

Worksheet 7:

Socio-cultural differences in the perception of the caregiving role

The Cambridge Dictionary defines the term ‘socio-cultural’ as ‘related to the different groups of people in society and their habits, traditions, and beliefs... used to describe the differences between groups of people relating to the social class and culture in which they live’.

In 2019 the ADI World Alzheimer’s Report focused on ‘Attitudes to dementia’ across the globe. Central to this report was conducting research which included the opportunity to gather information from people living with dementia and their carers, in order to help understand attitudes to and perceptions of dementia and the role of carers.

Below is one of the findings:

The gendered experience

“Between 60% and 70% of all family carers of people with dementia are women. Female spouses, daughters and daughters-in-law are more likely to take on the caring role compared to their male counterparts.”

Why do you think that more women are carers for people with dementia than men?

Do male and female carers ‘care’ in a different way? Why might this be?