

Review of: "Grandparenting Children With Special Needs and Disabilities: A Narrative Review"

Vita Jones¹

¹ California State University, Fullerton

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Grandparenting Children with Special Needs and Disabilities: A Narrative Review

This paper offers different types of grandparent-child relationships for children with special needs. The wide selection of texts for exploration provides a detailed accounting of the dynamics of these relationships. Interesting to note is that the same-sex grandparent bond at a higher rate. The levels of interaction are also based on culture in terms of reverence and responsibilities.

Autism—this group of grandparents appears to be highly vested in the care and education of their grandchildren. Grandparents' presence apparently decreases the negative interactions of students with ADD/ADHD.

Sibling rivalry is mediated by the role of grandparents and their personal interventions.

Grandparent support groups are found to be an effective way of providing training to target specific issues. Overall, the role of grandparents positively heightens the experience of raising children with special needs.

This article speaks to the difference grandparents make in supporting their grandchildren with special needs. The five emerging themes (emotional impact, social experiences, involvement, information needs, and support needs) provide a buffer for both children and parents while navigating the trajectory of the child's life. It is further noted that grandparents require ongoing support and training to be effective and have a sense of well-being.