

CONTROVERSY 6: IS RETIREMENT OBSOLETE?

Worklife Extension. People Expect to Work Longer than They Actually Do. For more on this trend, see: http://www.bc.edu/centers/crr/special_pubs/Expectations.pdf

Engagement. Read "Older Adults' Engagement Should Be Recognized and Encouraged" available at: <http://www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=311201>

Life Satisfaction. Read "Satisfaction and Engagement in Retirement" at: <http://www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=311202>

Older Workers. For the latest on older workers and trends in work and retirement, visit: http://assets.aarp.org/rgcenter/econ/dd114_worker.pdf

Global Survey. The most comprehensive study ever done on global attitudes toward age and retirement suggests that traditional ideas about retirement are changing fast. For details see: http://a248.e.akamai.net/7/248/3622/5d4393a0c726bf/www.img.ghq.hsbc.com/public/groupsite/assets/retirement_future/hsbc_future_of_retirement.pdf

Retirement Survey. For a national survey answering the question "Retirement: Has Anything Changed?" see the report published by the Mature Market Institute of MetLife available at: <http://www.metlife.com/WPSAssets/16377889881027365686V1FPDF6.pdf>

Retirement Resources. The following websites contain major academic resources on retirement issues:

The Michigan Retirement Research Center at: <http://www.mrrc.isr.umich.edu/>

The National Bureau of Economic Research at: <http://www.nber.org>

The Center for Retirement Research of Boston College at: http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/csom/executive/crr/

The Health and Retirement Study at: <http://www.umich.edu/~hrswww/>

The Pension Research Council at: <http://prc.wharton.upenn.edu/prc/prc.html>

Work and Retirement. On the changing role of work and retirement in the "postmodern" life course, see "Older Workers and Socioeconomic Transformation" by Victor Marshall:

<http://www.aging.unc.edu/infocenter/resources/2001/marshallv2.pdf>

International Worries. Worries about pensions aren't just an American problem or preoccupation. For a broader international view of the issues, take a look at "Ageing Societies and the Looming Pension Crisis: Understanding the

Issue" available at:

http://www.oecd.org/document/59/0,2340,en_2649_201185_2512699_1_1_1_37435,00.html

Image of Retirement. In a sign of changing times, Retirement Ads are now looking beyond the 'Golden Years.' For an analysis of the trend, visit:

http://www.asaging.org/at/at-212/retirement_ads.html

Baby Boomers. Read "Baby Boomers Envision Their Retirement: An AARP Segmentation Analysis" available at:

http://research.aarp.org/econ/boomer_seg_toc.html

Working in Retirement? The Boston College Center on Retirement has a new publication: "Reforming the U.S. Retirement Income System: The Growing Role of Work" by Steven A. Sass, available at:

http://www.bc.edu/centers/crr/issues/gib_1.pdf

Worklife Extension. What about the alternative of just working longer? A prominent international observer argues thatworklife extension makes the most sense. Read the argument at:

<http://aarp.post.intellimedia.com/UM/T.asp?A910.36450.1282.6.320322>

The Center for Retirement Research at Boston College has also released a Issue in Brief: "Is Working Longer the Answer for an Aging Workforce?" by Gary Burtless (the Brookings Institution)and Joseph F. Quinn (Boston College). Read it on their web site at:

http://www.bc.edu/centers/crr/ib_11.shtml

Raising the Retirement Age: The wrong direction for Social Security

<http://www.epinet.org/briefingpapers/raisingretirement/raisingretirement.html>

Center for Strategic and International Studies

<http://www.csis.org/gai/>

CSIS's Global Aging Initiative acknowledges that the Baby Boomer generation will lower benefits for future retirees or an untenable tax burden on the next generation of Americans. Whether America can afford to retire depends on such factors as: demographic trends, enormous fiscal pressures, and insufficient personal savings practices that will lower future retirement living standards

The Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)

<http://www.score.org/>

The Service Corps of Retired Executives works as a resource for the U.S. Small Business Administration. Experienced and retired men and women advise small businesses nationwide.

The website allows visitors to email questions and comments to SCORE advisors. The organization offers counseling, workshops and volunteer opportunities.

The Future of Retirement. For an article changing images of later life among aging Boomers, read "Retirement: A Field of Dreams" available at:

<http://www.thesocietygroup.com/newface.html>