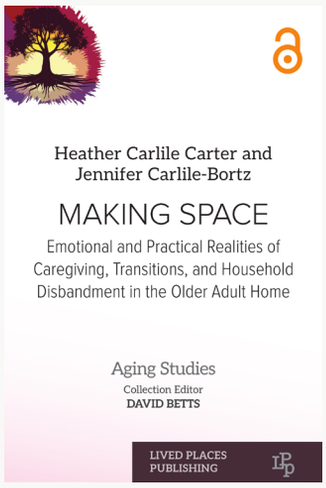


Making Space: Emotional and Practical Realities of Caregiving, Transitions, and Household Disbandment in the Older Adult Home

AUTHORS Heather Carlile Carter and Jennifer Carlile-Bortz
COLLECTION EDITED BY David Betts

COLLECTION
Aging Studies

EDITION
1st edition

MARKET
College/higher education and Professional and Scholarly

This course reading...

- Addresses the often-overlooked emotional challenges of household disbandment, aging, and downsizing.
- Presents poignant personal narratives from diverse cultural and economic backgrounds to validate readers' experiences.
- Offers research-informed emotional support for navigating the complexities of letting go of personal and family possessions.
- Includes thought-provoking questions and reflective activities to encourage dialogue, practical problem-solving, and hope.
- Complements emotional guidance with a comprehensive resource section on practical household disbandment strategies.

When an older adult needs care, what happens to the family and the home at its center? For the individuals who shoulder the work, what emotional and practical costs come due?

In ***Making Space***, **Heather Carlile Carter** and **Jennifer Carlile-Bortz** gather the voices of those living through it.

The book is built from first-person narratives, developed through qualitative research and organized around four thematic lenses: the emotional journeys of caregivers; the complications of strained family relationships; the transmission of legacy and inheritance; and the procedural orientations that help families move through daunting logistical demands. The accounts span caregiver burden, cognitive decline and dementia, collecting and hoarding disorder, and the storied objects that convey meaning across intergenerational relationships. Individual narratives and sections are self-contained and can be read independently, with no prior academic background assumed. Each section supports deeper engagement through learning objectives, discussion questions, and further activities.

These are intensely personal, often isolating experiences, increasingly woven into the life of every family; the book exists to remind readers that they do not walk this path alone. Ideal for students and faculty across gerontology, aging studies, social work, human-centered design, family studies, and counseling; practitioners working with older adults, from geriatric care managers to interior designers; and small-group learning contexts, including caregiver support groups and book clubs.

Heather Carlile Carter, PhD, NCIDQ, LEED AP, WELL AP, is Associate Professor of Interior Design at Johnson County Community College, researching older adults' transitions, possessions, place attachment, and household disbandment.

Jennifer Carlile-Bortz has been a freelance editor and writer for more than forty years, with work spanning scholastic, professional, and literary fields.

About Open License: This book is published under an open license. You are free to use it under the terms of the CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 license as defined by Creative Commons. Any unauthorized use outside of this license is a violation of applicable copyright laws.

Print pricing available on the LPP website.

https://livedplacespublishing.com/book/isbn/9781916985810