



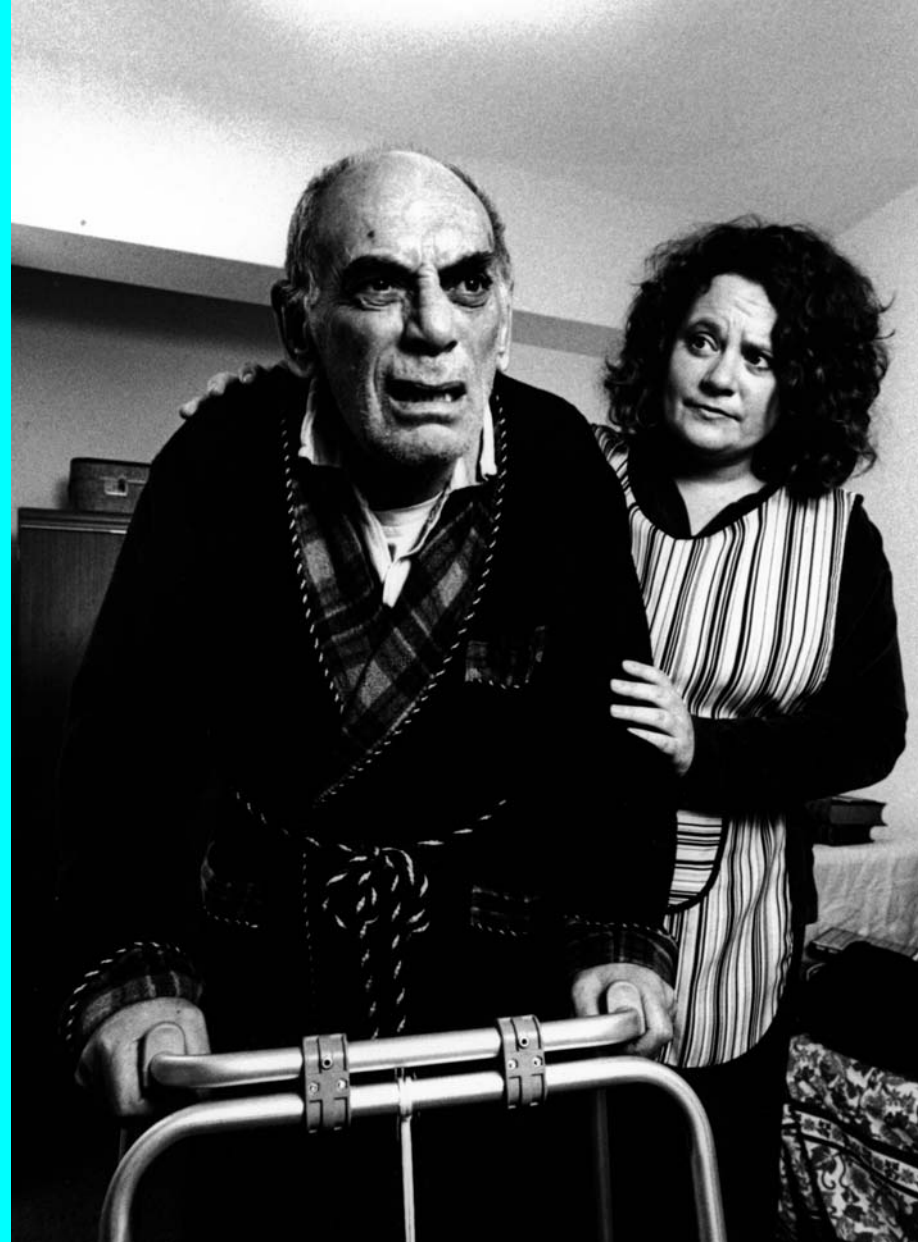
25 June 2009

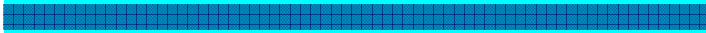
Action on Elder Abuse

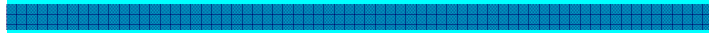
**UKHCA 20th Anniversary
ENGLAND**

Abuse is...

*'a single or repeated act or lack of appropriate action occurring within any relationship where there is an **expectation of trust**, which causes harm or distress to an older person....*





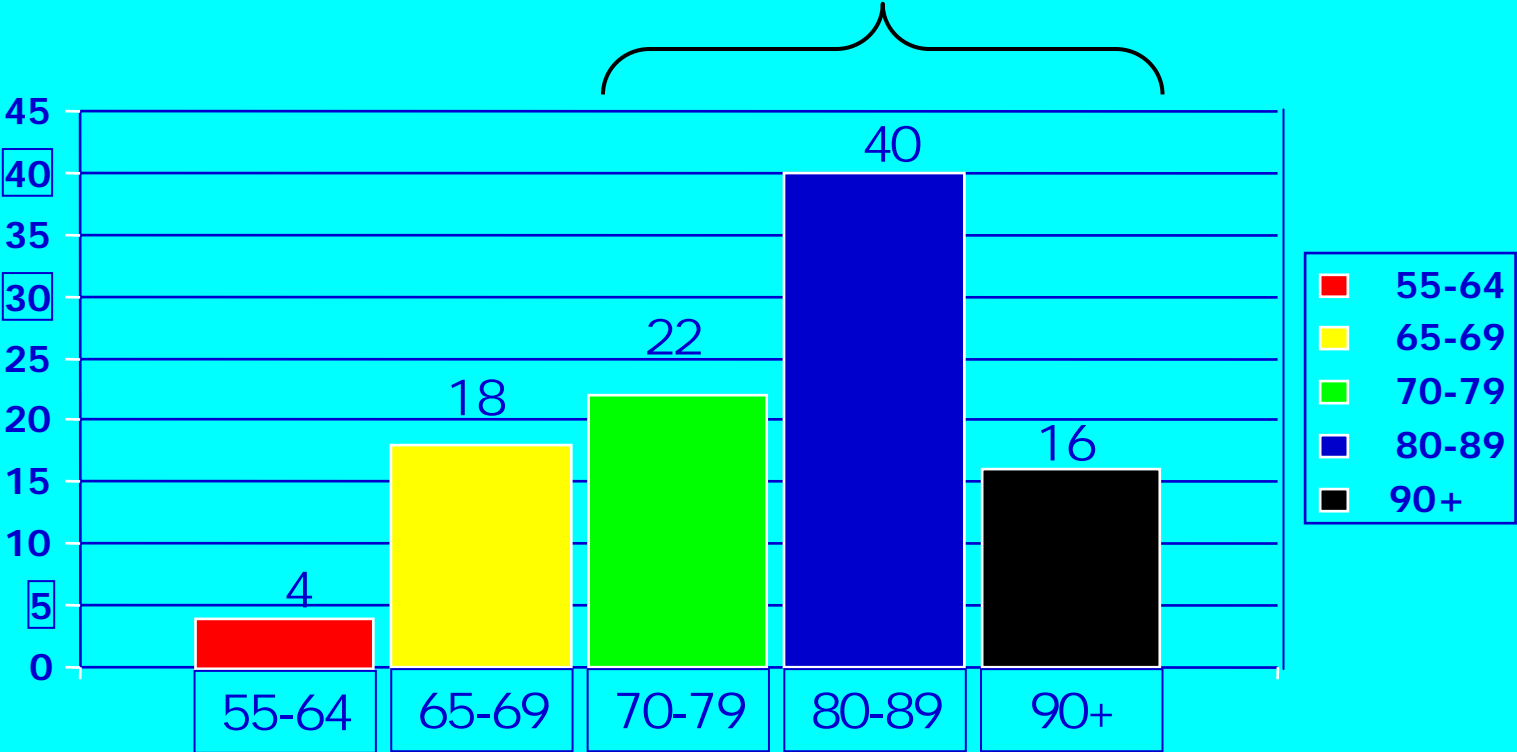




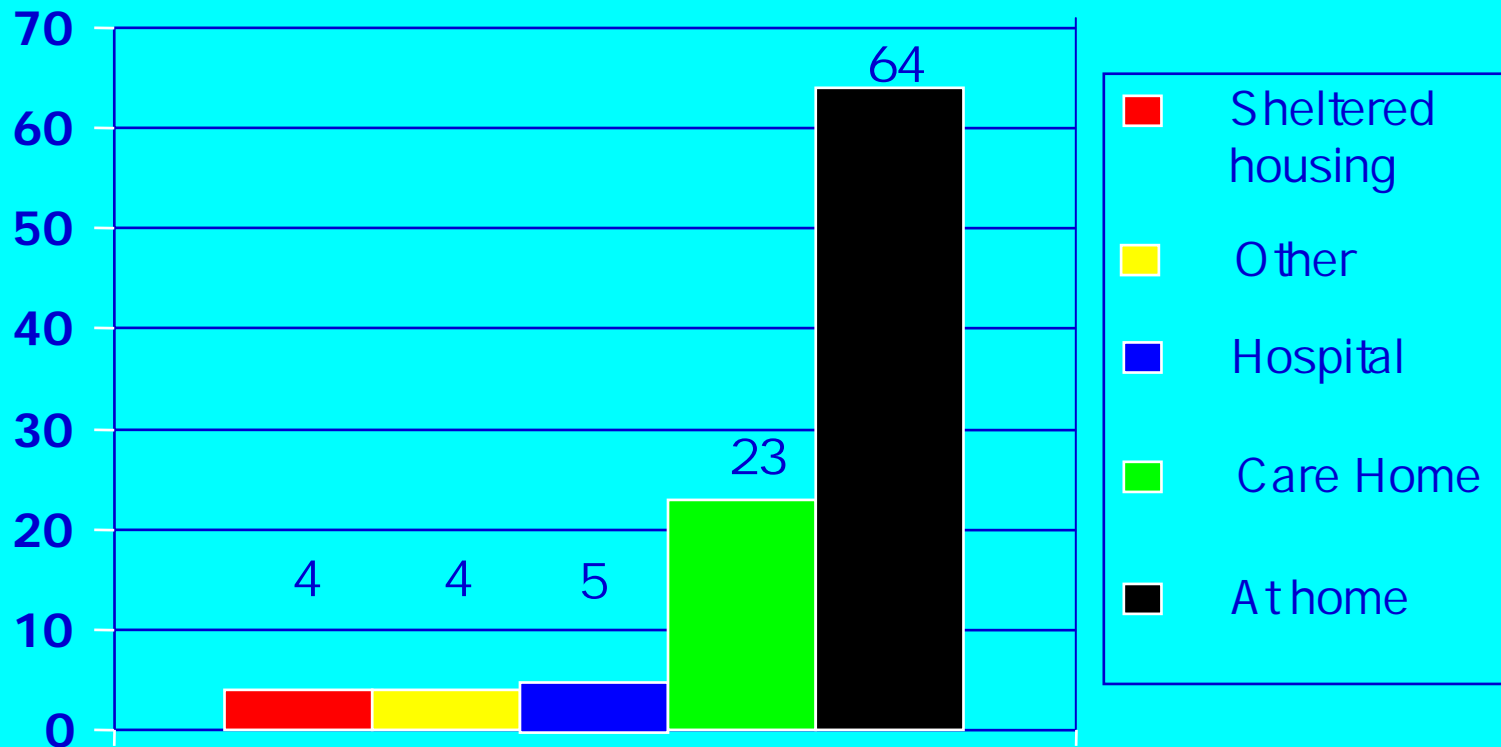
Source: *Hidden Voices 2004*

Age of victim

78% of abuse occurs after the age of 70 years



Where abuse occurs





Factors of Abuse

Psychological relationship between the abuser and victim

Inter-generational transmission of violence

Dependency

Stress

Social Isolation

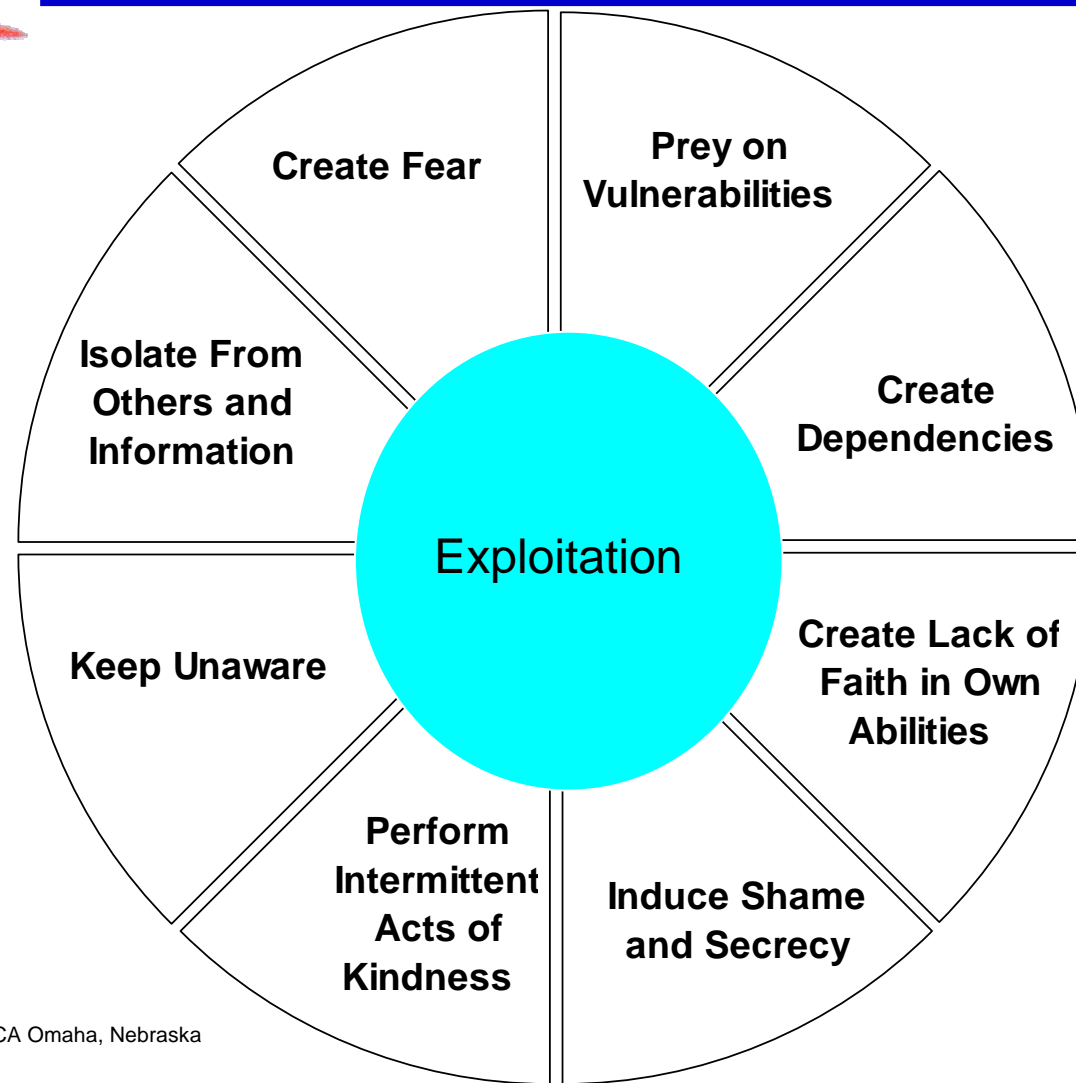
Poverty

Minority Status

Age Discrimination

Disability Discrimination

Communication difficulties





Vulnerability

Vulnerable People do not exist!

It is environment and circumstances that make people vulnerable. And it is circumstances that define their needs.

When people need support it is invariably because of a physical disability, a mental health problem, a learning disability or a dependence (whether temporary or permanent).

While a need may be age related, 'Age by itself' is still not a cause of vulnerability. The 'Age factor' relates to the discriminatory attitudes that give rise to opportunity and justification for abuse.



The current state of play

In social care terms the debate has very much been influenced by the introduction of regulation within paid care provision.

The realities of organising, delivering and funding social care has often been ignored in this debate, with little understanding of cause and effect

Within health care the agenda has been almost totally internally driven by practitioners or health care professionals.

In both circumstances the voice of vulnerable people has been difficult to hear and the 'balance' between care needs and business needs has been difficult to maintain.



Adult Support and Protection Act (Scotland) 2007)

- Introduces new adult protection powers and procedures
- Establishes multi-agency Adult Protection Committees to oversee strategic and operational effectiveness of prevention and protection interventions.
- Includes other amendments to primary legislation
- Introduces the right, in certain circumstances to overrule the wishes of an adult with capacity



The fundamental basis

Framework legislation addresses the parameters and structures within which safeguarding and adult protection systems and processes are constructed. It establishes powers and duties within which agencies collaborate, share information and work together.

Intervention legislation addresses the powers and duties of interaction between adult protection processes and the individual citizen. It potentially could impact upon an individual's right to choice and control in certain situations.



Personalisation

Why does a domiciliary care worker need:

a CRB and POVA check?

perhaps be registered with the Care Council?

have NVQ training?

be formally supervised?

be required to 'whistleblow'?

But a Personal Assistant doesn't!

Either regulation works or it doesn't.
But it sure has cost a lot!



The current state of play

Panorama went to South Lanarkshire where an online auction decided the council's new care provider. Domiciliary Care won the auction which saw bidders bidding down, not up. It's one of Scotland's largest care providers looking after more than 1,500 people. While it won with a bid to provide care for £9.95 an hour, South Lanarkshire says the decision to award the contract was based only 40% on price with 60% based on quality of care.

During her time with the company, Arifa found she often had little time to spend on a visit, with one call lasting just three minutes. South Lanarkshire council, who awarded the contract, declined to be interviewed but watched the covert footage and said they found Panorama's allegations deeply concerning and have launched a full investigation.



Elder Abuse

Response

080 8808 8141

9.00am – 5.00pm

Monday - Friday