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Polish Grandparents and Grandchildren – Mutual Normative Expectations

The paper presents two sets of research findings. One is three surveys of attitudes in the senior people institutions asking for detailed listing of the mutual expectations; second is survey of attitudes of children and youth and of senior people who took part in the joint social activities sponsored through the charitable action. Though there is no attempt to control the effect of the inter-generational cooperation it can be inferred from the comparison with the opinions on the subject of seniors not involved in the project. The main finding concerns the partial mismatching of the mutual expectations in our culture. Though seniors most often rightly expect the caring love as something most expected by youngest generation on their part, especially from senior women, there is a lot of expectations which are not expressed by youngsters while seniors are willing to offer that is moral education and advise, wisdom of life, respect for people, beliefs, honesty and responsibility and knowledge of family traditions. The difference explains the ambivalence underlying the generations that meet often though for the relatively short time.

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