

“GRANDPARENTS AS PARENTS”

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HOW DOES GAP HAPPEN?

Adult children have:

- Emotional problems
- Mental problems
- Financial problems
- Drug & alcohol addiction
- Divorce
- Criminal activity
- Full-time work

STATISTICS

- 6 million living in GP homes
- 30% increase from 2000 to present
- 6.3% of all children in U.S. under 18
- 80% of M/F prison population are parents of dependent children

CARE GIVERS

- African Americans (22.4%)
- Hispanic (15.3%)
- Caucasian (56.5%)
- Other (5.8%)

DECISION TO BECOME A GAP

- Reason
 - Save, help or improve child’s life
 - All will have “special needs”
- Process
 - Volunteer
 - Decide with adult children
 - Decide with the legal system

TYPES OF GAPs

- Daycare
- Living with
- Custodial

LEGAL ASPECTS

- Kinship Custody
- Foster Guardianship
- Legal Guardianship
- Adoption

LIFESTYLE CHANGES

- Couple relationship
- Family relationships
- Social relationship

SUPPORT for GAP's

- Emotional
 - Family
 - Peer Groups and Friends
- Financial
 - Personal
 - Government
- Resources
 - AARP
 - GAP Support Groups
 - Government
 - GT's Rights Organization

THREE TYPES OF GRANDPARENTING

- Helicopters
- Drill Sergeants
- Consultants

THREE BASIC PRINCIPLES

1. Set enforceable limits
2. Give children choices
3. Behavior vs. consequences with empathy