Adolescents’ Willingness for Intergenerational Support: Relations to Maternal Parenting and Life Satisfaction in 14 Cultures

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Adolescents’ Willingness for Support - Bidirectional Influences within the Family

> Adolescents gain autonomy and accept responsibilities such as household chores and support for the family (Ferrar, Olds, & Waters, 2012)

> Relationship with parents, parenting behavior and expectations still important for adolescents (Collins & Steinberg, 2006)

> For girls, parenting style associated with amount of housework (Russell, Brewer, & Hogben, 1997)

> Hardly any research with regard to parental influences on other kinds of intergenerational support

> Bi-directional influences within family interactions rarely investigated (Steinberg, 2001)

> Existing research on negative effects of adolescent autonomy on maternal well-being (Silverberg & Steinberg, 1990)

⇒ Positive impact of adolescent support on maternal well-being?
The Role of Culture

- Meaning of parental behaviours embedded in cultural context (values) (Bronfenbrenner, 1979; Trommsdorff & Kornadt, 2003)

- Warmth and responsiveness universally related to positive outcomes in adolescents (Khaleqe & Rohner, 2002; Schwarz et al., 2012)

- Role of parental control less clear (different facets of control) (Chao, 1994)
  Korea: parental strictness substantially correlated with parental warmth (Kim & Choi, 1994)
  Latino and Asian American adolescents show respect for parental authority and feel obligated to respect family elders (Fuligni, Tseng & Lam, 1999)

- Attitudes toward house work of children differs depending on cultural orientations (Bowes, Flanagan, & Taylor, 2001)

Cross-cultural and multilevel associations between:
1) Parenting, Parenting Goals and Adolescents’ Willingness to Support
2) Adolescents’ Willingness to Support and Maternal Well-being
Potential of Multilevel-Models in Cross-Cultural Research

Adolescents’ Willingness for Intergenerational Support Across 14 Cultures

Sympoium „Generations and Willingness for Intergenerational Support“ ECDP 2015, Braga, Portugal
Sample: Mothers and their Adolescent Children from 14 Cultural Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Culture</th>
<th>N (Mother – Adolescent Dyads)</th>
<th>Age Mothers</th>
<th>Age Adolescents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Males</td>
<td>Females</td>
<td>Missing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>174</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India (Varanasi)</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>152</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India (Pondicherry)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>135</td>
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<td>Israel</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palestinian Authority</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>195</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>216</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1789</td>
<td>2348</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ F = 38.4^{***}, \eta^2 = .11 \]

\[ F = 66.6^{***}, \eta^2 = .18 \]
Adolescent’s Willingness for and Actual Support Given to Parents

— “Readiness to Help Parents (vs. Meet Friends)”-Scenario:
Imagine the following situation: You and your friends have been planning to spend the day together, but now your parents want you to help them with household chores. What would you decide to do?

( ) Spend the day with my friends
( ) Spend the day helping my parents
(Trommsdorff et al., 2002)

— Willingness to Support Injured Parent: 5 items from 1 (not at all) to 5 (quite a lot)
Please indicate the extent to which you would tolerate the following things in order to help your injured parent (e.g., do more work around the house, care for your injured parent, spend more time at home): e.g., “...a reduction in your free time” or “...emotional stress”
(Trommsdorff et al., 2002)

— Help in Household: 8 items from 1 (hardly ever) to 5 (nearly always)
Please indicate how often you do the following tasks for your family: e.g., “Set/clear the table” or “Help prepare meals for others” (Brannen, 1995)
Measures: Mothers

> Mother’s Parenting Goals, Parenting Behavior, and Life Satisfaction

— Parenting Goals: 2 (single) items from 1 (not important at all) to 5 (very important)
   Concerning your relationship with (name of the target child), please tell me how important it is to you that (name of the target child) ...
   “...minds (his/her) parents (is obedient)” ➔ Obedience
   “...is independent and self-reliant.” ➔ Independence
   (Hoffman, 1988)

— Parenting Behavior: Items from 1 (almost never true) to 4 (almost always true)
   While thinking about (name of target child) and yourself, please tell me the degree to which each statement is true or not true for your style of parenting.
   Acceptance: 10 item, e.g., “I let know that I love (him/her)”
   Control: 4 items, e.g., “I am telling my child how to behave” (Rohner & Cournoyer, 1994)

— Life Satisfaction: 6 items from 1 (not satisfied at all) to 5 (very satisfied)
   Life Domains, e.g., “... with your work.”
   + Overall Life Satisfaction (Henrich & Herschbach, 1995)
Adolescents’ Willingness for Intergenerational Support Across 14 Cultures

Adolescent’s Readiness to Help Parents (versus Meet Friends)

Culture: $\chi^2 = 528.37^{***}$
Gender: $\chi^2 = 0.97$
$C \times G: \chi^2 = 9.21$
Nagelkerke: .17
Adolescents’ Willingness for Intergenerational Support Across 14 Cultures

Adolescents’ Willingness to Support Injured Parents in Case of an Accident

Culture: $F = 28.96^{***}$, $\eta^2 = .08$
Gender: $F = 0.69$, $\eta^2 = .00$
$C \times G$: $F = 2.98^{***}$, $\eta^2 = .01$

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Adolescents’ Willingness for Intergenerational Support Across 14 Cultures

Adolescent’s Household Tasks

- Culture: $F = 46.06^{***}, \eta^2 = .13$
- Gender: $F = 631.55^{***}, \eta^2 = .13$
- C x G: $F = 11.51^{***}, \eta^2 = .04$

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Mother’s Parenting Goals ➔ Readiness to Help Parents (vs. Meet Friends)

Random Slope Variance:
- Independence  ns
- Obedience  p = .06

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Mother’s Parenting Behavior ➔ Readiness to Help Parents (vs. Meet Friends)

Culture-Level Predictors

N = 12

- HDI 4.52*
- HDI -4.11*
- TradSec -1.44**
- SurvSelf -.92*

Parenting Behavior

N = 3545

- Acceptance .50*
- Control .17*

Readiness to Help Parents

Random Slope Variance:
- Acceptance $p = .06$
- Control $ns$

$p < .1$ * $p < .05$ ** $p < .01$ *** $p < .001$. Unstandardized estimates.
Mother‘s Parenting Goals ➔ Willingness to Support Injured Parent

Culture-Level Predictors

N = 14

Parenting Goals

N = 4162

Independence .06*

Obedience -.03

Willingness to Support Injured Parent

Random Slope Variance:

Independence ns

Obedience $p = .03$

HDI -2.13**

HDI -.71*

$+ p < .1 \, * p < .05 \, ** p < .01 \, *** p < .001$. Unstandardized estimates.
Mother’s Parenting Behavior → Willingness to Support Injured Parent

- Culture-Level Predictors
  - N = 14
- Parenting Behavior
  - N = 4162
- Acceptance
  - .23**
- Control
  - .02
- Willingness to Support Injured Parent
  - Random Slope Variance:
    - Acceptance: ns
    - Control: p = .06

+ p < .1  * p < .05  ** p < .01  *** p < .001. Unstandardized estimates.

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Mother’s Parenting Goals ➔ Adolescent’s Amount of Help in Household

Culture-Level Predictors

N = 14

Parenting Goals

N = 4162

Independence: -.01
Obedience: .10*

Amount of Help in Household

HDI: -2.13**

Random Slope Variance:
- Independence: ns
- Obedience: p = .04

+ p < .1 * p < .05 ** p < .01 *** p < .001. Unstandardized estimates.
Mother’s Parenting Behavior ➔ Adolescent’s Amount of Help in Household

Culture-Level Predictors

N = 14

Parenting Behavior

N = 4162

Acceptance .03
Control .16*

Amount of Help in Household

Random Slope Variance:
Acceptance  p = .06
Control      p = .04

+ p < .1  * p < .05  ** p < .01  *** p < .001. Unstandardized estimates.
Readiness to help parents (vs. meet friends)
— Affluence-secular-postmodernist indicators explain most cultural variation
— **Positive** effect of maternal acceptance (behavior), stronger in affluent cultures

Willingness to support injured parent
— **Positive** effects of independence (goal) and acceptance (behavior)
— **Negative** effect of obedience (goal) only in affluent cultures

Help in Household
— **Positive** effects of obedience (goal) and control (behavior)

Maternal parenting related to adolescents’ (willingness for) support across cultures
Acceptance more important in affluent Western cultures
Obedience negatively related to willingness to help injured parents, but positively to actual help in household
Different kinds of help or difference between actual behavior versus intention?
No effects of adolescents’ willingness to help on mothers’ life satisfaction
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Obrigada!

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Mother’s Child Rearing Goals: Obedience

- Culture: $F = 80.85^{***}, \eta^2 = .20$
- Gender: $F = 1.51, \eta^2 = .00$
- C x G: $F = 2.96^{***}, \eta^2 = .01$
Mother‘s Child Rearing Goals: Independence

Culture: $F = 31.90^{***}$, $\eta^2 = .09$
Gender: $F = 0.16$, $\eta^2 = .00$
C × G: $F = 0.79$, $\eta^2 = .00$
Mother’s Parenting Behavior: **Control**

- **Female**
- **Male**

Culture: $F = 63.66^{***}$, $\eta^2 = .17$
Gender: $F = 7.09^{**}$, $\eta^2 = .00$
$C \times G$: $F = 1.27$, $\eta^2 = .01$
Adolescents’ Willingness for Intergenerational Support Across 14 Cultures

**Mother’s Parenting Behavior: Acceptance**

**Figure:**
- **Y-axis:** Ratings ranging from 3 to 4
- **X-axis:** Cultures
- **Legend:**
  - Female
  - Male

**Results:**
- **Culture:** $F = 95.25^{***}$, $\eta^2 = 0.23$
- **Gender:** $F = 1.78$, $\eta^2 = 0.00$
- **Culture × Gender:** $F = 0.50$, $\eta^2 = 0.00$

**Countries:**
- USA
- Israel
- Germany
- France
- India (Pondicherry)
- Turkey
- Estonia
- Palestinians Authority
- Poland
- South Africa
- Russia
- Indonesia
- India (Varanasi)
- China

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Mother’s Life Satisfaction

Culture: $F = 39.38^{***}$, $\eta^2 = .11$
Gender: $F = 0.92$, $\eta^2 = .00$
$C \times G$: $F = 3.20^{***}$, $\eta^2 = .01$
Readiness to Help Parents (vs. Meet Friends) ➔ Mother’s Life Satisfaction

Culture-Level Predictors

N = 12

Readiness to Help Parents

N = 3545

Mother’s Life Satisfaction

Random Slope Variance: Readiness to Help  ns

\[ \text{Random Slope Variance: Readiness to Help} \]

\[ ns \]

\[ + p < .1 \quad * p < .05 \quad ** p < .01 \quad *** p < .001. \text{ Unstandardized estimates.} \]
Household Tasks ➞ Mother’s Well-Being

Culture-Level Predictors

N = 14

Amount of Help in Household

N = 4162

Mother’s Life Satisfaction

Random Slope Variance: Help in Household  ns

.01

+ p < .1  * p < .05  ** p < .01  *** p < .001. Unstandardized estimates.
Readiness to help Injured Parents ➔ Mother's Well-Being

Culture-Level Predictors

N = 14

Willingness to Help Injured Parents

N = 4162

Random Slope Variance: Willingness to Help $p = .04$

HDI $- .34^*$

$+.05^* \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad .05^*$

Mother's Life Satisfaction

$p < .1 \quad * p < .05 \quad ** p < .01 \quad *** p < .001$. Unstandardized estimates.