



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

***RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN FREQUENCY OF CONTACT, ROLE MEANING,  
AND INTERGENERATIONAL SOLIDARITY IN GRANDPARENTAL ROLE  
SATISFACTION IN KERMANSHAH, IRAN***

**SHAHLA SEIFALI**

**IG 2013 5**



**RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN FREQUENCY OF CONTACT, ROLE  
MEANING, AND INTERGENERATIONAL SOLIDARITY IN  
GRANDPARENTAL ROLE SATISFACTION IN KERMANSHAH, IRAN**

**By**

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**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra  
Malaysia, in Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of  
Science**

**January 2013**

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

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The purpose of study is to examine the relationships between frequency of contact, role meaning and intergenerational solidarity with grandparent role satisfaction.

A cross-sectional design was employed to determine factors that predict grandparent role satisfaction among grandparents aged 60 and above with a non-coresident grandchild aged 12 to 17 in Kermanshah, Iran. A total of 290 grandparents were recruited using a two-stage proportionate random sampling technique to obtain a representative sample. The standardized questionnaire used in this study included items on the frequency of contact, role meaning, intergenerational solidarity, and role satisfaction as well as questions measuring grandparent, parents and grandchildren's sociodemographic characteristics. There were 66.2% grandmothers and 33.8% grandfathers in the sample with a mean age 67.55 (SD = 5.72). The majority of respondents attributed meaning to their grandparent role (76.2%) and reported satisfaction with the role (98.4%). Most of the respondents reported high level of intergenerational solidarity

(91.7%). The regression model predicting role satisfaction was significant ( $F_{21, 101} = 5.485$ ) indicates 53% of the variance in role satisfaction being explained by age of becoming grandparent ( $\beta = .17$ ), income of grandparent ( $\beta = -.16$ ), distance ( $\beta = .16$ ), frequency of contact ( $\beta = .35$ ) and role meaning ( $\beta = .58$ ). The results of a three-step multiple regression analysis and Sobel-test ( $t = 2.30$ ,  $p \leq .05$ ) indicated that the positive effects of role meaning on role satisfaction is significantly mediated by intergenerational solidarity.

The results indicated the importance of frequency of contact, role meaning, and intergenerational solidarity on the role satisfaction of Iranian grandparents. These findings implied that grandparent role satisfaction is achieved through increased interaction with grandchildren, and thus, it is important to ensure that intergenerational contact is encouraged in today's families.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

**PERKAITAN ANTARA KEKERAPAN HUBUNGAN,  
MAKSUD PERANAN, DAN PERPADUAN ANTARA  
GENERASI DI KEPUASAN PERANAN  
KEIBUBAAPAN DATUK NENEK DI KERMANS SHAH,  
IRAN**

Oleh

**SHAH LA SEIFALI**

**Januri 2013**

Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji hubungan antara kekerapan hubungan, maksud peranan dan perpaduan antara generasi dengan kepuasan peranan datuk nenek.

Satu kajian rekabentuk keratan rentas telah digunakan untuk menentukan faktor penentu kepuasan peranan datuk nenek dalam kalangan datuk nenek, berumur 60 tahun ke atas yang mempunyai cucu yang berumur 12 hingga 17 yang tinggal berasingan di Kermanshah, Iran. Seramai 290 datuk nenek dipilih menggunakan teknik pensampelan rawak dua peringkat berkadar untuk mendapatkan sampel perwakilan. Borang soal selidik standard yang digunakan dalam kajian ini merangkumi item kekerapan hubungan, maksud peranan, perpaduan antara generasi, dan kepuasan peranan serta soalan mengukur ciri sosio-demografi datuk dan nenek, ibu bapa dan cucu. Terdapat 66.2% nenek dan 33.8% datuk

dalam sampel kajian dengan min umur 67.55 (SD = 5.72). Majoriti responden menganggap peranan datuk nenek masing-masing sebagai bermakna (76.2%) dan melaporkan rasa puas hati dengan peranan tersebut (98.4%). Kebanyakan responden melaporkan tahap perpaduan antara generasi yang tinggi (91.7%). Model regresi penentu kepuasan peranan ( $F_{21, 101} = 5.485$ ) menunjukkan bahawa 53% daripada varians dalam kepuasan peranan dijelaskan oleh usia menjadi datuk /nenek ( $\beta = .17$ ), pendapatan datuk / nenek ( $\beta = -.16$ ) jarak ( $\beta = .16$ ), kekerapan hubungan ( $\beta = .35$ ) dan maksud peranan ( $\beta = .58$ ). Keputusan analisis regresi berganda tiga langkah dan ujian Sobel ( $t = 2.30$ ,  $p < .05$ ) menunjukkan bahawa kesan positif maksud peranan terhadap kepuasan peranan adalah signifikan melalui perantaraan perpaduan antara generasi.

Hasil kajian menunjukkan kepentingan kekerapan hubungan, maksud peranan dan perpaduan antara generasi ke atas kepuasan peranan datuk nenek warga Iran. Penemuan ini bermaksud kepuasan peranan datuk nenek dicapai melalui peningkatan interaksi dengan cucu, dan dengan itu, adalah penting untuk memastikan bahawa hubungan antara generasi dipupuk dalam keluarga masa kini.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I will always remember all the people who have played significant role in the realization of my degree. I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to my supervisor Dr. Rahimah Ibrahim for her guidance, and assistance during this study. Also, my sincere thanks to my committee member Prof. Dr. Tengku Aizan Tengku Abdul Hamid, for all the advices she has given towards the completion of my study.

Lastly, my special thanks to my husband and family for their encouragement, supports, patience, understanding, faith and inspiration given to me during the period of my study in Malaysia. Without their assistance I would have difficulties in conducting is study.

I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 4 January to conduct the final examination of Shahla Seifali on her Master of Science thesis entitled "Relationships between Frequency of Contact, Role meaning, and Intergenerational Solidarity in Grandparental Role Satisfaction in Kermanshah, Iran" in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The committee recommends that the student be awarded a Master of Science.

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## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously and is not concurrently submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or other institutions.



**SHAHLA SEIFALI**

Date: 4 January 2013

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