



# Aging, Society, and the Life Course, Fifth Edition

By Leslie A. Morgan PhD, Suzanne R. Kunkel PhD

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**Aging, Society, and the Life Course, Fifth Edition** By Leslie A. Morgan PhD, Suzanne R. Kunkel PhD

[This] book's unfading preoccupation with social context, social processes, and social structures distinguishes itself and greatly contributes to the discourse in gerontology.

--The Gerontologist

This classic text, now in its fifth edition, is distinguished by its emphasis on social context, social processes, and social structures as part of a broader understanding of the sociology of aging and the life course. Presenting an objective view of the realities of aging, both positive and negative, the book examines aging from micro/macro, personal, community, societal, and global perspectives. This fifth edition describes important changes in the field of social gerontology and the growth in such topics as diversity, global aging, and the life course. It addresses major shifts in public policy, social institutions, and aging-related programming initiatives. There is a strong focus on the changing landscape of aging, particularly in regard to social engagement, employment and lifelong learning, enhanced health and independence, and livable communities for people of all ages. Additionally, the book includes new information on the Affordable Care Act and end-of-life issues.

The text is uniquely organized, featuring theoretical discussions in each chapter and topical essays between chapters. Critical thinking and review questions foster an in-depth understanding of the material. Written in an engaging style, the text is for graduate and upper-level undergraduate students; it is also used effectively in introductory gerontology classes. In addition to an Instructor's Manual, the fifth edition now includes Power-Point slides.

## **NEW TO THE FIFTH EDITION:**

- Provides updated data on aging and baby boomers in the United States and worldwide
- Presents expanded focus on baby boomers'; impact on the larger society
- Discusses major public policy changes and innovative services and programs

affecting older adults

- Uses detailed examples to illustrate the challenges of sorting out age, period, and cohort effects in research on aging
- Covers the Affordable Care Act and up-to-date information on Medicare
- Features new information on end-of-life issues
- Presents provocative essays on positive and contemporary issues not typically covered, including love, sex, creativity, media representations, LGBT aging, and crime
- Focuses on enhanced health and independence and aging-in-place initiatives
- Provides learning objectives in each chapter and web-based extracurricular activities
- Includes PowerPoint slides in addition to an Instructor's Manual

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## **Editorial Review**

### About the Author

Leslie A. Morgan, PhD, is Co-director of the Gerontology Doctoral Program and Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, USA. Dr. Morgan has 34 years of experience in teaching and research in aging and has published on a variety of topics, from economic wellbeing and family relationships to assisted living. She has authored or co-authored six books and numerous articles. Dr. Morgan has been principal or co-principal investigator on several NIH-funded studies of life in assisted living, examining the quality of resident experience, social stigma, autonomy and transitions among residents. She is co-author of *Quality Assisted Living: Informing Practice Through Research* (Springer Publishing Company, 2011), and coauthor with Dr. Kunkel of all previous editions of *Aging, Society, and The Life Course*. Suzanne R. Kunkel, PhD, is Director, Scripps Gerontology Center and Professor, Department of Sociology and Gerontology, Miami University, USA. She has been principal investigator or co-investigator on local, state, federal, and foundation grants totalling more than \$3.5 million. She received the Hiram Friedsam Mentorship Award from AGHE, and is currently Treasurer of GSA. Dr. Kunkel was co-author (with Leslie Morgan) of all previous editions of *Aging, Society, and the Life Course*. With Frank Whittington and Erdman Palmore, she co-edited the most recent edition of the *International Handbook on Aging*, co-edited with Frank Whittington the Spring 2013 edition of *Generations* focusing on global aging, and co-authored with Frank Whittington and Scott Brown a 2014 textbook, *Global Aging: Comparative Perspectives on Aging and the Life Course*. She has published more than 40 articles, books, and book chapters, and more than 30 research monographs on the aging network, innovations in the delivery of home care, population projections, global aging, and gerontology education.

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