

NO REST FOR GRANNY

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In the United States of America, retirement does not automatically come at age 65. Many U.S. employees and workers continue their professional activity until 70, 80 or even 90 years of age !

Gene, Joe, Thelma and Andrea are « senior workers » living in the state of Ohio. We met them at their place of work: a cosmetic factory, an up-market supermarket, a metal pressing workshop and a large fun fair.
Others, like Irene, are currently job hunting. At the age of 63, she attended a training course in order to improve her chances. John, a travelling sales man aged 79, spends his time on the road chasing new contracts.
These « senior jobs » are neither a true choice nor sheer necessity. They might be a means to keep social contacts, a much needed supplement to a low pension or a way to access health care. Meeting these men and women, their employers and families, throws light onto a highly complex reality. What place does work occupy in our lives ?
Taking the US model as an example, this film looks at the value of « work » as opposed to the value of « rest & recreation ». Two notions perpetually at odds with each other: do we merely work to live or do we live to enjoy and prosper in our work?

Categorie(s): Society & Human Interest
Tag(s): Current affairs, social issues, Employment

Producer(s): POINT DU JOUR
Length: 1x52 / Format: One-off
Original version: French
Versions available: English: subtitle / International: subtitle
Nationality: France, 2003
Rights: tv worldwide
Support(s): SD â€“ Digital 4/3

http://www.pointdujour-international.com/catalogueFiche.php?idFiche=29414&lang=en