
Contents

<i>List of tables</i>	viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	x
1 Introduction: between work and retirement	1
2 Retirement and early exit	10
3 Ageing and discrimination in the labour market	28
4 Social policy and early exit	46
5 The social consequences of early exit	64
6 The implications of early exit for the labour market	85
7 The politics of early exit	96
8 The future of retirement	111
9 Reconstructing later life	125
<i>References</i>	131
<i>Index</i>	145

List of tables

Table 1.1	Labour force participation rates for men aged 55–59, 60–64 and 65 plus in selected OECD countries	2
Table 2.1	Labour force participation rates of older men, Britain 1951–88	21
Table 2.2	Female economic activity rates, Britain 1951–83	22
Table 2.3	Female economic activity rates, Britain 1971–91	23
Table 2.4	Estimates and projections of civilian activity rates	25
Table 2.5	Status of employed older men and women 1979, 1984 and 1988	25
Table 3.1	Demographic composition of discouraged workers	31
Table 4.1	Older male claimants by reason not seeking work	52
Table 4.2	Older non-working men, by age and current status, 1979 and 1986	54
Table 4.3	Older non-working women, by age and current status, 1979 and 1986	55
Table 4.4	Economic status of women aged 50–74, by single years	57
Table 4.5	Self-defined activity status of men aged 60–64, by socio-economic group	58
Table 4.6	Proportion of retired among people not in the labour force	59
Table 4.7	Main sources of income of 'early retired', 'unemployed' and 'long-term sick' men aged 60–64, by class of last occupation	62
Table 5.1	Older non-working men who left their last job more than three years before the survey, by age and current status	72

Table 5.2	Non-employed men aged 60–64, by reason for job loss and current status, 1983	73
Table 5.3	Reason left last job: men aged 60–64 not in paid work, by class of last job	74
Table 5.4	Reason left last job: men aged 50–59, 60–64 and women aged 50–59 not in paid work in 1986	77
Table 5.5	Distribution of weekly gross income: currently employed, early retired, unemployed and sick men aged 60–64 and their wives, by class	80
Table 5.6	Comparison of 'poor' and 'non-poor' early retired married men aged 60–64 with no dependants	82
Table 7.1	Demographic factors affecting pensions	106
Table 7.2	Ratio of people aged 15–64 to people aged 65 and over (selected countries)	107