

Ageing: The Common Denominator?

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Reference:

Key Words:

Theoretical, life course, ageing

Research aim:

This paper undertakes to explore the gerontological and social science literature the authors use the cultural context of ageing to illustrate how the life-path for each individual, whether long or short, is necessarily unpredictable and involves a dynamic interaction between history and biography within a particular society and cultural framework.

Results/Conclusion:

The authors challenge prospective readers to use their sociological imagination in the interest of moving beyond the biological dimension in order to see more clearly that 'ageing into old age' is in essence a unique personal life story.

Implications:

Notwithstanding the diverse cultural, racial and ethnic differences between people worldwide the ageing experience is shown to be a phenomenon displaying cross-cultural variability warranting further ongoing anthropological research.

Cultural Group(s):

Location of study:

Age group:

Number included in study:

N/A

Type of participants:

Research approach:

Type of data:

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes:

Not primary research - literature review, theoretical piece