

Human rights violation and elder abuse

pertinent to older people receiving care in Italy



Anziani e non solo
ANS Società cooperativa



Erasmus+



S.T.AGE

SOCIO-DRAMA TACKLING AGEISM, PREVENTING ABUSE

Right to life (?)

« Article 2 – Right to life
Everyone's right to life shall be protected by law. »

- Right to food and water
- Not helping with eating

Right to food and water

Not helping with eating



Residents being hurried, food being “shoveled” by staff helping residents to eat.

On some occasions, nursing home staff had not devoted any time to helping residents eat. The meal would be collected again without the food having been eaten.



Prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment

« Article 3 – Prohibition of torture

No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.



- Not (promptly) responding to continence needs
- Failure to provide personal care – people left in soil
- Psychological abuse – offenses and humiliation
- Physical abuse – rude manual handling, hitting, slapping

Continence needs



Residents are not taken to use the toilet other than at set "toileting" times and that requests for help often go unanswered.

At times due to staffing pressures residents are

asked to use incontinence pads even though, with some assistance, they are able to use the toilet themselves.

This experience impacts on a person's physical and moral integrity and can have adverse psychological effects.



People left in wet or soil



Due to time pressure or lack of staff, residents are left for quite a long time wet or soiled or other personal hygiene needs are not met.



Offenses or humiliations & physical abuse

Older persons were kicked, slapped, bitten, insulted, forced to eat on the floor has a punishment when they left food falling .

[From a local newspaper – facts happened in a nursing home in Parma]

Prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment

« Article 5 – Right to liberty and security'

Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be deprived of his liberty.



- Abuse of physical and chemical restraints

Abuse of physical and chemical restraints



Wheelchairs tied to balustrades to prevent them from flipping over.

Use of belts to tie the older person to the bed.

Older persons locked in their rooms for “punishment”.



[From a local newspaper – facts happened in a nursing homes around Italy]