

Southern African Journal of Gerontology

Instructions to authors

Editorial policy

The Journal publishes contributions (articles on original research, review articles, short communications, book reviews and commentary on articles already published) from any field of gerontology.

Contributions should be written in English. An abstract must be provided.

All contributions will be critically reviewed by at least two reviewers on whose advice the contributions will be accepted or rejected by the Editorial Committee. All reviewing is strictly confidential. Manuscripts may be returned to the authors if extensive revision is required, or if the style, presentation or language does not conform to the Journal practice. The Editor retains the customary right to style and to edit manuscripts.

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Contributions accepted will be published, as far as possible, in the order in which they are received. Special (thematic) numbers will be prepared from time to time.

Presentation of manuscripts

Number: Four copies of the typed manuscript (with tables and illustrations) plus a floppy disk, preferably in WordPerfect 5.1, must be submitted. **Format:** Manuscripts must be typed on one side only of A4 paper, *double spaced* with a left-hand margin of at least 30 mm and extra space above subtitles. The first line of all paragraphs must be indented. **Layout of manuscripts:** should be as follows: **Articles and short communications:** The first page(s) should contain the title of the article, the author's(s') name(s) and address(es), and the name and address of the author to whom correspondence should be addressed. The second page should contain the abstract. These pages must be followed by the text of the article, acknowledgements, the notes, the references, the tables and illustrations (figures and graphs). The text of articles should preferably not exceed 20 typed pages. **Commentaries** on articles published in this journal should contain suitable titles, the names(s) and addresses of the author(s) and should preferably not exceed five typed pages. **Book reviews** should not exceed three pages and should contain the following details: title of the book, name(s) of the author, year of publication, place where published, name of the publisher, number of pages, ISBN number and price. **Titles** should be short (not exceeding 15 words) but sufficiently informative for use in title lists or in coding for information storage and retrieval. **Abstracts:** Each article must be preceded by a short abstract (not exceeding 200 words) in English. The abstract should give the content of the article factually and concisely, and should be suitable for separate publication and adequate for indexing. The abstracts should be limited to four or five sentences. Abstracts must only contain information appearing in the article. **Text:** The text must commence on a new page and pages must be numbered consecutively. Breaking words at the end of a line should be avoided, except where a hyphen occurs. Words or symbols that are to be italicized in the text, must be italicized or underlined in the manuscript. **Style:** Authors should keep their language simple and formulate sentences clearly. Good and correct technical terminology should be used throughout. Repetition and circumlocution should be avoided. Numbers from one to eleven should be written out in the text, except where they are followed by symbols. Where a number is to be used at the beginning of a sentence it must be written out, but best be avoided. Only acknowledged abbreviations and symbols should be used and less well-known abbreviations should be declared. **Notes** must be numbered consecutively and appear at the end of the text under the caption 'Notes'; the numbers of the notes must be placed in the text to the right of any punctuation marks as unparenthesized superscripts.^{1,2,3} Footnotes should be avoided.

References: Two kinds of references must be used, namely short references in the text and more detailed references at the end of the manuscript. **References in the text:** When word-for-word quotations,

facts or arguments from other sources are cited, the surname(s) of the author(s), year of publication and page number(s) must appear in parentheses in the text, e.g. (Lawton, 1975:12), (Lawton & Cohen, 1974:195). When an entire publication is referred to, the page number(s) is/are to be omitted, e.g. (Holmes, 1983), (Cowgill & Holmes, 1972). **References at the end of the manuscript:** More details about sources referred to in the text must appear at the end of the manuscript (after the notes, if any) under the caption 'References'. The sources must be arranged alphabetically according to the surnames of the authors. When more than one publication of the same author(s) are referred to, they must be arranged chronologically according to years of publication; if more than one publication of the same author(s) appeared in one year they must be distinguished by a, b, etc., e.g. 1982a, 1982b. The abbreviation 'Anon.' should be used when the author of a publication is unknown and 'n.d.' when the year of publication is not available. Note the use of capitals, punctuation marks and italics in the following examples:

Two authors

Markides, K. & Midel, C.H. 1987. *Aging and ethnicity*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.

Collection

Cowgill, C.O. & Holmes, L.D. (Eds) 1972. *Aging and modernization*. New York: Meredith.

Article in a collection

Lawton, M.P. 1987. Housing for the elderly in the mid-1980s. In: Lesnoff-Caravaglia, G. (Ed.) *Handbook of social gerontology*. New York: Human Sciences Press, pp. 15-31.

Journal article

Brody, E.M. 1985. Parent care as a normative family stress. *The Gerontologist*, 25:19-29.

D. Phil. thesis

Brindley, M. 1982. *The role of old women in Zulu culture*. Ph.D. thesis. Kwadlangezwa: University of Zululand.

Unpublished manuscript

Fourie, J. 1988. *The consequences of population ageing*. Unpublished. Pretoria: Seminar on Ageing, Centre for Aged Research.

Newspaper report

Sunday Times. 1989. Johannesburg, 29 October, p.11.

Personal communication

Zuma, N. 1994. Personal communication. Pretoria, 25 March.

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Editorial address: Manuscripts for publication should be submitted to the Editor, SAJG, HSRC/UCT Centre for Gerontology, University of Cape Town, Medical School, Observatory 7925, Republic of South Africa.

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Special AGES issue: The family and ageing in Africa Guest editor: Nana Araba Apt

Contents

Introduction – Taking steps: an African ageing agenda Nana Araba Apt	1
Black South African families with older members: opportunities and constraints Valerie Møller & R. Devey	3
Pensions and household structure of older persons in Namibia D.J. Adamchak	11
Family finance and doorstep trading: social and economic wellbeing of elderly Ghanaian female traders Nana Apt, Joanne Koomson, N. Williams & Margaret Grieco	17
Family help for the elderly in Africa: a comparative assessment Margaret Peil	26
Old people and funerals in a rural Ghanaian community: ambiguities in family care S. van der Geest	33
