

Preventing Financial Elder Abuse Knowledge is Power

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UCD Launch of the Keep Control Campaign
Dublin

Old Irish Proverb

Is fear cuideog ar do ghulainn ná capall dochtúra ag an doras

It is better a wrap round your shoulders than a doctor's horse at the door.

USA

An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure.

Knowledge is Power





What is known about the types of financial abuse?

- **Lottery and other financial scams**
- **Relationship scams**
- **Rogue traders**
- **Power of attorney abuse**
- **Theft by family members**

What do we know about the incidence and prevalence of financial elder abuse?



What do we know about the perpetrators?



What do we know about preventing financial elder abuse?





ESRC/NDA Project

Detecting and Preventing Financial Elder Abuse

A study of decision-making by professionals in banking, social work and health care

My Project Origins



Bystander intervention - 5 stage model

1. Need to notice the event
2. Interpret - as an emergency
3. Assume personal responsibility
4. Feel competent/able to help
5. Help

A break in any one of these steps would lead to a failure to intervene.

Cultural norms of non-intervention



House is not a home, it's a castle





The path to whistleblowing





Laws to protect good Samaritans



USA

Mandatory Reporting



What can older people do for themselves?



Learn

- **How to recognize a lottery scam**
- **How to recognize a relationship scam**
- **How to tell a relative that you know you are being financially exploited and want it to stop**
- **How to ensure that a PoA acts in your interest.**
- **How to tell a friend that you think he or she is being financially abused**
- **How to find a professional to report suspicions of financial elder abuse**

Greeting rogue traders at the door





Thank You

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