

Age Discrimination

Age discrimination is a highly topical issue in all industrialised societies, against a background of concerns about shortening working lives and ageing populations in the future. Based upon detailed research, and adopting an interdisciplinary approach, this unique study traces the history of the age discrimination debate in Britain and the USA since the 1930s. It critically analyses the concepts of ageism in social relations and age discrimination in employment. Case-studies on generational equity and health care rationing by age are followed by an analysis of the British government's initiatives against age discrimination in employment. The book then traces in detail the history of the debate on health status and old age, addressing the question of whether working capacity has improved sufficiently to justify calls to delay retirement and extend working lives. It concludes with a detailed examination of the origins and subsequent working of the USA's 1967 Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

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Age Discrimination

An Historical and Contemporary Analysis

John Macnicol



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Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	<i>page</i> vi
<i>List of tables</i>	vii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
Part I Ageism and Age Discrimination	1
1 Analysing ageism and age discrimination	3
2 Justice between generations	48
Part II The Current Revival of Interest in Britain	69
3 New Labour and age discrimination	71
Part III Retirement, health status and work-disability	119
4 Health status and old age	121
5 From the late nineteenth century to the 1940s	133
6 The 1950s and 1960s in Britain	151
7 The recent debate	177
Part IV America's Age Discrimination in Employment Act	207
8 The age discrimination debate, from the 1920s to 1967	209
9 From 1967 to the present	234
10 Conclusion	263
<i>Bibliography</i>	268
<i>Index</i>	299

Figures

3.1 Economic activity rates: by gender and age, 1971 and 1997	<i>page</i> 86
7.1 The mortality (observed), morbidity (hypothetical) and disability (hypothetical) survival curves for US females in 1980	179

Tables

3.1 Employment and economic activity rates by age; men and women	<i>page</i> 88
3.2 Number per 100 people of working age	93
8.1 The labour force participation of men aged 65+ in the USA	210
9.1 US labour force participation rates by age: percentages and numbers	257

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