

Chapter 1 Aging Today

- 1) The terms old, elderly, and aged in this book refer to people aged _____ and over.
A) 55 B) 60 C) 65 D) 70

Answer: C

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- 2) Sociologists describe prejudice as
A) a positive view of a person's abilities
B) a negative attitude toward of a group or class of people
C) an impartial assessment of group based on research
D) an unfounded statement designed to hurt a group of people

Answer: B

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- 3) Stereotyping can
A) prevent discrimination and ageism
B) force people to confront the truth about the elderly
C) allows us to correctly judge people and treat them fairly
D) lead to prejudice, discrimination, and inappropriate treatment

Answer: D

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- 4) Which of the following reasons for studying aging was not given in the text?
A) to help understand social issues
B) to learn to work in a field that serves older people
C) to enable older people to reverse or avoid the effects of aging
D) to help older friends and relations to deal with the issues of later life

Answer: C

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- 5) Gerontologists work to replace myths and stereotypes of aging with
A) negative attitudes. B) a distaste for growing old.
C) high life satisfaction. D) facts and knowledge.

Answer: D

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- 6) Ageism in our culture is
A) acquired from experience with the aged B) a positive attitude toward aging
C) reflected in our deep-seated desire to grow old D) a negative attitude towards aging

Answer: D

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- 7) According to Butler (1969), ageism can result in
- A) stereotyping, discrimination, and prejudice against older people
 - B) a role imposed on people based on age, not ability
 - C) positive attitudes toward the elderly
 - D) an increase in contact between older and younger people

Answer: A

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- 8) Which of the following is a major source of ageism?
- A) the media
 - B) lack of knowledge
 - C) educational institutions
 - D) all of the above

Answer: D

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- 9) Palmore (2001) reports that ___ of older people experienced more than one incident of ageism.
- A) 12%
 - B) 34%
 - C) 77%
 - D) 94%

Answer: C

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- 10) Nosek and colleagues (2002) compared subjects' attitudes towards various ideas, and found the strongest negative associations with
- A) race
 - B) age
 - C) gender
 - D) ethnicity

Answer: B

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- 11) New ageism refers to
- A) a desire to give less help to older people
 - B) a desire to give more help to older people
 - C) a belief in the occult
 - D) an attempt to create a negative stereotype of older people

Answer: B

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- 12) New ageism _____.
- A) creates sympathy for older people by giving a frail picture of later life
 - B) supports the stereotype of old age as a time of loss and decline
 - C) produces harsh stereotypes
 - D) leads to an increase in public support for older people

Answer: B

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13) Binstock (1983) called new ageism an example of

- A) a negative stereotype
- B) an aging enterprise
- C) a compassionate stereotype
- D) scapegoating

Answer: C

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14) Stereotypes, whether negative or compassionate, results in

- A) a decrease in public support for older people
- B) an increase in public support for older people
- C) lavish treatment for older people
- D) indifference to the problems of older people

Answer: A

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15) The major source of ageism today is

- A) a lack of knowledge
- B) retail sales clerks
- C) the media
- D) schools

Answer: C

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16) The FAQ is designed to

- A) explore people's knowledge about aging
- B) determine an older person's physical condition
- C) determine an older person's mental condition
- D) create misconceptions about old age

Answer: A

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17) Palmore's research on the FAQ suggest that _____.

- A) most people have an uneven knowledge about aging
- B) most people know more about the social rather than physical aspects of aging
- C) the most frequent misconceptions about aging come mostly from the elderly
- D) people with less education scored best on the FAQ

Answer: A

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18) Both Palmore (1998) and the University of Southern California (2004) show that

- A) the most frequent misconceptions about aging come from negative views of old age
- B) the most frequent misconceptions about aging come from negative view of old age
- C) people with the most education scored the worse on the FAQ
- D) people with more knowledge of aging have a negative view of old age

Answer: B

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19) Older people seem more susceptible to victimization by fraud because they

- A) have more knowledge of consumer regulations
- B) have a very trusting attitude towards business
- C) usually have some wealth and fewer social supports
- D) have a lot of social support to help them avoid con artists

Answer: C

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20) Barbara Barer, an anthropologist at the University of California, reports that crimes against older people can lead to feelings of

- A) high self esteem
- B) independence
- C) superiority
- D) inferiority and loss of self-esteem

Answer: D

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21) The AARP (1999) conducted a study which showed that _____ had the highest rates of vulnerability to crime.

- A) younger people
- B) older people with low incomes
- C) older people with high education levels and high incomes
- D) younger people with low education levels and low income

Answer: B

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22) Studies by the National Council on Aging (2000) on the fear of crime among older people find that

- A) older people in rural areas report a greater fear of crime than those in urban areas
- B) older people in urban areas face less risk of victimization than those in rural areas
- C) more than one-third of older people felt that fear of crime is a serious problem for them.
- D) older women show less fear of crime than older men

Answer: A, C

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23) _____ of older people believed that their later years were the best years of their lives.

- A) 46%
- B) 75%
- C) 24%
- D) 3%

Answer: A

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24) Older people, in general, feel _____ with their lives.

- A) satisfied
- B) sad
- C) ambivalent
- D) angry

Answer: A

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- 25) Researchers have suggested a number of ways to produce a more balanced view of aging. These include:
- A) legislation that increases discrimination based on age
 - B) programs for the elderly
 - C) stereotyping the roles of grandparents in the media.
 - D) thoughtful use of the media, educational programs, and legislation

Answer: D

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- 26) How does the media contribute to improving attitudes toward older people?
- A) by making fun of older people
 - B) by under-representing older people in commercials and TV shows
 - C) by focusing on physical or mental decline
 - D) by presenting more varied images of older people

Answer: D

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- 27) Advertisers who want to attract older consumers should
- A) make older people appear different from the rest of the population
 - B) focus on problems that come with age
 - C) focus on personal development and deeper values
 - D) stereotype older people

Answer: C

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- 28) Why should advertisers divide the population by motivation rather than age?
- A) Motivation has more meaning for people.
 - B) Age is too depressing to think about.
 - C) Being motivated makes people happier.
 - D) They should not divide the population by motivation.

Answer: A

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- 29) The stereotype of the sophisticated, successful, beautiful senior
- A) promotes an attainable ideal.
 - B) considers many ways to age.
 - C) includes the very old, people with disabilities, and older people with different views of aging.
 - D) may lead to a new form of ageism: the ageless self

Answer: D

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30) Andrews (2000) challenges the idea of a youthful self within an aging body because it

- A) embraces aging in all its forms
- B) shows frankness about decline and loss of capacity
- C) rejects the aging body
- D) emphasizes the importance of inner beauty

Answer: C

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31) To have a more balanced view of later life, society needs to

- A) make aging look glamorous
- B) focus on active life-styles
- C) ignore the fact that the body declines with age
- D) allow for many ways to grow old

Answer: D

Page Ref: 17

32) According to Lee (2002), ___% of graduate schools of social work offered courses on aging.

- A) 18.6
- B) 26.3
- C) 54.2
- D) 81.6

Answer: D

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33) Studies show that _____ can improve knowledge and attitude about aging.

- A) movies
- B) discrimination
- C) education
- D) research

Answer: C

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34) Health care workers, like doctors and nurses, have a negative attitude towards older people because they

- A) usually treat only ill or institutionalized older people
- B) focus on treatable diseases, rather than incurable disorders
- C) usually see older people who are in good health
- D) have many inservice programs that increase their knowledge of aging

Answer: A

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35) Creating a positive attitude towards aging among health care professionals requires

- A) that students in the health sciences see only ill older patients
- B) a gerontology curriculum that emphasizes problems with the elderly
- C) a gerontology curriculum that balances a problems focus with information about successful aging
- D) doctors and health care professionals receive training in gerontology

Answer: C

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- 36) Society can reduce prejudice and ageism through
- A) less positive images of older people in the media
 - B) education and social action
 - C) unbalanced contact between older and younger people
 - D) discriminatory legislation

Answer: B

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- 37) According to Butler, one antidote to ageism is _____.
- A) knowledge
 - B) reduced contact with older people
 - C) fact-based educational programs
 - D) institutionalized negative attitudes towards older people

Answer: A

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- 38) According to Neugarten, a society that judges people by who they are, rather than age, is called an _____.
- A) age relevant society
 - B) ageist society
 - C) anti-discriminatory society
 - D) age irrelevant society

Answer: D

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- 39) The new generations of older people will have _____ education, health, and financial resources than the past generation.
- A) a lot less
 - B) less
 - C) better
 - D) the same

Answer: C

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- 40) The new model of old age presents older people as
- A) inactive and unhappy
 - B) inactive and fatigued
 - C) potentially engaged in the world
 - D) unenviable

Answer: C

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- 41) What types of activities create stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination against older people?
- A) social contact between older and younger people
 - B) education and knowledge of aging
 - C) anti-discriminatory legislation and social action
 - D) assuming that older people have lesser abilities than they do

Answer: D

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