

In רביעי we read (27:7):

וְאִם מִבֶּן שִׁשִּׁים שָׁנָה וּמֵעֵלָּה אִם זָכָר וְהָיָה עֶרְכָּךְ חֲמִישָׁה עָשָׂר שֶׁקֶל וְלִנְקָבָה  
עָשָׂרָה שֶׁקֶלִים

**“From 60 years old and above, if a man whose worth is 15 shekels,  
and if a woman 10 shekels.”**

The Torah is talking about a man or woman wanted to donate money to the Temple but not having the cash. They could instead sell their services and their value was estimated at 50 shekels for a man between 20 and 60, going down to 15 shekels over 60, and for a woman, 30 shekels between 20 and 60 going down to 10 shekesl over 60.

If you compare the drop in estimated value with age, the value of the man goes down to 30% whereas the value of a woman goes down only to 33%. This means that worth of a woman depreciates less with age than that of a man.

Further, the Talmud ערכין דף י"ט עמ"א takes this even further, saying:

דאמרי אינשי "טבא בביתא פחא בביתא"

**People say “An old man in the house is a snare (obstacle) in the house”**

And

טבתא בביתא סימא בביתא

**“An old woman in the house is a treasure in the house”**

וסמנא טבא בביתא

**“and good fortune in the house.”**

Indeed, we know this to be true. The old man is crotchety and demanding, makes a mess and generally gets in the way. The old woman helps with the kids, cooking and housework and makes life that much easier.

So remember ☺ :

Treasure your grand-mother ..... and watch out for your grand-father's feet.