

Intergenerational assistance for a married adult child

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Using the Fourth National Survey on Family, I examine what determines intergenerational assistance for married adult children who do not live with their parents. In particular, this concerns assistance to married adult children with regard to marriage expenses, loans for home ownership, expenses for grandchildren, childcare during childbirth, care for grandchildren, advice when problems are faced, and the degree of grandchild-related support.

I examined whether parents provided assistance, and I found that differences existed in the type of support offered. For example, the percentage of parents who provided support to the married adult child for marriage expenses was above 50%, whereas less than 20% of the parents provided support for homeownership loans. However, 82.4% of the parents provided at least one form of support, and over 60% of the parents provided grandchild-related support to the married adult child.

I examine the following six factors for explaining the assistance provided to a married adult child: social stratification factors, factors of the parents' intention toward their children, attributes of the married adult child, factors of generational inheritance, the distance between the parents and the married adult child, and the frequency of conversation between the parents and the married adult child. The social stratification factors had almost no effect, but the other five factors explained to a certain extent the provision of intergenerational assistance to a married adult child.