Mothers’, fathers’ and children’s perceptions of parents' expectations about children's family obligations in nine countries.

Lansford JE1, Godwin J1, Alampay LP2, Uribe Tirado LM3, Zelli A4, Al-Hassan SM5, Bacchini D6, Bombi AS7, Bornstein MH*, Chang L8, Deater-Deckard K9, Di Giunta L7, Dodge KA1, Malone PS1, Oburu P11, Pastorelli C7, Skinner AT1, Sorbring E12, Tapanya S13.

Abstract

Children's family obligations involve assistance and respect that children are expected to provide to immediate and extended family members and reflect beliefs related to family life that may differ across cultural groups. Mothers, fathers and children (N = 1432 families) in 13 cultural groups in 9 countries (China, Colombia, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Philippines, Sweden, Thailand and United States) reported on their expectations regarding children's family obligations and parenting attitudes and behaviours. Within families, mothers and fathers had more concordant expectations regarding children's family obligations than did parents and children. Parenting behaviours that were warmer, less neglectful and more controlling as well as parenting attitudes that were more authoritarian were related to higher expectations regarding children's family obligations between families within cultures as well as between cultures. These international findings advance understanding of children's family obligations by contextualising them both within families and across a number of diverse cultural groups in 9 countries.


KEYWORDS:

Culture; Family obligations; Parent-child relationships; Parental attitudes