



Journal of Family Studies >

Volume 27, 2021 - Issue 3

2,923 | 25
Views | CrossRef citations to date | 1
Altmetric

Original Articles

'Sandwich generation': generational transfers towards adult children and elderly parents

Hans Hämäläinen & Antti O. Tanskanen

Pages 336-355 | Received 24 Jul 2018, Accepted 18 Feb 2019, Published online: 08 Mar 2019

Cite this article <https://doi.org/10.1080/13229400.2019.1586562>

Check for updates



Full Article Figures & data References Citations Metrics

Reprints & Permissions

Read this article

Share

ABSTRACT

This study investigated intergenerational transfers by the sandwich generation towards adult children and elderly parents. Using data on generational transmissions in Finland from a 2012 survey, we employed family fixed effect regressions and investigated whether the Finnish baby boomers (age 62–67 years) provided more support towards their adult children than towards their elderly parents. Four forms of intergenerational transfers were considered: financial aid, practical help, care, and emotional closeness. Emotional closeness, care, and financial aid were directed more often towards adult children than elderly parents. In contrast, practical help was directed more often towards elderly parents than adult children. The results regarding the direction of investments were similar among women and men. However, women were emotionally closer to their adult children than were men and provided more care to both elderly

parents and adult children, while men gave more practical help to children than did women. Finally, the downward transfers were directed more often towards daughters than to sons by women (emotional closeness and childcare) and men (practical help and childcare). Women directed upward investment more often towards mothers than fathers (emotional closeness and care). The results are discussed with reference to reproductive value and intergenerational stake hypotheses.

KEYWORDS:

Family generations

Finland

fixed effect regression

kin support

sandwich generation

Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

Additional information

Funding

This work was supported by the Suomen Akatemia [grant number 317808], Koneen Säätiö and Suomen Kulttuurirahasto (H.H.).

Related research

People also read

Recommended articles

Cited by
25

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