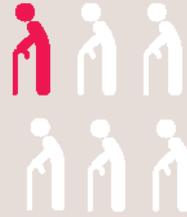


# ELDER ABUSE

## What is it?

**Elder abuse** is violence or any other type of harm because of older age. It can be carried out by those who are close to older people, such as family and caregivers, or by social structures and institutions.

“My son persuaded me to sell my house to repay his debt...I agreed and now I’m left homeless.”  
Woman, 70, Kyrgyzstan



1 in 6 older women and men worldwide experience abuse.

**4%**  
reported

Despite this, elder abuse remains invisible. Only 4% of elder abuse is reported.

## Types of elder abuse



### Physical

Hitting, shoving, inappropriate use of drugs, restraints or confinement.



### Emotional

Intimidation, humiliation, routine blaming, repeatedly ignoring the wishes of an older person or isolating them from friends or activities.



### Sexual

Sexual harassment, sexual activity without informed consent, forcing an older person to watch sexual acts or to undress.



### Neglect

Intentional or unintentional denial of food, water, shelter, clothing, assistance with daily living tasks and any other essential needs.



### Financial

Using an older person's money or property, or making financial decisions, without their informed consent.

Elder abuse.  
**See it.**  
**Expose it.**

Find out what to do if you suspect elder abuse:  
[helpage.org/elder\\_abuse](https://helpage.org/elder_abuse)

**HelpAge**

International