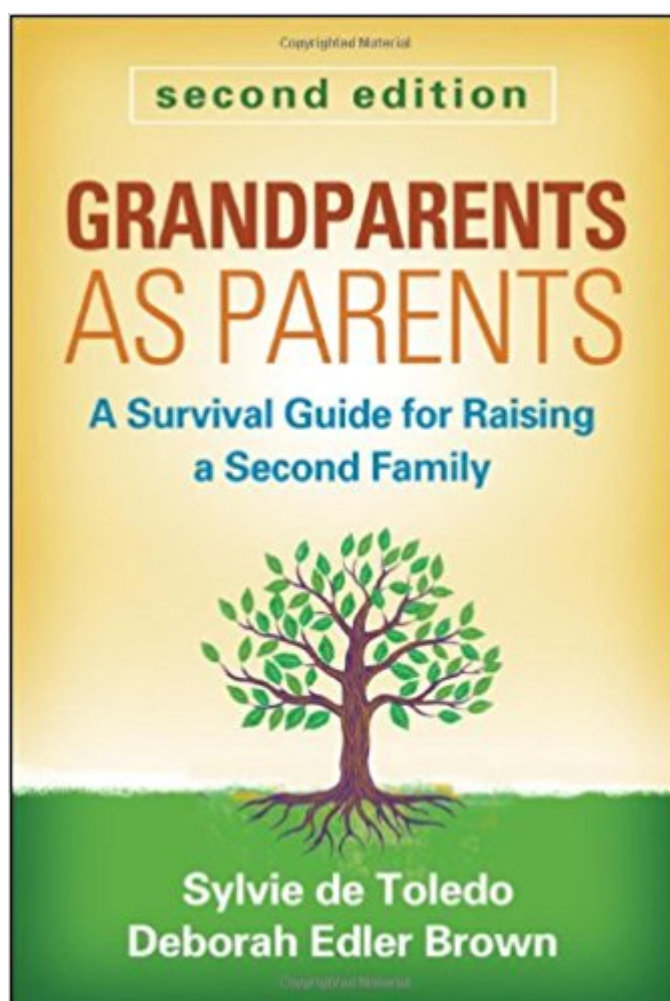


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# Grandparents As Parents, Second Edition: A Survival Guide For Raising A Second Family



## Synopsis

If you're among the millions of grandparents raising grandchildren today, you need information, support, and practical guidance you can count on to keep your family strong. This is the book for you. Learn effective strategies to help you cope with the stresses of parenting the second time around, care for vulnerable grandkids and set boundaries with their often-troubled parents, and navigate the maze of government aid, court proceedings, and special education. Wise, honest, moving stories show how numerous other grandparents are surviving and thriving in their new roles. Updated throughout, and reflecting current laws and policies affecting families, the second edition features new discussions of kids' technology use and other timely issues.

## Book Information

Paperback: 331 pages

Publisher: The Guilford Press; 2 edition (May 21, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1462509150

ISBN-13: 978-1462509157

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #75,195 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in [Books > Parenting & Relationships > Family Relationships > Grandparenting](#) #370 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Psychology & Counseling > Counseling](#) #481 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Social Work](#)

## Customer Reviews

"An invaluable toolkit for grandfamilies--practical and insightful. The book skillfully navigates the difficult terrain that new and experienced caregivers face. Sylvie de Toledo is a pioneer working on behalf of these families. The second edition shows that her passion and commitment haven't diminished, and presents policy changes and resources that grandparents should know about."--Donna M. Butts, Executive Director, Generations United "With compassion, clarity, and wisdom, this book provides indispensable advice. The authors recognize the extraordinary challenges that grandparents confront in approaching parenthood for a second and unexpected time. Grandparents as Parents is a 'must read' that will benefit the whole family."--Andrew Bridge, Executive Director, Child Welfare Initiative; author of *Hope's Boy: A Memoir* "This is a reference

book, a character-builder, a challenge and a friend." (Seniors Today 2013-06-17)"Recommended."  
(Library Journal 2013-06-17)

Sylvie de Toledo, LCSW, BCD, is Founder and Clinical Director of Grandparents As Parents, Inc., a nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles, California, and is a recognized expert on issues affecting grandparents and other relative caregivers. She has received awards and other honors from organizations including the Alliance for Children's Rights, the Southern California Psychiatric Society, the United States Senate's Special Committee on Aging, and the California Coalition of Relative Caregivers. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and daughters. Her website is [www.grandparentsasparents.org](http://www.grandparentsasparents.org). Deborah Edler Brown is an award-winning journalist and poet based in Los Angeles. She was a long-time reporter for Time magazine and has written for numerous other publications, including Psychiatric Times.

This book was like the friend I always wanted to find, a source of reassurance and warnings with gentle concern. I have friends in the same situation as me, raising a child whose parents are unable to provide financially or emotionally to the child's needs, but we tended to reinforce each other's fears and discomfort, which are plentiful. As grandparents it seems the only right we have is "the right to remain silent" according to the parents and the lawyers we've sought advice from. This book describes the rewards and pitfalls of raising a grandchild, and gives practical advice for increasing the rewards while avoiding the pitfalls. More important, it anticipates a grandparent's feelings at every step of the long process of raising a child, and describes how to avoid the pitfalls while increasing the rewards. Friends not trying to raise grandchildren expressed their disagreement with my choice, then disappeared, as the book describes happens to many grandparents. The children arrive distressed, emotional, sometimes even emaciated, and it is difficult helping them heal knowing at any time a parent may reclaim and harm them again or dealing with a loved daughter or son, or their ex spouse, who threaten to take the child unless the grandparents meet their demands for the support of the child's parents as well. The authors describe all the risks and difficulties, and also the rewards, of taking in a grandchild or grandchildren. It described to me where I'd erred in the past and where I was erring in the present, and how my plan for a resolution would only make things worse. Ouch. But it also provided reassurance I needed, that my child's problems were not my fault and I could make a difference in my grandchild's life. Most of all, this book made me feel as if there were many on this path, who felt the same feelings I felt, and we not only can make a difference, we are making a difference. Just can't say enough about how helpful

this book is to any grandparent trying to raise a child.

My wife and I are among the growing amount of grandparents that are raising their grandchildren after having raised their children. We were not expecting to be doing this in our 60's, but what can you do? Grandparents as parents is a comprehensive guide on a great many issues and different circumstances ex. legal red tape, costs, when a lawyer is needed, support groups and has many different examples of what some grandparents have gone through, it's nice to know you're not alone. We have even emailed the author, Sylvie de Toledo and the g.a.p. organization and Ms. de Toledo personally emailed back twice, and telephoned us to answer questions. This book is essential for grandparents with this on their plate, you will not be disappointed. UPDATE- This is the second addition of this book which has been published since my original review, just as helpful and relevant to what can be a difficult situation at times and very fulfilling on the other.

This book is a God send...I cried, shook my head in agreement and found someone who understood my circumstances especially as it relates to the loss I feel for my freedom and my son as our relationship will never be the same.

As a recent G.A.P. member, I found this book to be very well written and very informative. I highly recommend it. To those who have taken on the responsibility of rearing grandchildren, if possible, seek out a GAP group in your area. It is so supportive, and knowing others who are experiencing the same challenges is a life saver.

In a role many of us didn't expect this book offers comfort, support and great ideas.

As a grandparent raising grandchildren you may be able to purchase only one book; this is the book you need! It is insightful, well written, easy to read and full of helpful information.

A great guide for anyone who finds themselves with a second family. You are not alone and don't blame yourself for what had happened.

A very useful guide for grand parents (or great grand parents) who find themselves caring for grandchildren for whatever reason. This booklet certainly contains advice for dealing with the numerous and varied challenges of caring for and bringing up the younger generation, but also discusses

some of the emotional and legal issues that may be involved should relationships become contentious. Overall, an excellent source.

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