



**Dr. Amanda Phelan**

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**BIOGRAPHY**

Dr. Amanda Phelan commenced her career as a general nurse and has worked with older people in both long-term care and community settings. Currently, Dr. Phelan is a lecturer and Subject Head of Older Persons' Nursing in the UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems and Co-Director in the National Centre for the Protection of Older People (NCPOP) based in the School. The NCPOP is a research centre which was established in 2008 and is dedicated to investigating elder abuse in Ireland and to inform Irish policy and practice. Dr. Phelan's interest in elder abuse commenced in her practice as a Public Health Nurse and led to the completion of her PhD on the topic of community nurses and elder abuse, which represented the first completed PhD on this topic in Ireland.

Dr. Phelan was programme co-ordinator of the Graduate Diploma in Nursing (Public Health) from 2002-2010 and currently co-ordinates the graduate gerontological programmes, including a blended learning graduate level inter-disciplinary programme on the Management of Elder Abuse. Dr. Phelan has also been instrumental in re-orientating the gerontological programmes to include the issue of safeguarding older people based on an ethos of person centred care.

As Co-Director of the NCPOP, Dr. Phelan leads on several elder abuse research projects and has published in this area, used as an expert in the Irish media and has been involved in Health Service serious case reviews on elder abuse. Dr. Phelan has presented findings from her elder abuse research in both national and international conferences. In 2013, Dr. Phelan's edited book *International Perspectives on Elder Abuse*, was published by Routledge, London. Dr. Phelan is an editorial board member on two international journals (the *International Journal of Older People Nursing* and the *International Journal of Nursing and Clinical Practices*) and a journal reviewer for several gerontological journals including the *Journal of Adult Protection* and *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*.

Dr. Phelan has been the Irish INPEA representative since 2011 and has been involved in Irish activities to mark World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. She is also the current Secretary of the All Ireland Gerontological Nurses' Association. Representing the Institute of Community Health Nurses, Dr. Phelan was one of the invited speakers to the Irish Senate on the topic of the Rights of Older People in 2011. Amanda also sits on the Irish Health Information and Quality Authority's (HIQA) national review committee for residential care standards for older people.

She also contributes to an international research panel for the National Institute for Care of the Elderly (Canada) on the topic of elder abuse screening tools, led by Professor Lynn McDonald and is currently working on a European network on the subject of elder abuse. In 2010, Dr. Phelan was awarded a Royal Irish Academy grant to visit fellow scholars in the United States and Canada to review elder abuse screening tools. This resulted in an Irish pilot of two elder abuse screening tools which is currently being completed under the research programme of the NCPOP. Amanda has also secured funding to complete a study on screening vulnerable adults for financial abuse in Northern Ireland (Funded by Health and Social Care Northern Ireland).

## **STATEMENT**

If elected to the position of Secretary General, I will work closely with the President, Vice President and other Board members to promote the aims and objectives of INPEA. My work within the NCPOP has allowed the establishment of national and international networks in the domain of elder abuse. I believe that these networks can also strengthen INPEA's profile and serve as a catalyst to increase INPEA's membership.

As elder abuse is my primary research and teaching remit, I believe that my experience can enhance and complement INPEA's goals. For example, I chaired the organisation of Ireland's first conference on the topic of elder abuse in 2006 and since the establishment of the NCPOP in 2008, have co-

hosted World Elder Abuse Awareness Day with the Health Service Executive and the NCPOP. Since becoming the INPEA national representative, I have ensured INPEA has been the conference co-host and have arranged guest speakers on INPEA's behalf. This has also encompassed the signing of Declarations against elder abuse by the Lord Mayor of Dublin and other Irish Mayors, the Assistant Commissioner for the Gardai (Irish Police) and the Dean and Head of the School of Nursing (UCD). The day was also marked around the country with various activities, which I co-ordinated.

In my role as INPEA's National Representative for Ireland, I have been working for the last month with President Gutman to develop a program of activities around the International Association on Gerontology and Geriatrics 8th European Regional Congress that will take place in Dublin April 23-26, 2015. Plans include an INPEA symposium within the Congress and a pre-conference event that will take place on April 22 - the 10th INPEA Global Conference. I am pleased to report that the following organizations will be partnering with INPEA on this event: Third Age, Health Service Executive and the School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems. The theme of the conference is "Advances in elder abuse research, legislation and practice"

## **Elder abuse publications**

### Book Chapters

Phelan A. (2012) Citizenship and Older People In *Citizenship: Practices, Types and Challenges*, (eds. Petty D. & McFarland C.), Nova Publishers, New York., pp105-118

Phelan A. (2013) Understanding elder abuse. *International Perspectives on Elder Abuse*, Routledge, London.

Phelan A. (2013) Ireland. *International Perspectives on Elder Abuse*, Routledge.

Phelan A. (2013) Conclusion. *International Perspectives on Elder Abuse*, Routledge, London.

### Books:

Phelan A. (ed) (2013) *International Perspectives on Elder Abuse*, Routledge, London.

Phelan A. (2004), Elder Abuse- An attack against older persons' dignity. *Dignity and Older Europeans, Conference Report, 2 & 3<sup>rd</sup> December*, University of Cardiff, Wales.

Phelan A. (2004), Elder Abuse and Nursing. *World of Irish Nursing*, July-August, (13) 16-18.

Phelan A. (2006) Moral onus on all to end maltreatment of older people. *Irish Times*, 16<sup>th</sup> June.

Phelan A. (2007) Legislation and vulnerable older Irish people. *Conference proceedings, Action on Elder Abuse conference*, UK.

Phelan A. (2007) E-mail interview with Amanda Phelan. *Nursing Older People*, 2007 May; 19 (4): 40.

Phelan A. (2008) Elder abuse, human rights, citizenship: Implications for nursing discourse, *Nursing Inquiry* 15, (4), 320-330.

Phelan A. (2009) Elder abuse and neglect: the nurse's responsibility in care of the older person *International Journal of Older People Nursing*, 4(2), 115 -119.

Phelan A. (2009) *Media representations of elder abuse: A case study*. National Centre for the Protection of Older People, Dublin.

Phelan A. (2010) Discursive constructions of elder abuse: community nurses' accounts, *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 19(suppl. 1), 65.

Naughton C., Drennan J., Treacy M.P., Lafferty A., Lyons I., Phelan A., Quin S., O'Loughlin A. & Delaney L. (2010) *Abuse and Neglect of Older People in Ireland- Report on the National Study of Elder Abuse & Neglect*. National Centre for the Protection of Older People, Dublin.

Phelan A. (2010) Elder abuse and the community nurse: supporting the patient, *British Journal of Community Nursing*, 15(10):472-8.

Phelan A. (2011) Socially constructing older people: examining discourses which can shape nurses' understanding and practice, *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 67(4), 893-903.

Phelan A. & Treacy M.P. (2011) *Critical review of elder abuse screening tools for use in the Irish context (Review 5)*, NCPOP, Dublin.

O'Donnell, D., Treacy M.P., Fealy G., Lyons I., Phelan A., Lafferty A., Quin S., O'Loughlin A. (2011) *Managing elder abuse in Ireland: Senior Case Workers'*

*Experiences*, NCPOP, Dublin.

Naughton C., Drennan J., Lyons I., Lafferty A., Treacy M., Phelan A., O'Loughlin A., & Delaney (2012) Elder Abuse & Neglect in Ireland: Results from a national prevalence study, *Age & Ageing*, 41(1), 98-103.

Phelan A. (2012) Financial Abuse: A literature Review. *Report of the National Financial Abuse of Older Persons Working Group*, HSE, Dublin, (in press).

Fealy G., Donnelly N.A., Bergin A., Treacy M.P. & Phelan A. (2012) *Financial abuse of older people: A review*. NCPOP, Dublin.

Phelan A. (2012) Elder Abuse in the Emergency Department, *International Emergency Nursing*, 20(4), 214-20.

Phelan A. (2012) *Time to face up to the reality of elder abuse*. Irish Times, 15th June.

O' Farrell M. & Phelan A. (2012) *Agitation in dementia: a review of the literature*. FEASA- Newsletter of the All Ireland Gerontological Nurses' Association, 4(1), 7-11.

Phelan A. (2013) Editorial: Primary healthcare for older people: editorial comments. *International Journal of Older People Nursing*, 8(2), 81-82.

Downes C., Fealy G., Phelan A., Donnelly N. & Lafferty A. (2013) *Abuse of older people with dementia: A review*. NCPOP, Dublin.

Phelan A. (2013) Editorial: Irish approaches to safeguarding adults. *Journal of Adult Protection*, 15(6), 275-279.

Phelan A. (2014) Elder Abuse: A review of progress in Ireland. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 26(2), 172-188.

Phelan A. (2014) Older people identified by social services to be at risk of abuse have higher rates of hospitalization, *Evidence Based Nursing*, DOI: doi:10.1136/eb-2014-101744

Phelan A., Downes C., Fealy G., & Donnelly N. (2014) Results from *Pilot study to test the reliability of the Elder Abuse Suspicion Index in an Irish Context*, NCPOP, Dublin (in press).

Phelan A., Downes C., Fealy G., & Donnelly N. (2014) Results from a *pilot study to test the appropriateness of the Older Adult Financial Exploitation Measure in an Irish Context*. NCPOP, Dublin, (in press).

O'Donnell D., Phelan A. & Fealy G. (2014) *An ecological review of elder abuse interventions in published literature*. NCPOP, Dublin (in press).

In addition to the above publications, I have presented on the topic of elder abuse in over 50 conferences/masterclasses nationally and internationally.

I believe my experience in acting as Secretary of the All Ireland Gerontological Nurses' Association, my administrative roles in the School and the NCPOP provide me with valuable transferable skills which can be utilised in the role of INPEA secretary. In addition, my existing elder abuse national and international networks have provided me with experience in global communications, which is an important skill which I can bring to the position of Secretary General of INPEA.

I would also envision my input as continuing the formalising the operations of INPEA and making INPEA's processes more transparent. This will involve the development of a Manual of Operating Procedures modeled on the IAGG's template. The role would also involve maintaining minutes of meetings and ensure the INPEA website is up to date and other activities which promote INPEA's work. I believe that I can bring my skills to the Secretary General role and welcome the opportunity to work more closely with fellow INPEA colleagues.

For these reasons, I ask you to consider me for this important position so I can build on INPEA's previous work and target global awareness and responses to elder abuse.

Kindest regards

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