

Contents

INTRODUCTION

A. Human Connections	xix
B. "Billy"	xxii
C. The Disappearing Grandparent	xxv

1: What Grandparents Mean to Grandchildren

A. The Child as Oracle	1
B. The Method	6
C. Summary of Projected Drawings	8
Group I: Close Contact	10
Group II: Sporadic Contact	23
Group III: No Contact	34
D. Commentary	37
E. The Immortal Grandparent	43
F. The Substitute Grandparent	48

2: What Grandchildren Mean to Grandparents

A. The Method	51
B. The Instinct to Nurture	53
C. Developing Vital Connections	63
D. Disconnected Grandparents	75
E. The "New Social Contract"	89
F. Summary of the Grandparent Study	100

3: Today's Grandparents: An Emotional History	
A. The Method	107
B. "The Way Things Were"	110
C. Places Where Grandparents Used to Be	132
D. Grandparents as Oracles: Emotional Effects of Social Changes	142
E. Making Room for Emotions: The Ethos of Work vs. the Ethos of Being	147
F. Parents: Bearing the Burdens of the New Social Contract	150
4: An Agenda for Grandparents	
A. Grandparents and the Aged	161
B. Roles of Grandparents	167
C. Assessing Yourself	179
D. Grandparents as the Foundation of the Family	187
E. Special Cases: Adopted and Stepchildren	197
F. Reconciliation and Reunion	200
G. Primer for Grandparents	209
5: Postscript: Requiem	217
APPENDIX A: Grandchild Interview Format	223
APPENDIX B: Grandchildren's Response	227
APPENDIX C: The Grandparent Survey	233
NOTES	253
BIBLIOGRAPHY	263
INDEX	267