

Addressing the Challenges of Ageing in Africa

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ABSTRACT In the past, the elderly in African societies performed very important roles, which facilitated societal growth and development. They were regarded as major contributors to virtually all aspects of their societies. However, over the years, they lost the recognition traditionally accorded them in the general scheme of things. This has created some negative impacts on the aging population in the region. This paper, therefore, examines the problems facing the elderly in contemporary African societies in view of the ongoing social change and transformation in the area. Review shows that the elderly face a number of challenges. It is recommended that governments of African countries should create welfare programmes for the elderly in their respective countries through appropriate legislations.