This annotated bibliography of 38 titles lists sources of information about older, black Americans. (EB)
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Minority Aged
BLACK AMERICANS
A Bibliography


It was found that, like most other Americans, aged Blacks depend greatly on their families, especially their children. Community resources are often underutilized, even in cases where they are needed to ease the strain on the family of caring for the aged person. It is not clear whether society is failing to provide needed support, or whether aged Blacks voluntarily refrain from taking advantage of it.


Reports that experience in research and community outreach work with low-income urban aged has led to the development of a multifocal program approach. The approach includes case referral and advocacy work with the target population as well as the organization of the neighborhood-based groups of elderly residents.


This paper examines problems of services delivery to elderly members of ethnic groups. This is done to suggest that failures of public policy often are aggravated by political, cultural and historical experiences which some ethnic groups bring to the American scene.


This report assesses the status and needs of elderly homeowners, Blacks, persons of Polish origin, persons living in the community of Rogers Park, persons in residential hotels and public housing elderly.


This report covers the first phase of a study on the development, administration and evaluation of a Pre-Retirement Education Research and Training Program for Minority Program Leadership Aides. Thirty-eight aides, all Black, were trained in an intensive 66-hour program to act as PREP aides in assisting with the development of PREP Life Planning Programs with high school students, middle-aged persons, and retired adults.

This is an investigation of life-styles of American Blacks retiring from various professions. Findings indicated that: they had inadequate incomes, despite old age assistance and/or pensions, and there were social class differences in leisure time activities. The sample consisted of 33 men and 68 women, ranging in age from 48-105 years old. The data were based on interviews.


Reviews various problems of the aged indicating their relevance to the communication field and suggests specific problems especially amenable to communication research and inquiry.


Discusses the basis for present inadequacies in the treatment of aged Black psychiatric patients. It is suggested that psychiatric training programs include working with people of different races and training in the philosophical and social aspects of Black culture.


Racial differences in membership in and attendance at voluntary associations were analyzed for comparable samples of 753 Black and 260 White residents of Philadelphia age 65 and over. The results of the regression analysis indicated the Black aged belonged to more associations than the White aged and had higher rates of attendance.


This volume includes new data about the status of Black and Indian elderly, analyzes the welfare system's impact on minority aged, and outlines social changes necessary to help the poorest of the poor.


Discusses the problems of economically disadvantaged Black elderly women, focusing on such problem areas as age; racial and sexual employment discrimination; health; housing; nutrition; and public policy.

This federally-funded program, which provides work experience and training for low-income elderly persons in public service jobs, placed one-third of its enrollees in permanent employment in 1973. Older workers met and often exceeded standards for younger workers and were uniquely qualified to serve their peer group.


Completely revised and updated since its first edition in 1973, this book explores an even wider range of concerns regarding gerontology. An extensive bibliography presents entries in 10 specific fields and includes works from 1960 through 1975.


This annotated guide to Government publications includes foreign as well as federal and state documents. The period from 1960-1974 is covered, highlighting the most significant publications.


This paper explores the relationships among ethnicity, age, and inherent social dilemmas. The study examines selected dependent variables (economic and health indicators, social interaction, and life satisfaction items) in an effort to determine the extent to which different configurations of age, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status produce varying levels of social interaction and well-being.


Reviews research on needs and psychosocial characteristics of Black elderly and emphasizes the need for training gerontologists, in particular, Blacks, to provide educational activities for aged Blacks and to study their subcultures.


Elderly Blacks have many needs and counselors must be trained to deal with their specific problems.

The basic premise of this dissertation is that racial, ethnic, and religious differences although significant, are not sufficient in and of themselves, to account for aging individuals' self-appraisal. From the findings it was confirmed that religion, race and ethnicity have an impact on old age. Current objective circumstances seem to be of secondary importance in regard to one's life satisfaction while levels of previous attainment provide important perspectives on life satisfaction.


This study is concerned with descriptive characteristics of 575 Black elderly born in the West Indies, the South and the North, age 60 and older, living in the poverty areas of New York City. The most significant finding was evidence of heterogeneity, observed not only in the comparisons between nativity groups but also between subgroupings within each nativity group.


Among the problems facing the Black aged are less income resulting from less education and less choice in work opportunities, housing, and negative self attitudes.


This essay provides an assessment of the plights of economics, loneliness, mortality and isolationism confronting aggregated older black women as they age in the United States. The most exacerbated plights relate to those of insufficient monies and insufficient men.


A review of the literature on older Blacks and Whites reveals that variables negatively associated with aging and mental health generally occurred with greater frequency or earlier among Blacks. Institutionalized locations of older persons also varied somewhat by race, with Blacks having a greater probability of long-term confinement in mental hospitals.

A discussion of grandparental roles in the contemporary urban Southern setting, the National Caucus on the Black Aged, and a specific proposal to reduce the minimum age-eligibility requirements for Old-Age, Survivors, Disability, and Health Insurance for blacks.


A description and comparison of kinship relations among older and younger blacks and the changing conceptualizations of growing old and the changing status of older persons are presented. The sample consisted of 198 younger (under 50) and older (over 50) blacks in a low income area within a Southern city. The three major areas studied under kinship relations included interactional activities, mutual assistance patterns and subjective patterns of kinship relations.


Concludes that socioeconomic factors and racial discrimination account for some of the variation in institutionalization for Blacks and Whites. Available data are inconclusive as to whether Blacks are over-represented in mental hospitals because they suffer from greater mental impairment than Whites.


A nationwide Harris survey examining public attitudes toward older Americans and documenting older Americans' expectations and personal experiences revealed that: more than one-third of the retired were forced to retire, most Americans oppose forced retirement, and income was an important factor in affecting people's attitudes toward work and leisure.


This bibliography on the minority aged consists of 368 references. The term "minority" is defined by participation in a racial ethnic group. References are provided on the following: general gerontological literature, cultural context of aging, Filipino Americans, Poles, Jews, American Indians, Asian Americans, Mexican Americans, Cubans, Puerto Ricans, Spanish Speaking Elderly, and Blacks.

About 100 older Blacks participated in an oral history project to record their experiences, thoughts, and feelings from their early days up to the recent past. A sense of worth was closely related to the meaning of work and activity in the minds of older Blacks. But work was not pleasurable; it was a necessary cross to bear. Retirement meant being confined to the urban environment.


Specific problems which distinguish the black aged from other aged groups are detailed. Discussion of program needs and realities concludes that programs have lagged far behind needs.


The aged become more like a minority group in industrial society. Trends are demonstrated via comparison of similarity indexes from 1940 through 1969.


Article stressed the need to re-evaluate our priorities and assign a fair share of our assets to the problems of aging, to balance the equations of growing old in America.


Suggests that the ultimate economic status of those beyond middle age, precarious at best, may come to depend more during the years ahead on federal employment policy rather than on the local labor markets.


This paper, reflecting evaluation research of a Food and Nutrition Program for the Aged aimed at a rural Black aged population, contained: (1) a brief description of the program, (2) a review of research procedures, and (3) a synthesized presentation of major outcomes.

On the basis of the demographic data, as well as the results of testing his major hypotheses, the author concludes: (1) that the Black elderly are with us and their living conditions are in dire need of improvement, (2) that the Black elderly are no more alone and isolated than the general elderly population and (3) that the emotional state of well being (morale) is not significantly different for Black elderly than for White elderly.


This study examines the employment-related problems of older workers and develops a research and development strategy for future federally funded projects.


This bibliography begins with a critique of the state of research in Black, Mexican American, Native American, and Chinese and Japanese American gerontology. It is suggested that research is also needed on rehabilitation methods for the aged alcoholic, and on culture-specific patterns of aging, attitudes towards aging and the aged, and the social positions of the aged.


This paper focuses on strategies that may be developed within academic institutions, local communities, professional and other organizations, and at whatever levels feasible for generating support. Special emphasis is placed upon education, employment, health, and housing inasmuch as these usually rank high among problem areas specified by blacks themselves.


Not only must counselors be sensitive to the culturally different client, they must be aware that the middle-aged or aging minority group member constitutes another minority, a minority within a minority.