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Notes

1. Butler (1963) conceives that the life review is not synonymous with, but includes reminiscence. In reality the strict distinction between "life review" and "reminiscence" is not made in social work practice. Reminiscence is more often utilized in the intervention.

ABSTRACT

This article examines the psychosocial issues of the elderly which social workers may deal with in direct practice. In the first section, the author discussed reasons why Erikson's theory of human growth is important to understand the elderly's needs properly. The second section clarifies, on the one hand, what life review/reminiscence method is, and shows, on the other, how the practice of this method meets the elderly's needs. In the final section, the author suggests that there are gender differences in focusing developmental stage(s) in life review/reminiscence processes especially when we take into account the particularity of women's psychology.

Key Words : Ego integrity, life review, reminiscence