

New Directions in the Study of Late Life Religiousness and Spirituality



Susan H. McAdams, PhD • Mark Brennan, PhD • Julie Hicks Patrick, PhD, editors

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James W. Ellor



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New Directions in the Study of Late Life Religiousness and Spirituality Susan H. Mcfadden, Mark Brennan, 2014-05-01 Examine the questions of how what and why associated with religiousness and spirituality in the lives of older adults New Directions in the Study of Late Life Religiousness and Spirituality explores new ways of thinking about a topic that was once taboo but that has now attracted considerable attention from the gerontological community It examines various approaches to methodology and definition that are used in the study of religion spirituality and aging In addition it explores the ways that gerontological research can highlight the role of religion and spirituality in the lives of older adults The first section will introduce you to new ways of thinking about research methodology and data analysis that can be applied to studying the complexity of older adults religious spiritual practice and beliefs You ll learn several approaches to the study of phenomena that are both personal and also deeply embedded in community The second section addresses issues of definition exploring important questions that call for critical reflection such as What are we studying What social and psychological influences shape our thinking about definition and Do the definitions used by gerontologists match those held by older people The final section moves the study of religion spirituality and aging beyond a focus on health and mortality to examine well being more broadly in the context of the life experiences of older adults Here is a small sample of what you ll learn about in New Directions in the Study of Late Life Religiousness and Spirituality structural equation modeling a statistical method designed to capture the dynamics inherent in the passage of time feminist qualitative methods for studying spiritual resiliency in older women spirituality as a public health issue the differences between groups of older people in the way they define religion and spirituality the psychosocial implications of two types of religious orientation dwelling and seeking older women s responses to the experience of widowhood and to the question of whether their religious beliefs were affected by the experience how social context influences our decisions and our interpretations of people s religious beliefs behaviors and experiences the ways that people caring for a spouse with dementia rely on religious coping a model that delineates three different ways people relate to God in coping and a study that asks whether these types of coping produce different outcomes for caregivers how people adjust to bereavement as a function of their beliefs about an afterlife

New Directions in the Study of Late Life Religiousness and Spirituality Susan H. Mcfadden, Mark Brennan, 2014-05-01 Examine the questions of how what and why associated with religiousness and spirituality in the lives of older adults New Directions in the Study of Late Life Religiousness and Spirituality explores new ways of thinking about a topic that was once taboo but that has now attracted considerable attention from the gerontological community It examines various approaches to methodology and definition that are used in the study of religion spirituality and aging In addition it explores the ways that gerontological research can highlight the role of religion and spirituality in the lives of older adults The first section will introduce you to new ways of thinking about research methodology and data analysis that can be applied to studying the complexity of older

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New Directions in the Study of Late Life Religiousness and Spirituality Susan H. McFadden, Mark Brennan, Julie Hicks-Patrick, 2003 New Directions in the Study of Late Life Religiousness and Spirituality explores new ways of thinking about a topic that was once taboo but that has now attracted considerable attention from the gerontological community It examines various approaches to methodology and definition that are used in the study of religion spirituality and aging In addition it explores the ways that gerontological research can highlight the role of religion and spirituality in the lives of older adults The title addresses several approaches to issues of definition exploring important questions that call for critical reflection such as the study of religion spirituality and aging beyond a focus on health and mortality to examine well being more broadly in the context of the life experiences of older adults

Spirituality of Later Life Elizabeth Mackinlay, 2014-06-11 Humor expresses a certain heroic defiance in the face of life s most challenging experience and provides a valuable resource for the celebration of life and the divine comedy of faith hope and love From the book chapter by Melvin A Kimble PhD Studies have shown that as many people age their spirituality deepens Spirituality of Later Life On Humor and Despair explores the challenges faced by those in later life and the use of humor for self transcendence to achieve greater strength and deeper spirituality Respected authorities share their insights on humor and despair in the process of spiritual development in later life with discussions on how to provide effective pastoral practice in aged care Spirituality of Later Life On Humor and Despair presents the major issues that challenge people in later life that could lead them to either spiritual integrity or despair Beyond the physical and

psychosocial this book shows how the journey into aging can through humor become self transcendent and deeply spiritual in the face of physical decline This theological perspective illustrates the full breadth of issues facing those in later life It presents effective pastoral frameworks of care for those who struggle with the depression dementia disabilities losses and terminal illness that may accompany aging Spirituality of Later Life On Humor and Despair explores humor as a path to self transcendence in later life later life s paradox of well being and defiant power of the human spirit dementia and its effect on spirituality spiritual and pastoral care approaches for those with depression religiousness in older people with dementia the spiritual journey of hospice patients non speech based pastoral care Spirituality of Later Life On Humor and Despair provides valuable insights for aged care chaplains parish clergy pastoral and aged care workers social workers activity officers health professionals and anyone whose life includes an elderly person

Spiritual Assessment and Intervention with Older

Adults Mark Brennan, Deborah Heiser, 2013-04-03 Stay up to date with the latest innovative methods of meeting the spiritual needs of the elderly Spiritual Assessment and Intervention Current Directions and Applications examines current state of the art efforts in the development and implementation of spiritual interventions for older adults Academics and practitioners working in social work social welfare medicine and mental health and aging present innovative approaches to meeting major challenges in the field of gerontology including elder abuse dementia care giving palliative care and intergenerational relationships The book provides practical methods for dealing with the problems and pitfalls of starting and evaluating interventions of a spiritual nature in a variety of community based and institutional settings Spiritual Assessment and Intervention Current Directions and Applications provides you with an overview of current and future methods and means of providing spiritual support to the elderly as they struggle with the problems and possibilities of aging in today s complex world Growing interest in the positive effects that religiousness and spirituality can have on life stress has created a growing need for research and practice models that strengthen reinforce or promote the spiritual well being of older adults This collection first presented in 2003 at the 56th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America addresses the important care giving and practice issues involving the physical and psychological health of older adults Spiritual Assessment and Intervention Current Directions and Applications examines how older adults use narrative therapy to manage adversity and maintain self efficacy how faith based communities can be enlisted as important social resources a pilot government funded project to raise awareness of elder abuse in faith communities an intergenerational project involving a preschool and a retirement community spiritual activities for adults with Alzheimer s disease the Creating Alternative Relaxing Environment CARE Cabinet intervention Spiritual Assessment and Intervention Current Directions and Applications is an essential resource for gerontological practitioners from the biological clinical including physicians physician assistants nurses and dentists behavioral and social sciences including anthropologists psychologists social workers sociologists and researchers and for health care administrators

Spiritual Growth and Care in the Fourth Age of Life Elizabeth

MacKinlay,2006-02-08 This book explores the spiritual dimension of ageing and investigates the role of pastoral and spiritual care in helping the frail elderly cope with end of life issues Focusing on the experience of nursing home residents and anecdotes gathered in interviews MacKinlay sensitively presents the struggles facing older people in need of care

Religion, Spirituality, and Aging Harry R Moody,2012-12-06 Learn how to make a more positive impact with your social work with the aged Religion is an important coping mechanism for many aging adults Religion Spirituality and Aging A Social Work Perspective presents the latest research that shows how religion and spirituality can improve quality of life for elders Respected social work researchers and scholars provide insight and practical methods for fostering positive aging while also considering how spirituality and religion can affect practitioners themselves The full range of advantages and ethical implications are discussed in clear detail from a social work viewpoint Case studies plainly illustrate the positive impact that the inclusion of spirituality and religion in an aging person s life may have on their physical and mental welfare Organized social work in the early twentieth century actively tried to distance itself from its roots as a form of religious charity in favor of becoming a scientific and professional endeavor Religion Spirituality and Aging once again bridges the gap between social work and spiritual matters by presenting penetrating articles that discusses the issues of the aging soul while examining ways to improve care Creative strategies are offered to contribute to the spiritual side of aging while considering every implication and ethical question The compilation is extensively referenced and includes helpful figures and tables to clearly illustrate data and ideas Religion Spirituality and Aging discusses the latest social work trends and attitudes toward spirituality prayer meditation and acts of altruism as interventions an empirical study of how social workers use religion and spirituality as an intervention ethical considerations and best practices religion and spirituality during long term care the Postcards to God project dreams and their relationship to the search for meaning in later life a spiritual approach to positive aging through autobiography dementia and spirituality creating new rituals for sacred aging spiritual master Henri Nouwen s principles of aging and his approaches to caring for older people an interview study on elders spirituality and the changes manifested in their views of religion Religion Spirituality and Aging is a remarkable reminder that elders are our future selves This erudite well reasoned examination of aging and spirituality from a social work perspective is crucial reading for social workers human service professionals who work with the aged and gerontology scholars

Methods in Religion, Spirituality & Aging James W. Ellor,2013-10-18 Since the 1971 White House Conference on Aging in the United States the need to move from religiosity into new areas such as Spiritual Assessment and Spirituality has emerged This movement has picked up momentum among scholars particularly in terms of research in the area of Spirituality While spirituality as a term is employed in many new studies this term continues to defy the quest for a single definition and method This book is divided into three sections In the first the authors reflect on the philosophical and theological issues presented by these terms from a variety of both cognate and practical methodological approaches The second section offers insights from the major

professions of sociology psychology public health nursing and social work The final section offers insight and assistance to researchers and authors on specific religious traditions This book will be important for anyone working to develop such practical tools as spiritual assessment forms to those who engage in more formal scholarly investigation

Ministering to Older Adults Donald Koepke, 2013-10-18 Learn how to focus your ministry's programs and services on the elderly By 2030 20% of the people living in the United States will be age 65 or older with unique spiritual needs that can affect their physical and mental well being Ministering to Older Adults answers the critical need for a ministry that doesn't center primarily on youth and families in its outreach instead presenting a step by step guide to developing a ministry for the aged that is focused on the needs and resources of each congregation This program has been used effectively with nearly 50 congregations both large and small to create a focused older adult ministry No two congregations are alike The resources perspectives and skills of each congregation are different as are the needs of its members Ministering to Older Adults provides a framework for use by planning groups within communities of any religious tradition The book presents a process that includes essential questions that allow planning groups to develop answers that fit the needs cultural history and structure of their individual congregations Ministering to Older Adults is divided into three sections The Fundamentals defining your audience your mission and the skills and existing programs that can be brought to the planning process Programming Possibilities spiritual needs based on the aging process continued learning for older adults opportunities to serve and be served providing quality pastoral care and community building Putting it All Together deciding on a direction using desired outcomes for evaluation establishing target dates and ongoing evaluation Ministering to Older Adults also includes forms and charts to help in the planning process The book is an invaluable resource for clergy ministry committees and planning groups and staff persons responsible for older adult ministries

Issues in Aging Mark Novak, 2015-07-22 Opportunities and optimism in Aging Issues in Aging 3rd edition takes an optimistic view of aging and human potential in later life This book presents the most up to date facts on aging today the issues raised by these facts and the societal and individual responses that will create a successful old age for us all Mark Novak presents the full picture of aging exhibiting both the problems and the opportunities that accompany older age The text illustrates how generations are dependent on one another and how social conditions affect both the individual and social institutions Learning Goals Upon completing this book readers will be able to Understand how large scale social issues social attitudes the study of aging and demographic issues affect individuals and social institutions Identify the political responses to aging and how individuals can create a better old age for themselves and the people they know Separate the myths from the realities of aging Recognize the human side of aging Trace the transformation of pension plans health and opportunities for personal expression and social engagement to the new ecology of aging today

I Believe, So I Am: Reflections on the Psychology of Spirituality Katarzyna Skrzypińska, 2022-12-05 This book brings together the theoretical and research perspectives of scholars who are looking for

the right relationship between religiousness and spirituality With this question as her basis and backed by many years of research Katarzyna Skrzypiska introduces the Meaning Making Beliefs Spirituality Religiousness MM B S R and the Threefold Nature of Spirituality TNS models These points of view specify the psychological elements as well as hypothetical and researched mechanisms of spirituality paving the way for further exploration in the field The whole is a proposal for a new approach to the concept of the spiritual sphere as a multi factorial multi level phenomenon involved in cooperation with the cognitive system and personality which are important in the process of searching for the meaning of life as they have behavioral consequences resulting from the attitude towards the sacred a sacred and life

Global Perspectives on Spirituality and Education Jacqueline Watson, Marian de Souza, Ann Trousdale, 2013-12-04 In recent decades and around the world much attention has been given to the role of spirituality in the education of children and young people While educationalists share many common goals and values in nurturing the spiritual lives of children and young people national and regional cultures religions and politics have impacted on the approaches scholars and practitioners have adopted in their investigations and practices The different contexts across nations and regions mean that educators face quite distinct conditions in which to frame their approaches to spiritual education and research and the nature and impact of these differences is not yet understood This book brings together thinkers from around the globe and sets them the task of explaining how their research on children s spirituality and education has been shaped by the historical cultural religious and political contexts of the geographic region in which they work The book presents contributions in three sections Europe and Israel Australasia and The Americas and concludes with a chapter highlighting what is common and what is contextually unique about global approaches to spirituality and education

Aging, Spirituality and Palliative Care Elizabeth MacKinlay, 2006 The period of time when a person approaches death is always difficult both for the patient and the caregiver Aging Spirituality and Palliative Care discusses best practices in aged and palliative care while addressing patients diverse spiritual needs Leading authorities presentations from the Third International Conference on Ageing and Spirituality in Adelaide Australia in 2004 explore practical sensitive spiritual approaches to help older patients deal with aging illness and approaching death Each chapter is carefully referenced and many include tables and figures that enhance understanding of research data

The Encyclopedia of Adulthood and Aging, 3 Volume Set Susan K. Whitbourne, 2016-01-19 This authoritative reference work contains more than 300 entries covering all aspects of the multi disciplinary field of adult development and aging Brings together concise accurate summaries of classic topics as well as the most recent thinking and research in new areas Covers a broad range of issues from biological and physiological changes in the body to changes in cognition personality and social roles to applied areas such as psychotherapy long term care and end of life issues Includes contributions from major researchers in the academic and clinical realms 3 Volumes www.encyclopediaadulthoodandaging.com

The Living Church , 2004-07 *Practical Theology for Aging* Derrell R. Watkins, 2013-01-11 Learn new approaches

for strengthening the religious bonds of our aging population Through Scripture studies and the personal experiences of religious leaders and congregants Practical Theology for Aging offers new concepts for ministering to our older population Each chapter looks at a different concern for the elderly and addresses it with the assurance that aging is part of God s great work From scientific models and case studies to passages from both the Old and New Testaments this volume illuminates the power of faith in keeping the elderly whole and well Practical Theology for Aging reveals several barriers to the spiritual wellness of our elders These include society s stereotypical views of frailty and incompetence in older people the lack of common support by communities of faith and the dissatisfaction of the elderly with outdated traditional answers to their concerns of aging suffering and death Each barrier can be overcome by utilizing the practical theology you will find in this book Restated throughout the volume is the message that the journey into old age does not have to be filled with dread and fear but can be seen as a path to spiritual maturity This book has practical suggestions that address God s purpose for aging why do we have to grow old sexual health for senior citizens the suffering and physical debilitation that sometimes accompany aging afflictions like dementia and Alzheimer s disease and how to minister to the unresponsive the inclusion of spirituality in rehabilitation to heal the whole person after catastrophic illness or injury preaching to senior citizens as opposed to preaching to a younger congregation so much more Practical Theology for Aging presents tips and strategies for spiritual advisement as well as traditional quotes and references reminding us to respect and honor our aging men and women Whether you are a religious leader caretaker family member or esteemed elder this book is vital for strengthening spirituality in the elderly and promoting their inclusion into the religious community

Faith-Based Initiatives and Aging Services James W Ellor, F. Ellen Netting, 2012-12-06 Gain an understanding of the increased role religious congregations now play in providing social support to the elderly Religious congregations and faith based organizations FBO from the Jewish Christian and Islamic traditions have worked on behalf of older adults for centuries But the initiation of President Bush s Office of Faith Based Initiatives has raised many questions from both the traditional secular and sectarian services as well as many nontraditional services found in each community Faith Based Initiatives and Aging Services addresses the issues of the separation of church and state the concerns involved in developing social services in religious congregations and the larger public policy implications of this office This unique book offers perspectives from traditional and nontraditional faith based groups as well as experts in volunteerism The enactment by Congress of the Charitable Choice section of the federal welfare reform law combined with the creation of the Center for Faith Based and Community Initiatives in the United States Department of Health and Human Services to signal a high level of interest in supporting faith based organizations Faith Based Initiatives and Aging Services focuses on the specific applications of services provided by religious congregations Editors F Ellen Netting and James W Ellor conducted an in depth interview with Elizabeth Seal Scott then Director of the Center for Faith Based and Community Initiatives an edited transcript of the interview is included in the book to help

promote understanding of the development and implementation of faith based grass roots programs Faith Based Initiatives and Aging Services examines the separation of church and state Baptist perspectives on faith based initiatives and religious liberty managing older volunteers faith organizations and ethnically diverse elders the heritage of religion and spirituality in the field of gerontology faith related agencies and their implications for aging services the role of religious congregations in the social service system Faith Based Initiatives and Aging Services is an essential resource for anyone interested in developing programs for older adults in religious congregations for human services staffs seeking to work with faith based initiatives and for government workers in need of a better understanding of faith based services in their community

Care-Giving in Dementia Bère M. L. Miesen, Gemma M. M. Jones, 2004-06-01 Volume 4 of Care Giving in Dementia builds on previous volumes to continue to make a significant contribution to establishing a knowledge base for the developing field of care giving in dementia The editors bring together contributions from leading practitioners and researchers to bring the reader up to date with new developments in diagnosis treatment and care Subjects covered include visuo perceptual changes in Alzheimer s disease the Alzheimer Caf concept attachment in dementia the role of humour in dementia the awareness context of persons with dementia couples group psycho therapy in dementia spirituality and improving end of life care for people with dementia Care Giving in Dementia makes state of the art research accessible and relevant for professional care givers It will help all health and mental health professionals caring for people with dementia to enhance their practice educate others and investigate possibilities for further developments in this fast growing field **Soul,**

Psyche, Brain: New Directions in the Study of Religion and Brain-Mind Science K. Bulkeley, 2005-11-11 Soul Psyche Brain is a collection of essays that address the relationships between neuroscience religion and human nature Kelly Bulkeley s book highlights some startling new developments in neuroscience that have many people rethinking spirituality the mind body connection and cognition in general Soul Psyche Brain explores questions like what can knowledge about the neurological activities of the brain tell us about consciousness And what are the practical implications of brain mind science for ethics and moral reasoning **Handbook of the Psychology of Aging** James E. Birren, K Warner Schaie, 2011-04-27

Handbook of the Psychology of Aging 6e provides a comprehensive summary and evaluation of recent research on the psychological aspects of aging The 22 chapters are organized into four divisions Concepts Theories and Methods in the Psychology of Aging Biological and Social Influences on Aging Behavioral Processes and Aging and Complex Behavioral Concepts and Processes in Aging The 6th edition of the Handbook is considerably changed from the previous edition Half of the chapters are on new topics and the remaining half are on returning subjects that are entirely new presentations by different authors of new material Some of the exciting new topics include Contributions of Cognitive Neuroscience to Understanding Behavior and Aging Everyday Problem Solving and Decision Making Autobiographical Memory and Religion and Health Late in Life The Handbook will be of use to researchers and professional practitioners working with the aged It is

also suitable for use as a textbook for graduate and advanced undergraduate courses on the psychology of aging The Handbook of the Psychology of Aging Sixth Edition is part of the Handbooks on Aging series including Handbook of the Biology of Aging and Handbook of Aging and the Social Sciences also in their 6th editions

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New Directions In The Study Of Late Life Religiousness And Spirituality Introduction

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