

Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology

Call for papers

Ageing and community

Guest editors

Claudine Provencher (London School of Economics, UK)

Norah Keating (University of Alberta, Canada)

Vera Roos (North-West University, South Africa)

Jeni Warburton (La Trobe University, Australia)

Instructions to authors

- 1 Before 30/06/2012:** Authors are invited to send an **abstract** of 500 words (answer 4 weeks later) to c.m.provencher@lse.ac.uk
- 2 Before 31/01/2013:** Deadline for submission of **manuscripts** (no more than 5000 words including abstract, text, references, tables and figures)
- 3** Manuscripts will be evaluated by two reviewers
- 4** Publication of this special issue is scheduled for early 2014. For questions and submissions of abstracts, please contact: c.m.provencher@lse.ac.uk

The *Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology* is proposing a special issue concerned with ageing and community. The rapidly rising proportion of older adults in countries around the world has become one of the key societal issues of the early 21st century. While discussions on that issue have often focused on issues of dependency and economic burden that accompany this new demographic reality, not enough has been said about the possibilities which ageing brings for local communities around the world.

Social isolation and loneliness are key challenges for an ageing population, particularly in the contemporary era when families migrate across the world and where there are stark differences in community supportiveness both within and across world regions. Yet there is growing evidence of older adults' place in fostering community cohesion and productivity and of a range of responses aimed at integrating and supporting older people. Much of community vitality can be credited to older people themselves, and involves understanding how older people actively contribute to communities. However, knowledge gaps also remain in our understanding of which older adults are at risk of exclusion from social relationships, material resources and community settings that enhance quality of life—and which are most likely to be marginalized.

This special issue aims to explore this diversity of older persons *and* of the communities in which they live by establishing a dialogue between social/community psychology and social gerontology. In particular, we want to examine how specific community arrangements can help fulfil a number of social psychological functions such as identity maintenance, quality of life and relational well-being and allow for a more empowering social representation of ageing and of older people. Reciprocally, we will welcome papers that can help us to understand better the social psychological factors, such as stereotypes between historical generations, that can hinder or promote the development of age-friendly communities be they understood in the formal context of the WHO-sponsored initiative or in less formal arrangements. We will also welcome manuscripts that explore innovative research methods to study ageing in social and community psychology. Manuscripts from all world regions are welcome.