During a physical fight with another man, the whole issue of proving masculinity. We test for the hegemonic effect of relations (King and Calasanti 2013). In the intersection of age and gender, men gave voice to neo-Connell's theory of gendered hegemony remains confusing in its proliferation of definitions. It, by defining hegemony more strictly, as the achievement of the consent of subordinate groups to their low status, we find ideals of manhood and womanhood implicated in age hegemony. We operationalize that as the admission, by aging women and men, that their aging can and should lower their status once they are no longer able to win their fights against it. Youth-based ideals of manhood and womanhood are thus as hegemonic as those of men are. In this sense, Connell's work may be wrong to exclude ideals of manhood from the theory of hegemony.

| Men focus on diminishment of masculinity and status with advancing age: Male respondents accept that aging will diminish their status largely because it robs them of means of physical and professional performance. Some see themselves descending into a pathetic state. Depending on the intensity of the issue of masculinity was heightened because of me physically, [that] a physical challenge became a much bigger issue. So, you really are- I don't want to get in anybody's way, in a sense. It's a very complicated mix of feelings about what it means to get older ...

| • [During a physical fight with another man,] the whole issue of proving masculinity.
| • During a physical fight with another man,] the whole issue of proving masculinity.
| • Fore, it's like you just don't want to be excluded from things because you're, a certain age or you're not looked at the same because you, you know, you're seen as, you know, over the hill. ... Like I say always, I just know this, I know that somebody you'll be old, and I know that life can get you and it's depressing sometimes if you look at it realistically, and I go, you know what I think I can handle as long as I don't ever use alcohol or drug, and I think I can handle it in that kind of shape because I may be old or whatever, but your body is still good. I think it would depress me to where it would be a battle if I didn't have control of my self and that if I wasn't, if I didn't like what I was doing.
| • I... I associate aging with sedentary existence. ... And I view sedentary as decline... It's forced sedentary existence... It's of the ruptured Achilles forever. ... If [old, then]... you are no longer a partner, you are on the periphery. ... Because you have got one more step and then you are gone. And maybe that's partly what I resist by working hard and by working energetically. I don't want to be seen as being dead. So, that's all linked up to my image of being... marginalized, peripheral, on my way out. Sedentary is linked to both.

| **Results**

**Personal Responsibility for Control**

- Some feel themselves descending into a pathetic state.
- You never have to interact with the public, you don't become an annoyance for someone- you are standing in a grocery line and you are an annoyance because you are not moving fast enough or you are driving your car and you know people are, What's that for? What? And that kind of thing. So, you really are- I don't want to get in anybody's way, in a sense. It's a very complicated mix of feelings about what it means to get older ...
- If I thought a product would help me if I thought a product would help me to be awesome, you know? Why shouldn't we?  ... It's for me. ... The physicalness of my body, I try to keep doing things to continue that adaptation and science has shown that we can do that. So, if we can do that, why shouldn't we?
- Anti-aging strategies
  - Cosmetic surgery
  - Cosmeceuticals
  - Diet modification
  - Vitamin supplement

**Implications:**

Most reviews of the role of hegemonic masculinity in age relations miss the central point of Connell's theory, which is one of consent to subordination rather than lists of widespread or widely celebrated traits. Acceptance of the subordinate status of old age by old people amounts to a form of hegemony. Connell's theory of gendered hegemony remains confusing in its proliferation of definitions. It, by defining hegemony more strictly, as the achievement of the consent of subordinate groups to their low status, we find ideals of manhood and womanhood implicated in age hegemony. We operationalize that as the admission, by aging women and men, that their aging can and should lower their status once they are no longer able to win their fights against it. Youth-based ideals of manhood and womanhood are thus as hegemonic as those of men are. In this sense, Connell's work may be wrong to exclude ideals of manhood from the theory of hegemony.

**References**