

RIGHTS ROADBLOCKS RESILIENCE



3Rs Forum

OLDER WOMEN CHALLENGE AGEISM



Presented by the Older Women's Network NSW

LIFETIMES



- From the age of 65 women can expect to have at least 20 years of good health.
- By the age of 85, women outnumber men by 2 to 1.
- Several women in this room will live to 100+.

WORKFORCE

- Age discrimination starts as early as 45 in many jobs.
- Despite this, more women are staying in the workforce at mature ages, often in part-time or casual jobs.
- Australia has one of the highest rates of part-time workers in the OECD



WORKFORCE



- 55% of part-time jobs are casual
- The majority of primary carers are women aged 45 and over
- The replacement value of the work of informal carers is \$40.9 billion (equivalent to 3.2% of GDP and 60% of other formal health care)

POVERTY & ECONOMIC HARDSHIP

- Women are living longer on less money.
- Women earn 16% less than men in full time jobs.
- The average super balance for females is \$110,000 – for males \$200,000.



POVERTY & ECONOMIC HARDSHIP



- The aged pension is the sole income for most women 65 and over
- Women living alone and renting are at risk of homelessness
- It takes about 20 years of a well paying job to build enough super to fund a comfortable retirement.

HEALTH & SAFETY

- The health of the majority of older women 45 to 64 is good to excellent (ALS)
- The majority of women 65 and over consider themselves to be in good to excellent health



HEALTH & SAFETY

- BreastScreen reminders cease at 70 but the risk of cancer doesn't.
- Cervical cancer screening is not routine – but should be.



HEALTH & SAFETY



- One in four women aged 45+ are victims of violence.
- Loneliness, isolation and poverty are risk factors for depression and incapacity
- People in rural and remote areas face problems accessing health services.

OUR VOICES, OUR DECISIONS

- We're here, we're individuals, and we want to make our own decisions.
- We come from diverse backgrounds and circumstances – many of us lead remarkable lives.
- Make our voices count.
- If it concerns us, consult us.
- If in doubt, ask. Don't assume you know what we want.



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