

Centre for Policy on Ageing
Information Service

Selected Readings

Grandparents as Carers

January 2018

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2017

Grandparent army report; by International Longevity Centre UK - ILC-UK; Ageas. London: ILC-UK, 2017, 29 pp.

This report examines the types of support and childcare given by some 9 million grandparents in the UK, and how they feel about providing it. The report examines financial support; caregiving support; and grandparents' help with their grandchildren's skills and hobbies. The report finds that, on average, grandparents spend more than 8 hours a week looking after their grandchildren; and two-thirds (68%) offer financial contributions to their grandchildren's upbringing, across payments towards clothes, toys and hobbies, leisure activities and pocket money. The report also makes recommendations for Government, employers and education providers to ensure that the 'Grandparent Army' receives sufficient support to allow it to continue to provide such vital support. A weblink (at <https://thegrandparentarmy.ageas.co.uk/>) presents the results as charts and maps. (RH)

From : ILC-UK, 11 Tufton Street, London SW1P 3QB. Weblink:

http://www.ilcuk.org.uk/index.php/publications/publication_details/the_grandparents_army

The impact of caring for grandchildren on grandparents' physical health outcomes: the role of intergenerational support; by Jing Zhou, Weiyu Mao, Yura Lee, Iris Chi.: Sage, June 2017, pp 612-634.

Research on Aging, vol 39, no 5, June 2017, pp 612-634.

Little longitudinal data exist on grandparent caregivers and few studies have examined their physical health outcomes. This study examined the effect of caring for grandchildren on grandparents' physical health and the role of intergenerational support from adult children. Longitudinal data derived from a survey on the well-being of older adults in China were used to conduct path analysis of previous grandparent caregivers (versus noncaregivers) and repeated grandparent caregivers (versus noncaregivers). The final sample was 799 grandparents aged 60 or older living in rural China. Three aspects of intergenerational support were measured: financial, emotional, and instrumental support. Repeated grandparent caregivers had better self-rated health (SRH) and fewer limitations than noncaregivers. Previous grandparent caregivers had better SRH compared to noncaregivers. Emotional support mediated the relationship between caregiving and SRH among repeated caregivers. Findings suggest that any caregiving experience (previous or repeated) provides health benefits to grandparents. (JL)

ISSN: 01640275

From : journals.sagepub.com/home/roa

Kinship care: state of the nation 2017; by Grandparents Plus. London: Grandparents Plus, 2017, 10 pp.

Analysis of 2011 Census data indicates that some 153,000 children in England are being raised by a family member: 51% living with a grandparent, 23% with an older sibling, and the rest living with aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives. This report is based on responses to a survey from 671 kinship carers living in England and Wales. It finds that although many carers step in to care for children who would have otherwise gone into local authority care, 47% say they do not receive the financial support they need, including 28% who feel very poorly supported. Among other findings are that: 52% of the children in kinship care have experienced abuse or neglect; the average household income for kinship families is just £17,316 (the national average being £27,200); and 65% of carers say they need more emotional support. The report makes recommendations for policy and practice, including: reviewing the status of children in kinship care to be closer to that of looked after children; advice and support for kinship carers; improving financial, practical and emotional support; and increased awareness of the situation of young people in kinship care. (RH)

From : <https://www.grandparentsplus.org.uk/kinship-care-state-of-the-nation-2016>

Patterns of grandparental child care across Europe: the role of the policy context and working mothers' need; by Tove Harnett, Haran Jonson.: Cambridge University Press, April 2017, pp 845-873.

Ageing and Society, vol 37, no 4, April 2017, pp 845-873.

Across Europe grandparents play very different roles. This paper studied to what extent grandparents' roles as providers of childcare relates to the country policy context, focusing on public childcare services and parental leave regulation, and to the availability of part-time jobs for women. The study also explored whether mothers' needs to combine family and work influenced the frequency of grandparental childcare across countries. The analysis combined micro-data from the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe and macro-indicators from the Multilinks database and Eurostat. There was found to be a clear association between policy context and frequency of grandparental childcare. Three models emerged. In countries close to the familialism by default model (i.e. characterised by scarce public childcare services and parental leave), when grandparents provided childcare they often did it daily. In countries characterised by defamilialisation and supported familialism policies (with generous public services and parental leave) grandparents took on a marginal role. An

intermediate model emerged in countries characterised by a limited offer of childcare or parental leave, where grandparental childcare complemented state support and tended to be offered on a weekly basis. This analysis corroborated the idea that the highly intensive involvement of grandparents in countries with low availability of part-time jobs for women was influenced by the need (unmet by the welfare) of mothers to combine work and family. (JL)

ISSN: 0144686X

From : cambridge.org/aso

2016

Building communities: college preparation education for grandparents raising grandchildren; by Anita Glee Bertram, Kaye Sears, Brandon Burr ... (et al.): Taylor and Francis, January-March 2016, pp 17-26.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 14, no 1, January-March 2016, pp 17-26.

This study looked at an intervention of intergenerational programming designed to increase grandparents' and grandchildren's knowledge and preparedness regarding higher education. Two college preparatory trainings for grandparents and adolescent children were held on university campuses. Grandparents and grandchildren were given student-led tours of the campus, financial aid information, information about careers and how to work with school counsellors, and information about the state's free tuition incentive programme. Pre- and posttests were used to assess changes in awareness of both grandparents and grandchildren of college opportunities and information. Follow-up focus groups were conducted with participants. Overall feedback seemed to indicate that the workshops were successful, for grandparents and grandchildren alike. (JL)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

The composition of parents' and grandparents' child-care time: gender and generational patterns in activity, multi-tasking and co-presence; by Lyn Craig, Bridget Jenkins.: Cambridge University Press, April 2016, pp 785-810.

Ageing and Society, vol 36, no 4, April 2016, pp 785-810.

How do grandparents spend their child-care time? The authors examine how the composition of grandparent child care differs from parent child care, and whether child-care composition is more gender-similar for grandparents than for parents. They use the most recent (2006) Australian Bureau of Statistics Time Use Survey to investigate along three dimensions: (a) the activities child care consists of (routine versus non-routine); (b) whether it is multi-tasked (and whether it is paired with productive activities or with leisure); and (c) whether it is done solo or with a partner present. They find that fathers' and grandmothers' active child care is similarly apportioned between routine and non-routine activities, while mothers spend much more, and grandfathers spend much less, of their child-care time in routine care activities. Fathers and grandfathers spend similar proportions of their child-care time multi-tasking with leisure (about 50%) and performing care without their spouse present (about 20%), differing significantly from women on both these measures. Gender differences in the proportion of child care multi-tasked with productive activities (paid work, domestic work or other child care) are the same in both generations. However, gender differences in the proportion of child care spent in routine activities and done without a partner present, are significantly less for grandparents than for parents. The narrower gender gaps result from grandmothers spending less of their child-care time on these measures than mothers, not from grandfathers spending more of their child-care time on these measures than fathers. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X

From : journals.cambridge.org/aso

Dumela Mma: an examination of resilience among South African grandmothers raising grandchildren; by Megan L Dolbin-MacNab, Shannon E Jarrott, Lyn E Moore (et al.): Cambridge University Press, November 2016, pp 2182-2212.

Ageing and Society, vol 36, no 10, November 2016, pp 2182-2212.

Grandmothers serve as primary care-givers for a significant number of South African children. Previous research has documented that South African grandmothers experience physical, financial, emotional and social adversity. However, less attention has been given to South African grandmothers' resilience, or their capacity to respond to the challenges associated with raising their grandchildren. Utilising Walsh's family resilience model (2003 and 2012), this qualitative study examined resilience and resilient processes among 75 Black South African grandmothers raising grandchildren. Grandmothers participated in structured interviews during a weekly visit to a local luncheon (social) club. Results indicated that the grandmothers perceived themselves as engaging in a number of resilient processes, including relying on their spirituality, accessing sources of instrumental support, and seeking emotional support and companionship from their grandchildren and larger communities. Grandmothers also believed that focusing on their grandchildren contributed to their sense of

resilience. This involved maintaining a sense of responsibility to their grandchildren, having hope for their grandchildren's futures, and finding enjoyment in the grandmother-grandchild relationship. The findings reveal that by engaging in various resilient processes, South African grandmothers raising grandchildren perceive themselves and their families as having strategies they can utilise in order to successfully cope with adversity. Findings also highlight the need for prevention and intervention efforts designed to promote grandmothers' resilience, as well as the resilience of their grandchildren. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X

From : journals.cambridge.org/aso

The experience, contributions, and resilience of grandparents of children with autism spectrum disorder; by Jennifer Hillman, Alison R Marvin, Connie M Anderson.: Routledge, April-June 2016, pp 76-92.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 14, no 2, April-June 2016, pp 76-92.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects 1 in 68 children in the United States and has been associated with significant stress on nuclear families. Little is known about the grandparents of these children, however, including their first-person, intergenerational experience and potential family contributions. A national, online survey of 1,870 grandparents of grandchildren with ASD revealed that they make significant monetary contributions toward therapeutic needs and frequently play an essential caregiving role. 43% of the grandparents reported making personal sacrifices such as drawing upon their retirement funds or putting off retirement; and 25% of the grandparents moved or combined households to support a grandchild on the autism spectrum. Consistent with resilience theory, the majority of grandparents reported that they were coping fairly or very well in relation to their grandchild's ASD, although they did express significant worry for their adult son's or daughter's well-being. However, 12% of grandparents reported that they were coping poorly. Recommendations for future research and public health policy are provided. (RH)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

2015

Child care by grandparents: changes between 1992 and 2006; by Teun Guerts, Theo van Tilburg, Anne-Rigt Poortman (et al).: Cambridge University Press, July 2015, pp 1318-1334.

Ageing and Society, vol 35, no 6, July 2015, pp 1318-1334.

This study considers changes in child care by grandparents between 1992 and 2006 in relation to changes in mothers' need for and grandparents' opportunity to provide child care. Data from the Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam (LASA) are used to compare two cohorts of Dutch grandparents aged 58-68 (N=181 in 1992; and N=350 in 2006). Multi-level regression analysis shows that the probability that grandparents care for their adult daughters' children (N=261 for 1992; N=484 for 2006) increased from 0.23 to 0.41. The increase can be ascribed to higher maternal employment rates, growth in single motherhood, reduced travel time, and a decline in the number of adult children. The increase would have been higher if the employment rate of grandparents had not risen. (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X

From : journals.cambridge.org/aso

Childhood autism and proactive family coping: intergenerational perspectives; by Eva Kahana, Jeong Eun Lee, Jeffrey Kahana ... (et al).: Taylor and Francis, 2015, pp 150-166.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 13, no 2, 2015, pp 150-166.

This article looked at the value of intergenerational and specifically, grandparent support, in the management of adaptive tasks posed by raising a young child with autism. The tasks addressed ranged from accessing early intervention to enhancing family social functioning. The study noted unique social, financial and health-related stressors faced by families of children with autism. It outlined an innovative, stress theory-based framework, the Autism Proactive Intergenerational Adaptation (APIA) Model, which delineated the role of grandparents in contributing to family adaptation to the stresses of raising a child with autism. Particular focus was on proactive family coping strategies in building resilience and ameliorating the adverse impact of stressors on quality of life (QOL) for individual family members and for the family unit. Finally the authors discussed barriers and facilitators of intergenerational alliances involving grandparent participation and support. (JL)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Grandparents and grandchildren: care and support in Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam; by John Knodel, Minh Duc Nguyen.: Cambridge University Press, October 2015, pp 1960-1988.

Ageing and Society, vol 35, no 9, October 2015, pp 1960-1988.

Recent surveys in Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam reveal that substantial proportions of people aged 60 and older co-reside with grandchildren and commonly provide grandparental care. Usually the grandchildren's parents are also present. Situations in which the grandchildren's parents are absent are considerably less frequent. Parents are commonly the main source of the grandchildren's financial support even if absent. Most grandparents that provide care do not consider it a serious burden, even when the grandchild's parents are absent. Moreover, grandparental care is not always one-directional, as grandchildren can also be of help to grandparents. These features of grandchild care reflect a regional cultural context that views acceptance of reciprocal intergenerational obligations as normal and in which co-residence of older persons and adult children is still common. Differences in economic development and past fertility trends account for much of the observed differences in grandparental care among the three countries by affecting grandchildren availability and migration of adult children. In addition, economic development and demographic trends will continue to shape grandparental care in the coming decades. Despite the lack of attention to development and demographic context in previous studies, these aspects of the changing societal context deserve a prominent place within conceptual frameworks guiding comparative research on grandparenting. These observations are based on analyses of people aged 60+ interviewed in the 2012 Myanmar Survey of Older Persons (MSOP), the 2011 Viet Nam Aging Survey (VNAS) and the 2011 Survey of Older Persons in Thailand (SOFT). (RH)

ISSN: 0144686X

From : journals.cambridge.org/aso

Granny as nanny: positive outcomes for grandparents providing childcare for dual-income families. Fact or myth?; by Suzanne S H Low, Esther C L Goh.: Taylor and Francis, 2015, pp 302-319.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 13, no 4, 2015, pp 302-319.

The proliferation of dual income families has led to the prevalence of grandparents providing childcare in Singapore. The Chinese culture and values have tasked grandparents to fill the role of providing childcare while mothers seek employment. Literature on grandparents providing informal care posits this situation to be a rewarding experience and a protective factor for grandparents' stability in old age. This study uses the Social Relational Theory framework to examine the experiences of Chinese grandparents who provide care for dual-income families in Singapore. In-depth interviews were conducted to understand the experiences of the grandparents and common themes guided by the framework. Through the exploration of the narratives of grandparents, this study sieves out the issues they face in the Singaporean context and analyses the motivations that spur grandparents to provide care for their grandchildren. Despite informal caregiving being positively framed in many studies, this study found that grandparents also faced a variety of challenges. Chinese grandparents were bound to the caregiving roles by cultural and familial obligations despite the high costs associated with providing care. (JL)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Meeting the unique needs of grandparent-headed families using a community-university interdisciplinary model; by Youjung Lee, Elizabeth Anderson, Laura Bronstein.: Taylor and Francis, 2015, pp 134-149.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 13, no 2, 2015, pp 134-149.

An interdisciplinary initiative engaging graduate students and faculty from education, social work and physics was developed to address the unique needs of grandparent-headed families. The goal of this qualitative study was to deepen the current knowledge base about the challenges and benefits of using an interdisciplinary, collaborative community-university model to meet the unique needs of grandparent-headed families. Findings are discussed in terms of literature relevant to advancing grandparent-headed families' educational progress and health with an emphasis on the interprofessional collaborative process. (JL)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

What are the issues affecting grandparents in Britain today?; by Sam Smethers.: Emerald, 2015, pp 37-43.

Quality in Ageing and Older Adults, vol 16, no 1, 2015, pp 37-43.

The Chief Executive of Grandparents Plus provides an overview of the role that grandparents play in family life in Britain today. She focuses on demographic change and the grandparental caring contribution for both children and older adults, by drawing on a wide range of sources. The research presented suggests that grandparents are playing an increasingly important role in family life, and that their caring contribution makes a material difference to maternal employment rates. It also suggests that those who step into the parenting role face particular challenges which need to be addressed. Further research into the significance of the grandparent-

grandchild relationship is needed, together with the caring contribution of those who provide intensive support to families in times of crisis, both in terms of the impact that has on the grandparents but also the difference it makes to parents and children. One key practical implication is the need for a formal childcare infrastructure in the UK which does not assume that grandparents will always be there to provide childcare for working parents on the scale they do today. Grandparents are living longer, so more of them will have longer-lasting relationships with their grandchildren. But mothers are also ageing, and so gradually over time the age at which we become grandparents will also be pushed back. This may in turn mean that grandparents in 20 years time may be less involved in childcare in any case. (RH)

ISSN: 14717794

From : www.emeraldgroupublishing.com/qaqa.htm

2013

Assessing attitudes toward grandparents raising their grandchildren; by Bert Hayslip, Richard S Herrington, Rebecca J Glover ... (et al): Taylor and Francis, 2013, pp 356-379.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 11, no 4, 2013, pp 356-379.

This article describes the assessment of attitudes toward grandparent caregivers held by noncaregiving grandparents. 602 grandparents not currently caring for grandchildren completed an 18-item measure of such attitudes. This attitude scale was both internally consistent and multidimensional in nature. Attitudes were more positive for grandparents reporting previous experience caring for a grandchild and such attitudes were in part predicted by one's attitudes toward the current grandparent role, which was also complex in nature. Being able to assess and understand attitudes toward custodial grandparents can contribute to the reduction of others' biases about them and may influence grandparents' future willingness to assume the caregiving role. (JL)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

The Australian first-time grandparents study: time spent with the grandchild and its predictors; by John Condon, Carolyn Corkindale, Mary Luszcz, Elizabeth Gamble.: Wiley Blackwell, March 2013, pp 21-27.

Australasian Journal on Ageing, vol 32, no 1, March 2013, pp 21-27.

This paper presented data on the amount of contact a large cohort of first-time Australian grandparents had with their grandchild, and the amount of child care they provided. It compared these with grandparents' expectations and desired levels. Prospective grandparents were assessed on multiple measures before the birth of their grandchild, and at 6, 12, 24 and 36 months thereafter. At the 12-month assessment, grandmothers had approximately 15 hours per week contact, and provided approximately 7.5 hours per week of child care. The corresponding figures for grandfathers were 9.5 hours and 5 hours respectively. Approximately 10% of grandparents reported no contact with their grandchild, and 30_40% reported undertaking no child care. Almost half the grandparents desired more contact than they were actually getting. Accurate quantification of contact and care is a prerequisite for investigation of the impact of the transition to grandparenthood on health and well-being. (JL)

ISSN: 14406381

From : <http://www.wileyonlinelibrary.com/journals/ajag>

Grandparents raising grandchildren: towards recognition, respect and reward; by Deborah Brennan, Bettina Cass, Saul Flaxman (et al), Social Policy Research Centre - SPRC, University of New South Wales. Sydney, Australia: Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, August 2013, 193 pp (SPRC report no 14/13).

Grandparents have long played a major role in the lives of their children and grandchildren. In Australia, grandparents are raising their grandchildren because children have been the subject of care and protection orders; private family arrangements; or that grandparents assume responsibility for their grandchildren following orders of the Family Court or Federal Magistrates Court. Reasons for placement include substantiated abuse or neglect, often associated with domestic violence and parental substance misuse and mental illness; and irretrievable breakdown in the relationship between children and parents. This study of grandparents raising grandchildren draws on multiple sources of data. These include a literature review, analysis of Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) statistics including Census 2006, a survey of grandparent carers, interviews with Indigenous grandparents, and focus groups and interviews with policy makers and service providers. The 335 grandparents participating in the survey were drawn from every state and the ACT; and the 20 Indigenous grandparents who took part in interviews came from New South Wales, South Australia and the Northern Territory. The 55 policy makers (drawn from Commonwealth, state and territory agencies) and service providers who participated in focus groups were from New South Wales, South Australia, the ACT and the Northern Territory. (RH)

From : address

https://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/media/SPRCFile/Grandparents_Raising_Garndchildren__Towards_Recognition_Respect_and_Reward.pdf

A profile of elderly persons in Russia; by Irina L Pervova. Malta: International Institute on Ageing, August 2013, pp 20-23.

Bold, vol 23, no 4, August 2013, pp 20-23.

This article focuses on the profile of older people in Russia. Older people play an important role in the society including grandparents, lay pensioners and cottage dwellers. Discusses the role of the family in providing care for older people. The government does not have a plan to increase the retirement age and pensions are regularly increased to keep pace with inflation. (JL)

ISSN: 10165177

From : <http://www.inia.org.mt>

Social workers' use of power in relationships with grandparents in child welfare settings; by James W Gladstone, Kerri-Ann J Fitzgerald, Ralph A Brown.: Oxford University Press, September 2013, pp 1073-1091.

British Journal of Social Work, vol 43, no 6, September 2013, pp 1073-1091.

This paper focuses on ways in which social workers use power in their relationships with grandparents who are caring for grandchildren involved with child welfare agencies. Also examined are the ways in which grandparents perceive this use of power. Qualitative data were gathered from 43 social workers and 32 grandparents in kinship care settings in south-western Ontario, Canada. Findings showed that social workers' expression of power falls into three main categories. Workers 'dispense resources', which include the provision of material support and services, the use of clinical skills and their influence over the middle generation. Workers can be 'directive', which involves their controlling interaction and defining the meanings of help. They also 'manage negotiations', which can occur in both an open and an implicit manner. Findings showed that workers' use of power can be beneficial to grandparents. A central issue for grandparents is whether there is reciprocity in their relationships with workers. The authors' conclusion is that being less directive and engaging in negotiations will result in collaborative relationships in which the needs of grandparents, as well as the agency, are more likely to be met. (RH)

ISSN: 00453102

From : www.bjsw.oxfordjournals.org

2012

Caring for grandchildren and intergenerational support in rural China: a gendered extended family perspective; by Zhen Cong, Merrill Silverstein.

Ageing and Society, vol 32, part 3, April 2012, pp 425-450.

The study looked at how support from adult children was affected by their parents' involvement in grandchild care. A gendered extended family perspective was adopted in order to examine how financial and emotional support from children was influenced when their siblings received help with child care from their older parents. The data were from a two-wave longitudinal study of 4,791 parent-child dyads with 1,162 parents aged 60 and older living in rural areas of China. Random effects regression showed that emotional support from both sons and daughters was strengthened when parents provided more child care for their other adult children. In addition daughters were more emotionally responsive than sons in this situation. Concerning dyadic parent-child relationships, daughter and sons increased their financial support, and sons increased their emotional support when they themselves received help with child care from parents. It is suggested that a gendered extended family perspective should be used when studying intergenerational relationships in rural China. (JL)

ISSN: 0144686X

From : <http://www.journals.cambridge.org/aso>

The life course and cumulative disadvantage: poverty among grandmother-headed families; by Anastasia H Prokos, Jennifer Reid Keene.

Research on Aging, vol 34, no 5, September 2012, pp 592-621.

Using multivariate techniques the authors investigated how age, family type and race/ethnicity affect grandmother-headed families' economic resources. The authors examined four grandmother-headed family types that were classified on the basis of two features: parents' presence and the caregiving relationship of the grandmother and grandchild. Using data from the 2000 census (Public Use Microdata Sample 5%) to predict grandmother-headed families' official and relative poverty statuses, analyses indicated that age, race/ethnicity and family configuration were major explanations for poverty differences. The effects of race/ethnicity on official and relative poverty were greater among older cohorts than among the youngest cohorts. Additionally

the effects of age on poverty varied by family type: the lower chances of poverty that were associated with older cohorts were not as great among two-generation families as they were among three-generation grandmother-headed families. The authors interpret these findings using a life-course perspective and cumulative disadvantage theory and discuss the implications for grandmother-headed families' economic security. (JL)

ISSN: 01640275

From : <http://roa.sagepub.com/>

2011

Exploring positioning in Alzheimer's Disease through analyses of family talk; by Barbara A Purves.

Dementia: the international journal of social research and practice, vol 10, no 1, February 2011, pp 35-58.

A diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease brings with it changes in interpretations and expectations of behaviours, activities and interactions for the whole family. Given the importance of family members in caring for persons with dementia, it is critical that the way in which a family negotiates the changes associated with dementia is better understood. Equally important are the implications of that process for both individual members and for the whole family as a unit. This case study used two complementary approaches to explore positioning in the family of a Japanese-Canadian woman with dementia. The first used interviewing to reveal how family members positioned themselves and each other in their conscious reflections about dementia. The second drew on conversation analysis to highlight how they positioned themselves and each other in their everyday conversations together. The findings are discussed in terms of: emerging roles, Rosa as a person with AD; and renegotiating long standing roles, the family cook, the grandmother. Although limited to one close knit family, the authors suggest that how it accommodated the changes affords an insight into the process and points to the need for further family-based research in this area. (JL)

ISSN: 14713012

From : <http://dem.sagepub.com/>

'I am living a peaceful life with my grandchildren. Nothing else': stories of adversity and 'resilience' of older women caring for children in the context of HIV/AIDS and other stressors; by Marisa Casale.

Ageing and Society, vol 31, part 8, November 2011, pp 1265-1288.

The study aimed to explore the effects of HIV and AIDS on female care-givers from a resilience and strengths perspective. By discussing findings of qualitative research conducted with nine female carers of children in South Africa's Kwazulu-Natal province, one of the world's most HIV-affected regions, the paper examined two themes, focusing mainly on older (grandmother) carers: (1) their strength and resourcefulness in responding to adversity to ensure their families' survival and (2) their leadership role in confronting HIV and related stigma within their own families. The aim of the research was both to add to experiential data on the much-debated notion of 'resilience' and further challenge the stereotype of older carers or 'rural African grandmothers' as passive victims of a changing world, rather than key agents of change. While terms such as 'coping strategies' and 'resilience' should be used cautiously, it is important to consider carers' short-term responses to the many challenges faced, with a view to informing interventions. (JL)

ISSN: 0144686X

From : <http://www.journals.cambridge.org/aso>

Tongan grandparents and grandchildren: the impact of grandparenting; by Halaevalu F Ofahengaue Vakalahi.

International Social Work, vol 54, no 4, July 2011, pp 580-598.

This article was part of a study on grandparenting in Tongan and Hawaiian culture. The study looked at grandparent-related family, social, cultural, spiritual, systemic, and economic-based factors that serve as possible sources of risk and/or protection for grandchildren who are expectant carriers of cultural customs and traditions. Grandparenting remains intrinsic to the Tongan cultural structure and central to the survival of the culture, particularly as Tongan immigrants experience cultural duality and acculturation. Because grandchildren are central to the preservation of the culture, understanding how the practice of grandparenting impacts them is critical. Themes identified as possible risk factors included cultural duality, language and acculturative barriers, low socioeconomic status and low educational level. Possible protective factors included unconditional love, reciprocity, loyalty, discipline and prayers. Implications for research and practice are discussed. (JL)

ISSN: 00208728

From : <http://isw.sagepub.com>

Too old to care?: the experiences of older grandparents raising their grandchildren; by Sarah Wellard, *Grandparents Plus*., Grandparents Plus, 2011, 50 pp.

The report focused on the experiences of older grandparents aged 65 and above who were raising their grandchildren, based on in depth interviews and a focus group with 18 grandparent carers. The aim of the study

was to provide insight into the circumstances of older kinship carers, and the challenges they were experiencing – particularly isolation, discrimination and poverty – in order to bring forward recommendations for improving the support provided to them and the children they were raising. (JL)

From : Download report: http://www.grandparentsplus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/GP_OlderGrandparentsOnline.pdf

2010

Ageing and intergenerational relations: family reciprocity from a global perspective; by Misa Izuhara (ed). Bristol: Policy Press, 2010, 165 pp (Ageing and the lifecourse series).

"Reciprocity" implies "equal or comparable exchange" of resources between individuals or groups, while "intergenerational relations" refers to different levels of relationships between the generations as well as family relations in general. Contributors to this book explore the exchange of support between generations, and examine variations in contemporary practices and rationales in different regions and societies around the world. They review key theoretical and conceptual debates around intergenerational relations, and offer new insights and an understanding of exchange practices based on case studies from different regions and relationships. These include: housing wealth and family reciprocity in East Asia; grandparents and HIV and AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa; spiritual debt and the notion of "dutiful daughter" in Thailand; and reciprocity in intergenerational relations in step-families in the US. The editor concludes by discussing whether new patterns of family reciprocity are emerging. (RH)

Price: £24.99 (pbk)

From : The Policy Press, University of Bristol, Fourth Floor, Beacon House, Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1QU. <http://www.policypress.org.uk>

Family life: a grandparents' guide to supporting families through difficult times; by Grandparents Plus. 1st ed London: Grandparents Plus, 2010, 29 pp.

Grandparents are playing an increasing role in supporting parents and children in their daily family life. This guide recognises their importance and value in helping to cope with situations such as a new baby, teenagers, juggling work and care, and family crises. It also draws attention to the Grandparent Raising Grandchildren Network which is open to all grandparents or other family members who have taken on the responsibility of raising a child who is not their own. 'Family life' has been produced by Grandparents Plus in association with One Plus One, Kids in the Middle, the Grandparents' Association, Parentlineplus, and Relate. It has been funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF). (RH)

Price: £2.00 per copy + £4 p+p (for 1-10 copies)

From : Grandparents Plus, 18 Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green, London E2 9PF. Website: www.grandparentsplus.org.uk

Grandparenting in Europe; by Karen Glaser, Eloi Ribé Montserrat, Ulrike Waginger (et al), Grandparents Plus; Institute of Gerontology, King's College London; Beth Johnson Foundation - BJJF. London: Grandparents Plus, June 2010, 89 pp.

Despite the growing importance of grandparenting, relatively little is known about its demography, or about how policies in different European countries support different types of grandparental roles. Although grandparents play a pivotal role in family life, legislation and social policies often disregard their contribution as major supporters or caregivers. The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation has funded this scoping study, in which Grandparents Plus has worked in partnership with the Institute of Gerontology at King's College London and the Beth Johnson Foundation (BJJF). This report outlines the study's methodology; presents findings of a systematic literature review; and identifies policies on family and grandparenthood in Europe. It includes information on country specific family policies in respect of parental leave and childcare in Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Spain and the UK. The report concludes that as our populations age and the number of children per family falls, the role of grandparents in family life is becoming increasingly significant and an international phenomenon not confined to the UK alone. The report represents the latest developments that will contribute to our understanding of the impact of demographic ageing on society. (RH)

From : Grandparents Plus, 18 Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green, London E2 9PF. Website: www.grandparentsplus.org.uk

Grandparenting in Europe: summary; by Karen Glaser, Eloi Ribé Montserrat, Ulrike Waginger (et al), Grandparents Plus; Institute of Gerontology, King's College London; Beth Johnson Foundation - BJB. London: Grandparents Plus, June 2010, 11 pp.

Despite the growing importance of grandparenting, relatively little is known about its demography, or about how policies in different European countries support different types of grandparental roles. Although grandparents play a pivotal role in family life, legislation and social policies often disregard their contribution as major supporters or caregivers. This is a summary of the scoping study (same title) funded by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, on which Grandparents Plus worked in partnership with the Institute of Gerontology at King's College London and the Beth Johnson Foundation (BJF). It outlines the findings of a systematic literature review; and identifies key policies in European countries which are likely to be important in shaping the role of grandparents in family life. It concludes that as our populations age and the number of children per family falls, the role of grandparents in family life is becoming increasingly significant and is an international phenomenon not confined to the UK alone. (RH)

From : Grandparents Plus, 18 Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green, London E2 9PF. Website: www.grandparentsplus.org.uk

Grandparenting in the 21st century: issues of diversity in grandparent-grandchild relationships; by Charlie Stelle, Christine A Fruhauf, Nancy Orel, Laura Landry-Meyer.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 53, issue 8, 2010, pp 682-701.

Previous research has demonstrated the importance of age, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status in understanding grandparent-grandchild relationships. However the value of these relationships may depend on a multiplicity of other factors. This article first presents an overview of the grandparent-grandchild relationship, focusing on factors that influence the connection. The authors then look at diversity among grandparents, with particular emphasis on gender, sexual orientation, and physical and/or cognitive limitations. They consider strength-based and empowerment strategies and their implications for practice, policies and future research. The article concludes that the diversity and context in which the relationship is embedded, and lifelong patterns of family experiences, exchange and attachment, must be considered in order to understand it. Although this review focused on three subgroups of grandparents, it is suggested that other subgroups, such as those with mental illness, incarcerated grandparents and those in long term care also warrant study. (JL)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

How dementia affects children: [The Dementia Declaration]; by Julie Griffiths.

Community Care, issue 1816, 29 April 2010, p 18.

As part of Community Care's election campaign for the Dementia Declaration, this article considers the often hidden impact of dementia on children in a family. Some children may be caring for a parent or grandparent with dementia, or know that a relative has the condition. The importance of education in helping to dispel children's fears is highlighted. (RH)

ISSN: 03075508

From : www.communitycare.co.uk

Protect, support, provide: examining the role of grandparents in families at risk of poverty; prepared for Grandparents Plus and the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) ...; by Julia Griggs, Grandparents Plus; Equality and Human Rights Commission - EHRC; Department for Social Work, University of Oxford. London: Grandparents Plus, March 2010, 69 pp.

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) and Grandparents Plus are working in partnership to examine the relationship between older and younger people's poverty through the grandparent-grandchild relationship. This report focuses on several groups particularly vulnerable to poverty (single parent families, families where a child or parent has a disability, black and minority ethnic families, and family and friend carers). It explores the shape and nature of deprivation for those grandparents and grandchildren. In particular, it considers the scale of grandparents' childcare contribution, and how the childcare they provide may increase the risk of poverty for themselves, given the evidence on intergenerational patterns of poverty (e.g. the higher incidence of lone motherhood from those who grew up in low income households). The report draws on analysis of British Social Attitudes (BSA) Survey data and other existing data. The remainder of the findings section comprises a synthesis of research evidence uncovered during the literature review. It therefore starts to fill in the gaps in our knowledge; priority areas for future research and policy making are highlighted. (RH)

From : Download (3/3/10):

http://www.grandparentsplus.org.uk/publications_files/Protect%20Support%20Provide%20Report.pdf

"What if we said no?": family and friends care; by Grandparents Plus. London: Grandparents Plus, 2010, 25 pp (Survey findings report).

There are estimated to be some 200,000 family and friends carers in the UK looking after around 300,000 children because parents are no longer able to fulfill that role. However, because of a lack of data, family and friend carers are largely invisible to both policy makers and service providers - making them vulnerable to unintended consequences of changes in government policy. 'What if we said no?' is a report of a survey of more than 250 members of the Grandparents Plus organisation's Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Network. The report finds that many family and friend carers are living on low incomes, and are particularly vulnerable to welfare reform and spending cuts. They are also more likely to be in poor health. Almost half are caring for a child with a disability or special needs: many of the children have experienced problems at school. More than nine out of ten family and friends carers responding to the survey are themselves grandparents. (RH)

From : Grandparents Plus, 18 Victoria Park Square, London E2 9PF. Website: www.grandparentsplus.org.uk

2009

Grandparents and other relatives as parents; by Cathy J Tompkins, Sacramento Pinazo-Hernandis, Melinda Perez-Porter (eds) (et al.): Routledge, 2009, pp 137-348 (whole issue).

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 7, no 2-3, 2009, pp 137-348 (whole issue).

These 22 papers represent a partnership between members of the Journal of Intergenerational Relationships editorial board and the staff of the US Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP), a social service programme supported by the Brookdale Foundation Group. The scholarly papers and in-the-field articles address multiple issues, concerns and outcomes related to families in which grandparents or other relatives act as the parents of children. Numbers of these households have been growing steadily since the early 1970s in the United States, and an even larger increase has been experienced in the number of children reared by their grandparents throughout the 1990s. Generations United (2003) estimated that 5 to 6 million children were living in grandparent-headed households in the United States. Contributors to this issue of the Journal of Intergenerational Relationships cite the scientific literature that identifies many issues, including teenage pregnancy, parents' incarceration, AIDS, substance abuse, child abuse, abandonment and/or neglect, death or mental illness of the parents as the main causes of grandparent caregiving. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Learning about leaders: exploring and measuring leadership qualities in grandparents and other relatives raising children; by Kerry A Littlewood, Anne L Strozier.: Routledge, 2009, pp 371-393.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 7, no 4, 2009, pp 371-393.

The purpose of this study is to describe leadership qualities of grandparents and other relatives raising children, and to determine if the Leadership Practices Inventory (LPI) is appropriate for assessing leadership for grandparents and other relatives raising children. This study reports the results of the LPI and a factor analysis to describe leadership qualities and test psychometric properties of the LPI. Subjects are 60 kinship caregivers attending advocacy trips to a state legislature to speak to policymakers about their issues. Results indicate that grandparents and other relatives view themselves as leaders. The solution has good internal consistency and split-half reliability is robust. It appears that the LPI is a promising measure for use with kinship caregivers. More interventions are needed to foster the important quality of leadership amongst kinship caregivers. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

The poor relation?: grandparental care: where older people's poverty and child poverty meet: interim report; by Julia Griggs, Grandparents Plus; Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC); Department for Social Policy and Social Work, University of Oxford. London: Grandparents Plus - electronic download, June 2009, 22 pp.

The author has used data from the British Social Attitudes (BSA) survey for 2007 to build a more comprehensive picture of Britain's grandparent population and the significant role played by grandparents in providing support for their children and care for their grandchildren. This interim report looks at changes in the last ten years in the socio-economic and income aspects of being a grandparent. It notes that working class grandparents are more likely than middle class grandparents to belong to four-generation families, and that working age grandmothers on low incomes are most likely to be providing the childcare. There is also a direct correlation between a mother's employment and whether her own mother is still alive. Overall, the grandparental contribution is being shaped by an ageing population, increased family diversification, and increased

participation by mothers in the workforce. In turn, these changes affect grandparents own (financial) well-being. (RH)

From : Download (29/6/09): <http://www.grandparentsplus.org.uk/>

2008

Aged women caregivers of grandchildren orphaned by HIV/AIDS in Southern Nigeria; by Friday A Eboiyehi.: International Institute on Ageing (United Nations - Malta), November 2008, pp 22-31.

BOLD, vol 19, no 1, November 2008, pp 22-31.

The impact of caregiving on older women (particularly grandmothers) who act as caregivers to their grandchildren orphaned by AIDS is examined. The study relied primarily on data generated from interviews with 30 older women caregivers (aged 65+) purposively selected from three local government areas (LGAs) in Southern Nigeria, namely Oredo (south), Ilesa West (south-west), and Idemili North (south-east). There was no rigid sampling process. Interviews were conducted as these caregivers of orphaned grandchildren were found and consented to participating in the study. The study also initialised a snowball-sampling method, whereby an older woman caregiver volunteered information leading to the identification of other older women caregivers. The study adopts content analysis for data sorting, and each key comment is illustrated with selected verbatim quotes from the study participants, which represent the views expressed by the interviewees. Findings indicated that the older women caregivers of orphaned grandchildren were going through hardship, which had resulted in stress, ill-health and psychological trauma in shouldering the responsibilities of caring for their grandchildren after burying their own children who left no reserves for the family members to cope with. Their responsibilities included payment of school fees, feeding, clothing and provision of medical care. The coping strategies included engaging in subsistence farming, petty trading, assistance from members of their religious groups, relatives as well as alms begging. Policy implications of the study are discussed. (RH)

ISSN: 10165177

From : <http://www.inia.org.mt>

Depressive symptoms among grandparents raising grandchildren: the impact of participation in multiple roles; by Lindsay A Baker, Merrill Silverstein.: The Haworth Press, 2008, pp 285-304.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 6, no 3, 2008, pp 285-304.

Using the US Health and Retirement Study (HRS), this research examines well-being among grandparents raising grandchildren during middle to late life, specifically looking at how other roles in which a grandparent is participating (such as worker, volunteer, parent, or caregiver) may influence depressive symptoms among grandparent caregivers. Results indicate that grandparents who have recently begun raising a grandchild experience lower levels of well-being when compared to grandparents who are not raising a grandchild regardless of the grandparent's level of participation in roles beyond that of grandparent caregiver, while grandparents who have been raising a grandchild for longer periods of time seem to benefit from their participation in multiple roles. However, a higher level of participation in outside roles is associated with a decline in well-being among grandparents who stopped raising a grandchild, suggesting that, for these grandparents, participation in multiple roles acted mainly as a stressor rather than as a resource. (RH)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Drug misuse: a family affair; by Nina Jacobs.

Community Care, issue 1715, 27 March 2008, pp 14-15.

The government's new drug strategy has a "whole family" approach, which may bring more support for kinship carers. Charities have applauded this, but have doubts over benefits sanctions for those who fail to attend treatment sessions. This article focuses on the role of grandparents in caring for grandchildren whose parents are drug abusers, and the problems they encounter in asserting their rights and in obtaining financial support. (RH)

ISSN: 03075508

From : <http://www.communitycare.co.uk>

Grandparent and kinship foster care: implications of licensing and payment policies; by Marlys Bratteli, Kristine Bjelde, Leah Pigatti.: The Haworth Press, Inc., 2008, pp 228-246.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 51, issue 3/4, 2008, pp 228-246.

In this article, the authors examine the different licensing and payment policies in the United States for kinship foster care, and assess the potential impact of licensing policies on the likelihood that grandparents or other kin will become licensed as formal kinship foster care providers. With this information, discussion is presented that outlines possible barriers to formalised foster kinship care placement and identifies the need for changes in public policy that could lead to increased program access for kinship foster caregivers. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Handbook of psychosocial interventions with older adults: evidence-based approaches; by Sherry M Cummings, Nancy P Kropf (eds).: The Haworth Press, Inc., 2008, pp 1-355 (whole issue).

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 50, Supplement 1, 2008, pp 1-355 (whole issue).

In recent years, there has been tremendous growth in the movement to enhance the delivery of quality services through the use of evidence-based interventions. While an increasing number of reviews have examined the effectiveness of pharmacological interventions for older people, few have examined the status of psychosocial interventions for the older population. This special volume of the Journal of Gerontological Social Work aims to increase researchers' and practitioners' knowledge of evidence-based treatments for older people and their family members. To this end, a thorough review of the extant research on psychosocial interventions for a wide range of health, mental health, cognitive and social role challenges faced by older family caregivers is provided. an overview by the editors is followed by 13 chapters arranged by three themes. First, evidence-based interventions for health conditions cover cardiac conditions, cancer treatments, arthritis pain, diabetes treatment and HIV/AIDS treatment. Second, evidence-based interventions for cognitive and mental health issues provide overviews on: depression and anxiety; Alzheimer's disease (AD) and related dementia; and substance abuse. Lastly, evidence-based interventions for social functioning focus on family and grandparent caregivers, treatment at the end of life, and the relationships of individuals with developmental disabilities and their caregivers. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Parenting attitudes and adjustment among custodial grandparents; by Patricia L Kaminski, Ben Hayslip, Jennifer L Wilson (et al).: The Haworth Press, 2008, pp 263-284.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 6, no 3, 2008, pp 263-284.

42 custodial grandparents (CGPs), 39 parents, and 44 non-custodial grandparents (GPs) completed measures of parenting attitudes (e.g. belief in the use of corporal punishment) and parental adjustment (e.g. parenting stress). Moreover, half of the actively parenting participants were caring for a (grand)child with emotional or behavioural problems. While CGPs and parents differed in their self-reported levels of empathy toward children's needs and opinions about appropriate parent-child role responsibilities, with CGPs scoring in the less adaptive direction compared to parents, these two groups did not differ in their attitudes about corporal punishment or on any measure of parental adjustment. The caregivers in this sample who were raising (grand)children with emotional or behavioural problems, however, reported significantly lower levels of parental adjustment than CGPs and parents whose (grand)children did not have clinically significant emotional or behavioural problems. A multiple analysis of covariance revealed that the two grandparent groups did not differ from one another in their self-reported parenting attitudes, but both scored in a less adaptive direction compared to parents. These data point to cohort effects whereby members of an older generation have attitudes that have been associated with an increased risk for poor parenting behaviours. It is encouraging, however, to find that risk for poor parenting in the form of physical intimidation or abuse is no higher among older caregivers than it is among younger caregivers. Importantly, previous reports about the negative consequences of reassuming the parenting role (for one's grandchildren) may be due, in part, to a third variable such as emotional or behavioural difficulties among custodial grandchildren. Collectively, these findings indicate that when raising a child with emotional or behavioural problems, custodial grandparents are no less resilient than similarly challenged parents. (RH)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Preventive health behaviours among grandmothers raising grandchildren; by Lindsey A Baker, Merril Silverstein.

Journals of Gerontology: Series B, Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, vol 63B, no 5, September 2008, pp S304-S311.

Using data from the US Health and Retirement Survey (HRS) for 2000, 2002 and 2004, the authors ran multivariate logistic regression models to assess receipt of influenza vaccination, cholesterol screening, monthly breast self-examination, mammography, and cervical smear tests among grandmothers aged 50-75. Grandmothers who recently began raising a grandchild were significantly less likely to report flu vaccination and cholesterol screening than grandmothers not raising grandchildren, controlling for increased emotional and financial strain within the household. The authors also observed this association for smear tests, although this finding was only marginally significant. Grandmothers who had been raising a grandchild for at least 2 years were significantly more likely to report flu vaccination and monthly breast self-examination than grandmothers

not raising grandchildren. The enforcement of preventive behaviour seen among longer-term grandparent caregivers does not fully affect the suppression of preventive behaviour during the transition into care; support groups should target a range of interventions towards the promotion of healthy behaviour among new grandparent caregivers. (RH)

ISSN: 10795014

From : <http://www.geron.org>

A qualitative perspective of family resources among low income, African American grandmother-caregivers; by Gaynell Marie Simpson.: The Haworth Press, Inc., 2008, pp 19-41.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 51, issue 1/2, 2008, pp 19-41.

This ethnographic study describes a group of 7 low-income, African American, grandmother-caregivers' perceptions of family resources. An ethnographic design, enhanced by a genogram, captured those who were available and unavailable to provide support to the grandmother. The analysis used a constant comparative method to thematically capture grandmothers' perceptions of family support resources as absent, unavailable, dependent, and reliable support, and the circumstances that led to that status. The findings reveal that many African American grandmothers are rearing children with little family support, owing mainly to the devastation of negative social and economic conditions. The results suggest areas for improvement in social work assessment and intervention. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

2007

All in the family: the impact of caring for grandchildren on grandparents' health; by Mary Elizabeth Hughes, Linda J Waite, Tracey A LaPierre (et al).

Journals of Gerontology: Series B, Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, vol 62B, no 2, March 2007, pp S108-S119.

The relationship between stability and change in various types of grandchild care and subsequent health was examined in a sample of 12872 grandparents aged 50-80 from the US Health and Retirement Study. No evidence was found to suggest that caring for grandchildren has dramatic and widespread negative effects on grandparents' health and health behaviour. Limited evidence was found that grandmothers caring for grandchildren in skipped generation households are more likely to experience negative changes in health behaviour, depression and self-rated health. Some evidence was found, too, of the benefits of grandmothers who babysit. These findings suggest that the health disadvantages found previously in grandparent caregivers arise from grandparents' previous characteristics, not as a characteristic of providing care. Health declines as a consequence of grandchild care appear to be the exception rather than the rule. These findings are important given continuing reliance on grandparents for day care and increasing reliance on grandparents for custodial care. However, the findings should be tempered by the recognition that for a minority of grandparents, co-residential grandchild care may compromise health. (RH)

ISSN: 10795014

From : <http://www.geron.org>

Parents once again: [evaluation of support for grandparents]; by Robert Bullard.

Community Care, issue 1680, 5 July 2007, pp 28-29.

Some grandparents have to relearn parenting skills as they take on full-time care of their grandchildren. The author evaluates the support available for grandparents in this position from organisations such as the Grandparents Association, Grandparents Plus, and the more recently formed Grandparents as Parents (GaP). The article also notes discrepancies in the financial help that is - or rather is not - available to this group of carers. (RH)

ISSN: 03075508

From : <http://www.communitycare.co.uk>

Patterns of intergenerational support in grandparent-grandchild and parent-child relationships in Germany; by Andreas Hoff.

Ageing and Society, vol 27, part 5, September 2007, pp 643-666.

This paper focuses on intergenerational support relations between grandparents and their grandchildren in Germany, and how they have changed from 1996 to 2002. There is a brief review of the literature on functional aspects of the grandparent-grandchild relationship, after which the research hypotheses about intergenerational support in the relationship are elaborated. Following a description of the data source, the German Ageing Survey and its samples and measures, the evidence on the patterns of grandparents' provision and receipt of

intergenerational support to and from their grandchildren are presented and compared with parent-child support patterns. The analysis also considers variations by age groups and birth cohorts and changes over time. The main empirical finding is that there was a greater likelihood of financial transfers to grandchildren in 2002 than six years earlier. Nevertheless, the grandparents' relationships with their grandchildren remained imbalanced or asymmetrical, at the older generation's expense. It was found that financial and instrumental support patterns between grandparents and grandchildren were best explained using an 'intergenerational stake' hypothesis rather than one of 'intergenerational solidarity'; the latter is more consistent with parent-child support patterns. (KJ)

ISSN: 0144686X

From : http://www.journals.cambridge.org/jid_ASO

The vulnerability for elder abuse among a sample of custodial grandfathers: an exploratory study; by Karen Bullock.

Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect, vol 19, no 3/4, 2007, pp 133-150.

Older people have been known to make sacrifices in their caregiving roles. Gerontology literature on custodial grandparents has primarily focused on grandmothers and the challenges they face when they assume primary care for grandchildren. Little is known about the risks that older men face when they become custodial grandparents. This article highlights types and warning signs of abuse, exploitation and neglect. Exploratory study was undertaken with a racially diverse group of custodial grandfathers to fill a gap in the literature about the vulnerability for elder abuse, exploitation and neglect as expressed by older Black, Latino and White custodial grandfathers. To provide a more inclusive understanding of elder abuse, areas of vulnerability were identified for consideration by practitioners, educators and researchers. The implications of this research point to the need to rethink elder abuse assessment, prevention and intervention strategies with older men. (RH)

ISSN: 08946566

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

2006

Custodial grandparenting: individual, cultural, and ethnic diversity; by Bert Hayslip, Julie Hicks Patrick (eds). New York: Springer Publishing Company, 2006, 334 pp.

The role of grandparents in the US as caregivers in raising grandchildren has frequently been discussed. This book's focus is on custodial grandparent caregivers' cultural and ethnic variability. 19 chapters are organised in five sections. The first, on diversity across individuals, looks at the disruption to work and income for grandmothers raising grandchildren, traditional and custodial grandparents' role satisfaction, and grandparent caregivers' needs for formal and informal support. Section 2, diversity across age and gender, examines health effects (including depression) of grandchild care for both grandmothers and grandfathers. Section 3, cross-cultural and inter-cultural variation, includes examples from Canada and Kenya, as well as the US. Latinas, African Americans, religious beliefs, also the effects of strain, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) are the themes of Section 4, variations across race and ethnicity. (RH)

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Family and aging policy; by Francis G Caro.

Journal of Aging & Social Policy, vol 18, nos 3/4, 2006, pp 1-237.

This issue of the Journal of Aging & Social Policy is simultaneously being published by the Haworth Press as a monographic "separate". Papers are mostly concerned with the role of the family in providing long-term care; and all but one are about aspects of caregiving. 11 articles focus on elder care, while another deals with grandparents caring for their grandchildren. The volume begins with articles on Sweden, Denmark, Singapore and Canada, which illustrate the universality of the tension between family and public responsibility for elder care. However, in each of these countries, families willingly play the major role in long-term care. In contrast to the "international view" of the first few papers, the remainder deal with caregiving in the US, starting with a commentary on the Family and Medical Leave Act 1993 (FMLA) and its provision for unpaid leave for up to 12 weeks in any one year. Other papers deal with: employment and elder care; respite care; the implications for policy of community-based care programmes; intergenerational housing; assisted living; and the changes in State rules during the 1990s on inheritance issues and Medicaid eligibility. (RH)

ISSN: 08959420

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Family and aging policy; by Francis G Caro (ed): Haworth Press, Inc., 2006, 237 pp.

Papers are mostly concerned with the role of the family in providing long-term care; and all but one are about aspects of caregiving. 11 articles focus on elder care, while another deals with grandparents caring for their grandchildren. The volume begins with articles on Sweden, Denmark, Singapore and Canada, which illustrate the universality of the tension between family and public responsibility for elder care. However, in each of these countries, families willingly play the major role in long-term care. In contrast to the "international view" of the first few papers, the remainder deal with caregiving in the US, starting with a commentary on the Family and Medical Leave Act 1993 (FMLA) and its provision for unpaid leave for up to 12 weeks in any one year. Other papers deal with: employment and elder care; respite care; the implications for policy of community-based care programmes; intergenerational housing; assisted living; and the changes in State rules during the 1990s on inheritance issues and Medicaid eligibility. Published simultaneously in the *Journal of Aging & Social Policy*, vol 18, nos 3/4. (RH)

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Price: US\$19.95 (hdbk \$39.95)

From : The Haworth Press, Inc., 10 Alice Street, Binghamton, NY 13904-1580, USA.

<http://www.HaworthPress.com>

Forgotten families: the needs and experiences of grandparents who care for children whose parents misuse drugs and alcohol; by Grandparents plus; Adfam. London: Electronic format only, 2006, 22 pp.

Grandparents raising grandchildren often receive less support than other foster carers, even though their needs may be greater. This report explores the experiences and needs of grandparents when raising their grandchildren as a result of substance misuse. It looks at: children and their needs; the impact on the lives of grandparents and the family; and the needs of grandparents when they take care of their grandchildren. It is based on a literature review prepared by Christine Hogg, and a consultation with grandparents raising grandchildren as a result of drug/and or alcohol misuse. Examples of good practice indicate the availability of some local and national counselling, support groups or respite care in helping with problems such as stress, social isolation and financial costs. (RH)

From : Adfam, 25 Corsham Street, London N1 6DR. Download from website: <http://www.adfam.org.uk>

Grandmothers, caregiving, and family functioning; by Carol M Musil, Camille B Warner, Jaclene A Zauszniewski (et al).

Journals of Gerontology: Series B, Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, vol 61B, no 2, March 2006, pp S89-S98.

McCubbin's Resiliency Model of Family Stress, Adjustment and Adaptation (2001) was used to examine how demographic factors, family stress, grandmother resourcefulness, support, and role reward affect perceptions of family functioning for grandmothers raising grandchildren, grandmothers living in multigenerational households, and grandmothers with no caregiving responsibilities. A sample of 486 grandmothers completed a postal questionnaire. Structural equation modelling was used to test the effects of demographic factors, family stressful life events and strain, grandmothers' resourcefulness, subjective and instrumental support, and role reward on perceptions of family functioning for each grandmother group. Differences in the measurement and structural models between of grandmother groups were evaluated using multi-sample analysis, and the model was tested on the full sample, coding for caregiver status. The model did not differ significantly by grandmother group. There was general support for the resiliency model and equivalence of the model across grandmother groups. Less support, resourcefulness and reward, and more intra-family strain and stressful family life events contributed to perceptions of worse family functioning. The importance of quality of family functioning for grandmothers in all types of families is demonstrated. (RH)

ISSN: 10795014

From : <http://www.geron.org>

Grandparents raising grandchildren: the role of social support in coping with caregiving challenges; by Jean M Gerard, Laura Landry-Meyer, Jacqueline Guzell Roe.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 62, no 4, 2006, pp 359-383.

In this investigation of 133 grandparents with primary responsibility for their grandchildren, the authors examined the potential moderating role of social support in the association between caregiver stressors and grandparents' general well-being. Enacted formal support buffered the association between grandchild health problems and both grandparent caregiving stress and life satisfaction. Enacted formal support also buffered the association between parenting daily hassles and life satisfaction. Compensatory or main effects of perceived informal and formal social support were found for both grandparent caregiving stress and life satisfaction. Findings highlight the importance of professional assistance and community services in minimising the negative impact of child-related challenges on grandparents' well-being. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 00914150

From : <http://baywood.com>

Implications of welfare reform on the elderly: a case study of provider, advocate, and consumer perspectives; by Carroll L Estes, Sheryl Goldberg, Chris Wellin (et al).

Journal of Aging & Social Policy, vol 18, no 1, 2006, pp 41-64.

Whereas many studies of welfare reform have focused on effects on children and families, little research has examined the implications of welfare reform for older people. This case study incorporates interviews with service providers for the ageing, members of advocacy organisations, and two focus groups of older consumers conducted in the multi-ethnic urban community of San Francisco. Study findings suggest that welfare reform has had both direct and indirect effects on older people and their services in the study community. Direct effects derive primarily from changes in the welfare reform legislation that had the effect of undermining both immigrants' eligibility for and claiming of public assistance benefits. Indirect effects on older people include increased child care demands on grandparents. The case study data bear on a significant policy change within the broader trend of devolution as a historical point when anti-immigrant sentiment in the US was running high. (RH)

ISSN: 08959420

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

2005

African American grandparents raising grandchildren: a national study using the Census 2000 American Community Survey; by Meredith Minkler, Esme Fuller-Thomson.

Journals of Gerontology: Series B, Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, vol 60B, no 2, March 2005, pp S82-S92.

The Census 2000 American Community Survey is a nationally representative survey of 890,000 households, from which the present study is an analysis based on comparison of 2,362 African American grandparent caregivers aged 45+ with 40,148 non-caregiving peers. Gender specific analyses were also conducted. More than 500,000 African Americans aged 45+ were estimated to be raising grandchildren in 2000. They were disproportionately female, younger, and less educated than non-caregivers, and more likely to be living in poverty and receiving public assistance. Grandmother caregivers had significantly higher rates of functional limitations and poverty than other grandfather caregivers or other African American women aged 45+. Study subjects represent a highly vulnerable population economically. The findings that four-fifths of African American grandmother caregivers below the poverty line were not receiving public assistance underscores the need for improving programme outreach and substance to better serve the population. (RH)

ISSN: 10795014

From : <http://www.geron.org>

Barriers to permanency planning for older HIV-affected caregivers; by Nancy Capobianco Boyer, Cynthia Cannon Poindexter.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 44, nos 3/4, 2005, pp 59-74.

HIV is now a major reason that grandparents and other older caregivers assume custodial care of minor children whose parents have died or become incapacitated. Grandparents are becoming custodial parents for a growing number of orphaned children, either through kinship care or informal means. Although these older caregivers are raising minors again because their adult children are unavailable due to a life-threatening illness, we know little about whether these older surrogate parents are planning for the eventuality of their own deaths. This exploratory, qualitative, grounded theory study explored the permanency planning experiences of older caregivers of minor children affected or infected by HIV. Five barriers emerged as impeding the permanency planning process for these older caregivers: lack of knowledge about the legal process; lack of legal authority; emotional concerns; lack of informal social support; and HIV-related stigma. Implications for gerontological social work include: the need for more supportive and legal services for older HIV-affected caregivers who are raising minors; encouraging formal adoption and/or negotiations with living biological parents; and helping grandmothers to manage disclosures and HIV stigma. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Canadian first nations grandparents raising grandchildren: a portrait in resilience; by Esme Fuller-Thomson.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 60, no 4, 2005, pp 331-342.

Between 1991 and 2001, there was a 20% increase in the number of Canadian under 18s living with their grandparents without a parent present in the home. Recent research reveals that Canadians of First Nations

origin - including North American Indians, Metis and Inuit - were vastly over-represented among grandparents raising grandchildren in skipped generation households (households which include only grandparents or grandchildren). Using custom tabulation from the 1996 Canadian Census, this article presents a profile of First Nations Canadian grandparents raising grandchildren in skipped generation households. Despite extremely high rates of poverty and disability, one-third of such families were raising two or more grandchildren. Compared to other grandparent caregivers, First Nation custodial caregivers were more likely to be caring for an older person (23%) and to spend more than 30 hours a week on childcare duties (40%), and on housework (41%). Implications for policy, practice and research are discussed. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

From : <http://baywood.com>

Challenges of aging on US families: policy and practice implications; by Richard K Caputo (ed). Binghamton, NY: Haworth Press Inc, 2005, 221 pp.

As the United States' economy evolves and manufacturing jobs disappear, the prospect of each generation experiencing a standard of living that exceeds that of their parents also disappears. The papers in this publication explore this trend, presenting the latest research on the changing roles of caregivers along with the economic and emotional effects on the family unit. Long-term care and the standard of living of families are considered, the focus being on the effects of changing family structures and with particular reference to grandparenting. How these changes will impact on society at large is considered in the context of economic and caregiving problems that will be faced by the Baby Boomer generation in coming decades. This book is co-published simultaneously as *Marriage & Family Review*, vol 37, nos 1/2, 2005. (KJ/RH)

ISBN: 0789028778

Price: US\$29.95; hdbk US\$49.95

From : The Haworth Press Inc., 10 Alice St., Binghamton, NY 13904-1580, USA.

<http://www.HaworthPress.com>

The changing availability of grandparents as carers and its implications for childcare policy in the UK; by Anne Gray.

Journal of Social Policy, vol 34, no 4, October 2005, pp 557-578.

The role of grandparents as providers of childcare for their grandchildren is considered, also the importance of this role in helping the mother to enter the labour market. Several childcare surveys indicate that grandparents make a very important contribution, which appears to be sustained over time. Demographic modelling shows that the chances of young children having a maternal grandmother aged under 70 have risen since 1981, although she is less likely to live nearby. New evidence from the UK Time Use Survey suggests that grandparents' help has an important influence on whether mothers of young children do take employment, especially those with lower earning potential. This help also enables them to work longer hours and earn more. However, employed older women play a considerably smaller role in childcare in other households than those without jobs. Analysis of childcare trends from the British Household Panel Survey (BHPS) suggests that help from relatives, of whom the biggest category are known from several other sources to be grandparents, has become an important complement to part-time formal care as pre-school places have expanded since the late 1990s. Raising employment rates for the over 50s is an established objective of government policy, yet it may conflict with younger grandparents' childcare roles. (RH)

ISSN: 00472794

From : <http://www.journals.cambridge.org>

Citizenship: the difference older people make; by Help the Aged.

AGEToday, issue 5, Spring 2005, whole issue.

Through its Speaking Up for Our Age initiative, Help the Aged has worked to harness the pool of experience and skills that older people can offer for the benefit of all. Contributors to this final issue of AGEToday newsletter consider examples of participation in citizenship. These include: political citizenship (voting); older ethnic minorities' engagement in the political process; older people's forums; the role of the Older People's Reference Group in shaping public policy; formal and informal volunteering; community self-help; older carers; and grandparenting. (RH)

ISSN: 14774429

From : <http://www.helptheaged.org.uk>

Depression and caregiver mastery in grandfathers caring for their grandchildren; by Stacey R Kolomer, Philip McCallion.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 60, no 4, 2005, pp 283-294.

Grandfathers who take on caregiving responsibilities are often unnoticed and underserved in the research literature. This article reports on grandfathers from two Relatives as Parents Programs outside New York City participating in focus group interviews discussing their experiences as caregivers to their grandchildren. Common themes for the grandfathers were the feeling of missing freedom, experiencing child rearing differently now than they had with their own children, and fear of what might happen to the children should their health fail. 33 grandfathers also answered questions about themselves and their grandchild; need, use and satisfaction with formal services; depression; and caregiving mastery. A sample of 33 grandmothers selected from a previous study was matched to the grandfathers on age, race and marital status. Differences in depressive symptoms between grandfathers and grandmothers were statistically significant. There was no statistically significant difference between the grandparent caregivers on caregiver mastery. These findings suggest that there may be differences in the impact of caregiving for grandmothers and grandfathers. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

From : <http://baywood.com>

Diversity among grandparent caregivers; by Bert Hayslip, Julie Hicks Patrick, Esme Fuller-Thomson (eds).

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 60, no 4, 2005, pp 269-359 (whole issue).

Articles in this special issue of the International Journal of Aging and Human Development draw attention to the range of research being conducted on grandparents as caregivers. Four of the articles investigate populations that have previously received little attention in the grandparent caregiver literature: American grandfather caregivers; Native Canadian grandparents; Latino grandmothers in Southern California; and grandmothers raising grandchildren in rural Kenya. Other articles are notable for methodology used - for example, participants keeping health diaries for a few weeks. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

From : <http://baywood.com>

Diversity among grandparent caregivers: introduction to the special issue; by Esme-Fuller-Thomson, Bert Hayslip, Julie Hicks Patrick.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 60, no 4, 2005, pp 269-272.

This introduction to seven other articles in this special issue of the International Journal of Aging and Human Development draws attention not just to the range of research being conducted on grandparents as caregivers. It also points to diverse methodologies used, including cross-sectional surveys, secondary analysis of census data, large longitudinal studies, focus groups, and analyses of diaries. Four of the articles investigate populations that have previously received little attention in the grandparent caregiver literature: American grandfather caregivers; Native Canadian grandparents; Latino grandmothers in Southern California; and grandmothers raising grandchildren in rural Kenya. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

From : <http://baywood.com>

Factors associated with the positive well-being of grandparents caring for their grandchildren; by Roberta G Sands, Robin Goldberg-Glen, Pamela L Thornton.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 45, no 4, 2005, pp 65-82.

Previous research on grandparent caregivers has focused on stress, depression and other negative outcomes. This paper describes research on factors that are associated with grandparents' positive well-being. In particular, it investigated the extent to which the perception of grandparental stress and grandparents' resources are associated with grandparents' well-being, after controlling for sociodemographic and health factors. A sample of 129 American grandparents had individual interviews. Using a hierarchical block multiple regression analysis, the authors found that a low perception of stress related to caring for grandchildren and resources were responsible for a high level of well-being. The findings suggest that social workers can best help grandparent caregivers by lower their perception of stress and enhancing their informal supports and community resources. This can be incorporated into supportive, strengths-based individual or family counselling. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Grandma's hands: black grandmothers speak about their experiences rearing grandchildren on TANF; by Tammy L Henderson, Jennifer L Cook.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 61, no 1, 2005, pp 1-19.

Among other things, TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) provides lump-sum federal block grants to US states to operate their own welfare and work programmes. In this article, the authors use symbolic interaction theory to understand the views and meanings attached to welfare, poverty and poor families, as well as to decipher grandmothers' policy recommendations. The culturally variant perspective provided a conceptual lens that placed grandmothers' adaptive behaviours in an historical, socio-political context. The authors used Grounded Theory methods to analyse 20 personal interviews from a larger multiple case study examining the influence of TANF on grandparent-led families in southwest Virginia. Grandparents' views create a continuum of beliefs toward poverty, TANF and personal responsibility with themes of individualistic, structural and fatalistic views. They made distinct policy recommendations to remove the penalties attached to kinship care, which continues to be an adaptive family feature. However, black grandmothers maintain some of the same societal and familial values as society generally. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

From : <http://baywood.com>

Grandparents parenting their grandchildren; by Angelica Orb, Margaret Davey.: Blackwell Publishing, September 2005, pp 162-168.

Australasian Journal on Ageing, vol 24.3, September 2005, pp 162-168.

The perceptions of grandparents parenting their grandchildren on a full-time basis is described. This paper uses a descriptive qualitative approach to depict grandparents' parental experiences. 17 grandparents in Perth, Western Australia, including four couples, were interviewed. Data were analysed and interpreted using content analysis. Findings indicated that grandparents parenting their grandchildren found that this unexpected role brought several emotional, social and financial problems into their lives. They actively looked for resources that could provide them with support to overcome the stresses of the personal role. Many expressed concerns about the future of their grandchildren and frustration that they were dealing with government institutions. A number of important areas are identified that have policy implications. (RH)

ISSN: 14406381

From : <http://www.cota.org.au> / <http://www.blackwellpublishingasia.com>

Grandparents raising their grandchildren: a review of the literature and suggestions for practice; by Bert Hayslip, Patricia L Kaminski.

The Gerontologist, vol 45, no 2, April 2005, pp 262-269.

An increasingly prevalent family constellation is a home headed by a grandparent who is raising grandchildren. The authors explore the state of knowledge about such grandparents, with particular attention to its implications for service providers and researchers. They examine the following key areas: the costs and benefits of raising a grandchild; the heterogeneity of custodial grandparent caregivers; custodial grandparents' critical need for social support; parenting practices and attitudes among grandparents raising grandchildren; and helping efforts at multiple levels with custodial grandparents. They also discuss directions for research and practice concerning custodial grandparents. (RH)

ISSN: 00169013

From : <http://www.geron.org>

Latina grandmothers raising grandchildren: acculturation and psychological well-being; by Catherine Chase Goodman, Merrill Silverstein.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 60, no 4, 2005, pp 305-316.

Grandparent involvement in raising grandchildren has become increasingly prevalent in the US and represents the family's strength in managing crises and transitions. This study examined acculturation, socioeconomic resources, and family factors related to well-being among 357 Latino caregiving grandmothers. Positive affect was related to greater language acculturation and factors suggesting participation in mainstream society - income and health. In contrast, higher life satisfaction and lower negative affect were more evident among the less acculturated. These relationships disappeared with controls, explained by greater social resources among less acculturated grandmothers, more were married, and had the parent at home. Fewer assumed care because of a parent's substance-related problems. The parent's presence in the household was related to a higher level of grandmother's well-being, and more sensitive family factors were considered. Furthermore, raising grandchildren with behaviour problems was related to the grandmother's negative affect. Results suggest that professions should target economic needs of new immigrants, as well as assisting with troubled grandchildren and dysfunctional parents. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

From : <http://baywood.com>

Older Korean immigrants and grand-generativity; by Kyung Ja Mukoyama, Masami Takahashi.

Hallym International Journal of Aging, vol 7, no 2, 2005, pp 115-130.

This study examined the relationship between the three key elements of grand-generativity and several socio-cultural factors. Grand-generativity is a reworking of middle adulthood generativity under new conditions in old age and its primary concerns are reciprocity of caring, grandparenthood and legacy through personal example. The expression of grand-generativity may be affected by the experience of immigration which presents the older adult with the dual challenge of acculturation and environmental disruption. 69 Korean immigrant participants were recruited from three ethnically diverse government subsidized senior housing apartments in Chicago. The sample consisted of three cohort groups: 22 young-old (mean age 71.5); 35 old-old (mean age 79.8); and 12 oldest-old (mean age 88). The overall results revealed that the expression of grand-generativity was significantly associated with the level of acculturation, household occupation and especially family relationship. These findings and their implications are discussed in the context of Confucianism, a dominant ideology in Korea with its teaching of filial piety. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 15356523

From : <http://baywood.com>

The responsibility continuum: never primary, coresident and caregiver: heterogeneity in the African-American grandmother experience; by Rosalyn D Lee, Margaret E Ensminger, Thomas A LaVeist.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 60, no 4, 2005, pp 295-304.

Diversity among 543 African-American grandmothers from the Woodlawn Longitudinal Study in Chicago is examined. Women were categorised on the basis of their household composition, degree of care provided to grandchildren, and status of primary caregiver to grandchildren during lifetime. Overall, 67.7% of the sample engaged in parenting and exchange behaviours at high or moderate levels. 27% co-resided with and provided care to grandchildren; 28% did not co-reside but had been primary caregivers in the past; and 45% did not co-reside and had never been primarily responsible for a grandchild. Heterogeneity was found among seven grandmother types on economic measures, life events and grandchild characteristics. Grandmothers with earlier primary responsibility and those currently in homes of three or more generations were associated with poor outcomes. Policy and practice can be informed by additional research on status, context and timing of assuming responsibilities for grandchildren. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

From : <http://baywood.com>

Stress related factors among primary and part-time caregiving grandmothers of Kenyan grandchildren; by Paul Odhiambo Oburu, Kerstin Palmérus.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 60, no 4, 2005, pp 273-282.

The present study examined whether the total stress experienced by 241 Kenyan caregiving grandmothers was linked to levels of care provided, child behaviour difficulty, and perceived availability of emotional and instrumental support. 128 of these participants adopted their orphaned grandchildren on a full-time basis. The other 113 were grandmothers providing partial parenting roles in households that also included one of these children's biological parents. The results indicated that the full-time grandmothers experienced significantly higher levels of stress than did the part-time caregivers. The total stress experienced was related to these participants' perceptions of child behavioural difficulty and limited instrumental support. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

From : <http://baywood.com>

Ties that bind: [support for grandparents]; by Anabel Unity Sale.

Community Care, issue 1591, 22 September 2005, pp 30-31.

Should grandparents who bring up their grandchildren automatically receive the same benefits as approved foster carers? This article outlines problems faced by kinship carers in bringing up children, when temporary care arrangements may turn into something more permanent. While local councils may not be obliged to make payments, the Benefits Agency could be more flexible in funding care. (RH)

ISSN: 03075508

From : <http://www.communitycare.co.uk>

2004

Auxiliary caregivers: the perceptions of grandchildren within multigenerational caregiving environments; by Nancy A Orel, Paula Dupuy, Jeanne Wright.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 2, no 2, 2004, pp 67-94.

In-depth, semi-structured individual interviews were conducted with care recipients (grandparents), primary/secondary caregivers (parents) and auxiliary caregivers (grandchildren) from three multigenerational caregiving families. Six themes emerged from this qualitative study's data: grandchildren's perception of disease; grandchildren' perception of care recipient; caregiving activities performed by grandchildren; non-caregiving activities with grandparents; feelings related to providing care; and grandchildren's perceptions of parents' caregiving responsibilities. Each of these themes and corresponding categories and subcategories of meaning are presented. The study suggests that grandchildren were responsible for a variety of caregiving tasks, and experience a wide range of emotions in their role as auxiliary caregivers. Recommendations are made for caregiving families. (RH)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Grandparents' growing role as carers; by Roeland Monasch, Fiona Clark.

Ageing and Development, issue 16, June 2004, pp 6-7.

New analysis of data from sub-Saharan Africa highlights the increasing role of grandparents as carers of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS, and throws up important messages for policy-makers. The authors outline results of quantitative analysis of 27 countries on numbers of households headed by grandparents with such childcare responsibilities, and discuss the policy implications. They recommend the provision of social protection for these older carers in the form of universal non-contributory pensions, foster care and child care grants. (RH)

ISSN: 14661616

From : <http://www.helppage.org>

Mothers' helpers?: [the role of grandparenting]; by Jill Manthorpe.

Nursing Older People, vol 15, no 9, December/January 2004, pp 10-13.

The role of grandparenting in modern society is evolving. The author reviews the gerontological literature, and discusses ways in which older people help and support their children's children, whether as people with experience of life or as carers. (RH)

ISSN: 14720795

From : <http://www.nursingolderpeople.co.uk>

Pathways into caregiving for rural custodial grandparents; by Nancy P Kropf, Margaret M Robinson.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 2, no 1, 2004, pp 63-78.

Although one quarter (25%) of custodial grandparents in the US live in rural areas, less is known about these families than their urban counterparts. This qualitative study was conducted to determine pathways into care with rural families - that is, the reasons and process into custodial grandparenting roles. Based on interviews with 14 grandparents, three major pathways were identified. The most common was co-residential, where the parent generation had left a multi-generational household. In the incremental pathway, grandparents had attempted multiple strategies culminating in taking physical custody of their grandchildren. A final pathway, immediate care, was typically the result of a family crisis situation. Needs and challenges for custodial grandparents differ depending upon their particular pathways into this caregiving role. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

2003

Cash for carers; by Alison Richards, Robert Tapsfield.

Community Care, no 1501, 4 December 2003, pp 34-35.

Carers should be entitled to an allowance that reflects the cost of care, which should not be a discretionary payment but a state benefit. New research backs the case for the payment of carers who are the friends or family of a young person being cared for. The authors report on the recommendations in their report, "Funding family and friends care: the way forward", published by the Family Rights Group. Reference is also made to the Group's "Second time around" study (2001) on grandparents who are carers. (RH)

ISSN: 03075508

Funding family and friends care: the way forward; by Alison Richards, Robert Tapsfield, Family Rights Group. London: Family Rights Group, 2003, 20 pp.

There are probably a quarter of a million children in England and Wales living with a grandparent, other relative or friend who is responsible for their upbringing. Most of these children cannot be cared for by their parents, and many have been abandoned, neglected or abused. This report considers the needs of children, who, if a family member or friend were not able to care for them, would be looked after by the local authority. The authors consider the financial implications for their carers, and the support that is or is not available. They look at how other countries fund and support family and friends care. Finally, the report makes proposals and recommendations for funding family and friends care in the future. (RH)

ISBN: 1671515394

Price: £5.95

From : Family Rights Group, The Print House, 18 Ashwin Street, London E8 3DL. Website: <http://www.frg.org.uk>

Grandparent-headed families in the United States: programming to meet unique needs; by Andrea B Smith, Linda L Dannison.

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, vol 1, no 3, 2003, pp 35-48.

In the US, grandparents are returning to the role of parents in ever-increasing numbers. Custodial grandparents often find themselves isolated from sources of support. Nearly half are grandparents without partners. Most are caring for two or more young children, and are more likely to experience cognitive, emotional and physical challenges. Their early traumatic experiences may lead to difficulties in communication and forming attachments. The Parent Topics Questionnaire is a standardized assessment measure designed to provide parent education group facilitators with specific information about participants' needs, desires and expectations. Administration of this instrument to four parent groups revealed a high readiness for information among the custodial grandparent population. Based on information obtained from this measure, a holistic programme was developed which simultaneously provided services to caregiving grandparents, their young grandchildren and educational professionals. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 15350770

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Grandparents raising grandchildren: the risks of caregiving; by Patricia Brownell, Jacquelin Berman, Antoinette Nelson (et al).

Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect, vol 15, no 3/4, 2003, pp 5-32.

Findings from a study utilizing grandparent and child welfare worker focus groups demonstrate that professionals can learn about elder abuse from older people who may be experiencing abuse. This challenges the assumption that elder abuse is a social problem that must be defined by professionals because abuse victims are unable to speak for themselves. Differences in perceptions between African American and Latino grandparents underscore the importance of incorporating of diversity into elder abuse research. Examining elder abuse from the perspective of clients and professionals in service systems not traditionally associated with this social problem can promote case finding and prevention. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 08946566

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Housing issues and realities facing grandparent caregivers who are renters; by Esme Fuller-Thomson, Meredith Minkler.

The Gerontologist, vol 43, no 1, February 2003, pp 92-98.

Data obtained from the US Census 2000 Supplementary Survey (C2SS), a nationally representative survey of 700,000 households with a response rate of 96.8%, was used to focus on the 2,639 respondents who were grandparent caregivers living in rented housing. Of the estimated 2,350,000 grandparent caregivers in the US in 2000, 26% were renters, almost a third of whom were spending 30% or more of their income on rent. For a quarter of a million grandparent caregiver renters living below the poverty line, 60% were spending at least 30% of their household income on rent, and 3 in 10 were living in overcrowded conditions. Grandparent caregivers who are renters thus represent a particularly vulnerable population. (RH)

ISSN: 00169013

Intergenerational triads in grandparent-headed families; by Catherine Chase Goodman.

Journals of Gerontology: Series B, Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, vol 58B, no 5, September 2003, pp S281-S289.

Grandparents are becoming caregivers of their grandchildren more often as a result of their adult children's drug addiction, mental problems and financial need. This study examined grandmothers' well-being in relation to

bonding within intergenerational triads consisting of grandmother, parent and grandchild. Interviews were conducted with 987 grandmothers in Los Angeles County: 512 custodial grandmothers raising their grandchildren and 475 co-parenting grandmothers helping their adult sons or daughters to raise their grandchildren. Contrary to expectation, triangulation involving a weak parent-grandmother relationship was not related to significantly lower grandmother well-being. In contrast, the emotionally isolated parent, particularly common in custodial families, was related to lower grandmother well-being, whether or not the parent lived in the household. The configuration in which the parent provided a link for both other generations was frequent in co-parenting families, but was not significantly different in grandmother well-being compared to other linking triads. Results affirm the utility of examining multi-relationship patterns, and describe the restructuring of intergenerational relationships characteristics of parental absence. (RH)

ISSN: 10795014

From : <http://www.geron.org>

Perception of child difficulty and levels of depression in caregiving grandmothers; by Margaret H Young, Tamara J Dawson.

Journal of Mental Health and Aging, vol 9 no 2, Summer 2003, pp 111-122.

Using data from the US National Survey of Families and Households (NSFH), this study investigated the influence of perceived child difficulty on levels of depression for grandmothers who were primary caregivers, compared with their non-caregiving counterparts. A subsample of 898 grandmothers who responded to a question measuring perceived child difficulty was evaluated on demographic characteristics, perception of health status, and levels of depression. Structural equation models were specified to examine the influence of selected predictor variables on depression and anger. Compared to non-caregiving grandmothers, caregivers experienced higher levels of depression. The findings show that perceived child difficulty, along with health, caregiver and marital statuses combined to predict caregiving grandmothers' levels of depressive symptoms. (RH)

ISSN: 10784470

2002

Barriers, lessons learned, and helpful hints: grandmother caregivers talk about service utilization; by Priscilla A Gibson.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 39, no 4, 2002, pp 55-74.

Increasingly, grandmother caregivers must interact with social agencies to obtain services for their grandchildren, but they encounter unanticipated obstacles. This qualitative study reports the experiences of 12 grandmothers who were caring for grandchildren through five social service agencies. A semi-structured instrument was used that included questions about different aspects of the experience through in-depth interviews and a focus group. Findings describe three categories of experience: barriers encountered in the systems; lessons learned about the systems; and helpful hints about the systems. Implications for social workers include behaviour during service delivery, the dual role inherent in practice with caregivers, and the inclusion and support of biological parents. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Grandmothers raising grandchildren: family structure and well-being in culturally diverse families; by Catherine Goodman, Merrill Silverstein.

The Gerontologist, vol 42, no 5, October 2002, pp 676-689.

Grandmothers raising grandchildren in co-parenting and custodial households in Los Angeles is examined a sample of African American, Latino and White grandmothers. African American grandmothers experienced equal well-being in co-parenting and custodial families; however, if the stresses related to the parents' problems were removed by statistical control, they favoured the custodial arrangement. Latino grandmothers had greater well-being in co-parenting families, reflecting a tradition of intergenerational living. White custodial grandmothers experienced somewhat higher levels of affect (positive and negative), but showed no difference in other types of well-being. The cultural lens through which grandparenthood is viewed therefore has a marked impact on the adaptation to custodial or co-parenting family structures. (RH)

ISSN: 00169013

'Grandparents are the next best thing': informal childcare for working parents in urban Britain; by Jane Wheelock, Katharine Jones.

Journal of Social Policy, vol 31, no 3, July 2002, pp 441-464.

This article is based on a unique empirical investigation of the contribution that informal childcare - relatives, friends or neighbours looking after children, usually on an unpaid basis - makes in allowing parents to go out to work. A clear understanding of why working parents use complementary childcare (particularly from grandparents) is essential for any childcare policy that hopes to be attuned to what families actually want. The article argues that policy makers, lured by a simplistic vision of economic vitality into adopting a behavioural paradigm from economics - in which parents are assumed to respond to purely financial incentives - are likely to find themselves distracted from important issues of the social well-being of working families with children. Childcare needs are related to dramatic changes in women's labour market participation over recent years, where the largest increase in female employment has been among mothers of children under the age of five. Neither mothers nor fathers may be in a position to provide the desired amount of childcare inside the nuclear household. This situation gives rise to the possibility of a 'childcare deficit'. In failing to acknowledge and underpin the value which parents place upon complementary forms of childcare, policy makers are in danger of committing themselves to institutional arrangements which may make that deficit worse in the longer term. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 00472794

Grandparents rearing grandchildren: circumstances and interventions; by Mira Mayer.

School Psychology International, vol 23, no 4, 2002, pp 371-385.

Since 1990, there has been a marked increase in the number of grandparents in the US who raise their grandchildren. School psychologists and counsellors are increasingly called upon to assist this growing population. This article considers some of the key issues facing these grandparents: the emotional needs of grandchildren and grandparents; financial support; legal concerns; and adapting to the transitions in their lives. Intervention strategies for school psychologists and counsellors are suggested. (RH)

ISSN: 01430343

Health of grandmothers: a comparison by caregiver status; by Carol M Musil, Muayyad Ahmad.

Journal of Aging and Health, vol 14, no 1, February 2002, pp 96-121.

In this US cross-sectional study, stress, coping, social support and health were compared in 86 primary caregiver grandmothers, 85 partial/supplemental caregiver grandmothers in multigenerational homes and 112 non-caregiver grandmothers. Whether support and coping reduced effects of stress on the physical and mental health of grandmother caregivers, including mediating and moderating effects was examined. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 08982643

Middle-age adults, family support and social policy in France; by Jim Ogg.

Generations Review, vol 12, no 1, April 2002, pp 14-16.

As in most European Union (EU) countries, France is experiencing far-reaching changes in the structure of its population and patterns of family life. Socio-demographic changes - such as the high proportion of middle-aged adults (50-64) who have permanently left the labour force - are beginning to challenge some of France's key legal and social policy measures. This article outlines the types of support that are expected of family members in France: legal obligations to provide assistance; helping children towards independence; and the role of middle-aged individuals as grandparents. (RH)

ISSN: 09652000

Parenting stress: a comparison of grandmother caretakers and mothers; by Carol M Musil, JoAnne M Youngblut, Sukhee Ahn (et al).

Journal of Mental Health and Aging, vol 8 no 3, Fall 2002, pp 197-210.

Grandmothers who care for a grandchild encounter similar stresses to those faced by parents raising their own children. This study examined the main and interaction effects of caretaker status, employment, and race on parenting stress, and whether these factors affect parenting stress in a sample of 86 grandmothers raising grandchildren and a sample of 86 mothers of pre-school children, matched for women's partner status, race and employment. Grandmothers raising grandchildren reported more overall parenting stress and parental distress than mothers. Non-employed women reported more negative perceptions of their children and more difficult interactions with them. When controlling for contextual variables, grandmother caretakers showed greater parenting distress, but employment was not related to parenting stress. Being Caucasian and caretaking of older children affected overall parenting stress, parent-child interactions, and perceptions of one's children. The effects of outside influences of grandmothers' stress needs to be considered in future research. (RH)

ISSN: 10784470

Temporal variations in the experience of custodial grandparenting: a short-term longitudinal study; by Bert Hayslip, Michelle A Emick, Craig E Henderson (et al).

Journal of Applied Gerontology, vol 21, no 2, June 2002, pp 139-156.

To explore the experience of custodial grandparenting over time, 54 of 78 grandparents in a previous study of custodial grandparenting were reassessed during a 6 month time frame. Despite changes, the overwhelming pattern over time for the grandparents in this study was one of stability. The implications of these data for research and public policy regarding grandparents raising their grandchildren are discussed. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 07334648

2001

American grandparents providing extensive child care to their grandchildren: prevalence and profile; by Esme Fuller-Thomson, Meredith Minkler.

The Gerontologist, vol 41, no 2, April 2001, pp 201-209.

Subjects in this study are those grandparents who provide 30+ hours per week or 90+ nights per year of child care, yet are not a grandchild's primary caregiver. In secondary analysis of the 3,260 grandparent respondents in the 1992-94 US National Survey of Families and Households (NSFH), extensively caregiving grandparents were compared with custodial grandparents, non-caregivers, occasional caregivers and intermediate caregivers using chi-square tests, one-way analysis of variance tests, and logistic regression analyses. Close to 7% of all grandparents provided extensive caregiving, as did 14.9% of those who had provided any grandchild care in the last month. Extensive caregivers most closely resembled custodial caregivers and had least in common with those grandparents who never provided child care. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 00169013

Grandma's hands: parental perceptions of the importance of grandparents as secondary caregivers in families of children with disabilities; by Sara E Green.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 53, no 1, 2001, pp 11-34.

Findings of an American interview survey indicate that: grandparents are a common source of weekly assistance, significantly more common than other relatives, friends or neighbours; and that where grandparents participate, the number of other sources of support is also higher. Moreover, help from grandparents has a positive relationship, while that from other sources of help has a negative relationship to parental ability to maintain a positive emotional outlook and to avoid physical exhaustion. Findings from the interactive interviews suggest that: grandparent participation can promote pride and "normalised attitudes" by helping grandparents get to know the child on an intimate basis. However, when grandparents do not participate, parents may feel the need to manage the information given to, and the emotional responses experienced by, grandparents who have not had the chance to get to know and love the child through frequent, direct contact. Lastly, parents are concerned that if grandparents themselves begin to need help due to increased age and disability, they will not ask for it, because the parents are already overburdened by the unusual demands of their parenting roles. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

Grandparents raising grandchildren: challenges faced by these growing numbers of families and effective policy solutions; by Carrie Jefferson Smith, Ana Beltran.

Journal of Aging & Social Policy, vol 12, no 1, 2001, pp 7-18.

Changes in family life, related social trends and child welfare policies have contributed to a sharp increase in the number of grandparents raising their grandchildren in the US. This article identifies three areas requiring a national policy response: housing; education and medical access; and subsidised guardianship. Meanwhile, grandparents face challenges of economic strain, inadequate housing, and inability to gain access to educational and medical services for the children for whom they care. (RH)

ISSN: 08959420

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Grandparents raising grandchildren: emerging program and policy issues for the 21st century; by Carrie Jefferson Smith, Ana Beltran, Donna M Butts (et al).

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 35, no 1, 2001, pp 33-46.

Current estimates (US Bureau of Census, 1998) indicate that some 2.5 million American households are headed by grandparents. This article explores the issue of grandparents raising their grandchildren. It seeks, first, to explain why this issue is capturing the attention of some advocates, researchers and policy-makers. Second, it

identifies the challenges for families headed by a grandparent. Lastly, it explores public policies and programmes emerging from a developing intergenerational agenda directed at assisting such families. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Healthy family systems?: The changing role of grandparents in rural America; by Karen Bullock.

Education and Ageing, vol 16, no 2, 2001, pp 163-178.

The subject of grandparents raising their grandchildren is increasingly the focus of social science literature on ageing in the US, and such responsibility has led to multiple stresses for older Americans. This article explores the changing role of grandparents, and provides a basis for assessment and intervention with older Americans. Grandmothers who were primary caregivers for at least one grandchild in the south-eastern US completed qualitative interviews regarding their experiences in changing roles. This research suggests that raising grandchildren may cause financial stress, cramped living quarters, role restriction, and social isolation among this group. However, advantages to grandparents in this role can include greater life satisfaction and a positive influence on the other generations within the family. Social and health care providers can play an essential role in assisting grandparents caring for grandchildren, by developing and implementing services that strategically build family strengths and cohesiveness. (RH)

ISSN: 13528580

2000

Grandparents as carers of children with disabilities: facing the challenges; by Philip McCallion, Matthew Janicki (eds).

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 33, no 3, 2000, 117 pp.

Statistics show that more than one in ten American grandparents have assumed responsibility of caring for a grandchild or grandchildren. Articles in this special issue of the Journal of Gerontological Social Work indicate that grandparents caring for a child with a disability have many of the same concerns as other grandparent carers. Studies also document many unmet needs for both the grandparent and the grandchild. Two further factors are highlighted: a high level of depressive symptoms; and the process by which grandparents assume care. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Grandparents as supports to mothers of persons with intellectual disability; by Tamar Heller, Kelly Hsieh, Louis Rowitz.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 33, no 4, 2000, pp 23-34.

The impact of grandparents' social support on the well-being of mothers of children with intellectual disabilities was examined. This study also describes grandparents' social support functions across the lifespan and predictors of such support. 120 mothers of a child with moderate to profound intellectual disability living at home were interviewed concerning their characteristics and those of their children. Support received other than from grandparents (unmet needs, other informal supports), grandparent support (instrumental and emotional) and maternal depression were also examined. Key variables predicting maternal depression were a mother's younger age and poorer physical health, and less emotional support from grandparents. Grandparents of younger children provided more instrumental support than did parents of adult children. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Grandparents raising children with and without a developmental disability: preliminary comparisons; by Lawrence T Force, Anne Botsford, Peggy A Pisano (et al).

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 33, no 4, 2000, pp 5-22.

Two groups of American grandparents are compared: those raising grandchildren with a developmental disability, and those raising grandchildren without a developmental disability. Service use, grandparents' depressive symptoms, and the impact of welfare reform are considered among other variables. Recommendations are made for the various services affecting these families. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Grandparents raising grandchildren: families in transition; by Joseph A Weber, Deborah P Waldrop.
Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 33, no 2, 2000, pp 27-46.

38 Oklahoma families in which grandparents are raising grandchildren were interviewed to explore the relationships between grandparents, their adult children and grandchildren. The study results suggest three major themes: blended grandparent-parent roles; parent-child relationships; and collateral family relationships. Despite sometimes infrequent and sporadic contacts, parent-child relationships were ongoing. Social workers need to be aware of multiple family problems faced by grandparent caregivers and the long-term influence of intergenerational family relationships. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Grandparents raising grandchildren: emerging program and policy issues for the 21st century; by Carrie Jefferson Smith, Ana Beltran, Donna M Butts (et al).

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 34, no 1, 2000, pp 81-94.

Current estimates indicate that some 2.5 million American households are headed by grandparents. This article explores the development of this issue. It seeks to: explain why it is capturing the attention of some advocates, researchers and policy-makers; identify the challenges for grandparent-headed families; and explore public policies and programmes emerging from a developing intergenerational agenda directed at assisting such families. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Issues surrounding grandparents as carers; by Robert Tapsfield.

Generations Review, vol 10, no 3, September 2000, pp 11-12.

This is a summarised version of a talk given by the Chief Executive of the Family Rights Group at a conference on Grandparenting in the 21st Century, hosted by the Family Policy Studies centre (FPSC). Based on the Group's experience of working with families and developing family group conferences, the talk focuses primarily on issues surrounding grandparents as carers or foster-carers. (RH)

ISSN: 09652000

Meeting the challenge of raising grandchildren; by Robert D Strom, Shirley K Strom.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 51, no 3, 2000, pp 183-198.

More grandparents are raising grandchildren than ever before. The predictable problems they experience include a revision of personal goals; learning how growing up has changed since they raised their own children; co-operating with the parent who shares responsibility for child care; monitoring social and academic progress of children; becoming aware of rights and available social services; and arranging periodic relief from the daily demands of their surrogate obligations. Full-time grandparents often rely on support groups for comfort and advice. The advantages and limitations of this approach are examined from a mainly US perspective. Recommendations are made for ways to improve how support groups function so they can achieve their purposes. (KJ/RH)

ISSN: 00914150

Mental health of grandparent caregivers; by Denise Burnette (ed).

Journal of Mental Health and Aging, vol 6, no 4, Winter 2000, pp 263-397 (whole issue).

During the past 25 years in the US, middle-aged and older adults who act as surrogate or supplementary parents for their grandchildren and other young kin have emerged as a new, comparatively vulnerable population of family caregivers. Among the problems faced by these grandparent-headed families are: divorce of their children; teenage pregnancies; single-parenthood; drug or alcohol abuse; HIV/AIDS; and imprisonment of women of child-bearing age. A disproportionate number of such households are headed by low-income, ethnic minority grandmothers. Such factors relate to the types of mental health problems discussed in the articles in this issue of the Journal of Mental Health and Aging. Other themes covered are: depressive symptoms; grandparents raising grandchildren in rural communities; and empowerment training. (RH)

ISSN: 10784470

Public Policy and Aging Report on grandparents raising grandchildren; by Ana Beltran, Robert B Hudson, Elisabeth S Black (et al), National Academy on an Aging Society.: National Academy on an Aging Society, Summer 2000, 24 pp.

Public Policy and Aging Report, vol 11, no 1, Summer 2000, 24 pp.

Articles in this issue of Public Policy and Aging draw attention to a growing phenomenon in the US: the inability of significant numbers of parents to support their own children. This trend points to an increased

willingness by grandparents - often in difficult circumstances - to play the role their own children cannot. The role of the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) programme with regard to such family arrangements in individual states is discussed, and illustrated by case studies of two grandmothers in Tennessee. Another article considers the origins of Federal programmes that have tried to address such pressing social needs. (RH)

ISSN: 10553037

Second time around parenting: factors predictive of grandparents becoming caregivers for their grandchildren; by Meredith Minkler, Esme Fuller-Thomson.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 50, no 3, 2000, pp 185-200.

More than one in ten American grandparents raise a grandchild for at least six months, with most of these providing care for three years or more. This longitudinal study uses data from the National Survey of Families and Households (NSFH) to identify pre-existing personal characteristics and contextual variables which are predictive of individuals becoming primary caregivers for their grandchildren. Contrary to hypotheses, pre-caregiving attitudes concerning intergenerational solidarity bore little relationship to the likelihood of becoming a caregiver. In contrast, being female, younger, African American, and not having completed high school were significantly predictive of becoming a custodial grandparent. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

1999

Custodial grandparenting: stresses, coping skills, and relationships with grandchildren; by Michelle A Emick, Bert Hayslip.

International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 48, no 1, 1999, pp 35-62.

This cross-sectional study compared three groups of custodial grandparents: those raising problematic grandchildren; those raising "normal" grandchildren; and non-custodial grandparents. The study identified the challenges and expectations faced by custodial grandparent by virtue of their non-traditional roles, while attempting to disentangle grandparental role demands from child-specific problems as sources of distress. Those grandparents raising grandchildren demonstrating neurological, physical, emotional or behavioural problems exhibited the most distress, disruption of roles, and deteriorated grandparent-grandchild relationships. Although custodial grandparents raising apparently normal grandchildren demonstrated less distress, disruption and deterioration of relationships than those raising "problem" grandchildren, they still demonstrated higher such levels than did traditional grandparents. (RH)

ISSN: 00914150

Effects of surrogate parenting on grandparents' well-being; by Maximiliane E Szinovacz, Stanley DeViney, Maxine P Atkinson.

The Journals of Gerontology Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, vol 54B, no 6, November 1999, pp S376-388.

Analyses rely on data from a sub-sample from the US National Survey of Families and Households consisting of black and white grandparents with grandchildren younger than age 18 (n=1,789). Ordinary least squares (OLS) regression and path analyses are used to identify direct and indirect effects of grandchildren's move into and out of grandparents' household on change in depressive symptoms and life satisfaction (residualised gain scores). Data indicate that grandchildren's move into the household increases depressive symptoms among grandmothers, whilst grandchildren leaving the household leads to reduced well-being among grandfathers. Grandmothers report less participation in church activities and more support from friends and relatives after the grandchildren move in, whereas grandfathers frequent bars/taverns more when grandchildren move in, and reduce time spent with church activities and paid work when grandchildren remain in the household. These findings suggest a definite gender difference in surrogate parenting, which are partially contingent on grandparents' vulnerabilities before grandchildren join the household. (RH)

ISSN: 10795014

Grandparents raising grandchildren: a description of the families and a special pilot program; by Miriam P Kluger, Dianna M Aprea.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 32, no 1, 1999, pp 5-18.

More than 1.35 million children in the US are being raised by their grandparents. A pilot programme recently provided 41 grandparent/grandchild families with home- and community-based support services. Grandparents frequently requested and received help in locating assistance for child behaviour issues, support/self-help groups and recreational opportunities. The grandparents' relationships and feelings toward the biological parents appeared strained at best, with issues of anger, responsibility, child involvement and child rearing methods

prevalent. The grandparents felt they had done their best parenting their sons and daughters, and did not think that raising them differently would have led to another outcome. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

"I'm just glad that I'm here": stories of seven African-American HIV-affected grandmothers; by Cynthia Cannon Poindexter, Nathan L Linsk.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 32, no 1, 1999, pp 63-82.

The experiences of seven African American grandmothers who are parenting grandchildren because of the presence of HIV in the family are reported in this qualitative study in Chicago conducted in 1996. Showcasing their stories highlights the existence and concerns of a population which is frequently overlooked. These respondents' attitudes about caregiving were mixed: they experienced it as a mixture of burden and honour. In the face of multiple stressors, these grandmothers demonstrated remarkable resilience, spirituality and a commitment to kin. Even though the African-American grandmothers were heroic and dedicated, they may still need support from social service and health care systems. It is likely that grandparent caregiving in the HIV epidemic will increase; and practitioners and policy makers should be more prepared to tackle the needs of this growing population. (RH)

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Impacts of welfare reform on California grandparents raising grandchildren: reflections from the field; by Meredith Minkler, Jill Duerr Berrick, Barbara Needell.

Journal of Aging & Social Policy, vol 10, no 3, 1999, pp 45-64.

Debate over the potential impacts of welfare reform has largely ignored the implications of these changes for the growing number of grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. Results of a qualitative study involving 36 key informants who were intimately involved in the crafting and/or implementation of California's welfare reform plan are presented. Particular attention is focused on time limits on aid, work requirements, and sanctions regarding teenage parenthood, as these may impact on grandparent caregivers and their families. Cross-cutting themes are also presented. A case is made for greatly stepping up data collection and evaluative research that may help in determining the actual impacts of the legislation on intergenerational households headed by grandparents. (AKM)

ISSN: 08959420

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Intergenerational households headed by grandparents: contexts, realities, and implications for policy; by Meredith Minkler.

Journal of Aging Studies, vol 13, no 2, Summer 1999, pp 199-218.

More than one in ten American grandparents has primary responsibility for raising a grandchild at some point, with this care often lasting for a period of several years. This paper provides a critical look at the growing phenomenon of intergenerational households headed by grandparents. A brief review of the demographics of grandparent caregiving is followed by an exploration of several of the sociological contexts which help to explain the meaning and significance of such caregiving in late 20th century America. Key findings concerning the physical, emotional and "economic health" of grandparent caregivers and their families are presented to further flesh out our understanding of this trend. The paper offers implications for policy and related areas, with special attention to the need to critically examine recent welfare reform efforts in terms of their impacts on intergenerational households headed by grandparents. (RH)

ISSN: 08904065

Social relationships of Latino grandparent caregivers: a role theory perspective; by Denise Burnette.

The Gerontologist, vol 39, no 1, February 1999, pp 49-58.

The study concerns 74 Latino, mostly middle-aged and older Puerto Rican and Dominican women, rearing their grandchildren in New York city. 81% of households were below the poverty line. Most grandparents had large families and were socially connected, but two-thirds of households were skipped-generational and many grandparents lacked reliable help with child rearing. Most relied on a local secondary caregiver, usually an adult daughter and extrafamilial supports. These and other sources of strain and support for the grandparent caregiver role in Latino families are discussed, as is the impact of the role on their social relationships. (RH)

ISSN: 00169013

Who cares? Grandparent/grandchild households; by Jennifer Crew Soloman, Jonathan Marx.

Journal of Women & Aging, vol 11, no 1, 1999, pp 3-26.

Using data from the 1988 US National Health Interview Survey and the Child Health Supplement, the authors compared the health of women aged 40 and over living in one of the following family structures: alone, solely raising grandchildren, married with spouse only, and married with spouse and grandchildren. In general, women solely raising grandchildren have poorer health compared to women of similar age living in other family structures, and considerably worse health than women with spouses raising grandchildren. (RH)

ISSN: 08952841

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

1998

Custodial grandparenting and the impact of grandchildren with problems on role satisfaction and role meaning; by Bert Hayslip, R Jerald Shore, Craig E Henderson (et al).

The Journals of Gerontology Series B: Psychological sciences and social sciences, vol 53B, no 3, May 1998, pp S164-S173.

Increasing numbers of grandparents accept surrogate parent roles for their grandchildren, often prompted by family crises. The aim of this study was to compare three groups of grandparents in order to examine the extent to which personal, role-specific, and grandchild-relationship sources of distress were experienced by custodial grandparents due to their non-traditional roles, while attempting to separate grandparental role demands from child-specific problems as the sources of distress. Findings revealed that those grandparents raising grandchildren reported to demonstrate neurological, physical, emotional, or behavioural problems exhibited the most personal distress, the least role satisfaction and role meaning, and the most deteriorated grandparent-grandchild relationships. Custodial grandparents raising grandchildren reported to have few problems also differed in similar ways from those grandparents not raising their grandchildren and from those raising grandchildren with problems. For men, but not women, more positive grandparent meaning was associated with raising a grandchild. (AKM)

ISSN: 10795014

Filial/family play therapy: an intervention for custodial grandparents and their grandchildren; by Sue Bratton, Dee Ray, Kevin Moffit.

Educational Gerontology, vol 24, no 4, June 1998, pp 391-406.

In the last decades in the US there has been a significant rise in the number of grandparents assuming primary responsibility for their grandchildren whose parents are absent or incapacitated. Grandparents encounter many challenges in adjusting to their changing role; and their grandchildren, most of whom are disconnected from their parents, face an increased risk of emotional and behavioural difficulties. The Filial/Family Play Therapy (FFPT) grandparent training model is a unique intervention for custodial grandparents aimed at fostering healthy parent-child relationships through training and supervising grandparents in the basic methodology of child-centred play therapy, while providing them with the emotional support they need. Grandparents conduct weekly play therapy-type sessions with their grandchild; learning to convey acceptance, empathy, and encouragement, as well as master the skills of effective limit setting. (AKM)

ISSN: 03601277

The impact of employment and serious illness on grandmothers who are raising their grandchildren; by Roberta G Sands, Robin S Goldberg-Glen.

Journal of Women & Aging, vol 10, no 3, 1998, pp 41-58.

In the United States (US), increasing numbers of children are living in families consisting of grandparents and grandchildren, however, becoming a parent to one's grandchildren is not customary and may be potentially risky. This paper presents findings from a US study in which 123 caregiving grandmothers were interviewed. The aim was to assess the impact of employment and life-threatening illness on grandmothers who are the primary caregivers for their grandchildren. regression analyses found that having a life-threatening physical condition, being younger and white explained psychological anxiety; and having a life-threatening physical condition and not being employed explained psychophysiological mental health symptoms. These findings suggest that some grandmothers are at risk for mental health symptoms and raise questions about the implications of caregiving of grandchildren for older women. (AKM)

ISSN: 08952841

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Judgments about elder abuse and college students' relationship with grandparents; by Robert B Mills, Valerie Vermette, Kathleen Malley-Morrison.

Gerontology & Geriatrics Education, vol 19, no 2, 1998, pp 17-30.

Using brief scenarios describing adult caregiver / elder parent interactions, American college students made judgments about how justifiable aggressive behaviour by caregivers was, the abusiveness of these behaviours, and the abusiveness of the behaviour of the parent. The extent of students' contact with their grandparents was obtained. Results indicate that judgments of abusiveness are context specific, and that senile or agitated elders were viewed as more abusive, and behaviours against them as more justified, than were more "helpless" elders. In addition, results indicate that students' involvement with grandparents has an effect on the judgments of abusiveness and the justifiability of caregiver behaviour toward old mothers. It is suggested that courses to promote interaction between younger and older people should be encouraged, in order to develop a heightened understanding between these age groups, and to help relieve generational tensions that may exist. (RH)

ISSN: 02701960

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

1997

Becoming parents again: grandparents raising grandchildren; by Diane Morrow-Kondos, Joseph A Weber, Kathy Cooper (et al).

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 28, no 1/2, 1997, pp 35-45.

As the middle generation attempts to deal with the challenges of unemployment, increasing divorce rates and substance abuse, it is becoming increasingly common for the older generation to be called upon to raise grandchildren. This study explores the complex problems grandparents have when raising their grandchildren. Grandparents reported the relationships with adult children, becoming surrogate parents, and legal issues, as major areas of stress.

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Family care in Great Britain: sociological perspectives; by Chris Phillipson.: International Federation on Ageing - IFA, Summer 1997, pp 63-80.

Ageing International, vol XXIV, no 1, Summer 1997, pp 63-80.

Family care is central to the lives of a substantial proportion of older people in the UK. Research suggests that this care flows in different directions - from young to old, old to young: from grandparents to grandchildren and vice versa. But alterations to the structure of family life are also affecting care relationships. The family in the late twentieth century is a more diverse institution, with higher rates of cohabitation, divorce and marriage. The author takes a look at how family care in Britain may be entering a new phase. (RH)

ISSN: 01635158

Grandmother involvement in child caregiving in an urban community; by Jane L Pearson, Andrea G Hunter, Joan M Cook (et al).

The Gerontologist, vol 37, no 5, October 1997, pp 650-657.

In a community-defined, epidemiological sample in East Baltimore, this study examined grandmothers' rates of co-residence and their involvement in four parenting activities. Co-residence rates exceeded the national average. Six types of family households with grandmothers were identified, and their frequency varied by race. Neither grandmother age nor employment was associated with grandmothers' parenting involvement, although family structure was. Grandmothers who were the sole parent (21%) or co-parent with a grandfather (6.5 %) were most involved in child care and had the fewest number of helpers. Grandmothers living with single mothers (41%) were the most involved, while grandmothers in mother/father households (9%) were least involved. (AKM)

ISSN: 00169013

Grandparent caregivers: legal and economic issues; by Margaret M Flint, Melinda Perez-Porter.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 28, no 1/2, 1997, pp 63-75.

In 1995, there were 2.5 million grandparents caring for their grandchildren in the US; 911,000 of those grandparents were the primary caregivers of their grandchildren. These numbers will continue to rise, due to deaths from AIDS, alcohol and substance abuse, divorce, imprisonment, teenage pregnancies, abuse and neglect, unemployment and poverty. This article highlights the legal and financial issues confronted by grandparent caregivers, principally in New York State.

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

An innovative school-based intergenerational model to serve grandparent caregivers; by Roy Grant, S Gail Gordon, Sue T Cohen.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 28, no 1/2, 1997, pp 47-61.

There has been an enormous increase in foster care placements in the US, especially with grandparents and other extended family members since 1985. This is primarily attributable to problems associated with parental drug use, principally of crack cocaine. Drug related problems that lead to kinship foster placement include pre-natal drug exposure, child maltreatment, imprisonment, and early death by violence or AIDS or other illness. Grandparents caring for their children's children have a variety of social, mental health, and medical needs because of this stressful role. Following a literature review, a comprehensive social service and medical programme developed through the partnership of a large urban teaching hospital, a foundation involved in funding programmes for older adults, and an inner city school district are described.

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Intergenerational approaches in aging: implications for education, policy and practice: Part I; by Kevin Brabazon, Robert Disch (eds): Haworth Press, 1997, 170 pp.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 28, no 1/2, 1997, 170 pp.

This volume offers definitions for intergenerational studies, the role of grandparents as caregivers, intergenerational education, and intergenerational programme models including volunteering.

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

New burdens or more of the same?: comparing grandparent, spouse, and adult-child caregivers; by William J Strawbridge, Margaret I Wallhagen, Sarah J Shema (et al).

The Gerontologist, vol 37, no 4, August 1997, pp 505-510.

This study compared the health of 42 grandparent, 44 spouse, and 130 adult-child caregivers with 1,669 non-caregivers in 1994 and 1974, in California, US. In 1994, all three caregiver groups had poorer mental health than the non-caregivers; grandparent caregivers also had poorer physical health and greater activity limitations. Spouse and adult child caregivers had not differed from the non-caregivers 20 years prior, but grandparent caregivers had experienced poorer health than the non-caregivers and more stressful life events than the other caregivers. The study concluded that caregiving appears to add new burdens to otherwise normal lives for spouse and adult-child caregivers, while being yet another aspect of a difficult life course for grandparent caregivers. (AKM)

ISSN: 00169013

A profile of grandparents raising grandchildren in the United States; by Esme Fuller-Thomson, Meredith Minkler, Diane Driver.

The Gerontologist, vol 37, no 3, June 1997, pp 406-411.

In the United States (US), there has been a dramatic increase in the number of children living with their grandparents over the last decade. This paper examines the prevalence of grandparent caregiving in the US and presents a national profile of grandparent caregivers based on data from the National Survey of Families and Households, collected from 1992-1994. More than one in ten grandparents were found to have cared for a grandchild for at least six months, with most of these having engaged in a far longer-term commitment. Although custodial grandparenting cuts across gender, class and ethnic groups, single women, African Americans, and those on low income were disproportionately represented. Multivariate logistic analysis indicates that three groups - women, recently bereaved parents, and African Americans - have approximately twice the odds of becoming caregiving grandparents. Implications for further research, policy, and practice are discussed. (AKM)

ISSN: 00169013

Social care: today and beyond 2020; by Maria Evandrou. London: Age Concern England, 1997, pp 119-141.

In: Baby boomers: ageing in the 21st century; edited by Maria Evandrou, 1997, pp 119-141.

The baby boomers are more likely than previous generations to have surviving parents (and grandparents), and a significant minority may find themselves providing care to an older relative. This chapter looks at how this caring experience may affect their economic, social and physical well-being, and concludes that for many women this experience will lead to lower resources later in life. As well as being providers of informal care, the baby boomers may subsequently be recipients of informal care. Looking at the likely demand for and supply of

formal care in 2020, there is a tension between the shift towards private domiciliary care and increased charges for state supported services, and demographic and labour market trends that tend to reduce the supply of informal care.

ISBN: 0862421535

Price: £14.95

From : Age Concern England, 1268 London Road, London SW16 4ER.

1996

Custodial grandparenting: new roles for middle-aged and older adults; by Michelle A Emick, Bert Hayslip (Jr). International Journal of Aging and Human Development, vol 43, no 2, 1996, pp 135-154.

An overview of grandparenting in the light of changing demographics, family composition, and intergenerational dynamics is presented, with a review of custodial grandparenting. Research suggests that the demands of custodial grandparenting may be harmful to the psychosocial adjustment of those raising grandchildren, as they may be in need of mental health services, especially if they are caring for problem grandchildren. However, such work also suggests that there are many strengths and rewards associated with raising a grandchild later in life. The implications of these stressful demands on middle-aged and older people's adjustment and life satisfaction are discussed.

ISSN: 00914150

Grandparents as surrogate parents; by Meredith Minkler, Kathleen M Roe.: American Society on Aging, Spring 1996, pp 34-38.

Generations,, Spring 1996, pp 34-38.

Considers some of the problems and challenges faced by grandparent caregivers, focusing on the health and social consequences of being the main carer of grandchildren.

ISSN: 07387806

Grandparents in the workplace: the effects of economic and labor trends; by Lori Simon-Rusinowitz, Constance A Krach, Lori N Marks, Diane Piktialis (et al.): American Society on Aging, Spring 1996, pp 41-44.

Generations,, Spring 1996, pp 41-44.

Examines the challenges faced by working grandparents who have the main caregiving responsibilities for their grandchildren.

ISSN: 07387806

Kincare; by William Bell, Joe Garner.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 25, nos 1 and 2, 1996, pp 11-20.

Discusses the needs of grandparents who care for their grandchildren, and describes the work of the Kin Caregivers Task Force, which aims to examine how services can be improved to meet the needs of kin caregivers and the children in their care.

ISSN: 01634372

From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Legal problems of grandparents and other kinship caregivers; by Naomi Karp.: American Society on Aging, Spring 1996, pp 57-60.

Generations,, Spring 1996, pp 57-60.

Considers some of the law-related problems faced by grandparents who care for their grandchildren, in the areas of caregiving decisions, financial support, housing and adoption.

ISSN: 07387806

Public benefits: grandparents, grandchildren, and welfare reform; by Faith Mullen.: American Society on Aging, Spring 1996, pp 61-64.

Generations,, Spring 1996, pp 61-64.

Considers the financial consequences for grandparents who assume custody of their grandchildren, and looks at how public welfare programmes could adapt to the needs of this group.

ISSN: 07387806

A study of mutual support between black and white grandmothers and their adult grandchildren; by Vicki Ashton.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 26, nos 1/2, 1996, pp 87-100.

This study reports on emotional and concrete help exchanged between a group of black or white grandmothers and their adult grandchildren (aged 18 or over), based on a voluntary, non-random sample of 168 older women and 144 of their grandchildren. The grandmother's perspective formed the basis of the study. Geographic distance and a grandchild's kin placement, gender and race had significant effects on mutual support. A black grandmother received more frequent help from her grandchild and reported a higher level of comfort in asking the grandchild for help. Black grandmothers also reported feeling significantly more burdened by a grandchild's request for help than did whites.

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From : <http://www.tandfonline.com>

Three generations at risk: imprisoned women, their children and grandmother caregivers; by Sandra Barnhill.: American Society on Aging, Spring 1996, pp 39-40.

Generations., Spring 1996, pp 39-40.

Describes the work of the organisation Aid to Children of Imprisoned Mothers, which aims to respond to the material, legal and psychosocial needs of caregiving grandmothers and their incarcerated daughters.

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To grandmother's house we go: health and school adjustment of children raised solely by grandparents; by Jennifer Crew Solomon, Jonathan Marx.

The Gerontologist, vol 35, no 3, June 1995, pp 386-394.

Describes some of the characteristics of grandparent-headed families and examines how children raised by grandparents compare with children living in other types of family.

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Policy concerns of white grandparents who provide regular care to their grandchildren; by Margaret Platt Jendrek.

Journal of Gerontological Social Work, vol 23, nos 1/2, 1994, pp 175-200.

Examines the needs and concerns of white grandparent caregivers in the areas of their grandchild's medical care, use of social services, child and respite care and support groups.

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