



Mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law : the effects of proximity on conflict and stress  
by Deane Cowan

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in  
Home Economics  
Montana State University  
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**Abstract:**

This study was part of a Regional Agricultural Experimental Station project involving nine western states. The data reported in this study are a subset of the Montana data. The data focus specifically on mother-in-law and daughter-in-law relationships within two-generation farm or ranch families. Sources of conflict and strategies the two generations of women use to cope with this conflict were identified. The study also explored whether living and working in close proximity increased stress of and between these two women. Data were collected from 44 mothers-in-law, and 55 daughters-in-law from two-generation farm or ranch families. The study revealed that for most mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law their relationships did not constitute a problem. However, about 40% of the daughters-in-law were having some problems. The study also revealed that proximity in living and working arrangements actually appears to have little effect on the stress levels of the two generations of women. Even though the majority of women reported that their relationships were not problematic, it is important for professionals to be aware that some families are having difficulties. Knowledge about sources of conflict and successful conflict resolution strategies should be helpful to counselors, the clergy, physicians, mental health personnel, and extension agents as they prescribe treatment and plan programs to alleviate stress in rural families.

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MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
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Deane Cowan

This thesis has been read by each member of the thesis committee and has been found to be satisfactory regarding content, English usage, format, citations, bibliographic style, and consistency, and is ready for submission to the College of Graduate Studies.

April 30, 1987  
Date

Ramona Maotz-Baden  
Chairperson, Graduate Committee

Approved for the Major Department

May 11, 1987  
Date

Margaret Biggs  
Head, Major Department

Approved for the College of Graduate Studies

May 15, 1987  
Date

Henry L. Parsons  
Graduate Dean

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Date

May 11, 1987

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## ABSTRACT

This study was part of a Regional Agricultural Experimental Station project involving nine western states. The data reported in this study are a subset of the Montana data. The data focus specifically on mother-in-law and daughter-in-law relationships within two-generation farm or ranch families. Sources of conflict and strategies the two generations of women use to cope with this conflict were identified. The study also explored whether living and working in close proximity increased stress of and between these two women. Data were collected from 44 mothers-in-law, and 55 daughters-in-law from two-generation farm or ranch families. The study revealed that for most mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law their relationships did not constitute a problem. However, about 40% of the daughters-in-law were having some problems. The study also revealed that proximity in living and working arrangements actually appears to have little effect on the stress levels of the two generations of women. Even though the majority of women reported that their relationships were not problematic, it is important for professionals to be aware that some families are having difficulties. Knowledge about sources of conflict and successful conflict resolution strategies should be helpful to counselors, the clergy, physicians, mental health personnel, and extension agents as they prescribe treatment and plan programs to alleviate stress in rural families.



## INTRODUCTION

Over 90% of American businesses are family owned (Rosenblatt, 1985) and most parents want to pass them on to their children (Bratton and Berkowitz, 1976; Hedlund and Berkowitz, 1979). Farm and ranch parents are no exception. The actual number of Montana farm/ranch operations that have been passed from generation to generation is not known, but many parents probably pass land, buildings, and machinery on in some fashion---as gifts, arranging purchases with low interest and/or lenient terms, etc. Reasons for such parental arrangements include keeping the farm in the family, keeping their adult children near them, and helping the adult children enter farming since the high entry cost makes it difficult for most young adult farm/ranch children to purchase their own operation.

Little is known about multi-generational farm/ranch operations, but there is a high probability that these families have close kinship networks. It is likely that in a typical two-generation farm family the father and son work together in some capacity, and the two families live in close proximity. This physical proximity, while contributing to the efficiency of the farm/ranch operation, may result in conflict and/or stress between father and son

and between mother and daughter-in-law. The success of today's multi-generation farm/ranch operation depends upon more than the weather, commodity prices, and its debt/asset ratio. It also depends upon good management practices (Marten, 1985). How well the father and son work together affects their management.

The relationship between the mother-in-law and her daughter-in-law probably also influences the operation of the unit. The daughter-in-law's feelings of acceptance; her perception of how well she, her husband and her children are treated; and her enjoyment of farm/ranch life may contribute not only to the smooth running of the operation, but also to the eventual success of an intergenerational transfer of the operation. In contrast, her unhappiness may cause her husband to move off the farm.

Although very little is known about conflict between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law, it is probable that a number of factors have potential for producing conflict between them. For example, based on a review of the literature, Trachta, Weigel, and Abbott (1984) hypothesize that a major source of conflict arises out of the matter of "who owns what". The what used here refers to possessions, territory, time and children. Possessions are the material objects around the home and farm such as the home itself, machinery, etc. Territory is space and goes beyond the strictly material aspect of possessions. Territory may

include land owned individually by father or son, the land where the separate family homes are located, or the space each family considers necessary for its own well-being. Time is a resource that can be apportioned among work, leisure, and other pursuits (Trachta et al., 1984).

There are three ways these resources can be owned: yours (unavailable to me); mine (exclusively); and ours (shared). Unless families involved in a farm/ranch operation establish rules for who owns what, what can be borrowed, and what people would rather not share, major conflicts may arise (Trachta et al., 1984). In addition, if the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law have different philosophies of child-rearing, serious conflict may result if the mother-in-law forces her ideas upon her daughter-in-law (Fischer, 1983).

#### Purpose of the Study

There has been little research on conflict between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law in general and the stress such conflict may produce. There is virtually no such research on farm/ranch families. This research will study the relationship between the mother-in-law and her daughter(s)-in-law, identifying sources of conflict between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law and strategies used to cope with this conflict. In addition, the paper will explore whether or not living in close proximity increases conflict

and stress between these two individuals and the two generations in general.

#### Definition of Terms

The following is a definition of the terms that are used specifically in this paper.

- 1) Interference--the act of interposing in a way that hinders or impedes (Websters Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, 1983). In this study, interference will be used to describe how mothers-in-law may hinder or impede the lives of their daughters-in-law.
- 2) Operations--performance of a practical work or of something involving the practical application of principles or processes (Websters Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, 1983). In this research, operations means the collective activities of farm/ranch families in the production of agricultural products.
- 3) Perceived stress--the degree to which situations in one's life are appraised as stressful (Cohen, Kamarck, and Mermelstein, 1983).
- 4) Proximity--refers to how close the two families live to each other.
- 5) Stress--tension resulting from the behavioral and/or cognitive change required to adapt to stressors, ie. events.

- 6) Two generation stress--stress between two-generation farm/ranch families (mother and father and son and daughter-in-law).

#### Assumptions

Based on Duvall's (1954) model, it can be assumed that the daughter-in-law is a newcomer into an already intact farm/ranch operation. It is she who will make adjustments in order to get along within the already established family system.

#### Limitations

- 1) In this study only intact two generation farm/ranch families will be included. Daughters-in-law and mothers-in-law in families where the father was deceased or for some reason no longer living with the family will not be considered. This limits the generalizability of the data.
- 2) The proximity measure has unequal intervals which limits the kinds of statistical analysis one can use. The data are nominal and thus only non-parametric statistics can be used, eliminating the more powerful parametric statistics.

#### Need for the Study

Although in-law relationship problems are as old as human kind, there are very few empirical studies of these relationships. Studies that involve mother-in-law and daughter-in-law conflicts are especially rare, and studies

of mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law within an intergenerational farm family are not found in the research literature.

Problems which are specific to two generation farm/ranch families that reside and work in close proximity are likely to be exacerbated in families in which the son's role within the operation is not clearly defined and where the mother-in-law interferes. These factors may affect marital satisfaction of the son and daughter-in-law, stress levels between mother-in-law and daughter-in-law, and conflict between the generations. These problems may also affect marital satisfaction of the son and daughter-in-law, stress levels between mother and daughter-in-law and conflict between the generations. Such stress is likely to interfere with good ranch management which in turn affects farm/ranch income.

The findings will enable farm/ranch families to learn more about themselves and the inherent problems of intergenerational farm/ranch operations. The research may also aid family life educators and therapists to better understand the interactions between farm/ranch mothers and daughters-in-law. Such information may be useful as they plan appropriate educational programs and treatment for farm/ranch families.

## REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Mother-in-law/daughter-in-law conflict is discussed in the popular literature, but very few empirical studies have appeared in research journals. No studies of intergenerational farm families focusing on the problems arising from close living, shared labor, and constant interaction between families were located. Only a few in-law studies were identified. Thus, the following review draws heavily upon these few research articles and one extension publication.

Several topic areas within the literature are relevant to this study. These are in-law relationships in general, mother-in-law/daughter-in-law relationships specifically, and conflicts that may arise within the in-law family structure.

### In-Law Relationships

In-law problems include not only problems the couple has with their in-laws, but also the couple's conflicts between themselves over in-laws. According to Kieren, Henton, and Marotz's (1975) review of the literature, in most cases of marital conflict both husbands and wives believe that the husband's kin are more frequently involved in the conflict than are the wife's kin. This is probably even more likely in father/son farm operations where

paternal family members interact with each other on a daily basis.

In North America women seem to feel stronger emotional bonds with kin than men, and thus are usually the ones who assume responsibility for keeping in touch with relatives. Komarovsky (1964) describes women as kinkeepers in charge of keeping and maintaining ties with the relations on both sides. Thus, daughters-in-law probably play a key role in weaving the social network fabric of farm communities since it appears that more sons than daughters are farming with their parents. The daughter-in-law may extend her husband's social support network by incorporating her own, especially if her family lives in the same community. If she is not from a farming background and does not like farm/ranch life, or her relatives live in distant places, or if she is unhappy with her in-law relationships, she may urge her husband to find other employment.

Duvall's (1954) research indicates that every married couple belongs to three different families. The first affiliation is with the new family that the couple begins together, the family of procreation. At the same time, the couple also belongs to both his family of origin and to hers. Duvall suggests that any married couple bases its living arrangements on an elemental triangle and unless a beginning family can form a cohesive family unit that is stronger than the one which ties either of the couple to



their parental family, the new family will feel threatened. In order to establish a strong family unit, a newly married couple must realign their loyalties such that our family comes before either yours or mine. The figures on the following page illustrate Duvall's elemental triangle graphically. (See Figure 1, 2, and 3 taken from Duvall, 1954, p. 279).

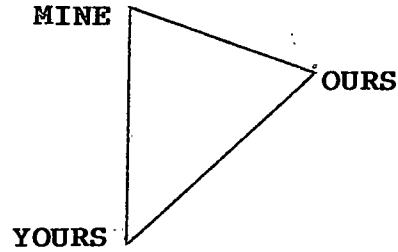
In Figure 1, "YOU" have in-law trouble because "MY" family is too close. Whatever the reasons may be, the forces pulling me toward loyalty to "MY" home are too strong, and the development of "OUR" common sense of identity is delayed or weakened.

In Figure 2, "YOUR" family is too close, and so "I" have in-law trouble. Because "YOU" are bound so tightly to "YOUR" family, I am pulled away from mine and ours, and we make little progress in establishing "OURS".

In Figure 3 we are most loyal to "OUR" family because we are not threatened by the ties that bind us to "YOUR" family nor by the bonds uniting us to "MY" family. The new couple is able to build a common identification that pulls them away together into a unit of their own. When this type of autonomy is established, a married couple can become a member of both the husband's and the wife's family without the stress of in-law problems (Duvall, 1954).

Figure 1. Family Closeness: my family too close.

"MY" family too close

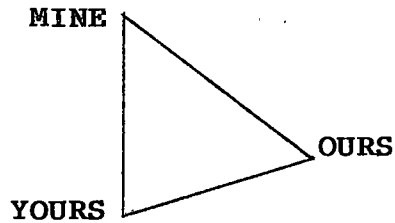


"YOU" have in-law trouble

---

Figure 2. Family Closeness: your family too close.

"YOUR" family too close

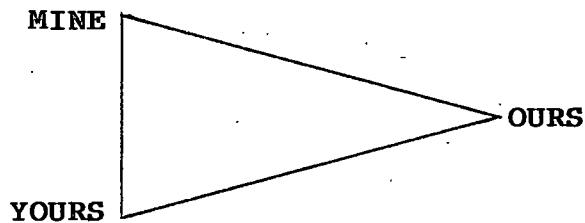


"I" have in-law trouble

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Figure 3. Family Closeness: our family comes first.

"OUR" family comes first



No in-law trouble

Any intrusion or threat from either family may be considered an in-law problem. The autonomy of the married pair is imperative for cohesion to develop and any conflicting force emanating from either parental home that imperils the independence of the new pair may be construed as in-law difficulty. Duvall's model suggests that the greater the autonomy of the married adult children and the fewer the conflicts between the parents and the adult children, the more cohesive the marriage of the adult children.

The establishment of autonomy by a young couple may be threatened if any relative by marriage or by blood interferes (Duvall, 1954). According to Duvall's research only a few men report in-law difficulty. In general, more women than men report difficulty with in-laws and more female than male in-laws are found troublesome both among distant and close relatives (Duvall, 1954; Kirkpatrick, 1963; Komarovsky, 1964; Leslie, 1976).

Adult children criticize member's of the parent's generation more often than the young people are criticized by the older generation (Duvall, 1954). Perhaps this is due to the urgency of the establishment of autonomy among young adults (Duvall, 1954). Establishing autonomy may be especially hard for young adults who live and work near the older generation as is often the case for children of farmers/ranchers.

In Duvall's (1954) study the major criticisms of in-laws were meddlesomeness, interference and domination. Twenty percent of all complaints were of these types. Mother-in-law and sister-in-law were mentioned most often as being the most difficult relative.

Adult children also indicated that becoming accepted as a member of the spouse's family is sometimes a problem (Duvall, 1954). This data may be of importance for farm/ranch families. If families are to live and work in close proximity, they also interact closely. With this kind of closeness, parental acceptance of a son's wife would seem to be a necessity if the family is to get along together.

Children-in-law often criticize their parent's-in-law as being old-fashioned, disagreeing on traditions, resisting change, and being uncongenial (Duvall, 1954). This may be due in part to the struggle for autonomy by the young adults. They are struggling to establish their own way of life and may feel the only way to accomplish this is to repudiate the old ways to which their parents and parents-in-law cling (Duvall, 1954). Parents, on the other hand, do not seem to complain that their children are too modern, but seem to wish their adult children would accept them as they are without negatively labeling them (Duvall, 1954).

In summary, in-law relationships seem to be problematic and a young couple just entering the marital

relationship may have its new relationship threatened if the couple lives near their in-laws. According to Duvall, the establishment of autonomy is essential if the new couple is to build a stable family relationship of its own. Interference from any relative may threaten this autonomy. It is probable that any young couple living and working in close proximity to in-laws, as is often the case in two generation farm/ranch families, will experience some in-law interference which may cause conflict between the generations. If this conflict is not resolved, stress will result.

#### Mother-in-law/Daughter-in-law Relationships

Duvall (1954) found that mothers-in-law were the most difficult in-law by a wide margin. Forty nine and a half percent of the respondents in Duvall's study mentioned mother-in-law as the most difficult relative. Twenty eight per cent specifically complained of meddlesomeness. Duvall says, "It is quite possible that, given an opportunity to react negatively to their relatives by marriage as the people in this phase of the study were-- most persons will name the mother-in-law as most difficult because it is she in our society who may be criticized without censure, in fact even with a certain expectation" (Duvall, 1954, p. 190).

The intimate bond that mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law share with the son/husband is often the only tie

between them. Fischer's (1983) research indicates that when a child is born to the daughter-in-law the relationship strain between mother and daughter-in-law increases. The daughter-in-law tends to turn towards her own mother for help after the birth of a child rather than toward her mother-in-law who may see herself as the maternal figure in her daughter-in-law's life. Because the daughter differentiates between her own mother and her mother-in-law, greater ambiguity in the interpersonal boundaries of mother-in-law and daughter-in-law may result (Fischer, 1983).

Fischer's research examines how three dimensions of role relationships (relational strain, interpersonal boundaries, and interactive involvement) are affected at the birth of a child to the son and daughter-in-law. Fischer refers to relational strain as the extent to which two people in a relationship do not relate smoothly to one another. Interpersonal boundaries describe the intimacy/formality dimension of a relationship. Interactive involvement describes what individuals may do with and for each other.

Fischer concluded from her study that the birth of a child and the orientation of both generations around that child brings more strain to the relationship of the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law, causes interpersonal boundaries between the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law to

become more ambiguous, and makes the in-law relationship more problematic as the daughter's interactive involvement with her mother-in-law increases.

Fischer found that daughters-in-law are irritated more often at the behavior of their mothers-in-law than are mothers-in-law with the behavior of their daughters-in-law. The greatest source of irritation with mothers-in-law is a result of friction over issues involving children. If a mother-in-law complains about the manner in which her daughter-in-law is raising her child (too much spanking, and too much time spent away from children is a common complaint of mothers-in-law about daughters-in-law) the mother-in-law may be seen as interfering with the daughter-in-law's right to manage her own child. These complaints may be seen by the daughters-in-law as attempts to subvert child management practices (Fischer, 1983).

In summary, the literature review supports the conclusion that mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law have conflicts and that conflicts may escalate when a child is born to the daughter-in-law. The mother-in-law's interference in her daughter-in-law's life at this time may result in a strain in the relationship between the two. It seems likely that mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law who live and work in close proximity will experience more conflict than those who live apart and the conflict will increase as children are born to the younger generation.

Family Conflict

Webster's 9th New Collegiate Dictionary (1983) first definition of conflict is as a competitive or opposing action of incompatibles: antagonistic state or action (as of divergent ideas, interests, or persons). The second definition is "mental" struggle resulting from incompatible or opposing needs, drives, wishes or external or internal demands. Trachta, Weigel, and Abbott (1984) define conflict in a two generational farm family as a struggle over values and claims to scarce status, power or resources. When two people have different values or needs, and it appears that satisfying one person's needs will interfere with the needs of the other, conflict may arise (Trachta et al., 1984).

Beavers (1977) argues that different values or needs of family members are inevitable sources of conflict. Beavers argues that all living systems occupy geographical space, and there are conflicting demands within the system for such space. This is an indicator that intergenerational farm/ranch families who are living near each other may experience more conflict than those who live some distance apart.

Power or control issues may cause conflicts in two generation farm families (Trachta et al., 1984). According to Trachta et al., (1984), the older generation may retain authority or refuse to relinquish authority to the son.



The son may then find himself in a situation of being a hired hand instead of a trusted partner. Based on her review of the literature, Marotz-Baden (1985) suggests that if the son is young, the father may fear that he is too inexperienced to make important decisions alone. A son under such rigid control may decide to leave the farm/ranch operation.

Trachta et al., (1984) suggest that decision making is the major component of power or control. Who makes the decision regarding financial investments and the selling of crops and livestock can create conflict because one generation may be more conservative than the other generation. Marotz-Baden (1985) suggests that another example of control occurs when the person who has the needed information to make decisions doesn't have the power to make the decisions, but is subsequently blamed if the decisions someone else has made turn out to be wrong.

Another source of conflict may be the transfer of property. The understanding each family member has of the transfer arrangements and of the fairness of the transaction may contribute to conflict or feelings of hostility (Marotz-Baden, 1985). The division of farm/ranch income is a primary transfer issue. Unless this issue is resolved so that each family member feels that he/she is getting a fair share, conflict will probably result (Marotz-Baden, 1985).

Conflicts are not always negative. They may have a positive effect on the family. Conflicts may increase motivation to do well; they may lead to positive changes; and disagreement may cause a decision to be thought through more carefully (Trachta et al., 1984). An important thing to remember about conflict is that it can provide new directions and opportunities (Trachta et al., 1984).

It is probable that each person in a family will behave differently when dealing with conflict and may even behave differently with each person with whom they are in conflict (Trachta et al., 1984). Problem solving is an effective way of solving conflict in two generation farm/ranch families (Marotz-Baden, 1985). Using this method, parties in the conflict collaborate in solving conflict (Trachta et al., 1984). Collaboration or working jointly with others helps promote an understanding of everyone's perspective, enhances communication, cooperation, and interdependence, and instills a feeling of integrity, trust, and mutual support (Trachta et al., 1984). In order to become proficient at collaborating, a family needs practice. An underlying feeling of respect, caring, forgiveness, and goodwill is necessary (Trachta et al., 1984).

Thus many factors contribute to conflict experienced by the older and younger generations in intergenerational farm/ranch families. Among these conflicts are different

values and needs, power or control issues, decision making, and transfer of property. These conflicts can have positive or negative effects on family members and a person may behave differently with each person with whom s/he is in conflict. The most effective ways of solving conflict seems to be the use of problem solving and collaboration (Trachta et al., 1984)

### Summary and Hypotheses

Today's economy forces farmers/ranchers and their adult children to become educated managers in order to survive on the land (Palmer, ed., 1984). Since intergenerational farm/ranch families often live and work in close proximity, cooperation and sharing are key components of good management.

Mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law are integral parts of multi-generational farm/ranch families. Based on Duvall's (1954) findings it can be argued that the stability of their relationship with each other affects the farm/ranch operation. If the daughter-in-law's perception of the relationship with her mother-in-law is positive, she will probably encourage her husband to stay on the land. If the relationship is negative, she may encourage her husband to find employment away from the farm/ranch.

This study will provide descriptive and correlational data regarding the sources of conflict and stress between

mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law in two generational farm/ranch families and will attempt to identify the strategies they use to resolve conflict and reduce stress. The descriptive portion of this research is important because there has been so little research on multi-generation farm/ranch families.

Duvall's (1954) research suggests that interference by the mother-in-law will negatively affect the marital relations of the daughter-in-law and her husband. It also seems plausible that certain kinds of interference would affect the daughter-in-law's perception of conflict between the two generations and her own stress level. The following hypotheses were formulated to test these assumptions:

1. The closer together the two families live, the greater the stress between the younger and the older generations of women.
2. The closer together the two families live, the higher the mothers-in-law and the daughters-in-law perceived stress levels.
3. The more disturbing the differences in child rearing practices between the two generations are to the daughter-in-law, the greater the daughter-in-law's stress level.
4. The less the daughter-in-law's perception of interference from the mother-in-law in her and

her husband's life, the greater the daughter-in-law's marital satisfaction.

5. The less the daughter-in-law's perception of interference from the mother-in-law in her and her husband's lives, the less her perception of stress between the older and younger generations.

## METHOD

Sample Selection

This study is part of a Regional Agriculture Experimental Station project involving nine western states (California, Arizona, Utah, Montana, Colorado, Wyoming, Oregon, Nevada, Washington). The Montana project is investigating how rural kinship systems are mitigating the effect of economic stressors on farm/ranch families specifically as these families transfer assets across generations; the stressors inherent in intergenerational transfer of farm land; and the strategies Montana farmers and ranchers are utilizing to combat these stressors (Marotz-Baden, 1983). The data reported in this study are a subset of the Montana data. They focus specifically on mother-in-law and daughter-in-law interaction in two generation farm/ranch families.

The Montana Agriculture Soil and Conservation Service provided a 10% random sample of Montana farm and ranch operations that their records showed as being multi-family operations that farmed/ranched more than 200 acres. These 400 operations were sent letters in December of 1984 explaining the study and requesting the names and addresses of the mother and father and at least one married son and his wife. After a January 1985 follow-up letter, a total

of 253 families had responded. Of these 253 families, only 2.8% were unwilling to participate. However, 175 of the families (70.8%) were not eligible because they did not meet the criterion of having an intact older generation and an intact younger generation with sons rather than daughters who were involved in the farm/ranch operation. A total of 68 two-generation families remained in the study. Individual questionnaires were sent separately to each adult member of these 68 families. One hundred and seventy five people responded (64.3%) after two follow-up letters. Of the 175 people responding 44 were mothers-in-law and 55 were daughters-in-law.

#### Instrument

Questionnaires for the Montana project were developed for each member of the family; father, mother, son, daughter-in-law. Some of the measures were selected by the Regional W-167 planning committee for the regional project. Others were selected or designed specifically to measure the independent and dependent variables that were peculiar to the Montana project. The measures for the independent and dependent variables of each of the hypotheses of this thesis will be discussed in detail below.

Ten two-generation farm/ranch families from a neighboring county pretested the questionnaire. After a revision, the questionnaires were retested again with members of another two-generation farm family and were then

slightly revised. Questionnaires designed for mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law were used in this research.

#### Independent Variables

The independent variables in the study were physical proximity of intergenerational farm/ranch families, differences in child rearing practices between the generations and the daughter-in-law's perceptions of her mother-in-law's interference with her, her husband's, and her family's lives.

Proximity. This variable was measured in terms of miles or fractions of miles between the dwellings of the two families and was determined by the following forced choice question with forced choice answers:

How close do you live to the nearest son and daughter-in-law with whom you farm/ranch (See Appendix B page 7, question 27 of the mother-in-law's questionnaire; page four, question 10 of the daughter-in-law's questionnaire).

Differences in Child Rearing Practices. Differences in child rearing practices between the generations was measured by a question about the occurrence of differences in the last two years and how disturbing it was.

Interference. Mother-in-law's interference in the lives of her adult children was measured by nine questions with forced choice answers. Whether or not there were serious arguments, jealousy, resentment, bossiness, husband's/son's loyalty to his mother rather than to his



wife, whether or not the mother-in-law tried to run her daughter-in-law's life, if she respected the daughter-in-law's privacy, and if the mother-in-law often saw things differently than the daughter-in-law were the questions asked. The forced choice answers included never, sometimes, often, all the time (See Appendix B).

#### Dependent Variables

The dependent variables were two-generation stress, perceived stress and marital satisfaction.

Two Generation Stress. The measure for two-generation stress, Farm Family Stress, (Weigel, Blumdell & Weigel, 1984) is based on objective events emanating from situations specifically arising from several families farming together. The measure was incorporated in each individual questionnaire and asks how often each of 22 situations may have occurred in the last two years and how disturbing this situation is. It has a reliability of 92.7. Validity has not been established.

Because a variety of stressors appeared to be represented by the 22 items, a factor analysis was done using all 175 respondents (father, mother, son, and daughter-in-law for the entire Montana farm/ranch data set) to better understand to what degree underlying dimensions were represented. See Marotz-Baden (1986) for an explanation of this procedure and greater detail regarding these factors for the entire data set.

Five factors with eigen values greater than one emerged. The first factor accounted for 34.1% of the total variance among variables and is labeled Lack of Equal Status. It reflects a lack of equality between the two generations and among family members generally. The second factor is Family versus Farm explaining 9.3% of the variance. It reflects the demands of the farm that are in conflict with the time demands of the family. Money worries are reflected in the third factor labeled Financial Concerns (8.0% of the variance). The fourth factor, Independence - Dependence, (6.6% of the variance) taps desire for more independence. The final factor, Extended Family Conflict, explaining 4.9% of the variance, reflects concern over time spent together and the concerns the families may have over differing child rearing practices.

Perceived Stress. The Perceived Stress Scale devised by Cohen, Kamarck, and Mermelstein (1983) was also a part of each individual questionnaire and measures the degree to which situations in one's life are appraised as stressful. This scale is a more general measure than the Farm Family Scale and measures experienced level of stress as a function of objective stressful events, coping processes, personality factors, etc. (Cohen et al., 1983, p. 386). Cohen et al. (1983) correlated this 14-item scale with several self-report and behavioral criteria. In three samples of college students coefficient alpha reliability

for the Perceived Stress Scale were .84, .85, and .86 but sharply decline after 4 to 6 weeks suggesting that stress levels may vary as significant events and coping mechanisms change. Thus, the authors suggest that the Perceived Stress Scale is a reliable measure of current stress level.

Marital Satisfaction. The Locke-Wallace Short Marital-Adjustment and Prediction Test (1959) was included in each individual questionnaire and measures marital adjustment (accommodation of a husband and wife to each other at a given time) and marital prediction (forecasting the likelihood of marital adjustment at a future time). In a sample of 236 subjects 48 were known to be maladjusted in marriage and another 48 were exceptionally well-adjusted. In the testing 135.9 was the mean score for the well-adjusted group. The mean score of the maladjusted group was only 71.7. The difference was a very significant one--in that the critical ratio was 17.5. Of the maladjusted group only 17% achieved adjusted scores of one hundred or higher. Of the well-adjusted group 96% achieved scores of one hundred or more.

Thus the short marital-adjustment measure clearly differentiates between persons who are well-adjusted and those who are maladjusted in marriage. It is evident, therefore, that the test has validity since it seems to measure what it purports to measure--specifically marital adjustment (Locke-Wallace, 1959, p. 255).

The split-half technique corrected by the Spearman-Brown formula was used by Locke-Wallace (1959) to compute the reliability coefficient of the adjustment test and was found to be .90. Thus it would seem that the short adjustment test has high reliability. The reliability coefficient for the marital prediction portion of the test as computed by the split-half technique and corrected by the Spearman-Brown formula is .84.

#### Description of the Sample

The mother-in-law's mean age was 60.1 year and the daughter-in-law's mean age was 31.6. The mothers-in-law had been married for an average of 35.8 years and had an average of 4.1 children. The daughter's-in-law had been married an average of 10.5 years and had an average of 2.5 children. (See Table 1).

Fifty nine percent of the mothers-in-law had a high school education or less compared with 34% of the daughters-in-law. While approximately the same proportions (29%) had some college, more daughters-in-law had a college degree (20.8% vs. 2.6%).

An average of 97.5% of mothers-in-law owned their own homes in comparison to 81.5% of daughters-in-law. Before tax incomes in 1984 for both mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law ranged from below \$5,000 to over \$80,000. The mean income for mothers-in-law was \$30,000-\$39,000. For daughters-in-law the average income was \$20,000-29,000.

Table 1. Description of the Sample

Demographic variables	Mothers- in-law (n=44)	Daughters- in-law (n=55)
Mean age	60.13	31.63
Mean years married	35.80	10.48
Mean number of children	4.15	2.49
Education		
High school or less	59.0%	34.0%
Trade school	5.1%	9.5%
Some college	28.2%	30.2%
College degree	2.6%	20.8%
Graduate work	5.2%	5.7%
Income		
Under \$5,000 - 9,999	18.8%	14.6%
\$10,000 - \$19,999	28.2%	27.1%
\$20,000 - \$29,999	12.5%	33.4%
\$30,000 - \$39,999	6.3%	8.3%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	0	2.1%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	12.5%	0
\$60,000 - \$69,999	0	0
\$70,000 - \$79,999	4.9%	2.1%
\$80,000 or more	12.2%	12.2%
Mean income	\$30,000 - \$39,999	\$20,000 - \$29,999

### ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

The data describing the kinds of problems and strategies for dealing with them are presented followed by a discussion of the tests of the hypotheses.

#### Conflict and Conflict Resolution Strategies

Because there has been no research on conflict between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law in two generation farm/ranch families, mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law were asked about sources of conflict, the strategies they used to cope with this conflict and their sources of advice and support. These questions were open-ended and the number of responses varied with each respondent.

#### Conflict

The largest source of problems for both mothers-in-law (18%) and daughters-in-law (42%) was differences in values and opinions as shown in Table 2. Mothers-in-law (18%) also complained about lack of communication, the daughter-in-law's neglect of the farm (11%), and outside stressors (8%) causing problems. The second most frequently mentioned source of conflict for daughters-in-law was lack of family time (8%). Mother-in-law's critical remarks (7%) and outside stressors (7%) were tied for the third source of conflict. Lack of communication with mother-in-law, mother-in-law's tiredness, impatience,

Table 2. Problems in Getting Along Together for Mothers-In-Law and Daughters-In-Law.\*

Types of problems	Mothers-in-law perception (n=44)	Daughters-in-law perception (n=55)
	percentage	percentage
Perceived no problems	34.2	16.7
Lack of communication	18.5	5.0
Differences in values, etc.	18.5	41.7
Neglects farm, etc.	10.5	1.7
Outside stressors	7.9	6.7
Tired and impatient	2.6	5.0
No family time	2.6	8.3
Age difference	2.6	0
Power struggles	2.6	3.3
Religion	0	1.7
Critical remarks	0	6.7
In-laws	0	1.7
Adapting to change	0	1.7

\* Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding error.

and lack of time to spend with the family were also sources of conflict for daughters-in-law (5% each).

Of note is the high proportion of daughters-in-law and especially mothers-in-law who said they had no problems. Almost twice as many mothers-in-law (34%) as daughters-in-law (17%) responded that there were no problems between the two generations of women. The lack of complaints by mothers-in-law is consistent with Fisher's (1983) findings. The sources of conflict, however, are somewhat different (see Review of the Literature page 15-16 of this text for more details).

Table 3. Behavioral Strategies Utilized by Mothers-In-Law and Daughters-In-Law to Get Along.\*

Strategies to get along	For mothers- in-law (n=44)	For daughters- in-law (n=55)
	percentage	percentage
Communication	30.0	16.4
Perceive no problem	26.7	13.1
Ignore the problem	13.3	29.5
Stand my ground	10.0	0
Time out	10.0	23.0
Compromise	6.7	1.6
Agree with her	3.3	6.6
Be patient	0	4.9
Keep a work log	0	1.6
Don't exaggerate	0	3.3

\* Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding error.

### Strategies

Both mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law were asked what strategies they used in getting along with each other (See Table 3). The strategy most frequently used by mothers-in-law (30%) was communication compared with 16% of the daughters-in-law who used this strategy. Ignoring the problem was the most commonly used strategy of daughters-in-law (30%). This was the second most frequently used strategy of mothers-in-law (13%). The second most frequently mentioned strategy by daughter's-in-law (23%) was time out. Only ten percent of the mothers-in-law stated that they used this strategy for conflict reduction.



Table 4. Reasons Mothers-In-Law and Daughters-In-Law Get Along Well Together.\*

Reasons for getting along well	Mothers-in-law perception (n=44)	Daughters-in-law perception (n=55)
	percentage	percentage
Treat each other with respect	23.3	26.5
Same values and goals	14.0	17.6
Perceive no problem	14.0	14.7
Work/live apart	14.0	7.3
Noninterference	11.6	10.3
Good communication	4.7	7.4
Same religion	4.7	4.4
Work well together	4.7	4.4
Outside support	4.7	0
Agree on childrearing	2.3	2.9
Task takes priority over relationship	2.3	0
I do as she wants	0	2.9
Rested/relaxed	0	1.5

\* Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding error.

There were a number of mothers-in-law (27%) and daughters-in-law (13%) who didn't list any strategies because they said they had no problems.

#### Getting Along Together

"Respect" and "be fair" were given most frequently by both mothers-in-law (23% and daughters-in-law (26%) when stating the reasons for getting along well together. (See Table 4). The second most frequent reason for both mothers-in-law (14%) and daughters-in-law (18%) was having the same values and goals. Fourteen percent of the mothers-in-law noted that working and living apart contributed to

Table 5. Source of Advice for Mothers-In-Law and Daughters-In-Law.\*

Source of advice	For mothers- in-law (n=44)	For daughters- in-law (n=55)
	percentage	percentage
No one	25.0	8.8
Husband	25.0	33.8
No answer	15.6	10.0
Daughter	9.4	0
God	9.4	2.5
Daughter-in-law	6.3	0
Son	3.1	0
Friends	3.1	13.8
Sister	3.1	5.0
Aunt	0	1.3
Neighbors	0	2.5
In-laws	0	3.8
Father	0	2.5
Mother	0	15.0
Brother	0	1.3

\* Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding error.

their getting along together. Only seven percent of the daughters-in-law mentioned this strategy. Non-interference was the fourth most frequently stated reason with 12% of mothers-in-law and 10% of daughters-in-law stating this response.

Again, a number of these women (15% of the daughters-in-law and 14% of the mothers-in-law) stated they had no problems.

#### Advice

In answer to the question, "To whom do you turn for advice when you have problems getting along with your

Table 6. Sources of support for Mothers-In-Law and Daughters-In-Law.\*

Sources of support	For mothers-in-law (n=44)	For daughters-in-law (n=55)
	percentages	percentages
Husband	31.3	39.5
No answer	21.9	6.6
Perceive no problems	18.8	10.5
Daughter-in-law	9.4	1.3
Son	3.1	1.3
Self	3.1	0
Friends	3.1	10.5
Other family members	3.1	0
Neighbor	3.1	4.0
Brother	3.1	4.0
Mother	0	13.2
Sister-in-law	0	4.0
Father	0	1.3
Sister	0	2.6
Aunt-in-law	0	1.3

\* Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding error.

mother-in-law/daughter-in-law?" husbands were the most frequently listed person by daughters-in-law (34%) and mothers-in-law (25%). Another 25% of mothers, however, said they had no one to whom they turned compared with only 9% of the daughters-in-law. The second most frequently listed person daughters-in-law turned to was their own mothers (15%) with friends a close third (14%).

(See Table 5).

Sixteen percent of the mothers-in-law and ten percent of the daughters-in-law did not answer the question.

### Support

About one third of the daughters-in-law (39%) and one third of the mothers-in-law (31%) stated they turned to their husbands for support. Friends were the second most frequent source of support for daughters-in-law (11%). For mothers it was daughters-in-law (9%), perhaps one with whom they were not in conflict.

Interestingly, almost one quarter (22%) of the mothers-in-law compared to seven percent of the daughters-in-law said they did not seek support from anyone. These data and the high percentage (25%) of mothers-in-law who said they had no one to turn to for advice may mean that mothers-in-law are less willing to talk about such conflict and/or their social network is smaller than that of their daughters-in-law (See Table 5).

Nineteen percent of mothers-in-law stated that they had no problems with daughters-in-law. Only 11% of daughters-in-law, however, said they had no problems with their mothers-in-law.

### Hypotheses Testing the Effects of Proximity

Research by Duvall (1954) suggests that interference of the mother-in-law will affect the marital satisfaction of the daughter-in-law and her husband negatively. She further states that it is probable that certain kinds of interference will affect the daughters-in-law's perception of conflict between the two generations and her own stress

level. A newly married couple, according to Duvall, must realign its loyalties so that its new family comes before either his family of origin or hers. Thus it appears that any married couple bases its living arrangements on an elemental triangle (ours, yours, mine). A beginning family needs to form a cohesive family unit of its own that is stronger than the ties to the individual's family of origin or the new family will feel threatened.

Two hypotheses were developed to test the effects of proximity on the stress between the two generations of females and on the perceived stress of mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law. Hypothesis one states that the closer the two families live, the greater the stress between the younger and the older generations of women. Hypothesis two states that the closer together the two families live, the higher the mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law perceived stress level.

As can be seen in Table 7, 26% of both mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law lived in separate dwellings within one eighth mile of each other. Fourteen percent of mothers-in-law and 11% of daughters-in-law lived in separate dwellings one fourth to one mile away. Fourteen percent of mothers-in-law and 17% of daughters-in-law lived in separate dwellings between one and five miles away. Nineteen percent of mothers-in-law and 15% of daughters-in-law lived in separate dwellings from five to ten miles

Table 7. Proximity of Two Generation Households.\*

Distance between households	Mothers-in-law report (n=44)		Daughters-in-law report (n=55)	
	f	%	f	%
1/8 mile apart	11	26	14	26
1/4 mile apart	16	14	6	11
1 - 5 miles apart	6	14	9	17
5 - 10 miles apart	8	19	8	15
10 - 50 miles apart	7	16	11	21
Over 50 miles	5	12	5	9

\* Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding error.

away and another 16% of mothers-in-law and 21% of daughters-in-law lived 10 to 50 miles from each other. Twelve percent of mothers-in-law and 9% of daughters-in-law reported that their children/parents in-law lived in other states or in nearby towns. Thus residing in close proximity was the norm for many of these women.

## TESTING THE HYPOTHESES

Pearson product-moment correlations were run for daughters-in-law and mothers-in-law between proximity and the five factors and the total score of the Family Farm Stress scale and the Perceived Stress Scale. As can be seen in Table 8, there were no significant correlations for mothers-in-law or daughters-in-law between proximity and the five factors and the total score of the "Family Farm Stress Scale" which measured stress between the two generations. Thus hypothesis one was not supported for either mothers-in-law or daughters-in-law.

Hypothesis two states that the closer together the two families live, the higher the mother-in-law's and daughter-in-law's perceived stress level. Pearson product-moment correlations were run between proximity and the Perceived Stress Scale for mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law. The correlation for mothers-in-law was low ( $r=.15$ ) and not significant. The correlation for daughters-in-law, while low ( $r=.27$ ), was significant ( $p=.05$ ) and positive. Thus, as distance from her mother-in-law increased, the daughter-in-law's stress level went up. This finding is the opposite of that predicted by the hypothesis. It should be pointed out, however, that proximity accounts for only .07 of the variance of the daughter-in-law's overall

Table 8. Pearson Correlations Between Proximity and Scores on the Family Farm Stress (FFS) and the Perceived Stress (PSS) Scales for Mothers-in-law and Daughters-in-law

	Family farm stress factors					Total scores	
	1	2	3	4	5	FFS	PSS
Mothers-in-law	.17	.13	.03	.05	.17	.15	.15
Daughters-in-law	.20	.17	.18	.06	.03	.06	.27*

\*  $p = .05$

perceived stress. Thus these data suggest that proximity has little effect on the stress levels of these farm/ranch women.

The third hypothesis states the more disturbing the differences in child rearing practices between the two generations are to the daughter-in-law, the greater the daughter-in-law's stress level. One-way analyses of variance were run on both the occurrence of differences in child rearing practices between the generations and how disturbing these differences were to the daughter-in-law and her Perceived Stress Scale score. Tables 15, 16, and 17 in Appendix A show that there were no significant relationships between differences in child rearing practices and stress levels for daughters-in-law at the .05 level. It appears, then, that differences in child rearing did not contribute to the daughter-in-law's stress level as measured by the Perceived Stress Scale.



Because these results did not coincide with those of Fischer (1983), descriptive statistics were run on the occurrences of perceived differences in child rearing and their levels of disturbance. As shown in Table 8, the majority of the mothers-in-law (67%) and the daughters-in-law (54%) stated that differences in child rearing practices seldom occurred. About a third, 33% of the mothers-in-law and 32% of the daughters-in-law said that differences occurred sometimes. Only 14% of the daughters-in-law, however, said they were frequent.

Only a few mothers-in-law (6%) and a relatively small proportion (16%) of the daughters-in-law rated these differences as quite or extremely disturbing. Almost half (46%) of the mothers-in-law and 41% of the daughters-in-law said they were not disturbing and 48% of the mothers-in-law and 44% of the daughter-in-law said they were either slightly or moderately disturbing. Clearly, daughters-in-law are upset by child-rearing differences. The data suggest, however, that although these differences exist between the generations they are not very prevalent nor very disturbing for most.

(See Table 9).

Duvall's 1954 research seemed to indicate that interference by the mother-in-law would cause marital problems for her son and his wife. Duvall also infers that the less interference the daughter-in-law perceives

from her mother-in-law, then the less likely the daughter-in-law will perceive that there is stress between her and her mother-in-law. Hypotheses four and five were designed to test these assumptions.

Hypothesis four states that the less the daughter-in-law's perception of interference in her and her husband's life, the greater the daughter-in-law's marital satisfaction. When asked how well they got along together, most of the mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law said they got along well. In fact, 34% of mothers-in-law and 17% of daughters-in-law said there were no problems (Refer to Table 2). In addition, approximately 60% of the daughters-in-law said that their mothers-in-law did not try to run their lives (Refer to Table 10).

A one-way analysis of variance was run for each question that measured some aspect of the daughter-in-law's perception of her mother-in-law's interference in the lives of her and her husband and the Locke-Wallace Short Marital Adjustment and Prediction Test. There were no significant differences between perceptions of interference and marital satisfaction at the .05 level. Thus this hypothesis was not supported. These data are depicted in Tables 15-18 in Appendix A.

Hypothesis five states the less the daughter's perception of interference from the mother-in-law in her and her husband's lives, the less her perception of stress

Table 9. Daughter-in-law's Perception of Types of Mother-in-law Interference

Daughter-in-law perception of types of mother-in-law interference	Frequency (n-55)	Percentage
Jealousy of mother-in-law		
Never	32	60
Sometimes	20	38
Often	1	2
All the time	0	0
Resentment of mother-in-law		
Never	15	28
Sometimes	32	60
Often	6	11
All the time	0	0
Mother-in-law runs daughter-in-law's life		
Never	32	60
Sometimes	15	28
Often	5	9
All the time	1	2
Mother-in-law is bossy		
Very	15	25
Seldom	18	34
Never	22	41
Mother-in-law respects privacy		
Very satisfied	38	72
Somewhat satisfied and dissatisfied	14	26
Very dissatisfied	1	2
Husband more loyal to mother than to wife		
Never	35	66
Sometimes	14	26
Often	3	6
All the time	1	2
Mother-in-law sees things differently		
Never	0	0
Sometimes	37	70
Often	15	28
All the time	1	2

between the older and younger generation of women. A one-way analyses of variance was run for each question that measured some aspect of interference and each of the five factors and the total score of the Family Farm Stress measure. (See Appendix A, Tables 17-21.) There were no significant differences.

In view of the fact that hypotheses four and five were not supported, the frequency tables of the seven items measuring the daughter-in-law's perception of her mother-in-law's interference in her and her family's life were examined. As can be seen in Table 9, most daughters-in-law did not report much interference from their mothers-in-law. Sixty percent, for example, said their mothers-in-law never tried to run their lives. About a third, however, reported that their mothers-in-law interfered in their lives at least some of the time. The data suggest that the mother-in-law's interference does not significantly affect the daughters-in-law's marital satisfaction or the stress level between the two generations. It appears, then, that most mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law get along well together in intergenerational farm families even though they may live and work in close proximity.

#### Interpretation

It appeared from the small amount of research available that there might be major conflicts between mothers-in-

law and daughters-in-law of intergenerational farm/ranch families especially if they lived in close proximity and the daughter-in-law had children. It also seemed probable that this conflict could affect the stress levels and marital satisfaction of the daughter-in-law. This research on farm/ranch women did not support this contention.

The majority of mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law in this study seemed to have good relationships with each other, although more daughters-in-law (83%) reported problems than mothers-in-law (66%) (Refer to Table 2). This research shows that 34% of mothers-in-law stated they had no problems getting along with their daughter-in-law compared with 17% of the daughters-in-law. The fact that daughters-in-law perceived more problems was not unexpected. It was the daughter-in-law who was expected to do the most adjusting to farm/ranch life since she was the most recent addition to the operation.

Less than one third of daughters-in-law reported that they had serious arguments with their mothers-in-law, that they were jealous or resentful of the older woman, that the mother-in-law tried to run their lives or that their husband was more loyal to his mother than to his wife (see Table 8). Furthermore, 69% of the daughters-in-law were satisfied with their mother-in-law's respect of their privacy. Only about one fourth of daughters-in-law

stated that their mothers-in-law saw things differently than they did.

Responses to another question in the study reaffirmed these findings. Sixty two percent of daughters-in-law reported that they got along well most of the time with their mothers-in-law. Thirty percent said they had some problems getting along. Only 8% said they got along poorly.

Communication played a critical role in mother-in-law/daughter-in-law relationships. Thirty percent of mothers-in-law said that communication was their most effective strategy in resolving conflict with their daughters-in-law. Lack of communication was the second most frequently cited reason mothers-in-law gave for not getting along with their daughters-in-law.

Although the focus of this research was to identify common sources of conflict between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law in two generation farm/ranch families, the fact that the hypotheses were not supported does not mean that no problems existed.

A significant minority of the two generations of women (approximately one third) are having problems and for these women things are not running smoothly. They are having problems not only with relationships between the two generations but with their marriages. These problems were reported in a section of the questionnaire where

respondents were asked to make additional comments about farming or ranching with in-laws.

One of the striking findings--striking because of its consistency--was a 60-40 split on most of the forced choice questions; with approximately 60% of the daughters-in-law reporting few, if any problems, and 40% reporting being somewhat to very upset by relationships with their mothers-in-law. About two thirds of mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law are effectively working out their problems. The remaining one third, however, are experiencing problems they have yet to resolve. About 10% of the daughters-in-law have serious problems with their mothers-in-law. Fewer mothers-in-law perceived serious problems.

## CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

The purpose of this exploratory research on mother-in-law and daughter-in-law relationships in two generation farm and ranch families was to identify sources of conflict between these two generations of women, determine the impact of such conflict on stress levels and marital satisfaction, and to identify the strategies these women used to cope with their conflict.

As can be seen in Table 2, the most common sources of conflict were differences in values and opinions, and lack of communication. The most frequently used strategies for reducing conflict were communication and ignoring the problem (see Table 3). Thus good communication and similarity of values and goals appear to lessen the conflict of these women. Passage of time also facilitates their good relationships.

The two hypotheses developed to test the effects of proximity on stress and marital satisfaction were not supported for mothers-in-law. The correlation between proximity and the Perceived Stress Scale for daughters-in-law was low but significant and positive. As distance from her mother-in-law increased, the daughter-in-law's stress level went up. This finding was the opposite of that predicted by the hypothesis. Since proximity accounts



for only .07 of the daughter-in-law's overall perceived stress, however, these data suggested that proximity had little effect on stress levels of either generations of women.

To the extent that Duvall's theory is correct in that young families must be able to form a cohesive unit that is stronger than the one which ties either of the couple to their parental family, a large proportion of the families in this study appear to have managed to develop their own identities. This is not, however, the case for all the families. Although these data are only suggestive, it is possible that these families who are having problems haven't made the separation from their families of origin.

Although proximity does not appear to influence a couple's identity formation, there may be a time dimension. One would expect, for instance, that the longer the couples had been married the more likely they would be to establish a cohesive family unit separate from both sets of in-laws. Unfortunately couples were not asked how long they had been working with his parents on the farm/ranch since their marriage. Thus the length of time it takes a young couple to form a cohesive unit sufficiently separate from its families of origin is an issue for further research.

The relationships between the 55 mothers-in-law and 44 daughters-in-law in this sample were not as problematic as expected. The majority of mothers-in-law and daughters-in-

law reported they got along well together. One third of the women, however, were having problems. These data were consistent with other research. Tension and strain between family members, for example, was the second largest source of stressors reported in a 1981 study of Montana farm/ranch families (Marotz-Baden, 1985). In that study 29% of the couples surveyed reported increased conflict with in-laws or relatives over the course of the last twelve months.

These data have important implications for counselors, the clergy, physicians, mental health personnel, and extension agents. It is important for these professionals to be aware that a significant minority (approximately one third) of farm/ranch families are experiencing problems with their in-laws and other relatives. Such information should be useful as they prescribe treatment and plan programs to alleviate stress in rural families.

Some baseline information for further research is also provided by this research. Why do some multi-generation families get along so well and others so poorly? How important to good relationships is the time dimension? If in-law conflict and proximity are not strongly related to stress and marital satisfaction, what factors in two-generation families are? These are but a few of the questions to be answered in further research.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE TABLES

Table 10. Analysis of Variance for Proximity and Lack of Equal Status for Daughter-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	60.94	2.90	21	.94	.55
Within groups	95.77	3.09	31		
Total	156.72		52		

Table 11. Analysis of Variance for Proximity and Lack of Equal Status for Mother-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	50.91	3.64	14	1.35	.25
Within groups	70.21	2.70	26		
Total	121.12		40		

Table 12. Analysis of Variance for Proximity and Family vs. Farm for Daughter-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	11.97	1.20	10	.35	.96
Within groups	144.74	3.40	42		
Total	156.72		52		

Table 13. Analysis of Variance for Proximity and Family vs. Farm for Mother-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	30.99	4.42	7	1.62	.16
Within groups	61.53	1.98	31		
Total	121.12		40		



Table 14. Analysis of Variance for Proximity and Financial Concerns for Daughter-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	47.40	2.96	16	.98	.50
Within groups	109.32	3.04	36		
Total	156.72		52		

Table 15. Analysis of Variance for Proximity and Financial Concerns for Mother-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	59.59	6.62	9	3.33	.006
Within groups	61.53	1.98	31		
Total	121.12		40		

Table 16. Analysis of Variance for Proximity and Independence vs. Dependence for Daughter-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	10.39	2.08	5	.67	.65
Within groups	146.33	3.11	47		
Total	156.72		52		

Table 17. Analysis of Variance for Proximity and Independence vs. Dependence for Mother-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	10.79	1.80	6	.58	.74
Within groups	105.65	3.11	34		
Total	116.44		40		

Table 18. Analysis of Variance for Proximity and Extended Family Conflict for Daughter-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	22.03	2.75	8	.90	.52
Within groups	131.42	3.06	43		
Total	153.45		51		

Table 19. Analysis of Variance for Proximity and Extended Family Conflict for Mother-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	25.48	5.10	5	1.87	.13
Within groups	95.64	2.73	35		
Total	121.12		40		

Table 20. Analysis of Variance for Proximity by Perceived Stress Scale for Daughter-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	93.37	4.91	19	2.48	.01
Within groups	63.30	1.98	32		
Total	156.67		51		

Table 21. Analysis of Variance for Proximity by Perceived Stress Scale for Mother-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	62.16	3.45	18	1.32	.27
Within groups	49.55	2.61	19		
Total	117.71		37		

Table 22. Analysis of Variance for Proximity by the Family Farm Stress for Daughter-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	114.55	2.94	39	.91	.62
Within groups	42.17	3.24	13		
Total	156.72		52		

Table 23. Analysis of Variance for Proximity by the Family Farm Stress for Mother-in-law.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	74.27	3.54	21	1.51	.19
Within groups	42.13	2.34	39		
Total	116.40		60		

Table 24. Analysis of Variance for Mother-in-law for How Disturbing Childrearing Practices by Perceived Stress Scale.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	13.28	.78	17	.93	.56
Within groups	10.92	.84	13		
Total	24.20		30		

Table 25. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law for How Disturbing Childrearing Practices by Perceived Stress Scale.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	25.42	1.34	19	.71	.78
Within groups	56.28	1.89	30		
Total	82.00		49		

Table 26. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law for Arguing With Mother-in-law by Lack of Equal Status.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	1.66	.09	19	.39	.98
Within groups	6.97	.22	31		
Total	8.63		50		

Table 27. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law for What Do You Argue About by Lack of Equal Status.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	122.89	5.85	21	.76	.75
Within groups	255.54	7.74	33		
Total	378.43		54		

Table 28. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law for Jealousy of Mother-in-law by Lack of Equal Status.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	6.43	.32	20	.79	.71
Within groups	13.05	.41	32		
Total	19.48		52		

Table 29. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law for Resentment of Mother-in-law by Lack of Equal Status.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	6.43	.32	20	.79	.71
Within groups	13.05	.41	32		
Total	19.47		52		

Table 30. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law Trying to Run Her Life by Lack of Equal Status.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	11.40	.57	20	1.02	.46
Within groups	17.81	.56	32		
Total	29.21		52		

Table 31. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law's Bossiness by Lack of Equal Status.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	9.98	.50	20	.68	.82
Within groups	23.49	.73	32		
Total	33.47		52		

Table 32. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of How Well Her Mother-in-law Respects Her Privacy by Lack of Equal Status.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	5.19	.26	20	1.04	.45
Within groups	7.98	.25	32		
Total	13.17		52		

Table 33. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Husband's Loyalty to His Mother by Lack of Equal Status.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	16.75		20	3.24	.00
Within groups	8.26		32		
Total	25.01		52		

Table 34. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's of How Her Mother-in-law Sees Things Differently by Lack of Equal Status.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	5.70	.24	20	1.16	.34
Within groups	7.85	.25	32		
Total	13.55		52		

Table 35. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Arguments With Her Mother-in-law by Lack of Equal Status.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	1.22	.14	9	.75	.66
Within groups	7.44	.18	41		
Total	8.66		50		

Table 36. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law for What Are Arguments About by Family vs. Farm.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	114.29	11.43	10	1.90	.07
Within groups	264.14	6.00	44		
Total	378.43		54		

Table 37. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law for Jealousy of Mother-in-law by Family vs. Farm.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	1.78	.13	9	.41	.92
Within groups	13.69	.32	43		
Total	14.47		52		

Table 38. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law for Resentment of Mother-in-law by Family vs. Farm.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	3.28	.36	9	.97	.48
Within groups	16.19	.38	43		
Total	19.47		52		

Table 39. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law Running Her Life by Family vs. Farm.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	5.59	.62	9	1.13	.36
Within groups	23.62	.55	43		
Total	29.21		52		

Table 40. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Mother-in-law's Bossiness by Family vs. Farm.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	8.91	.99	9	1.73	.11
Within groups	24.56	.57	43		
Total	33.47		52		

Table 41. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Mother-in-law's Respect of Her Privacy by Family vs. Farm.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	2.62	.29	9	1.19	.33
Within groups	10.55	.25	43		
Total	13.17		52		

Table 42. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Husband's Loyalty to His Mother by Family vs. Farm.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	7.53	.84	9	2.06	.06
Within groups	17.53	.41	43		
Total	25.02		52		

Table 43. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Whether Her Mother-in-law Sees Things Differently by Family vs. Farm.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	5.70	.24	20	1.16	.34
Within groups	7.85	.25	32		
Total	13.55		52		

Table 44. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Arguments With Her Mother-in-law by Financial Concerns.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	3.57	.24	15	1.65	.11
Within groups	5.05	.14	35		
Total	3.62		50		

Table 45. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of What Arguments Are About by Financial Concerns.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	3.57	.24	15	1.65	.11
Within groups	5.05	.14	35		
Total	3.62		50		



Table 46. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Jealousy of Her Mother-in-law by Financial Concerns.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	3.67	.24	15	.81	.66
Within groups	11.19	.30	37		
Total	14.86		52		

Table 47. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Resentment of Her Mother-in-law by Financial Concerns.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	11.73	.78	15	3.74	.0005
Within groups	7.74	.21	37		
Total	19.47		52		

Table 48. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception that Her Mother-in-law Runs Her Life by Financial Concerns.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	13.32	.89	15	2.07	.04
Within groups	15.88	.43	37		
Total	29.20		52		

Table 49. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law's Bossiness by Financial Concerns.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	10.62	.47	15	2.79	.006
Within groups	22.85	.62	37		
Total	33.47		52		

Table 50. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law's Efforts to Run Her Life by Financial Concerns.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	6.99	.47	15	2.79	.006
Within groups	6.17	.17	37		
Total	13.16		52		

Table 51. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law's Respect For Privacy by Financial Concerns.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	6.99	.47	15	2.79	.0056
Within groups	6.17	.17	37		
Total	13.16		52		

Table 52. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Husband's Loyalty to His Mother by Financial Concerns.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	7.19	.48	15	.99	.43
Within groups	17.82	.48	37		
Total	25.01		52		

Table 53. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception That Her Mother-in-law Sees Things Differently by Financial Concerns.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	5.01	.33	15	1.45	.18
Within groups	8.53	.23	37		
Total	13.54		52		

Table 54. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Arguments With Her Mother-in-law by Independence vs. Dependence.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	.83	.10	8	.55	.80
Within groups	7.74	.18	41		
Total	8.58		49		

Table 55. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law for What Arguments Are About by Independence vs. Dependence.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	24.24	3.03	8	.38	.92
Within groups	352.59		45		
Total	376.83		52		

Table 56. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Jealousy of Her Mother-in-law by Independence vs. Dependence.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	1.06	.13	8	.42	.90
Within groups	13.62	.31	43		
Total	14.68		51		

Table 57. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Resentment of Mother-in-law by Independence vs. Dependence.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	4.38	.54	8	1.56	.16
Within groups	15.05	.35	43		
Total	19.43		51		

Table 58. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law Running Her Life by Independence vs. Dependence.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	2.58	.32	8	.52	.83
Within groups	26.40	.61	43		
Total	28.97		51		

Table 59. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law's Bossiness by Independence vs. Dependence.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	6.11	.76	8	1.26	.28
Within groups	25.96	.60	43		
Total	32.07		51		

Table 60. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law's Respect For Privacy by Independence vs. Dependence.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	.62	.08	8	.28	.96
Within groups	12.04	.28	43		
Total	12.66		51		

Table 61. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Husbands Loyalty to His Mother by Independence vs. Dependence.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	2.12	.26	8	.50	.85
Within groups	22.70	.52	43		
Total	24.82		51		

Table 62. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Arguments With Her Mother-in-law by Extended Family Conflicts.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	1.04	.21	5	1.24	.30
Within groups	7.58	.17	45		
Total	8.62		50		

Table 63. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of What Arguments Are About by Extended Family Conflict.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	57.15	11.43	5	1.74	.14
Within groups	321.29	6.56	49		
Total	378.44		54		

Table 64. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Jealousy of Her Mother-in-law by Extended Family Conflict.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	.49	.10	5	.32	.90
Within groups	14.38	.31	47		
Total	14.87		52		

Table 65. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law's Seeing Things Differently by Extended Family Conflict.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	.64	.08	8	.28	.97
Within groups	12.43	.29	43		
Total	13.07		51		

Table 66. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Resentment of Her Mother-in-law by Extended Family Conflict.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	2.28	.46	5	1.25	.30
Within groups	17.19	.37	47		
Total	19.47		52		

Table 67. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law's Running Her Life by Extended Family Conflict.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	2.51	.50	5	.88	.50
Within groups	26.70	.57	47		
Total	29.21		52		

Table 68. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Mother-in-law's Bossiness by Extended Family Conflict.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	2.19	.44	5	.66	.66
Within groups	31.28	.67	47		
Total	23.47		52		

Table 69. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Mother-in-law's Respect For Her Privacy by Extended Family Conflict.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	1.05	.21	5	.81	.55
Within groups	12.12	.26	47		
Total	13.17		52		

Table 70. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Husband's Loyalty to His Mother by Extended Family Conflict.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	.83	.17	5	.32	.90
Within groups	24.19	.51	47		
Total	25.02		52		

Table 71. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Mother-in-law Seeing Things Differently by Extended Family Conflict.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	.74	.15	5	.54	.74
Within groups	12.81	.27	47		
Total	13.55		52		

Table 72. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Arguments With Mother-in-law by Locke-Wallace Total.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	5.79	.17	35	.88	.64
Within groups	2.83	.19	5		
Total	8.62		40		

Table 73. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of What Arguments Are About by Locke-Wallace Total.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	257.92	7.16	36	1.02	.50
Within groups	118.927	7.00	17		
Total	376.84		53		

Table 74. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Jealousy of Her Mother-in-law by Locke-Wallace Total.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	10.28	.29	35	1.09	.44
Within groups	4.58	.27	17		
Total	14.86		52		

Table 75. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Resentment of Her Mother-in-law by Locke-Wallace total.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	11.64	.52	35	.72	.70
Within groups	7.83	.46	17		
Total	19.47		52		

Table 76. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Mother-in-law Running Her Life by Locke-Wallace Total.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	18.29	.52	35	.81	.71
Within groups	10.92	.64	17		
Total	29.21		52		

Table 77. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Mother-in-law's Bossiness by Locke-Wallace Total.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	20.89	.60	35	.81	.71
Within groups	12.58	.74	17		
Total	33.47		52		



Table 78. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Mother-in-law's Respect of Her Privacy by Locke-Wallace Total.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	9.59	.27	35	1.30	.29
Within groups	3.58	.21	17		
Total	13.17		52		

Table 79. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Her Husband's Loyalty to His Mother by Locke-Wallace Total.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	21.44	.61	35	2.91	.01
Within groups	3.58	.21	17		
Total	25.02		52		

Table 80. Analysis of Variance for Daughter-in-law's Perception of Mother-in-law Seeing Things Differently by Locke-Wallace Total.

Source of variance	SS	MS	DF	F	P
Between groups	8.55	.24	35	.83	.69
Within groups	5.00	.29	17		
Total	13.55		52		

APPENDIX B

QUESTIONNAIRES

## MOTHER'S QUESTIONNAIRE

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE ABOUT YOUR TWO GENERATION FARM/RANCH OPERATION.

1. Do you and your husband farm or ranch with anyone besides your son and daughter-in-law? (Circle the number of the correct answer)
  1. NO
  2. YES
    - ↳ If yes, list the other people with whom you farm or ranch.
  
2. Where do you live? (Circle number of correct answer)
  1. ON THE FARM/RANCH
  2. IN TOWN
  3. OTHER (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. How far away from your home is the nearest town?
 

\_\_\_\_\_ MILES
  
4. How many hours per week on average do you devote to farming or ranching activities including farm bookkeeping?
 

\_\_\_\_\_ HOURS
  
5. With respect to the two-generation farm/ranch operation, who is generally involved in making decisions about the following situations?

(CIRCLE ALL CORRECT ANSWERS)  
(NA means does not apply)

	FATHER	MOTHER	SON	DAUGHTER IN-LAW	OTHERS	NA
a. Whether to buy, sell or rent land?						
b. Whether to buy major farm equipment?						
c. When to sell your products?						
d. When to make household repairs on your dwelling?						
e. Whether to try a new production practice?						

- f. Whether someone takes a job off the farm? FATHER MOTHER SON DAUGHTER IN-LAW OTHERS NA
- g. Whether to change to a new farm operation? FATHER MOTHER SON DAUGHTER IN-LAW OTHERS NA

6. In general, thinking about the part you have in making decisions for the operation of the farm or ranch, do you feel that you have too much responsibility for these decisions, or would you like to take a greater part in making these decisions? (Circle number of correct answer)

1. TOO MUCH RESPONSIBILITY
2. ABOUT THE RIGHT AMOUNT
3. WOULD LIKE MORE RESPONSIBILITY
4. DON'T KNOW

-----  
**STRESS OF A TWO-GENERATION FARM FAMILY.** There are many situations which can cause stress in two-generational farm families. Following is a list of items that other farm families have told us cause stress for them. If these have occurred in your two-generation farm family in the last two years circle the appropriate number, 1, 2, or 3. Also circle the number showing how disturbing it was to you.

	7. Did this situation occur in the last two years?			How disturbing is this situation?				
	SELDOM	SOMETIMES	FREQUENTLY	NOT	SLIGHTLY	MODERATELY	QUITE	EXTREMELY
a. difficulty learning to work as a team . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
b. not having a written agreement on farm future . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
c. differences in child rearing practices between generations . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
d. no direct influence over farm operation . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
e. farm taking priority over family . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
f. different attitudes about amount of time invested in work . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
g. living with tight money . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5

	Did this situation occur in the last two years?			How disturbing is this situation?				
	SELDOM	SOMETIMES	FREQUENTLY	NOT	SLIGHTLY	MODERATELY	QUITE	EXTREMELY
h. too much contact between family members . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
i. fear of family members using economic clout . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
j. disagreements over money expenditures . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
k. other generation wants to influence us more than we want them to . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
l. feeling like labor rather than management . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
m. not enough time to be with children or grandchildren . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
n. favoritism showed to certain family member . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
o. whole family not involved in making decisions . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
p. receive negative criticism from family . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
q. anger toward other generation displaced on spouse . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
r. not doing as well as neighbors . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
s. not really being a part of the operation . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
t. not being able to talk about personal and farm concerns . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
u. one member wanting to take more risks than others . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
v. as a couple, not being completely on our own . . . . .	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5



12. To whom do you turn for SUPPORT when you are having problems getting along with your daughter(s)-in-law?

THESE QUESTIONS ARE ABOUT YOUR THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS ABOUT TRANSFERRING THE FARM OR RANCH TO YOUR CHILDREN.

13. How important is it to you that your farm/ranch stay within the family?  
(Circle the number of the correct answer)

1. NOT IMPORTANT
2. SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT
3. VERY IMPORTANT

14. Would you prefer your husband to do something other than farming or ranching?

1. YES
2. NO
3. UNDECIDED

15. Have you decided to transfer any or part of your farm/ranch to one or more of your children?

1. YES
2. NO
3. UNDECIDED

16. To what extent have you discussed the details of the transfer or potential transfer with your children. (Circle the number of the correct answer)

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED ALL OF THE DETAILS
2. WE HAVE DISCUSSED MOST OF THE DETAILS
3. WE HAVE DISCUSSED MANY OF THE DETAILS
4. WE HAVE DISCUSSED SOME OF THE DETAILS
5. WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED ANY OF THE DETAILS

17. To whom are you transferring your farm/ranch? (Oldest or youngest son, daughter, all three children equally, not transferring it, etc.)

18. What are the current occupations of your adult children and their spouses?

<u>OCCUPATION OF ADULT CHILD</u>	<u>SPOUSE'S OCCUPATION</u>
SON: _____	_____
SON: _____	_____
SON: _____	_____
DAUGHTER: _____	_____
DAUGHTER: _____	_____
DAUGHTER: _____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

19. What were the issues you considered in deciding who would carry on the family farm/ranch? For example, ability of the operation to support more than one family, fair treatment of each spouse, child's interest in farm/ranch.

20. By what method are you and your husband transferring the farm/ranch. (Circle the numbers of all answers that apply)

1. INFORMAL, FOR EXAMPLE, A VERBAL PROMISE
2. FORMATION OF A FAMILY PARTNERSHIP
3. FORMATION OF A FAMILY CORPORATION
4. INITIATION OF A BUY-SELL AGREEMENT
5. GIFTING PROPERTY TO CHILDREN (FOR EXAMPLE, LAND, MACHINERY, LIVESTOCK, CASH, ETC.)
6. SELLING PROPERTY TO CHILDREN (FOR EXAMPLE, LAND, MACHINERY, LIVESTOCK, ETC.)
7. WILL
8. TRUST
9. CHANGING PROPERTY TITLES
10. PRIVATE ANNUITY
11. OTHER (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

21. Under current economic conditions, is the size of your farm/ranch operation large enough to support you, your husband, your son(s) and his or their families?

1. YES, QUITE ADEQUATELY
2. YES, BUT BARELY
3. NO, WE NEED SLIGHTLY MORE LAND, LIVESTOCK, ETC.
4. NO, WE NEED CONSIDERABLY MORE LAND, LIVESTOCK, ETC.
5. OTHER (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_



MANY FAMILIES EXCHANGE CERTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES. WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE KINDS OF GOODS AND SERVICES YOU EXCHANGE WITHIN YOUR FAMILIES. FOR EXAMPLE, WITH YOUR PARENTS, IN-LAWS, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, SONS, AND DAUGHTERS AND THEIR SPOUSES. (Please circle the number of your answers)

	MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK	ONCE A WEEK	2 OR 3 TIMES A MONTH	ONCE A MONTH	LESS THAN ONCE A MONTH
22. How frequently do you exchange food preparation chores?	1	2	3	4	5
23. How frequently do you exchange garden chores?	1	2	3	4	5
24. How frequently do you exchange food?	1	2	3	4	5
25. How frequently do you exchange clothing?	1	2	3	4	5
26. How frequently do you baby sit?	1	2	3	4	5

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE ABOUT HOW CLOSE YOU LIVE TO YOUR RELATIVES AND YOUR VISITING PATTERNS.

27. How close do you live to the nearest son and daughter-in-law with whom you farm/ranch? (Circle number of correct answer)
1. WE ALL LIVE IN THE SAME HOUSE
  2. WE LIVE IN SEPARATE DWELLINGS WITHIN AN EIGHTH OF A MILE OF EACH OTHER
  3. WE LIVE IN SEPARATE DWELLINGS AN EIGHTH OF A MILE TO A MILE APART
  4. WE LIVE IN SEPARATE DWELLINGS BETWEEN ONE AND FIVE MILES APART
  5. WE LIVE IN SEPARATE DWELLINGS FIVE TO TEN MILES APART
  6. WE LIVE IN SEPARATE DWELLINGS BETWEEN 10 AND 50 MILES APART
28. Approximately what percent of your relatives that live within 50 miles are involved in farming and ranching?
- \_\_\_\_\_ PER CENT
29. Approximately what percent of your husband's relatives that live within 50 miles are involved in farming and ranching?
- \_\_\_\_\_ PER CENT
30. Did you grow up on a farm or ranch? (Circle the number of the correct answer)
1. YES
  2. NO

31. How many of your relatives live nearby (within 50 miles)?
1. ALMOST ALL
  2. ABOUT HALF
  3. ONLY A FEW
  4. NONE
32. How many of your husband's relatives live nearby (within 50 miles)?
1. ALMOST ALL
  2. ABOUT HALF
  3. ONLY A FEW
  4. NONE
33. How often do you and your husband go visiting other people?
1. MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK
  2. ONCE A WEEK
  3. LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK BUT MORE THAN TWICE A MONTH
  4. ABOUT ONCE A MONTH
  5. EVERY TWO OR THREE MONTHS
  6. ALMOST NEVER
34. Who do you and your husband go visiting most?
1. FRIENDS
  2. RELATIVES
  3. NEIGHBORS
  4. FRIENDS, RELATIVES AND NEIGHBORS ABOUT THE SAME
  5. WE RARELY VISIT ANYONE
35. How many of your friends belong to the same church as you do?
1. ALL
  2. MOST
  3. ABOUT HALF
  4. SOME
  5. ALMOST NONE
  6. NONE
  7. I DON'T BELONG TO A CHURCH
36. Does your husband exchange work more with relatives than friends?
1. YES
  2. NO
  3. ABOUT THE SAME
  4. HE NEVER EXCHANGES LABOR

All of us need help from time to time, someone to listen to us, to give us advice, or give us a hand. To whom do you turn for such help?

(Circle the correct response)

	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
a. Mother	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
b. Father	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
c. Husband	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
d. Children	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
e. Mother-in-law	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
f. Father-in-law	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
g. Sister(s)	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
h. Sister(s)-in-law	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
i. Brother(s)	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
j. Brother(s)-in-law	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
k. Friend(s)	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
l. Neighbor(s)	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
m. Other relatives	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
n. God, Jesus	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
o. Counselors	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
p. Others (Please list)					
_____	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER
_____	VERY FREQUENTLY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY	NEVER

Please use this space for additional comments about those to whom you turn for help.

## THE FOLLOWING ARE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR PERSONAL SATISFACTION.

1. Check the dot on the scale below which best describes the degree of happiness, everything considered, of your present marriage. The middle point, "happy," represents the degree of happiness which most people get from marriage, and the scale gradually ranges on one side to those few who are very unhappy in marriage, and on the other, to those few who experience extreme joy or felicity in marriage.

. . . . .

VERY UNHAPPY	HAPPY	PERFECTLY HAPPY
-----------------	-------	--------------------

State the approximate extent of agreement or disagreement between you and your mate on the following items. Please check each column.

	ALWAYS AGREE	ALMOST ALWAYS AGREE	OCCA- SIONALLY DISAGREE	FRE- QUENTLY DISAGREE	ALMOST ALWAYS DISAGREE	ALWAYS DISAGREE
2. Handling family finances						
3. Matters of recreation						
4. Demonstrations of affection						
5. Friends						
6. Sex relations						
7. Conventionality (right, good, or proper conduct)						
8. Philosophy of life						
9. Ways of dealing with in-laws						

10. When disagreements arise they usually result in:
  1. HUSBAND GIVING IN
  2. WIFE GIVING IN
  3. AGREEMENT BY MUTUAL GIVE & TAKE
  
11. Do you and your mate engage in outside interests together:
  1. ALL OF THEM
  2. SOME OF THEM
  3. VERY FEW OF THEM
  4. NONE OF THEM
  
12. In leisure time do you generally prefer:
  1. TO BE "ON THE GO"
  2. "TO STAY AT HOME"

Does your mate generally prefer:

  1. TO BE "ON THE GO"
  2. "TO STAY AT HOME"
  
13. Do you ever wish you had not married?
  1. FREQUENTLY
  2. OCCASIONALLY
  3. RARELY
  4. NEVER
  
14. If you had your life to live over, do you think you would:
  1. MARRY THE SAME PERSON
  2. MARRY A DIFFERENT PERSON
  3. NOT MARRY AT ALL
  
15. Do you confide in your mate:
  1. ALMOST NEVER
  2. RARELY
  3. IN MOST THINGS
  4. IN EVERYTHING

## RECENT EVENTS

We all face stressful events in our lives from time to time. To better understand the stresses we face, we would like to ask you some questions about life events.

Please circle the number next to all of those events which have occurred in your life during the last twelve months.

1. My spouse/partner died.
2. My spouse/partner and I divorced.
3. My spouse/partner and I separated (split up).
4. A close family member or I had to go to court for a serious violation, or was put in jail.
5. My child died.
6. I was seriously ill or injured.
7. My spouse/partner or I lost a job (was laid off or fired).
8. A close family member was seriously ill or injured.
9. My immediate family experienced serious financial problems.
10. A close friend died.
11. I have had arguments or other conflicts with my spouse/partner that were difficult to resolve.
12. My spouse/partner or I have had arguments or other conflicts with our child/children that were difficult to resolve.
13. My spouse/partner or I have had arguments or conflicts with people other than ourselves or our children that were difficult to resolve.
14. A close family member or I was physically attacked or a victim of other violent acts.
15. A close family member (other than my spouse/partner or child) died.
16. A close family member or I have had a problem such as drinking, drug abuse, serious depression, or attempted suicide.
17. My family moved to a different location when we didn't all want to move there.
18. None of the above occurred during the last twelve months.

## FACING PROBLEMS

An important part of understanding how families adapt to change is learning more about how people cope with problems. We would like to ask about what you do when you and your family are faced with problems.

Please pick the most important problem from those you circled on the previous list, OR, if none of these problems have come up, select another problem (even a minor one) that you have had to deal with.

WRITE THE NAME OF YOUR PROBLEM \_\_\_\_\_.

Please indicate for the items below which of the following you did in connection with this problem:	No	YES, ONCE OR TWICE	YES, SOME- TIMES	YES, FAIRLY OFTEN
	0	1	2	3
1. Tried to find out more about the situation.	0	1	2	3
2. Talked with spouse or other relative about the problem.	0	1	2	3
3. Talked with friend about the problem.	0	1	2	3
4. Talked with professional person (e.g., doctor, lawyer, clergy).	0	1	2	3
5. Prayed for guidance and/or strength.	0	1	2	3
6. Prepared for the worst.	0	1	2	3
7. Didn't worry about it. Figured everything would probably work out.	0	1	2	3
8. Took it out on other people when I felt angry or depressed.	0	1	2	3
9. Tried to see the positive side of the situation.	0	1	2	3
10. Got busy with other things to keep my mind off the problem.	0	1	2	3
11. Made a plan of action and followed it.	0	1	2	3
12. Considered several alternatives for handling the problem.	0	1	2	3

Please indicate which of the following you did in connection with this problem:	NO	YES, ONCE OR TWICE	YES, SOME- TIMES	YES, FAIRLY OFTEN
	0	1	2	3
13. Drew on my past experiences. I was in a similar situation before.	0	1	2	3
14. Kept my feelings to myself.	0	1	2	3
15. Took things a day at a time, one step at a time.	0	1	2	3
16. Tried to step back from the situation and be more objective.	0	1	2	3
17. Went over the situation in my mind to try to understand it.	0	1	2	3
18. Tried not to act too hastily or follow my first hunch.	0	1	2	3
19. Told myself things that helped me feel better.	0	1	2	3
20. Got away from things for awhile	0	1	2	3
21. I knew what had to be done and tried harder to make things work.	0	1	2	3
22. Avoided being with people in general.	0	1	2	3
23. Made a promise to myself that things would be different next time.	0	1	2	3
24. Refused to believe that it happened.	0	1	2	3
25. Accepted it; nothing could be done.	0	1	2	3
26. Let my feelings out somehow.	0	1	2	3
27. Sought help from persons or groups with similar experiences.	0	1	2	3
28. Bargained or compromised to get something positive from the situation.	0	1	2	3
29. Tried to reduce tension by:				
a. drinking	0	1	2	3
b. eating	0	1	2	3
c. smoking	0	1	2	3
d. exercising	0	1	2	3
e. taking tranquilizing drugs	0	1	2	3



## HOW YOU FEEL

The following questions ask you about your feelings and thoughts DURING THE LAST MONTH. In each case, you will be asked to indicate how often you felt or thought a certain way. Although some of the questions are similar, there are differences between them and you should treat each one as a separate question.

	How Often In The Last Month? (circle your answer)				
1. In the last month, how often have you been upset because of something that happened unexpectedly?	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN
2. In the last month, how often have you felt that you were unable to control the important things in your life.	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN
3. In the last month, how often have you felt nervous and "stressed"?	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN
4. In the last month, how often have you dealt successfully with irritating life hassles?	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN
5. In the last month, how often have you felt that you were effectively coping with important changes that were occurring in your life?	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN
6. In the last month, how often have you felt confident about your ability to handle your personal problems?	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN
7. In the last month, how often have you felt that things were going your way?	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN
8. In the last month, how often have you found that you could not cope with all the things that you had to do?	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN
9. In the last month, how often have you been able to control irritation in your life?	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN
10. In the last month, how often have you felt that you were on top of things?	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN
11. In the last month, how often have you been angered because of things that happened that were outside of your control?	NEVER	ALMOST NEVER	SOME- TIMES	FAIRLY OFTEN	VERY OFTEN

- |  |       |              |            |              |            |
|--|-------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| 12. In the last month, how often have you found yourself thinking about things that you have to accomplish?          | NEVER | ALMOST NEVER | SOME-TIMES | FAIRLY OFTEN | VERY OFTEN |
| 13. In the last month, how often have you been able to control the way you spend your time?                          | NEVER | ALMOST NEVER | SOME-TIMES | FAIRLY OFTEN | VERY OFTEN |
| 14. In the last month, how often have you felt difficulties were piling up so high that you could not overcome them? | NEVER | ALMOST NEVER | SOME-TIMES | FAIRLY OFTEN | VERY OFTEN |

YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

Finally, we would like to ask questions about yourself and your family for statistical purposes. This information is strictly confidential and your anonymity is assured.

1. In the past 12 months, have any family members left or been removed for any time period from your home for any of the following reasons:

		If yes, Circle One:		Indicate Number of:
YES	NO	CHILD	ADULT	____ MONTHS

2. Please circle the number of the answer which corresponds to your current marital status.

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Married, living with spouse                      | 4. Divorced              |
| 2. Married, but spouse living elsewhere temporarily | 5. Widowed               |
| 3. Separated  | 6. Never married         |
|   | 7. Living with a partner |

3. If married, is this your first marriage?

- 1. YES
- 2. NO

If No, how many times have you been married before this marriage? \_\_\_\_\_ TIMES.

4. If married, how long have you been married to your present spouse? (Circle number of correct response)

- 1. LESS THAN ONE YEAR
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS (Please note the number of years married)

5. How many living children do you have, including adopted or stepchildren? If none, please enter a zero (0) on each line.

\_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF DAUGHTERS      \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF SONS

6. Starting with yourself, please list the members of your household (everyone who lives with you) by their relationship to you. Circle sex, and note their age on their last birthday for each person. (Please list as spouse, partner, parent, friend, child, stepchild, boarder, etc. Please do not list by name.)

Relationship of Household Members	Sex		How old was _____ on his/her last birthday?
	M	F	
MYSELF	M	F	_____
_____	M	F	_____
_____	M	F	_____
_____	M	F	_____
_____	M	F	_____
_____	M	F	_____
_____	M	F	_____

If more space is needed, please put ages here:

MALES      \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_  
 FEMALES      \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_

7. How long have you lived in this community?

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ MONTHS, IF LESS THAN A YEAR
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS, (write in number)

8. What is the current employment status of: (circle all numbers that apply)

YOU	SPOUSE/PARTNER (skip if no spouse/partner)	
1	1	FULL-TIME FARMER/RANCHER
2	2	PART-TIME FARMER/RANCHER
3	3	FULL-TIME SELF-EMPLOYED IN OWN OR FAMILY BUSINESS OTHER THAN FARM/RANCH (35 hours or more/week)
4	4	PART-TIME SELF EMPLOYED IN OWN OR FAMILY BUSINESS OTHER THAN FARM/RANCH (less than 35 hours/week)
5	5	FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE AT ONE JOB (35 hours or more per week)
6	6	PART-TIME EMPLOYEE AT ONE JOB (less than 35 hours per week)
7	7	WORKING AT MORE THAN ONE JOB
8	8	NOT EMPLOYED AT PRESENT

9. If either you or your spouse is not employed at present, which one of the following best describes your own and your spouse's/partner's situation: (Circle number)

YOU	SPOUSE/PARTNER (skip if no spouse/partner)	
1	1	RETIRED
2	2	FULL-TIME PARENT/HOMEMAKER
3	3	FULL-TIME STUDENT
4	4	TEMPORARILY LAID OFF
5	5	UNEMPLOYED AND LOOKING FOR WORK
6	6	UNEMPLOYED AND NOT LOOKING FOR WORK
7	7	OTHER (specify) _____

10. If either you or your spouse/partner are not currently employed please indicate how long it has been since you and/or your spouse/partner last worked regularly.

YOU	SPOUSE/PARTNER (skip if no spouse/partner)	
(write in number in appropriate blank)		
—	—	WEEKS AGO (if less than 1 month)
—	—	MONTHS AGO (if less than 2 years)
—	—	YEARS AGO (if 2 or more years)

11. Please describe your main occupation when employed or before retirement - your job title and the kind of work you do/did.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Job Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kind of Work

12. Please describe your spouse or partner's main occupation when employed or before retirement - his job title and the kind of work he does/did.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Job Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kind of Work

13. What is the race or ethnic identification of:

YOU	SPOUSE/PARTNER (skip if no spouse/partner)	
1	1	WHITE OR ANGLO
2	2	BLACK
3	3	NATIVE AMERICAN (American Indian)
4	4	HISPANIC
5	5	ASIAN (Oriental)
6	6	OTHER (Specify) _____

14. What is the highest level of education completed by: (circle number)

YOU	SPOUSE/PARTNER (skip if no spouse/partner)	
1	1	NO FORMAL EDUCATION
2	2	SOME GRADE SCHOOL
3	3	COMPLETED GRADE SCHOOL
4	4	SOME HIGH SCHOOL
5	5	COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL
6	6	SOME TRADE OR TECHNICAL SCHOOL
7	7	COMPLETED TRADE OR TECHNICAL SCHOOL
8	8	SOME COLLEGE
9	9	4 YEAR COLLEGE DEGREE COMPLETED
10	10	SOME GRADUATE SCHOOL
11	11	POST GRADUATE DEGREE COMPLETED

15. Income may come from one or several sources. Please circle the letter next to all sources from which your family received income in 1984.

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| a. PAY FOR WORK (wages or salary)  | j. LOANS FROM RELATIVES       |
| b. YOUR OWN BUSINESS   | k. MONEY GIFTS FROM RELATIVES |
| c. SOCIAL SECURITY   | l. CHILD SUPPORT              |
| d. JOB RELATED BENEFITS  | m. ALIMONY                    |
| e. PENSIONS  | n. WELFARE BENEFITS           |
| f. COMMERCIAL BANK LOANS   | o. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION  |
| g. GOVT. FARM PROGRAMS SUCH AS PIK, DAIRY & WOOL SUBSIDIES               |                               |
| h. INVESTMENTS (Such as Rental Properties, Savings, Stocks, Bonds, Gold) |                               |
| i. OTHER (Please list _____)   |                               |

Which of the above sources of income are most important to your family based on the amount of income received from that source? (Put letter of item in appropriate blank)

- \_\_\_ MOST IMPORTANT
- \_\_\_ SECOND MOST IMPORTANT
- \_\_\_ THIRD MOST IMPORTANT

16. Please circle the letter that best describes your total household income from all sources before taxes in 1984.

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| a. UNDER \$5,000       | g. \$30,000 - \$39,999 |
| b. \$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999 | h. \$40,000 - \$49,999 |
| c. \$10,000 - \$14,999 | i. \$50,000 - \$59,999 |
| d. \$15,000 - \$19,999 | j. \$60,000 - \$69,999 |
| e. \$20,000 - \$24,999 | k. \$70,000 - \$79,999 |
| f. \$25,000 - \$29,999 | l. \$80,000 OR MORE    |

17. Please indicate your level of satisfaction for the following items.

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU?  
(Circle your answer)

	EXTREMELY SATISFIED	VERY SATISFIED	SOMEWHAT SATISFIED	SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED	VERY DISSATISFIED	EXTREMELY DISSATISFIED
a. YOUR LEVEL OF INCOME	1	2	3	4	5	6
b. MONEY FOR FAMILY NECESSITIES	1	2	3	4	5	6
c. YOUR ABILITY TO HANDLE FINANCIAL EMERGENCIES	1	2	3	4	5	6
d. AMOUNT OF MONEY YOU OWE (mortgage, loans, credit cards)	1	2	3	4	5	6
e. LEVEL OF SAVINGS	1	2	3	4	5	6
f. MONEY FOR FUTURE NEEDS OF FAMILY	1	2	3	4	5	6

18. Do you and your spouse/partner have a health or physical condition that limits activity in any way? (Circle number)

YOU      SPOUSE/PARTNER

1	1	NO
2	2	YES, some restriction on amount/kind of activity
3	3	YES, totally disabled

19. Which of the following best describes your primary residence? (Circle one)

1. A ONE-FAMILY HOUSE DETACHED FROM ANY OTHER HOUSE
2. A BUILDING WITH TWO TO FOUR HOUSING UNITS
3. A BUILDING WITH FIVE OR MORE HOUSING UNITS
4. A MOBILE HOME OR TRAILER
5. A ROOMING HOUSE, DORMITORY, OR HOTEL
6. OTHER (Please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

20. Is the home in which you live: (Circle One)

1. RENTED BY YOUR FAMILY
2. OWNED BY YOUR FAMILY
3. OWNED IN CONDOMINIUM BY YOUR FAMILY
4. OTHER (Please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

21. Were you gainfully employed off the farm/ranch or in a non-farm related occupation on the farm/ranch in 1984?

1. YES
2. NO (If No, please turn to the back of the booklet)

22. Were you working in this capacity primarily to:

1. PAY FARM/RANCH BILLS
2. SUPPLEMENT THE FAMILY INCOME
3. PUT YOUR EDUCATION AND SKILLS TO USE
4. RELIEVE BOREDOM
5. OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

23. Approximately how many hours do you work at this occupation per week in 1984?

\_\_\_\_\_ HOURS

24. If there were no economic necessity, would you still want to be involved in the off-farm work?

1. YES
2. NO
3. UNDECIDED

25. How many miles away is your off-farm work?

\_\_\_\_\_ MILES  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I WORK AT HOME



Please use this space for any additional comments you would like to make about farming or ranching with your son(s) and daughter(s)-in-law.

-----  
Thank you very much for your time and cooperation. I greatly appreciate your efforts in filling out this questionnaire. I will send you and your husband a summary of the preliminary analysis of the data next fall.

DAUGHTER-IN-LAW'S QUESTIONNAIRE

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE ABOUT YOUR FARM/RANCH OPERATION.

1. Do you and your husband farm or ranch with anyone besides your husband's mother and father? (Circle the number of the correct answer)
  1. NO
  2. YES

↳ If yes, list the other people involved in the farm/ranch operation.
  
2. Where do you live? (Circle number of correct answer)
  1. ON THE FARM/RANCH
  2. IN TOWN
  3. OTHER (Please explain) \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. How far away from your home is the nearest town? \_\_\_\_\_ MILES
  
4. How many hours per week on average do you devote to farming or ranching activities including farm bookkeeping? \_\_\_\_\_ HOURS
  
5. With respect to the two-generation farm/ranch operation, who is usually involved in making decisions about the following situations? (circle all that apply)

CIRCLE ALL CORRECT ANSWERS  
(NA means does not apply)

	FATHER   MOTHER   SON   DAUGHTER   OTHERS   NA IN-LAW					
a. Whether to buy, sell or rent land?	FATHER	MOTHER	SON	DAUGHTER IN-LAW	OTHERS	NA
b. Whether to buy major farm equipment?	FATHER	MOTHER	SON	DAUGHTER IN-LAW	OTHERS	NA
c. When to sell your products?	FATHER	MOTHER	SON	DAUGHTER IN-LAW	OTHERS	NA
d. When to make household repairs?	FATHER	MOTHER	SON	DAUGHTER IN-LAW	OTHERS	NA
e. Whether to try a new production practice?	FATHER	MOTHER	SON	DAUGHTER IN-LAW	OTHERS	NA
f. Whether someone takes a job off the farm?	FATHER	MOTHER	SON	DAUGHTER IN-LAW	OTHERS	NA
g. Whether to change to a new farm operation	FATHER	MOTHER	SON	DAUGHTER IN-LAW	OTHERS	NA

6. In general, thinking about the part you have in making decisions for the operation of the farm or ranch, do you feel that you have too much responsibility for these decisions, or would you like to take a greater part in making these decisions? (Circle number of correct answer)

1. TOO MUCH RESPONSIBILITY
2. ABOUT THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF RESPONSIBILITY
3. WOULD LIKE MORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAKING DECISIONS
4. DON'T KNOW

-----

STRESS OF A TWO-GENERATION FARM FAMILY. There are many situations which can cause stress in two-generational farm families. Following is a list of items that other farm families have told us cause stress for them. If these have occurred in your two-generation farm family in the last two years circle the appropriate number, 1, 2, or 3. Also circle the number showing how disturbing it was to you.

	7. Did this situation occur in the last two years?			How disturbing is this situation?				
	SELDOM	SOMETIMES	FREQUENTLY	NOT	SLIGHTLY	MODERATELY	QUITE	EXTREMELY
a. difficulty learning to work as a team	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
b. not having a written agreement on farm future	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
c. differences in child rearing practices between generations	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
d. no direct influence over farm operation	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
e. farm taking priority over family	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
f. different attitudes about amount of time invested in work	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
g. living with tight money	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
h. too much contact between family members	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
i. fear of family members using economic clout	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5

This is a continuation of the two-generation farm family question.

	Did this situation occur in the last two years?			How disturbing is this situation?				
	SELDOM	SOMETIMES	FREQUENTLY	NOT	SLIGHTLY	MODERATELY	QUITE	EXTREMELY
j. disagreements over money expenditures	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
k. other generation wants to influence us more than we want them to	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
l. feeling like labor rather than management	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
m. not enough time to be with children or grandchildren	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
n. favoritism showed to certain family members	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
o. whole family not involved in making decisions	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
p. receive negative criticism from family	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
q. anger toward other generation displaced on spouse	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
r. not doing as well as neighbors	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
s. not really being a part of the operation	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
t. not being able to talk about personal and farm concerns	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
u. one member wanting to take more risks than others	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
v. as a couple, not being completely on our own	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5















































