

# Are 80-year-old presidents the new normal?

Old men are a growing demographic throughout the Western world, and many still live their lives to the fullest. Just look at the current American president, Joe Biden, who is the oldest serving president in US history. Others, however, struggle with the downsides of old age. But we don't know much about them.

Old men remain an understudied group in the gerontological literature; a new anthology, The Old Man, aims to change that.

The book treats ideas about the old man throughout Western cultural history, presents the first studies on the very old man, and contains a personal account of becoming an old man. It also discusses a wide variety of topics including alcohol as a prism for male aging, the old man and sexuality, digitization, and masculinities, as well as the single old man as lonely or just living alone.

The 20 contributing researchers come from disciplines as diverse as psychology, philosophy, theology, anthropology, health, and gender studies. Together they offer a comprehensive view of this long-overlooked group.

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# THE OLD MAN

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