Kinship Care

By Bethany Hull, Brittany Kopas, Jessica Rabenstein and Maggie Weyandt
Kinship Care

- "Kinship care commonly defined as the full time care, nurturing and protection of children by relatives, members of their tribes or clans, godparents, stepparents, or any adult who has a kinship bond with a child. This definition is designed to be inclusive and respectful of cultural values and ties of affection. It allows a child to grow to adulthood in a family environment"

---- International Social Services
Global Impact

Word Cloud Creators

Kenya Word Map

United States Text Map
Australia

- Prevalence according the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
  - Out-of-home-care has increased from 4.9% to 6.7% between 2005 and 2009
    - 47.1% foster care
    - 45.4% in kinship care
Australian foster care and protective kinship care
(Figures from Australian Institute of Health and Wellness)
Aboriginal Child Placement

- Aimed at facilitating culturally appropriate placements for children and young people to preserve their Indigenous culture and identity
  - According to Australian Institute of Health and Wellness, 83.6% of Indigenous children and young people in out-of-home-care in New South Wales were placed with Indigenous relatives, other Indigenous caregivers or in Indigenous residential care
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positive Experiences</th>
<th>Negative Experiences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preserves family</td>
<td>Adaptation difficulties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes cultural identity</td>
<td>Stress experienced by kin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reduces separation trauma</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhances feelings of safety</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Rapid Screening</td>
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Kenya

- prevalence

Estimates for Children Involved in Kinship Care
Contributing factors

- HIV/AIDS

Kenya (2013)

- 1.6 million people living with HIV
- 6% adult HIV prevalence
- 100,000 new HIV infections
- 58,000 AIDS-related deaths
- 42% adults on antiretroviral treatment

Source: UNAIDS Gap Report 2014
Multidimensional Poverty Index

- poverty

• culture

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positive Experiences</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proper love/care, sense of belonging</td>
<td>lack of parental care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fair treatment</td>
<td>discrimination/unfair treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fulfillment of basic needs (food, health, clothing, shelter) and access to education</td>
<td>lack of fulfillment of basic needs (food, health, clothing, shelter) and decreased access to education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>given responsibilities to help out the family</td>
<td>workload too heavy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>family identity preserved</td>
<td>lack of appreciation/discipline</td>
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</table>
Prevalence

5.3 million of these children live specifically with their grandparents

943,356 or one-third of these grandparent headed homes where biological parents are completely absent

2.7 million grandparents report that they have complete responsibility of the grandchildren

7.8 million children live in households headed by their grandparents or other relatives

The State of America’s Children (2011)
Black children are almost twice as likely as White or Hispanic children (and almost three-and-a-half times as likely as Asian children) to live with neither parent.

Children Living with Neither Parent, 2010

- Total, All races: 4.1%
- Black: 7.5%
- Hispanic: 4.0%
- White: 3.4%
- Asian: 2.1%

Contributing Factors

- Substance Abuse
- Incarceration
- Domestic Violence
- Deployment
- Mental Health

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<tr>
<td>Reduces emotional trauma</td>
<td>Increases stress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conserves family connections</td>
<td>Creates relational hostility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves cultural/racial identity</td>
<td>Difficulty finding new, suitable housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saves money for America</strong> <em>(Highfield, 2015)</em></td>
<td><strong>Leads to poverty</strong> <em>(Children’s Defense Fund, 2011)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
So...What?
Ways you can help

1. Support - [Save the Children](#)
2. Be Sensitive
3. Advocate
# Local Agencies

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Australia</th>
<th>Kenya</th>
<th>United States</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Raising Children Network</td>
<td>Strategies for Hope</td>
<td>Kinship Caregiver Coalition</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Child Welfare Information Gateway</td>
<td>Save the Children</td>
<td>• Dayton, OH</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Ohio Grandparent/Kinship Coalition</td>
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<td>US Office of Personnel Management</td>
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Questions???


References


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