

Care in advanced old age: scenarios and patterns of structural violence and gender

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Abstract:

The purpose of this study consisted in exploring the experience offered by older women in terms of physical dependency in the city of Durango, Durango. The main dimensions of analysis were: the socioeconomic conditions in which women are located as care providers, norms and values that give rise to liability and foundation to female care; and the relationship of such dimensions and structural aspects of gender violence. Data were collected through depth interviews with 15 female caregivers of ill spouses or parents. The results show that the care actions are carried out under conditions of social inequity, family and economic inequalities due to gender issues that are identified as subtle forms of violence against women. The gaps of old-age policies, by not considering the needs of caregivers reinforce the invisibility of a phenomenon inherent to this stage of life as is the care of elderly.

Key words: care, structural violence and gender.

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