



# Clinical Gerontological Social Work Practice

*Robert Youdin*

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This book has a forward-thinking orientation that reflects the reality of aging with older adults throughout the aging life course... Dr. Youdin integrates an advanced clinical social work practice with in-depth knowledge of evidence-based practice as well as geriatric medicine, psychiatry and gerontology." -- **The Lamp**

Written by an expert in gerontological social work and curriculum development, this book provides a wealth of clinical information for social workers and other health care professionals who counsel older adults. It describes a strengths-based, empowerment approach to treatment that integrates theory, technique, advocacy, and social policy, and encompasses the tenets of human rights. The book's content has been tested in the classroom setting for a three-year period with advanced social work undergraduate and graduate students.

The book examines various theories of aging including a contrast between the strengths-based person-in-environment theory and the pathologically based medical model of psychological problems. It advocates truly engaging with the older client during the assessment phase, and discusses a variety of intervention modalities. The psychological construct of stigma regarding aging is examined, along with the major psychopathological problems common to older adults. The book also considers Alzheimer's disease and dementia, medical problems of older adults and co-occurring psychological problems, substance abuse, older adult sexuality, elder abuse, and the vulnerabilities of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender older adults. Additionally, the book addresses mental health issues pertaining to residential settings and the aspects of death and dying that give older people concern. Extensive case studies, learning objectives, and discussion questions are featured in each chapter. The book also includes an instructor packet, PowerPoint slides, and an interactive PDF.

### Key Features:

- Provides a wealth of classroom-tested clinical information
- Espouses a strengths-based approach to treatment that integrates theory, technique, advocacy, and social justice
- Consistent with social work mandates for a human rights focus
- Presents extensive case studies, learning objectives, and discussion questions in each chapter
- Includes an instructors packet, PowerPoint slides, and interactive PDF

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