



The French are proud of their centenarians!

France is all set to celebrate its centenarian population on 28 June! First introduced by the Korian group in 2017, it's become a national fixture for celebrating those that live to 100, and the perfect occasion to report on the relation French people have with old age based on an IPSOS survey.

Did you know that France has 21,000 centenarians? That is almost twenty times more than in 1970. Five out of six people living to a hundred are women, and the pool of supercentenarians aged 110 or older is almost exclusively female. By 2070, France is expected to count more than 270,000 centenarians.

An IPSOS survey conducted for the Korian group revealed that 71% of French people want to live to be 100, as long as they are in good health! Only 26%, however, believe they are likely to live that long. In total, one in every five French people knows somebody who's lived to be 100 among their family or friends, and for 80% of them, that's something they're proud of.

However, longer life expectancy also brings with it reasons for concern. 93% of those surveyed think that "we're going to have to give a real place to very elderly people" and 85% say that "it's going to make us somewhat reconsider the shape of our society". Not least because the current system is ill-equipped to cater for a high number of centenarians.

Intergenerational transmission creates hope for the future

91% of respondents would like a 100-year-old family member to tell them stories about their past. They would also like to know what our elders think of the world today (81%). Perhaps as a way to comfort ourselves? Maybe, as more than a third of those interviewed felt that spending a day with a centenarian would give them more faith in the future. It's no surprise - gleaning wisdom from someone who has lived through extensive upheavals and societal, historic and technological revolutions is certainly reassuring.

"Korian introduced this annual centenarian day to come together and celebrate the 500 centenarians that we have the honour of caring for at our homes. It gives them the chance to talk about their memories and interact with the younger generation. The success this celebration has met with shows just how eager people are to engage with different generations. The Ipsos study translates the positive perception we have towards older people; it's a mix of pride and admiration and there's a real desire on both sides to spend time together and learn from each



other. The survey quite rightly underlines the need to create such occasions for bridging generations, to take into account the value of time, and to award seniors a special place in our society” says Sophie Boissard, CEO of the Korian group.

To mark the occasion, all the Group's nursing homes caring for centenarians (almost 300) host on 28 June a festive intergenerational event on the theme of transmission, where the elderly are invited to talk about their happiest memories.

Source: Korian national centenarian celebration - Survey conducted by IPSOS via internet from 31 May to 4 June 2018 on a sample of 1,010 people representative of the French population aged 18 and over.

ABOUT KORIAN

Korian, an expert in care and support services for the elderly, manages the first European network of nursing homes, specialized clinics, assisted living facilities, hospital care and home-care services with more than 740 facilities. Present in four countries (France, Germany, Belgium and Italy), the Group has a capacity of more than 75,000 beds and employs around 49,000 people. www.korian.com

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