

**The experience of Involvement in occupations that can constitute meaning: A qualitative study with Elderly Chilean immigrants in Sweden with Human Rights violations as background.**

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*Abstract:*

*Introduction: Older immigrants in Sweden are from 200 different countries, and have diverse economic, ethnic, social, familiar and cultural background. This study focused on elderly Chilean immigrants arriving during the 70s to Sweden. These people arrived because of political reasons, normally also with the experience of Human right violation. Sweden is the country in Europe with the largest Chilean population and a big group of them is now facing the process of aging. Research shows that violation of human rights can impact everyday life, but there is a lack of research on the long-term effects from an occupational therapy perspective.*

*Objectives: to better understand and gain knowledge about experiences of elderly Chilean immigrants, who had suffered human rights violations, about their involvement in occupations constituting meaning while living in Sweden.*

*Methods: A qualitative approach was chosen and data was collected through participant observation and In- depth interviews. Data was analyzed using a Constant Comparative Method. Six people were selected to participate based on a purposeful sampling.*

*Findings: Preliminary analyses of the findings showed that the experiences from the life in Chile was a strong determinant within the participants current everyday life. The experiences from human right violations was infusing daily life and impacted strongly on current daily engagements.*

*Conclusions: Preliminary analyses if findings confirms the need to pay attention to experiences of human right violation when planning support to participation for elderly Chilean immigrants in Sweden.*

*Contribution to the practice: This study gives attention to a need to acknowledge the specific needs of ageing Chilean immigrants that has experienced violation of human rights when planning services to sustain participation and well being in old age.*