

# That “Guilty Feeling”: Emotions and Motivation in Migration and Transnational Caregiving

**Author/s:** Baldassar, Loretta | **Year:** 2010 | **Publication type:** Journal article | **Peer reviewed:** | **Topic area/s:** Informal Care

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**Key Words:**

transnational care, migration, informal care, long-distance family

**Research aim:**

This paper explores the experience of "guilt" as a motivating emotion in reciprocal obligations to care in transnational kinship relations.

**Results/Conclusion:**

guilty feeling" motivates them to "stay in touch" as often and as effectively as they can by creating opportunities in which they can exchange co-presence and share the gift of self. By strengthening relationship, by exerting influence over others, and as a mechanism for alleviating inequities in relationships, guilty may serve to strengthen and maintain transnational caregiving relationships. However, in transnational relationships where obligations are too great to be readily met, individuals may withdraw their caregiving in order to avoid overwhelming and debilitating feelings of guilt.

**Implications:**

**Cultural Group(s):**

**Location of study:**

**Age group:**

**Number included in study:**

N/A

**Type of participants:**

**Research approach:**

**Type of data:**

**Secondary data sources used:**

**Specific scales or analytical techniques used:**

**Implications/ Recommendations:**

**Notes:**

Not primary research - discusses guilt feelings that go along with having ageing family member/younger family members living at a distance in another country where care can not be provided.