

parents of older days. It is hoped that this research contributes to the visibility of these two generations and to sensitize professionals about this theme.

THE IMPORTANCE OF EMOTIONAL CAPITAL ACROSS THE LIFESPAN: WHY THE LITTLE MOMENTS IN MARRIAGE MATTER

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Throughout a marriage, couples will share countless ordinary moments together, such as laughing together or engaging in leisure activities. Although these moments may seem trivial in isolation, research suggests that accumulating small positive moments together helps couples build emotional capital, which serves as an essential resource for protecting marriages from the harmful consequences of relationship challenges. This study explored whether emotional capital may buffer couples not only from the negative effects of relational stressors, but also from the negative effects of life stressors encountered outside the relationship in a sample of younger (age 30-45) and older (age 60+) married couples. Drawing from theories of socioemotional expertise, we also examined whether the buffering effects of emotional capital may be stronger for older adults. One hundred forty-five couples completed a 21-day daily diary task assessing shared positive experiences with the partner, negative partner behaviors, marital satisfaction, life stress, and mood. Spouses who generally accrued more shared positive moments with their partner across the diary days maintained greater marital satisfaction on days of greater partner negativity compared to spouses who accrued fewer positive moments. Moreover, spouses who generally accrued more shared positive moments with their partner across the diary days also reported lower levels of negative mood on days in which they experienced more life stress compared to spouses who accrued fewer shared positive moments; in both cases, the buffering role of emotional capital was significantly stronger for older adults. All results held when adjusting for relationship length and general marital happiness.

THE CONTEXTUAL EXPERIENCES OF SOCIAL CAPITAL AMONG OLDER GRANDPARENTS RAISING ADOLESCENT GRANDCHILDREN

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Older grandparents raising adolescent grandchildren are an understudied population. Greater understanding is needed of the social capital (e. g. information, emotional support, companionship, practical instrumental support, and influence, power, and control) harnessed by older grandparents raising adolescent grandchildren. This research applied a qualitative, phenomenological approach to explore social capital among older grandparents. Face-to-face interviews were conducted with 19 grandparent caregivers ranging in age from 55 to 88 years. Eligibility criteria were: primary caregiver for a grandchild 12 years or older; grandchild resides in home at least 3 days; grandparent 40 or older and resides in Oklahoma, Alabama, or Kentucky. Participants were recruited by word of mouth, newspapers, and flyers. Grandparents responded to a question prompt, "I am going to ask you some questions about your support system to

assist with your concerns about your older grandchild." Interviews were conducted in public places, audiotaped, and transcribed verbatim. Data were analyzed using a question analysis approach to sort responses into matrices, develop memos, and identify themes. Most older grandparents were female (84.2%), Caucasian (52.6%), married (57.9%), and never attended a support group (68.4%). One overarching theme from these older grandparent caregivers is access to social capital exists on a continuum. Participants' experiences with social capital pertained to family proximity, evolving perception of friends, limited or no social engagement with neighbors, dynamics of church attendance and size, and familiarity with community resources. These older grandparents raising adolescents shared positive reactions to select social capital with some types emerging as less important or underdeveloped.

BLACK AND WHITE YOUNG ADULTS' SUPPORT TO MIDLIFE PARENTS

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Researchers have observed racial differences in support to midlife parents. Black adults typically provide more support to parents and report greater rewards in doing so. We were interested in whether this differential trend can be observed in young adulthood. Furthermore, we aimed to understand cultural beliefs underlying any racial differences in support provided to parents. We examined support Black and White young adults provided to their parents, and beliefs associated with that support. Young adults (aged 18-35 years; 26%, n=184 Black and 74%, n=525 White) from the Family Exchanges Study II (2013) participated. They reported how often they provided 4 types of support (financial, technical, practical, emotional) to each parent (N =824) on a scale from 1 = once a year or less often to 8 = everyday. Multilevel models revealed Black young adults provided more frequent support to parents than White young adults, mediated by beliefs about familial obligation. Interestingly, we also found that Black young adults report significantly more negative relationship quality with parents and a stronger desire for support from parents when compared to White young adults. Findings suggest that Black young adults may espouse collective and interdependent values such as the ability to provide for a family and to receive support from family. Further, more frequent support may co-occur with conflicts that suggest that congruence between values and support do not necessarily inspire harmonious ties.

SESSION 1355 (POSTER)

FAMILY CAREGIVING I

SPOUSE OR CAREGIVER? EXAMINING CORRELATES AND CONSEQUENCES OF SPOUSES BEING IDENTIFIED AS CANCER CAREGIVERS

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Spouses provide critical support to cancer survivors, but are not always identified as caregivers. This study sought to