

## Why We Call Ourselves Old

OLOC is not afraid of the word, "Old." In fact, we use it whenever and wherever we can. Why? To lessen the fear of aging and to challenge the demeaning euphemisms, scorn, invisibility, and expendability normally associated with "Old." Conversely, we welcome the benefits of age and value our wide Lesbian experience and our deep women's knowledge. As a result, we reject language that does not take us seriously or describe us respectfully.

As Lesbians who have survived more than 60 years of youth-centered patriarchy, we identify as neither "senior" nor "elderly" and call ourselves "Old" with pride. We reject the stereotypes in order to empower and change ourselves, each other, and the rest of the world.



## Why 60 and Over

OLOC is limited to Lesbians 60 and over. Why? The difficulties of younger Lesbians, even those in their 40s and 50s, are different from our issues in old age. As important and painful as aging may be to younger Lesbians, we are committed to providing Lesbians age 60 and older the opportunity to be together and to speak for ourselves.

We welcome Lesbians under 60, who are committed to confronting ageism, to support OLOC. We ask for respect for our decision to have OLOC events open only to Lesbians who are 60 or over and our female partners or caregivers.

## Who We Are

OLOC is a national organization with national leadership centered in the OLOC Steering Committee. There are also local chapters across the country.

### OLOC is committed to empowering Old Lesbians in our common struggle to:

- ▶ confront ageism within our own and the larger community
- ▶ explore who we are and name our oppression
- ▶ challenge racism, classism, ableism, sexism, heterosexism, homophobia and religious intolerance
- ▶ analyze our experience of ageism by sharing our individual stories

### To support our common goals, OLOC also works to:

- ▶ develop and distribute educational material.
- ▶ facilitate formation of new groups and stimulate existing groups to confront ageism.
- ▶ make our presence a visible force in the women's movement and LGBTQ communities and organizations that serve old people.
- ▶ take stands on issues that affect all people but especially Old Lesbians.

### PLEASE CONTACT US



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# OLD LESBIANS ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE

*Ageism  
Hurts Everyone*



WORKING ACTIVELY FOR  
CHANGES THAT  
WILL IMPROVE ALL OUR LIVES

## The OLOC Reporter

OLOC produces a lively and informative quarterly newsletter brimming with articles and notices of interest to Old Lesbians. Hundreds of copies of each issue are distributed to subscribers and supporters.

## Oral Herstory Project

Before they are lost forever, The Arden Eversmeyer Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project, has been gathering and recording the stories of Lesbians 70 and older. So far, more than 150 Herstories have been gathered by this ongoing project, and twenty two of them have been collected into a riveting collection, *A Gift of Age*, published by the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project (OLOHP). More books are planned.

## National and Regional Gatherings

OLOC recognizes the need for Old Lesbians to gather face-to-face and works to provide such opportunities.

For information on future Gatherings, check the website, read the OLOC Reporter, email [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org), or phone: 888 706-7506 toll free.

## How You Can Be a Part of Old Lesbians Organizing for Change

- Be a Subscriber
- Be a Supporter
- Make a Tax-Deductible Donation

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