Grandparents as parents: Skipped-generation households coping with poverty and HIV in rural Zambia
Reijer, D.B.J.

Citation for published version (APA):
I would like to thank everyone who played some part in this study. In particular:

In Misangwa: The children, young people, grandmothers, grandfathers and others who were willing to share their lives with me and who, despite my strange questions and their own hardships, were willing to invest time and effort in the study. Thank you also to my research team: Bana Bwingii, Juliana Kataka, Paul Kolala, Colette Matantani, Francis Meleki, Eireen Muma and Mevis Young. Thank you Fr. Mike and Fr. Mumbi for letting your home be my home and for all the help you gave me during my time in Misangwa.

At the University of Amsterdam (UvA): My supervisors Sjaak van der Geest and Ria Reis. The journey has been long and difficult at times, but we have made it. Sjaak, you are now able to pronounce Bronfenbrenner’s name, and I know you will always associate me with him! Ria, I will always remember the time you visited Zambia – I’ve never been more exhausted from discussions and brainstorming after anyone’s visit. Thank you both for your guidance and for sharing your experiences and knowledge, both in relation to your fields of expertise as well as your experience in guiding PhD candidates.

Sjaak and Ria, you have been my intellectual parents, but you were not alone. In this regard I want to mention two people who have meant a great deal to me and to my academic journey. The first is Fr. Michael Kelly of the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR) in Lusaka. Michael, thank you for reading and commenting on my chapters, for sharing your vast knowledge about Zambia, education and children, and for always finding motivating words. The second – and I am sad that you are no longer around to read this – is Jeroen van Ginneken. Ever since we first met at the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI), Jeroen supported my dream of pursuing a PhD, read all my chapters, helped me to sort out all of the demography, and we laughed together when we found out just how small the sample sizes of the DHS surveys really are. I am extremely grateful for everything you both have done in terms of shaping me and making this work possible.

This study would not have been possible with the help of Michiel Baas, Anneke Dammers, Jose Komen, Miriam May, Hermance Metropp and Nicole Schulp at the AISSR secretariat. Finally, at the UvA I want to thank my colleagues, especially those in the post-fieldwork working group: Marieke van Eijk, Fuusje de Graaff, Eline van Haasdrecht, Sasha Ramdas, Erica van der Sijpt and...
Janneke Verheijen. I also want to thank Zoe Goldstein for editing the manuscript – I am still not sure how you turned my texts into what they are now!

My extended family: As is the case with the care for orphans in Zambia, this study took place in the context of my own extended family. This was true both in the Netherlands and in Zambia. Thank you Eliz and Mike for sharing your home, your family and your lives with me. Eliz, thank you also for all the reading and editing you did on earlier versions of the chapters. Especially during the last few weeks, it seemed like everyone was somehow involved in this project. Thank you Josien, Piet, Anneke, Taco and Vreni – you all know how much you have done to make this project a success.

At ‘de Apenrots’ in The Hague: I want to thank the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their financial support for this project. I am especially grateful to Paul Bekkers, Reina Buijns, Els Klinkert and Marijke Wijnroks for your support and guidance. And of course Melle Leenstra – you weren’t only a great help and supporter at the Ministry in The Hague but also a great travel companion in Zambia. And you were one of the few people to whom I entrusted ‘the beast’, which you referred to as the battered old pick-up in your own dissertation.

I am indebted to several people who have materially and financially supported this project. I want to mention three people in particular who, through their contributions, made aspects of this research possible, which would otherwise have been impossible. Jos and Carolien, thank you for your help. An important part of the follow-up of the 2001 household survey respondents became possible because of your help. Harry Vink, your support opened numerous doors and possibilities, which would have remained closed without it.

Thank you to my many friends who have accepted my preoccupation with work during the last six years. I feel we have not spent enough time together but I will be a better friend moving forward. I will play more pool, I will visit New Zealand, I will go for walks on the beach, and I will organise more barbeques.

Most of all I want to thank my enduring, forgiving, loving and beautiful wife. Nathalie, without you I would not have been able to complete this project. It has been difficult on you especially. How much I look forward to finally spending evenings, weekends and holidays with you and Neelie... Finally, after all these years. The two of you touch my inner smile!

I still haven’t gotten used to the idea but it is finally here: Life after the PhD.