

Exploring the Role of Family and Older People's Access to Food in Different Cultures: Will the Children be There to Help?

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Reference:

Key Words:

intergenerational support, food security, nutrition, access

Research aim:

This article draws on the concepts of intergenerational exchange to further understand and explore older people's experiences of accessing nutritious food in a country where cultural diversity is a hallmark of the population.

Results/Conclusion:

The role of family and supportive intergenerational networks emerges as particularly significant within the current climate of rapid social and economic change. Participants appear ambivalent about receiving assistance from their adult children, and question the capacity of their children to assist given the increasing pressures and responsibilities that their adult children face.

Implications:

We conclude by proposing that appropriate and effective local government services that build on the strengths of existing family networks may continue to ensure that older people have access to nutritious food they want and need.

Cultural Group(s):

Anglo-Celtic, Macedonian, Serbian, Maltese

Location of study:

Victoria (Melbourne)

Age group:

58-90

Number included in study:

44

Type of participants:

older people from Anglo-Celtic, Macedonian, Serbian and Maltese backgrounds

Research approach:

Mixed methods

Type of data:

Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes:

This article is related to another article by same authors in 2010