

Elder Abuse - A Closer Look

PRESENTER:

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EAPO**



**Elder Abuse
Prevention
Ontario**



Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario

MISSION

EAPO envisions an Ontario where ALL seniors are free from abuse, have a strong voice, feel safe and respected.

ACTION

Raising awareness, delivering education and training, working collaboratively with like-minded organizations and assisting with service coordination and advocacy.



STOP ABUSE – RESTORE RESPECT

SIMPLY PUT, WE ALL HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY

**EAPO is mandated to support the implementation of
Ontario's Strategy to Combat Elder Abuse.**

*Funded by the ON Government, under the
Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility (MSAA)*



Ontario's Strategy to Combat Elder Abuse - Priorities

1

Public Education and Awareness

A Province-wide, multi-media public education campaign to promote awareness about elder abuse and provide information on how to access services.

2

Training for Front-Line Staff

Specialized training to staff from various sectors, who work directly with seniors, to enhance their knowledge and skills to recognize and respond to elder abuse.

3

Co-ordination of Community Services

To strengthen communities across the province by building partnerships, promoting information sharing and supporting their efforts to combat elder abuse.



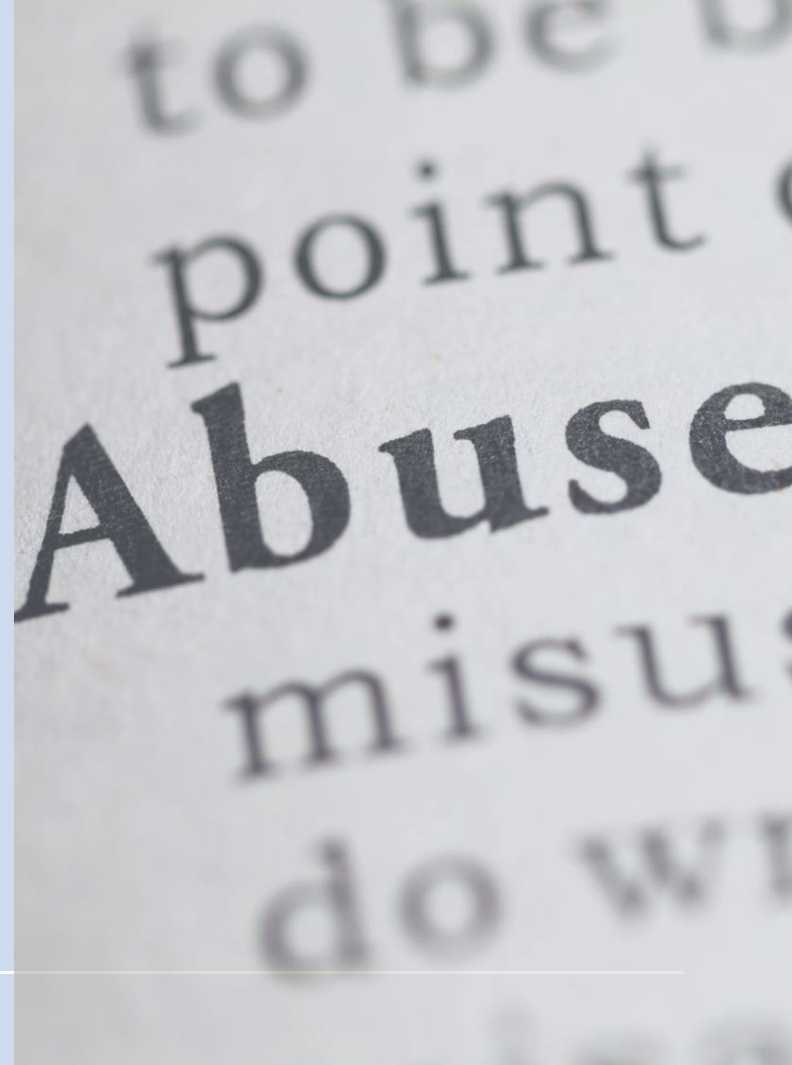
3 Pillars of the Strategy

Elder Abuse

“... a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to an older person.”



World Health
Organization



FORMS OF ELDER ABUSE



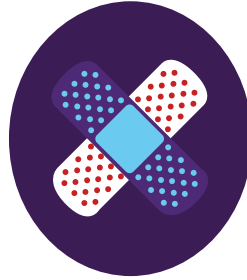
FINANCIAL

The most common form of abuse of older adults. It can involve illegally or improperly using a person's power of attorney, money, assets, or property without the person's permission or knowledge. It is often a form of theft or fraud.



EMOTIONAL

Any action, verbal or non-verbal, that lessens a person's sense of identity, dignity and self-worth.
includes name calling, intimidation, threats, yelling, ignoring or socially isolating the older person.



PHYSICAL

includes violence or rough treatment, even if it does not leave an injury. It can also be the threat of physical force.
Physical abuse also includes inappropriate use of medications or restraints.



SEXUAL

Non-consensual sexual contact of any kind with an older adult. Sexual contact with any person incapable of giving consent is also considered sexual assault.



NEGLECT

The failure to provide care and assistance required for health, safety or well-being, and includes inaction or a pattern of inaction that jeopardizes the health or safety of an older adult.

Multiple forms of abuse can occur at one time.



1 OUT OF 6

Older adults over 60 across the world experience some form of elder abuse in the community



World Health
Organization

8.2% OF

SENIORS

PREVALENCE IN CANADA



NICE

National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly

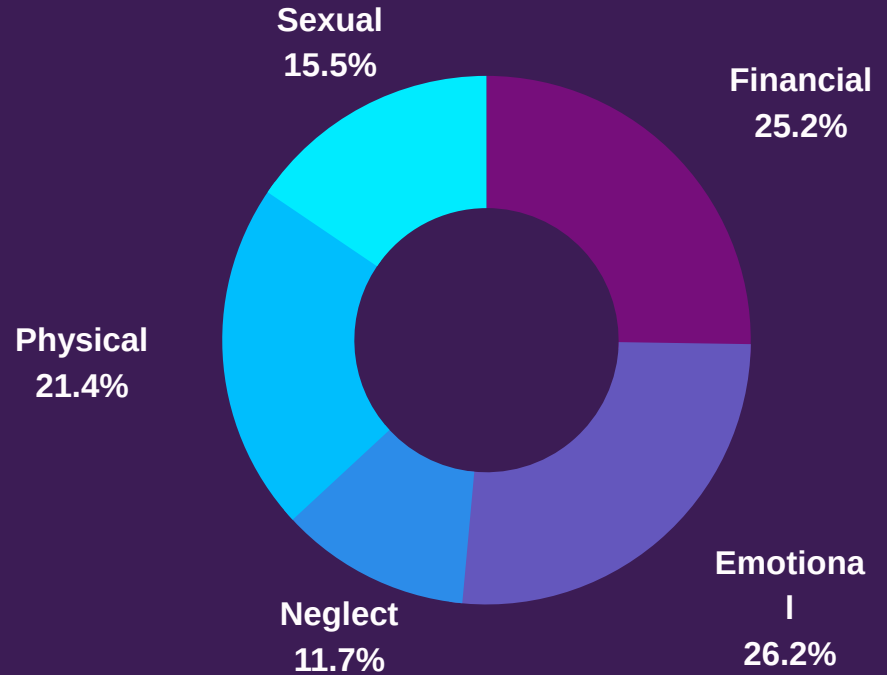
Initiative nationale pour le soin des personnes âgées

We care together

Ensemble pour le bien-être des aînés



National Prevalance



McDonald, L., Beaulieu, M., Goergen, T., Lowenstein, A., Thomas, C., Lombardo, A., Bergeron-Plateaued, J. & Kay, T. (2016). Into the light national survey on the mistreatment of older Canadians 2015

Elder Abuse impacts seniors residing in ALL homes...



- **COMMUNITY**
- **LONG TERM CARE HOME**
- **RETIREMENT HOMES**

Risk Factors

VULNERABLE GROUPS



Being a Women

Previous abuse as a
child, youth or
adult

Dementia/Cognitive
Impairment

Women with
disabilities

Lower income or
poverty

Depression

Dependent
Socially Isolated

Living with
someone with
Addictions

Deteriorating
health situations
where one partner
cares for the other

Isolation

ISOLATION IS A **RISK FACTOR** FOR ABUSE AND IT IS ALSO A **RESULT** OF ABUSE THAT BECOMES DEEPER AND MORE PROFOUND AS THE ABUSE ESCALATES.

ABUSE



ISOLATION



Power Imbalance

Abuser=

Manipulates to gain
control over key
decision making

Older Adult =

Trust, respect & ALL control is lost



Involves an individual behaving
in a certain way to
GAIN power over the other person.

COVID-19 pandemic proves fertile territory for burgeoning elder abuse

By **Rosie DiManno** Star Columnist
 Tue., April 28, 2020 | 6 min. read



Coronavirus: Socially isolated seniors vulnerable to elder abuse, say Winnipeg police

By **ANYA NAZERAVICH** - GLOBAL NEWS
 Posted June 18, 2020 2:46 pm



Elder Abuse is NOT a New Issue?



Older adults were suffering from elder abuse before the pandemic... dealing with the emotional heart ache, physical pain and financial losses caused by someone they trusted.

The COVID-19 pandemic has however, brought to the forefront many issues we have been addressing for years.

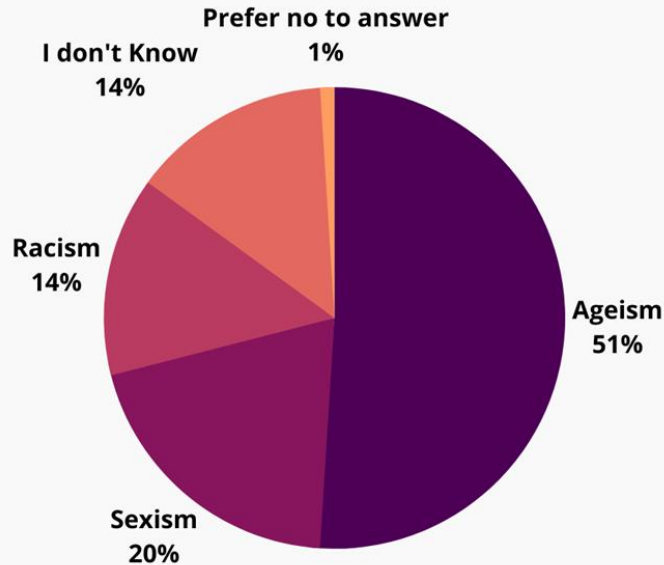


What is Ageism?

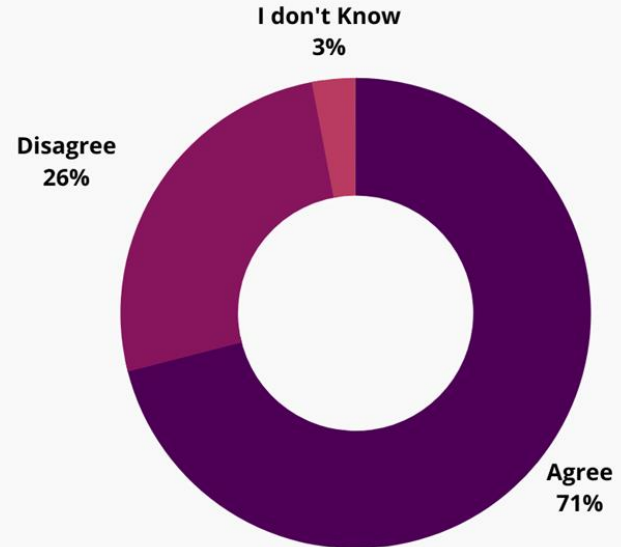
Ageism refers to the stereotypes (how we think), prejudice (how we feel) and discrimination (how we act) towards others or oneself based on age

Revera Report - Ageism

WHICH PREJUDICE DO YOU THINK IS THE MOST TOLERATED IN CANADA?



CANADIAN SOCIETY VALUES YOUNGER GENERATIONS MORE THAN OLDER GENERATIONS



Investigating the connection between ageism and elder mistreatment

Pillemer, K., Burnes, D. & MacNeil, A. Investigating the connection between ageism and elder mistreatment *NatAging* 1, 159–164 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43587-021-00032-8>

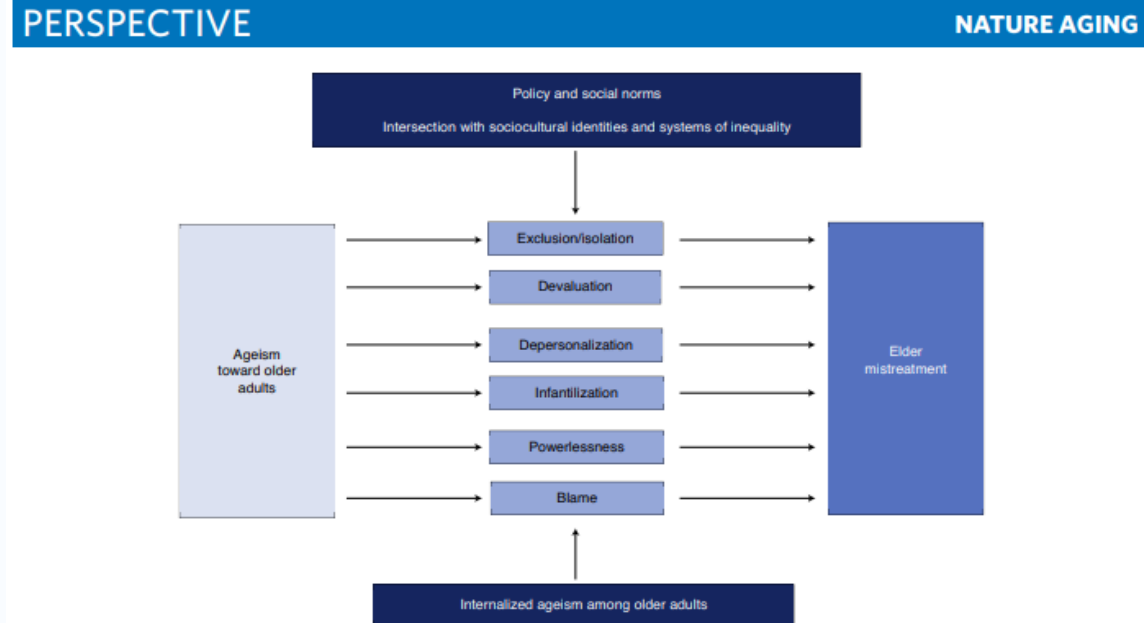


Fig. 2 | Conceptual model illustrating pathways through which ageism leads to elder mistreatment. A conceptual model to guide future research on the relationship between ageism and elder mistreatment.



Welcome

to the FPT Ministers Responsible for Seniors Forum Consultations on Ageism



Your participation is voluntary and anonymous



Please avoid sharing personal identifying information



You will **not** be identified during the session or in the report



Please respect the privacy of other participants

We also invite you to complete our **Questionnaire** and **Share Your Story** online:

<https://esdc-consultations.canada.ca/ageism-consultation>



Launched on
March 24, 2022

Available at:

www.futureus.cnpea.ca in French and in English



Future Us:
A Roadmap to Elder Abuse Prevention

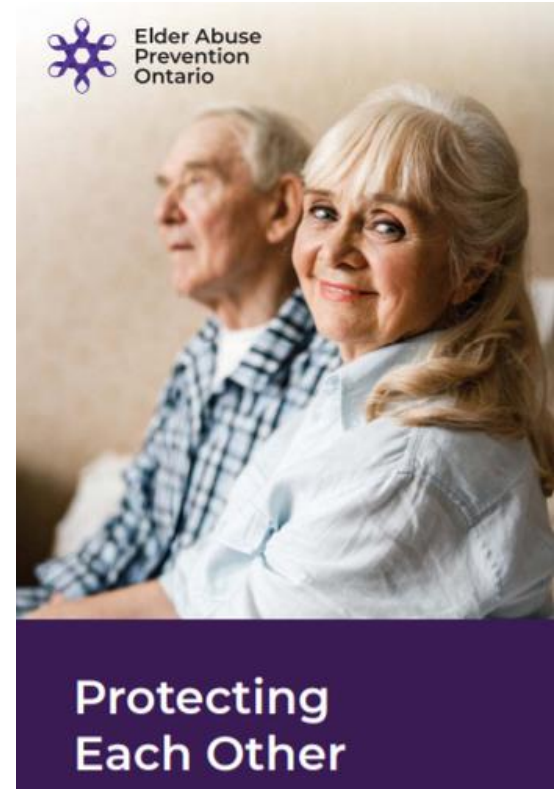
A Pan-Canadian Engagement Strategy
for Anyone and Everyone

CNPEA  **RCPMTA**

CANADIAN NETWORK for
the PREVENTION of ELDER ABUSE
RESEAU CANADIEN pour la PRÉVENTION
de MALTRAITEMENT des ÂGÉS

Preventing elder abuse is a shared responsibility

- Stay active and connected
- Maintain regular contact with friends, family and support networks.
- Stay active in the community
- Have your own phone and open your own mail.
- Familiarize yourself with services for seniors.
- Take control of your own decisions and health care.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- If something feels wrong and you think you may be abused, tell someone you trust.



Prevention TIPS:



Plan for your future and communicate your wishes

- It is good to plan ahead, while you are independent and mentally capable.
- Establish a Power of Attorney or a Living Will, and advance care planning early.
- Think carefully before making changes to your living situation such as moving in with family or friends or having someone move into your home, especially if they promise to take care of you.
- Seek alternative options for care beyond family members.

Advocate for your rights

- If you are not satisfied with care services you receive, voice the challenges ,place a complaint if necessary.
- Educate yourself about your rights and the signs of elder abuse.
- Report abuse when you see it.

Search for Elder Abuse Services

This directory is designed to help you connect to government and community-based health and social services across Ontario. You can search for support by entering a keyword or choose a topic to find services in a specific area or city in Ontario.

This information is **provided by 211 Ontario** and their directory is always being updated. If you do not see your agency or organization listed or you want to suggest an update [please contact 211 directly](#).



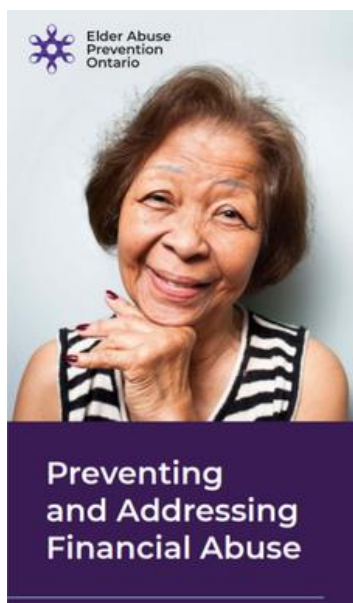
Search by Topic or Keyword

You can search by our topic list or enter a keyword to search for resources.

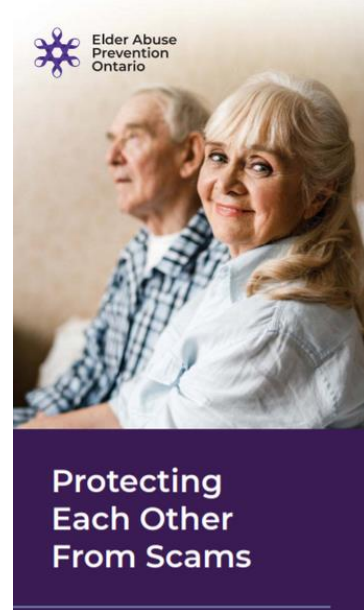
Topic Search Keyword Search

Choose a Topic

Select a topic below to view subtopics.



Preventing
and Addressing
Financial Abuse



Protecting
Each Other
From Scams



Stop Abuse. Restore Respect



EAPO'S OUTREACH & RESOURCES

Take advantage
of the tools available.



Social media channels



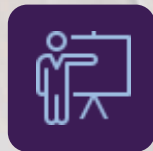
Information and Referral



Website and Zoom
platforms



Tools and Resources



Customized Training and
Education



Keep Connected

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Thank
you

