IS IT BULLYING?

Comparison and contrast of elder abuse, bullying, nonbullying behaviors, and challenging behaviors.

ELDER ABUSE

Mickey Rooney, 90-year-old film and television star, reported feeling powerless when his stepson took and misused his money and withheld food and medicine from him. (Anderson, 2011)

BULLYING

Edward, an assisted living resident, voiced feeling reluctant to leave his room to attend activities of interest because a fellow resident, Craig, continually pressured him for money and threatened to knock him down if he refused to loan him any. (Bonifas, 2011)

NONBULLYING BEHAVIORS

Esther, an assisted living resident, often asked her tablemates for spare change so she could buy items from the vending machines, but she didn't pressure them. Although her tablemates felt slightly irritated by her requests, they didn't feel threatened or unable to say no.

(Bonifas, 2011)

CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS

Betty, an attendee at a congregate meal site for older adults, loudly sang "The Lord's Prayer" throughout meals, disrupting others' enjoyment of their lunch, but not threatening them in any way.

(Bonifas, 2011)



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