



# Family intergenerational relationships: outcomes for teenagers' social adaptation

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## Abstract

Adolescence is the time of multiple changes in one's life. These changes occur particularly in the social domain: teenagers adopt roles of an adult. This transition leads to changes in the family interaction and particularly also in relationships with grandparents. A solid body of research on teenagers was focused on parent-child relationships while few addressed the influence of grandparents on this process of transition. Authors (Letiecq, Bailey, & Kurtz, 2008) argue that grandparents provide both material support and transfer of cultural heritage, and maintain family educational level and values. We hypothesized that the association of personality traits with social adaptation can be mediated by the relationships with grandparents.

## Participants

Subjects were 99 teenagers aged 14 – 17 (51% female).

## Methods

- The questionnaire "Interaction parent-child" (Markovskaya);
- A method of diagnostics of personality, social, and psychological adaptation (Rogers, Dymond, Osnick);
- The 16PF personality test (Cattell).

## Conclusions

1. We can suggest that grandmothers transfer their life experiences and wisdom to their grandchildren, providing teenagers with a better understanding of social roles,

and help to find adaptive forms of behavior.

2. We can hypothesize that family structure that includes grandparents provides a better background for the development of social networks by teenagers

## Overall adaptation score

