

INSIGHTS OF THE MIDDLE-AGED CHILD CONCERNING  
THE PARENT IN A HOME FOR OLD PEOPLE

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Rachel P. Noll

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This is to certify that the  
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INSIGHTS OF THE MIDDLE-AGED CHILD CONCERNING THE PARENT  
IN A HOME FOR OLD PEOPLE

By

Rachel P. Noll

AN ABSTRACT

Submitted to the School of Advanced Graduate Studies of  
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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

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The personal interview method was used in an attempt to (1) investigate the closeness of relationship between the parents living in a Home for Old People and their adult child who was responsible for the parents' affairs; and (2) to investigate the extent of guilt feelings on the part of the child in regard to her or his care of the parent. It was felt this purpose could be accomplished by attempting to determine the amount of insight and knowledge possessed by the child in regard to the activities, interests, feelings, and attitudes of the parent.

A population of 29 parents over 65 years of age and three parents between 50 and 60 years of age from two Homes for Old People were interviewed using the Schedule entitled "Your Activities and Attitudes" developed by Ruth S. Cavan, Ernest W. Burgess, Robert J. Havighurst of the University of Chicago. The adult middle-aged child who was responsible for his or her parent's affairs was also interviewed in regard to the parent using a copy of the same questionnaire, but with appropriate changes in pronouns to fit the sex of the parent and insertion of a few pertinent questions. The responses were compared to see how much agreement there was thus indicating the amount of insight into and knowledge of the activities, interests, feelings, and attitudes of the parent held by the child.

In addition to the questionnaire, certain open-end questions were asked informally of both parent and child to point up the parent's feeling about living in a Home for Old People and about the care received from the child, and to point up the child's feelings in regard to his care of the parent and the child's insight into the feelings of the parent about this. Responses were interpreted in regard to guilt feelings toward the parent where appropriate.

The findings were:

1. There was a greater number of responses in agreement between the parent and child on Attitudes of the parent than on the Activities and Interests of the parent.
2. While a substantial majority of the parents were living at the Homes through necessity, most of them were satisfied with the place of residence.
3. Most of the parents strongly advised against living with one's children although a substantial majority had done so.
4. While a bare majority of parents at the Home for Women were satisfied with the care and attention given by their children, a substantial majority at the other Home were not satisfied as evidenced in response to an oblique question on whether adult children take care of old parents the way they should.

5. Most of the adult responsible children felt they should be doing more for their parents but most did not feel they should have their parents living with them again. (Most of the parents had lived with their adult responsible children anywhere from a few weeks to 23 years.)
6. Most of the adult responsible children felt that their parents were satisfied with the attention and care received from their children and a majority felt that their parents did not want to live with them.
7. Guilt feelings on the part of the child regarding the parent seemed to be evidenced in connection with a few responses.

The conclusion were:

1. There was a reasonable amount of "inner" understanding of the parent by the child. The relationship was close rather than distant.
2. Most of the parents were satisfied with the place of residence.
3. However, a majority of the parents were not satisfied with care given old people by their adult children, therefore, probably not satisfied with care given by their own children. It would seem then that a majority accepted the situation intellectually but not emotionally.

4. While guilt feelings seemed to be manifested in a few places by the child in regard to the parent, they did not seem strong or general.

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### Foreword

Much has been said and written since 1940 about the growing proportion of old people in the population, not only in this country but elsewhere in the world, and about the attendant problems such as use of leisure in retirement, economic security, appropriate housing, family relations, to mention but a few. But there has been a woeful lack of actual scientific research in this area which, happily, is being rectified to an increasing extent. There is room, however, for much to be done. One is still struck by the lack of research basis for much that is said on the platform, over radio and television, and in the various written media. An area in which some research has been done is that of the relations between the old parent and his mature children. One often hears and reads that the old person is no longer cared for in the family as he was in "the good old days"; that he or she is no longer accorded the love and respect of his or her adult children - that the children no longer care as they used to.

How close are the relationships of old parent and adult child today? Does the child feel a responsibility to

care for the old parent? Does he or she have insight into the parent's feelings and attitudes? In short, is the child satisfied with his care of the old parent or does he have guilt feelings? One can even go a step farther and ask these questions where the aged person has no children but has a niece or nephew.

And how does the old parent feel about all this? Do old parents feel neglected? How would old parents prefer to live after retirement and widowhood? Do they feel adult children (or relatives) are showing proper concern for and giving the proper care of the old parent (or relative)?

The writer, an older person herself, and her adviser, Dr. Walter F. Johnson, Professor in the Department of Administrative and Educational Services, felt that these questions are of vital importance and of wide-spread prevalence today and will become increasingly so in the years to come as the proportion of old people in the population becomes greater, if present trends continue. As a consequence, the writer decided to do her research in this area. This decision was reached after careful consideration of some other areas in gerontology by her and her advisory committee.

### Purpose of the Investigation

The purpose of this research project then was to attempt to shed a little more light on some of these questions.

### Background of the Problem

While still considering other areas for research in gerontology, the writer had an opportunity to talk with Dr. Wilma Donahue, Chairman of the Division of Gerontology at the University of Michigan, about her desire to do research in gerontology and asked for suggestions. Dr. Donahue mentioned immediately the need of it in all areas, but particularly in regard to guilt feelings of adult children relating to care of aged parents. There were no published research studies in this, and Dr. Gordon Aldridge, Specialist in Gerontology at Michigan State University and Head of the School of Social Work, knew of no unpublished studies, as was obviously true also of Dr. Donahue. The implications of the problem were strongly stated by Dr. Donahue in the Foreword of the book, How to Help Older People (5):

With industrialization has come a striking change in social organization of the family. Previously, aging members were able to retain or increase their power and prestige within the kinship group, but today the older generation is finding itself shelved and sometimes stranded by its younger families. That this changed situation is a reflection of the demands of a competitive society in which the younger family must concentrate all its resources upon its children in order that they may take their places successfully in the competitive world, is not understood either by the older or younger generation. To both groups, it appears that there is a dereliction of duty and a weakening of family bonds.....If an industrial society is unkind to the aging, it is equally unkind to the children of the aging. For the older parents, our era has failed to maintain a family structure in which emotional security is a built-in feature; nor has it produced satisfying substitutes for family roles. It has failed to emancipate the younger



persons from their sense of obligation to their parents and, at the same time, has denied them the means by which they can meet the obvious material and emotional needs of the older family members. Out of such situations are built the present-day frustrations.....

The writer proposed to study this problem under three conditions, namely, (1) where the aged parent was living in a Home for old people, (2) where he or she was living with an adult child, and (3) where he or she was living alone but comparatively near the adult child. Her advisory committee felt this was too big an undertaking - that one of these conditions was enough to study. After careful thought, the first condition was selected for investigation because of the supposed better chance of uniformity of the populations to be studied in regard to social and economic background and because of long-standing interest in one of the Homes for old people located in the Lansing area.

#### Statement of the Problem

In order to investigate the extent and nature of guilt feelings, if any, on the part of the children toward their old parents, it was felt one approach might be to attempt to ascertain the closeness of relationship between parents living in Homes for old people and their children. This, it was thought, might be accomplished by first obtaining a knowledge of the parents' interests, activities, attitudes, and feelings; then checking to try to determine how

much insight into and knowledge of these the children had; and lastly, attempting to ascertain the feelings of the children themselves about their care of their parents.

The problem then, was stated as follows:

Problem - The problem of the investigation was divided into two parts:

1. What were the attitudes, activities, interests, and feelings of the old parents (or relatives) living in Homes for old people; what were their feelings about living in a Home; and what were their feelings about the care given them by the adult responsible child (or responsible relative)?

2. What conception was held by the adult child (or relative) of the attitudes, activities, interests, and feelings of the old parent (or relative); and what were the adult child's (or relative's) own feelings about his or her care of the old parent (or relative).

Hypotheses - The problem then resolved itself into two hypotheses, namely:

1. that the attitudes and feelings of a sample of parents drawn from the populations of Homes for old people were generally those of satisfaction with the place of residence and with the care provided by their adult responsible child (or responsible relative)





2. that the conception by the adult child (or relative) of the attitudes, activities, interests, and feelings of the old parent (or relative) was similar to that held by the old parent (or relative); and that the adult child's (or relative's) own feelings with regard to his/her care of the old parent (or relative) were those of satisfaction.

#### Limitations of the Investigation

1. The investigation was limited to two Homes for Old People located in the Lansing area, namely, The Women's Home and the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center. The latter, although intended mainly for hospital and rehabilitation purposes, housed also a few residents who were using it as a Home.

2. It was limited to English-speaking, white persons over 65 years of age who had been married and who had the child (or relative) who was responsible for his or her care living in the Lansing area.

3. It was also limited to persons competent mentally to answer a questionnaire.

4. The persons also had to be well enough physically to be sufficiently proficient in self-care and sufficiently ambulatory to be able to live with the child (or relative).

## Definition of Terms and Abbreviations

### Terms

Aged was a term used to refer to persons over 65 years of age.

Agreed or Agreed Responses referred to answers to the questions that were the same for both parent and child.

Cavan Schedule (or Inventory or Questionnaire) referred to the inventory entitled "Your Activities and Attitudes" developed at the University of Chicago by Ruth S. Cavan, Ernest W. Burgess, and Robert J. Havighurst.

Home referred to Home for Old People

Middle-aged Parents referred to the three parents living at the Ingham County Hospital who were between 50 and 60 years old.

Okemos and Okemos Home referred to the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center.

Old and Older referred to persons over 65 years of age.

Old Parents referred to the parents at the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center who were over 65 years of age and sometimes to the parents at The Women's Home

Responsible Adult Child or Adult Responsible Child referred to the child whose name appeared on the file card of resident of the Home as the person to be contacted in regard to the welfare of that resident - the child who seemed to be in charge of the affairs of the resident.



### Abbreviations

O. H. referred to Okemos Home, meaning the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center.

Rehab. referred to Rehabilitation.

W. H. referred to The Women's Home.

### Abbreviations Used in the Tables

Ch. referred to the Responsible Adult Child.

Par. referred to Parent.

Rel. referred to relative. (One case connected with the Women's Home was a grandmother-graddaughter relationship and one connected with the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center was an aunt-niece relationship. In all Tables but one and in all discussions, these were simply included as mother-daughter relationships.)

M, F, T referred to Mother, Father, Total, respectively.

D, S referred to Daughter, Son, respectively.

M      M  
with referred to the Mother-Daughter relationship and  
D      S  
Mother-Son relationship, respectively.

F      F  
with referred to the Father-Daughter and Father-Son  
D      S  
relationships, respectively.

Agreed referred to the number of same responses given by the parent and child.

### Plan of the Study

The present chapter has stated the purpose and problem of this investigation and presented its background and significance. Also included in this chapter is a presentation of the limitations of the investigation and a list of definitions of certain terms used.

Chapter II contains a Review of Pertinent Literature. This includes a description of the inventory, "Your Activities and Attitudes," as developed by Ruth S. Cavan, Ernest W. Burgess, and Robert J. Havighurst of the University of Chicago.

Chapter III presents the Methods and Procedures used in the investigation including the Design of the Investigation, Selection of the Sample, The Instrument Used in the Study, The Pilot Study, Procedures for Obtaining the Data, and Procedures for Analyzing the Data.

Chapter IV presents the Analysis of the Data and the Results.

Chapter V summarizes the study and its results, presents certain weaknesses and strengths of the investigation, states conclusions drawn from the study and suggests certain implications for further study.

The Appendix contains copies of the inventories used in the investigation, more detailed information concerning certain parts of the text, and samples of forms used

in tabulation of the data.

A list of references mentioned in the Review of Pertinent Literature and in the text follows the Appendix.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF PERTINENT LITERATURE

A thorough search of the literature revealed there had been no published research in regard to guilt feelings of adult children toward their old parents and in regard to their insight into and knowledge of their parents' activities, interests, attitudes and feelings. Also there seemed to be no recorded unpublished research in this area.

The only study found that dealt in any way with guilt feelings between old parents and adult children was one reported by Farrar (16) who reported ten case studies of aged mothers and their aging daughters who were in such conflict with each other that they had come for help to a social service agency. His explanation of the situations was that the rivalry for the affections of the father between mother and daughter which normally occurs in the early childhood of daughters and the still existing dependence on the mother for love and security had never been satisfactorily adjusted. The fathers were long since gone but the conflict remained. The daughters consciously or unconsciously wished their mothers were not living with them, which caused anxiety, feelings of uneasiness, and feelings of guilt. In nine cases the daughters were the victims of the situation and in the tenth, the mother was the



victim. The conflict had reached the point where many of the daughters were physically ill and others who were employed could not concentrate satisfactorily on their work. The solutions were counseling with both mother and daughter and in some instances, removing the mother to another residence. The latter proved to be the most successful.

-In connection with an outstanding research study entitled "Personal Adjustment in Old Age," published in 1949 (12), a most important contribution was made to the field of research. Two schedules or inventories were developed by Ernest W. Burgess, Ruth S. Cavan, and Robert J. Havighurst to obtain information on activities, interests, attitudes and feelings of persons past 60 years of age. One was a Schedule of Activities which was supposedly an objective means of measurement of adjustment of old people by activities which would be objectively observable. The other was an Attitude Inventory which was a subjective means of arriving at the inner adjustment of old people. After the instruments had been used and perfected, they were later combined with one schedule entitled "Your Activities and Attitudes." Much valuable information could be obtained on interests, activities, feelings and attitudes of older people as well as factual information and adjustment scores. Information in regard to the study and to the development of the schedule may be found in Appendix IIa. It was not included here because of the necessity of a detailed account due to the importance of the study and of the schedule.

Pertinent to this dissertation besides the development of the schedule was also the finding by Cavan, et al. that according to the 1940 census only 4-6% of persons aged 65 and over were living outside of private households (11, 12:44). Those living elsewhere than in private households were residing in boarding or lodging houses, institutions, and in hotels. Undoubtedly this percentage has increased in the last twenty years. Because of widowhood, more women than men were without homes of their own - living in institutions or with children.

#### Research Studies Using the Cavan Schedule

The schedule has been used in a number of adjustment research studies (5, 13, 20, 22, 26, 27). The most important of these was the one reported in the book, Older People by Robert J. Havighurst and Ruth Albrecht in 1953 (20). A description of this excellent piece of research may be found in Appendix IIb, again because of the importance of the study.

Ruth Albrecht published a number of articles using some of the findings of the large research, Older People. Three of these (2, 3, 4) were pertinent to this dissertation.

In the article, "Relationships of Older People with their Children" (3), Albrecht quoted the following statistics:

78 of the study sample of 100 parents over 65 years  
had children living

85% of this 78 had a variety of roles associated with  
independence or responsibility and

15% of this 78 showed dependence, distance or neglect

The seventy-eight parent-children relationships were rated on a scale from independent relations but mutual help and warmth to complete neglect. Albrecht concluded, among other things, that a common belief that "aged parents of all social classes are apt to become dependent on their children" was not generally true (3:34). Only six per cent were dependent on their children for economic and physical care, or social attention and none were completely neglected.

In her article, "The Parental Responsibilities of Grandparents," Albrecht stated that 90% of the sample of one hundred parents over 65 years were also grandparents; 30% were also great-grandparents. But only five per cent of the grandparents and no great-grandparents took care of the children while the parents worked. Those who did felt well-rewarded in the love and appreciation received. Only 14% of the grandparents lived under the same roof with their grandchildren. Most of the active social participation with the family was by visits back and forth. Only four per cent of grandparents and seventeen per cent of great-grandparents knew nothing or practically nothing about their families. In all cases there had been trouble between the generations.

In her study of the relations between older people and their own parents (4), Albrecht found that 71% of the sample of 100 had not had to be responsible for their own



parents. Either the parents maintained their own independence until they died or were cared for by others.

The remainder of the studies using the Cavan, et al schedule were considerably smaller in scope. These were all studies using adjustment scores of the schedule to compare the adjustment of two groups. Ju-Shu Pan studied the adjustment of 116 institutionalized women aged 60 years old with the 2,988 non-institutionalized persons studied by Cavan, et al. and found that the adjustment of the institutionalized persons to be inferior to that of the non-institutionalized (27). He then compared 730 old persons living in Protestant Homes with a similar group in the Cavan population, most of whom were living in their own homes and found that females predominated numerically over males in institutions and that the institutionalized old people were better educated, had better health care, more leisure time, were more religious, and felt more secure economically than the non-institutionalized. But he also found they had fewer contacts with friends, poorer quality of familial relationships, and less opportunity for participation in group activities than the non-institutionalized (26).

Kleemeier gave the attitude schedule to a group of workers and to a group of non-workers, all residents in a fraternal home (Moosehaven, operated by the Loyal Order of Moose in Florida) for the aged. Responses were received from 336, or 82% of the home population. Half of the data

were gathered by interview. It was found that the workers were better adjusted than the non-workers.

Gardner interviewed 193 persons of whom 72% were 70 years or over and two-thirds of whom were women. Fourteen persons lived alone and the remainder with children or other relatives (67%) or with spouses (19%). He found a strong positive relationship between economic independence and happiness and some correlation between health and happiness; 80% had strong social interests. Most popular activities were visiting, listening to radio, and reading (18).

#### Other Related Research Studies

There were a few other research studies in which the Cavan schedule was not used. However, the studies were related in content and/or results to those just reviewed in which the Cavan schedule was used.

Smith reported that 490 families in all stages of the family-life cycle were interviewed by college graduates in two industrial cities in Pennsylvania, forty-nine were retired and the remainder were mostly between 35 and 65 years old (29). A pre-tested schedule was used. The questions were related to family plans for later years. In regard to parent-child relationships, most of the parents were not planning to spend their later years with their children. When asked what responsibilities children should take for their parents after retirement, the most frequent responses were

"see that they are provided for; care or help care for them; give them love, respect and kindness; or parents should take care of themselves" (29:39). Three-fourths of the couples had lived with their parents or married children - 31% said it had not bothered them but the remainder said the following had bothered them: "Too crowded, no privacy. . . . .  
 . . ; our ways are different; differences in handling children; interference or wanting to interfere; interrupting married life; they got on my nerves; feeling like an 'imposition' or 'in the way'; caring for an invalid added work required; and the parent being crabby and old" (29:38).

Approximately 80% of the couples lived near their parents. There was some indication of closer relationship between couples and parents of wife than between couples and parents of husband. This included the giving and receiving of advice and in giving and receiving various forms of assistance.

Burgess stated in Chapter XII in The New Frontiers of Aging, edited by Donahue and Tibbitts (14), that twenty-four states have a law setting up income scale provisions to determine ability of adult children to support their parents. It was found that the great majority of adult children received incomes below the amount of the legal requirement for support. This law then exempts all but a fraction of the adult children from supporting their old parents. He went on to say, "Other factors, however, besides legal responsi-

bility operate to induce adult children to offer financial support to their parents. These factors range from pressure by community opinion, feelings of moral responsibility and affection, to positive desire to include the parent in the family circle. As a result, approximately as many needy parents are supported by their children as are at present on Old Age Assistance rolls" (14:167). He pointed out that the roles of parents and children are changing to independent living and to reciprocal roles, which was preferable to three-generation households. Adult children know that mother will drop everything and come when needed, in case of illness or a new baby or crises, and father will give needed financial assistance. And parents can count on assistance from their adult children under similar circumstances. "The decline of familism and growth of individualism have reduced the weight of considerations of the law, custom, and duty. At the same time they have increased the part which affection, congeniality and common interest play in the relation of the older generation to the family" (14:167).

McCarthy pointed out the injustices a rigid relative support law can incur. He compared New York and Louisiana, both of which have such a law. In New York only 8% of the persons over 65 were receiving Old Age Assistance, whereas in Louisiana, 65% were receiving such aid. The incomes in New York were much higher than those in Louisiana. He cited a case in New York of a young man who was forced into court



for non-support of his father. The father had deserted the family twenty years before and the mother had worked hard to feed and raise her children. And now that the father was old, he wanted the son to support him. The young man was already gladly supporting the mother. Another young man, an elevator operator, was supporting the mother of his wife, who was earning nothing, as well as his wife and child. He applied for state aid for the mother, who was not his legal responsibility. New York was willing to do it only by reducing the standard of living of the family to a relief budget.

Amen found in a study of 120 residents of a Catholic Home, thirty of whom were male and ninety of whom were female, that unlike the findings of Cavan (11) in which 94% of institutionalized women lived without close family contacts, there was a considerable amount of social interaction involving the residents and their relatives and friends. Only thirteen did not receive visitors and of these five went to see relatives and five others had no relatives. Chi square test revealed relation of frequency of visits to adjustment ratings was significant at .03 level. Part of the reason for these findings might be that the Home was Catholic. Cavan in The American Family (10:606) reproduced a figure from a study made in 1944 by Robert M. Dinkel which showed that Catholics felt a considerably greater obligation based on traditional values toward having a troublesome parent live in their homes than Protestants. Also, the Catholics felt a

greater obligation to support their aged parents than Protestants (14:605).

Smith and the Brittons studied three-generation households in two Pennsylvania communities - an urban community of 10,000 and a rural village of 2,000. Ninety-seven were studied in the former and forty-five in the latter. Two-thirds were first-generation families plus their daughter and her family, and in half the cases economic reasons were given as the most important. Data were obtained by interviewing a member of each generation. Among many interesting findings were that there were no major problems between the two adult generations, the youngest generation felt quite free from disagreements with the adults and had no more with their parents than with their grandparents, and all three generations were quite consistent with regard to norms governing the behavior of old people.

Albrecht, in a study of 204 college students who were mostly Protestants and from the middle-class social group and who were at least three generations removed from immigrant parents, found that almost all had four to seven people in a parent capacity and could, through marriage to someone with parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, have as many as thirteen. This meant that the family could be longated to as many as five and six generations. She felt that the outlook for the future was bright under these circumstances - parents would be less reluctant to have children become in-

dependent if they had their own antecedents to care for. Many young people came to this country after world War I, leaving parents in Europe and through family loneliness, concentrated on their children and did not learn the meaning of aging. Through contact with several generations, young people can watch the process of aging and can become acquainted with the cultures of the various age-stages represented which would greatly enrich their understanding and knowledge of history, sociology, psychology, family, etc. People are staying young and active longer - 60 years old now is like 40 years old in previous times - and independence can be maintained longer by older people; social activities for them are now approved; many women can find their way back into business and education; and men can engage longer in work activity due to recent emphasis on economic independence of older people; pension and retirement plans are becoming more numerous. Therefore, outlook for young people is pleasant but they should be taught facts about aging and how to postpone dependency as long as possible though (15) she emphasized the need of preparation for retirement and old age.

### Helpful Literature

A number of books have appeared the purpose of which is to aid adult children and old parents in their problems of adjustment to each other and to changing conditions of living (6, 25, 30).

Ollie A. Randall, Consultant on Services for the Aged in the Community Service Society of New York, stated in an article on family relationships of old parents (28):

Implicit in the topic under analysis is the assumption that the older person belongs in the modern family, an assumption which some people are inclined to believe modern ways deny. Yet if we were to delve beneath the surface, we would realize that to deny this is to deny the ties of blood and of family kinship upon which not only the structure of family but our entire modern social structure rests.

So far as I can discover, no one has found that 'the family' as a basic social unit has been replaced nor has it been improved. . . . As the anthropologists and sociologists tell us, 'the family' has throughout the ages and in most civilizations had, as its major function, the care of the young and the old. This is true in our society and there is no question but that the fundamental function of the family remains the same. It is merely in the manner of the discharge of its major function so far as the elderly are concerned that any observable change has actually occurred.

One of the changes mentioned was that the support by the children is indirectly through tax support of social security (and also of Old Age Assistance) both for themselves and for the older people. Another change indicated was that the older people do not generally live in the same household with their children. There are more three-generation families than ever before but less three-generation households. When there were

fewer old people and the economy was different, they were apt to live under the same roof. Now the arrangement is different and it is better that way, she maintained. The older people have much more independence and freedom. The only trouble is sometimes the older persons accept this intellectually but not emotionally. Randall stressed that the older person and the family need to realize what is meant by inclusion.

The vital element of 'inclusion' in the family circle - a strangely shaped circle these days - is not that all members live under one roof. Rather it is the maintenance of the feeling of being one of the family in its culture - in its contribution to the community and to society generally - of being strengthened by the fact that one's own people care what happens to one, of their sharing in the good and bad things of life, even though they may be able to do little to prevent or alleviate in a practical way the misfortunes or the losses which come to most of us as we grow older.

This can be achieved in separate households - even better quite often than in the same household. She pointed out that we are more polite and respectful outside of the home than in it and, therefore, the older people are apt to be treated better by their children if they live in separate households. She said:

In conclusion, for the sake of both the very young and the old, let us hope the place of the older person in the family will remain firm and unquestioned. Unless this be so, there can be little sense of the continuity of life itself - of the very meaning of life to each of us. (28:84)

## CHAPTER III

### METHODS AND PROCEDURES

#### Design of the Investigation

The plan decided upon for the investigation was

1. to draw a sample of fifteen parents, who had the required qualifications listed in Chapter I under "Limitations of the Study," from the populations of each of two Homes for Old People located in the Lansing area, namely, The Women's Home in Lansing and the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center located in Okemos. The latter, although primarily concerned with illness and rehabilitation, also housed a few residents who were using it as a Home. A description of the Homes may be found in Appendix IIc. It was planned to list all names of qualified parents in alphabetical order, number them consecutively and draw the samples of fifteen according to a table of random sampling numbers.

2. to interview each of the thirty parents, using the inventory "Your Activities and Attitudes" described in Chapter II and Appendix IIa. It was decided to use this inventory because it covered effectively the information desired, was developed by experts in psychology and sociology, and had been perfected on hundreds

of persons over 60 years of age.

3. to interview the adult child, who was taking the responsibility for managing the affairs of the parent, using a copy of the same inventory, but asking the questions in regard to the parent.

4. to ask certain additional open-end questions informally at the close of the interviews to further bring out feelings of parents and of adult responsible children.

#### Selection of the Sample

At both Homes the supervisors (and also the Medical Director at the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center) went through the files and listed the names of all residents who had the qualifications listed under "Limitations of the Study" in Chapter I. It was found that fourteen residents qualified at The Women's Home and nineteen residents qualified at the Okemos Home, plus three more who qualified in every way except age. These three were less than 65 years old. It was decided to use all twenty-two since some might be lost during the research process. Therefore the sample consisted of thirty-six cases. As was anticipated, four of the cases were lost because of no interview with the adult responsible child or relative, so the sample population used in the research project was thirty-two.

No special physical and psychological examinations were employed in the study. At The Women's Home the residents had to be in reasonably good health, physically and mentally, in order to live there. At the Okemos Home, the Medical Director and the Supervising Nurse were well-advised as to the physical and mental condition of their residents.

Use of the Index of Senility developed by Cavan, et al for the same research project as the inventory "Your Activities and Interests" (12) was considered. But the authors themselves deemed it to be highly unsatisfactory. The correlation between the scores on the Index and those on the inventory was only .15.

#### The Instrument Used in the Study

1. A description of the development of the inventory "Your Activities and Attitudes" may be found in Appendix IIA.

2. The inventory "Your Activities and Attitudes" was used essentially in its original form in the interviews with the parents with the exception that Section H of the Attitude inventory was exchanged in placement with Section G so that the schedule would be finished in a happy manner. The last sentence of Section H was "My family does not really care for me" whereas the last sentence of Section G was "My life is so enjoyable that I almost wish it would go on forever."



Also, three categories which did not apply were omitted in the Schedule of Activities and questions on watching television were added. The Schedule had been developed in 1946 before television was known to the public.

The code number assigned to the parent was placed inconspicuously at the bottom of the back page. The code numbers devised were the initials of the Home plus the number arbitrarily assigned to the parent plus the letter "a" indicating the interview was with the parent or plus the letter "b" if the interview was with the adult responsible child. The numbers assigned to the parents were in order of interview, not in alphabetical order of parents' names. For instance, the sixth mother interviewed at The Women's Home had the code number WH6a, her child had the code number WH6b. Or, for instance, the eighth parent interviewed at the Okemos Home had the code number OH8a and the child had the number OH8b.

A copy of the Schedule as used with the parents may be found in Appendix Ia.

3. The Schedule, or inventory, as used with the adult responsible child was changed so that the pronouns represented the sex of the parent.

The same changes made in the Schedule for the Parents were made in the Schedule as administered to the adult responsible child. A few questions were inserted occasionally in the Schedule which, it was thought, might serve to further



bring out the amount of insight of the child in regard to the parent.

In addition the child was asked his or her age, the placement in the family, e.g. oldest, youngest, middle or only child, and how he or she felt about the questionnaire and whether he or she wished to say anything further on any of the questions.

The same code number as that of the parent was placed on the lower right hand corner of the back page but the letter "b" was placed after the number instead of "a" which was used for the parent.

A copy of the Schedule as it was used with the adult responsible child may be found in Appendix Ib.

4. After the questionnaire was finished, certain open-end questions were asked of the parent and of the child in an informal manner.

One question was asked both of the parent and of the child, namely,

How did it happen that you (or she or he) came to live at the home?

The parent was then asked two more questions, namely:

If you were to advise a lone older person as to where and how she or he should live after retirement what would you tell her or him?

Quite often the question was made more personal or realistic by adding "me, for instance."

Do you feel that adult children take care of their parents when they get old the way they should nowadays?

It was hoped that the parents would express their real feelings about their own living arrangements and about the care of their own children through their answers to oblique questions such as these. It was felt that parental loyalty and protectiveness would color answers to direct questions. Also, insecurity and fear of consequences might also color answers to direct questions even though assurance had been given that responses would be kept confidential.

The adult responsible child was asked four more open-end questions, namely,

Although your parent is receiving good care at the Home and she (or he) seems to be reasonably happy and you see (or write) her (or him) quite often, do you feel as though you should be doing more for her (or him)?

The question was asked in this manner in an attempt to allay any feeling by the child of being "put on the spot."

The next three questions were:

Do you feel as though your mother (or father) feels you should be doing more for her (or him)?

Do you feel as though you should be having your mother (or father) live with you?

Do you feel as though your mother (or father) feels she (or he) should be living with you?

These questions were written on the back page of the questionnaire only in the few cases where the questionnaire was mailed.



### The Pilot Study

The schedule and open-end questions were tried out on four cases in a pilot study conducted at the Bogue Nursing Home located in East Lansing. The four mothers had the required qualifications listed in Chapter II under "Limitations of the Study," according to the owner and manager of the Home. Two of the mothers, it was felt by the owner of the Home, would be easy to interview and two would be difficult. This was done purposely to give the interviewer added experience in handling different kinds of personalities. The interviewer was not made aware of this difference in personalities and was given no information in regard to any of the interviewees so that bias would be avoided as much as possible. All but one of the mothers had to be interviewed in two separate sittings because of fatigue.

After the four interviews had been completed, a letter was sent to each adult responsible child explaining the research project and saying that a telephone contact would be made for an appointment for an interview. The letter was purposely made short and general. A copy may be seen in Appendix Ic.

As a result of these eight interviews

1. the changes listed under The Instrument Used in Study were made.
2. It was found also that it was better to have all

the pronouns fitting the sex of parent and all changes written into the questionnaire before the interview with the adult responsible child so as to avoid confusion.

3. It was found also that further explanation was needed in the telephone contact with the adult responsible child and cooperation enlisted. In other words, the research project had to be "sold."
4. If the adult responsible child was unwilling to have a personal interview, it was found that he would consent to having a questionnaire mailed to him, in which case the open-end questions had to be written on the back of the questionnaire.
5. In the case of an interview by mail, it was found that an extra sheet of paper should be included for comment.

#### Procedures for Obtaining the Data

##### 1. Preliminary ground work

- a. Consent to do the research in the two Homes had to be obtained from the Chairman of the Board of Directors in the case of The Women's Home, and from the Board of Directors of the Rehabilitation Center and from the Director of the Ingham County Board of Social Welfare, who was in charge of the Ingham County Hospital.

- b. At The Women's Home, the Chairman of the Board of Directors introduced the writer to the Head Matron and Assistant Matron and discussed the research project with them gaining their cooperation. She then took the writer through the Home introducing her to the leaders or key figures among the residents, explaining the project to them and gaining their cooperation also.
- 3. At the Okemos Home, the Supervising Nurse acquainted the writer with the floor plan of the institution, took her through the hospital and Center, and introduced her to the Head Nurses and Therapists, explaining the research project and gaining their cooperation.
- 4. The interviewing
  - a. Since it has been shown that the appearance of the interviewer can affect the interview, careful attention was given to the rules governing suitable dress.
  - b. The routine of the residents of the Home was interfered with as little as possible. Mail time and nap time, for instance, were avoided.
  - c. The interviewer was always taken to the interviewee by one of the persons in charge of the Home, explanations were made, and the consent



of the interviewee obtained. Addition to research and the confidential nature of the interview were stressed.

- d. The interview was always made in privacy. At The Women's Home, where each resident had her own room, the interview took place in the resident's room. At the Okemos Home, where, for the most part, there were more than one occupant in a room, the interviewee was brought to an unused office or small reception room.
- e. Rapport with the interviewee was established before the interview began. The nature of the questionnaire and of the research were explained again and the assurance that results of the interview would be kept in confidence was also repeated. It was explained that the questionnaires would be marked only with a code number and the results would be used in statistical form - "so many answered a question this way and so many answered it that way." Quite often the interviewees wanted to know what the research was for and upon learning that not only was it for the purpose of adding to research but also to complete requirements for a degree, they seemed quite interested. In fact, many seemed more interested in helping the interviewer to

finish a degree than in adding to research.

The statement was often made that they hoped they had helped and had answered the questions as honestly and as well as they could.

- f. It was deemed wise not to tell the parent that the child responsible for their affairs was to be contacted. It was felt that this knowledge might serve to color their responses and to worry them.
- g. The amount of time required for the actual interview was from an hour to two hours and a half. The questionnaire proved to be an excellent instrument to get the person to talk freely. One sitting seemed to be best.
- h. After the questionnaire was finished, it was closed and laid aside. Then the open-end questions were asked in an informal manner. Nothing was written down in the presence of the interviewee but the responses were immediately recorded after the termination of the interview.
- i. All birth dates of the parents were checked with those recorded on their file cards located in the offices of the Homes. These had been verified by checking birth certificates or birth records.

- j. Names and addresses and telephone numbers of the adult responsible children were obtained from the file cards of the parents.
- k. The letters were sent to the adult responsible children on a Saturday so that they would be received on Monday. This was done so that the children could be contacted by telephone before they had seen their parents and the research project explained. About four or five letters were sent per week so that the interviewing could be done promptly.
- l. Three of the adult responsible children were unwilling to have a personal interview but after persuasion, consented to answer the questionnaire and questions by mail. Two others were contacted by mail because of distance and bad driving conditions and one other because the parent had returned to live with the child. Only one questionnaire was not returned. A total of 64 interviews were made.
- m. Parents and the adult responsible children were always given an opportunity to comment further on the questions asked and to express an opinion on the questionnaire.



Procedures for Analyzing the Data

1. The response to each question on the questionnaire by each interviewee was tabulated under the code number of the interviewee. A sample tabulation sheet may be found in Appendix III.
2. A special mark was used for the response of the parent (x) and a special one for the response of the adult responsible child (o).
3. The relationship of parent and child was indicated beside the code number, e.g., whether Mother-Daughter (M D), Father-Daughter (F D), Mother-Son (M S), or Father-Son (F S).
4. The total number of responses for each question was computed separately for the Mothers, Fathers, Daughters, and Sons for each Home.
5. The responses of the middle-aged parents at Okemos Home (those between 50 and 60 years old) and their adult responsible children were kept separate from those of the parents over 65 years of age at Okemos and their adult responsible children.
6. The totals of the responses which were the same for the parent and adult responsible child were computed for each relationship, e.g., Mother-Daughter, Mother-Son, etc. and for each question.
7. All these totals were recorded on Tables - one

table for each category in the Schedule of Activities and Attitudes with the exception of General Information, which was broken up into four tables; and one table for the responses to each of the seven open-end questions.

8. Responses and totals of special interest were reported and discussed in the text for each table.
9. Totals of responses which were the same for parent and adult responsible child, e.g., the number of agreed responses or responses which agreed with each other, which were less than six were considered only low agreement; totals of agreed responses which were nine or ten and above were considered indicative of high agreement, and totals which numbered from seven to nine were considered indeterminate.
10. An important adjunct was the observance of certain criteria for interpretation as to possibility of the presence of guilt feelings on the part of the adult responsible child concerning the parent. The criteria kept in mind were, namely, whether the child said directly that she or he felt guilty, or statements to that effect; whether the behavior of the child would possibly indicate presence of guilt feelings, e.g., reluctance to be interviewed, the breaking of interview appointments and the like;

whether the child rationalized not having the parent live with her or him; whether the child was satisfied with her or his care of the parent, the implication being that lack of satisfaction would be a factor in guilt feelings; and finally whether the answers to the open-end questions would possibly hold indications of the presence of guilt feelings. These criteria were admittedly subjective in nature.

11. For the summary and conclusions, an item analysis was run on each major category of the schedule to determine the total number of low, high and indeterminate responses for each category, and the total number for the Activities half of the schedule and for the Attitudes half of the schedule.
12. Because of the small number of cases, no attempt was made to treat the data statistically to determine the significance of differences or of similarity.

## CHAPTER IV

### ANALYSIS OF DATA - ACTIVITIES

The data collected could lend itself to many interesting comparisons. In this investigation, however, three approaches were stressed in an attempt to determine the degree and nature of the insight of the adult responsible child into the interests, activities and feelings of the parent and the relation of this insight to the presence of guilt feelings, if any, on the part of the child in regard to the parent. The three approaches used were, namely,

1. the comparison of the child's responses to the same questions in regard to the parent with the responses by the parent in regard to herself or himself;
2. the parent's reactions to living arrangements after death or separation from spouse and to care given by adult children generally to old parents;
3. the adult responsible child's reaction to her or his care of the parent and to the living arrangements of the parent as the child felt about them and as she or he thought the parent felt about them.



The Tables were so set up that wherever possible the data for both The Women's Home and the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center appeared side by side. When not possible, because of too many categories, the data appeared first in a Table for The Women's Home and then for the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center immediately following in an "a" Table. For instance, Table V was the first table in which this arrangement occurred. Table V contained the data on Health for The Women's Home; Table Va contained the data on Health for the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center.

Data were given in each Table for the relationships Mother, Daughter, Son, Father and for Total. These were represented in the Tables by the letters M, D, S, F, T, respectively. The Women's Home had one case which was a grandmother-granddaughter relationship. However, this was essentially a mother-daughter relationship inasmuch as the grandmother raised the granddaughter. Okemos Home (Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center) also had one case that was not a mother and daughter relationship but was an aunt-niece relationship. This latter was not as close a relationship as the former, i.e., the aunt did not raise the niece but there had been considerable contact during the years. Therefore, in all the statistics, these two cases were incorporated in the mother-daughter numbers with the exception of those for the Age of Parent or Relative and Age

of Child or Relative. The statistics would have been thrown out of line because the Age of the granddaughter was a little young (37 years) and that of the niece was a little old (69 years). The ages of the Grandmother and of the Aunt were 88 years and 89 years, respectively, and were not out of line.

In Table I, entitled "Number of Cases, Age, Placement in Family of Adult Responsible Child," it will be seen that there were five cases of the mother-daughter relationship, nine cases of the mother-son relationship, making a total of fourteen cases. At Okemos Home there were six cases of mother-daughter relationship, three cases of mother-son relationship, five cases of father-daughter relationship, and one case of father-son relationship, making a total of fifteen cases. All parents above mentioned were 65 years old or over. There were three more cases, however, where the parents were less than 65 years old at Okemos Home but who had all the other qualifications to be eligible for inclusion in the investigation. They were between 50 and 60 years old. These cases were treated separately in the Tables under the heading of Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center. There were one case of mother-daughter relationship and two cases of mother-son relationship.

The total number of cases for the two Homes, therefore, was 32. The total number of mothers was 24 and the total number of fathers was eight. Twelve of the relationships

TABLE I

## NUMBER OF CASES, AGE, PLACEMENT IN FAMILY OF ADULT RESPONSIBLE CHILD

		The Women's Home				Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center			
		Parent or Relative		Parent or Relative		Parent or Relative		Parents 50-60 yrs. old	
Parent	* M	M with D	T with S	M with D	F with S	M with D	F with S	M with D	F with D
Child	D	S	S	D	S	D	S	D	D
**Number of Cases	5	9	14	6	3	5	1	15	1
***Age of Parent or Relative (in years)	74-87	76-83		66-89	79-84	67-85	77	57	50-54
Range	78	78		73	80	68			
Median	79	80		76	81	73			52
Arithmetic Mean									
Age of Child or Relative (in years)	42-60	42-60		34-52	53-59	34-51	49	33	21-24
****Range	49	50		43	58	35			
Median	50	50		44	57	40			23
Arithmetic Mean									
Which Child or Relative Has the Responsibility	2	2	4	2	1	1	1	5	1
Oldest	1	1	2	1	1	2		4	1
Middle	2	3	5	2	2	1		3	1
Youngest		3	3	1	1	1		3	1
Only	5	9	14	6	3	5	1	15	2
Total									3

\*M, D, S, F, T refer to Mother, Daughter, Son, Father, and Total. M with D, then, refers to Mother with Daughter; M with S refers to Mother with Son; F with D refers to Father with Daughter, etc.

\*\*There is only one case in each Home where the relationship is other than that of Parent and Child. In The Women's Home the one case is Grandmother-Granddaughter relationship but the former raised the latter so it is essentially a Mother-Daughter relationship; at Ingham Co. Hosp. and Rehab. Center the one case is Aunt-Niece relationship. Therefore all statistics include these two in Parent-Child category unless indicated otherwise.

\*\*\*Fractions of years are counted as next whole number if six months and over. Without Grandmother (88 yrs.) in Women's Home and without Aunt (89 yrs.) in Ingham County Hospital.

\*\*\*\*Without Granddaughter (37 yrs.) and without Niece (69 yrs.). These two included with Parent-Child figures everywhere else.



were mother-daughter, twelve were mother-son, seven were father-daughter, and one was father-son.

The ages of the parent and of the adult responsible child were given in whole numbers in the Table. Fractions of years were counted as the next whole number if six months or over. The ages of the mothers at The Women's Home ranged from 74-87 years and at Okemos from 66-89 years, with the average age being approximately 78 years for both groups. The range for the fathers over 65 years old at Okemos Home was from 67-85, with the average age being 73 years and the ages of the parents less than 65 years was 57 for the mother and 50 and 54 years for the fathers.

The age range of the adult responsible children was 42-60 years for both the daughters and the sons of the mothers at The Women's Home, the average age being 50 years old. At Okemos Home the range was from 34-52 years for the daughters of the parents over 65 years old and 53-59 years for the sons. The average ages were 42 and 55, respectively. The daughter of the 57 year old mother was 33 years old and the daughters of the middle-aged fathers were 21 and 24 years old. Therefore, all the adult responsible children could be classed in the middle-aged category except the two daughters of the middle-aged fathers.

The placement in the family of the child who had the main responsibility for the parent was evenly divided between the categories of "oldest," "middle," and "youngest" for the

three middle-aged parents at Okemos - one each. For the old parents at Okemos, the majority of their adult responsible children were either the "Oldest" in the family (five) or the "Middle" child (four). For The Women's Home the majority of the children were either the "Oldest" in the family (four) or the "Youngest" (five). Three of the mothers had an only son. At Okemos Home, one mother and one father each had an only daughter, and one mother had an only son. Therefore, all cases but six had more than one child in the family. The placement totals for the responsible child in the family for parents over 65 in the two Homes were pretty evenly divided between the "Oldest" in the family (nine) and the "Youngest" (eight) with slightly less for the "Middle" child (six).

It will be seen in Table II that ten of the fourteen mothers at The women's Home, twelve of the fifteen parents at Okemos, and all three of the middle-aged parents at Okemos had lived with the responsible child. The range of number of years was from two weeks to twenty years for the mothers at The Women's Home and from two months to twenty-three years for the mothers at Okemos. For the fathers with daughters at Okemos, the range was from one to four years, for the father with a son it was sixteen years. The middle-aged mother lived with the daughter a few months, and the fathers lived with their responsible daughters one and one-half years and four years respectively. So by far the majority of the parents

TABLE II

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF PARENT AFTER DEATH OF OR SEPARATION FROM SPOUSE  
AND NUMBER OF YEARS RESIDENCE IN HOME FOR OLD PEOPLE  
AND IN LANSING AND MICHIGAN

	The Women's Home				Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center			
	Parent		Parent		Parent		Parents	
	Parent M with D	M with S	T with D	M with S	F with D	F with S	50-60 yrs. old M with D	F with D
*Has Parent Lived with this Child	Parent M with D	M with S	T with D	M with S	F with D	F with S		
Yes	4	6	10	5	3	1	12	1
No	1	3	4	1	2		3	2
If So, No. of Years - Range	3 mos to 7 yrs	2 wks to 20 yrs		2 mos to 20 yrs	6 mos to 23 yrs	1 yr to 16 yrs	Few mos to 4 yrs	1 1/2 yrs to 4 yrs
Living Arrangements after Death of or Separation from Spouse								
Other Than in a Home for Old People								
Just with Child (as above)	2	3	5	2	1		3	
Child and Family Lived with Parent	1	1	2	1		1	2	
Alone	1	3	4		3		3	1
Alone but had Roomers	1	1	2					1
With Other Children		1	2					
With Friend		1	1				3	1
Apartment in Child's Home	2		2				1	
Renters in Apartment in Own House								
With Sister							1	1
Brother with Her								
In Rooming Houses		1	1				1	

In Women's Home before Coming to Okemos**	1	1	1	1	1
In a Hospital (a year or more)	1	1	2	1	1
In a Convalescent (Nursing) Home	1	1	1	1	1
No. of Years at Women's Home or Okemos - Range	Few wks to 5 yrs	1 wk to 15 yrs	2 wks to 5 yrs	2 mos to 19 yrs	1 yr to 9 yrs
				2 yrs	6 yrs
				2 yrs	3 mos to 4 yrs
No. of Years in Lansing Area - Range	9 yrs to 81 yrs	14 yrs to 49 yrs	2 wks to 79 yrs	24 yrs to 50 yrs	9 yrs to 76 yrs
				6 yrs	53 yrs
				25 yrs	2 yrs to 25 yrs
No. of Years in Michigan - Range	9 yrs to 83 yrs	30 yrs to 83 yrs	35 yrs to 87 yrs	40 yrs to 83 yrs	30 yrs to 80 yrs
				77 yrs	57 yrs
				50 yrs	50 yrs

\* "Okemos" refers to the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center and will be used interchangeably with each other and with "O.H." (Okemos Home or Hospital).



had spent some time living with the responsible child after the death of or the separation from their mates. A total of fifteen out of the nineteen responsible daughters and ten of the thirteen responsible sons had had their mother or father living with them. Only four daughters and three sons had never had the parent living with them.

Numerous other living arrangements were tried, the most usual being living alone and with other children in the family before coming to live in a Home for Old People. Two had actually been a year or more in a hospital before going to Okemos. Not indicated in the Table was the fact that the usual pattern before going to Okemos was that the parent was living with the responsible child or living alone when she or he became ill or broke a hip and needed hospitalization, and from there went to Okemos to recuperate or be cared for.

The range of time spent in The Women's Home was for mothers with daughters from two weeks to five years, and for mothers with sons from one week to fifteen years. At Okemos for parents over 65 years, the range was from a few weeks to five years for mothers with daughters, from two months to nineteen years for mothers with sons, one year to nine years for fathers with daughters and two years for the father with a son. The middle-aged mother had been at Okemos for six years and the middle-aged fathers had been there three months and four years, respectively. The mother with a son at The Women's Home who had been there fifteen years and the mother

with a son at Okemos who had been there nineteen years had both served the Home as Matron and nurse, respectively. They liked the Home so well that they decided to stay there.

Michigan had been the home of the residents of both places for a number of years ranging from nine years to 87 years. All except one had lived in the Lansing area for many years. Many had lived all their lives in Michigan and/or the Lansing area.

All of the parents were born in the United States with the exception of two mothers, one of whom was born in Canada and one in Sweden. Table III also shows that the majority of the parents were born in Michigan, twenty out of the thirty-two. The remainder were born, for the most part, in adjoining mid-western states and New York State.

About a third of the fathers of the parents were born in Michigan (11) but less than a third of the mothers (9) were born in Michigan. Only six of the fathers of the parents were foreign-born and only four of the mothers. All were born in either Canada or northern European countries.

Therefore, it could be said that the parents in the investigation are of comparatively old American stock.

Twenty-four of the thirty-two parents lived on a farm as children, but only five continued to live on a farm as adults. Two more lived a few years on the farm during married life. This is an interesting reflection of the general trend away from agriculture in the United States as

TABLE III

## BIRTHPLACE OF PARENTS AND THEIR PARENTS; AND PARENTS' FARM EXPERIENCE

Birthplace Of Parent	The Women's Home				Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center				Parents			
	Parent				Parent				50-60 yrs. old			
	Parent Child	M with D	M with S	T with D	M with D	M with S	F with D	F with S	T with D	M with D	F with D	T with D
Illinois			2	2		1			1			
Indiana			1	1	4	3	4	1	12	1	2	3
Michigan	3		2	5								
New York State	1		1	2								
Ohio					1				1			
United States (State not given)			2	2			1		1			
Canada			1	1								
Sweden	1			1								
Total	5	9	14	6	3	5	1	15	1	2	3	
Of Parent's Father												
Indiana		1	1	1				1				
Maryland		1	1	1								
Michigan		2	3	3		1	1		5	1	2	3
New York State	1								2			
Oklahoma	2					1			1			
Vermont						1			1			
United States (State not given)	1	3	4									
Canada									1			
England		1	1				1	1				
Germany				2							2	

TABLE III (cont.)

Sweden	1	5	9	14	6	3	5	1	15	1	2	3
Total												
Of Parent's Mother												
Indiana			1	1	1				1			
Michigan	1			1	3	2		1	6		2	2
New York State	1			1			2		2	1		1
Ohio			1	1	1				1			
Pennsylvania	1		1	2								
Vermont			1	1								
United States	1		4	5		1	2		3			
(State not given)												
Canada			1	1			1		1			
Germany				1					1			
Sweden	1			1								
Total	5		9	14	6	3	5	1	15	1	2	3
Parent Lived on Farm												
As a Child												
Yes	5		6	11	4	3	3	1	11		2	2
No			3	3	2		2		4	1		1
Total	5		9	14	6	3	5	1	15	1	2	3
As an Adult												
Yes			1	1	2		1	1	4			
No			6	11	4	3	4		11	1	2	3
For a Few Years During Married Life	5		2	2								
Total	5		9	14	6	3	5	1	15	1	2	3

a whole.

In Table IV the column marked "Agreed" is introduced. This column lists the number of responses to the questions that were the same for both parent and child in regard to the parent.

The figures in Table IV indicate that there was very little agreement between parent and child as to the amount of education the parent had had. Four mothers and sons and one mother and daughter out of fourteen at The Women's Home agreed; one in each relationship at Okemos agreed making a total of four and the middle-aged mother and daughter agreed.

None of the parents at W.H. had less than seven grades of education and none left school in the teens. Three of the Okemos parents had less than seven grades and three left school in the teens. Half of the parents at W. H. completed four years of high school and two had two years of college and one of these latter also had two years of normal school. Over half of the parents at Okemos had seven and eight grades of education; one had a year at college; and one had three years nurse' training after high school plus two more years of post-graduate nurse's training at a university. However, it is evident that the parents at W. H. were a little better educated as a whole than those at Okemos.

The reason for lack of agreement between the responses of the parents and the children was not clear. There did not seem to be any general tendency on the part of the children

TABLE IV

## EDUCATION OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

The Women's Home											
Parent's Education	Parent				Child			Agreed			
	Parents Children	M M with			D	S	T	M M & & D S T	M M & & D S T	M M & & D S T	
		D	S	T							
Grades											
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
8		1				2	2				
High School		1	1			1	1	2			
1		1				1		1			
2											
3											
4											
College or University		1	6			3	3		3	3	
1											
2											
3		1				1	1	2	1	1	
4											
Left School											
When 15 years old											
When 16 years old											
When 18 years old											
Miscellaneous											
Eighth Grade plus Course so could teach						1		1			
Eighth Grade plus Course in Dressmaking						1		1			
Eighth Grade plus Art School											
Four Years High School plus Art Course		1	1								
Two Years at University plus Two Years Normal School		1	1			1	1		1	1	
Nurse's Training--Three Years in Hospital plus Two Years Post Graduate at University											
Short Course at Michigan State University											
Correspondence Course in Book- keeping and Accounting											
Not answer						1		1			
Not Know											
Total		5	9	14		5	9	14	1	4	5

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)																				
									Parent 50-60 yrs. old											
Parent					Child				Agreed					Parent		Child		Agreed		
M M F F									M M F F					M F				M F		
with									& & &					with				& &		
D S D S T									D S D S T					D D T		D		D D T		
					1				1											
													1		1					
					1				1											
1					1				1											
1					2				1					1		1		1		
2					2				1					1		1		1		
					1								1		1					
1					1															
					1				1											
					2				2											
					2				2											
1					1				1											
1					1															
1					1															
1					1															
1					1				1					1		1		1		
					1				1											
7					4				1					1		17		1		
11					4				15					1		4		1		
1					2				1					1		5		1		

to either exaggerate or disparage the amount of education of the parent. Both took place. Some of the children over-estimated the amount of education of the parent and some under-estimated the amount. Only one child did not answer and only three children admitted they did not know.

In Tables V and Va, data on "Health of Parent as Reported by Parent and by Child" are presented. Only two of the mothers living at The Women's Home reported their health as being "Fair" whereas the remainder reported it as being "Good" (nine reported it as such) or "Excellent" (three reported it in this category). Eight of their adult responsible children (two daughters and six sons) gave the same responses as their mothers. Proportionately more sons seemed to have insight into the condition of their mothers' health than daughters - two thirds of the sons but two fifths of the daughters.

At the Okemos Home, seven of the parents over 65 years old reported their health as being "Fair" and four more said it was "Poor;" but four said it was "Good." Seven of their children gave the same responses as their parents. None of the children rated their parents' health as being "Good" and two rated it as being "Very poor." Two of the middle-aged parents rated their health as "Fair" and one middle-aged father rated it as being "Very Poor." Two of the daughters gave the same responses as their middle-aged parents.

In reporting whether their health was "Worse now," "About the same," or "Better now" than it was when they were



TABLE V

## HEALTH OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

The Women's Home										
	Parents	Parent M		Child			Agreed M & D		T	
		D	S	T	D	S	T			
1. How would you rate your health at the present time?										
Very poor	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Poor	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Fair	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Good	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Excellent	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2. Is your health better or worse now than it was when you were 55 years of age?										
Worse now	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
About the same.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Better now	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3. What are your serious physical problems?										
Hypertensions	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ulcers	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Poor sight	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Blind or nearly so	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Hard of hearing	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Deaf or nearly so.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

TABLE V (cont.)

Crippled arms, hands or legs	2	1	2	3	1	1	1
General rheumatic stiffness	2	1	1	2	1	1	1
Heart trouble	2	2	2	4	2	2	2
Stomach trouble	2	1	3	3	1	1	1
High blood pressure	2	1	1	2	1	1	1
No physical problems	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other (what is it?)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Low blood pressure	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cancer operation or operations		1	1	1	1	1	1
Mental deterioration		1	1	1	1	1	1
Asthma		1	1	1	1	1	1
Arthritis							
Strokes							
Broken hip							
Chronic bronchiectasis							
Neurotic nerves							
Sinus							
Palsy							
Leg amputated							
Total (without "no physical problems")	22	11	21	32	9	6	15
Total (with "no physical problems")					7	7	16

4. Below is a list of difficulties that people often have. Check those that trouble you.

Not know.	1	1	1	1			
Shortness of breath at night							
Shortness of breath after slight exercise	3	2	2	4	2	2	2
Heart burn		1	1	1			
Swelling of feet or legs	2	1	2	3	1	1	1
Feeling tired	6	3	3	6	2	2	4
Have had nervous breakdown.		2	3	5			

TABLE V (cont.)

## HEALTH OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

	The Women's Home									
	Parents		Parent M		Child		Agreed M & D			
	Children		D	S	T		D	S	T	
Difficulty in urination.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Constipation	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Aching joints	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Backache.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Gas pains	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Headaches	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
No difficulties	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total (without "No difficulties" and "Not know")	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
			31	14	23	37	9	6	15	
5. How many days did you spend in bed last year?										
Not know.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
All the time	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
A month or more	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Two to four weeks.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
A few days	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
None	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total (without "Not know")	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
			14	7	9	14	3	2	5	
6. Which of the following things often trouble you?										
Sleeplessness	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bad dreams	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Tire too easily	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
			3	1	1	2	2	1	3	
			7	2	3	5	2	1	3	



TABLE Va

## HEALTH OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center														
Parents 50-60 yrs. old														
	Parents		Parent		Child		Agreed		Parent		Child		Agreed	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Children														
			D		S		T		D		S		T	
	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S
1. How would you rate your health at the present time?														
Very poor	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Poor.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Fair.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2
Good.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Excellent	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	7
2. Is your health better or worse now than it was when you were 55 years of age?														
Worse now	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	8
About the same	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Better now.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9	9
3. What are your serious physical problems?														
Hypertension	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Ulcers	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Diabetes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Poor sight.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	5

[illegible]

4. Below is a list of difficulties that people often have. Check those that trouble you.

Not know	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Shortness of breath at night.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Shortness of breath after slight exercise.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.







TABLE Va(cont.)

## HEALTH OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center													
Parents 50-60 yrs. old													
	Parent		Child		Agreed				Parent		Child		Agreed M F T & D
	M	F	T		M	M	F	F	M	F	T	D	
	D	S	T	D	S	D	S	T				D	
Heart burn.	3	2	5	2	2	1		1				1	
Swelling of feet or legs	7	3	10	9	2	1	4	1	3	8		1	
Feeling tired.	8	3	11	6	6	3	2			5	1	2	1 1 2
Have had nervous breakdown	1	1	2									1	
Difficulty in urination	4	3	7			1	2			3			
Constipation	6	4	10	6	1	7	4	1	2	7	1	1	
Aching joints.	5	2	7	6	1	7	4	1		5		1	1 1
Backache	6	1	7	5	2	7	2	1	1	4	1	2	1 1
Gas pains	4	3	7	3	2	5	1	2	1	4	1	2	1 1
Headaches	1	2	3	1	1	2				2		2	
No difficulties	1	1	1	1				1		1			
Total (without "No difficulties and "Not know")	50	26	76	44	11	55	21	6	12	2	4	1	2 5 7

  

5. How many days did you spend in bed last year?													
Not know	1	1											
A month or more	4	2	6	4	2	6	2	1	3	1	1	2	1 1
Two to four weeks	1		1	2		2			1		1		
A few days	1	2	3	1		1				1	1		
None	3	2	5	4	1	5	1		1			1	
Total without "Not Know"	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	1	4	1	2	3	1 1

TABLE Va(cont.)

6. Which of the following things often trouble you?																							
Sleeplessness.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Bad dreams.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Tire too easily.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2
Food doesn't taste good	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Feel "blue"	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Nervousness	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Dislike noise.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Worry about health	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Forgetfulness.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Troubled with none of these	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Total (without "Troubled with none of these")	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	13	4
7. Have you had any serious accidents in the last five years?																							
Yes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
No	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	3
If so, what?																							
Sprained angle	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Broken wrist	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2
Broken hip.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Fell and bruised leg	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Broke left arm and collar bone	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Auto accident and lost few front teeth	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1



TABLE Va(cont.)

## Ingham County Hosp. &amp; Rehab. Center (Okemos)

B. Your Health	Parents	Parent 50-60 yrs. old											
		Parent					Child						
		M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1. How would you rate your health at the present time?													
Very poor	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2			1	1	
Poor	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2	4	3	1	4	1
Fair	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	2	7	8	1	9	2
Good	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2	4				
Total.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	4
	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	7	1	2	3	3	1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
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	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1
	.	.	.	.	.	.							1

<b>3. (cont.)</b>																													
High blood pressure . . . . .	2	2	3	3	1					1																			
No physical problems. . . . .		1	1	1	1					1																			
Other (what is it?)																													
Low blood pressure . . . . .	1	1																											
Cancer operation or operations . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1					1	1																		
Arthritis . . . . .	2	1	3	3	2					1	3																		
Stroke(s) . . . . .	1	2	3	2	1					1	3																		
Broken hip . . . . .	2		2	1	2	1				2	1																		
Chronic Bronchiaticus . . . . .			2																										
Neurotic nerves . . . . .				1						1																			
Sinus. . . . .		1								1																			
Palsy. . . . .		1	1							1																			
Leg amputated . . . . .		1	1	1						1	1	1																	
Total (without "No physical problems)	33	21	54	38	12	50	17	8	12	1	38	4	7	11															
<b>4. Below is a list of difficulties that people often have. Check those that trouble you.</b>																													
Not know. . . . .				1	1																								
Shortness of breath at night . . . . .	1		1	2	1	3																							
Shortness of breath after slight exercise . . . . .	4	2	6	4	1	5	2			1	3																		
Heart burn . . . . .	3	2	5	2		2	1																						
Swelling of feet or legs . . . . .	7	3	10	9	2	11	4	1	3																				
Feeling tired . . . . .	8	3	11	6		6	3		2																				
Have had nervous breakdown. . . . .	1	1	2																										
Difficulty in urination. . . . .	4	3	7							1	2																		
Constipation . . . . .	6	4	10	6	1	7	4	1	2																				
Aching joints . . . . .	5	2	7	6	1	7	4	1																					
Backache. . . . .	6	1	7																										

4. Below is a list of difficulties that people often have. Check those that trouble you.

Not know.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Shortness of breath at night	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Shortness of breath after slight exercise	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Heart burn	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Swelling of feet or legs	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Feeling tired	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Have had nervous breakdown.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Difficulty in urination.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Constipation	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Aching joints	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Backache.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Gas pains	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Headaches	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
No difficulties	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total (without "No difficulties" and "Not know")	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

**Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center**

[illegible]

7. Have you had any serious accidents in the last five years?					
Yes . . . . .	.	.	.	.	. . . . .
No. . . . .	.	.	.	.	. . . . .
Total. . . . .	.	.	.	.	. . . . .
If so, what?					
Broken hip . . . . .	.	.	.	.	. . . . .
Fell and bruised leg. . . . .	.	.	.	.	. . . . .
Broke left arm and collar bone .	.	.	.	.	. . . . .
Auto accident and lost few front teeth . . . . .	.	.	.	.	. . . . .

55 years of age, the mothers at The Women's Home responded in about equal numbers to the three categories, four, six, four, respectively. Again eight of the adult responsible children gave the same responses as their parents and again the division was two daughters and six sons. By far the majority of the old parents at Okemos (twelve) reported their health as being "Worse now." Ten of their children gave the same response. Only the middle-aged mother was past 55 years of age and she rated her health as being "About the same" whereas her daughter rated it as being "Better now."

The mothers at The Women's Home reported a total number of twenty-two serious physical problems or an average of 1.6 per mother, and their children reported a total of thirty-two, or an average of 2.3 per parent (11 by daughters and 21 by sons). Sixteen of the responses of the children were the same - nine by the daughters and seven by the sons. Here the daughters had more insight or knowledge of their mother's problems than the sons.

The old parents at Okemos reported a total of fifty-four serious physical problems, or an average of 3.6 per parent, and their children reported a total of fifty serious physical problems for their parents, or an average of 3.3 per parent. Thirty-eight of the responses were the same for both children and parents. The middle-aged parents reported eleven serious physical problems, or an average of 3.7, and their children reported eight, or an average of 2.7 per parent.





Thirty-eight of the responses were the same for both children and parents. The middle-aged parents reported eleven serious physical problems, or an average of 3.7, and their children reported eight, or an average of 2.7 per parent. Seven of the eight responses were the same as those of their parents.

Therefore, there was a very high agreement among the responses of parents at Okemos and their children.

More than twice as many "Difficulties" were reported by the old parents at Okemos than by the mothers living at The Women's Home - 76, or an average of 7 each, as compared with 31, or an average of 2.2 each. The children of the parents at the Women's Home reported thirty-seven with "Difficulties" with fifteen of the responses being the same as those of their mothers. The children of the old parents reported fifty-five "Difficulties", or an average of 3.6 per parent, considerably less than their parents, with forty-one responses being the same. The middle-aged parents reported thirteen "Difficulties," or an average of 4.3 each, and their children reported twelve with seven of the responses being the same as those of their parents.

Therefore, much less agreement between parents and children on "Difficulties" of parent - a little over half of the responses agreed.

Ten parents at The Women's Home said they had spent no days in bed during the past year. Only three of their adult



responsible children agreed with this response. Nine of their children said their parents had spent "a few days" in bed. There was a total of five responses which were the same for parents and children.

Only five of the old parents reported spending no days in bed during the past year and only one child gave the same response as her parent. There was a total of four responses in agreement between parent and child. The middle-aged parents reported having to stay in bed from a few days to a month or more. Only one daughter's response agreed with that of her parent. Thus, there was low agreement on responses between parents at both Homes and their children.

Only about one-fifth of the parents at both Homes reported serious accidents during the past five years and none of the middle-aged parents. Agreement in response was almost perfect for the old parents and for the middle-aged parents at the Okemos Home and their children but only three-fifths of the parents living at The Women's Home and their children agreed.

To summarize, the health of the parents at The Women's Home as reported by themselves and their adult responsible children was better (Good) than that (Fair) of the parents, both old and middle-aged, living at Okemos Home as reported by them and their children. The rating of health was high and the number of serious physical problems for parent was less for the parents living at The Women's Home than for

parents living at Okemos Home. This was not surprising since parents living at The Women's Home must be reasonably well to live there.

There was high agreement between the responses of parents at both Homes and their children on the number of serious physical problems of the parents, less agreement on rating of the health of the parent - about half of the responses agreed (except for middle-aged parents where two out of three agreed), and low agreement on number of days spent in bed. On difficulties of parents, there was high agreement between the responses of the parents living at Okemos and their children, but only indeterminate agreement between the responses of the parents living at The Women's Home and their children (half agreed). And on whether the parents' health was worse, the same, or better than when the parent was 55 years old, there was high agreement between the responses of the parents living at Okemos and their children, but only half the responses of the parents at The Women's Home agreed with those of their children.

Apparently then there was considerable knowledge and insight on the part of the children of parents at both Homes in regard to the parents' serious physical problems. There was also considerable insight into rating of health as to better, the same, or worse and as to difficulties of parents by the children of the old parents living at Okemos for the former, and by the children of all the parents for the latter.



This difference in insight was not surprising since the condition of health was obviously worse for the parents at Okemos. It would be hard to say in regard to the parents at The Women's Home whether it was the same, or better, or worse. The responses of the parents themselves were about equally divided. It was the low agreement of the responses of the daughters that reduced the number of agreed responses, surprisingly enough. Also the mental set of the children toward their parents at The women's Home was that their parents were well and that of the children toward their parents at Okemos was that they were not in good physical condition. As to whether guilt feelings on the part of the children were revealed in the health reports is hard to say - but it is not likely. The agreed responses on all items except number of days spent in bed numbered half or more and there was a high number of agreed responses on three items for parents at Okemos and their children and for six mothers at the Women's Home and their sons.

"Family Relationships of Parent as Reported by Parent and Child" are dealt with in Tables VI and VIa. Table VI will be discussed first. The husbands of the mothers living at The Women's Home were all dead. The range of the number of years of widowhood was from five years to thirty-four years with the number of cases pretty evenly divided between the five-year categories. Interestingly enough there was very little agreement in the responses of parent and child

# FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENTS AND BY CHILD

The Women's Home										
	Parents			Parent M	Child			Agreed M M & S T		
	D	S	T		D	S	T	D	S	T
1. Which of the following applies to you?										
Divorced . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Never been married . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Married but separated . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Widow or widower. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Separated and spouse still living .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
How many years ago were you										
widowed . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1 - 4 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
5 - 9 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
10 - 14 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15 - 19 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
20 - 24 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
25 - 29 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
30 - 34 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
35 - 39 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
40 - 44 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
45 - 49 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
50 - 54 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	14	5	9	14	5	9	14	5	9	14
	3	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
	3	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	2	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	1	2
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	14	5	9	14	2	2	2	2	2	4
	12	4	8	12	4	8	12	4	8	12
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2. How many times have you been married?										
Once . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Twice . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.



[illegible]

\*Rated Marriage as "very happy" until husband became mentally ill, then rated it "unhappy"; therefore, total of 15 instead of 14. Child rated it all as "average."



TABLE VI (cont.)

	The Women's Home									
	Parents		Parent M		Child			Agreed		
	Children				D	S	T	M	M	& S T
Certainly . . . . .			11		1	6	8	2	6	8
Not answer. . . . .			2							
Not know . . . . .										
Total . . . . .			14		5	9	14	3	6	9
If she/he was married more than once, did the first spouse die?										
Yes . . . . .			1		1		1	1		1
No. . . . .										
6. How many living children do you now have?										
0 children, 2 nieces. . . . .										
1 . . . . .			3		1	3	4	1	2	3
2 . . . . .			5		2	3	5	2	3	5
3 . . . . .			5		2	2	4	2	2	4
4 . . . . .										
5 . . . . .										
6 . . . . .										
7 . . . . .										
8 . . . . .										
9 . . . . .										
10 . . . . .			1		1	1	1	1	1	1
Total . . . . .			14		5	9	14	5	8	13

TABLE VI (cont.)

7. With whom were you living before coming to the Home?									
Not answer . . . . .	1								
With husband or wife . . . . .									
Mother with daughter . . . . .	1								
Mother with son . . . . .	4								
Alone . . . . .	7								
Grandmother with granddaughter . . . . .	1								
Convalescent home . . . . .									
Total . . . . .	14	5	10	15**	5	8*	13		
How long? - with daughter or granddaughter or grandniece									
Less than 1 year. . . . .									
1 - 4 years. . . . .	1								
5 - 9 years. . . . .	1								
10 - 14 years. . . . .									
15 - 19 years. . . . .									
20 - 24 years. . . . .									
Total . . . . .	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
How long? - with son									
Less than 1 year. . . . .									
1 - 4 years. . . . .	3	1	2	3	1	2	3		
5 - 9 years. . . . .									
10 - 14 years. . . . .									
15 - 19 years. . . . .									
20 - 24 years. . . . .									
Total . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total . . . . .	4	1	3	4	1	3	4		

\*One mother reluctant on what she thought were personal questions.

\*\*More than one response given



TABLE VI (cont.)

		Misunderstood question . . . . .										
Total . . . . .		1					1					
		5					9					
		14					14					
		4					7					
		11					11					
10. On Neighborhood Comparison Omitted - not apply												
11. Are your present living arrangements the result of												
Choice. . . . .		8					9					
Necessity. . . . .		4					3					
Both . . . . .		2					2					
Total . . . . .		14					14					
12. How often do you see some of your family or close relatives?												
As often as possible . . . . .												
Every 6 weeks or 2 months . . . . .												
Once in 4 months . . . . .												
less than once a year. . . . .												
About once a month. . . . .												
Once or twice a week . . . . .		3					3					
Every day. . . . .		8					8					
Twice a month . . . . .		3					3					
Total . . . . .		14					14					
Son's wife telephones every morning . . . . .		1					1					
*Drop in in between visits . . . . .												
13. If you have a family or close relatives do they neglect you?												
Misunderstood question . . . . .												

\*Have mother over at own home twice a month; son also drops in to see her.

TABLE VI (cont.)

The Women's Home										
		Parents		Parent	Child			Agreed		
				M		D	S	T	M	M & S
		Children				D	S	T	D	S
13. (cont.)										
No	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	5 8
Yes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
A little	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	5 5
Not at all	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	12	1 1
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	14	5 10* 15
How do you think she/he thinks about this?										
Yes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		2 2
No	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	6 9
Misunderstood question	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1 1
Not know	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1 1
Not answer	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		1 1
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	9 14
14. If you have a family or close relatives, do they try to interfere in your affairs?										
Yes, often	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	2 2
Yes, once in a while	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3**	1 1
Almost never	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	10	3 8** 11 3 5** 8
No	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	14	5 9 14 3 5 8
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		

\* Son and wife feel other children neglect parent but not them; two responses

\*\* The 3 "Almost never" are matched by 3 "No's" by the sons; so actually 11 parents and children are essentially the "same" instead of 8.





as to how long ago the mother became widowed - only four agreed - two mothers and daughters and two mothers and sons. Of course, there was total agreement that the mother was widowed.

Twelve of the fourteen mothers at The women's Home had been married only once, one had been married twice, and one had been married either three or four times - there was disagreement between the mother and daughter on this due to the fact there was an annulment. There were no separations or divorces excepting this annulment. This was not shown on the Table but was indicated in the questionnaires in comments made by both parent and child. There was almost total agreement between parent and child - thirteen out of fourteen responses were the same.

The majority of the parents at W. H. were married between the ages of 20 and 29 years - six between 20 and 24 years old and five between 25 and 29 years old. Only three were married in their teens. Six of the responses of the children agreed with those of the parents - three out of five daughters and three out of nine sons.

It is interesting to note that the mothers at W. H. tended to rate the happiness of their marriage higher than their children. Eleven out of fourteen mothers rated their marriage as having been either "happy" (five) or "very happy" (six) whereas no daughters and three sons rated the marriage as "happy" and one daughter and two sons rated it as "very



happy." There was no agreement between mothers and daughters on any of the happiness categories except one case agreed that the marriage was "unhappy." Four of the nine sons agreed with their mothers as to the happiness of the marriage - one case considered it "average," two cases considered it "happy," and one "very happy." Two of the five daughters and four of the nine sons considered it "average" and two of the daughters and no sons considered it to have been "unhappy." One mother rated it as having been "very unhappy" but none of the children rated it as such. The daughters rated the marriages of their mothers as being less happy than did the sons. It rather looks as though the sons tended to have more insight into the actual happiness of the marriage than did the daughters.

Eleven of the mothers and two of the daughters and six of the sons were certain that the mothers would marry the same person if they had their lives to live over again. All eight of the children agreed with the parents' responses. Therefore, two-fifths of the daughters and two-thirds of the sons gave the same response as the mothers. Again it would seem that the sons had more insight as to the actual happiness of the marriage. Only one mother said she would not marry the same person whereas two of the daughters and two of the sons said she would not. Two mothers refused to answer this question, which was significant in itself.

Eight of the fourteen mothers said they came to The

Women's Home through "choice" and four said it was "necessity." Two more said it was "both." Nine children (two daughters and seven sons) said it was "choice" on the part of the parent; one daughter and five sons gave the same response as the mother.

Two daughters and mothers agreed that it was "necessity." Only one son said it was "necessity" and one that it was "both" but neither of these responses was the same as that of the parent.

A total of eight adult responsible children gave the same responses as the mothers (three daughters and five sons) - just over half in each case. Could it be that almost all the sons in their reluctance, as expressed in the interview, to have their mothers go to a Home for Old People, be able to accept the present living arrangements only as "choice" on the part of their mothers because of guilt feelings?

In Table VIa, which gives the data on Family Relationships of the residents of the Okemos Home, it will be noted that nine of the parents over 65 years of age were widowed because of the death of the spouse. Five were separated from their mates, two of which were still living, and one was divorced. The middle-aged mother was separated from her husband because of her illness and because of loss of uninsured house by fire. One middle-aged father was divorced from his wife and the other middle-aged father was separated from his wife which was to end in divorce. Thus the marriage



TABLE VIa

FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT  
AND BY CHILD

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center																
C. Your Family	Parents			Parent			Child			Agreed			Parent 50-60 yrs. old			
	M	F	T	M	F	T	D	S	T	D	S	T	M	F	T	
																M
1. Which of the following applies to you?																
Divorced.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Married but separated	3	2	5	4	1	5	2	1	2	5	1	1	2	1	1	2
Widow or widower	6	3	9	6	3	9	4	2	2	1	9					
Separated and spouse still living	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2
How many years ago were you widowed?																
1- 4 years	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5- 9 years	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
10-14 years	2	2	4	4	1	5	1	2	3	3						
15-19 years	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1						
20-24 years	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	1	2	2						
25-29 years	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
30-34 years				1	1	1										
35-39 years																
40-44 years																
45-49 years	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1							
50-54 years	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1							
Not know	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1					
Total	*10	5	15*													

2. How many times have you been married?

Once . . . . .	8	6	14	10	4	14	5	3	5	1	14	1	1	2	2	1	1	2
----------------	---	---	----	----	---	----	---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

\*Two mothers "Not know" but number of years given by child filled in and one mother and father have spouses living and are separated from them. No years given.

**2. (cont.)**

[illegible]

If she/he was married more than once,  
did the first spouse die?

	Yes.	No.
1. Do you have a good understanding of the company's financial statements?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Do you have a good understanding of the company's business strategy?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Do you have a good understanding of the company's competitive position?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Do you have a good understanding of the company's market position?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Do you have a good understanding of the company's financial position?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Do you have a good understanding of the company's operational position?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Do you have a good understanding of the company's legal position?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Do you have a good understanding of the company's environmental position?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Do you have a good understanding of the company's social position?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Do you have a good understanding of the company's overall position?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**TABLE Via(cont.)**

[illegible]



**TABLE VIA(cont.)**

[illegible]

\*One mother reluctant on what she thought were personal questions.

**\*\*More than one response given.**



TABLE VIa(cont.)

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)															
C. Your Family	Parents	Parent Child			Agreed			Parent Child			Parent 50-60 yrs. old				
		M	F	T	M	M	F	M	F	T	M	F	&		
				Children						with					
		D	S	T	D	S	S	D	S	T	D	D	T	D	T
9. How long have you lived in this place?															
	6 months or less.	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	7-11 months	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1-4 years.	3	2	5	6	2	8	2	1	1	5	2	2	2	2
	5-9 years.	1	4	5	4	4	4	4	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
	10-14 years.														
	15-19 years.														
	20-24 years.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Total.	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	2	5	1	11	2	3	3
10. On Neighborhood Comparison Omitted - Not apply.															
11. Are your present living arrangements the result of															
	Choice	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Necessity	4	2	6	6	3	9	1	2	1	4	1	2	3	1
	Both	3	4	7	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
	Total.	9	6	15	11	4	15	1	3	2	7	1	2	3	3
12. How often do you see some of your family or close relatives?															
	As often as possible.						1	1							
	Every 6 weeks or two months	1													
	Once in 4 months														
	About once a month	1	1	1	1	1	2					1	1	1	1
	Once or twice a week.	6	3	9	6	2	8	3	1	2	6				

<b>12 (cont.)</b>					
Every day . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1
Twice a month . . . . .	1	1	2	3	1
Total. . . . .	9	6	15	14	3
<b>13. If you have a family or close relatives, do they neglect you?</b>					
No. . . . .	1	3	4	3	3
Yes . . . . .	1	1	5	4	1
A little. . . . .	4	1	5	4	1
Not at all . . . . .	4	2	6	3	1
Total. . . . .	9	6	15	14	3
<b>How do you think she/he thinks about this?</b>					
Yes . . . . .	5	1	6		2
No. . . . .	5	3	8		1
Not answer . . . . .	1	1	4		3
Total. . . . .	11	4	15		
<b>14. If you have a family or close relatives, do they try to interfere in your affairs?</b>					
Yes, often . . . . .	1	1	1		1
Yes, once in a while. . . . .	8	6	14	9	2
Almost never . . . . .	9	6	15	11	3
No. . . . .	8	6	14	9	2
Total. . . . .	9	6	15	14	3
<b>How do you think she/he thinks about this?</b>					
Yes . . . . .	2	2	4	12	1
No. . . . .	8	4	12	1	2
Not answer . . . . .	1	1	4	15	3
Total. . . . .	11	4	15		

relations of the parents at Okemos were less stable than those at The Women's Home. There was complete agreement at both Homes on the marital status of the parent by parents and children.

Fourteen out of the fifteen old parents had been married only once and one had been married either two or three times - the child and parent did not agree on this. Two of the middle-aged parents had been married only once and one father had been married twice. Again the responses of parent and child agreed in this with the exception of the one case mentioned. This was, interestingly enough, the same results as those at W. H.

Also the age of getting married followed the same pattern for the old parents at Okemos as at The Women's Home, namely, three got married in their teens while seven got married between age of 20 and 24 years old, and five between 25 and 29 years old. There was slightly better agreement between the responses of the parents and children at Okemos (eight out of fifteen) than at the Women's Home (six out of fourteen). As for the middle-aged parents, the mother and one father were married in their teens and the other father was married between the age of 25 and 29 years old. The responses of the middle-aged parents and their children completely agreed.

The rating of the happiness of the marriage of the parents tended to be happier by the parents than by the

children for both the old parents and the middle-aged parents. This was true also at The Women's Home. Three old parents at Okemos rated their marriage as "average" whereas six rated it as "happy" and four rated it as "very happy." However, seven of the children rated the marriages as "average" and only two as "happy" and one as "very happy." The remainder of the children rated the marriages as "unhappy" and "very unhappy." This pattern held true for the children of the middle-aged parents as well. No middle-aged parents admitted to an unhappy marriage but two old parents said their marriages were "very unhappy." Only four old parents and their children gave the same responses and only one middle-aged parent and child. The sameness of the pattern of responses at the two Homes was a little surprising since the marriages of the parents at W. H. seemed definitely to be more stable than those at Okemos.

The parents at Okemos, however, were a little less certain that they would marry the same person had they their lives to live over again than those at The Women's Home, and the children of those at Okemos were considerably less certain than the children of the parents at The Women's Home. Nine out of fifteen old parents at Okemos were certain they would compared with eleven out of fourteen at W. H., and four at Okemos were certain they would not as compared with one who would not at W. H. Of course, the two at W. H. who refused to answer might well be in the category of those who would

not, making the total three for W. H. The three middle-aged parents were equally divided among the three categories of "No," "Possibly," and "Certainly." W. H. had no responses for "Possibly" but the old parents had two.

The children of the parents at Okemos had considerably less insight into whether the parents would marry the same person than those of the parents at W. H. Only four out of fifteen of the children at Okemos gave the same response as the parents and only one child of the three middle-aged parents. All of the children giving the same response were daughters. Whereas nine of the children of parents at W. H. gave the same response as the parents and six, or two-thirds, of the same responses were given by the sons. This might well reflect the difference in the stability of the marriages of the parents in the two Homes. It might also reflect the degree of the closeness of relationship between parent and child at the two Homes.

The pattern for the number of living children of old parents was approximately the same for Okemos as it was for The Women's Home - one to three children with the majority having two and three. Only one parent in each Home had more than three children - one at Okemos had six and one at W. H. had ten. For middle-aged parents the number of living children was two, four, and eight.

The number of parents who had lived with their children and the length of time was discussed for Table II. However,





the majority of the old parents at Okemos had lived five to fifteen years longer with their children than the majority at The Women's Home.

By far the majority of the old parents were at Okemos Home because of "necessity" or because of "both" (necessity and choice), six and seven, respectively. Only two old mothers were there because of "choice" alone. All of the middle-aged parents said they were there because of necessity but their three daughters answered in each of the three categories of "choice," "necessity," and "both." Only one daughter and one middle-aged parent (the mother) agreed. As for the old parents and their children, seven were in agreement which was about the same as for W. H., where eight were in agreement. However, at W. H., eight mothers were there out of choice and only two at Okemos; none of the fathers gave pure "choice" as an answer, although four gave "both." The sons of parents at Okemos did not hesitate to say "necessity" was the reason for the parent being there nor again, did the daughters. Though this is different from the responses at W. H., it might be construed to also mean sensitivity and guilt feelings because of the difference in the type of Homes. The residents of Okemos went there for therapy at first and were staying on. Therefore, the children might well feel better about the situation by convincing themselves it was necessary for the parents to be there, while at The Women's Home, the residents had to be

well upon entrance and had to remain well in order to stay there. Therefore, the children were aware that as far as health went the parent could be living with them, or elsewhere, and might well feel better to think their parents came there because of choice - as, indeed, many said they had.

Parents at both The Women's Home and at Okemos tended to feel they had more friends than did their children. Thirteen at W. H., twelve of the old parents at O. H., and two of the middle-aged parents at O. H. felt they had "ten or more" friends - the highest category in Item 1 of Tables VII and VIIa entitled "Friendship of Parent as Reported by Parent and by Child." However, a majority of the children agreed with the parents - nine at W. H., eight of the old parents and children at O. H., and two of the middle-aged parents and children. One daughter of a mother at W. H. claimed her mother had no friends but none of the mothers claimed this either at W. H. or O. H., and one father claimed he had no friends.

There was very little agreement between parents and children at both Homes as to how many of the friends were so close that the parents could "talk to them about almost anything." Only two responses of children of parents at W. H. agreed with the responses of the parents, only three at O. H. of the old parents and their children agreed, and one of the middle-aged parents and daughters. The parents,



TABLE VII

## FRIENDSHIP OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

The Women's Home												
		Parents		Parent M	Child			Agreed M M & D S				
		Children			D	S	T	D	S	T		
1. How many friends do you have?												
Never counted	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Not know	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
None	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
One to four.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Five to nine	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Ten or more.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Not answer	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Total.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
2. How many of these are such close friends that you can talk to them about almost anything?												
None	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Five to nine	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Ten or more.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Not answer	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Not know.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Total.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
3. Do you see your friends more or less often now than when you were 55 years old?												
Less often now.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	



TABLE VII (cont.)

		The Women's Home						
		Parents		Parent M	Child			Agreed M M & & D S T
		Children			D	S	T	T
5. (cont.)								
	A few times a year . . . . .					3	3	
	Once or twice a month . . . . .			9	3	4	7	
	About once a week . . . . .			4	1	1	2	5
	Every day . . . . .							2
	Have no friends among children or young people . . . . .							
	Twice a week . . . . .							
	Three or four times a week . . . . .			1				
	Not answer. . . . .				1	1	2	
	Total . . . . .			14	5	9	14	7

**Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)**

[illegible]

[illegible]



particularly at W. H., claimed to talk generally to more friends than did their children claim for them. The old parents and their children connected with Okemos were more conservative in reporting the number of friends with whom the parent confided than those connected with W. H. This might well be expected since the type of Home which W. H. was would be more conducive to intimate friendship than the Okemos Home. The lack of agreement between the responses of parents and children is hard to explain. Apparently there was very little discussion on this subject. Probably when parents and children saw each other they were much more interested in discussing personal and family affairs and probably the children liked to feel that their parents discussed personal things with them rather than with friends.

The majority of old parents at both Homes said they saw their friends less often now than at the age of 55 years old - eleven for each Home. Eight children of parents at W. H. and eleven children of old parents at Okemos reported the same thing. However, there was agreement of responses on this of only six for W. H. and nine for Okemos. This question did not apply to the two middle-aged fathers who were less than 55 years old. Four of the five daughters of parents at W. H. and four of the nine sons said their mothers saw their friends less often, and nine of the eleven Okemos daughters and two of the four sons reported "less often now." Three of the W. H. sons and two each of the O. H. daughters

and sons reported "about the same," and one of the W. H. sons reported the parent saw her friends "more often now" - in this last instance the mother agreed. However, there seemed to be a slight tendency for sons to paint a little rosier picture of how often parents saw their friends than for the daughters or the parents themselves. Of course, the difference in numbers is too small to mean very much.

The majority of parents and children gave as the reasons for the parents seeing their friends less often as being "not physically able to get about" and "no longer live in same community." This was true of both Homes. However, the number of responses which were the same for parents and children connected with Okemos, was fourteen which was nearly three times greater than the five for the old parents and children connected with The Women's Home. However, parents and children of Okemos connection gave a larger number of responses - twenty-three for parents and twenty-seven for children - than the parents and children of W. H. connection - sixteen for parents and twenty-one for their children. But even so there was still a greater agreement between the Okemos old parents and their children.

This again might be interpreted as indicating lack of insight and possibly guilt feelings on the part of the children of the parents living at The Women's Home. They would like to feel that their parents could go to see their friends if they wished. This would be part of the good health picture of



their parents. Also the greater number of agreed responses for the Okemos parents and their children was due to the fact that the parents obviously could not go to see their friends unless they were taken by someone.

In Tables VIII and VIIla, the leisure time activities data are given. It will be seen that most of the parents and their children agreed in reporting that the parents had all day free - twelve for each Home.

All the mothers at W. H. made their beds and took care of their own rooms during the week. They also did a little hand laundry. However, this was not true at Okemos. The parent often had only a bed and bed-side table in a room with other occupants. The number of activities carried on in their free time was approximately the same for the old parents in both Homes - 112 for W. H. and 102 for Okemos and sixteen for the middle-aged parents. When fourteen responses for caring for room are deducted for parents at W. H., the number is 98 as compared with 102 for Okemos. The average per mother at W. H. was seven or eight, depending on which total is used, and that for the old parent at Okemos was slightly less than seven. For the middle-aged parents the average was approximately five as given by the parent, but it was seven as given by the daughters. The children of parents at W. H. reported 99 activities for their parents and those of old parents at Okemos reported 88 - making an average of approximately seven per parent at W. H. and slightly less than six



TABLE VIII

LEISURE AND RECREATION OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT  
AND BY CHILD

The Women's Home											
	Parents	Parent M	Child			Agreed M M & &					
			D	S	T	D	S	T			
1. How much free time do you have?											
All day . . . . .		12	4	8	12	4	8	12			
A half day . . . . .		2									
Not answer . . . . .			1	1	2						
Total. . . . .		14	5	9	14	4	8	12			
2. What do you do in your free time?											
Take care of own room . . . . .		14	4	8	12	4	8	12			
Work in garden or yard . . . . .		4		1	1						
Work on some hobby . . . . .		4		4	4		1	1			
Listen to the radio . . . . .		11	3	6	9	3	5	8			
Write letters . . . . .		13	3	8	11	2	8	10			
Write books, articles, poems, etc. . . . .		2									
Attend movies . . . . .		2									
Attend theaters, lectures, concerts. . . . .		1	1	1	2	1	1	1			
Attend clubs, lodges, other meetings . . . . .		5	2	2	4	1	1	2			
Shop . . . . .		8	2	6	8	2	5	7			
Participate in community or church work . . . . .		6	1	1	2	1	1	2			
Play cards or other table games . . . . .		3	1	2	3	1	1	1			
Take rides . . . . .		3	1	7	8		1	1			
Visit or entertain friends. . . . .		7	1	6	7	1	4	5			
Sew, crochet, or knit . . . . .		12	1	7	8	1	7	8			
Read . . . . .		12	3	6	9	3	5	8			



TABLE VIII (cont.)

4. Are there things you plan to do in the next year or two?									
Yes . . . . .	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
No . . . . .	10	3	5	8	3	4	4	7	
Total . . . . .	14	4	6	10	4	4	4	8	
Not answer. . . . .		1	1	2					
Not know . . . . .			2	2					
If your answer is "Yes," what are these things?									
Take a pleasure trip . . . . .	2		1	1		1	1	1	
Continue your present work . . . . .	2								
Visit children, relatives, or friends . . . . .	3								
Other (what?) . . . . .									
Begin Christmas work. . . . .	2								
Sewing . . . . .		1	1*	1					
Go back to Women's Home. . . . .									
Total. . . . .	9	1	2	3		1	1	1	
Not Answer . . . . .		1	1	2					
5. How much time each day do you spend in reading?									
Never read. . . . .	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	
A few minutes. . . . .	1		2	2					
An hour or more . . . . .	12	3	6	9	3	5	8		
Not answer. . . . .		1	1	2					
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	4	5	9		
6. What magazines do you read regularly?									
Ladie's Home Journal . . . . .	1		1	1					

\*Had had to leave because of stroke in interim between her interview and child's interview.





TABLE VIII (cont.)

The Women's Home											
		Parents		Parent	Child			Agreed			
				M		D	S	T	M	M	&
		Children				D	S	T	D	D	T
7. (cont.)											
Once a month	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not answer	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
8. How much time each day do you spend in listening to the radio?											
Practically all day	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
An hour or more	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
A few minutes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Almost never	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Never.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not answer.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Once in a while, at times, not regularly.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
9. What kind of radio programs do you particularly like?											
Popular modern music.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
News and commentators	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Quiz programs.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Humorous serials	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Popular serials	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sermons	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sports	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

TABLE VIII (cont.)

9. (cont.)										
Old time songs	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Classical music	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Dramatic plays	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not answer.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	8	8	2	57	1					
	2	2	11	19	30	7	12	19		
	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1		
	5	2	1	1						
	1	2								
	2									
	3									
	5									
	1									
	2									
	3									
	7									
	2									
	3									
	1									
	1									
	2									
	1									
	1									
	5									
	9									
	14									
	3									
	5									
	8									
10. How much time each day do you spend in watching television?										
An hour or more	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Almost never	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not answer.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Once in a while	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Two or three times a week.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	9	4								
	3	4	7							
	1	2	3							
	1	1	1							
	1	1	2							
	1	1	1							
	1									
	5	9	14							
	14									
	3									
	5									
	8									
11. What kind of television programs do you particularly like?										
News and commentators	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Quiz programs.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Humorous serials.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Popular serials	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sports	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
All of the programs.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Westerns	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Musical and variety programs, e.g., Perry Como, Lawrence Welk, Dinah Shore	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Informative Programs, e.g., As the World Turns, Meet the Press, Dave Garroway	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Special programs, e.g., Christmas	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Whatever is turned on	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	4	5	4	3	3	1	1			
	2	6	8							
	2	2	2							
	2	1	3							
	2	1	3							
	3	3	3							
	3	1	2							
	1	1								
	1									
	6									
	1	2	3							
	1	1	1							
	1									
	1		1							
	1		1							
	1		1							
	1		1							
	12	15	27							
	34									
	8	5	13							



TABLE VIIa

## LEISURE AND RECREATION OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)																	
E. Leisure and Recreation		Parents		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent		Child		Parent 50-60 yrs. old		Agreed			
												M	F				
		Children		D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	T
1. How much free time do you have?																	
All day . . . . .		6	6	12	10	2	12	4	1	5	10	1	1	1	1	1	1
A half day . . . . .		3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
A few hours - has been assigned several jobs through Rehab..												1	1	1	1	1	1
Three-fourths of a day . . . . .				1	1												
Not know . . . . .				1	1												
Total . . . . .		9	6	15	11	4	15	5	1	5	11	1	2	3	3	1	2
2. What do you do in your free time?																	
Work in and around the house . . . . .		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Work in garden or yard . . . . .		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Work on some hobby. . . . .		2	2	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Listen to the radio . . . . .		9	6	15	7	4	11	4	3	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Farm work. . . . .				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Write letters . . . . .		6	4	10	5	4	9	2	3	3	8	2	2	2	1	1	1
Write books, articles, poems, etc. . . . .				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Attend movies . . . . .		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Attend clubs, lodges, other meetings.		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Shop . . . . .		1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Participate in community or church work . . . . .																	
Play cards or other table games . . . . .		2	3	5	2	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1
Take rides . . . . .		2	3	5	3	1	4	1	1	2	4	4	4	4	2	2	2
Visit or entertain friends . . . . .		4	3	7	4	2	6	1	2	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1

109.

[illegible]



**4. (cont.)**

\* More than one response given.





TABLE VIIIA(cont.)

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)																							
Parent 50-60 yrs. old																							
E. Leisure and Recreation	Parents			Parent Child			Agreed			Parent			Child		Agreed								
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	M	F	F	&	&	&	M	F	M	F	&	&				
Children	D			S			T			D			S			T		D		S		T	
6. (cont.)																							
Official Detective, Murder Mysteries, and Detective Stories . . . . .																							
Arizona Highways. . . . .																							
Sportsman Magazine . . . . .																							
Parents Magazine. . . . .																							
Better Homes and Gardens . . . . .																							
Total . . . . .																							
None. . . . .																							
7. How often do you attend the movies?																							
Never . . . . .																							
Less than once a month. . . . .																							
About once a year . . . . .																							
When have them at the Home . . . . .																							
Total . . . . .																							
8. How much time each day do you spend in listening to the radio?																							
Practically all day. . . . .																							
An hour or more . . . . .																							
A few minutes. . . . .																							
Almost never . . . . .																							
Never . . . . .																							
Not answer. . . . .																							
Total . . . . .																							

TABLE VIIa(cont.)

9. What kind of radio programs do you particularly like?	
Popular modern music . . . . .	5 3 8 1 1 2
News and commentators. . . . .	8 6 14 6 3
Quiz programs . . . . .	4 1 5 2
Humorous serials . . . . .	2 1 3 3
Popular serials. . . . .	2 2 1 2 3 1
Sermons . . . . .	9 2 11 4 3 7 4 3
Sports. . . . .	3 5 8 3 2 5
Old time songs . . . . .	9 6 15 3 3 6 3 2
Classical music. . . . .	5 2 7 1 1 1
Dramatic plays . . . . .	2 2 2 1 3 1
All of these. . . . .	1 1 1
Total . . . . .	49 26 75 26 16 42 14 8 6 3 3 1 5 8 13

10. How much time each day do you spend in watching television?

[illegible]

11. What kind of television programs do you particularly like?

News and commentators.	•	•	•
Quiz programs	•	•	•
Humorous serials	•	•	•
Popular serials.	•	•	•
Sermons	•	•	•



TABLE VIIla(cont.)

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)														
E. Leisure and Recreation	Parents	Parent Child					Parent 50-60 yrs. old							
		Parent		Child		Agreed		Parent		Child		Agreed		
		M	F	T	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
						& &		& &				& &		
Children		D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	D	T	
11. (cont.)														
Sports . . . . .	.	3	3	6	3	2	5	1	1	2	1	1	1	
Dramatic plays . . . . .	.	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	
All of the programs. . . . .	.													
Westerns . . . . .	.	1	2	3										
Musical and Variety Programs, e.g., Perry Como, Lawrence Welk, Dinah Shore . . . . .	.	4	3	7	5	5	2	2	4	1	1	2	1	
Informative Programs, e.g., As the World Turns, Meet the Press, Dave Garroway. . . . .	.	1		1										
Whatever is turned on . . . . .	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
None. . . . .	.	13	18	31	19	6	25	3	1	7	2	13	2	
												8	3	
												5	5	

per parent at Okemos.

The children and parents of W. H. agreed on sixty-three responses and the agreement for Okemos was seventy-four responses. For the middle-aged parents and their children, agreement was found in thirteen responses.

"Listening to the radio" and "reading" were among the most popular leisure-time activities for The Women's Home residents and Okemos residents - old parents as well as middle-aged. The numbers enjoying these were for "listening to the radio" - eleven for The Women's Home, fifteen for Okemos old parents and two for the middle-aged parents. For "reading" the numbers were twelve, thirteen, and three. "Writing letters" was also very popular with thirteen at The Women's Home, with ten old parents and two middle-aged parents at Okemos pursuing this interest. The women at The Women's Home also showed considerable interest in sewing, crocheting, or knitting - twelve doing this. In fact they were very busy on two self-instituted projects. Knitting squares for afghans for veteran's homes and for afghans for needy babies was one project. The other one was sewing binders and making bandages for cancer patients. Watching television was popular at The Women's Home but not quite so much so at Okemos, the responses being ten, eight, and two respectively.

Okemos parents, of course, had the services of a Divisional Therapist to help them to develop leisure-time activities and interests. This was both a strength and a

weakness. There were more activities and equipment available than at The Women's Home, but self-instituted activities tend to be more challenging and satisfying.

Favorite activities numbered also about the same for W. H. and for old parents at Okemos, namely twenty-six and thirty-one, respectively - these averaged slightly less than two per person at W. H. and slightly more than two per person at Okemos. One middle-aged father had nine but the other two parents averaged two each. Fourteen responses by the children of the parents at W. H. were the same - the sons gave eleven of these and the daughters three. The sons showed considerably more insight. They also credited their mothers with more activities than the daughters, seventy-two, or eight per mother, as compared with twenty-seven, or about five per mother, and also with more favorite pastimes than the daughters, seventeen as compared with five. Not only could this be construed as more insight on the part of the sons but also it could be construed that they liked to think of their mothers as being happy and active and were proud of their activities. This again would make them feel more comfortable about their mothers living in a Home and alleviate any guilt feelings. However, the daughters' responses might be construed as indicating somewhat of a sex rivalry.

By far the majority of parents at both Homes had no plans for the future with the exception of the two middle-aged fathers, both of whom had plans. Four mothers at W. H.

and three mothers at Okemos indicated they had plans; but none of the old fathers said they had plans for the future. The mothers' plans were chiefly concerned with visiting relatives and continuing present activities; but the two fathers had plans that would take them away from the Home. One planned to go live with his daughter and help her care for the little grand-child and also help her with his pension. The other father was training himself to be self-supporting. The children were well aware of these plans, or lack of plans, and there was high agreement between their responses and those of their parents.

Four mothers at The Women's Home and five old mothers, all the old fathers, and all three middle-aged parents at Okemos belonged to no organizations or clubs at the time of the interview, according to the data in Tables IX and IXa. Two mothers at W. H. and one old mother at Okemos belonged to one organization and three at each Home belonged to two organizations. Three more mothers at W. H. belonged to three organizations and two more to four or more. The mothers at W. H. were considerably more active than those at Okemos according to their reports - a total of ten at The Women's Home and four at Okemos. The children of the parents at both Homes tended to agree with the parents' reports.

Church clubs and circles had the most responses for both Homes. Women's Club, Sorority, bridge or other social club, D. A. R., were represented at W. H. but not at Okemos. Both



TABLE IX

## CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

	The Women's Home									
	Parents		Parent		Child			Agreed		
	M	M	M	M	D	S	T	M	M	& D D T
Children										
1. To how many organizations, such as clubs, lodges, unions, and the like do you now belong?										
None . . . . .			4		2	2	4	1	2	3
One . . . . .			2		1	1	2	1		1
Two . . . . .			3			2	2		2	2
Three . . . . .			3		1	2	3			
Four or more . . . . .			2							
Not answer . . . . .					1	2	3			
Total . . . . .			14		5	9	14	2	4	6
2. Check the kinds of organizations to which you now belong.										
Bridge or other social club. . . . .			1		2	2		1	1	1
Lodge . . . . .			1							
Study group . . . . .			2							
Charitable or welfare organization . . . . .			1		1	1				
Business or professional group. . . . .			1		1	1	3	1	1	2
Church club or circle. . . . .			6		2	2	2	2		
Women's club. . . . .			2		1	2	3	1	1	1
Patriotic society . . . . .			1							
Other (what?) . . . . .										
Sorority . . . . .			1		1	1		1	1	1
Total . . . . .			16		6	7	13	4	2	6
Not answer . . . . .					1	1	2			

TABLE IX (cont.)

3. If you belong to organizations, do you hold an office in any one of them?									
Yes . . . . .	2	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	
No . . . . .	8	1	4	5	1	1	3	4	
Not answer. . . . .		1	1	2					
Checked "None" is l., so not check this item . . . . .									
this item . . . . .	4	2	2	4	1	2	3		
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	3	6	9		
4. If you hold office, in which organization is it?									
Women's Club . . . . .			1	1					
Church committees . . . . .	2	1	1	2					
Not answer. . . . .		1	1	2					
Total . . . . .	2	2	3	5					
5. How many club meetings do you usually attend each month?									
None. . . . .	5	2	3	5	2	2	4		
Less than one a month . . . . .	2								
One or two a month . . . . .	4	2	2	4	2		2		
One a week. . . . .	2		2	2					
Three a month. . . . .	1								
Not answer. . . . .		1	1	2					
Not know . . . . .			1	1					
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	4	2	6		
6. Do you give more or less time to organizations now than when you were 55 years old?									
Less now . . . . .	12	2	5	7	2	4	6		
About the same . . . . .	2	2	1	3		1	1		
More now . . . . .			2	2					

TABLE IX (cont.)

		The Women's Home						
		Parents		Parent	Child			Agreed
				M	D	S	T	M M & D D T
		Children						
6. (cont.)								
Not answer	. . . . .				1	1	2	
Total	. . . . .			14	5	9	9	2 5 7
7. If you give less time now, why is it?								
Not physically able to attend meetings	. . . . .			11	1	4	5	1 4 5
Not interested	. . . . .				1	2	3	
Can't afford it.	. . . . .					1	1	
Moved to a new neighborhood or city	. . . . .			1		3	3	1 1
Other (what?)								
No longer a member	. . . . .						1	
Difficulty in hearing	. . . . .						1	
Transportation a problem	. . . . .			1			1	
Too old to be active	. . . . .				1	1	2	
Not answer.	. . . . .				1	1	2	
Checked "About the same" so not check this item	. . . . .				1	1	2	
Total	. . . . .			2	1	1	2	
				15*	5	16*	21	1 5 6

\* Checked more than one response

TABLE IXa

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)													
Parent 50-60 yrs. old													
F. Clubs and Organizations	Parents		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent Child		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Children	D		S	T	D	S	D	S	T	D		D	T
1. To how many organizations, such as clubs, lodges, unions, and the like, do you now belong?													
None . . . . .	5	6	11	9	1	10	3	5	1	9	1	2	3
One . . . . .	1	1	1	2	3								
Two . . . . .	3	3	1	1	1	1				1			
Three. . . . .				1	1								
Total. . . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	4	5	1	10	1	2	3
2. Check the kinds of organizations to which you now belong.													
Lodge. . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1				1			
Charitable or welfare organization . . . . .	1	1											
Business or professional group . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1				1			
Church circle or club . . . . .	2	2	1	1	2	1	1			2			
Music or art association or club. . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1				1			
Other (what?) . . . . .													
Grange . . . . .				1	1								
Sunday school class . . . . .				2	2								
WLS Mailbag Club . . . . .	1	1											
Total. . . . .	7	7	4	4	8	3	2			5			
. If you belong to organizations, do you hold an office in any one of them?													
No. . . . .	3	3	2	3	5	1	2			3			3

[illegible]

122.



Homes had members belonging to a lodge, charitable organizations, business or professional groups. Okemos had members in art association, grange, and Sunday school class. Neither Home had anyone belonging to a club for elderly people. W. H. had a total club membership of sixteen and Okemos, seven. The children for parents of each Home reported thirteen and eight, respectively, with six identical responses between parent and child for W. H. and five for Okemos.

Two mothers at W. H. held office but none at Okemos. And nine mothers at W. H. and three at Okemos were attending club meetings anywhere from less than one a month up to one a week.

Most of the mothers at both Homes reported giving less time to organizations now than when they were 55 years old. The six fathers' responses at Okemos were evenly divided between "Less now" and "About the same" indicating that three fathers never had given any time to organizations.

"Not physical able to attend meetings" was the reason most commonly checked for giving less time to organizations now - eleven for each Home. Five children of parents at W. H. and nine children of old parents at Okemos agreed with this response. Thus the children of old parents at Okemos showed more insight into why the parents gave less time than the children of parents at W. H. No parents at either Home gave loss of interest as a reason but three children for each Home did give this as a reason.





It would seem the children of W. H. residents tended to minimize any physical disability of their mothers - the daughters in this case more so than the sons. One daughter and four sons agreed with their mothers in their being physically unable to attend club meetings and give time.

Turning to Tables X and Xa which give the "Employment History of Parent as Reported by Parent and Child," it will be noted that twelve mothers at The Women's Home and all the parents at Okemos - old and middle-aged - had earned money during their adult life, either working for others or for themselves. There was almost complete agreement between the responses of the parents and of their children.

The type of work done by parents at The Women's Home was about equally divided between menial jobs and "white-collar" jobs. For parents living at Okemos, it was mostly menial. It will be remembered that the parents were middle-aged during the depression and many mothers said they did whatever they could to help keep the family together. School teaching, clerical work, district representative for an insurance company, postmaster and express agent, ownership of apartment house or hotel were all represented at The Women's Home as well as the menial occupations of housework, cleaning, laundry work, baking, etc. And at Okemos, nursing, contracting, travelling photography, private secretary, ranching, selling of real estate were represented. Twenty responses were given by the parents at W. H. and eighteen by the



TABLE X

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

The Women's Home												
		Parents		Parent M	Child			Agreed M M & D D T				
		Children			D	S	T					
1. During your adult life, have you earned money, either working for others or for yourself?												
Yes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
No	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
				12	5	8	13	5	7	12		
				2		1	1		1	1		
				14	5	9	14	5	8	13		
2. If the answer to Question 1 is "No", omit the rest of this section and go on to: H. When you were not gainfully employed.												
3. At what age did you have your best paying job?												
20-29	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
30-39	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
40-49	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
50-59	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
60-69	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
70 and over	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
*Not asked	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Not answer.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Checked "No" in 1. so not check this item	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
				2	5	9	14	1	4	5		

\*Those who did cleaning, laundry work, helped husband in store, kept roomers, baking, etc. not asked because this would hardly apply.



TABLE X (cont.)

		The women's Home						
		Parents		Parent M	Child		Agreed M M & &	
		Children			D	S	T	T
4. (cont.)								
*Not asked	. . . . .			6				
Not answered	. . . . .				1		1	
Checked "No" in 1., so not check this item.	. . . . .			2	1	1		1
Total	. . . . .			14	5	10**	15	1 2 3
5. Are you working now?								
Yes, part time	. . . . .			1	1			
No.	. . . . .			13	5	8	13	5 7 12
Total	. . . . .			14	5	9	14	5 7 12
6. If you are working, what do you do?								
Quilting	. . . . .				1		1	
Selling cards.	. . . . .			1				
Total	. . . . .			1	1			
7. If you are working now, either part-time or full-time, how does this work compare with what you did at the age of 55?								
Present amount earned: Less.	. . . . .				1		1	
Enjoyment of present job:	. . . . .							
***Was not asked this	. . . . .			1				

\*Those who did cleaning, laundry work, baking, kept roomers, etc. not asked out of consideration for their feelings.

\*\*One son gave two responses - about as well as some and/or better than others

\*\*\*Obviously not apply.



TABLE Xa

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)													
G. Your Employment History		Parents		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent 50-60 yrs. old					
		M F		M F T		M M F F & & &		M F T					
Children				D S		T D S D S T		D					
1. During your adult life, have you earned money, either working for others or for yourself?													
Yes . . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
No . . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
Total . . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
If the answer to Question 1 is "No", omit the rest of this section and go on to: H. When You Were Not Gainfully Employed.													
2. At what age did you have your best paying job?													
20-29. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
30-39. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
40-49. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
50-59. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
60-69. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
*Not asked . . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
Checked "No" in G. 1, so not check this item . . . . .													
Not know . . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
Always made good wages. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	
Total. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .		. . . . .	

\*Those who did cleaning, laundry work, helped husband in store, kept roomers, baking, etc., not asked because this would hardly apply.

2. What work have you done most of the

[illegible]





TABLE Xa(cont.)

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)																								
G. Your Employment History										Parent 50-60 yrs. old														
Parents										Parent Child					Parent Child					Agreed				
										M F T					M F T					M F T				
Children										D S T					D S D S T					D S D S T				
3. (cont.)																								
Weaving		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
Total		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
Checked "No" in G. 1, so not check this item.		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
4. Comparing what you have done with the work of your brothers, sisters and first cousins, would you say that you have done																								
Not as well as they did		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
About as well as they did		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
Better than they did		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
*Not asked.		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
Hard to say		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
Checked "No" in G.1, so not check this item.		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
Total		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
5. Are you working now?																								
Yes, part-time		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
No		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					
Total		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.					

\*Those who did cleaning, laundry work, baking, kept roomers, etc. not asked out of consideration for their feelings.

[illegible]

children. Fifteen of these were the same for both parents and children. As for the middle-aged parents, six reponses were given by them and six by their children. Five of these were the same for both parents and children. Thus, there was considerable knowledge on the part of the children of parents living at The women's Home in regard to the occupational activities of their parents, and on the part of the children of the middle-aged parents. There was less agreement for parents at Okemos and their bchildren; but still half of the responses agreed.

Only one mother at The women's Home was working part-time now but three old parents were at Okemos (two mothers and one father) and the middle-aged mother and one middle-aged father at Okemos were working part-time. The mother at The Women's Home was selling cards. One old mother at Okemos was a trained nurse and she kept the patients in her ward supplied with fresh water. She also was in charge of the library and was editor of their monthly paper. The other old mother embroidered pillow cases and other articles and sold them. The father worked in the gardens and on the lawns in the summer time. Another father repaired and upholstered chairs but he did not think of it as part-time work but as a hobby, as did the father who made plastic figures. The middle-aged mother wove beautiful skirts and other products on the looms and the middle-aged father was associate editor of the monthly paper and also did secretarial work and mimeographing.

It was obvious why the residents at the two Homes did not have full-time employment now so the question was not asked at all at Okemos and not consistently asked at The Women's Home.

The responses of the children of parents at W. H. in regard to part-time employment did not coincide with those of the parents. One parent reported selling cards but no child reported this. One son reported that the mother was doing quilting for pay but no mother reported this. At Okemos, the responses of the children corresponded with the responses of the parents.

The chief interests of Tables XI and XIa are that the mothers at The Women's Home gave more responses than Okemos parents as to what they did after they gave up their regular jobs; there was high agreement between their responses and their children's responses, low agreement between the responses of the old parents at Okemos and their children's responses; and almost perfect agreement between the children of the middle-aged parents and their children. Many of the parents at Okemos worked until they went into the Home. As for most of the residents of The Women's Home, they did other things such as going back into their homes and keeping house, getting married, etc. after their regular jobs.

All of the mothers at W. H. were taking care of their own rooms during the week. The parents at Okemos were not doing this. The set-up at Okemos was not conducive of this.

TABLE XI  
WHEN NOT GAINFULLY EMPLOYED AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

H. When Not Gainfully Employed	The Women's Home									
	Parents	Parent M	Child			Agreed				
			D	S	T	M	M	&	S	T
Children										
If you are a woman, or an unemployed man, please answer.										
1. If you had a regular job and stopped working, what did you do then?										
Kept house . . . . .		9	4	4	8	4	4	4	8	
Part time in broker's office . . . .		1								
Got married . . . . .		2	1		1	1			1	
Went into the home. . . . .		2			3	3		2	2	
Kept grandson . . . . .		1								
Checked "No" in Table X, 1, so not check this item . . . . .		2			1	1		1	1	
Not answer . . . . .					1	1				
Total . . . . .		17*	5	9	14	5	7	7	12	
2. If you are a woman, are you taking care of your home?										
Takes care of own room except weekly cleaning . . . . .		14	4	8	12	4	8	8	12	
Not able to take care of room very well. . . . .			1	1	2					
Total . . . . .		14	5	9	14	4	8	8	12	
*Gave more than one response.										

\*Gave more than one response.



**WHEN NOT GAINFULLY EMPLOYED**

[illegible]





Tables XII and XIIa give the data on "Financial Security of Parent as Reported by Parent and by Child." No parents living at The Women's Home and none of their children responded that the parent "Can't make ends meet." Two parents said they had "Enough to get along" and eleven said they were "Comfortable." One said she was "Well-to-do." The majority of the children said their mothers either had "Enough to get along" or were "Comfortable." Eight responses were the same for both parent and child - six of which were for "Comfortable." The responses of the old mothers at Okemos were equally divided between "Can't make ends meet," "Enough to get along," and "Comfortable." Two of the old fathers reported "Can't make ends meet" and four reported they were "Comfortable." Only three children gave the same report as their parents. Seven children felt their parents couldn't make ends meet and five felt they were "Comfortable" with three saying they had "Enough to get along." One middle-aged father and the middle-aged mother said they were comfortable. The other middle-aged father said he had enough to get along. Only one daughter gave the same response as the parent - that was the daughter and her mother.

In answer to the question "Are you in better or a worse (financial) position now than you were at age 55?", the responses of the mothers residing at The Women's Home were pretty evenly divided between the categories "Worse now," "About the same," and "Better now." Seven of their children,

FINANCIAL SECURITY OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

# The Women's Home





TABLE XII (cont.)

The Women's Home											
I. Your Security			Parents		Parent M	Child			Agreed M & D S T		
			Children			D	S	T	D	S	T
5. (cont.)											
Cabinet maker	.	.	.	.	.						
Station agent and telegraph operator	.	.	.	.	.						
Shop worker.	.	.	.	.	.						
Supt. of brick making plant	.	.	.	.	.						
Supt. of tile laying.	.	.	.	.	.						
Hammer man or blacksmith in forge	.	.	.	.	.						
Foreman in shop	.	.	.	.	.						
Unskilled	.	.	.	.	.						
Total.	.	.	.	.	.						
						17*	5	17*	22*	4	9 13
6. Do you own your own home?											
No.	.	.	.	.	.						
Yes, clear	.	.	.	.	.						
Total.	.	.	.	.	.						
						11	4	8	12	4	7 11
						3	1	1	2	1	1 2
						14	5	9	14	5	8 13
Did she/he at one time?											
Yes.	.	.	.	.	.						
No	.	.	.	.	.						
						11	4	6	10	4	4
								1	1		
Clear?											
Yes.	.	.	.	.	.						
						10	4	7	11	4	6 10

\* Gave more than one occupation.

TABLE XIIa

## FINANCIAL SECURITY OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

		Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)									
		Parent					Parent 50-60 yrs. old				
		Parents		Child			Parent		Child		
		M	F	M	F	T	M	F	M	F	T
		Agreed					Agreed				
		& & & &					& & & &				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
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		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
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		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
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		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
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		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
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		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
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		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				
		D S T D S T					D S T D S T				

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TABLE XIIa(cont.)

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center													
I. Your Security		Parents		Children		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent Child		Parent 50-60 yrs. old	
												M F	
</													

however, felt their financial position was "worse now."

Four children and their parents agreed in their reports.

Eleven of the old parents at Okemos and ten of their children reported that the parents' financial position was "worse now." Seven parents and children agreed in their reports. The old fathers were evenly divided in their responses between "worse now" and "about the same." The question did not apply to the two middle-aged fathers who are less than 55 years old; but the middle-aged mother said her financial position was "about the same" but her daughter felt it was "worse now." For all three Homes, the majority of the children felt the financial position of their parents was "worse now" but a few for each Home - four for W. H. and two for Okemos - said the position was better now.

The "Chief means of support," of course, for the parents of both Homes was being in a "Home for Old People." There was complete agreement between parents and children in this. For the parents in The Women's Home the second most important means of support was "Investments or Savings." Nine mothers and ten children reported this with nine responses being the same for both the mothers and their children. Three mothers said they received "pensions from earlier occupations" and the categories of "Social Security," "Old Age Assistance from the State," "Aid from Children," and "Payments from insurance annuities" received two responses each from the parents. The parents gave a total of thirty-five re-



sponses, the daughters gave thirteen, and the sons, twenty-eight. The thirteen responses of the daughters were all the same as those of their mothers. Nineteen of the sons' responses were the same as those of their mothers. Interestingly enough, five children - one daughter and four sons - reported giving aid to their mothers but only two mothers reported receiving aid. However, out of the total of thirty-five responses for the mothers and forty-one for their children, thirty-two were the same for both the mothers and their children - a very high rate of agreement.

As for the old parents at Okemos, the second most important means of support as reported by thirteen of the old parents and by twelve children was "Old Age Assistance from the State." One father was paying the full price of living at Okemos without aid of any sort. However, his daughter said his funds were about depleted, although he himself thought he still had plenty; and he would have to receive support from the Home and from the State.

Again, as for The Women's Home, three mothers reported receiving aid from their children but seven children reported giving aid. No parents either old or middle-aged at Okemos or their children reported income from insurance annuities or from pensions from earlier occupations and only three parents, which included one middle-aged father, and one child reported income from investments and savings. The three middle-aged parents had income from Social Security for

disability, the mother also had Old Age Assistance. One middle-aged father and his daughter reported earning a little money. Strangely enough, the total number of responses for old parents at Okemos for "Chief means of Support" was thirty-six, one more than for the parents at The Women's Home; the total number of children's responses was forty-one, which was the same as for The Women's Home, and thirty-two parents at Okemos and their children gave the same responses which was also identical with the number of same responses for The Women's Home. There were six same responses for the middle-aged parents and their children.

Ten of the fourteen mothers at The Women's Home and nine of their children said they felt the source of income gave them permanent security. A total of thirteen responses was the same for both parents and children. Three parents and children said they did not think so and one parent and one child were doubtful. The children were asked how they thought the parent felt about their security and their responses tallied very closely with the responses just mentioned.

But only three old mothers and three old fathers, or a total of six, felt their present source of income gave them permanent security but thirteen children felt that it did. Two of the old parents said it did not and seven were doubtful. Six of the children's responses were the same as the parents. The children, when asked how they thought their



parents felt about the source of income giving permanent security, ten said they thought their parents did think so, two said they did not, and three said they did not know. The three middle-aged parents and two of their children reported feeling the parents had permanent financial security. However, the children either said they did not know how the parent felt or said they thought the parent was doubtful.

Thus Tables XII and XIIa show that the by far the majority of parents at The Women's Home felt secure financially and the majority of old parents at Okemos felt insecure financially. Also there was high agreement between parents at The Women's Home and their children as to the parents' security but low agreement between the old parents and their children. The agreement was high for the middle-aged parents and their children.

The occupations of the husbands were numerous and varied. The mothers at The Women's Home listed seventeen whereas the old mothers at Okemos listed ten. In addition, two responses of Okemos mothers were "non-support" and "left her." "Farmer" was given by three women's Home residents and by four Okemos residents. Five sons gave it for The women's Home and two daughters for Okemos. Instead of the main occupation being given, all the occupations were listed. There was a mixture of "white collar" and "blue collar" occupations for the husbands of mothers at The Women's Home but the professions and business predominated. As for Okemos,





one husband was a minister. The rest of the husbands were skilled and unskilled workers.

Most of the parents at both homes no longer owned their own homes - only three of the mothers at The Women's Home (and two of their children reported they still did); and one mother at Okemos and her daughter reported that the mother still owned her own home. All of the parents at both Homes except one owned their own homes at one time. Most of the responses of the children were the same as those of the parents.

It can safely be said that the parents at The Women's Home enjoyed a greater feeling of financial security and came from a higher socio-economic background as provided by their husbands than the old mothers of Okemos. The children of the parents living at The Women's Home and of the middle-aged children had much better insight into the feeling of permanence of security on the part of the parents than the children of the old parents at Okemos.

In Tables XIII and XIIIa may be found the data on the "Religion of the Parent as Reported by Parent and by Child." Only one parent in each category, i.e., one mother at The Women's Home, one old mother and one old father and one middle-aged father at Okemos, were Roman Catholic. All the other parents were Protestant. All the usual denominations were about equally represented at The Women's Home. Half of the old parents at Okemos were Methodist. Two more were Baptist.

RELIGION OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

## 2. Are you a church member?

Was she/he at onc time?

TABLE XIII (cont.)

3. How often do you attend religious services?									
Never . . . . .	3	1	1						
Less than once a month . . . . .	3								
Once or twice a month . . . . .	1	1	3	4	1	1			
Once a week . . . . .	3	2	2		2	2			
Twice a month at the Home . . . . .	3	5	1		1	1	2		
Not regularly . . . . .	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	1	5	6		
4. Do you attend services more or less often now than you did at age 55?									
Less often now . . . . .	12	4	2	6	4	1	5		
About the same . . . . .	1	1	2	3					
More often now . . . . .	1	5	5		1	1			
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	4	2	6		
5. If you attend religious services less often now, why is it?									
Not physically able to go . . . . .	11	3	2	5	3	1	4		
Church is too far away . . . . .	1	1							
Other (what?)									
Traffic too great . . . . .	1								
Lack of transportation . . . . .	2								
Checked "Not 55 years old," "More often now," "About the same," not check this item . . . . .	2	1	7	8	1	1			
Not answer . . . . .		1	1	1					
Total . . . . .	17*	6	10	16	3	2	5		
6. Do you believe in an after life?									
No . . . . .	2	1	1						
Not sure . . . . .	2								

\*Gave more than one response.





TABLE XIII (cont.)

J. Your Religion	The women's Home										
	Parents	Parent M	Child			Agreed					
			D	S	T	M	M	&	D	S	T
Children											
6. (cont.)											
Yes, sure of it . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not answer. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total. . . . .	9	1	14	4	6	10	4	4	4	4	8
7. Do you listen to church services over the radio?											
Never . . . . .	1	1	14	1	2	3	1	1	1	1	1
Once in a while . . . . .	1	1	11	3	5	8	3	3	3	3	6
About once or twice a week . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
No . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Three times a Sunday . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Not answer. . . . .	14	14	14	5	9	14	3	4	4	4	7
Total . . . . .	14	14	14	5	9	14	3	4	4	4	7
8. How often do you read the Prayer Book, Bible, or other religious book?											
Never . . . . .	1*	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Once a week . . . . .	1	1	12	4	4	8	3	4	4	4	7
Every day . . . . .	12	12	14	5	9	14	3	4	4	4	7
Not know . . . . .	14	14	14	5	9	14	3	4	4	4	7
Not answer. . . . .	14	14	14	5	9	14	3	4	4	4	7
Total . . . . .	14	14	14	5	9	14	3	4	4	4	7

\*Two cannot see and one cannot read.

TABLE XIII (cont.)

8. (cont.)									
Does she/he watch church services over television?									
Yes . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
No . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
If turned on . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not answer. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	4
	3	3		2	1	1	1	1	6
									2
									1
									1
	5	9							14
If so, how much?									
Once in a while . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Once a week . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
If turned on . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Moments of Meditation . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not answer. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Checked "No", so not check this item . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Checked "Not know", so not check this item . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	3	3							6
	5	9							14

TABLE XIIIa

## RELIGION OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)																		
J. Your Religion	Parent 50-60 yrs. old																	
	Parents			Parent Child			Agreed			Parent			Child			Agreed		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	M	F	F	M	F	T	M	F	T		
Children	D S T			D S T			D S D S T			D S D S T			D S D S T					
1. What is your religion?																		
Roman Catholic	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1		
Protestant	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	5	13	10	3	13	6	2	4	1		
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	6	3	5	1		
Denomination																		
Church of Christ Christian	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1										
Presbyterian.	.	.	.	.	.	.								1				
Methodist.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	2	7	3	3	6	2	2	1	5		
Baptist	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1		2		
Atheist	.	.	.	.	.	.				1		1						
Nazarene	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1				1		
United Brethren.	.	.	.	.	.	.									1	1		
No particular denomination	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2	3	3		3	2	2		1		
Not know	.	.	.	.	.	.			1	1		1						
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	5	13	10	4	14	4	2	3	1		
2. Are you a church member?																		
Yes.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	2	10	6	4	10	4	3	2	9		
No.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	4	5	5		5	1	3		4		
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	5	3	5	13		



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TABLE XIIIa(cont.)

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)																			
J. Your Religion	Parents	Children	Parent 50-60 yrs. old																
			Parent Child		Agreed		Parent		Child		Agreed								
			M	F	T	M	M	F	F	M	F	T	M	F	&	&			
			D	S	T	D	S	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S	T
6. Do you believe in an after life?																			
No	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not sure	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Yes, sure of it	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
7. Do you listen to church services over the radio?																			
Never	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Once in a while	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
About once or twice a week	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Three or more times a week	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Yes.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
About once a month	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
About twice a month.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know how often	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

\* Gave more than one response.

[illegible]

\*One son and one daughter answered "Yes" and "Not know how often."  
 \*\*Two cannot see and one cannot read.

TABLE XIIIa(cont.)

		Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)									
J. Your Religion		Parents		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent		Parent 50-60 yrs. old	
		Children	M F T	D S T	D S T	M M F F & & & &	D S T	M F T	Child	Agreed	M F & & D D T
8.(cont.)											
Christmas programs . . . . .				1	1						
Every time. . . . .											
Checked "No", so not check this item. . . . .				7	1	8			1		
Checked "Not know", so not check this item . . . . .											
Total . . . . .				11	5	16*			1	3	

\*Two responses given - "A few" and Christmas Programs"



Two others said they were no particular denomination. Eleven out of thirteen responses of parents at The Women's Home were the same as their children, and ten out of thirteen responses of old parents at Okemos were the same. None of the responses of old parents at Okemos were the same. None of the responses of the Protestant middle-aged parents and their children were the same.

Thirteen of the parents at The Women's Home and ten old parents and the two middle-aged fathers at Okemos said they were church members. Eight of the responses of the children of the parents living at The Women's Home agreed with those of their parents, thirteen of the responses of the children of the old parents at Okemos agreed with those of their parents, and two children agreed with their middle-aged parents as to whether the parents were church members or not. Why the children of parents living at Okemos Home should have considerably more insight or knowledge in regard to church membership of their parents than those of parents living at The Women's Home is hard to explain. Perhaps religion was of more concern to the Okemos parents and their children and they talked more about it. Also it must be remembered that more of the parents at Okemos had lived with their children and had lived longer with them.

The amount of church attendance was about equal for the parents of both Homes. The children of the parents living at Okemos Home had more knowledge of church attendance

of their parents (nine agreed responses for old parents and their children and two for middle-aged parents and their children) than the parents of The Women's Home and their children (six agreed responses).

Twelve parents at each Home said they attended church less often now than when they were 55 years old. Six children of Women's Home parentage and ten children of Okemos Home parentage agreed with their parents as to whether church attendance was "Less often now," "About the same," or "More often now." Again the children of the old parents at Okemos had more knowledge of their parents' religious activities than the children of The Women's Home parents. This question did not apply to the two middle-aged fathers since they were not 55 years old.

The chief reason given by the parents at both Homes for attending church less than when 55 years old was that they were not physically able to go. The number of children agreeing with their parents on this response was four for The Women's Home and seven for Okemos. Again more agreement among old parents of Okemos and their children than for parents of The Women's Home and their children.

Nine parents at The Women's Home believed in an after life (life after death) and twelve old parents and two middle-aged parents at Okemos Home were also sure of an after life. Eight of the adult responsible children of W. H. parentage and ten of the children of the old parents and two of the





children of the middle-aged parents at Okemos agreed. The total number of agreed responses was eight for parents at The Women's Home and their children, eleven and three, respectively for old parents and for middle-aged parents at Okemos Home and their children. Children of three parents at each Home, or a total of six adult responsible children, did not know. The children of Okemos parents had more insight into their parents' beliefs than did the children of The women's Home parents.

However, eleven mothers at W. H. listened to church services over the radio "about once or twice a week" and six children agreed. Only six old parents at Okemos listened that often to church services over the radio with only three children agreeing. Three middle-aged parents reported listening that often with only one child agreeing.

Twelve parents at The women's Home said they read the Bible or other religious book or prayer book every day. Seven of their children agreed. Eight old parents and two middle-aged said they read the Bible or religious book that often. Five of their children agreed. Two middle-aged parents said they read the Bible or religious books that often but no children agreed. Total number of agreed responses was seven for the Women's Home parents and their children, eight for O. H. parents and their children and for middle-aged parents and their children.

Thus in listening to church services on the radio and reading the Bible or religious books the parents at The Women's Home reported more activity than the parents at Okemos and there was more agreement from their children on reading the Bible or religious books. Otherwise the children of the old parents at Okemos showed more insight into their parents' religious beliefs and activities.

Turning to Tables XIV and XIVa, it will be seen that the fathers of nine of the mothers at The Women's Home and of eleven of the old parents and of the two middle-aged parents were farmers. Nine children for each Home gave the same response for the old parents but none of the middle-aged children agreed. However, farming was the main occupation reported. The other occupations reported were chiefly in the professional and business categories for the fathers of the Women's Home parents and chiefly in the business, skilled, and unskilled categories for the fathers of the Okemos parents. Thirteen children of The Women's Home mothers agreed with the responses of their mothers while nine of the children of old parents at Okemos and none of the children of the middle-aged parents agreed with their parents' responses.

It is quite interesting to note that half of the mothers at The Women's Home and nine of the old parents and all of the middle-aged parents at Okemos were "in-between" children in their own families. Four more at W. H. and at Okemos were the youngest children in their own families.



TABLE XIV

## EARLIER LIFE OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND CHILD

K. Your Earlier Life	The Women's Home						
	Parents		Parent		Child		Agreed
			M		D	S	M & D
							T
1. What was your father's occupation? (Tell what kind of work it was - for example, labor on a road construction gang, teller in a bank, etc.)							
Farmer . . . . .	.	.	9	4	5	9	4 5 9
Carpenter . . . . .	.	.	1		1	1	1 1 1
Hardware business. . . . .	.	.			1	1	1 1 1
Physician . . . . .	.	.	1		1	1	1 1 1
Lawyer . . . . .	.	.	1		1	1	1 1 1
Office manager. . . . .	.	.			1	1	
Business. . . . .	.	.	1				
Pump manufacturer. . . . .	.	.			1	1	
Contractor . . . . .	.	.	1				
Mason and bricklayer. . . . .	.	.			1	1	
Sheriff . . . . .	.	.			1	1	
Grocer . . . . .	.	.	1	1			1
Factory foreman . . . . .	.	.	1				
Total. . . . .	.	.	16	5	13	13	5 8 13
2. Which child in the family were you?							
Only child . . . . .	.	.	2		2	2	2 2
Youngest. . . . .	.	.	4	2	2	4	2 2 4
In-between . . . . .	.	.	7	3	4	7	3 4 7
Oldest . . . . .	.	.	1		1	1	1 1 1
Total. . . . .	.	.	14	5	9	14	5 9 14

TABLE XIV (cont.)

3. How many children in your family lived to the age of 5 or older?											
1	.	.	.	.	.	2		2	2	2	2
2	.	.	.	.	.	3		2	2	1	2
3	.	.	.	.	.	1		2	3	1	3
4	.	.	.	.	.	2		1	2	1	1
5	.	.	.	.	.	1		1	1	1	1
6	.	.	.	.	.			1	2		
7	.	.	.	.	.	1		1	1		
8	.	.	.	.	.	1		1	1		
9	.	.	.	.	.	1		1	1		
10	.	.	.	.	.	1		1	1		
14	.	.	.	.	.	1					
Total	.	.	.	.	.	14		1	9	1	1
								5	14	3	8
4. Omitted. Not apply. Age of parents, if still alive.											
5. If your parents are not living, how old were they at their death?											
Age of father											
30-34		.	.	.	.						
35-39		.	.	.	.						
40-44		.	.	.	.						
45-49		.	.	.	.						
50-54		.	.	.	.			1	1		
55-59		.	.	.	.						
60-64		.	.	.	.	1		1	2		
65-69		.	.	.	.	1		1	1		
70-74		.	.	.	.	1		2	3		
75-79		.	.	.	.	6		1	3	1	3
80-84		.	.	.	.	1					
85-89		.	.	.	.			1	1		
Not answer		.	.	.	.			1	1		
Not know		.	.	.	.			5	9	1	1
Total		.	.	.	.	2		14	14	4	5

**TABLE XIV (cont.)**

K. Your Earlier Life	The Women's Home							
	Parents	Parent M	Child			Agreed M <sup>M</sup> & D S T		
			D	S	T	D	S	T
Age of mother								
30-34	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1
35-39	.	.	.	.				
40-44	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1
45-49	.	.	.	.				
50-54	.	.	.	.	1			
55-59	.	.	.	.	1			
60-64	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	
65-69	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	
70-74	.	.	.	.	1			
80-84	.	.	.	.	2	2	2	1 1
85-89	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	
90-94	.	.	.	.	2	2	2	2 2
95-99	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	
Not know	.	.	.	.				
Not answer	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	
Total	.	.	.	.	14	5	9	14 1 4 5

6. How was your health when you were about 12 years old?

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Total
Not answer	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not know	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

TABLE XIV (cont.)

7. When you were in your teens, how did you feel toward your father?									
Mild dislike . . . . .	1							1	
Mild attachment . . . . .	2							2	
Considerable attachment . . . . .	1	2						3	
Very strong attachment . . . . .	1	5						6	
Not answer . . . . .		1						1	5
Not know. . . . .		1						1	6
Total. . . . .	5	9						14	7
8. When you were in your teens, how did you feel toward your mother?									
Considerable dislike . . . . .	1	1						2	
Mild attachment . . . . .	1	1						2	1
Considerable attachment . . . . .		3						3	
Very strong attachment . . . . .	3	2						5	4
Not answer . . . . .		1						1	
Not know. . . . .		1						1	
Total. . . . .	5	9						14	5
9. When you were in your teens, about how many friends of the same sex did you have?									
Average number. . . . .	4	6						10	6
A great many . . . . .	1	1						2	1
Not answer . . . . .		1						1	
Not know. . . . .		1						1	
Total. . . . .	5	9						14	7



TABLE XIV (cont.)

	K. Your Earlier Life	Parents	The Women's Home							
			Parent M	Child			Agreed M M & & D S T			
		Children		D	S	T	D	S	T	
10.	When you were in your late teens, how many friends of the opposite sex did you have?									
	Almost none . . . . .		1							
	Average number . . . . .		8	4	6	10	3	3	6	
	A great many . . . . .		3	1		1				
	I was married in late teens. . . . .		3	1	3	4	1	2	3	
	Not answer . . . . .				1	1				
	Not know . . . . .				1	1				
	Total . . . . .		14	5	9	14	2	4	6	
11.	What was the position of your family when you were about 12 years of age?									
	Enough to get along on . . . . .									
	Comfortable . . . . .		2	3	1	4	1		1	
	Well-to-do . . . . .		10	2	7	9	2	4	6	
	Not answer . . . . .		2							
	Total . . . . .		14	5	9	14	3	4	7	





TABLE XIVA

## EARLIER LIFE OF PARENT AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center(Okemos)																
K. Your Earlier Life	1. What was your father's occupation? (Tell what kind of work it was-- for example, labor on a road con- struction gang, teller in a bank, etc.)	Parents		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent 50-60 yrs. old				
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
		Children		D	S	T	D	S	D	S	T	D	S	D	T	
Farmer . . . . .	. . . . .	7	4	11	6	4	10	3	3	2	1	9	2	2		
Carpenter . . . . .	. . . . .				1		1									
Bookkeeper . . . . .	. . . . .	1		1												
Lumberman . . . . .	. . . . .				2		2									
Newspaperman . . . . .	. . . . .				1		1									
Flour mill owner . . . . .	. . . . .				1		1									
Unskilled labor . . . . .	. . . . .				1		1									
Butcher . . . . .	. . . . .	1		1						1		1	1	1		
Truck driver . . . . .	. . . . .											1	1			
Railroad . . . . .	. . . . .													1		
Foreman on construction . . . . .	. . . . .	1	1													
Florist . . . . .	. . . . .	1	1													
Caretaker of mansion . . . . .	. . . . .				1		1									
Solderer and lather in shop . . . . .	. . . . .	1	1													
Drew a pension . . . . .	. . . . .											1	1			
Chauffeur . . . . .	. . . . .	1		1												
Not answer . . . . .	. . . . .				1		1									
Not know . . . . .	. . . . .				1		1									
Total . . . . .	. . . . .	10	7	17	14	4	18	3	3	2	1	9	2	3	5	

1. What was your father's occupation?

(Tell what kind of work it was--

for example, labor on a road con-

struction gang, teller in a bank, etc.)

TABLE XIVA(cont.)

2. Which child in the family were you?																	
Only child . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Youngest . . . . .	1	3	4	2	2	4	1	2	3	8	1	2	3	2	1	1	2
In-between . . . . .	6	3	9	8	8	5	3	3	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	1	2
Oldest . . . . .	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	1	1	2
Total. . . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	6	2	5	13	1	2	3	3	1	1	2
3. How many children in your family lived to the age of 5 or older?																	
1 . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2 . . . . .	4	2	6	3	3	6	2	2	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1
3 . . . . .	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
4 . . . . .	1	1	1	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5 . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
6 . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
7 . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
8 . . . . .	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
9 . . . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	4	3	4	1	12	1	2	3	1	1	2
Total . . . . .																	
4. Omitted. Not apply. (Age of parents if still live.)																	
5. If your parents are not living, how old were they at their death?																	
Age of father . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
40-44. . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
45-49. . . . .	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
50-54. . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
55-59. . . . .	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
60-64. . . . .	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
65-69. . . . .	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
70-74. . . . .	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
75-79. . . . .	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
80-84. . . . .	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

**Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)**

6. How was your health when you were about 12 years old?

Poor	.	.	.
Fair	.	.	.
Good	.	.	.
Not know.	.	.	.
Total.	.	.	.

**TABLE XIVa(cont.)**

7. When you were in your teens, how did you feel toward your father?												
Died before child in teens	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Considerable dislike	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Mild attachment	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Considerable attachment	6	4	10	3	1	4	2	1	3	1	1	2
Very strong attachment	1	1	1	4	2	1	3	1	3	1	1	2
Not answer	9	6	15	11	4	15	4	1	5	1	2	3
Not know	3	1	4	15	4	15	4	1	5	1	2	3
Total	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
8. When you were in your teens, how did you feel toward your mother?												
Mild dislike	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Mild attachment	1	1	4	2	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Considerable attachment	7	4	11	3	3	1	2	3	1	1	2	1
Very strong attachment	1	1	1	4	15	1	2	3	1	2	3	3
Not answer	9	6	15	11	4	15	1	2	3	1	2	3
Not know	3	1	4	15	4	15	1	2	3	1	2	3
Total	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
9. When you were in your teens, about how many friends of the same sex did you have?												
Average number	6	4	10	5	2	7	2	1	1	1	5	1
A great many	3	1	4	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	1
Not know	1	1	4	2	6	1	1	4	2	3	1	1
Total	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	1	1	1	5	1
10. When you were in your late teens, how many friends of the opposite sex did you have?												
Almost none	2	1	3	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Average number	4	5	9	4	4	4	1	3	4	4	4	4
A great many	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
I was married in late teens	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Not know	1	1	4	2	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	10	6	16	11	4	15	3	1	3	7	1	2
*One mother checked both "A great many" and "I was married in late teens."												

\*One mother checked both "A great many" and "I was married in late teens."

**TABLE XIVa(cont.)**

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)												
K. Your Earlier Life	Parents		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent 50-60 yrs. old					
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	T	Child	Agreed	
11. What was the position of your family when you were about 12 years of age?												
Enough to get along on . . . . .	3	2	5	7	1	8	1	1	1	2	2	1
Comfortable. . . . .	6	3	9	4	3	7	1	1	2	1	1	1
Well-to-do . . . . .	1	1										
Total. . . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	1	1	3	1	3	1
12. How often did you attend some religious service when you were about 12 years of age?												
Never. . . . .												
Less than once a month . . . . .			2	2								
Once or twice a month . . . . .			1	1							1	
About once a week. . . . .	1	1										
Almost every day . . . . .	8	4	12	6	3	9	4	1	1	7	1	3
Twice a week . . . . .	1	1										
Not know. . . . .												
Total. . . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	4	1	1	7	1	3



There was practically perfect agreement between the responses of the parents and their children.

The range of number of children living to be five or older was from one to fourteen.

The farm background and large families were typical of the times into which the old parents were born and raised - 75 to 85 years ago for many of them.

Most of their parents lived well into their seventies and many into their eighties and nineties. From one angle this is surprising since the proportion of persons living well into their seventies and eighties was considerably less 30 and 40 years ago than it is now. However, from another viewpoint, it is not surprising since heredity is supposed to be one, if not the most, important factor for longevity.

Most of the old parents at both Homes reported good health as a child and nine children at W. H. and six at Okemos agreed that it must have been - total agreed responses nine and eight respectively. All the middle-aged parents reported good health and all the responses of their children agreed with this.

No parents and none of their adult responsible children reported any dislike on the part of the parents when in their teens for their fathers with the exception of one middle-aged father who reported "considerable dislike" and the daughter of one mother at The Women's Home who reported "mild dislike.<sup>2</sup> The majority of the parents at both Homes reported "very

strong attachment" for their fathers with the exception of the other two middle-aged parents who reported "mild attachment." Two parents at The Women's Home and one old parent at Okemos Home refused to answer. Could this have been an indication of guilt feelings on the part of these parents toward their fathers?

The total number of agreed responses for the parents at W.H. and their adult responsible children was seven; for the old parents at O.H., five; and for the middle-aged parents and their children, two.

Also no parents reported any dislike when in their teens of their mothers with the exception of one mother at The Women's Home who admitted to "considerable dislike" and one old father at Okemos Home who admitted to "mild dislike." One daughter and one son of mothers at The Women's Home reported "considerable dislike" but their mothers did not admit to this. The majority of the parents at both Homes, including a majority of the middle-aged parents, reported feeling a "very strong attachment" to their mothers. Again two mothers at The Women's Home and one mother at Okemos Home refused to answer (the same three).

The total number of same responses for parents at The Women's Home and their children was five; for old parents at Okemos Home and their children, three; and for middle-aged parents and their children, none.

Thus the amount of insight into the parents' feelings for their parents was low for the adult responsible children.

The majority of the parents at The Women's Home and of the old parents at Okemos Home reported having an "average number" of friends of the same sex when they were in their teens. Two middle-aged parents reported having a "great many." More parents at W.H. reported "a great many" than old parents at O.H. The total number of same responses for parents at W.H. and their children was seven; for old parents at O.H. and their children was five; and for the middle-aged parents and their children was two.

About half the parents at w.H. and a little over half of the old parents at O.H. reported an "average number" of friends of the opposite sex when they were in their late teens. The two middle-aged fathers who were both divorced said they had almost no friends of the opposite sex at that age. Six mothers but no fathers married in their late teens - three who were living at w.H., two old mothers at O.H., and the middle-aged mother. The total number of same (or agreed) responses for parents at w.H. and their children was six; for old parents at O.H., seven; and for the middle-aged parents and their children, one.

Thus there was not very much knowledge or insight on the part of the adult responsible children in regard to their parents' popularity when the latter were in their teens.

Approximately two-thirds of the mothers at W.H. and three-fifths of the old parents at O.H. and one middle-aged father came from families comfortably well off financially. Two of the three middle-aged parents came from families who had "enough to get along." No parents came from families who "couldn't make ends meet." None of the children said their parents came from families who "couldn't make ends meet." The total number of agreed responses for parents at W.H. and their children was seven; for old parents at O.H. and their children, three; for middle-aged parents and their children, one.

There was low agreement on the economic position of the parents' family when the parents were twelve years old.

No parents reported that they never attended religious services when they were twelve years old but four of their adult responsible children reported this - one daughter and one son of parents at W.H. and daughters of two old parents at O.H. Most of the parents reported attending religious services "about once a week." The total number of agreed responses for parents at W.H. and their children was five; for old parents at O.H. and their children, seven; and for middle-aged parents and their children, none.

Again there was low agreement. However, there was a little higher agreement between parents at W.H. and their children than for parents at O.H. on all items with the exception of this one where there was a little higher agreement

for the old parents at O.H. and their children.

Generally speaking, the amount of knowledge of and insight of the adult responsible children into the early life of their parents was low.

Tables XV and XVa deal with data on "What Parents Think About Things as Reported by Parent and Child."

There was high agreement between the responses of parents living at Women's Home and their adult responsible children (ten and eleven responses the same) on all the items except two under the first two categories dealing with what the parents thought about present day conditions and how life had treated them.

For the old parents at Okemos Home and their adult responsible children there was high agreement on only two items, low agreement on three (five and six same responses), and indeterminate agreement (seven and eight same responses) on the rest. There was high agreement on all but three items for the middle-aged parents and their children.

But for insight into and knowledge of the happy and unhappy periods in the parents' lives the agreement of responses of parents at The Women's Home and their children was considerably less, five and six respectively. The amount of agreement for Okemos remained the same, seven and eight, respectively, for old parents and their children and two for middle-aged parents and their children. Why there should be this difference is hard to explain except that four parents





TABLE XV

L. What You Think About Things	Parents	Children	The Women's Home									
			Parent M	Child			Agreed M M & S T					
				D	S	T	D	S	T			
If you agree with the following statements, check "Agree." If you disagree, check "Disagree." If you cannot answer, check "?".												
1. The people in our country are going to have greater prosperity and happiness than ever before.												
	Agree . . .	.	.	.	.	6	2	6	8	1	3	4
	Disagree . . .	.	.	.	.	2	2	2	4	1		1
	?	.	.	.	.	6	1	1	2			
	Not answer . . .	.	.	.	.		5	9	14	2	3	5
	Total . . .	.	.	.	.	14						
The world is headed for destruction.												
	Agree . . .	.	.	.	.	2	4	8	12	2	8	10
	Disagree . . .	.	.	.	.	12						
	?	.	.	.	.		1	1	2			
	Not answer . . .	.	.	.	.		5	9	14	2	8	10
	Total . . .	.	.	.	.	14						
Young people are much worse than they used to be.												
	Agree . . .	.	.	.	.	2	2	2	4	1		1
	Disagree . . .	.	.	.	.	9	3	6	9	2	4	6
	?	.	.	.	.	3						
	Not answer . . .	.	.	.	.		1	1	1			
	Total . . .	.	.	.	.	14	5	9	14	3	4	7



TABLE XV (cont.)

The country was much better off in the horse and buggy days.									
Agree . . .	1								
Disagree . . .	11	4	8	12	3	7	10		
?	2								
Not answer . . .		1	1	2					
Total . . .	14	5	9	14	3	7	10		
2. I feel that no one cares much what happens to me.									
Agree . . .		1	2	3					
Disagree . . .	14	4	6	10	4	6	10		
Not answer . . .			1	1					
Total . . .	14	5	9	14	4	6	10		
Life is just a series of disappointments.									
Agree . . .	1	1		1	1		1		
Disagree . . .	11	4	8	12	2	8	10		
?	2								
Not answer . . .			1	1					
Total . . .	14	5	9	14	3	8	11		
People have generally worked against me.									
Disagree . . .	14	4	8	12	4	7	11		
Not answer . . .		1	1	2					
Total . . .	14	5	9	14	4	7	11		
The breaks in life have usually gone against me?									
Agree . . .	1	2		2					
Disagree . . .	12	3	8	11	2	8	10		
?	1								
Not answer . . .			1	1					
Total . . .	14	5	9	14	2	8	10		



TABLE XV (cont.)

L. What You Think About Things	The Women's Home									
	Parents		Parent M		Child			Agreed M & D S		
	Children				D	S	T	M	D	S T
3. What was the happiest period of your life?										
Childhood, up to 12 years . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Twelve to 19 years . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Twenty to 39 years . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Forty to 39 years . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sixty to 74 years . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
All periods were equally happy . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not answer . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
*Total. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4. What was the <u>least</u> happy period of your life?										
Twenty to 39 years . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Forty to 59 years . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sixty to 74 years . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Since 75 years . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Never had an unhappy period . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not answer . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Not know . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
*Total. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

\* More than one response given.

TABLE XV (cont.)

5. As you look back over your life, what things were the hardest for you to bear?									
Death of spouse or spouses . . . . .	9	2	6	8	1	4	5		
Death of child or children . . . . .	1		3	3					
Elopement of son. . . . .			1	1					
Death of parent or parents . . . . .	2		1	1					
Death of close relatives other than above. . . . .	3								
Illness of child or children. . . . .	1								
Illness of spouse . . . . .	1	1		1	1		1		
Any difficulty children got into . . . . .			1	1					
Closing of bank . . . . .	1								
Lack of education . . . . .		1		1					
Ill health. . . . .	1		1	1		1			
Loss of everything in a fire. . . . .	1								
The coming of her mother to live with her . . . . .		1		1					
Rejection by mother. . . . .		1		1					
Separation from children . . . . .		1		1					
Hard all the way through . . . . .	1								
Infidelity of spouse . . . . .		1		1					
Divorce. . . . .		1		1					
Commitment of child to mental hospital . . . . .	1	1		1	1			1	
Leaving own home. . . . .		1		1					
Raising of children alone. . . . .									
Working on farm . . . . .									
Loss of farm . . . . .			1	1					
Nothing hardest to bear - can bear anything. . . . .	2								
Total . . . . .	25	11	15	26	3	5	8		
Not answer. . . . .			1	1					

TABLE XV (cont.)

L. What You Think About Things	The Women's Home									
	Parents		Parent		Child		Agreed			
	Children		M		D S T		M M & D S			
6. As you look back over your life, in general would you call it										
Very happy . . . . .			2		2 2		1 1		1 1	
Moderately happy . . . . .			4		4 4		2 2		2 2	
Average . . . . .			7		3 2 5		2 1		2 1 3	
Unhappy . . . . .					1 1					
Happy . . . . .			1		1 1		1 1		1 1	
Not answer . . . . .					1 1					
Total . . . . .			14		5 9 14		3 4		7	
7. If you could have three wishes, what would they be?										
Life continue active and as pleasant as now . . . . .			4		1 1 1					
Happiness and health for family and friends. . . . .			6		2 2 2		2 2		2 2	
Good health . . . . .			4		1 1 1					
Good eyesight . . . . .			1		1 1 1					
More religion in the world . . . . .			2							
See relatives and old friends . . . . .					2 2 2					
Have husband back . . . . .					1 1 1					
Have children back. . . . .					2 2 2					
Be young again . . . . .					2 2 2					
Return to the Home. . . . .					1 1 1					
Travel. . . . .					1 1 1					
More money for future. . . . .					1 1 1					
More money so as leave it to children . . . . .					1 1 1					
Wants family relations to be good. . . . .					1 1 2					









WHAT PARENT THINKS ABOUT THINGS AS REPORTED BY PARENT AND BY CHILD

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)														
L. What You Think About Things	Parents	Parent Child		Agreed		Parent 50-60 yrs. old								
		M F	T	D S	T	M M	F F	Parent M F	Child T	Agreed M F & D				
	Children			D	S	T	D	S	D	S	T	D	D	T
If you agree with the following statements, check "Agree." If you disagree, check "Disagree." If you cannot answer, check "?"														
1. The people in our country are going to have greater prosperity and happiness than ever before.														
Agree	.	.	.	4	2	6	2	2	4	1	1	1	2	3
Disagree	.	.	.	1	1	2	3	3	1	1				
?	.	.	.	4	3	7	6	2	8	1	2	1	4	2
Total	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	1	2	2	4	1
The world is headed for destruction.														
Agree	.	.	.	3	1	4	5	5	3	3	1	1	1	1
Disagree	.	.	.	5	4	9	3	3	6	1	3	2	6	2
?	.	.	.	1	1	2	3	1	4	1	1	1	1	1
Total	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	5	3	2	10	1
Young people are much worse than they used to be.														
Agree	.	.	.	1	2	3	7	7	1	2	3	1	1	1
Disagree	.	.	.	7	3	10	3	3	6	1	2	1	1	1
?	.	.	.	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Total	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	2	3	8	1

TABLE XVa

The country was much better off in the horse and buggy days.														
Agree	.	.	.	.	3	3	6	6	6	1	2	3	1	2
Disagree	.	.	.	.	4	3	7	3	3	6	1	1	3	1
?	.	.	.	.	2		2	2	1	3	1			1
Total	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	1	2	3
2. I feel that no one care much what happens to me.														
Agree	.	.	.	.	2	1	3	6		6	2	2		1
Disagree	.	.	.	.	7	5	12	4	3	7	2	3	2	2
?	.	.	.	.			1	1	2					1
Total	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	4	3	2	3
Life is just a series of dis-														
appointments.														
Agree	.	.	.	.	5	3	8	6	1	7	3	1	4	1
Disagree	.	.	.	.	2	2	4	3	2	5	1	1	2	2
?	.	.	.	.	2	1	3	2	1	3	2		2	1
Total	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	5	2	1	3
People have generally worked against me.														
Agree	.	.	.	.			2	1	3					1
Disagree	.	.	.	.	8	5	13	7	3	10	4	2	3	2
?	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	2		2				1
Total	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	4	2	3	3
The breaks in life have usually gone against me.														
Agree	.	.	.	.	2	5	7	4	2	6	1	3	4	1
Disagree	.	.	.	.	6	1	7	5	2	7	1	1	2	2
?	.	.	.	.	1		1	2		2			1	1
Total	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	1	1	4	3
3. What was the happiest period of your life?														
Childhood, up to 12 years.	.	.	.	.	1	1	2						1	1
Twelve to 19 years	.	.	.	.	4	1	5	1		1	1		1	1
Twenty to 39 years	.	.	.	.	3	5	8	5	3	8	1	2	1	1
Forty to 59 years	.	.	.	.	2	3	5			1	1	1	1	1
Sixty to 74 years	.	.	.	.	1		1							1



**Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)**

\*More than one response given.

## 5. (cont.)

188.



TABLE XVa (cont.)

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)														
Parent 50-60 yrs. old														
L. What You Think About Things														
Parents														
Children														
Agreed														
Parent Child														
Parent Child														
Agreed														
M F T														
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TABLE XVa (cont.)

7. (cont.)																
Not know . . . . .																
Not be afraid of future . . . . .																
Well-being of family . . . . .																
Could walk . . . . .																
Have home of own . . . . .																
See son not drink . . . . .																
Freedom from pain . . . . .																
Have farm back . . . . .																
Out of the hospital . . . . .																
Happiness . . . . .																
Have home back . . . . .																
Live whole life over again . . . . .																
Take care of self . . . . .																
Have brother back . . . . .																
Independence - support self . . . . .																
Children understand them better . . . . .																
Get wife back (divorced) . . . . .																
Have parent(s) back . . . . .																
See grandchildren grow up . . . . .																
Have a happy home life . . . . .																
Not have stroke . . . . .																
Live with husband again . . . . .																
Wishes daughter would marry . . . . .																
Total . . . . .																
9. In which age group do you feel that you now belong?																
Aged . . . . .																
Old . . . . .																
Elderly . . . . .																
Middle-aged . . . . .																
Total . . . . .																

\*One said she felt elderly but had to admit aged.  
 One father felt "Elderly" and/or "Old."  
 One son said "Elderly" or "Aged." Same case.





TABLE XVa (cont.)

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)														
Parent 50-60 yrs. old														
L. What You Think About Things	Parents	Parent Child		Agreed		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent 50-60 yrs. old				
		M F	T	M M	F F	M F	T	M F	T					
	Children	D	S	T	D	S	D	S	T	D	S	T		
9. (cont.)														
In which age group do you think she/he feels she/he now belongs?														
Aged . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Old . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Elderly . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Middle aged. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Not know. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Total. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
		2	2	5	3	2	1	1	2	1	1	2		
		5	5	5	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	2		
		3	2	5	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	2		
		1	1	2	1	1	1	2	3	3	1	2		
		11	4	15	11	4	15	5	3	2	10	1	2	3
10. Did you vote in the last national election?														
Yes . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
No. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Not know. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Total. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
		4	5	9	3	3	6	1	3	1	5	1	1	1
		5	1	6	8	1	8	4	1	1	5	1	1	2
		9	6	15	11	4	15	5	3	2	10	1	2	3
		9	6	15	11	4	15	5	3	2	10	1	2	3



at The Women's Home said that "all periods were equally happy" and six said that they "never had an unhappy period." The parents at Okemos and almost all the children of parents at both Homes tended generally to be more analytical.

The list of things the parents found hardest to bear during their life time covered the whole gamut of human suffering. The response most often given had to do with death - death of spouse or of children or of parents. Although the adult responsible children listed about the same number of things hard to bear as their parents, the number of same responses was low.

Most of the parents considered that their lives had held the average amount of happiness or a moderate amount of happiness. About half of their children agreed with their responses with the exception of the middle-aged parents where only one child agreed.

Also most of the parents were either "Reasonably satisfied" or "Well satisfied" with what they had accomplished in life. About half of the children of the old parents at Okemos agreed with the responses of their parents but only five children of parents at The Women's Home agreed and no children of the middle-aged parents agreed. The one parent at The Women's Home who was "dissatisfied" had done a great deal of good in her life - much more than the average person - yet she felt she should have done more. Two old fathers felt they were failures. The three daughters of the middle-aged

parents thought their parents should have felt "dissatisfied" but actually they felt "reasonably satisfied."

One of the categories was "If you could have three wishes, what would they be?" Most of the wishes of parents at both Homes had to do with health and physical condition - either that it would be better or would continue to be as good as it was. The second most common wish had to do with welfare of and longing for family. Half of the adult responsible children of the middle-aged parents gave the same responses as their parents. But only two children of the parents at The Women's Home gave the same. This lack of insight of the adult responsible children of the parents at W.H. could have been due in part to their feeling that their parents enjoyed good health and were therefore not concerned about it.

When asked what age group the parent felt she or he was in, only five parents (four at The Women's Home and one old mother at Okemos Home) said they were "Aged." Most said they were either "Old" or "Elderly" but a few said they felt "middle-aged." Only a few of the children thought of their parents as being "Aged." The number of same responses for parents at both Homes and their children was low (five and four) but for the middle-aged parents and their children, there were two agreed responses. Many of the children said they hadn't thought about this. As one said, "She's my mother, that's all."

A little over half of the parents voted in the last national election with the exception of the middle-aged parents. Only one of them voted. The agreement of response was high for the Okemos parents and their children but indeterminate for the parents at The Women's Home and their children (eight agreed responses).

One is struck by the comparative lack of insight of the children of the parents living at The Women's Home except in the first two categories which concerned attitudes. This might have been due to the fact that half of the parents were living alone immediately before entering The Women's Home whereas most of the parents at Okemos were living with their children.

## CHAPTER V

### ANALYSIS OF DATA - ATTITUDES

The Tables just discussed dealt with the "Activities" part of the Schedule and gave the data on general information about the parents and on their interests and activities as reported by them and by their adult responsible children.

The next eight Tables will deal with the "Attitudes" part of the Schedule and in them will be presented the data on the Attitudes of the parents on their health, friendship, work, financial security, religion, usefulness, happiness and the adult responsible child's attitude about the parent in these eight categories. The child was asked to give her or his own opinion on the statements.

It was explained to both the parent and the child that some of the statements contradicted each other but that answers should be given to every question. The interviewees were asked to state for each question whether they agreed, disagreed, or were doubtful.

In Tables XVI and XVIa the data are presented on the "Attitudes of Parent on Health and Child's Attitude About Parent on Health." There was considerable agreement between the parents' attitudes and those of their children toward the parents' health. With the exception of two of the seven





TABLE XVI

ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON HEALTH AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE  
ABOUT PARENT ON HEALTH

M. Your Attitudes	The Women's Home						
	Parents	Parent M	Child			Agreed	
			D	S	T	N	M
	Children					&	N
			D	S	T	D	S
						T	
If you agree with the following statements, check "Agree." If you disagree, check "Disagree." If you absolutely cannot answer, check the "?". BE SURE TO ANSWER EVERY QUESTION.							
1. I feel just miserable most of the time.							
Agree . . .	.	.	1		1		
Disagree . . .	.	14	4	9	13	4	9
Total . . .	.	14	5	9	14	4	13
2. I am perfectly satisfied with my health.							
Agree . . .	.	9	2	4	6	1	2
Disagree . . .	.	4	2	5	7	1	1
?	.	1	1		1		
Total . . .	.	14	5	9	14	2	4
3. I never felt better in my life.							
Agree . . .	.	4	2	2	2	1	1
Disagree . . .	.	10	5	7	12	5	4
Total . . .	.	14	5	9	14	5	5
							10

TABLE XVI (cont.)

4. If I can't feel better soon, I would just as soon die.									
Agree . . .	1	1	1	2					
Disagree . . .	12	4	7	11	3	6	9		
?	1		1	1					
Total . . .	14	5	9	14	3	6	9		
5. When I was younger, I felt a little better than I do now.									
Agree . . .	10	5	7	12	5	5	10		
Disagree . . .	4		1	1		1	1		
?			1	1					
Total . . .	14	5	9	14	5	6	11		
6. My health is just beginning to be a burden to me.									
Agree . . .	1	1	3	4	1		1		
Disagree . . .	13	2	6	8	2	6	8		
?		2		2					
Total . . .	14	5	9	14	3	6	9		
7. I still feel young and full of spirit.									
Agree . . .	9	2	2	4	1	1	2		
Disagree . . .	3	3	7	10	2		2		
?	2								
Total . . .	14	5	9	14	3	1	4		

TABLE XVia

ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON HEALTH AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE  
ABOUT PARENT ON HEALTH

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)

M. Your Attitudes	Parent 50-60 yrs. old											
	Parents			Parent Child		Agreed		Parent Child		Agreed		
	M	F	T	M	F	F	M	F	T	M	F	T
Children				D	S	T	D	S	D	S	T	T

If you agree with the following statements, check "Agree." If you disagree, check "Disagree." If you absolutely cannot answer, check the "?". BE SURE TO ANSWER EVERY QUESTION.

1. I feel just miserable most of the time.

Agree . . .													1
Disagree . . .													2
?													1
Total . . .													3

2. I am perfectly satisfied with my health.

Agree . . .	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Disagree . . .	6	4	10	10	3	13	3	3	3	9	1	1	2
?	1	1											
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	3	4	10	1	2	3

3. I never felt better in my life.

Disagree . . .	9	5	14	11	4	15	6	3	4	1	14	1	2	3
?	1	1												
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	6	3	4	1	14	1	2	3



items, namely "I am perfectly satisfied with my health" and "I still feel young and full of spirit," the number of agreed responses ranged from nine to almost perfect agreement for the parents at The Women's Home and the old parents at Okemos Home and their children. There was perfect agreement on four of the items between the responses of the middle-aged parents and their children and two-thirds agreement on all other items except one where there was none, namely, "I still feel young and full of spirit." Most of the parents at The Women's Home and middle-aged parents and five of the old parents at Okemos agreed with this statement, but most of the children disagreed. The attitudes, however, of parents and children toward the health of the parent were generally very good.

Tables XVII and XVIIa deal with the data on "Attitude of Parent on Friends and Child's Attitude About Parent on Friends." There was less agreement between the responses of parents and children on attitude toward friendship than on attitude toward health. However, even so, over half of the responses were identical on over half of the seven statements for the parents of The Women's Home and their adult responsible children (five) and for the old parents of Okemos Home and their children (four). The range in number of identical responses was from eight to twelve. For the middle-aged parents and their children there was high agreement on only three of the seven statements (perfect agreement on two of these). For each of the remaining four statements only one response was identical.

TABLE XVII

ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON FRIENDS AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE  
ABOUT PARENT ON FRIENDS

M. Your Attitudes	The Women's Home									
	Parents		Parent		Child			Agreed		
			M		D	S	T	M	M	& S
	Children				D	S	T	D	S	T
1. I have more friends now than I ever had before.	Agree . . .	.	1		2	1	3	1		1
	Disagree . . .	.	9		3	6	9	1		5
	?	.	4			2	2			
	Total . . .	.	14		5	9	14	2		6
2. I never dreamed that I could be as lonely as I am now.	Agree . . .	.	2		1	1	2	1		1
	Disagree . . .	.	9		3	7	10	1		7
	?	.	3		1	1	2			
	Total . . .	.	14		5	9	14	2		8
3. I would be happier if I could see my friends more often.	Agree . . .	.	8							
	Disagree . . .	.	5		5	4	9	1		2
	?	.	1			1	1			3
	Total . . .	.	14		5	9	14	1		5
4. I have no one to talk to about personal things.	Agree . . .	.	4							
	Disagree . . .	.	9		5	9	14	3		6
	?	.	1		5	9	14	3		6
	Total . . .	.	14		5	9	14	3		9

TABLE XVII (cont.)

5. I have so few friends that I am lonely much of the time.									
Agree . . . .	1	2	2	3	7	10			
Disagree . . . .	13	4	7	11	3	7	10		
?		1		1					
Total . . . .	14	5	9	14	3	7	10		
6. My many friends make my life happy and cheerful.									
Agree . . . .	11	2	7	9	1	7	8		
Disagree . . . .	2	3	2	5	2		2		
?	1								
Total . . . .	14	5	9	14	3	7	10		
7. I have all the good friends anyone could wish for.									
Agree . . . .	12	2	5	7	2	5	7		
Disagree . . . .	1	2	3	5	1		1		
?	1	1	1	2					
Total . . . .	14	5	9	14	3	5	8		

# ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON FRIENDS AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE ABOUT PARENT ON FRIENDS

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)																							
M. Your Attitudes	Parents	Parent Child		Agreed		Parent 50-60 yrs. old																	
		M F T	D S T	M M F F & & &	Parent		Child		Agreed														
							M F T	M F T			M F	& &											
Children												T											
1. I have more friends now than I ever had before.																							
Agree . . .	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	3	1	2	3	1	1	1	2								
Disagree . . .	.	.	.	.	.	5	4	9	8	1	9	3	1	2									
? . . .	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	3	2	1	3												
Total . . .	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	2	2									
2. I never dreamed that I could be as lonely as I am now.																							
Agree . . .	.	.	.	.	.	4	2	6	5	2	7	3	1	4	1	1	2						
Disagree . . .	.	.	.	.	.	5	4	9	3	2	5	2	2	4	1	1	2						
? . . .	.	.	.	.	.			3	3														
Total . . .	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	2	2	1	8	1	2	3	3	1	1	
3. I would be happier if I could see my friends more often.																							
Agree . . .	.	.	.	.	.	7	6	13	7	3	10	6	1	1	1	9	1	2	3	3	1	2	3
Disagree . . .	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	4	1	5													
? . . .	.	.	.	.	.	1																	
Total . . .	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	6	1	1	1	9	1	2	3	3	1	2	3



TABLE XVIIa (cont.)

4. I have no one to talk to about personal things.												
Agree . . .	3	3	6						1	1	1	1
Disagree . . .	6	2	8	9	3	12	3	2	7	1	2	1
?	1	1	2	1	3							1
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	2	7	1	2	3
5. I have so few friends that I am lonely much of the time.												
Agree . . .	2	1	3	1		1	1		1			
Disagree . . .	6	5	11	9	4	13	3	5	11	1	2	1
?	1		1	1		1						
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	4	3	12	1	2	1
6. My many friends make my life happy and cheerful.												
Agree . . .	8	3	11	4	3	7	3	2	6	1	2	1
Disagree . . .	1	1	6		6			1	1			
?	1	2	3	1	1	2		1	1			
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	3	8	1	2	1
7. I have all the good friends anyone could wish.												
Agree . . .	9	4	13	3	3	6	2	3	6	1	2	1
Disagree . . .	2	2	7		7			1	1			
?			1	1	2							
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	3	7	1	2	1

The general climate of feeling of all of the parents in regard to friendship was good and the children of the parents at The Women's Home and of the old parents at Okemos tended to agree with this. But the children of the middle-aged parents felt their parents were lonelier than the parents themselves felt.

There was the possibility of revelation of guilt feelings on the part of the children of the parents at The Women's Home by the statement for which there was the least number of agreed responses (five) for them and their parents. Over half (eight) of the parents agreed with the statement "I would be happier if I could see my friends more often," but nine of their children (all five daughters and four of the sons) disagreed with the statement. It can be speculated that either the children felt that their parents' friends were now at the Home or that they were rationalizing their laxity in providing the necessary transportation. Or perhaps they felt their parents would not be made any happier by seeing the friends who lived elsewhere than in the Home more often.

Tables XVIII and XVIIIa are concerned with the "Attitude of Parent on Work and Child's Attitude About Parent on Work."

The general attitude of the parents and their adult responsible children in regard to work on the part of the parents was that while the parents could no longer do the



TABLE XVIII

## ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON WORK AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE ABOUT PARENT ON WORK

M. Your Attitudes	The Women's Home									
	Parents		Parent M		Child			Agreed M M & D S T		
	Children				D	S	T	D	S	T
1. I am happy only when I have definite work to do.	Agree . . .	.	7		1	4	5		3	3
	Disagree . . .	.	5		4	4	8	3	1	4
	? . . .	.	2			1	1			
	Total . . .	.	14		5	9	14	3	4	7
2. I can no longer do any kind of useful work.	Agree . . .	.	2		2	2	4		2	2
	Disagree . . .	.	12		3	6	9	3	6	9
	? . . .	.				1	1			
	Total . . .	.	14		5	9	14	5	6	11
3. I am satisfied with the work I now do.	Agree . . .	.	8		3	4	7	3	2	5
	Disagree . . .	.	5		2	4	6	2	1	3
	? . . .	.	1			1	1			
	Total . . .	.	14		5	9	14	5	3	8
4. I have no work to look forward to.	Agree . . .	.	6		3	2	5		1	1
	Disagree . . .	.	6		2	6	8	1	5	6
	? . . .	.	1			1	1			
	Total . . .	.	14		5	9	14	1	6	7

TABLE XVIII (cont.)

5. I get badly flustered when I have to hurry with my work.									
Agree . . . . .	5	2	2	4	1	1	1	5	6
Disagree . . . . .	9	3	6	9	1	1	1	5	6
?			1	1					
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	2	2	5	5	7
6. I do better work now than ever before.									
Agree . . . . .	14	5	8	13	5	5	8	13	13
Disagree . . . . .			1	1					
?			9	14					
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	5	5	8	13	13
7. I have more free time than I know how to use.									
Agree . . . . .	10	3	4	7	3	3	2	2	5
Disagree . . . . .	4	2	4	6	1	1	1	1	2
?			1	1					
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	4	4	3	3	7



TABLE XVIIIa

ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON WORK AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE  
ABOUT PARENT ON WORK

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)																					
M. Your Attitudes	Parents	Children	Parent 50-60 yrs. old.																		
			Parent		Child		Agreed		Parent		Child		Agreed								
			M	F	T	D	S	T	M	M	F	F	M	F	T	M	F	&			
			D	S	T	D	S	S	T							D	D	S	T		
1. I am happy only when I have definite work to do.																					
	Agree . . .	.	.	.	.	5	3	8	5	2	7	2	1	1	4	1	2	3	1	1	1
	Disagree . . .	.	.	.	.	4	3	7	4	2	6	1	1	2					1		
	?	.	.	.	.				2										1		
	Total . . .	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	1	2	1	6	1	2	3	1	1
2. I can no longer do any kind of useful work.																					
	Agree . . .	.	.	.	.	4	1	5	5	2	7	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1		
	Disagree . . .	.	.	.	.	3	3	6	6	2	8	1	1	2	4	1	1	2		1	1
	?	.	.	.	.	2	2	4													
	Total . . .	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	2	3	7	1	2	3	1	2	3
3. I am satisfied with the work I now do.																					
	Agree . . .	.	.	.	.	4	6	10	7	3	10	2	4	1	7	1	1	2		1	1
	Disagree . . .	.	.	.	.	3	3	3	1	4	1				1						
	?	.	.	.	.	2	2	1			1						1	1			
	Total . . .	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	4	1	8	1	2	3	1	1	2





work they used to be able to do, they still could do useful work and were satisfied with what work they could do - the latter was especially true of the parents, both old and middle-aged at Okemos. The parents at Okemos were much more apt to get flustered over their work than those at The Women's Home. The difference in health between the residents of the two Homes could be the explanation for this.

More parents at The Women's Home felt they had more free time than they knew how to use than the parents at Okemos. This could be explained by the fact that the parents at Okemos were receiving therapy and were helped to keep busy by the hospital staff.

There was high agreement on two statements for responses of the parents at The Women's Home and their children and not less than seven or eight agreed responses for the remaining four statements. For the old parents at Okemos Home and their adult responsible children, there was high agreement on two of the statements but low agreement on one. For the other four statements, the number of agreed responses ranged from seven to nine. There was a high rate of agreement on all statements but one between the responses of the middle-aged parents and their children.

Turning to Tables XIX and XIXa, it will be seen that they are concerned with the "Attitude of Parent on Financial Security and Child's Attitude About Parent on Financial Security."



TABLE XIX

ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON FINANCIAL SECURITY AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE  
ABOUT PARENT ON FINANCIAL SECURITY

M. Your Attitudes	The Women's Home								
	Parents	Parent M	Child			Agreed M M & S			
			D	S	T	D	S	T	
1. I am just able to make ends meet.									
Agree . . .	.	.	5	2	2	4	1	1	1
Disagree . . .	.	.	9	2	7	9	1	5	6
? . . .	.	.		1		1			
Total . . .	.	.	14	5	9	14	2	5	7
2. I have enough money to get along.									
Agree . . .	.	.	13	4	8	12	4	7	11
Disagree . . .	.	.		1	1	2			
? . . .	.	.	1						
Total . . .	.	.	14	5	9	14	4	7	11
3. I haven't a cent in the world.									
Agree . . .	.	.							
Disagree . . .	.	.	13	4	9	13	3	9	12
? . . .	.	.	1	1		1			
Total . . .	.	.	14	5	9	14	3	9	12
4. All my needs are cared for.									
Agree . . .	.	.	14	5	8	13	5	8	13
Disagree . . .	.	.			1	1			
Total . . .	.	.	14	5	9	14	5	8	13

TABLE XIX (cont.)

5. I am provided with many home comforts.										
Agree . . . .	14	5	8	13	5	8	13	5	8	13
?			1	1						
Total . . . .	14	5	9	14	5	9	14	5	8	13
6. I have everything that money can buy.										
Agree . . . .	4	1	3	4				2	2	
Disagree . . . .	9	4	5	9				4	4	8
?	1		1	1						
Total . . . .	14	5	9	14	4	6	10			
7. I have to watch how I spend every penny.										
Agree . . . .	8	3	2	5	2	1	3			
Disagree . . . .	6	2	7	9				4	4	4
Total . . . .	14	5	9	14	2	5	7			



TABLE XIXa

ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON FINANCIAL SECURITY AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE  
ABOUT PARENT ON FINANCIAL SECURITY

		Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)										Parent 50-60 yrs. old	
		Parents		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent		Child		Agreed	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
		Children											
		D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	D	T
1. I am just able to make ends meet.													
Agree . . .		4	2	6	5	2	7	4	1	5	1	1	1
Disagree . . .		2	1	3	5	1	6	1	1	3	1	1	1
? . . .		3	3	6	1	1	2	1	1	2			
Total . . .		9	6	15	11	4	15	6	2	10	1	2	3
2. I have enough money to get along.													
Agree . . .		4	5	9	9	3	12	2	1	3	1	7	1
Disagree . . .		3	1	4	1	1	2				1	1	1
? . . .		2	2	1	1	1	1			1			
Total . . .		9	6	15	11	4	15	3	1	3	1	8	1
3. I haven't a cent in the world.													
Agree . . .		3	2	5	2	4	6	1		1	2		
Disagree . . .		5	4	9	7	7	2	3		5	1	2	3
? . . .		1	1	2	2								
Total . . .		9	6	15	11	4	15	3	3	1	7	1	2
4. All my needs are cared for.													
Agree . . .		7	5	12	11	4	15	4	3	5	12	1	2
Disagree . . .		1	1	1									
? . . .		1	1	2								1	1
Total . . .		9	6	15	11	4	15	4	3	5	12	1	2

TABLE XIXa (cont.)

5. I am provided with many home comforts.																			
Agree . . .	7	4	11	8	2	10	2	1	4	7	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Disagree . . .	1	1	3	1	4	1				1	1	1	1						
?	1	2	3	1	1														
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	1	4	8	1	2	3						
6. I have everything that money can buy.																			
Agree . . .	1	2	3																
Disagree . . .	8	4	12	9	4	13	5	2	2	1	10	1	1	2					
?			2			2						1	1						
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	5	2	2	1	10	1	2	3					
7. I have to watch how I spend every penny.																			
Agree . . .	8	4	12	9	4	13	5	2	2	1	10	1	1	1					
Disagree . . .		2	2	2		2						1	1	2					
?	1		1																
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	5	2	2	1	10	1	2	3					





There was a high rate of agreement between the responses of the parents of both Homes and those of their children as to attitude toward the financial security of the parents. There was agreement on all but two or three statements of two-thirds or more of the parents and their children. This high agreement in attitude is consistent for the parents at The Women's Home and their adult responsible children and the middle-aged parents at Okemos and their children with the response made to a similar question in the first part of the questionnaire which dealt with interests, activities, and feelings. For the old parents at Okemos and their children this high agreement in attitude toward financial security of the parents is a marked increase over that expressed in the first part of the questionnaire. Why this should be so is hard to explain. However, there were seven statements in which to express feelings on security in Table XIX as compared with one in Table XII in the first part of the questionnaire.

Most of the parents and their children felt that the parents had "enough money to get along" but many felt they were "just able to make ends meet" with outside help. Almost all the parents and their children felt that all the parents' needs were cared for and that the parents were provided with many home comforts. More old parents at Okemos and their children felt that they had to watch how they spent every penny than did the parents at The Women's Home and their



children and the middle-aged parents at Okemos and their children.

In Tables XX and XXa, the data on "Attitude of Parent on Religion and Child's Attitude About Parent on Religion" are presented.

For the unequivocal statements, whether negative or positive, in regard to religion, there was high agreement between the responses of parents living at The Women's Home and their adult responsible children, and between the responses of the old parents at Okemos Home and their children. There was high agreement on all the statements between the responses of the middle-aged parents and their children.

There were two statements on which there was some confusion on the part of The Women's Home parents and their children as to how to answer them, namely, the first one reading "Religion is fairly important in my life" and the seventh one reading "Religion is only one of many interests." The word "fairly" in the first statement and the word "only" in the last were the sources of confusion. The old parents at Okemos and their children were confused on the latter statement but not in the first. As a consequence of this confusion, the number of identical responses of parents and children was low.

The agreement of the parents living at The Women's Home and their adult responsible children was greater in regard to attitude toward religion as shown in Table XX than

TABLE XX

ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON RELIGION AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE ABOUT PARENT  
ON RELIGION

M. Your Attitudes	The Women's Home									
	Parent	Parent M	Child			Agreed M M & D S T			Disagree ?	Total
			Children	D	S	T	D	S	T	
1. Religion is fairly important in my life.										
Agree . . .		10		4	6	10	1	5	6	
Disagree . . .		1		1	2	3				
?		3			1	1				
Total . . .		14		5	9	14	1	5	6	
2. I have no use for religion.										
Agree . . .				4	9	13	4	9	13	
Disagree . . .		14		1		1				
?				5	9	14	4	9	13	
Total . . .		14								
3. Religion is a great comfort to me.										
Agree . . .		12		4	8	12	4	7	11	
Disagree . . .		1		1	1	2				
?		1								
Total . . .		14		5	9	14	4	7	11	
4. Religion doesn't mean much to me.										
Agree . . .				1	1	2				
Disagree . . .		13		4	8	12	4	7	11	
?		1								
Total . . .		14		5	9	14	4	7	11	

TABLE XX (cont.)

5. I don't rely on prayer to help me.									
Agree . . .	2				1	3	4	1	1
Disagree . . .	12				4	5	9	4	8
?						1	1		
Total . . .	14				5	9	14	5	9
x 6. Religion is the most important thing in my life.									
Agree . . .	12				3	3	6	3	6
Disagree . . .	2				2	6	8	1	1
Total . . .	14				5	9	14	3	7
x 7. Religion is only one of many interests.									
Agree . . .	6				2	6	8	3	3
Disagree . . .	5				1	1	2	1	1
?	3				2	2	4	1	1
Total . . .	14				5	9	14	5	5

# ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON RELIGION AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE ABOUT PARENTS ON RELIGION

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)											
M. Your Attitudes	Parents	Parent Child				Parent 50-60 yrs. old					
		M F T		Agreed		M F T		Agreed			
		Children		D S	T D S D S T						
1. Religion is fairly important in my life.											
Agree . . .	.	.	9 5 14 7 4	11 5 3 2 1	11 1 1 1	2	1 1 2				
Disagree . . .	.	.	1 1 3	3 1	1						
? . . .	.	.	1	1		1 1	1 1 1				
Total . . .	.	.	9 6 15 11 4	15 5 3 3 1	12 1 2 3	3	1 2 3				
2. I have no use for religion.											
Agree . . .	.	.	1	1							
Disagree . . .	.	.	9 6 15 9 4	13 6 3 3 1	13 1 2 3	3	1 2 3				
? . . .	.	.	1	1							
Total . . .	.	.	9 6 15 11 4	15 6 3 3 1	13 1 2 3	3	1 2 3				
3. Religion is a great comfort to me.											
Agree . . .	.	.	8 5 13 5 4	9 3 3 3 1	1 1 8 1 2	3	1 1 2				
Disagree . . .	.	.	1 1 4	4 1	1						
? . . .	.	.	1 1 2	2 1	1	1	1				
Total . . .	.	.	9 6 15 11 4	15 4 3 2 1	10 1 2 3	3	1 1 2				

TABLE XXa (cont.)

4. Religion doesn't mean much to me.														
Agree . . .	1	1	2	2	1	1								
Disagree . . .	9	5	14	8	4	12	6	3	2	1	12	1	2	
? . . .			1			1								1
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	6	3	3	1	13	1	2	3
5. I don't rely on prayer to help me.														
Agree . . .	2	2	4	4		1								
Disagree . . .	8	3	11	5	4	9	2	3	1	1	7	1	1	2
? . . .	1	1	2	2		2					1			1
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	3	2	1	8	1	2	3
6. Religion is the most important thing in my life.														
Agree . . .	6	4	10	3	3	6	1	2	2	1	6	1	2	3
Disagree . . .	1	1	6			6			1		1			1
? . . .	3	1	4	2	1	3			1		1			1
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	1	2	4	1	8	1	2	3
7. Religion is only one of many interests.														
Agree . . .	5	3	8	3	3	6	2		1		3		2	2
Disagree . . .	2	2	4			4		1			1	1		
? . . .	2	3	5	4	1	5			1		1			
Total . . .	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	1	2		5	1	2	3





it was for religious activity as shown in Table XIII. As for the old parents and middle-aged parents living at the Okemos Home and their adult responsible children, the same high agreement was evidenced in Table XXa as was shown in Table XIIIa.

All but a very few parents found great comfort in religion and prayer.

Tables XXI and XXIa are concerned with the "Attitude of Parent on Usefulness and Child's Attitude About Parent on Usefulness."

There was much higher agreement between the responses of the middle-aged parents at Okemos and their adult responsible children in regard to attitude toward usefulness of parent than there was between the responses of the parents at the Women's Home and the old parents at Okemos and their children. For the middle-aged parents and their children, all statements except one had a high number of agreed responses but for the other parents at both Homes and their children, about half the statements had a high number of agreed responses and the other half had seven and eight agreed responses.

A greater number of parents living at The Women's Home and their adult responsible children felt the parents were still living useful lives than did the old parents living at Okemos Home and their children - twelve for W.H. as compared with eight for O.H. Two out of the three middle-aged parents

TABLE XXI

ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON USEFULNESS AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE  
ABOUT PARENT ON USEFULNESS

M. Your Attitudes	The Women's Home									
	Parents		Parent M		Child			Agreed		
	Children				D	S	T	M	M	& S T
1. I am some use to those around me.										
Agree . . .	.	.	12		4	8	12	3	8	11
Disagree . . .	.	.				1	1			
?	.	.	2		1		1	1		1
Total . . .	.	.	14		5	9	14	4	8	12
2. My life is meaningless now.										
Agree . . .	.	.	1		1		1			
Disagree . . .	.	.	12		4	9	13	3	8	11
?	.	.	1							
Total . . .	.	.	14		5	9	14	3	8	11
3. The days are too short for all I want to do.										
Agree . . .	.	.	1		1	2	3			
Disagree . . .	.	.	10		4	6	10	3	4	7
?	.	.	3			1	1			
Total . . .	.	.	14		5	9	14	3	4	7
4. Sometimes I feel there's just no point in living.										
Agree . . .	.	.	2		4	2	6	1		1
Disagree . . .	.	.	11		1	7	8		7	7
?	.	.	1							
Total . . .	.	.	14		5	9	14	1	7	8

TABLE XXI (cont.)

5. My life is still busy and useful.												
Agree . . . . .	11	2	5	7	2	5	7					
Disagree . . . . .	3	3	3	6	3	5	3					
? . . . .		1	1	1								
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	5	5	10					
6. This is the most useful period of my life.												
Agree . . . . .												
Disagree . . . . .	14	4	8	12	4	8	12					
? . . . .		1	1	2								
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	4	8	12					
7. I can't help feeling now that my life is not very useful.												
Agree . . . . .	5	3	4	7	2	2	4					
Disagree . . . . .	5	1	5	6		4	4					
? . . . .	4	1	1	1								
Total . . . . .	14	5	9	14	2	6	8					

TABLE XX1a

ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON USEFULNESS AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE  
ABOUT PARENT ON USEFULNESS

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)																			
M. Your Attitudes	Parents	Parent 50-60 yrs. old																	
		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent Child		Agreed		Parent Child		Agreed			
		M	F	T	M	M	F	F	M	F	T	M	M	F	F	M	F	T	
	Children																		
1. I am some use to those around me.																			
Agree	.	.	.	.	.	7	4	11	8	4	12	4	2	2	8	1	1	2	3
Disagree	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
?	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Total	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	4	2	2	8	1	2	3	3
2. My life is meaningless now.																			
Agree	.	.	.	.	.	4	2	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Disagree	.	.	.	.	.	4	3	7	8	4	12	1	3	3	7	1	2	3	3
?	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Total	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	3	3	8	1	2	3	3
3. The days are too short for all I want to do.																			
Agree	.	.	.	.	.	2	2	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
Disagree	.	.	.	.	.	7	6	13	8	2	10	5	1	3	1	10	2	2	2
?	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Total	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	6	2	3	1	12	1	2	3



and their children felt the parents were leading useful lives. In fact, two middle-aged parents said this was the "most useful period" of their lives. Only one daughter agreed with this, however. Only one parent at The Women's Home felt her life was "meaningless now" but six old parents at Okemos Home (four mothers and two fathers) felt this way. But only one daughter of parents at each Home shared in this attitude.

Data on "Attitude of Parent on Family and Child's Attitude About Parent on Family" are presented in Tables XXII and XXIIa.

There was perfect agreement between the responses of the parents living at The Women's Home and those of their adult responsible children that the families really care for the parents. There was high agreement on this by the old parents at Okemos and their children on this and high agreement by the parents at The Women's Home and their children and the old parents at Okemos and their children that the "family likes to have them (the parents) around," and that the parents think their "family is the finest in the world." There was perfect agreement on all three of these statements between the middle-aged parents and their children.

Almost all the parents in both Homes and their children disagreed with the statement that the families were "always trying to boss" the parents.

TABLE XXII

## ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON FAMILY AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE ABOUT PARENT ON FAMILY

M. Your Attitudes	The Women's Home													
	Parents	Parent M	Child			Agreed								
			D	S	T	M	M	&	D	S	T			
Children														
1. My family likes to have me around.														
	Agree . . .	.	.	.	13	3	7	10	3	7	10			
	Disagree . . .	.	.	.	1	2	2	4	1	1	1			
	Total . . .	.	.	.	14	5	9	14	4	7	11			
2. I am perfectly satisfied with the way my family treats me.														
	Agree . . .	.	.	.	14	3	6	9	3	6	9			
	Disagree . . .	.	.	.		1	3	4						
	? . . .	.	.	.		1		1						
	Total . . .	.	.	.	14	5	9	14	3	6	9			
3. I wish my family would pay more attention to me.														
	Agree . . .	.	.	.	1	1	5	6	1	1	1			
	Disagree . . .	.	.	.	11	4	4	8	4	4	8			
	? . . .	.	.	.	2									
	Total . . .	.	.	.	14	5	9	14	4	5	9			
4. I think my family is the finest in the world.														
	Agree . . .	.	.	.	12	5	7	12	5	6	11			
	Disagree . . .	.	.	.	1		1	1						
	? . . .	.	.	.	1		1	1						
	Total . . .	.	.	.	14	5	9	14	5	6	11			





# ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON FAMILY AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE ABOUT PARENT ON FAMILY

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)																											
M. Your Attitudes		Parent 50-60 yrs. old																									
		Parent Child			Agreed			Parent			Child			Agreed													
		M	F	T	M	M	F	F	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T							
If you have no living family, omit this section.																											
1. My family likes to have me around.																											
Agree		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	5	12	7	4	11	4	3	2	1	10	1	2	3	3	1	2	3
Disagree		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	3	3														
?		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	1	1													
Total		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	4	3	2	1	10	1	2	3	3	1	2	3
2. I am perfectly satisfied with the way my family treats me.																											
Agree		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	5	13	4	3	7	1	3	3		7	1	1	2	2	1	1	1
Disagree		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	6	1	7	1					1							
?		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1													
Total		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	3	3		8	1	2	3	3	1	1	1
3. I wish my family would pay more attention to me.																											
Agree		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	1	5	7	2	9	4	1		5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Disagree		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	4	9	4	1	5	1	1	3		5	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
?		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1													
Total		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	5	1	4		10	1	2	3	3	1	1	2

**TABLE XXIIa (cont.)**

4. I think my family is the finest in the world.	Agree . . .	.	.	7	5	12	5	4	9	2	3	2	1	8	1	2	3	3	1	2	3	
	Disagree . . .	.	.	1	1	5	5	1						1								
	? . . .	.	.	1	1	2	1	1														
	Total . . .	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	3	2	1	9	1	2	3	3	1	2	3	
5. My family is always trying to boss me.	Agree . . .	.	.	1	1																	
	Disagree . . .	.	.	9	5	14	11	4	15	6	3	4	1	14	1	2	3	2	1	1	2	
	? . . .	.	.															1				
	Total . . .	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	6	3	4	1	14	1	2	3	3	1	1	2	
6. I get more love and affection now than I ever did before.	Agree . . .	.	.	3	2	5	2	3	5		1			1	1	1	2	2		1	1	
	Disagree . . .	.	.	3	2	5	5		5	2				2	1	1		1				
	? . . .	.	.	3	2	5	4	1	5													
	Total . . .	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	1			3	1	2	3	3		1	1	
7. My family does not really care for me.	Agree . . .	.	.	1	1	1																
	Disagree . . .	.	.	7	5	12	7	4	11	3	3	3		9	1	2	3	3		1	2	3
	? . . .	.	.	1	1	2	3		3	1				1								
	Total . . .	.	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	4	3	3		10	1	2	3	3		1	2	3

Agreement of response was the lowest on the statement that the parents get "more love and affection now than ever before."

All of the parents at The Women's Home and nearly all of the parents at Okemos Home agreed with the statement that they were "perfectly satisfied with the way" their family treated them. But their adult responsible children were not so sure. There were nine identical responses for The Women's Home parents and their children, eight for old parents at Okemos Home and their children, and one for middle-aged parents and their children.

Almost all the parents disagreed with the statement that they wished their family "would pay more attention" to them with the exception of the old mothers at Okemos - four of the nine agreed with the statement. Five of the nine sons of the mothers at The Women's Home and seven of the eleven daughters and two of the three sons of old parents at Okemos Home also agreed with the statement. Could this reflect guilt feelings on the part of the children? Or does it mean that the children were being more truthful than their parents.

Generally speaking the parents and their children had the attitude that parents felt wanted and cared for by their families and were satisfied with the treatment received.

Tables XXIII and XXIIIa are concerned with the data on "Attitude of Parent and Child's Attitude About Parent on Happiness."

TABLE XXIII

## ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON HAPPINESS AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE ABOUT PARENT ON HAPPINESS

M. Your Attitudes	The Women's Home									
	Parents	Parent M	Child			Agreed M M & D S T				
			D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S
1. This is the dreariest time of my life.										
Agree . . .	.	.	1			3	4	7		
Disagree . . .	.	.	13			1	5	6	1	4
?	.	.				1		1		
Total . . .	.	.	14			5	9	14	1	4
2. I am just as happy as when I was younger.										
Agree . . .	.	.	9				4	4		
Disagree . . .	.	.	4			5	5	10	2	2
?	.	.	1							
Total . . .	.	.	14			5	9	14	2	5
3. My life could be happier than it is now.										
Agree . . .	.	.	5			3	3	6	1	1
Disagree . . .	.	.	5			2	6	8		3
?	.	.	4							
Total . . .	.	.	14			5	9	14	1	4
4. I seem to have less and less reason to live.										
Agree . . .	.	.	1			4	2	6	1	
Disagree . . .	.	.	12			1	6	7	1	5
?	.	.	1				1	1		
Total . . .	.	.	14			5	9	14	2	5



TABLE XXIIIa

## ATTITUDE OF PARENT ON HAPPINESS AND CHILD'S ATTITUDE ABOUT PARENT ON HAPPINESS

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)														
M. Your Attitudes	Parents	Parent Child					Parent 50-60 yrs. old							
		M F T		Agreed			M F T		Agreed					
				M	M	F F & &			M	F	& &			
	Children	D	S	T	D	S	D	S	T	D	S	T		
1. This is the dreariest time of my life.														
Agree . . .	.	5	4	9	6	2	8	2	1	1	4	1	1	1
Disagree . . .	.	3	2	5	3	1	4	1	2	3	1	1	2	1
? . . .	.	1	1	2	1	3	1	1		1				
Total . . .	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	2	3	3	8	1	2	3
2. I am just as happy as when I was younger.														
Agree . . .	.	2	1	3	2	1	3	1		1	1	1		
Disagree . . .	.	6	4	10	9	3	12	5	1	1	8	2	2	
? . . .	.	1	1	2										
Total . . .	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	5	2	1	9	1	2	3
3. My life could be happier than it is now.														
Agree . . .	.	5	5	10	8	2	10	3	4	1	8	2	2	3
Disagree . . .	.	2	2	2	2	4	1		1		1	1		
? . . .	.	2	1	3	1	1								
Total . . .	.	9	6	15	11	4	15	3	1	4	1	9	1	2



In regard to Attitude toward happiness of the parent, all but one parent at The Women's Home and two middle-aged parents at Okemos Home disagreed with the statement "This is the dreariest time of my life." Nine of the fifteen old parents at Okemos Home agreed with the statement. However, half of the adult responsible children of the parents at both Homes and two of the daughters of the three middle-aged parents agreed with the statement. There were only five identical responses for the parents at The Women's Home and their children but eight for the old parents and two for the middle-aged parents at Okemos and their children.

Three-fifths of the mothers at The Women's Home agreed with the statement "I am just as happy as when I was younger" but two-thirds of their adult responsible children disagreed with the statement in regard to their parents - there were seven identical responses. Also two-thirds of the old parents and of the middle-aged parents at Okemos disagreed with the statement, and three-fourths of the children of the former and two-thirds of the children of the latter also disagreed with the statement.

Most of the parents at both Homes and their children disagreed with the statements "I seem to have less and less reason to live," "These are the best years of my life" (three at W.H. and two at O.H. agreed), and "My life is full of worry." Agreement between responses of parents and children was high on all of these statements.



However reaction to the statement "My life could be happier than it is now" was more on the pessimistic side except for mothers at The Women's Home and their sons. About one-third of the mothers disagreed and about a third more were doubtful while two-thirds of their sons disagreed. Whereas two-thirds of the old parents at Okemos and of their children, and two-thirds of the middle-aged parents and all of their children agreed with the statement. Could it be that guilt feelings were manifested on the part of the sons of mothers at The Women's Home - they were anxious to feel that their mothers could not be any happier than they were? There were three identical responses between mothers and sons on disagreement.

However, the mothers at The Women's Home were consistently happy in their responses - and the parents at Okemos Home were consistently much less happy in their responses. Difference in health could have played a part in this and difference in type of Home could also have played a large part. Another important factor was that half of the parents at The Women's Home reported they were there because of their own choice but only two old parents at Okemos Home were there through pure choice.

Four parents at The Women's Home and three old parents at Okemos Home and the middle-aged mother felt that their lives were "so enjoyable that" they almost wished their lives "would go on forever." Three sons of parents at W.H. and two

children of parents at O.H. also agreed with this.

In Tables XXIV through XXX are presented the data in regard to the responses to the open-question which were asked after the questionnaire "Your Activities and Attitudes" was completed.

In Table XXIV the data are concerned with the "Reasons for the Parent Going to Live at the Home for Old People as Reported by the Parent and by the Child."

In answer to the open-end question concerned with "Reasons for the Parent going to Live at the Home for Old People," half of the parents at the Women's Home and their adult responsible children (one daughter and seven sons) said that going to the Home was the result of "choice" on the part of the parent. There were seven identical responses.

Three mothers and their daughters said it was result of "necessity," and one mother and her daughter and three mothers and two of the sons said it was the result "of necessity but like it." There was almost perfect agreement between the responses of the parents and their children - thirteen out of the total of fourteen responses were identical.

The picture for the Okemos Home was quite different. Only one old mother and one old father and one son said that going to the Home was the result of choice. No middle-aged parents and none of their children said that it was the result of choice. Eleven old parents and thirteen adult responsible children said going to the Home was the result of



TABLE XXIV (Cont.)

Children's houses too small . . . . .	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sold home and child thought she should go to Home . . . . .	1		1						
Not able to get along with daughter-in- law . . . . .	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1
Was living alone and became ill. . . . .	2	3	5	2	2	4	2	2	4
Not want to be a burden to nor dependent on children. . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
The grandchildren bothered her . . . . .	1	2	3	1	1	2			
Had served the Home and wanted to live there. . . . .				1	1	1	1	1	



TABLE XXIVa

REASONS FOR THE PARENT GOING TO LIVE AT THE HOME FOR OLD PEOPLE AS REPORTED  
BY THE PARENT AND BY THE ADULT RESPONSIBLE CHILD

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center																		
Responses to Open-end Questions from Parent and Adult Responsible Child		Parent				Child				Agreed				Parents 50-60 yrs. old				
		M	M	F	F	M	M	F	F	M	M	F	F	M	F	Agreed		
		D	S	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	S	T	D	D	T
How did it happen that you/she/he came to live at the Home?		Children		Parents		Parent		Child		Agreed		M F		T		Child		Agreed
		D	S	D	S	M	M	F	F	M	M	F	F	with	M	F	&	&
Choice on part of parent . . .		1	1			2	1	1	1	1								
Necessity . . .		6	2	3		11	10	3	13	6	2	2	10	1	1	1	1	1
Came because of necessity but like it . . .		1				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Choice and necessity . . .																		
Neither choice nor necessity. . .						1	1							1	1	1	1	1
Total. . .		6	3	5	1	15	11	4	15	6	3	3	12	1	2	3	3	3
Comments																		
Was living alone and became ill.																		
Not want to be a burden to nor dependent on children . . .																		
Had served the Home and wanted to live there . . .																		
*Became ill or fell and broke hip while living with child. . .																		
*Became ill while living with spouse . . .																		

\*Hospital first then Okemos







"necessity" - there were ten identical responses on this. One middle-aged father and his daughter said it was the result of "necessity."

One old father and his daughter and the middle-aged mother and her daughter said that going to the Home was the result "of necessity but like it." One middle-aged father and his daughter said it was the result of "choice and necessity;" and one old father reported that his going to the Home was "neither (the result of) choice nor necessity." Twelve of the total number of fifteen responses were identical for the old parents and their children. For the middle-aged parents and their children there was perfect agreement - three out of three responses.

The comment most commonly made by the parents at The Women's Home and by their children was that the parent "tried living with child but it did not work out" satisfactorily. Failure in health due to not eating properly was the next most common reason.

The comment most commonly made by the old parents at Okemos and by their children was that the parent "became ill or fell and broke hip while living with" the adult responsible child. Illness was also involved in the reasons reported by the middle-aged parents and their children. The pattern commonly reported by most of the parents at Okemos Home and by their children was that the parent became seriously ill or fell and broke hip and went to a hospital. The parents'

savings became depleted and/or the expense was too great for the child; so the parents were sent or taken to the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center at Okemos for convalescence and therapy. Although the Medical Director and Supervising Nurse felt that the parents were recovered enough to return to the child's home, the children themselves did not seem to think so.

In addition to the reason for going to live at the Home for old people, the parents were asked "If you were to advise a lone older person as to where and how she or he should live after retirement, what would you tell her or him? Often the interviewer would add "me, for instance."

Table XXV entitled "Advice of Parent as to Living Arrangements after Retirement and After Death of or Separation from Spouse" concerned with the responses of the parents to this question.

Eight of the fourteen parents living at The Women's Home and eight of the fifteen old parents at Okemos Home and the middle-aged mother advised living in a Home for Old People. This was particularly interesting in regard to the parents living at Okemos since only two reported going there out of pure choice. The parents at The Women's Home apparently felt they had chosen wisely.

The other six parents at The Women's Home and six of the old parents at Okemos Home and one middle-aged father advised living "alone as long as you can." But all of these

TABLE XXV

ADVICE OF PARENT AS TO LIVING ARRANGEMENTS AFTER RETIREMENT  
AND AFTER DEATH OF OR SEPARATION FROM SPOUSE

Responses to Open-End Questions from Old Parent	Women's Home			Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center				
	Parent Child	Parent M D		Parent M D		Parent M D		Parent 50-60 yrs. old M D
		with	S T	with	S T	with	S T	
If you were to advise a lone older person as to where and how she/he should live after retirement, what would you tell her/him?								
Live alone as long as you can . . .	.	2	4 6			2	1 6	1 1
Live with your children . . .	.			1			1	1 1
Live in a Home for Old People . . .	.	3	5 8	2		3	8	1 1
Total . . .	.	5	9 14	3		5	1 15	2 3
<u>Comments</u>								
Do not live alone . . .	.	1	3 4			3	3	1 1
Do not live with your children. . .	.	5	8 13			1	4	1 2
Do not live in a Home for Old People. . .	.			2				
Perhaps live alone if in good health. . .	.	1	1	1			1	
Suggestion of living alone not seem to register although parent had lived alone for a number of years . . .	.		2 2					
Live in a Home for Old People when can no longer live alone . . .	.	2	4 6					1 1
"Don't go live with your children - you will be nothing but a baby-sitter."	.	1	1					
"Don't go live with your children - their homes are too small; you will have no room of your own." . . .	.		1 1					

TABLE XXV (cont.)

"If you can't live alone, go live with your children." . . . . .	2			
"Have your children live with you if you can but don't do it in reverse." . . .		1	1	2
"A Home for Old People or a Nursing Home would be my last choice." . . . .	1			1
"I would advise living in a Home such as this; probably it is the best solution. I like it here." . . . . .	2	3	5	1
"My sons did not want me to go into a Home but I thought it best; I like it here." . . . . .		3	3	
"Go to a Home for Old People; I do not advise going to live with your children or living alone." . . . .	2	1		3

parents advised that when (you) can no longer live alone, go to live in a Home for Old People.

One old mother at Okemos and one middle-aged father advised going to "live with your children." But thirteen of the fourteen mothers at The Women's Home and seven of the fifteen old parents and two of the three middle-aged parents at Okemos said emphatically "Do not live with your children." Many of these respondents, a little over half, had not been living with their children but many had.

One comment quite often made by the mothers at The Women's Home was "I would advise living in a Home such as this; probably it is the best solution. I like it here." Another was "My sons did not want me to go into a Home but I thought it best; I like it here."

Among the many interesting comments one was made by two old fathers at Okemos to the effect "Have your children live with you if you can, but don't do it in reverse."

In addition to the two open-end questions mentioned, the parents were also asked "Do you feel that adult children take care of their parents when they get old the way they should nowadays?" The responses given by the parents to this question are presented in Table XXVI entitled "Reactions of Parents as to Care of Old Parents on the Part of Adult Children."

Eight of the fourteen mothers at The women's Home (four having daughters and four having sons as the adult

TABLE XXVI

REACTIONS OF PARENTS AS TO CARE OF OLD PARENTS ON THE PART  
OF ADULT CHILDREN

Responses to Open-end Questions from Old Parent	Women's Home				Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center			
	Parent		Parent		Parent		Parent	
	Child	M D S T	M D S T	with M D S T	M D S T	with M D S T	50-60 yrs. M D S T	old F S T
Do you feel that adult children take care of their parents when they get old the way they should nowadays?								
Yes . . . . .	4	4	8		1	2	5	1
No . . . . .	1	3	4		3	3	1	1
Some do; some don't.		1	1		1		1	1
Not know . . . . .		1	1		1	1	2	1
Total . . . . .	5	9	14		6	5	15	3
<b>Comments</b>								
"No. I feel the adult children should pay more attention to their old parents." . . . . .		1	1					
"No. The children do not take care of their old parents the way they should nowadays because they are not expected to." . . . . .		1	1					
"No. the homes are big enough now - as big as in old days but the children do not want the parents; they want to live alone." . . . . .		1	1					
"I am dissatisfied here because I do not have enough to do." . . . . .		2	3					



responsible children) said "Yes" they thought the adult children did take care of their old parents the way they should nowadays. At Okemos Home, five old parents (three with daughters and two with sons) and one middle-aged father said "Yes."

Four parents at The Women's Home (one with a daughter and three with sons) said "No." Seven old parents at Okemos (six with daughters and one with a son) and one middle-aged father said "No."

The other responses were evasive and could probably be interpreted as negative. One parent in each of the three groups of parents answered "Some do and some don't," and one mother at The Women's Home and two old mothers at Okemos Home evaded the question by saying they didn't know.

Thus a bare majority of parents at The Women's Home felt adult children were taking care of old parents as they should but an overwhelming majority at Okemos Home, twelve out of eighteen, gave negative answers.

Among the interesting negative comments was "The children do not take care of their old parents the way they should nowadays because they are not expected to." Another was "The homes are big enough now - as big as in the old days - but the children do not want the parents; they want to live alone." Some felt the children should pay more attention to their old parents.



The parents who answered in the negative were not as prone to elaborate as those who answered in the affirmative.

Among the interesting positive comments was "The children of all in the Home do many nice things for their parents. The adult children take care of their old parents as well as they ever did." And some parents pointed out they "just do it differently now." One parent commented "Yes (children do take care of parents the way they should now). In the old days the children did not take such good care of their old parents. The parents lived with their children but they had to work very hard and often had very poor sleeping arrangements."

It will be noted that the answers to this question tend to belie the attitude toward family as expressed by the parents in Table XXII, especially in regard to the parents living at Okemos. Which were their real feelings? It probably is safe to say that those expressed in answer to the oblique question just discussed were the real ones. Some of the comments made in a general way actually were related to the parents' own experience.

In Table XXVII is presented the data on "Feelings of the Adult Child in Regard to Doing More for Her or His Old Parent."

The adult responsible child was asked the following open-end question, "Although your parent is receiving good care at the Home and she (or he) seems to be reasonably happy

**TABLE XXVII**  
**FEELINGS OF ADULT CHILD IN REGARD TO DOING MORE FOR HER**  
**OR HIS OLD PARENT**

Responses to Open-end Questions from Adult Child		Women's Home		Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center				Ch. of Parent 50-60 yrs.old	
Child	Parent	Child D with M	Child S with M	D with M	S with M	Child D with F	S with F	D with M	D with F
<p>Although your parent is receiving good care at the Home and she/he seems to be reasonably happy and you see/write her/him quite often, do you feel as though you should be doing more for her/him?</p> <p>Yes . . . . . 3 6 9 1 1 9 2</p> <p>Perhaps . . . . . 2 1 1 1 1 1 1</p> <p>No. . . . . 5 2 4 4 1 5 1</p> <p>Total. . . . . 14 9 14 14 1 15 3</p>									
<p><b>Comments</b></p> <p>"No. I have done and am doing all I can." . . . . . 1 1 2 1 1</p> <p>"No. I did at first but not now. The Home has done wonders for my mother." . . . . . 1 1 1 1</p> <p>"No. She has what she wants. If she needs anything she says so and we get it for her." . . . . . 1 1 1 1</p> <p>"No. We go every week to see him. I wash and iron his clothes and take anything he needs to him. I feel obligated to go every week but I don't know why - he was irresponsible and did not provide for his family." . . . . . 1 1 1 1</p>									



TABLE XXVII (cont.)

Responses to Open-end Questions From Adult Child	Women's Home				Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center				Ch. of Parent 50-60 yrs.old			
	Child				Child				D			
	Parent	D	S	T	D	S	D	S	with	with	with	T
		M	M	M	M	M	F	F	M	F	F	T
"Yes. I would like to do more but I can't. I'm doing all I can. I'm just getting on my feet again (financially). I've been out of work for a long time and just got my job back this fall." . . . .		1	2	3	*8	2	1	1		2	2	2
Total . . . . .												

\*Two comments reported for two daughters and one son.

and you see (or write) her (or him) quite often, do you feel as though you should be doing more for her (or him)?" Three of the five responsible daughters and six of the nine responsible sons of the parents at The Women's Home answered "Yes." Interestingly enough, nine children (seven daughters and two sons) of the old parents and two daughters of the middle-aged fathers at Okemos also answered, "Yes." One more son of a parent at W.H. and of an old parent at O.H. answered, "Perhaps." The remaining children answered, "No." In other words, two-thirds of the adult responsible children of the parents at both Homes felt they should be doing more for their parents even though the latter seemed happy and well-cared for. This could be interpreted as meaning these children definitely suffered from guilt feelings.

Some of the negative comments were "I have done and am doing all I can;" "I did at first but not now. The Home has done wonders (for my mother)."

Among the positive comments were "Yes, but my mother would not allow it anyway;" "Yes! I would like to do more but there is not much you can do.....;" "Yes, but we do not have the money for gasoline;" "Yes, but I work nights and it is hard to get out there" (this was from daughters who cared for home and children during the daytime as well as working nights!).

In Table XXVIII is presented the data on "Feelings of Adult Responsible Child as to Whether the Old Parent Feels

TABLE XXVIII

FEELINGS OF ADULT RESPONSIBLE CHILD AS TO WHETHER THE OLD PARENT FEELS  
THE ADULT CHILD SHOULD BE DOING MORE FOR HER (OR HIM)

Responses to Open-end Questions from Adult Child		Women's Home				Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center				Ch. of Parent 50-60 yrs.old			
		Child		Child with with		D with with		Child S D S		D with with		D with with	
		Parent	M	M	T	M	M	M	F	M	F	M	F
Do you feel as though your mother (or father) feels you should be doing more for her (or him)?													
Yes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	3	1	1	1
Perhaps	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	2					
Once in a while	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	2				1	1
No	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	10	3	1	1	1	1
Not know	.	.	.	.	.	.			1	1			
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	14	3	5	1	1	3
Comments													
"No. He knows I have been out of work for a long time."	.	.	.	.	.	.				1	1		
"No. he says he likes it there very much. They are 'better to me than my own folks could be.'"	.	.	.	.	.	.			1	1			
"No. I think he feels that he is getting more than he deserves as it is; but still he never shows any gratitude."	.	.	.	.	.	.			1	1			
"No. She does not want to be a burden to me and my family."	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1					
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	1	3		

the Adult Child Should Be Doing More for Her (or Him)."

The adult responsible children were also asked if they thought their parents felt as though the children should be doing more for them. The answer was "No" for most of the adult responsible children of the parents at The Women's Home and of the old parents at Okemos Home - ten and eleven, respectively. The daughter of one middle-aged father also answered "No." No children of parents at The Women's Home answered "Yes" but two sons answered, "Perhaps" and one daughter and one son answered "Once in a while."

Three daughters of old parents at Okemos and the daughter of one middle-aged parent answered "Yes."

The children in most cases did not elaborate on their answers. There were a few comments, however. One was "She does not want to be a burden to me and my family." Another was "He knows I have been out of work for a long time." One daughter remarked that she thought her father liked it at Okemos very much - "They are 'better to me than my own folks could be'." Another daughter commented "I think he feels that he is getting more than he deserves as it is; but still he never shows any gratitude."

Data on "Feelings of Adult Responsible Child in Regard to Having the Old Parent Live with Her (or Him) are presented in Table XXIX.

The adult responsible children were then asked "Do you feel as though you should be having your mother (or father)





TABLE XXIX

FEELINGS OF ADULT RESPONSIBLE CHILD IN REGARD TO HAVING THE OLD PARENT  
LIVE WITH HER (OR HIM)

Responses to Open-end Questions from Adult Child		Women's Home		Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center		Ch. of Parent 50-60 yrs.old	
		Child with M S D with M S with M S		Child with M S D with M S with M S		D with M S with M S	
Do you feel as though you should be having your mother (or father) live with you?		Parent	Child with M S D with M S with M S	Child with M S D with M S with M S	Child with M S D with M S with M S	D with M S with M S	D with M S with M S
Yes . . . . .							
Perhaps . . . . .							
No . . . . .							
"Absolutely not!" . . . . .							
Total . . . . .							
"No. My mother (or father likes it better in the Home." . . . . .							
"No. I think it is better this way now. It was hard for me to accept the idea at first of her going to live at the Home." . . . . .							
"No. My mother is very independent." . . . . .							
"No. we had her living with us but she was not satisfied." . . . . .							
"No, not unless she gets sick." . . . . .							
"No. Small children make her nervous." . . . . .							
Comments							
"No. My mother (or father likes it better in the Home." . . . . .		1	1	2	1	1	1
"No. I think it is better this way now. It was hard for me to accept the idea at first of her going to live at the Home." . . . . .		2	5	7	3	3	3
"No. My mother is very independent." . . . . .		2	3	3	3	3	3
"No. we had her living with us but she was not satisfied." . . . . .		3	3	3	3	3	3
"No, not unless she gets sick." . . . . .		1	1	1	1	1	1
"No. Small children make her nervous." . . . . .		1	2	3	1	2	3



TABLE XXIX (Cont.)

Responses to Open-end Questions from Adult Child	Women's Home      Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center									
	Child					Child				
	Parent	with M		with S		with D		with S		Ch. of Parent 50-60 yrs.old
		M	M	M	S	M	D	M	S	D      D
										with M      with F      with T      with F      with T
"No! No one would be happy! We had him and Mother living with us for a year and after a few weeks he would not even eat with us. He shut himself up in his room--we would not know whether he was home or not." (At times there were evidences in the kitchen that he had made himself coffee.) . . . . .										
"No. My husband says I cannot have him live with us. I do not feel I owe him very much because of the kind of father he was." (He repeatedly lost jobs and they had to move frequently because of certain habits he had.) . . . . .										
"She will have to be able to get around much better than she does now before we can bring her back home. My wife had surgery for a malignant growth and I have a bad back." . . . . .										
Total . . . . .										
"Yes, basically." . . . . .										
*Two comments given for one of the daughters and for six of the sons.										
**One daughter said "No" but later said basically she and her sister probably really feel they should have the mother live with them - guilt feelings.										

\*Two comments given for one of the daughters and for six of the sons.

\*\*One daughter said "No" but later said basically she and her sister probably really feel they should have the mother live with them - guilt feelings.

[illegible]

live with you?" None of the children of the parents living at The Women's Home answered "Yes," and only three of the children of old parents and one daughter of a middle-aged father living at Okemos answered "Yes." Two more children of old parents living at Okemos answered "Perhaps." These results could be interpreted in several ways. Most of the adult responsible children had guilt feelings about doing more for their parents but they did not extend as far as having the parents live with them. Or it could be said that the children felt that the parents were living in a very nice place and were better off there. It must be remembered also that most of the parents had lived with the adult responsible child at some time and that half of the mothers living at The Women's Home had gone there through pure choice. It must also be remembered that most of the parents themselves advised against living with one's children. It could well have been that the children as well as the parents were aware of a difficult situation.

There were many comments on this question - especially by the children with parents living at The Women's Home.

Some of the negative comments were "No. I think it is better this way now. It was hard for me to accept the idea at first of her going to live at the Home."; "No. My mother likes it better in the Home."; "No. My mother is very independent."; "No. We had her living with us but she was not satisfied."; "No, not now. We are not financially or phys-

ically able to have her back with us. We are now supporting our children who are out of work."

Some of the positive comments were "Yes, basically" (had answered "No" but admitted to guilt feelings); "Yes. I urged him to live with me but he feels more secure at Okemos. If he needs medical attention he has it there. Also.....there are more things he can do there. He does not want to be in the way of me and the children. We have only two bedrooms."; "Yes. I feel sometimes I should bring him back home. I have tried it three times though and he always starts drinking again. I think three times is enough." (His aged sister is already living with them.); "Yes. He is living with me now (just came).....Truthfully, I'm the only one who'll take him."

In Table XXX is presented the data as to "Whether the Old Parent Feels She (or He) Should Be Living With the Adult Child."

In answer to the question "Do you feel as though your mother (or father) feels she (or he) should be living with you?" there were a few more "Yes" responses than for the previous question - a total of nine responses for both Homes as compared to a total of four. The daughters of two mothers at The Women's Home, the daughters of three old mothers and the sons of two old fathers and the daughters of the two middle-aged fathers responded "Yes." One son of a mother at W.H. and one daughter of an old mother at O.H. responded

FEELINGS OF ADULT RESPONSIBLE CHILD AS TO WHETHER THE OLD PARENT FEELS SHE OR HE SHOULD BE LIVING WITH THE ADULT CHILD

Responses to Open-end Questions from Adult Child	Child Parent	Women's Home				Ingham Co. Hosp. & Rehab. Center				Ch. of Parent 50-60 yrs.old			
		Child with		D with		Child with		D with		Child with		D with	
		M	S	M	T	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Do you feel as though your mother (or father) feels she (or he) should be living with you?													
Yes . . . . .		2		2	2	1	1	1	1	5	2	2	
At times . . . . .			1	1	1					1			
No . . . . .		3	8	11	2	2	4			8	1	1	
Not know . . . . .					1					1			
Total . . . . .		5	9	14	6	3	5	1	15	1	2	3	
Comments													
"No. My mother likes it better in the Home--prefers living there." . . . .		3	6	9	1				1	1	2	3	
"No. I think she thinks it is better this way now." . . . . .			1	1									
"No. My mother is very independent." . . . .			4	4									
"No. I don't believe he would want to (live with us) at all. We do not talk the same language--we never did." . . . .							1		1				
"No. He doesn't want to live with his children. He would prefer to live alone although he receives good care (at Okemos) and is in better health than when he went there." . . . . .													
Total . . . . .		4	11	15	1		2		1	3	1	1	





"At times." All but one of the remainder responded "No." The one, a daughter of an old mother at Okemos, evaded the question by answering she did not know.

One of the negative comments most often made was "No. My mother likes it better in the Home - prefers living there." Another was "No. My mother is very independent." Still another "No. He doesn't want to live with his children. He would prefer to live alone although he receives good care (at Okemos) and is in better health than when he went there."

Some examples of the "Yes" comments were "Yes, basically;" "Yes. Even though my mother is feeling better at Okemos, has made good friends, says she does not want to be a burden to her children, and she requires much care, she still feels she should be living with me and my family."

## CHAPTER VI

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND IMPLICATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

#### The Problem

The purpose of this investigation was to try to determine the nature and extent of guilt feelings of adult children toward their parents living in Homes for Old People as shown in the amount of insight and knowledge in regard to activities, interests, attitudes, and feelings of their parents; how the parents actually felt about their living conditions and the care received from their adult responsible children, and how the adult responsible children felt about their care of their parents as compared with how the parents felt about this.

Two hypotheses were proposed:

1. that the attitudes and feelings of a sample of parents drawn from the population of Homes for Old People were generally those of satisfaction with the place of residence and with the care provided by their adult responsible child
2. that the conception by the adult child of the attitudes, activities, interests, and feelings of the parent was similar to that held by the parent; and that the adult child's own feelings

with regard to her/his care of the old parent were those of satisfaction.

### Sample and Methodology

The population studied by the interview method in this investigation consisted of 29 parents over 65 years of age and three parents between the ages of 50 and 60 years of age from two Homes for Old People, namely, The Women's Home of Lansing and the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center of Okemos (called Okemos Home in this study). All the parents meeting the qualifications for the investigation were used in both Homes so no sampling was necessary.

In addition to the parents, their adult responsible children were also interviewed in regard to the parents using the same questionnaire but with suitable change of pronouns and addition of a few pertinent questions. The parents were not told that their children were going to be interviewed.

A total of sixty-four interviews were used in the investigation.

In addition, a Pilot Study was conducted on four cases at Bogue Nursing Home of East Lansing and their adult responsible children.

The average age of the fourteen mothers at The Women's Home was about 79 years old, that of the old parents (65 years old and over) at the Okemos Home was 77 years and that of the middle-aged parents was 54 years.

The average age of the adult responsible children of parents at The Women's Home was 50 years; that of the adult responsible children of the old parents at Okemos was 48 years, and that of the responsible children of the middle-aged parents was 26 years.

The questionnaire used was "Your Activities and Attitudes" developed by Ernest W. Burgess, Ruth S. Cavan, and Robert J. Havighurst of the University of Chicago. In addition to the questionnaire, (a) the parents were asked to tell why they were living at the Home; what advice as to living conditions they would give to a lone, retired person; and whether they felt adult children were taking care of their old parents the way they should nowadays. (b) The adult responsible children were also asked why the parent was living at the Home. In addition they were asked whether they felt they should be doing more for their parents even though the parents seemed to be well-cared for and reasonably happy, whether they thought the parents felt they should do more, whether they felt they should have their parents living with them, and whether they thought the parents felt they should be living with them.

The object of these questions was to point up any satisfaction or dissatisfaction on the part of the parents and any guilt feelings on the part of the adult responsible children.

If space had permitted, many interesting comparisons could have been made in analyzing the data. Since space did not permit, the analysis was limited mainly to three approaches in an attempt to carry out the purpose of the investigation.

The three approaches were:

1. the comparison of the adult responsible child's responses to the same questionnaire in regard to the parent with the responses of the parent in an attempt to ascertain the closeness of relationship between the two by the amount of insight and knowledge possessed by the former in regard to the latter.
2. the study of the parents' advice as to living arrangements for a lone retired parent and their reaction to care given generally by adult responsible children of their old parents in an attempt to ascertain how they really felt about their own living arrangements and their care by their adult responsible children so as to see how these related to
3. the adult responsible children's reactions to their care of their old parents and what they believed their parents' reactions to be in regard to this care.

The possibility of presence or absence of guilt feelings on the part of the adult responsible child toward the

parent was constantly borne in mind.

Because of the small number of cases, no attempt was made to determine the significance of difference or of similarity.

### Some of the Important Findings

#### Population and Interviews

1. The population used in the investigation was of solid American stock almost all of whom had lived in this country for at least three generations, and who had enjoyed moderate to comfortable circumstances. Many of the parents had lived on farms as children but not as adults, thus reflecting the general change in economy in the United States. All but seven of the thirty-two parents had lived with the adult responsible child anywhere from two weeks to 23 years and had resided in the Home for Old People from two weeks to 19 years. It was emphasized how fragile a thread life and health hang in old age. Four of the old parents have died since the investigation began, one has had an incapacitating stroke and one has failed mentally.

2. The questionnaire was easily understood and time required for the interview was anywhere from one hour to two and a half hours. One sitting was best. It served to encourage interviewees to talk freely as well as to obtain needed information. Two parent questionnaires could not be

used in this investigation because the adult responsible child or relative refused to cooperate. One broke appointments six times, another never returned a mailed questionnaire although contacted several times by telephone and always promising to do so. The cases used in the investigation were all very cooperative with the exception of one parent and two of the adult responsible children who answered by mail. One of the latter had to be reminded several times to send it but when she did, it was a full report plus extra information. The other had to be reminded only once but did not give a detailed report. Both were always very nice, however.

#### Activities and Attitudes

3. Since a detailed report of findings on the responses to the questionnaire has been presented in Chapters IV and V on the analysis of the data, a summary of the number of responses which were in agreement for the parent and the adult responsible child are presented in Tables XXXI and XXXIa and XXXII and XXXIIa.

TABLE XXXI  
SUMMARY OF TOTAL AGREED RESPONSES FOR CATEGORIES OF ACTIVITIES

	The Women's Home			
	Low	Indeterminate	High	
	0 1-6 rep.* or 1 - 2/5	7-9 rep.* or 1/2 - 3/5	10-14 rep.* or 2/3 - 3/3	
Health 7 categories	2	4		1
Family 14 categories (1 category - 2 parts)	3	4		8
Friends 5 categories (1 category not apply to parents 50-60)	2	3		
Leisure & Recreation 11 categories	3	6		2
Clubs & Organizations 7 categories (1 or 2 categories not apply)	4	2		
Employment History 9 categories (4 categories not really apply)	2			3

\*Represents total number of responses of adult responsible child which agreed with those of the parent.



TABLE XXXI (cont.)

When Not Gainfully Employed 2 categories			2
Security 6 categories (1 category not apply to parents 50-60)	1	1	4
Religion 8 categories (1 category not apply to parents 50-60 (1 category not good for analysis-- not true picture)	2	4	1
Earlier Life of Parent 11 categories (2 parts to one category)	5	5	2
What Parent Thinks About Things First 2 categories (Attitudes)	1	1	6
Second 2 categories (4 parts each)	6	2	
Total	31	32	29
Grand total**		92	

\*\*Slight discrepancy in grand totals because inapplicability of a few categories to parents 50-60 years old and one to parents over 65 years old.



TABLE XXXIa

## SUMMARY OF TOTAL AGREED RESPONSES FOR CATEGORIES OF ACTIVITIES

Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)						
	Parents over 65 Years			Parents 50-60 Years Old		
	Low	Indeterminate	High	Low	High	High
	0 1-6 rep.* or 1 - 2/5	7-9 rep. or 1/2 - 3/5	10-15 rep.* or 2/3 - 3/3	0 1 rep.*	2 rep.*	3 rep.*
Health 7 categories	1	3	3	1	3	
Family 14 categories (1 category - 2 parts)	1	4	9	2	3	6
Friends 5 categories (1 category not apply to parents 50-60)	2	1	2	2	1	1
Leisure & Recreation 11 categories	3	3	5	3	6	2
Clubs & Organizations 7 categories (1 or 2 categories not apply)	1		4		2	3
Employment History 9 categories (4 categories not really apply)	1	2	2	2	1	2

\*Represents total number of responses of adult responsible child which agreed with those of the parent.

TABLE XXXI (cont.)

When Not Gainfully Employed 2 categories	1	1	2
Security 6 categories (1 category not apply to parents 50-60)	2	1 3	2 1 2
Religion 8 categories (1 category not apply to parents 50-60) (1 category not good for analysis--not true picture)	1	2 4 3 1	1 2 1
Earlier Life of Parent 11 categories (2 parts to one category)	6	4 2 4 2	5 1
What Parent Thinks About Things First 2 categories (attitudes)	2	4 2 1 2	5
Second 2 categories (4 parts each)	3	4 1 2 1	3 2
Total	25	28 38 13 20	31 22
Grand Total*		91	89

\* Slight discrepancy in grand totals because inapplicability of a few categories of a few categories to parents 50-60 years old and one to parents over 65 years old.

TABLE XXXII

## SUMMARY OF TOTAL AGREED RESPONSES FOR CATEGORIES OF ATTITUDES

	The Women's Home			
	Low	Indeterminate	High	
	0 1-6 rep.* or 1 - 2/5	7-9 rep.* or 1/2 - 3/5	10-14 rep.* or 2/3 - 3/3	
Health 7 items	2	2	3	
Friends 7 items	2	3	2	
Work 7 items		5	2	
Financial Security 7 items		2	5	
Religion 7 items	2	2	3	
Usefulness 7 items		3	4	
Family 7 items		3	4	
Happiness 7 items	2	2	3	
Total	8	22	26	
Grand Total		56		
Total		Reason for Going to Live at Home	13	

\*Represent total number of responses of adult responsible child which agreed with those of the parent.

TABLE XXXIIa

## SUMMARY OF TOTAL AGREED RESPONSES FOR CATEGORIES OF ATTITUDES

		Ingham County Hosp. & Rehab. Center (Okemos)					
		Parents over 65 Years			Parents 50-60 years Old		
		Low 0 1-6 rep.* or 1 - 2/5	Indeterminate 7-9 rep. or 1/2 - 3/5	High 10-15 rep.* or 2/3 - 3/3	Low 0 1 rep.*	High 2 rep.*	High 3 rep.*
Health	7 items		3	4	1	3	3
Friends	7 items		6	1	4	1	2
Work	7 items	1	4	2	1	4	2
Financial Security	7 items		3	4	2	4	1
Religion	7 items	1	2	4	1	3	3
Usefulness	7 items		4	3	1	4	1
Family	7 items	1	2	4	2	2	3
Happiness	7 items		4	2	4	3	
Total		3	29	24	2	15	15
Grand Total			56				
		Reasons for Going to Live at Home			56		
					15		
						278	

\*Represent total number of responses of adult responsible child which agreed with those of the parent.

The total agreed responses for each category, e.g., Health, Family, Friends, etc., of each of the two parts of the questionnaire, were tabulated under three headings for each group of parents and their adult responsible children, namely, for the parents at The Women's Home and their adult responsible children, for the parents over 65 years old and for the parents between 50 and 60 years old at the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center (Okemos Home) and their adult responsible children.

These headings consisted of "Low" (agreement), "Indeterminate" (agreement), and "High" (agreement) and were based on the number of agreed responses which, it was felt, warranted these groupings. For the parents at The Women's Home and the old parents at Okemos Home, zero and 1-6 (agreed) responses were tabulated or grouped under "Low" (agreement) which meant that roughly two-fifths or less of the responses of the adult responsible child agreed with those of the parent; 7-9 (agreed) responses were grouped under "Indeterminate" (agreement) which meant that roughly one-half to three-fifths of the responses of the adult responsible child agreed with those of the parent; and 10-14 or 15 (agreed) responses were grouped under "High" (agreement) which meant that roughly two-thirds to three-thirds of the responses of the adult responsible child agreed with those of the parent.

For the parents 50-60 years old at Okemos Home, zero and one (agreed) response was grouped under "Low" (agreement)

which meant one-third of the responses of the adult responsible child agreed with those of the parent;  $1/2 - 3/5$  (agreed) responses under "Indeterminate" (agreement) which meant roughly one-half to three-fifths of lists of illnesses, difficulties, etc. of parent as reported by the adult responsible child agreed with those listed by the parent;\* two (agreed) responses were grouped under "High" (agreement) which meant two-thirds of the responses of the adult responsible child agreed with those of the parent; and three (agreed) responses were grouped under "High" (agreement) which meant that all of the responses of the adult responsible child agreed with those of the parent.

Comparing the totals of the two Tables with each other one is struck by the considerably greater proportion of agreed responses under the "High" (agreement) heading for the Attitudes part of the questionnaire than for the Activities part. This would show a closer inner relationship between parents and their adult responsible children than knowledge of activities and interests of the parents by the children.

It would be difficult to say whether there was a great deal of insight and knowledge on the part of the adult responsible child concerning the activities, interests, and feelings of the parents or not. But if it is remembered that in the "Indeterminate" area of agreement were represented agreement between half and more of the parents and their children, the picture becomes more positive in favor of "High"

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\*There were only three responses so it was eliminated from the Table.



(agreement). If a third of the responses in the "Indeterminate" area could be considered as belonging to nine agreed responses and combined with the "High" agreement area, the conclusion could be reached that there were fairly high knowledge and insight on the part of the adult responsible children in regard to the activities, interests, and feelings of the parents.

As the analysis stands, the findings would indicate that the amount of insight and knowledge shown on the Activities part of the questionnaire by the adult responsible children of the parents at The Women's Home would be indeterminate, by the adult responsible children of the old parents at Okemos somewhat greater, and by the children of the middle-aged parents a high amount. However, the picture of high agreement on the part of middle-aged parents and their children is distorted since there was no indeterminate area due to the presence of only three cases.

For all the adult responsible children and their parents, the category on which there was highest agreement was "Family" and, understandably enough, the area on which there was lowest agreement was "Earlier Life of Parent."

For the Attitudes part of the questionnaire, the number of agreed responses were pretty evenly distributed between the "Indeterminate" and "High" areas of agreement for the parents at The Women's Home and the old parents at Okemos Home and their adult responsible children. For the reason

mentioned earlier, a much higher number of agreed responses were in the "High" areas of agreement for the middle-aged parents and their children. However, there were a much greater number of agreed responses in the "Low" area than for the other two groups of parents and their children - two and five times as many.

The findings would indicate quite high agreement between parents at The Women's Home and their adult responsible children on inner attitudes, somewhat less between old parents at Okemos Home and their children, and much higher agreement between middle-aged parents and their children; but also, in contrast, many more agreed responses in the low areas of agreement.

#### How Parents 50-60 Years Old Differed From Those Over 65

1. Two had plans for the future which would take them out of the Home.
2. Two were earning a fair amount of money even though being in a Home and one was studying Business and Accounting in order to become independent and self-supporting.
3. There were several responses where there was no agreement between the parents and their adult responsible children.

Otherwise, the parents 50-60 years old responded pretty much in the same way as the parents over 65 years old.

### Open-End Questions

1. There was high agreement between all the parents and their adult responsible children as to the reasons for the parents going to live at the Home. Half of the parents at The Women's Home and their children said that the parents went through choice on the part of the parents; but only two old parents at Okemos Home and their children and no middle-aged parents and their children said the reason was choice. Most of the parents went because of necessity and a few went because of a combination of choice and necessity.

2. Almost all of the parents advised against living with one's children. Only one old mother and one middle-aged father at Okemos advised doing so. Eight of the fourteen parents at The Women's Home and eight of the fifteen old parents at Okemos Home and one middle-aged mother advised going to live at a Home for Old People. The remaining thirteen parents advised living alone as long as possible and then going to live in a Home for Old People.

3. A total of fourteen parents felt adult children do take care of their old parents the way they should and a total of eighteen parents felt adult children either definitely do not take care of their old parents the way they should (twelve) or were evasive (six).

4. Twenty of the thirty-two adult responsible children said they felt they should be doing more for their parents.



One child of parents at each Home answered "Perhaps" and the remaining ten children, including the daughter of the middle-aged mother answered "No." It would seem then that all but ten of the adult responsible children tended to harbor guilt feelings regarding the amount of attention they were giving their parents and possibly the amount of care. Many of those who gave positive answers had done much and were still doing much for their parents. The ten giving negative answers either felt that they were doing all they possibly could or that the parents had everything they wanted and were living in the manner which they preferred.

5. Most of the adult responsible children felt that their parents were satisfied with the attention and the care they were receiving from their children. Twenty-two answered "No" to the question whether they thought the parents felt their children should be doing more. Only three of the daughters of old parents at Okemos Home and the daughter of one middle-aged father answered "Yes." The remaining six children answered "Perhaps," "Once in a while," and one daughter of an old father said she did not know how her father felt about this.

However, it was shown that half of the parents themselves did not feel that adult children took care of their old parents the way they should nowadays and a few more were evasive. Could it be that the adult responsible children were lacking in insight or could it be that the presence of

guilt feelings made them want to feel that their parents were satisfied. There is also the possibility that the parents, in answering the oblique question, were referring only to other cases than their own. However their comments did not bear this out. This difference in reaction is also interesting in the light of the high agreement between children and parents in the sections on "Family" in the questionnaire that the parents did not feel neglected.

6. Twenty-six of the adult responsible children did not feel they should have their parents living with them. The remaining six answered either "Yes" or "Perhaps." Therefore, the guilt feelings about doing more for the parents did not extend as far as having the parents live with them. However, in the light of the parents' responses to advice on living arrangements, the children were justified in this reaction and, therefore, there was no basis for guilt feelings. In addition it will be remembered that most of the parents were satisfied with the place of residence and many of the children felt the Homes were nice places to live. Also, in a majority of cases the parents had lived with their children and both knew what to expect.

7. The response of the adult responsible children as to whether they thought the parents themselves felt they should be living with their children was not so overwhelmingly in the negative. However, a total of twenty answered "No." The remaining twelve answered "Yes." The discussion on the

immediately preceding question would hold also for this.

### Conclusions

#### Conclusions in Regard to the Problem and the Hypotheses

1. Almost all of the parents were satisfied with the place of residence if those parents were included who gave living in a Home for Old People as second choice to living alone.

2. Since a majority of the total for both Homes did not feel that old parents were cared for by their adult children the way they should be, it could be concluded that they were not satisfied with the care and attention provided by their own adult responsible children. Therefore, the situation was accepted intellectually by the majority but not emotionally.

3. There was a reasonable amount of "inner" understanding of the parent by the child as evinced by the number of agreed responses on the Attitudes part of the questionnaire. The relationship was close rather than distant.

4. While guilt feelings seemed to be manifested in a few places by the child in regard to the parent, they did not seem strong or general.

5. Therefore, the general conclusion drawn from the findings in this investigation was that guilt feelings on the part of adult children were neither as strong nor as wide-





spread as pictured in the quotation by Dr. Wilma Donahue stated in Chapter I under the topic, Background of the Problem.

6. However, in many cases the adult responsible children were caught between their responsibilities to their parents, to their own children and grandchildren, and to themselves to provide for their own old age.

7. Most of the adult responsible children had done and were doing a great deal for their parents.

8. The responses of the parents 50-60 years old and their adult responsible children were similar in most instances as those of the parents over 65 years of age and their children, i.e., they reacted the same.

#### Other Conclusions

1. Although almost all of the parents studied at Okemos Home were receiving Old Age Assistance and were not generally on quite as high a socio-economic level as those parents studied at The Women's Home, they too came from solid American three-generation or more family backgrounds and not from indigent backgrounds. It is possible that they were the victims of depression and inflation. At the time of middle-age when children were grown and when they would have had an

opportunity to provide for old age, they were caught up in the economic depression of the 1930's. Upon reaching old age they were caught in economic inflation and when illness or accident struck, their meager savings soon vanished.

2. There should be more Homes for Old People in the Lansing area like The Women's Home with its home-like furnishings and atmosphere and social and economic freedom for its residents. There should be one for men as well as women and/or one for old couples to go to if they so desired. Like The Women's Home, they should be allowed to furnish their own rooms with their own furniture. And the Homes should have the added advantages of an infirmary.

3. If Albrecht is right in her predictions, as mentioned in Chapter II, our families should be encouraged and educated to keep our old parents in the family relationship. Emphasis should be placed by our sociologists and psychologists on the rich cultural and social advantages instead of upon the frustrations and irritations. The intense emotional relationship in the nuclear family could be mitigated by the inclusion of more persons in the parent relationship and all would benefit. Our culture could have some of the benefits of the extended family without the disadvantages.

4. It was felt that the happiness of the parents could be increased if transportation were provided to church and church activities and to see old friends, but especially to church, and preferably to their own church.

## Weaknesses and Strengths of the Investigation

### Weaknesses

1. The number of cases was too small for the conclusions to be considered general.
2. The investigation was essentially subjective in character since all responses came from within the individuals interviewed, and the interpretation from within the interviewer.
3. The persons interviewed might have prevaricated at times.
4. Unconscious bias of the interviewer would be present.
5. No objective test was given to parent for senility nor for physical fitness.

### Strengths

1. The investigation was objective insofar as the responses were checked in the main on a carefully worked out schedule.
2. The strength of all interviews being given by the same person was that there was probably as consistent an approach to each person as was possible.
3. The interviewer had had considerable training and experience in interviewing.

4. The results were tabulated under the code number of each case. Therefore, as omissions and/or errors might be found, it was possible to check back and make the necessary corrections.

5. The small number of cases was a strength because the interviewer could handle all the interviewing of both parent and adult responsible child and thus got to know the subjects quite thoroughly - as thoroughly as is possible in one interview.

6. There was the possibility that the results could be added to the already existing research in which the schedule, "Your Activities and Attitudes," had been used.

#### Comparison of Some General Results as Those of Other Research Studies

##### Same

1. As in the case of other research studies mentioned in Chapter II, there were more women past 65 than men.

2. The cases had all day free.

3. "Listening to the radio" and "reading" were the most popular leisure time activities.

4. More women were active in organizations than men. (In fact in this investigation the men were not active at all but ten mothers at The Women's Home and four mothers past 65 years old at Okemos Home were active.)

5. Wishes of the parents had to do mostly with health and secondly with the welfare of their families.

### Different

1. A higher proportion of the children were contributing something to the financial support of the parents than was reported generally.

### Implications for Further Research

1. Two other types of Homes for Old People could be studied in the same way as was done for this investigation, namely, a Home in which the parents, and/or their children, pay the full cost of their living and a fraternal Home. Such a study would probably tap different socio-economic levels than were tapped in this investigation.

2. Other Homes of the same type as were represented in this investigation could be studied in the same way and thus the total number of cases be increased. In this manner the findings and conclusions of the present study could be verified.

3. Parents who are living with their children should be studied in the same way to determine whether their reactions and those of their children differ from those indicated in this investigation.



4. Parents living alone should also be studied in the same manner in order to compare their reactions and those of their children with those found in this investigation and with those which result from the study of parents living with their children.

5. Actually more facets of the present investigation could be given further study, such as, difference in reactions of the sexes to the questions; Case studies could be presented and studied, etc.

## APPENDIX



# I

The Questionnaires "Your Activities and Attitudes" as used for the parents (Ia), and as used for the adult responsible child (Ib).

The introductory letter sent to the adult responsible child (Ic).



# YOUR ACTIVITIES and ATTITUDES

Prepared by

Ernest W. Burgess, Ruth S. Cavan, and Robert J. Havighurst  
The University of Chicago

Although the number of middle-aged and older persons in the United States is increasing, we know very little of what interests these people may have, of how they are spending their time, or the kind of work they do. The only reliable way to get information about experiences during the fifties, sixties, and the later years of life is to ask people of these ages.

If you will tell us about your past experience and your present condition of life, you will help in the gathering of information that may better the life conditions of middle-aged and older persons. It will take between 60 and 90 minutes to answer the questions in this booklet. Thank you for your cooperation.

---

Check the answers to each question in the spaces provided, as in the example below.

Are you a man? ✓ or a woman? \_\_\_\_\_

This schedule is designed to measure your activities and attitudes. Please do not discuss it with others.

Published by

Science Research Associates, 228 S. Wabash Avenue, Chicago 4, Ill.

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## A. General Information

1. Are you a man? \_\_\_\_\_ or a woman? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How old were you on your last birthday?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What race are you? White . . . . .  
Negro . . . . .  
Other . . . . .
4. In what country were you born?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. In what country was your father born?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Your mother? \_\_\_\_\_
6. In what city do you live now? (If you live on a farm, give the nearest place where you usually shop.)  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you live on a farm? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
8. How long have you lived in (or near) the city where you live? \_\_\_\_\_ years.
9. If you live in a city, in what kind of neighborhood do you live?  
Business district . . . . .  
Rooming house district . . . . .  
Apartment house district . . . . .  
Hotel district . . . . .  
Small private homes  
(5 rooms or less) . . . . .  
Large private homes  
(6 rooms or more) . . . . .
10. How long have you lived in this neighborhood? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Check the last grade of school that you have finished.  
No schooling . . . . .  
Grades 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 \_\_\_\_\_  
High School 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
College 1 2 3 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Other schooling (number of years)  
Business . . . . .  
College, post graduate . . . . .  
Trade . . . . .  
Other . . . . .
12. If you went to an ungraded school, what was your age when you left school? . . . . .

## B. Your Health

1. How would you rate your health at the present time?  
Very poor . . . . .  
Poor . . . . .  
Fair . . . . .  
Good . . . . .  
Excellent . . . . .
2. Is your health better or worse now than it was when you were 55 years of age?  
Worse now . . . . .  
About the same . . . . .  
Better now . . . . .
3. What are your serious physical problems?  
Poor sight . . . . .  
Blind or nearly so . . . . .  
Hard of hearing . . . . .  
Deaf or nearly so . . . . .  
Crippled arms, hands or legs . . . . .  
General rheumatic stiffness . . . . .  
Heart trouble . . . . .  
Stomach trouble . . . . .  
High blood pressure . . . . .  
No physical problems . . . . .  
Other (what is it?) . . . . .
4. Below is a list of difficulties that people often have. Check those that trouble you.  
Shortness of breath at night . . . . .  
Shortness of breath after slight exercise . . . . .  
Heart burn . . . . .  
Swelling of feet or legs . . . . .  
Feeling tired . . . . .  
Have had nervous breakdown . . . . .  
Difficulty in urination . . . . .  
Constipation . . . . .  
Aching joints . . . . .  
Backache . . . . .  
Gas pains . . . . .  
Belching . . . . .  
Headaches . . . . .  
No difficulties . . . . .
5. How many days did you spend in bed last year?  
All the time . . . . .  
A month or more . . . . .  
Two to four weeks . . . . .  
A few days . . . . .  
None . . . . .

6. Which of the following things often trouble you?

Sleeplessness .....  
Bad dreams .....  
Tire too easily .....  
Food doesn't taste good .....  
Feel "blue" .....  
Nervousness .....  
Dislike noise .....  
Worry about my health .....  
Forgetfulness .....  
Troubled with none of these .....

7. Have you had any serious accidents in the last five years?

Yes .....  
No .....

If so, what? .....

## C. Your Family

1. Which of the following applies to you?

Never been married .....  
Married and living with  
husband or wife .....  
Married but separated .....  
Widow or widower .....  
How many years ago were  
you widowed? .....

2. How many times have you been married? .....

3. What was your age at the time of your (first) marriage? .....

4. How do you rate the happiness of your (last) marriage?

Very unhappy .....  
Unhappy .....  
Average .....  
Happy .....  
Very happy .....

5. If you had your life to live over, would you marry the same person?

No .....  
Possibly .....  
Certainly .....

6. How many living children do you now have?

7. With whom are you living?

With husband or wife .....  
With husband or wife and children .....  
With children alone .....  
Alone .....  
With parents .....  
With relatives .....  
With friends .....  
Others (who are they?) .....

8. Where do you live?

My own home or apartment .....  
Someone else's home .....  
Rooming house .....  
Hotel .....  
Home for old people .....  
Other (where?) .....

9. How long have you lived in this place? \_\_\_\_\_ years.

10. How does your present neighborhood compare with the one you lived in when you were 55? (If you live in the same neighborhood, but it has changed, check any changes.)

Not so good .....  
About the same .....  
Better. ....

11. Are your present living arrangements the result of:

Choice .....  
Necessity .....  
Both .....

12. How often do you see some of your family or close relatives?

Less than once a year .....  
About once a month .....  
Once or twice a week .....  
Every day .....  
Have no family or relatives .....

13. If you have a family or close relatives, do they neglect you?

Yes, completely .....  
A little .....  
Not at all .....

14. If you have a family or close relatives, do they try to interfere in your affairs?

Yes, often .....  
Yes, once in a while .....  
Almost never .....

## D. Your Friends

1. How many friends do you have?  
None .....  
One to four .....  
Five to nine .....  
Ten or more .....
2. How many of these are such close friends that you can talk to them about almost anything?.....
3. Do you see your friends more or less often now than when you were 55 years old?  
Less often now .....  
About the same .....  
More often now .....
4. If you do not see your friends often, is it because:  
They have passed away .....  
Can't afford it .....  
Lost interest in them .....  
Not physically able to get about .....  
No longer live in same community.....  
Other (what?).....
5. Do you often see or hear from children or young people who are friends? (Include nieces, nephews, grandchildren.)  
Less than once a year .....  
A few times a year .....  
Once or twice a month .....  
About once a week .....  
Every day .....  
Have no friends among children or young people .....

## E. Leisure and Recreation

1. How much free time do you have?  
All day .....  
A half day .....  
A few hours .....  
Almost none .....

2. What do you do in your free time?

Work in and around the house .....  
Work in garden or yard .....  
Work on some hobby .....  
Listen to the radio .....  
Farm work .....  
Write letters .....  
Write books, articles, poems, etc. ....  
Attend movies .....  
Attend theaters, lectures, concerts .....  
Attend clubs, lodges, other meetings .....  
Shop .....  
Participate in community or church work .....  
Play golf, other sports .....  
Play cards or other table games .....  
Take rides .....  
Visit or entertain friends .....  
Sew, crochet, or knit .....  
Read .....  
Just sit and think .....  
Other (what?).....

3. List the hobbies or favorite pastimes you now have .....

4. Are there things you plan to do in the next year or two?

Yes .....  
No .....

If your answer is "Yes," what are these things?

Take a pleasure trip .....  
Continue your present work .....  
Begin new work .....  
Redecorate or remodel home .....  
Start a garden or farm .....  
Visit children, relatives, or friends .....  
Other (what?).....

5. How much time each day do you spend reading?

Never read .....  
A few minutes .....  
An hour or more .....  
Practically all day .....

6. What magazines do you read regularly?

How often <sup>aside</sup> do you attend the movies?

Never .....  
Less than once a month .....  
Two or three times a month .....  
About once a week .....  
Almost every day .....

How much time each day do you spend in listening to the radio? <sup>aside</sup> ~~and television?~~

<sup>television</sup> Practically all day .....  
An hour or more .....  
A few minutes .....  
Almost never .....

What kind of radio <sup>and television</sup> programs do you particularly like? <sup>aside</sup> ~~television?~~

Popular modern music .....  
News and commentators .....  
Quiz programs .....  
Humorous serials .....  
Popular serials .....  
Sermons .....  
Sports .....  
Old time songs .....  
Classical music .....  
Dramatic plays .....  
All of these .....  
Other .....

*favorite television programs*

## F. Clubs and Organizations

To how many organizations, such as clubs, lodges, unions, and the like, do you now belong?

None .....  
One .....  
Two .....  
Three .....  
Four or more .....

2. Check the kinds of organizations to which you now belong <sup>and did belong</sup> ~~did~~

Luncheon club .....  
Bridge or other social club .....  
Lodge .....  
Study group .....  
Union .....  
Charitable or welfare organization .....  
Veterans' organization .....  
"Borrowed Time" or other club for elderly people .....  
Business or professional group .....  
Townsend club .....  
Church club or circle .....  
Women's club .....  
P.T.A. ....  
Music or art association or club .....  
Patriotic society .....  
Other (what?) .....

3. If you belong to organizations, do you hold an office in any one of them?

Yes .....  
No .....

4. If you held office, in which organization is it? <sup>she</sup> ~~it?~~

5. How many club meetings do you usually attend each month? <sup>if now, what organization?</sup> ~~it?~~

None .....  
Less than one a month .....  
One or two a month .....  
One a week .....  
Two or more a week .....

6. Do you give more or less time to organizations now than when you were 55 years old? <sup>aside</sup> ~~it?~~

Less now .....  
About the same .....  
More now .....

7. If you give less time now, why is it?

Not physically able to attend meetings .....  
Not interested .....  
Can't afford it .....  
Moved to a new neighborhood or city .....  
Other (what?) .....

*did used to belong to organizations? 5  
if so what and how many?*

## G. Your Employment History

1. During your adult life, have you earned money, either working for others or for yourself? *Yes*

Yes .....  
No .....

If the answer to Question 1 is "No," omit the rest of this section and go on to: **H. When You Were Not Gainfully Employed.**

2. What work have you done most of the time during your adult years? (Tell what kind of work it was--for example, labor on a road construction gang, teller in a bank, etc.)

.....  
.....  
.....

3. At what age did you have your best paying job?

20-29 .....  
30-39 .....  
40-49 .....  
50-59 .....  
60-69 .....  
70 and over .....

4. Comparing what you have done with the work of your brothers, sisters and first cousins, would you say that you have done:

Not as well as they did .....  
About as well as they did .....  
Better than they did .....

5. Are you working now?

Yes, full-time .....  
Yes, part-time .....  
No .....

6. If you are working, what do you do?

.....  
.....

7. If you are working now, either part-time or full-time, how does this work compare with what you did at the age of 55?

Present amount earned: Less ..  
Same ..  
More ..

Enjoyment of present job: Less ..  
Same ..  
More ..

8. If you are not working full-time, why not?

Can't find work .....  
Can't work because of health ...  
Retired .....  
Don't want a job .....  
Prefer to work part-time .....  
Married and stopped paid work ..

9. If you are not working now, how long is it since you held your last full-time job? *she is*  
..... years.

If you are a woman, or an unemployed man, please answer **H. When You Were Not Gainfully Employed.**

## H. When You Were Not Gainfully Employed

1. If you had a regular job and stopped working, what did you do then?

.....  
.....

2. If you are a woman, are you taking care of your home?

No .....  
Do a little or help someone else .....  
Do everything myself .....  
Other (what?) .....

*Is she taking care of her room?*  
*Yes*  
*No*

## I. Your Security

1. How would you describe your present position in life?

Can't make ends meet .....  
Enough to get along .....  
Comfortable .....  
Well-to-do .....  
Wealthy .....

2. Are you in a better or a worse position now than you were at age 55?

Worse now .....  
About the same .....  
Better now .....



3. What is your chief means of support?

Your (or your husband's) present earnings .....

Social Security .....

Old Age Assistance from the state .....

Pension from earlier occupation .....

Relief agency .....

Home for old people .....

Aid from children .....

Aid from parents .....

Payments from insurance annuities .....

Investments or savings .....

Other (what?) .....

4. Do you feel that your present source of income gives you permanent security?

Yes .....

No .....

5. If you are a married woman, what was your husband's work during most of his life?

.....

.....

6. Do you own your own home?

No .....

Yes, still paying for it .....

Yes, clear .....

7. What things have you had to do since the age of 55 because of lowered income?

Gave up my home .....

Moved to less expensive home .....

Stopped going to church .....

Bought less expensive foods .....

Couldn't keep home or furnishings in repair .....

Gave up clubs .....

Bought less expensive clothes .....

Stopped taking vacations .....

Gave up auto or bought cheaper car .....

Have not had to do any of these .....

Other (what?) .....

## J. Your Religion

1. What is your religion?

Roman Catholic .....

Greek Catholic .....

Jewish .....

Protestant .....

Denomination .....

Other (what?) .....

2. Are you a church member?

Yes .....

No .....

3. How often do you attend religious services?

Never .....

Less than once a month .....

Once or twice a month .....

Once a week .....

Twice a week or oftener .....

4. Do you attend services more or less often now than you did at age 55?

Less often now .....

About the same .....

More often now .....

5. If you attend church less often now, why is it?

Not physically able to go .....

Can't afford it .....

Lack of interest .....

Church is too far away .....

Other (what?) .....

6. Do you believe in an after life?

No .....

Not sure .....

Yes, sure of it .....

7. Do you listen to church services over the radio?

Never .....

Once in a while .....

About once or twice a week .....

Three or more times a week .....

8. How often do you read the Prayer Book, Bible, or other religious book?

Never .....

Less than once a week .....

Once a week .....

Every day .....

## K. Your Earlier Life

1. What was your father's occupation? (Tell what kind of work it was--for example, labor on a road construction gang, teller in a bank, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Which child in the family were you?

Only child . . . . .  
Youngest . . . . .  
In-between . . . . .  
Oldest . . . . .

3. How many children in your family lived to the age of 5 or older? . . . . .

4. If your parents are alive, how old are they?

Age of father . . . . .  
Age of mother . . . . .

5. If your parents are not living, how old were they at their death?

Age of father . . . . .  
Age of mother . . . . .

6. How was your health when you were about 12 years old?

Poor . . . . .  
Fair . . . . .  
Good . . . . .

7. When you were in your teens, how did you feel toward your father?

Considerable dislike . . . . .  
Mild dislike . . . . .  
Mild attachment . . . . .  
Considerable attachment . . . . .  
Very strong attachment . . . . .

8. When you were in your teens, how did you feel toward your mother?

Considerable dislike . . . . .  
Mild dislike . . . . .  
Mild attachment . . . . .  
Considerable attachment . . . . .  
Very strong attachment . . . . .

9. When you were in your teens, about how many friends of the same sex did you have?

Almost none . . . . .  
Average number . . . . .  
A great many . . . . .

10. When you were in your late teens, how many friends of the opposite sex did you have?

Almost none . . . . .  
Average number . . . . .  
A great many . . . . .  
I was married in late teens . . . . .

11. What was the position of your family when you were about 12 years of age?

Couldn't make ends meet . . . . .  
Enough to get along on . . . . .  
Comfortable . . . . .  
Well-to-do . . . . .  
Wealthy . . . . .

12. How often did you attend some religious service when you were about 12 years of age?

Never . . . . .  
Less than once a month . . . . .  
Once or twice a month . . . . .  
About once a week . . . . .  
Almost every day . . . . .

## L. What You Think About Things

If you agree with the following statements, check Agree. If you disagree, check Disagree. If you cannot answer, check the ?.

Dis-  
Agree agree ?

1. The people in our country are going to have greater prosperity and happiness than ever before. \_\_\_\_\_

The world is headed for destruction. \_\_\_\_\_

Young people are much worse than they used to be. \_\_\_\_\_

The country was much better off in the horse and buggy days. \_\_\_\_\_

2. I feel that no one cares much what happens to me. \_\_\_\_\_

Life is just a series of disappointments. \_\_\_\_\_

People have generally worked against me. \_\_\_\_\_

The breaks in life have usually gone against me. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What was the happiest period of your life?

Childhood, up to 12 years .....  
Twelve to 19 years .....  
Twenty to 39 years .....  
Forty to 59 years .....  
Sixty to 74 years .....  
Since 75 years .....  
Never had a happy period .....  
All periods were equally happy .....

4. What was the least happy period of your life?

Childhood, up to 12 years .....  
Twelve to 19 years .....  
Twenty to 39 years .....  
Forty to 59 years .....  
Sixty to 74 years .....  
Since 75 years .....  
Never had an unhappy period .....  
Whole life unhappy .....

5. As you look back over your life, what things were the hardest for you to bear?

.....  
.....  
..... Your age \_\_\_\_  
.....  
.....  
..... Your age \_\_\_\_  
.....  
.....  
..... Your age \_\_\_\_

6. As you look back over your life, in general would you call it:

Very happy .....  
Moderately happy .....  
Average .....  
Unhappy .....

7. If you could have three wishes, what would they be?

1. ....  
.....  
.....  
2. ....  
.....  
.....  
3. ....  
.....  
.....

8. How do you feel about what you have accomplished in life?

Well satisfied .....  
Reasonably satisfied .....  
Dissatisfied .....

9. In which age group do you feel that you now belong?

Aged .....  
Old .....  
Elderly .....  
Middle-aged .....  
Young adult .....

10. Did you vote in the last national election?

Yes .....  
No .....

Go on to the next page

## Your Attitudes

If you agree with the following statements, check Agree. If you disagree, check Disagree. If you absolutely cannot answer, check the ?.  
BE SURE TO ANSWER EVERY QUESTION.

### A. Dis- Agree agree ?

1. I feel just miserable most of the time. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I am perfectly satisfied with my health. \_\_\_\_\_
3. I never felt better in my life. \_\_\_\_\_
4. If I can't feel better soon, I would just as soon die. \_\_\_\_\_
5. When I was younger, I felt a little better than I do now. \_\_\_\_\_
6. My health is just beginning to be a burden to me. \_\_\_\_\_
7. I still feel young and full of spirit. \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Dis- Agree agree ?

1. I have more friends now than I ever had before. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I never dreamed that I could be as lonely as I am now. \_\_\_\_\_
3. I would be happier if I could see my friends more often. \_\_\_\_\_
4. I have no one to talk to about personal things. \_\_\_\_\_
5. I have so few friends that I am lonely much of the time. \_\_\_\_\_
6. My many friends make my life happy and cheerful. \_\_\_\_\_
7. I have all the good friends anyone could wish. \_\_\_\_\_

### C. Dis- Agree agree ?

1. I am happy only when I have definite work to do. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I can no longer do any kind of useful work. \_\_\_\_\_
3. I am satisfied with the work I now do. \_\_\_\_\_
4. I have no work to look forward to. \_\_\_\_\_
5. I get badly flustered when I have to hurry with my work. \_\_\_\_\_
6. I do better work now than ever before. \_\_\_\_\_
7. I have more free time than I know how to use. \_\_\_\_\_

### D. Dis- Agree agree ?

1. I am just able to make ends meet. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I have enough money to get along. \_\_\_\_\_
3. I haven't a cent in the world. \_\_\_\_\_
4. All my needs are cared for. \_\_\_\_\_
5. I am provided with many home comforts. \_\_\_\_\_
6. I have everything that money can buy. \_\_\_\_\_
7. I have to watch how I spend every penny. \_\_\_\_\_

**E.**  
Agree Dis-  
agree ?

1. Religion is fairly important in my life. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I have no use for religion. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Religion is a great comfort to me. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Religion doesn't mean much to me. \_\_\_\_\_
5. I don't rely on prayer to help me. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Religion is the most important thing in my life. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Religion is only one of many interests. \_\_\_\_\_

**F.**  
Agree Dis-  
agree ?

1. I am some use to those around me. \_\_\_\_\_
2. My life is meaningless now. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The days are too short for all I want to do. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Sometimes I feel there's just no point in living. \_\_\_\_\_
5. My life is still busy and useful. \_\_\_\_\_
6. This is the most useful period of my life. \_\_\_\_\_
7. I can't help feeling now that my life is not very useful. \_\_\_\_\_

**G.**  
Agree Dis-  
agree ?

1. This is the dreariest time of my life. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I am just as happy as when I was younger. \_\_\_\_\_
3. My life could be happier than it is now. \_\_\_\_\_
4. I seem to have less and less reason to live. \_\_\_\_\_
5. These are the best years of my life. \_\_\_\_\_
6. My life is full of worry. \_\_\_\_\_
7. My life is so enjoyable that I almost wish it would go on forever. \_\_\_\_\_

IF YOU HAVE NO LIVING FAMILY, OMIT H.

**H.**  
Agree Dis-  
agree ?

1. My family likes to have me around. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I am perfectly satisfied with the way my family treats me. \_\_\_\_\_
3. I wish my family would pay more attention to me. \_\_\_\_\_
4. I think my family is the finest in the world. \_\_\_\_\_
5. My family is always trying to boss me. \_\_\_\_\_
6. I get more love and affection now than I ever did before. \_\_\_\_\_
7. My family does not really care for me. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_



Appendix I

Mothers

# YOUR ACTIVITIES and ATTITUDES

Prepared by  
Ernest W. Burgess, Ruth S. Cavan, and Robert J. Havighurst  
The University of Chicago

Although the number of middle-aged and older persons in the United States is increasing, we know very little of what interests these people may have, of how they are spending their time, or the kind of work they do. The only reliable way to get information about experiences during the fifties, sixties, and the later years of life is to ask people of these ages.

Mothers

If you will tell us about your <sup>past</sup> experience and your <sup>present</sup> condition of life, you will help in the gathering of information that may better the life conditions of middle-aged and older persons. It will take between 60 and 90 minutes to answer the questions in this booklet. Thank you for your cooperation.

---

Check the answers to each question in the spaces provided, as in the example below.

Are you a man? ✓ or a woman?           

This schedule is designed to measure your activities and attitudes. Please do not discuss it with others.

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## Appendix Ic

152 Orchard Street  
East Lansing, Michigan  
(Date)

Name

Address

Dear Mrs. (Mr.) \_\_\_\_\_

As we all know, the proportion of old people in our population is increasing. Much has been written about them in the past few years but there has been very little research generally - and particularly in regard to attitudes, activities, interests and feelings of old people.

I am an older person myself with two married daughters and am very much interested in these problems of aging. Consequently I am doing post-graduate research in this area at Michigan State University. Your mother (or father) has graciously consented to answer some questions and I would appreciate your response as a mature person to some questions also. It would greatly enhance the value of the study to have your response as well as that of your mother (or father). The questions will take about an hour or so to answer. The results will be kept confidential.

I shall contact you soon. Your cooperation would be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

(Mrs.) Rachel P. Noll



## II

Detailed account of research study "Personal Adjustment in Old Age" and of development of the questionnaire "Your Activities and Attitudes" (IIa); and detailed account of research study "Older People" (IIb). Also detailed descriptions of the two Homes for Old People used in the investigation, namely, The Women's Home and the Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center (Okemos Home).

## APPENDIX IIa

### DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH STUDY, PERSONAL ADJUSTMENT IN OLD AGE

As mentioned in Chapter II, this study was described here in detail because of its importance to research. It was particularly important to this investigation because of the development of the questionnaire which was used to obtain most of the data.

The study was concerned with personal adjustment in old age (12) and was conducted by Ruth S. Cavan, Ernest W. Burgess, Robert J. Havighurst, and Herbert Goldhamer of the University of Chicago. It was undertaken for a subcommittee on Social Adjustment in Old Age established by the Social Science Research Council's 1944 Committee on Social Adjustment. The sixteenth census of the United States (1940) was analyzed and the persons were grouped into five-year periods from age sixty on. The authors explain that although sixty-five is generally used for retirement they chose sixty because often people are no longer able to work after that age. By beginning with sixty, one could get a solid basis of information on an employed group, still following the life-habits of middle-aged persons, with which later age periods might be compared. The census groups were studied as to age distribution during later maturity, sex distribution, educational

level, family life - whether living with spouse, children or in institutions - financial support and employment. Two questionnaires were developed - one on activities as an objective measurement of adjustment of old people by activities which would be supposedly objectively observable, and one on attitudes which would be a subjective means of arriving at the inner adjustment of old people. These two questionnaires were tested and some changes made and then combined into one, namely, "Your Activities and Attitudes" which is the present form and which was used by the writer for her study. This schedule was mailed to all parts of the United States to the following groups. These groups were limited to white, English speaking, sixty years of age and over, mentally competent, and to specific occupational groups who had above average education and familiarity with expressing themselves and answering questions in writing.

<u>Groups to Which Schedule Sent</u>	<u>No. Distributed</u>
Retired public school teachers - names from nine state retirement systems sending pensions.	2,300
Retired Methodist ministers - names from 23 Conferences from all over United States sending pensions.	1,092
Widows of Methodist ministers - from the Conferences - also receive pensions	1,213
College alumni lists - Univ. of Wisconsin	620
Half Century Club, Rockford College, former students	216
Professors of sociology - to extend study further, these in all parts of the country were asked to have their students interview old persons or mail schedules to elderly friends or relatives who were to mail reply directly in enclosed envelop to the research staff	2,600
Miscellaneous mailing list - everyone in the first four groups was asked to suggest names of friends who might be interested and of spouse, if interested	400
Total	8,441

Of these 8,441 schedules mailed out, there were 2,743 usable returns or 32.5%. In addition, personal interviewing, using the schedule was carried on over a period of six months in Rockford, Illinois - an industrial city of 100,000 population, and in Morris, Illinois - population of 7,000. Recipients of Old Age Assistance in Rockford were included. (It is not clear what other bases for the personal interviews were used in Rockford or what they were in Morris.) There were 181 interviews in Rockford and 64 in Morris (12:170-171).

The study group was formed from the 2,743 usable returns. This study group consisted of 499 men and 759 women. The study group was compared with the total population of sixty years and older as shown in the sixteenth census. It was older, more highly urbanized, better educated, and had more representatives of business and the professions than was true of the census population. In social relationships, the study group approximated the census population - in marital status, in place of residence, percentage of unemployed. The study group included persons from all regions of the United States and from all of the major religious groups.

Development of the Attitude and Activities Schedules  
(12: Chs. 10 & 11)

The authors considered five criteria of general adjustment, namely, Participation in activities, Satisfaction with activities, Happiness, Absence of non-adjustive behavior, and wish fulfillment.

The Attitude Inventory

It was decided to construct an Attitude Inventory on two of the five bases and "on a third which is closely related to them:

1. Satisfaction with Activities and Status. The Inventory was devised to enable an individual to express his feelings of satisfaction or dissatisfaction in six area or categories of activities and two of status: family, friends, work, recreation, religion, social organizations, health, and economic status.

2. General Happiness. Another category of the Inventory was devised to represent the individual's general state of happiness.

3. Feeling of Usefulness. Still another category of the Inventory contained statements dealing with an individual's feeling of usefulness.

Thus the Inventory contained ten categories.  
(12:111)

#### How Constructed

The first step in preparing the Inventory was to compile a list of attitudinal statements, one list for each of the ten categories just named. The statements were obtained from schedules used in other studies, from books and articles discussing adjustment in later maturity, and from a number of personal interviews which our field-workers had with elderly people. (12:111-112)

Lists of over ten attitudinal statements were prepared for each category. Eight judges gave numerical rank to the statements within each category "according to what they conceived to be a scale of personal adjustment." The authors selected the ten statements in each category for which there was the greatest agreement and which were most evenly distributed over the scale. Twenty-one "mature" judges and a group of twenty-seven graduate students in a class in Statistics were asked to rate the statements again from most favorable to least favorable. The rankings by the two groups were handled

separately and in

each group the median rank for each statement was secured and also the average deviation of all ranks from this median.....In some categories, the median ranks of two or even three statements were identical. This fact as well as the length of the Inventory led to elimination of three statements from each category. The eliminations were made on the basis of the identity of median rank, size of the average deviation, and the results of the intensive interviews which were being made by field-workers. (12:112)

Statements open to more than one interpretation and negative statements with a negative meaning were also eliminated, as well as statements which were not as closely related to the central idea of a category as others.

#### Scoring of the Attitude Inventory

The first scoring devised was by a system of weights assigned of one through seven to the rank order given to the statements by the mature judges,

with one as the weight for the least favorable attitude.....To secure the score for each category, the mean of the weights was computed for statements with which the subject agreed... ..For convenience, the nearest whole number was used when there was a decimal. The total attitude score was the sum of the scores of (the) ten categories. The higher the score, the greater had been the number of favorable reactions, and, by implication, the more adequate was the individual's adjustment. (12:117)

The Inventory was then used in one hundred interviews with elderly people and a careful analysis made. It was found that some of the statements were not linked together as weighted and some of the statements were still open to several inter-

pretations. Changes were made to correct these, e.g., weighted order was changed where necessary, ambiguous statements re-phrased, and in some instances new statements substituted.

The weighted method of scoring proved to be cumbersome. Several different methods of scoring were considered by the authors and it was decided to use only the "Yes" answers, omit the middle or neutral questions in each category, and use as score the "sum of favorable Yes answers minus the sum of unfavorable Yes answers." (12:118-119) It was found desirable to change the responses from "Yes," "No," and "?" to "Agree," "Disagree," and "Uncertain." This partially removed the difficulty caused by the negative form of statement where used.

#### Present Form of the Attitude Inventory

The form of the Attitude Inventory as it is in the combined Activities and Attitude questionnaire called "Your Activities and Attitude" which is used in the writer's study has two of the original categories omitted, namely, "Organizations" and "Leisure." It was found that

membership in organizations is not a general experience of older people and the 'leisure' category was very close in meaning to the 'happiness' category. The statements for which an Agree response indicates good judgment are marked with a plus sign; those for which an Agree response indicates poor adjustment are marked with a minus sign. (12:120)



(Since this was written a further change in scoring was made. Three is added to the score for each category so that there are no minus scores. In other words, all scores are positive.)

In addition, ten items were dropped and replaced by others after the item analysis was made in regard to validating the Inventory described as follows.

### Reliability and Validity

Considerable space is devoted to these two aspects of the Attitude Inventory in the book, *Personal Adjustment in Old Age* (12:121-136). Briefly they are as follows:

1. Reliability. One hundred ten people filled out the Inventory twice by mail. Product-moment correlation between the scores in the first and second was .72. Also the odd-even reliability coefficient was computed for 200 cases selected from the schedules that had been filled out in personal interviews. These cases were chosen to represent the total group in occupation, educational level, and type of community in range and distribution of scores. Product-moment coefficient of correlation between the two halves was .90; increased by Spearman-Brown for scale of original length .95.

## 2. Validity

- a. Correlation of .79 between the averaged ratings of two judges who reviewed the Attitude Inventories of 100 people but who had not interviewed the persons and the ratings of the judge who had interviewed the subjects and also reviewed the Inventories.
- b. Correlation of .53 between ratings of observers and Inventory.
- c. Correlation of .74 between ratings of judges who studied the subjects' self-reports in the Schedule of Activities and the reports of interviewer but who had not seen the Attitude Inventory of the subjects.
- d. Correlation of .78 between Attitude Inventory score and Activity score obtained from the Schedule of Adult Activities.
- e. One hundred sixty-eight subjects who had been among those personally interviewed were rated by someone who knew him personally but often not intimately.

Three rating instruments (developed by the authors) were used: a check-list to describe the old person's activities, a set of word-portraits to describe the person's characteristics, and a list of symptoms which indicate senility.....The check-list consisted of ten sets of five questions each. Each set of questions or section of the check-list corresponded roughly to a category of the Attitude Inventory.....The word-

portraits were thumbnail sketches of the characteristic behavior of elderly people in various aspects of life. Six sets of portraits were prepared.....The index of senility consisted of a list of fifteen statements purporting to show the mental and personality changes that come with increasing age. (12:123-126)

The product-moment correlations of the Attitude Inventory Scores with these external measures of adjustment were  $.50 \pm .04$ ,  $.49 \pm .04$ ,  $.15 \pm .04$  with the Attitude Scores.

### Schedule of Adult Activities

The Schedule of Adult Activities was constructed on the three bases as mentioned above for the Attitude Inventory and contained the ten categories listed, namely, family, friends, work, recreation, religion, social organizations, health, economic status, general happiness, feeling of usefulness. From this Schedule an Adult Activity Inventory was constructed.

### Adult Activity Inventory

#### How Constructed

Twenty-five items were selected from the Schedule of Adult Activities "covering the topics of leisure-time activities, religious activities, intimate social activities, economic activities, and health." These items were given a simple system of arbitrary scoring decided upon by the authors. Answers were scaled from those showing no activity

to those showing great activity and score values were assigned with the higher score values indicating greater activity. A score was computed for the twenty-five questions using the selected group of 200 schedules which were used in validating the Attitude Inventory. The 15% with the highest scores and the 15% with the lowest scores were then selected and an item-analysis made for each question. On the basis of this item-analysis, six questions were discarded and new score values were assigned. The revised Activity Inventory of nineteen items was then re-scored for the 168 personal interview schedules for which a check list and word portraits were available. (These 168 cases were the ones used in validating the Attitude Inventory.)

### Scoring

Scoring of the first part of the combined Schedule is, therefore, the simple addition of the values or scores given to the selected items. Scores are available for each category except for categories K - "Your Earlier Life" - and L - "What You Think About Things."

### Reliability

Since the items in the Activity Inventory came from the Schedule of Adult Activities, the authors felt it was legitimate to take the reliability coefficients, where the two Activities Inventory items had 81.9% and 62.6% of agreement, from the correlations computed for the 200 cases where the Schedule was answered twice.

Reliability was also checked by the split-halves method Spearman-Brown formula and a coefficient of correlation of .66 was obtained which was considerably lower than the .95 for the Attitude Inventory. The authors explain this by saying that there were 60 evenly paired items for the latter and only sixteen paired items for the former. "Moreover, the selective nature of the questions precluded exact matching of questions (in the former). It is probable that the reliability actually is greater than is indicated by the coefficient of .66." (12:138)

### Validity

1. A correlation of .78 was obtained between Activity scores and Attitude scores. This may be regarded either as a test of validity or simply as a measure of the consistency between the two inventories.

2. A correlation of .65 between Activity scores for 102 cases and combined scores on check-list and word-portraits for these 102 cases.

## Your Activities and Attitudes

As mentioned earlier, the Activities and Attitudes Inventories were combined into one schedule called "Your Activities and Attitudes." Changes made in the early versions have already been described. The first part of the schedule as it now stands is based on the Activities Schedule and has the following categories:

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| A. General Information     | G. Your Employment History              |
| B. Your Health             | H. When You Were Not Gainfully Employed |
| C. Your Family             | I. Your Security                        |
| D. Your Friends            | J. Your Religion                        |
| E. Leisure and Recreation  | K. Your Earlier Life                    |
| F. Clubs and Organizations | L. What You Think About Things          |

The second part of the schedule has eight categories lettered alphabetically. There are not captions or titles at the head of the categories designating what they are about but it is obvious that A. is Health, B. Friends, C. Work, D. Security (financial), E. Religion, F. Usefulness, G. Happiness, and H. Family. The items may be checked either Agree, Disagree, or ? if cannot answer. Directions emphasize "BE SURE TO ANSWER EVERY QUESTION."

## APPENDIX IIb

### DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH STUDY

#### Older People

A detailed description of the research study on older people (20) was included here because of its importance to research, because it used the questionnaire "Your Activities and Attitudes" as one of the instruments to obtain data, and because some attention was paid to relationships between old parents and their adult children. As Mentioned in Chapter II, it was conducted by Ruth Albrecht and Dr. Robert J. Havighurst. The locale of the study was a carefully chosen community which was typical of a midwestern town. The purpose of the study was to discover the adjustment problems of the older people and to see how these problems were related to sex, age, social status, and marital status. A county-seat in a midwestern state with a 1940 census population of 6100 was selected. It was typical on a number of census characteristics of the towns between 5,000 and 10,000 in population in the twelve north central states. There were 108 such cities which were the largest population centers in counties that were agricultural-industrial. This type of county had between 25% and 50% of its gainfully employed males in agriculture and the remainder in industry, business, and other occupations.

The community chosen, which was named Prairie City by the researchers, was relatively complete and self-sufficient. Lying outside a metropolitan area, it had an independent social life; there was no college, university, nor state institutions in the community, nor was it a health or summer resort. Its local coherence and autonomy were therefore undisturbed.

According to the 1940 census, 10% of the population of this community were aged 65 and over. This compared with 6.8% for the United States as a whole and 7.1% for the state in which Prairie City was located. There were twenty-one towns of the same type as Prairie City in the state and their proportion of persons 65 and over range from 7.3% to 13.3% with Prairie City almost exactly at the mean and median of these cities.

Names of all persons over 65 years old residing in Prairie City in 1948 were secured by using the sugar registration of May 1942 which was corrected for persons who had moved away or who had died. The names of those who had moved into the community between 1942 and 1948 were obtained from Old Age Assistance lists, church membership lists, and two convalescent home lists. A list of approximately 670 names was secured. This was transformed into a basis of 1000 for the study of Social Status (Warner classification) and Marital Status by Age Group (two groupings - 65-74 and 75+) and Sex (20:230-235).



"The broad social characteristics of the elders of Prairie City were ascertained by securing information on every individual aged 65 or over. But for the more detailed knowledge that was needed, it was necessary to deal with a smaller group of people who represented the total group. (20:248)

Drawing of samples was done scientifically to represent the entire old-age population of Prairie City by age, sex, socio-economic status, marital status, religion, and ethnic group. (20:248-254) Two samples were drawn from the total group. The first sample called the A sample (called ABQ sample in the report in the Journal of Gerontology) was a large stratified sample drawn so as to secure large enough number of smaller groups to permit statistical work. In drawing this sample, cards were made out for all persons over 65; these cards were divided on the basis of sex; then divided into the five socio-economic classes; then each of these groups was further divided as to marital status, and each marital-status group was divided as to religion (Catholic or non-Catholic), and as to ethnicity (native-born, Norse, or Polish). Result:

a large number of categories of which approximately 100 included entries.....Cards were then drawn at random from each category group so as to provide a minimum of about fifteen persons in each marital status, religious group, ethnic group, and social-status group. A particular name might appear several times, once in a marital-status group, once in a religious group, and so on. Thus a stratified sample was obtained, which included (20:250)

the total number of 221 in the A-sample.

The second sample, called the Q-sample, was a group of 100 people drawn to represent the entire old age population

of Prairie City by sex, age, socio-economic status and marital status. The numbers in each of these categories were to make the Q-sample correspond as closely as possible to the distribution in the total group.

The Q-sample was drawn as follows: When the A-group contained more persons of a given category than were needed in the Q-sample, such as the upper-status group, the desired number of cases was drawn at random from the cases in A-group; when the A-group did not contain enough persons of a given category to supply the Q-sample fully, as in the case of C-status married women (lower middle class), all the cases of that category in the A-group were taken and enough more cases were drawn at random from the total C-status group to fill out the required number.

The Q-sample plus almost a hundred others were interviewed by a young man and a young woman using the Cavan, et al. schedule "Your Activities and Attitudes." In addition a role-activities instrument was designed composed of a set of thirteen role-areas (with ten degrees or levels of activity defined in each role area." (20:266) The scores ranged from 0 for lowest degree of activity to 9 for highest degree. After the interviewees had been given the Activities and Attitudes schedule, they were rated by the field workers on the role-instrument. Among other things mutual dependence and independence of old parents and grown children was studied, and roles of grandparents and great-grandparents in regard to responsibility for their grandchildren and great-grandchildren were studied. (20:269-272)

In addition, the Q-sample was studied as to personal adjustment by means of a specially devised Adjustment Scale by Cavan - a 10-point scale in six areas. This was in addition to the Attitudes section of the Schedule "Your Activities and Attitudes."

Health was thoroughly studied by reports given by the subject, by persons responsible for the subject, and observation by the interviewer.

Obviously this is an excellent study, excellently conducted. Much of the detail the writer has had to omit but enough has been given to indicate the scope and excellence of the study.

## APPENDIX IIc

### DESCRIPTION OF THE HOMES USED IN THE INVESTIGATION

#### The Women's Home

The Women's Home **was** located on West Willow Street in a large old white frame house. The house gave an impression of comfort and graciousness. This same impression was also evident as one crossed the verandah with its rocking chairs and colorful flower boxes and entered the door into the attractive hall. From the hall one caught glimpses of a comfortably furnished, home-like living room and a dining room with its tables covered with white table cloths, each table adorned by a vase of flowers.

The Women's Home was established nearly forty years ago by the Ingham County Federation of Women's Clubs to provide a Home for "older women of refinement and of limited means." When it was founded the charge per month for board and room was twenty-five dollars per month - but has been increased to sixty dollars. The Home **was** supervised by a Special Board of Directors - seven of them elected by the seventeen Federated Clubs in Ingham County. The residents must be reasonably well physically and mentally - by this **was** meant they must be ambulatory and be able to take entire care of themselves. The Federated Clubs of Ingham County **made** up the difference between what **was** paid by the residents and the

cost of the maintenance of the Home. Those of the residents who received Old Age Assistance received their checks directly from the State through the Ingham Board of Social Welfare and paid for their board and room themselves, being free to spend the remainder as they saw fit. The Home could accommodate thirty-three residents. Each resident had her own room, and she was allowed to furnish it with her own furniture if she so desired. The room was given a good weekly cleaning by a maid, but in between these the resident cared for her own room and made her bed. In addition, she laundered her small personal things but the Home did the rest for her. The staff needed to run the Home was composed of a Head Matron and an Assistant Matron, two cooks and a helper, two housekeepers - one plus an assistant - a dining room maid, and a maintenance man (as a rule there was a maintenance man and his wife, the latter helping with the cooking and housekeeping.)

A special birthday dinner was given once a month attended by the Board to celebrate the birthdays which any of the residents had had during the month. Various community organizations, such as the Girl Scouts, took a lively interest in the Home and provided special entertainments and outings as well as the member clubs of the Federation. But interests and activities were initiated by the residents as well. Two of the main interests were knitting squares for afghans for hospitalized veterans and for babies of needy

families, and sewing of dressings and making of bandages for cancer victims. Many of the residents were involved in church work and more would have been if transportation were available. The residents were free to come and go at will. The only stipulation was that they tell the Head Matron or her Assistant where they were going and the approximate time of their return. Television and radio were available in the Home, many residents having their own sets as well; and a religious service was held twice a month, the various Lansing area ministers taking turns providing these services.

#### Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center

The Ingham County Hospital and Rehabilitation Center was located just outside of Okemos on Dobie Road. Originally it was a county hospital and home for aged indigents. But about 1950 a change took place. The Ingham County Medical Association became interested in the idea of rehabilitation and they and the Ingham County Board of Social Welfare instituted a pilot study at the county hospital in 1951-1952 to determine the feasibility of establishing a rehabilitation program. As a result an addition was added to the hospital to help house facilities for the program and patients. The first floor was opened in June or July of 1954 and the ground floor in June 1957. About 1954 the Junior League became interested in the problem of the increased number of aged

and included the county hospital in their concern. Not only did they contribute money to the county projects on aging but they gave of their time. For the county hospital they provided a weekly session of handicraft and of service projects for other hospitals, such as bandage rolling. Simple refreshments were usually served. In addition, entertainment was sometimes offered, such as puppet shows put on by the Junior League members themselves. About two years ago an auxiliary was formed and they have been active in helping put on the fall Country Fair on the lawns of the Hospital to earn money, which have been quite successful.

There were a full time Physical Therapist and a full time Diversional Therapist at the Hospital and Center. The capacity of the Hospital was 189 residents, three-fourths of whom received Old Age Assistance. The cost was eight dollars per day for county patients. It was ninety-six dollars per week for private patients, which number anywhere from two to ten. The county patients, other than those receiving O.A.A. could have been on direct relief, or on Aid to Disabled through Social Security, or straight Social Security, or could have had other pension funds. If receiving O.A.A. the check was issued as mentioned above and was brought to the recipient, or his or her guardian, to sign; but the institution took the check, reimbursing the resident with five dollars. Up until very recently the reimbursement was four dollars. In order to be eligible for admittance to the

Hospital and Center, county patients must have been a resident in Ingham County for at least a year, must be referred by a doctor, and must not be psychotic. Private patients were required to have the last two requirements.

Although the Center was primarily a hospital and Rehabilitation Center, a few residents were using it as a Home for the aged. They were those who had resided there since before 1950 or were those who entered from other hospitals or convalescent homes which they could not afford, who needed therapy, and who had stayed on. It was from these that the study group for this research project was obtained.

This Home was institutional in character of course. It was a very cheerful and pleasant place. Residents were encouraged to participate in handicraft, such as weaving, leather craft, painting, crocheting, etc. and their wares were for sale. They were displayed attractively in the entrance hall of the hospital. Residents were also encouraged to do as much as they could for themselves, such as dressing themselves, walking, making their own beds, caring for their own dressers, etc. If the resident was seriously ill or was a private patient, he or she had a room to himself or herself. Otherwise there were anywhere from two to a room up to wards of ten beds. Meals were served on trays to the residents in their rooms with the exception of completely ambulatory men from the wards. They came to the dining room for their meals. Television and radio were available for the use of



the residents. Some of them had their own radios. Lansing area organizations put on special programs out at the Hospital and Center from time to time. Religious services were held about twice a month in the chapel by Lansing area ministers, the Salvation Army, etc. The Catholic priest also came to administer to the residents desiring his services. A few of the more enterprising residents put out a monthly paper called the "Cheeriodical" which gave the news of events in the Hospital and Center, including personal notes of interest of those living there. They composed, edited, and mimeographed the "Cheeriodical" themselves.

The Hospital and the Rehabilitation Center each had its own Board of Directors. That of the Hospital was composed of Lansing business men plus the Director of the Ingham County Board of Social Welfare. That of the Rehabilitation Center was composed of Lansing area physicians and qualified laymen. The Boards were subject to the County Board of Supervisors. The actual running of the institution was under a part-time Medical Director and a full-time Nursing Supervisor who was a registered nurse and who was subject to the Medical Director. The Physical Therapist was subject to the Rehabilitation Center Board and the Diversional Therapist was subject to the Nursing Supervisor. A registered nurse was in charge of each floor and was subject to the Nursing Supervisor. These were assisted by licensed practical nurses, practical nurses, aids, and orderlies. Dietitians

were in charge of the kitchens, and a Matron and a Superintendent of Maintenance, who were subject to the Hospital Board of Directors, were in charge of the housekeeping and maintenance of the institution and its grounds.

### III

#### SAMPLE TABULATION SHEET

A sample of the work sheet used for tabulating data. The information was tabulated under the code number for each case which appeared at the top of the sheet. The capital letters referred to the Home, the numeral to the number of the case, and a and b referred to the parent and to the adult responsible child respectively. The relationship of parent and child was indicated for each case, eg., M-S for Mother-Son, M-D for Mother-Daughter, etc. The mark used for the response of the parent was X and the mark used for the adult responsible child was O.



C. Dis-  
Agree-agree ?

1. I am happy only when I have definite work to do.
2. I can no longer do any kind of useful work.
3. I am satisfied with the work I now do.
4. I have no work to look forward to.
5. I get badly flustered when I have to hurry with my work.
6. I do better work now than ever before.
7. I have more free time than I know how to use.

[illegible]

**D.** Agree Dis-agree ?

1. I am just able to make ends meet.
2. I have enough money to get along.
3. I haven't a cent in the world.
4. All my needs are cared for.
5. I am provided with many home comforts.
6. I have everything that money can buy.
7. I have to watch how I spend every penny.

[illegible]

Agave	Disco	72
X		0
	X	00
	0	0
	X	00
	0	0
X		0
0		0
	X	0
	0	0
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