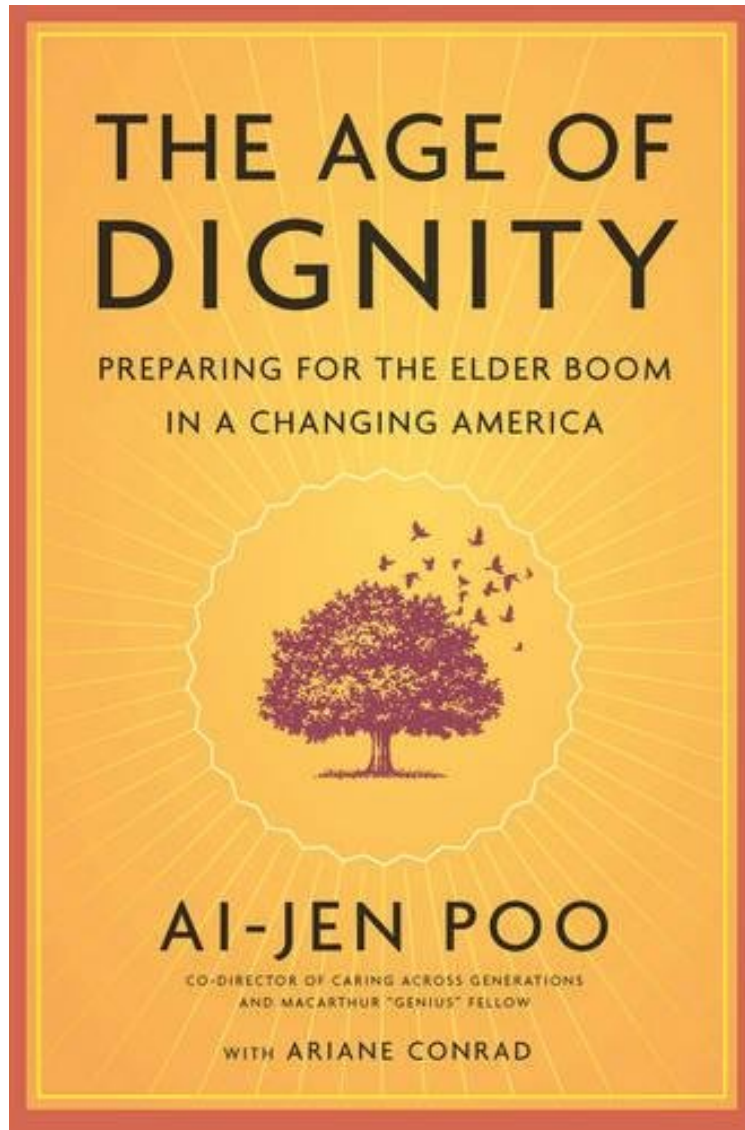


(Download) The Age of Dignity: Preparing for the Elder Boom in a Changing America

# The Age of Dignity: Preparing for the Elder Boom in a Changing America

*Ai-jen Poo*

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**Ai-jen Poo : The Age of Dignity: Preparing for the Elder Boom in a Changing America** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Age of Dignity: Preparing for the Elder Boom in a Changing America:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It is to Ai-jen Poos great credit that she came to the problem of caring ...By Damian CainIm a homecare RN.The Age of Dignity is a clarion call, pointing not just to the impending

crisis of Aging America, but to the heroines and heroes who are already guiding the most vulnerable among us to safety and dignity. It is to Ai-jen Poo's great credit that she came to the problem of caring for elderly Americans 14 years ago, before it had even occurred to most of us that the Baby Boomers were going to grow old en masse. That long-term familiarity is clearly evidenced in the wide scope of strategies she explores. Rather than pointing to a panacea, Ms. Poo knows that only a mosaic of creative and dedicated solutions will offer success in tackling what will surely be the greatest social policy challenge of the first half of this century. And even more inspiring, Ms. Poo understands that this struggle will ultimately be won not by policy, but by the women who actually devote their hearts and lives to caring, day after day, for our elderly and frail. This book, then, is not ultimately Ms. Poo's story: it is the story of the skilled and loving women she brings so vividly to life from the pages of *The Age of Dignity*. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Valuing the Work that Makes All Other Work Possible By Marguerite Chandler This is a very timely and important book that brings together the challenges we face in immigration, creating skilled jobs, addressing the needs of both the "sandwich" generation and the booming (and aging) Baby Boomers. Articulate, engaging and strategic, Ai-Jen Poo makes the case for a "caring economy." She skillfully uses storytelling to demonstrate where we are, what's coming, and where solutions are that can address all these personal and societal problems at the same time, in a humane, cost-effective way that provides dignity for all (the caretakers, the families who hire caretakers, and those who need care--that's pretty much ALL of us!). As she says, it's her intention to create a culture that "embraces the joys and complexities of aging, celebrates multigenerational relationships, and values care work--THE WORK THAT MAKES ALL OTHER WORK POSSIBLE." 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Eye-Opening By Brad Breeding *The Age of Dignity* is very well-written and lays out in a very tangible way many of the most pressing needs we have as a society relating to the coming "age boom" and the corresponding care and support needs. It is really eye-opening with lots of personal stories. It helps families consider the fact that aging in place is often so much easier in theory than in practice, at least as things stand today. We are vastly under-equipped and it is time for action.

In *The Age of Dignity*, thought leader and activist Ai-jen Poo offers a wake-up call about the demographic reality that will affect us all. We have more senior citizens in America today than we've had at any time in our history, Poo writes, pointing out that more than 14 percent of our population is now over sixty-five; by 2030 that ratio will be one in five. In fact, our fastest-growing demographic is the eighty-five-plus age group: over 5 million people now, a number that is expected to more than double in the next twenty years. This change presents us with a new challenge: how we care for and support quality of life for the unprecedented numbers of older Americans who will need it. Despite these daunting numbers, Poo has written a profoundly hopeful book, giving us a glimpse into the stories and often hidden experiences of the people: family caregivers, older people, and home care workers whose lives will be directly shaped and reshaped in this moment of demographic change. *The Age of Dignity* outlines a road map for how we can become a more caring nation, providing solutions for fixing our fraying safety net while also increasing opportunities for women, immigrants, and the unemployed in our workforce. As Poo has said, Care is the strategy and the solution toward a better future for all of us.