

NEW VIDEO RELEASE

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"[Minority families] find themselves not understanding the illness. They find themselves not really knowing what resources are available. They find themselves with the contradictory feelings—I need to take care my mother and yet I can't afford to pay someone [to care for her at home] and I can't afford to stay away from work myself, and I also can't afford, morally, to send her to a convalescent home [even] if that is the most appropriate place."

(For most people, this is enough of a challenge.)

Then, there's the family—the minority family—trying to cope in a strange, fast, non-traditional society ... with language barriers, lack of information, inadequate support, and conflicting expectations. It's tough—but it's even worse if people don't learn from those who have been through it.

Use for professional development and family education

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE: A Multicultural Perspective

Love, fear, shame, respect, guilt, frustration. . . See how families from four different ethnic minorities face the difficulty of caring for a relative with Alzheimer's Disease. Listen to their cultural dilemmas.

Because . . .

First, there's the disease—a progressive degeneration of the brain affecting memory, behaviour, personality, and even the most basic functions.



"The first problem for minorities dealing with Alzheimer's Disease is one of awareness—identifying the dementia ... as something other than normal aging, something they don't have to live with without some assistance from other people—be they other family members, neighbours, the church, day care programs, community resources, etc. Once you can get people to identify that they have a pathological disease, then you can hope that they will do something about it.."



"The nursing home idea is very new to us—so this is a first try. We don't know anybody who has put their parents in a nursing home... but we just couldn't take care of her... Now I go there every day for dinner. I love to go there because I want to make sure that she's eating right. And I want to be with her, touch her, and talk to her—because people there don't speak the language... I want her to enjoy life as much as possible."

34 minutes
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