

Recent Developments

- **Housing and House Furnishings**
- **Human Development**

Housing and House Furnishings

Each year the Chicago Title and Trust Co. ranks the country's housing markets by using a residential growth ratio (the ratio of new housing units per every 100 existing homes). According to a study, Charlotte and Raleigh-Durham in North Carolina ranked 7th and 10th, respectively, in the nation for fastest-growing U.S. Housing markets in 1996. Naples, Florida led the nation. In the category of fastest growing states, North Carolina ranked 7th in the nation, behind Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Georgia, Colorado, and Idaho (in that order). Oregon, Florida, and South Carolina completed the top ten.

Source: *Builder*, January 1998, Volume 21, No. 1

Contributed by: Sarah D. Kirby, Housing Specialist, North Carolina State University.

Human Development

A national study found that grandparents who provide primary care for a grandchild are almost twice as likely as other grandparents to have high levels of depressive symptoms. Most at-risk for depression among grandparent caregivers were new caregivers, those in poor health, younger respondents, and women.

Source: Minkler, M. et al. (1997). Depression in grandparents raising grandchildren: Results of a national longitudinal study. *Archives of Family Medicine*. 6(5), 445-452.

Contributed by: Luci Bearon, Adult Development/Aging Specialist, North Carolina State University.

Editor's Note: *FFCI* is looking for authors to write the Recent Developments column. An author would be expected to survey the research and literature in his or her area of expertise within the last 3-4 months and write a short summary (150 words or less) of each major development, with

appropriate references for readers who want more information. Our goal is to make the Recent Developments column a thorough overview of the latest research and trends in Family and Consumer Sciences. We are looking for authors who have expertise in the following fields of study:

- Family Resource Management (finances, budgeting, retirement planning, etc.)
- Consumer Issues (credit, scams, etc.)
- Legal Issues (estate planning, family law, small business law, etc.)
- Housing and House Furnishings
- Food and Nutrition
- Food Safety
- Health
- Apparel and Textiles
- Aging
- Family Relationships
- Child Care/Parenting

Writing this type of column on a regular basis is a great opportunity to establish yourself nationally as an expert in your field of study.

If you are interested, please contact Dr. Sarah D. Kirby, *FFCI*, Associate Editor, North Carolina State University, Campus Box 7605, Raleigh, North Carolina 27695-7605, (919) 515-9154, sarah_kirby@ncsu.edu. Also, please review the submission guidelines.