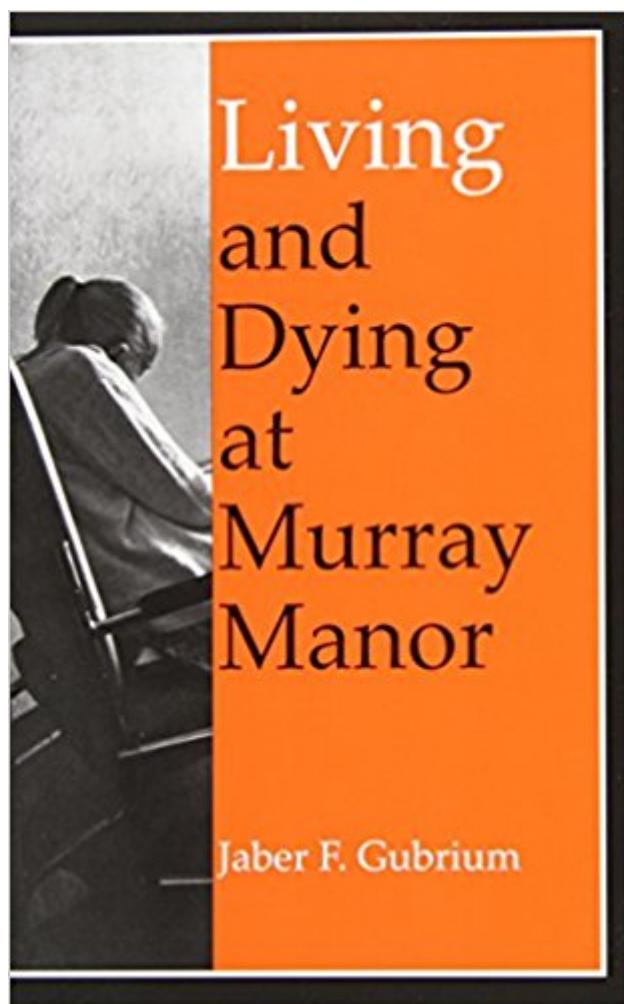


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# Living And Dying At Murray Manor (Age Studies)



## **Synopsis**

Living and Dying at Murray Manor is a classic text that documents how the "work" of everyday life in a nursing home is accomplished. Jaber F. Gubrium spent several months at a nursing home as a participant-observer, involved in activities ranging from performing menial "toileting" work to serving as a gerontologist at staff meetings. The result is not a survey of statistics about nursing homes but an examination of the social organization of care in a single home the author calls Murray Manor. Gubrium's research reveals how staff, clientele, relatives, visiting physicians, and funeral directors negotiated their respective roles, needs, and goals- and how, in the end, Murray Manor emerged as an organized social entity.

## **Book Information**

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Living and Dying at Murray Manor is a classic text that documents how the "work" of everyday life in a nursing home is accomplished. Jaber F. Gubrium spent several months at a nursing home as a participant-observer, involved in activities ranging from performing menial "toileting" work to serving as a gerontologist at staff meetings. The result is not a survey of statistics about nursing homes but an examination of the social organization of care in a single home the author calls Murray Manor. During his stay, Gubrium became an increasingly accepted part of life at Murray Manor and was thus able to view the institution in its natural state. His research reveals how staff, clientele, relatives, visiting physicians, and funeral directors negotiated their respective roles, needs, and goals - and how, in the end, Murray Manor emerged as an organized social entity.

Jaber F. Gubrium is Professor of Sociology at the University of Florida and the author of several books, including *The Active Interview* and the forthcoming *The New Language of Qualitative Method*.

This is a very in-depth case study about one nursing home, from the administrative challenges to the experiences of the residents and everything in between. The data was collected nearly 40 years ago so some of the things that are described are not seen as often today, such as the use of physical restraints and sedatives to control "unruly" patients, but the majority of the interactions and perspectives described remain very true to life. A great read for anyone who plans to work in or around nursing homes, and anyone wanting to get more detail about what the experience is like of living in one or working in one.

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