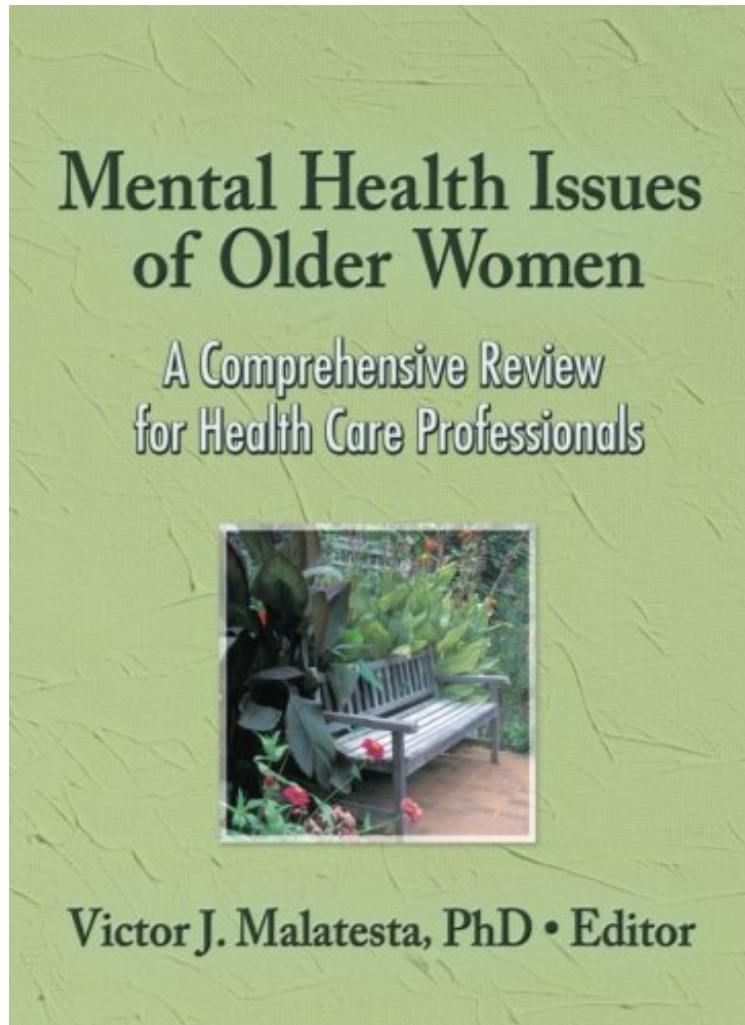


# Mental Health Issues of Older Women: A Comprehensive Review for Health Care Professionals

*Victor J. Malatesta*

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**Victor J. Malatesta : Mental Health Issues of Older Women: A Comprehensive Review for Health Care Professionals** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mental Health Issues of Older Women: A Comprehensive Review for Health Care Professionals:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Mental Health Issues of Older WomenBy Madison Avenue PublishersOpening with "Women are the primary consumers of mental health services. Ironically, research addressing their unique needs lags behind that of men's issues. It is only recently that medicine has recognized that women have different needs and require specially-tailored evaluation and treatment services, " any health care professional would embrace this informative book.The special bio-psycho-social issues and needs of women are obvious to those who

serve this population. Researchers and practitioners alike are only just beginning to look hard at the gender factor in treating older adults, since women tend to live longer than men, often alone and all too often at the poverty level. The reader "will appreciate that the female life course of psychopathology, in contrast to the male perspective, may be quite different depending upon the disorder under study. The differences have implications for needs identification, assessment, design of effective treatment interventions, and overall service delivery." In other words, and I do wish that the material were more conversational, the gender differences are very important in determining the etiologies and treatments for the myriad of problems facing middle aged and older women today. Take for example the numerous emotional factors involved in menopause, HRT therapies, breast cancer diagnosis and treatments, and emotional support for the victims as well as the survivors; the debilitating life changes caused by Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue syndrome--10 times more prevalent in women than in men, the prevalence of which increases from 2% at age 20 to 8% at age 70, and complaints of impaired cognitive function and short-term memory are common. Diagnosis also seems skewed. For example, in diagnosing a client or patient with PTSD, one's gender bias might preclude a woman presenting with PTSD signs and symptoms, yet diagnose it in a male client or patient and treat it accordingly. Veterans tend to be diagnosed with PTSD and women who are more at risk of PTSD because of the high frequency of interpersonal trauma in the form of sexual abuse and domestic physical abuse, are not so readily diagnosed, either underdiagnosed or misdiagnosed. Alcoholism is another example of where gender education in health issues can help to identify and treat a dysfunction more readily. Due to differences in metabolism of alcohol, women are at higher risks than men, and aging women are subject to synergistic effects of alcohol in combination with prescription drugs. Health care providers do not routinely screen older women for alcoholism. Older women are more apt to discuss grief, depression and loneliness, but shame often prevents them from discussing openly excessive drinking with their healthcare providers, and they often imbibe at home, alone, and away from family members and friends. Ironically, if friends and family were about, they probably would not drink as much and as often as they do. This may be missed at the intake and assessment stage. The compilation of research in this book is provocative, challenging and thought-provoking. The topics are vast and varied. They include such pertinent topics as Eating Disorders, Depression, Cognitive Functioning, Anxiety Disorders, Alcoholism, Borderline Personality Disorder, Sexual Problems, Complex Chronic Dissociative Disorder, Schizophrenia and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. All specifically as they pertain to middle-aged and older women--age not stated but say, over the age of 50. Barbara Kennedy, MPH, MSW

Discover the latest research on the mental health concerns of older women Women are the primary consumers of mental health services, however, there is a paucity of research on their specific needs. *Mental Health Issues of Older Women: A Comprehensive Review for Health Care Professionals* presents a comprehensive overview for health care professionals, educators, and students on the study of mental health problems of aging women. This resource provides the latest research and informed perspectives by seasoned mental health clinicians. A wide range of mental health problems are explored, including dementia, cognitive impairment, alcohol abuse, schizophrenia, depression and anxiety disorders, traumatic and dissociative disorders, sexual and eating disorders, and personality disorders. *Mental Health Issues of Older Women* provides practicing therapists and counselors with a much-needed research update and a broad clinical perspective from respected experts. This book uses current psychiatric diagnoses as a framework to gain greater depth of understanding to address the mental health issues of older women. Students and health professionals will discover valuable information, inspiration, and encouragement in their work with middle-aged and older women who are facing mental health challenges. This volume provides extensive references. Topics in *Mental Health Issues of Older Women* include: the role of cognitive impairment in older persons assessment tools and treatment options for older women who display alcohol use problems schizophrenia in older women major depressive disorder among older women therapeutic options for anxiety disorders under-diagnosed and misdiagnosed incidents of PTSD a provocative look at dissociative identity disorder sexual problems with treatment options eating disorders with treatment approaches effective treatment options for borderline personality disorder *Mental Health Issues of Older Women* provides practitioners, educators, students, researchers, and administrators with an essential review of the latest research and current issues on the mental health problems of older women.

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About the Author Dennis Reynolds, PhD, the Ivar Haglund Distinguished Professor of Hospitality Management at the Washington State University School of Hospitality Business Management, teaches and conducts research on management topics of interest to the hospitality industry. His teaching centers on global service-management issues. He is a frequent speaker to management groups in Asia, Europe, and North America and has been cited in various media around the globe. His lively seminars cover such topics as maximizing productivity in the workplace and understanding the key value drivers in the hospitality industry. Dr. Reynolds's research focuses on pathways leading to enhanced managerial efficiency and effectiveness, especially in service organizations, through the application of operations-management tools and techniques. His work has been published in such journals as the *Journal of Foodservice Business Research*, the *Advanced Management Journal*, the *Cornell Hotel and Restaurant Administration Quarterly*, the *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Research*, and the *International Journal of Hospitality Management*. Dr. Reynolds is also the creator of a restaurant simulation titled *restaurateur*. This 'game' utilizes the allure of restaurant ownership to foster students' entrepreneurial interests by demonstrating how a restaurant concept can become a viable business venture.

Karthik Namasivayam, PhD, is an Assistant Professor at the School of Hospitality Management, Pennsylvania State University, where he teaches human resources management and organizational behavior. He also teaches leadership and change management at the graduate and undergraduate levels. His research explores the intersections between the hospitality organization and the consumer; the notion of consumer satisfaction; and connecting organizational human resources practices and organizational structures to consumer behavior. His published works have been widely recognized and appear in such journals as *Psychology Marketing*, the *International Journal of Service Industries Management*, the *Cornell Hotel and Restaurant Administration Quarterly*, the *Journal of Human Resources in Hospitality Tourism*, the *Journal of Travel Research*, the *Journal of Intellectual Capital*, the *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Research*, and the *International Journal of Hospitality Management*. Dr. Namasivayam draws on over 25 years of worldwide hospitality industry experience as an entrepreneur, manager, frontline worker, and project consultant in three continents to enrich both his teaching and his research.