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## Grandparents' Lived Experience in Caring for Grandchildren: A Qualitative Study

Akram. Mouladoost o, Fahimeh. Namdarpour o, Mehdi. Tabrizi o

\* Corresponding author email address: namdarpour@iau.ac.ir

Editor	Reviewers
Manijeh Daneshpour <sup>©</sup>	Reviewer 1: Thseen Nazir®
Department of Couple and Family	Professor of Psychology and Counseling Department, Ibn Haldun University,
therapy, Alliant International University, California, United States of America mdaneshpour@alliant.edu	Istanbul, Turkey.
	Email: thseen.nazir@ihu.edu.tr
	Reviewer 2: Abolghasem Khoshkanesh®
	Assistant Professor, Counseling Department, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran,
	Iran.
	Email: akhoshkonesh@sbu.ac.ir

## 1. Round 1

## 1.1. Reviewer 1

### Reviewer:

This section effectively situates the topic globally but should more clearly articulate why the Iranian context is distinct. Expanding the rationale for focusing on Iran would strengthen the contribution.

The claim about caregiving leading to "stress, depression, and anxiety" should be more directly connected to specific cited studies. Currently, the sentence groups many outcomes without clarifying which sources support each.

Some participant quotations raise critical issues (e.g., separation from parents), but the authors do not analyze these deeply in the findings section. More interpretative commentary is needed alongside raw quotations.

The limitations are acknowledged but could be expanded. For example, the reliance on self-report interviews and the possibility of interviewer bias should be explicitly discussed.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Department of Counseling, Kho.C., Islamic Azad University, Khomeinishahr, Iran



#### 1.2. Reviewer 2

#### Reviewer:

The examples provided (e.g., musculoskeletal problems, sleep disturbances) could be enhanced by integrating more recent global evidence to demonstrate the universality of these outcomes.

The justification for conducting this study could be more explicitly stated. For example, the authors could directly mention the lack of Iranian qualitative studies on this topic and how this study addresses that gap.

The list of sample interview questions is useful, but the authors should also provide information on how questions were pilot tested or refined beyond supervisor feedback.

The discussion tends to summarize results rather than critically interpret them. The authors should expand on how their findings extend, challenge, or nuance existing theories.

While the benefits are highlighted, the discussion would be enriched by addressing the potential tension between positive and negative outcomes, emphasizing caregiving as a paradoxical phenomenon.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

#### 2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted. Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.