



“Fairness, Equity and Social Justice: Emerging Gay and Lesbian Issues in Aging” Patrick Arbore, Ed.D.

Program Summary

Dr. Arbore began his career in the field of aging in 1973. He is the founder and the Director of the Center for Elderly Suicide Prevention and Grief Related Services (CESP), a program now of the Institute on Aging in San Francisco. Patrick also serves as the Director of Staff Development/Leadership & Training at the Institute on Aging. Patrick conducts workshops and presents lectures locally and nationally on aging related subjects.

Many lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) elders live in isolation and fear over how they will sustain themselves as they age, and how they will be treated by providers of aging services. Compounding the challenges in address issues is a critical lack of research about LGBT seniors. In addition, older LGBT people increasingly face the unknown dimensions of aging with HIV/AIDS as the first generation of survivors to navigate the impact of HIV on aging. Aging LGBT persons face the additional challenges of having come of age and begun their careers in an environment which was often hostile, where chosen families and partners were not legally recognized and workplace discrimination was far too common. Currently there are an estimated 3 million LGBT elders in the US and by 2030 that number is expected to almost double. In this presentation, Dr. Arbore will discuss emerging issues impacting gay and lesbian elders and the agencies which provide elder services.

Dr. Arbore is the author of numerous articles and book chapters on suicide prevention, bereavement, suffering, etc., including a chapter he co-authored entitled “Suffering and the Caring Professional” in *When Professionals Weep: Emotional and Countertransference Responses in End-of-Life Care* (2006) edited by Katz, R. & Johnson, T. A. He is a current member of the Editorial Board of Dimensions, a quarterly newsletter of the Mental Health and Aging Network, a publication of the American Society on Aging. He is also a Senior Lecturer in the Human Services Division at Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont, CA. Patrick also is a part-time Lecturer in the School of Social Work at the University of California, Berkeley. He was the co-recipient of the 2002 Gloria A. Cavanaugh Award for excellence in training and education in aging presented by the American Society on Aging.

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