



Marriage & Family Review >

Volume 49, 2013 - Issue 8

910 | 28 | 0
Views | CrossRef citations to date | Altmetric

Original Articles

"How Can You Retire When You Still Got a Kid in School?": Economics of Raising Grandchildren in Rural Areas

Sandra J. Bailey , Deborah C. Haynes & Bethany L. Letiecq

Pages 671-693 | Published online: 01 Nov 2013

<https://doi.org/10.1080/01494929.2013.803009>



Full Article

Figures & data

References

Citations

Metrics

Reprints & Permissions

Read this article

Share

Abstract

Increasingly, grandparents are being called on to rear their grandchildren when parents are unable or unwilling to fulfill their parenting role. These grandparent caregivers often find themselves in an economic bind. Financially, most are at a stage in life where they are looking toward retirement and reduced family spending and are unprepared for their new economic reality as second-time-around caregivers. Here, we use a framework of family financial well-being to examine the economic consequences of rearing grandchildren. Based on family life interviews with 26 grandfamilies residing in Montana, we explore the challenges grandparents experience generating and shifting income streams in later life, the variability in received income, and the array of expected and unexpected expenses incurred as a result of taking in their grandchildren.

As custodial grandparents strive for financial well-being, there are few resources—especially in rural areas—to help them navigate these new financial waters.

KEYWORDS:

crisis in families

finances

grandparenting

parenthood/parenting

Related research 

People also read

Recommended articles

Cited by
28

Information for

Authors

R&D professionals

Editors

Librarians

Societies

Opportunities

Reprints and e-prints

Advertising solutions

Accelerated publication

Corporate access solutions

Open access

Overview

Open journals

Open Select

Dove Medical Press

F1000Research

Help and information

Help and contact

Newsroom

All journals

Books

Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources
by email

 Sign me up

  

  

Copyright © 2026 Informa UK Limited Privacy policy Cookies Terms & conditions

Accessibility



Registered in England & Wales No. 01072954
5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG