examining abuse of older people, though this is spread across a range of disciplines and fields, including elder abuse, domestic and intimate partner violence, eldercide and sexual violence. The lack of an easily identifiable body of work has not gone unnoticed, and there have been calls to bring together the existing, cross-disciplinary research into one place. This edited collection aims to address this gap by drawing the empirical work of a range of researchers and activists working broadly in the areas of violence against older women.

This collection is an important starting point for future research, theory and practice. I am grateful to the contributors who have shared their research findings, conceptual and theoretical ideas and case study

examples in the pages of this book. I would like to thank my colleagues at Durham University; in the Law School, the Department of Sociology and in the Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse for advice, guidance and support. A special thanks to my husband (David), dog (Rufus) and my lovely parents for their continuing support (and patience!).

Durham, UK

Hannah Bows

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Dr. Hannah Bows is Assistant Professor in Criminal Law at Durham Law School. Her research interests coalesce around age, gender, socio-cultural and spatial causes of violence against women. Her recent projects include a national study of elder homicides, a separate national study exploring sexual violence against older people and a recent project examining the policing of extreme pornography. She is currently working on a project examining sexual violence at UK music festivals. Outside of academia, Hannah is the chair of Age UK Teesside and serves as a magistrate on the County Durham and Darlington bench.

Professor Pamela Davies is Professor of Criminology and Head of Department of Social Sciences, Northumbria University. Pam's research interests centre around gender, crime and victimisation, cutting into the broad area of policing. Her work is shaped by concerns about criminal and non-criminal forms of victimisation and experiences of harm, especially women and children as victims/survivors.

Briony Dow is Director of the National Ageing Research Institute (NARI) and Honorary Associate Professor in the Centre for Health Policy at the University of Melbourne. She is involved in a range of research projects at NARI, focusing on mental health, aged care and elder abuse. Briony has been at NARI for 16 years during which time she has published over 70 peer-reviewed publications and over 30 major reports to government. She is past President of the Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG).

Sehar Ezdi is a postdoctoral researcher at the Center Maurice Halbwachs (CNRS, ENS, EHESS, PLS) in Paris. She is working on the CALICO Project where she is using the Constances data to analyse the relationship between unemployment and lifestyle changes and the consequent impact on health. Prior to this, she worked as a Senior Researcher on an ERC project at the University of Turku where she used register and panel datasets to assess the role of family policies on fertility in Europe. Sehar completed her PhD titled 'The Elderly Missing Women Phenomenon' from Germany in 2017. Her PhD adopts a life course framework to, theoretically, analytically and empirically, show that contrary to the global trend several countries across Asia and potentially Africa display an excess of elderly (60+) men in their populations. Sehar's main research interest include gender and ageing in developing countries; gender, fertility, and ageing; and immigration and fertility preferences. She is particularly interested in quantitative research and longitudinal data analysis and hopes to continue to develop her PhD research through these techniques.

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Dr. Amanda Holt is Reader in Criminology at the University of Roehampton with long-standing research interests in children, families and harm, and in research methodologies. Amanda's work in recent years has focused on the problem of violence towards parents. She has published widely on this topic and has spoken about this issue at international conferences and on local and national radio and recently worked with the Home Office in producing a government response to adolescent violence and abuse towards parents.

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Melanie Joosten is a Policy Officer at Seniors Rights Victoria in Melbourne, Australia. She is the author of the book *A Long Time Coming: Essays on Old Age*, and two novels. Melanie holds a Master of Social Work from RMIT and a Master of Arts (Editing and Communications) from the University of Melbourne. She has previously worked at the National Ageing Research Institute on projects about carers, elder abuse, and intergenerational relationships and has authored a number of reports on elder abuse.

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Dr. Julie McGarry is Associate Professor and Chair of the Domestic Violence and Abuse Integrated Research Group, Social Futures in Mental Health, Institute of Mental Health at the University of Nottingham. Her expertise and professional background are in the fields of safeguarding (adults and children), gender-based violence and intimate partner violence/domestic violence and abuse with a focus towards survivors' experiences and the development of effective health/social care professionals' responses. Julie has led on a number of funded research initiatives, working with national and local agencies in the UK in the development of safeguarding and domestic violence services for children and families and survivors of abuse.

Dr. Sarmitė Mikulionienė is Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Sociology, the Lithuanian Social Research Centre in Vilnius, Lithuania, and since 2017—Director of this Centre. She has taught and conducted research on population ageing, ageing policy, old age social exclusion, integration and equal opportunities of generations and ageism at Vilnius University, Mykolas Romeris University and Vytautas Magnus University in Lithuania. She is a long-term member of Executive Board of Lithuanian Sociological Association.

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Dr. Jean Tinney is an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at the National Ageing Research Institute Parkville, Victoria. Jean is an anthropologist and social health researcher with a training and experience in sociolinguistics. She has a background in education and training of adult migrants, and extensive experience in research on ageing and aged care services. Her research focus is on communication in health settings, social inclusion, older people's mental health and equality of access to services.

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