

Feels Like Home: A Study Of The Role Of Material Culture In Older Adults' Transition To A Retirement Village

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Abstract : Older adults want choices about where they 'age-in-place' and express the desire to remain in their home for as long as possible because it maintains feelings of independence and autonomy, perpetuates a sense of identity, enable people to have space for their belongings and supports connections and social engagement. When circumstances change, and alternative living arrangements are required, more and more older adults are considering a transition to a retirement village - the liminal space between home and residential care. This qualitative study explores the lived experience of older adults who relocate to a retirement village in Queensland, Australia, and the role that material culture plays in this process.

Keywords : material culture, social gerontology, concepts of home, retirement villages

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