

# Transnational Families and Aged Care: The Mobility of Care and the Migrancy of Ageing

**Author/s:** Baldassar, Loretta | **Year:** 2007 | **Publication type:** Journal article | **Peer reviewed:** | **Topic area/s:** Informal Care

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**Key Words:**

migration, family, informal care, cultural norms, long-distance care

**Research aim:**

This paper is an ethnographic exploration of a seldom-discussed 'micro' dimension of transnational studies, the practices of long-distance family relations & aged care.

**Results/Conclusion:**

highlights the importance of considering the role of homeland kin & communities in discussions of migration. The analysis of transnational care-giving practices illustrates that migrancy is sometimes triggered by the need to give or receive care rather than the more commonly assumed 'rational' economic motivations. Transnational lives are thus shaped by the 'economies of kinship', which develop across changing state ('macro'), community ('meso') & family migration ('micro') histories, including, in particular, culturally constructed notions of 'ideal' family relations & obligations, as well as notions of 'successful' migration & 'licence to leave'.

**Implications:**

**Cultural Group(s):**

Focus on Italian families

**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:**

This article is a discussion piece about expectations and desires among immigrants in terms of informal care to/from their family members living abroad and how this impacts migration. Primary data collection is not described in this paper but the paper does refer to a study undertaken by the interview where data from migrant families was obtained.