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Old age and women's identity

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Female identity is a dynamic concept, and it has been a very discussed issue by contemporary cultural critic. How does old age affect identity construction and perception in elderly woman? Has feminine gender an impact in subjective well-being? Psychological changes of midlife women have been as conflicting as the idea that society has about them. Personality changes after young adulthood in women is a controversial matter. Erikson proposed that women might not develop identities in early adulthood as men do. In fact, he argued that women develop them later, in the context of an intimate relationship. Moreover, identity development appears to have important consequences for midlife well-being. For example, Vandewater et al. found that women's midlife well-being was facilitated by earlier attainment of a well-articulated identity. In these situations accomplishment of developmentally earlier tasks (identity formation) sets the stage for later psychological health. Our work sheds additional light on how women live this period of life in terms of happiness and purpose of life.

Biography

Francesca Romana Greco is a young psychologist enthusiastic and open to new frontiers. She recently graduated with top rates at the Faculty of Clinical Psychology at Universita' Europea di Roma (UER), Rome, Italy, where she conducted several research projects on neurosciences and cognitive disorders. After graduating she started her career at Geriatric Unit at Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza Hospital, Italy where she took part to several projects involving elderly people and Alzheimer's patients. One of the most recent projects she has been involved is a European Project called Agile Co-Creation for Robots and Aging (ACCRA) Project which aimed to develop new technological solutions for older people.

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