

AN ABSTRACT OF THE DISSERTATION OF

Ruth-Anne Rodgers for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in
Family Resource Management presented on March 30, 1995.

Title: Financial Management Planning Styles Among Selected Households
of Retirement Age Women Living Alone: Is Rehearsal an Influence?

Abstract approved: _____
/ **Redacted for Privacy** _____
Arlene Holbrook

Financial management planning styles were investigated with original data collected from 180 unmarried, elderly women with a home economics college background and living alone. Deacon and Firebaugh's (1975, 1988) household management systems theory, continuity theory from gerontology, and the construct of anticipatory socialization from sociology framed the study. Three planning styles named by Buehler and Hogan (1986) as Resource-centered (morphogenic), Goal-centered (morphostatic), and Constrained (random) were identified in the pre- and post-age 60 households. Measures of planning styles were adapted from an original instrument developed by Beard and Firebaugh (1978). Resource-centered planning was characterized as creating, increasing, or substituting resources while maintaining goals; Goal-centered as deleting, modifying, or prioritizing goals while accepting current resources; and Constrained planning as getting by day-by-day. Goal-centered measures were the most descriptive and Constrained measures the least descriptive. Planning style adopted in middle age was significantly related to style in retirement. Resource-centered planning was subject to collapse into Constrained planning. Resource-

centered planning was correlated with age (inversely) and pension income; Goal-centered planning with handling finances pre-age 60 and satisfaction with financial management in retirement. Constrained planning was related to lower pre- and post-age 60 income, low level or no participation in planning retirement income and greater likelihood of dissatisfaction with financial practices in retirement. A rehearsal was related to financial management tasks rather than simulation of living alone. Among Constrained planners, the formerly-married were negatively affected by financial experience before age 60 and positively by preparedness and participation in planning retirement income compared to never-married. Many (43 percent) lived alone less than a year before retirement. More had money left over after expenses in retirement (61 percent) than pre-retirement (30 percent). Retirement income had been planned alone or with advice (43 percent), with husband (41 percent), by husband alone (4.5 percent) or not at all (8.5 percent). Eighty percent had anticipated living alone in their later years. Financial planning styles in retirement appear to reflect a pre-retirement rehearsal of family paradigms, financial practices, and planning style.

Copyright by Ruth-Anne Rodgers
March 30, 1995
All Rights Reserved

Financial Management Planning Styles Among Selected Households
of Retirement Age Women Living Alone:
Is Rehearsal an Influence?

by

Ruth-Anne Rodgers

A DISSERTATION

submitted to

Oregon State University

in partial fulfillment of
the requirements for the
degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

Completed March 30, 1995
Commencement June 1995

Doctor of Philosophy dissertation of Ruth-Anne Rodgers presented on
March 30, 1995.

APPROVED:

Redacted for Privacy

Associate Professor, representing Family Resource Management

Redacted for Privacy

Graduate Program Director, Family Resource Management

Redacted for Privacy

Dean of Graduate School

I understand that my dissertation will become part of the permanent collection of Oregon State University libraries. My signature below authorizes release of my dissertation to any reader upon request.

Redacted for Privacy

Ruth-Anne Rodgers, Author

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The avenue leading to this dissertation is lined with persons to be recognized for their support, contributions, and patient expectation of the completion of this goal. For the academic support of my Graduate Committee and professional associates and for the contributions of my family and friends, I am profoundly grateful. Thank you all for your assistance whether in direct support of completing the dissertation or through sustaining the author throughout the journey:

... To my Graduate Committee: Arlene Holyoak, Major Professor; Geraldine I. Olson, Director of the Family Resource Management Graduate Program; Jon (Joe) Hendricks, Representative for the Gerontology Minor and Chair of the Department of Sociology; and Charles Langford, Representative for the Sociology Minor. . .

... To Dean Kinsey B. Green for opportunities extended to me for professional development by being my mentor in the Alice A. Ross Leadership Academy. . .

... To Dr. Roine H. Thorup for opening my thought to a Ph.D. while I was working for my Bachelor of Arts degree in home economics and Dr. Margaret McWilliams for suggesting the College of Home Economics at Oregon State University. . .

... To Dr. Thomas W. Miller, Professor of Statistics, University of Oregon, for statistical consultation and David J. Jones for assistance with the graphic design of the questionnaire, HOW DO YOU MANAGE? . . .

... To Mary Galloway, Marie Parks, Dorothy Pyatt, Irene Saling, and Florence Shuff for their participation in the pilot testing of HOW DO YOU MANAGE? ...

... To Dr. Robert O. McMahon for editorial review and consultation throughout varied stages of the research process. . .

... To Celeste Suzanne Jones, Paulette M. Jarvey, and Janice E. Lamont for their generosity and encouragement which have extended over a period of years in support of their very grateful friend. . .

... To my cousins, Lawrence S. and Helen Rodgers, for their many kindnesses and enthusiastic support especially throughout the final days. . .

... To my aunt, Ruth Marie Lee Whitlock, whose loving and generous heart provided support essential for completion of this goal. It is in loving memory of my mother, Evelyn Lee Rodgers Eaton, that I acknowledge the gratitude she would surely have expressed upon knowing of this achievement.

It is with special recognition and honor that I acknowledge the contributions of my friend, Doris Parsons McMahon. Throughout the several last years she has upheld the vision beyond the challenges of graduate study. She has contributed in many ways to my advanced education and expanded my horizons for the present and future. I am deeply grateful for her generosity, patience, dedication, and friendship. The lessons will long be remembered and incorporated into my professional life, wherever that journey may lead.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	1
Focus of Study	3
Focus of Theoretical Frameworks	5
Statement of the Problem	6
Purpose and Objectives	9
Justification	10
Definitions of Terms	12
II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE	15
Trends Related to Older Women Living Alone	16
Age Classifications	17
Marital Status Classifications	17
Summary of Trends Related to Older Women Living Alone	18
Family Resource Management Theoretical Framework	19
Deacon and Firebaugh Theoretical Framework	19
Management Research	25
Management Research Related to the Elderly	26
Planning Styles Research	26
Planning Behavior Research	29
Summary of Management and Planning Research	32
Social Sciences Theoretical Framework	33
Continuity Theory	33
Anticipatory Socialization	36
Summary of Social Sciences Theoretical Framework	40
Comparisons of Always-single and Formerly-married Women	40
Marital Status Predictors and Life Style	42
Marital Status Predictors and Coping Strategies	46
Summary of Research Related to the Always-single and Formerly-married	47
Contributions of the Review of Literature	48

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

		<u>Page</u>
III.	METHODOLOGY	49
	Overview of the Study	49
	Assumptions	50
	Sample	51
	Limitations and Advantages of Sample	52
	Survey Instrument	55
	Measures of Financial Management Planning Styles	56
	Validity	57
	Measures of Continuity and Anticipatory Socialization	59
	Data Collection	60
	Variables	61
	Dependent Variables	61
	Independent Variables for Descriptive Analyses	63
	Independent Variables for Inferential Analyses	65
	Hypotheses	68
	Statistical Procedures	73
IV.	FINDINGS	75
	Sample Profile	75
	Descriptive Statistics for Sample	76
	Demographic Characteristics	76
	Income and Self-reported Financial Adequacy	77
	Financial Management Characteristics Before and After Age 60	80
	Attitudinal Profile Relative to Managing Personal Finances	84
	Inferential Statistics	86
	Inferential Procedures Overview	86
	Factor Loadings of Planning Style Measures	86
	Results of Null Hypotheses Testing	90
	Null Hypotheses Related to Objective I:	
	Continuity Between Pre-retirement and Retirement Planning Styles	91
	Hypothesis One Overview	91
	Hypothesis One	92
	Hypothesis Two Overview	98
	Hypothesis Two	99

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

	<u>Page</u>
Null Hypotheses Related to Objective II:	
Prediction of Planning Styles by Rehearsal Variables and Satisfaction With Managing Finances	103
Hypothesis Three Overview	103
Hypothesis Three	103
Hypothesis Four Overview	107
Hypothesis Four	108
Null Hypotheses Related to Objective III:	
Marital Status Differences, Rehearsal Variables and Satisfaction With Managing Finances in Relation to Planning Styles	110
Descriptive Statistics:	
Always-single Versus Formerly-married	110
Inferential Statistics:	
Always-single Versus Formerly-married	114
Hypotheses Five Through Seven Overview	114
Hypothesis Five Overview	114
Hypothesis Five	115
Hypothesis Six Overview	118
Hypothesis Six	118
Hypothesis Seven Overview	121
Hypothesis Seven	122
 V. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, IMPLICATIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS	 127
Summary	127
Summary of Theoretical Framework	129
Summary of Univariate Analyses	129
Summary of Inferential Analyses	131
Conclusions	134
Discussion of Findings in Relation to Theoretical Frameworks and Previous Research	135
Conclusions Related to Financial Management Planning Styles	140
Is Rehearsal an Influence? Does it Differ Between the Always-single and Formerly-married?	143

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

	<u>Page</u>
Implications	144
Characteristics Significant Among Resource- centered Planners	145
Characteristics Significant Among Goal-centered Planners	145
Characteristics Significant Among Constrained Planners	146
Contributions to the Research Community	146
Recommendations for Further Study	147
REFERENCES	149
APPENDICES	159

LIST OF FIGURES

<u>Figure</u>		<u>Page</u>
1	Family System, With Managerial Subsystem Emphasis	21
2	Individual Personal/Managerial System	22
3	Managerial System, Planning Emphasis	24

LIST OF TABLES

<u>Table</u>	<u>Page</u>
1 Geographic Distribution of Sample Members	52
2 Sample Profile Compared With Retirement Age Women in the United States	53
3 Measures of Financial Management Planning Styles, With Factor Coefficients and Cronbach's Alphas, Selected from Buehler and Hogan (1986) Measures	58
4 Income Levels	78
5 Income Sources and Ranks, by Percent of Sample	79
6 Self-reported Adequacy of Finances to Meet Living Expenses, by Percent of Sample	80
7 Most Frequent Responses to Planning Style Measures, by Percent of Sample, Ranked by Pre-age 60 Responses	82
8 Satisfaction With Management of Finances, by Percent of Sample	85
9 Eigenvalues of Initial Unrotated Factors for Pre- and Post-retirement Age Planning Style Measures	87
10 Varimax Rotated Two-factor Pattern, Pre-retirement Age Planning Styles	88
11 Varimax Rotated Forced Three-factor Pattern, Pre-retirement Age Planning Styles	89
12 Varimax Rotated Three-factor Pattern, Post-retirement Age Planning Styles	90
13 Pre- and Post-age 60 Financial Management Planning Styles Correlation Matrix, Full Sample	100

LIST OF TABLES (Continued)

<u>Table</u>	<u>Page</u>
14 Predictor Variables of Post-age 60 Financial Management Planning Styles Among Elderly Women Living Alone, Excluding Pre-age 60 Planning Styles	105
15 Predictors of Satisfaction With Post-age 60 Personal Financial Management	109
16 Education, Comparing Always-single and Formerly-married Respondents	111
17 Income Sources, Comparing Always-single and Formerly-married, by Proportion of Respondents, Ranked by Always-single Responses	112
18 Income Levels, Comparing Always-single and Formerly-married, by Proportion of Respondents	113
19 Pre- and Post-age 60 Financial Management Planning Styles Correlation Matrix, by Marital Status	117
20 Resource-centered Regression Model for Test of Hypothesis Six	119
21 Goal-centered Regression Model for Test of Hypothesis Six	120
22 Constrained Regression Model for Test of Hypothesis Six	120
23 Satisfaction With Management of Finances, Response Frequencies For Sample, the Always-single, and the Formerly-married	123
24 Predictors of Satisfaction With Post-age 60 Personal Financial Management and the Influence of Marital Status	124

LIST OF TABLES (Continued)

25	Summary of Significant Correlations and Predictors of Post-age 60 Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained Planning Styles	125
----	---	-----

LIST OF APPENDICES

<u>Appendix</u>		<u>Page</u>
A	Tables of Descriptive and Inferential Data	160
B	Planning Style Measures Alphas and Adaptations	182
C	Sample Correspondence and Survey Instrument	187
D	Responses to Open-ended Question 42	197

LIST OF APPENDICES TABLES

<u>Table</u>	<u>Page</u>
A-1 Regional Distribution of Respondents by State, Per Return Zip Code	161
A-2 Age of Participants	161
A-3 Marital Status	162
A-4 Years Married	162
A-5 Years Since Loss of Spouse	162
A-6 Adult Children	163
A-7 Duration of Living Alone Prior to Age 60	163
A-8 Duration of Living Alone After Age 60	164
A-9 Living Arrangements	164
A-10 Home Ownership	164
A-11 Primary Occupation Since College	165
A-12 Income Sources	166
A-13 Income Source, Order of Importance, by Percent of Sample	167
A-14 Income Source Providing More Than Half of Income	168
A-15 Financial Adequacy Profile	169
A-16 Resource-centered Planning Style Measures Rates of Response, by Percent of Sample	170
A-17 Goal-centered Planning Style Measures Rates of Response, by Percent of Sample	171

LIST OF APPENDICES TABLES (Continued)

<u>Table</u>		<u>Page</u>
A-18	Constrained Planning Style Measures Rates of Response, by Percent of Sample	172
A-19	Pre-retirement Age Financial Management Behavior: Experience Planning Finances Before Age 60	173
A-20	Helpfulness of Financial Management Experience Before Retirement Age	173
A-21	Pre-retirement Age Financial Management Behavior: Participation in Planning Retirement Income	174
A-22	Post-retirement Age Financial Management Behavior: Planning Day-to-day, Planning Major Decisions	174
A-23	Preparedness to Plan Finances For Retirement Prior to Age 60	175
A-24	Pre-retirement Age Financial Management Behavior: Who Tracked Finances Before Age 60	175
A-25	Open Remarks to Q-42: What, If Anything, Would You Do Differently About Managing Your Finances These Days	176
A-26	Open Remarks to Q-41: Anticipation of Living Alone During Retirement	176
A-27	Correlation Coefficients for Variables Testing Hypothesis One	177
A-28	Multiple Regression Models for Testing Hypothesis Three, Model 1: Resource-centered Planning, Model 2: Goal-centered Planning, and Model 3: Constrained Planning	180

LIST OF APPENDICES TABLES (Continued)

<u>Table</u>		<u>Page</u>
B-1	Buehler and Hogan (1986) Factor Coefficients and Cronbach's Alphas for Planning Style Items	183
B-2	Comparison of the Original Buehler and Hogan (1986) Wording and the Rodgers (1995) Adaptations for Resource-centered Planning Style Measures	184
B-3	Comparison of the Original Buehler and Hogan (1986) Wording and the Rodgers (1995) Adaptations for Goal-centered Planning Style Measures	185
B-4	Comparison of the Original Buehler and Hogan (1986) Wording and the Rodgers (1995) Adaptations for Constrained Planning Style Measures	186

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLANNING STYLES
AMONG SELECTED HOUSEHOLDS
OF RETIREMENT AGE WOMEN LIVING ALONE:
IS REHEARSAL AN INFLUENCE?

I. INTRODUCTION

Home economics research has historically been responsive to societal trends. Following a century-long focus on families, there is increasing interest in individuals as a unit of study. This adjustment in focus accommodates the increasing numbers of one-person households maintained by retirement age women in the United States (Wolf, 1990). The profile of the elderly living alone reveals "... a group who are disproportionately female, widowed, without children, older, and poorer, as compared to elderly people who live with someone else" (Harris & Associates, 1986, p. 1). Variation in the levels of economic security for women who live alone invites investigation of these households. Why do some of these older women fair better than others? Chevan and Korson (1972) noted, "Living alone represents privacy and a high degree of independence in household management and personal affairs, which are aspects of a conjugal family system" (p. 47). One useful approach to exploring the predisposing factors related to optimal conditions for living alone may be the analysis of personal managerial behavior.

Theoretical frameworks in family resource management have identified planning as a fundamental system component related to personal managerial behavior. Reasoning that planning prefaces output, it is

suggested that planning behavior is a key element in understanding differences in managerial behavior.

Theory based in the social sciences suggests that socialization influences role performance. However, in the past, most women's socialization for the role of living alone appears to have been overshadowed. An historically limited representation in social theory of the lone aged mirrors such a trend (Tunstall, 1966). For today's older women, managerial role performance appears to have evolved and become self-sustained in the absence of commonplace socialization. P. M. Keith (1986) suggested,

Anticipatory socialization facilitates role transitions and role performance [Burr, 1972]. Socialization also suggests that roles are expected and intended. In contrast to marriage, singlehood is seldom a target of socialization. With the pervasive pressure to marry in our culture, there is little reason to expect that anticipatory socialization to singleness as a permanent status would be likely to occur. Skills for managing singleness must be derived through some means other than socialization or not at all. (p. 86)

Therefore, the identification of commendatory role performance related to the management of finances is expected to contribute to educating women for managing their singleness in the later years. It appears most women will likely live alone and carry on with managing their personal finances in their later years. As an awareness, i.e., anticipation, becomes more noteworthy regarding older women's likelihood of becoming permanently single, preparation for managing finances alone may accordingly become more commonly a part of socialization. Lessons derived from the experiences and practices of today's older women may benefit future cohorts of the aged.

The identification of factors related to the socialization for managing finances alone in one's later years may be beneficial for educating girls and women to prepare for their later years.

Focus of Study

This research is dedicated to promoting independence and self-sufficiency in the management of personal finances. The subject area is the personal managerial component of planning and factors which may influence financial management planning behavior. The theoretical framework is comprised of guides from 1) family resource management systems theory and 2) anticipatory socialization and continuity theory in the social sciences.

The foundation of this research is the planning component of the managerial subsystem in household management systems theory. This theory posits that throughput, which encompasses the managerial element of planning, and inputs, i.e., the precedents of throughput, yield the system's output (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1975 and Heck & Douthitt, 1982). Thus, an understanding of planning styles from throughput may identify variations in the degree to which household demands are met with attainable resources, i.e., output. Further, it is suggested that financial management planning styles may be especially suited in this search. Financial management practices are presumed to span across household types, economic levels, and most of the stages of the life cycle. Therefore, an approach to discovering why some older women fair better than others may be encompassed by a study of financial management styles.

Objective I is to investigate the extent to which selected demographic and characteristic factors are correlated with three post-age 60 financial management planning styles of older women living alone. Objective II is to explore factors deemed to influence or provide a rehearsal related to post-age 60 financial management planning styles. Rehearsal, is used to designate experiencing before hand the managerial role encountered by women living alone in their later years. Self-reported satisfaction with financial management is included as a predictor of post-age 60 planning style. Objective III addresses the inference that the always-single, in contrast with the formerly-married, may have had increased opportunities for role rehearsal of managing finances in a one-person household. Further, differing characteristics related to financial management planning styles may align with marital status differences. The duration of the presence or absence of a spouse over one's life course may be inferred as influential on a rehearsal for managing finances.

Management research, especially financial planning research, primarily addresses multiple member pre-retirement age households (Israelsen, 1990). Approximately 10 percent of the nation's households are comprised of elderly persons living alone and the majority (79 percent) of these persons are women (U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1992a). Although measures of economic well-being among women are reported, these reports tend to commingle the always-single, widowed, divorced and separated. Consequently, economic profiles distinguishing always-single women from formerly-married women are often limited. It is suggested that respondents be distinguished as either always-single or formerly-married when marital status groups are compared among older women.

Focus of Theoretical Frameworks

Theoretical frameworks in family resource management and the social sciences are selected for review. The family resource management framework is based upon the work of Deacon and Firebaugh (1975, 1988); the social sciences framework features continuity theory and the concept of anticipatory socialization.

Family resource management systems theory (Deacon and Firebaugh 1975, 1988) is a widely accepted guide for the analysis of household managerial processes in home economics. This systems theory identifies a managerial subsystem of individuals and families comprised of input, throughput, and output components. Planning is identified as part of throughput. Throughput activities precede and affect system output, including fulfilled and unfulfilled demands. Thus, an analysis of planning style is suggested as useful in understanding variations in system output, such as household demand responses and resource changes.

Continuity theory is an overarching theory working on the premise there are preferences and behaviors which evolve over a person's life course and continue in retirement (Atchley, 1972; Covey, 1981; Neugarten, Havighurst & Tobin, 1968). Accordingly, "as the individual grows older, he is predisposed toward maintaining continuity in his habits, associations, preferences, and so on" (Atchley, 1972). A test of such continuity in financial management behavior would serve two interests. First, predictors of post-age 60 planning behavior among the middle-aged may distinguish forthcoming patterns of handling financial resources. Second, by obtaining a plot predicting behavior which influences financial decisions, projections may be

made for future resource utilization and economic consequences. Therefore, an appraisal of the likelihood that financial management practices occurring in middle age would carry over into retirement may be useful in understanding why some older women fair better than others. Forearmed with such information, individuals acting either in their personal interests or as professionals on behalf of clientele may become empowered to achieve favorable consequences or output.

Anticipatory socialization follows the reasoning that preparation or practice prior to role engagement can be beneficial to one's performance in a given role (Burr, 1972; Feldman, 1976; Merton, 1968). Differences in anticipation and preparation, i.e., rehearsal for living alone in the later years, may result in variations of post-age 60 managerial behavior and satisfaction.

Statement of the Problem

Socialization for the later years, whether for roles or role loss, is comparatively limited in the American culture (Rosow, 1973). Present-day retirement age American women usually have had little to no formal preparation for handling the loss of their spousal role or assuming the lone management of household financial tasks. Irrespective of such shortcomings in socialization, unmarried elderly women attain and maintain independent living arrangements, albeit amid varying economic climes and managerial constraints. The problem to be addressed is how to uplift individuals who are severely encumbered by resource constraints and to help them enhance their utilization of resources, especially economic resources and managerial

skills. The research problem is addressed by identifying strategies for achieving favorable financial management planning behavior in the retirement years. A study is made of variables predicting post-age 60 financial management behavior and satisfaction with financial management practices among a selected group of older women living alone.

A facet of this research problem is the trend of limited educational opportunities which could provide influential training for long term resource utilization. For example, public schools, including continuing education programs, are already in place which may be utilized to teach financial management practices. The field of home economics embraces this subject area in a range of curriculum levels. However, uniformity of opportunity to study managerial practices within the personal finance framework is considered to be limited overall in both offerings and accessibility by the potential students. Measures of system output are likewise lacking in agreement to justify the long range benefits which family resource management specialists proclaim. A retrospective view of the lone elderly women who have been and are managing alone affords opportunities whereby to justify the necessary investment to offer study of managerial practices.

Conditions and circumstances identifying the women who do not fair well in the retirement years are important factors in the research problem. Marital group comparisons among elderly women suggest some groups have resource related advantages which others do not. In several studies, the never-married have been found to have such advantages over the widowed, divorced, or separated women. For example, Stull and Scarisbrick-Hauser (1989) investigated coping strategies and discovered that the never-married

develop strategies which allow them to “function at satisfying levels” and “sustain community living” (p. 137) to a greater extent than others without a spouse. Similarly, P. M. Keith (1985) reported, “Never-married women enjoyed more favorable economic circumstances at retirement than widowed and divorced/separated women” (p. 415). In general, when considering resources necessary to maintain an autonomous lifestyle “. . . compared with never-married women, widowed and divorced and separated women seemed especially vulnerable” (P. M. Keith, 1985, p. 415). Efforts to understand these differences are obstructed in two ways. First, there are variations in the research community as to the meaning of the phrase, living alone (Borsch-Supan, 1990; Schwartz, Danziger & Smolensky, 1984) and in clustering of the widowed, divorced, and never-married (Carp & Christensen, 1986; Godwin & Carroll, 1986; Lown, 1986; Stull & Scarisbrick-Hauser, 1989; Walker, Tremblay & Parkhurst, 1984; and Williams, 1985). Second, understanding marital status differences has been restricted, until recent years, by limited research related to the unmarried and especially the always-single.

There is evidence in home economics research that effective management contributes significantly to resource satisfaction (Williams, 1985). However, management has yet to be investigated specifically among the unmarried elderly who live alone. The identification of financial management planning styles based upon proneness to morphostasis and morphogenesis has been studied in single-parent households (Buehler and Hogan, 1986) and among homemakers with children (Beard & Firebaugh, 1978). However, research has not yet explored whether financial management planning styles are detectable among always-single, widowed, and divorced women of retirement age living alone. Research has not been

found which investigates either socialization for managing personal or household finances alone in the retirement years differences nor in managerial practices among the unmarried.

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this research is the investigation of financial management planning styles and factors related to a rehearsal for planning finances alone in the retirement years. This purpose includes testing the usefulness of financial management planning style measures. These measures previously have not been implemented among householders over age 60. Therefore the research base is extended in a two-fold manner:

1) expanding and confirming of the utility of the named planning style measures, and 2) adding the representation of older women living alone in the financial management research base. No comparable study has been located which addresses this focus in the context of single-person elderly households. Therefore, knowledge of both the focus of planning styles and the expanding of the research population are contributions to the research base.

Objective I includes the investigation of relationships between demographic factors and post-age 60 planning styles and predictors of those styles. This goal is directed toward gaining familiarity with traits associated with planning styles. Usefulness is expected in the identification of factors optimizing managerial roles related to living alone.

Objective II focuses on the exploration of rehearsal factors deemed influential upon post-age 60 planning styles and the self-reported satisfaction with this planning. The intent is to identify predictors of managerial styles useful in developing strategies to optimize role performance when living alone and managing finances in retirement.

Objective III addresses factors distinguished between the always-single and never-married relative to the content of Objective I and Objective II. This objective considers the inference that those traversing the path to retirement without a spouse experience a different role rehearsal for living alone than those whose history included a spouse.

Justification

Living alone is increasing among all retirement age women, especially those age 85 and older, regardless of marital history or income level (Kotlikoff & Morris, 1988; U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1990, 1992a). It is highly probable that the growing population of unmarried older women will live alone (Stull & Scarisbrick-Hauser, 1989; U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1992a; and Ward, 1979). Research in family economics, albeit responsive to social trends (Israelsen, 1990), only recently has begun to focus on the single mature woman (Emberson, 1987).

The objectives of this research are believed to be congruent with research goals and visions for the profession's future. As stated by Key and Firebaugh (1989), "Family resource management as a field of study must become committed to theory-driven programmatic research aimed at solving

theoretically and socially relevant issues" (p. 16). Advancing education levels and the subsequent increased income of women in the United States may influence the readiness of women to manage household financial matters alone in the retirement years (Schick & Schick, 1994; U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1992b). In the future, a greater proportion of elderly women are expected to achieve education levels and characteristics which pattern those of the participants. Projections for increasing rates of one-person households among the elderly even now signal a growing need for the expertise of professionals such as home economists, educators, financial planners, social scientists, and human services providers whose clientele maintain such households.

It appears, overall, that socialization either to live alone or to manage personal finances alone in the later years has been slighted in the culture and education system in the United States. Information for strategies to optimize older women's role performance when living alone and managing finances is featured in the analyses. Predictors of planning behavior and satisfaction with planning finances may be of interest to agents of socialization, e.g., educators, counselors, financial planners, publishers, students of family and social units. For example, measures for assessing planning styles may be applied to projecting the occurrence of favorable or unfavorable traits in the later years. Youth may be encouraged to prepare, the middle-aged prompted to alter or stay the course, or the older householder motivated to renew education. Factors deemed influential in predicting financial management planning styles and satisfaction may be incorporated into financial management curricula.

Definitions of Terms

Anticipatory socialization: The process of “implicit, unwitting, and informal” (Merton, 1968, p. 384) preparation for a likely future role; in particular, for women, the role related to being of retirement age, unmarried, living alone, and maintaining essentially independent management of household finances.

Continuity theory: A theory that posits that “. . . in making adaptive choices, middle-aged and older adults attempt to preserve and maintain existing internal and external structures and that they prefer to accomplish this objective by using continuity (i.e., applying familiar strategies in familiar arenas of life)” (Atchley, 1989, p. 183).

Elderly: Commonly associated with persons age 65 and older in the research cited; when applied to the older, retirement-age women the term is extended to encompass individuals age 60 and older.

Living alone: “Living alone” is used interchangeably with the phrase “one-person household.” It is noted for comparison purposes that the phrases “living alone” and “living independently” are not uniformly interchangeable with “one-person household” across research populations. For example, a study of choice in living arrangements among the aged by Schwartz et al. (1984) defines living alone as “a household unit that contains a couple (or an elderly individual, if there is no spouse present). . . ” (p. 231). According to Borsch-Supan (1990), the phrase “independent living arrangements” is used in the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) to represent an “elderly individual and his or her spouse” (p. 94).

Older women: Women age 60 or older.

One-person household: A household comprised of one occupant; one-person household is used interchangeably with living alone.

Planning style, Constrained (random): Random planning behavior is "... characterized by few efforts to change either demands or resources. Rather, planning behavior centered around 'getting by' day-to-day" (Buehler & Hogan, 1986, p. 355).

Planning style, Goal-centered (morphostatic): Morphostatic planning behavior is "... characterized by modifying, deleting, or reprioritizing family demands while accepting the family's current set of resources" (Buehler & Hogan, 1986, p. 355).

Planning style, Resource-centered (morphogenic): Morphogenic planning behavior is "... characterized by increasing, creating, or substituting resources while maintaining the family's set of goals, wants, and needs" (Buehler & Hogan, 1986, p. 355).

Rehearsal: Experience managing personal finances as encountered when living alone and managing finances in the later years.

Retirement age: Age 60 and older.

Systems, Morphogenic: Behavior which parallels behavior in open family paradigms; characterized by "permeable boundaries," and "flexible internal structures to deal with varying inputs" (Beard & Firebaugh, 1978, p. 192) and more likely than morphostatic systems to adjust easily to change. The morphogenic system "... encourages adaptive and expansive behavior that accordingly influences planning. Relatively open systems also have order in their sequence of activities, but they have greater flexibility than the more closed systems" (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988, p. 90).

Systems, Morphostatic: Behavior which parallels behavior in relatively closed family paradigms; characterized by “. . . rigid boundaries that accept limited inputs, inflexible plans, inflexible internal structures, and difficulty in adjusting to changes” (Beard & Firebaugh, 1978, p. 192). “The planning emphasizes the status quo for various reasons: preference for a simple and stable style, limited alternatives, or perhaps because periods of stress require limits on change” (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988, p. 89-90).

Systems, Random: Characteristically “spontaneous;” behavior is uncharacteristically morphogenic or morphostatic (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988, p. 88).

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Research addressing households of retirement age women apart from the mainstream family context is relatively recent. Within the last three decades, economic resources and social changes have provided opportunities for women, especially the unmarried, to attain and maintain independent living arrangements (Holden, 1988; P. M. Keith, 1989; Kobrin, 1976; Schwartz et al., 1984; Wolf, 1990). The consequent changes have reshaped household structures in the United States from predominantly multiple member units to an increasing array of one-person households. These one-person elderly households are most likely to be retirement age women (U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1989a). The profile emerging is that of an increasingly competent group of older individuals living alone (Lawton, Moss & Kleban, 1984). However, there remains concern for those living alone and facing resource constraints. Crystal and Shea (1990) reported, "The worst off one-fifth of the elderly (disproportionately unmarried women, minorities, and the physically impaired) receives 5.5% of the elderly's total resources whereas the best off one-fifth receives 46%" (p. 437). Further, a greater percent of the lower income quintile is comprised of the elderly who live alone than the upper quintile (58.4 percent vs. 15 percent).

The literature review first addresses the subuniverse of elderly women living in one-person households and trends related to women living alone. Research related to older women often does not distinguish living arrangements. Therefore, the studies cited support the subject content of the objectives and may not necessarily pertain to one-person households.

Second, the review addresses the overarching family resource management theoretical framework, including related management studies. Third, research related to Objective I pertaining to financial management planning styles, planning behavior and management research is discussed. Fourth, literature is cited which supports Objective II and the social sciences theoretical framework. Lastly, research related to Objective III addresses marital status groups and differences between the always-single and formerly-married.

Trends Related to Older Women Living Alone

It is now common for elderly women in the United States to live alone. In 1990, women were the majority (78.8 percent) of the 9.2 million householders aged 65 and older who lived alone (U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1992a; U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1992b). It is projected this number will increase dramatically in the next four decades (Zedlewski, Barnes, Burt, McBride & Meyer, 1990). Such has been the trend over the past forty years for elderly women. In 1950, only 14 percent of the women aged 65 and older lived alone (Holden, 1988; Kobrin, 1976). By 1967 this rate had climbed to 71.3 percent and by 1990, approximately 78 percent of the elderly women lived alone (U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1992a).

Age Classifications

An age profile of elderly women living alone shows the oldest-old more likely to live by themselves than any other age group. In 1980, 34.0 percent of women aged 65 to 74 and 48.4 percent of those aged 75 to 84 lived alone. Among women aged 85 years and older, 45.2 percent lived in one-person households. By 1990, proportions had changed to 33.2 percent, 53.3 percent, and 56.8, respectively (U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1992a). Within groups age 65 and over, the proportion of women who are widowed increases as age increases. Such women are not only advanced in years but also face constraints which appear to be more pronounced in widowhood (Morgan, 1986). These trends suggest an accelerating demand for information addressing issues faced by older women maintaining their households alone.

Marital Status Classifications

Reports related to the living arrangements of unmarried women age 60 or older are not commonly arranged in relation to separate marital status groups. Variations in definitions as to who lives alone often restrict comparisons. It has been determined that among all unmarried elderly women, the majority (52 percent) are widowed, and the divorced and never-married comprise 18 percent and 24 percent of this population, respectively (U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1989a). Living alone is prevalent among these

groups. Among never-married, elderly women, 63 percent reportedly live in one-person households (Stull et al., 1989). Stull et al., (1989) reported, "The never-married elderly do, however, have somewhat different living arrangements compared with married, divorced/separated and widowed elderly. [Never-married] have fewer people in their household than do [married], but they have a slightly larger household size than do the [divorced/separated] and [widowed]" (p. 134). The proportion of older divorced women (66 percent) living alone reported by Rubenstein (1987) is similar to the proportion of never-married reported by Stull et al., (1989). Projections related to patterns of marital dissolution, postponement of marriage, and the incidence of remaining single suggest the proportion of older women living in one-person households will remain a sizable segment of the population of the United States (Bumpass, 1990; Norton & Moorman, 1987; U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1992a; Zedlewski et al., 1990).

Summary of Trends Related to Older Women Living Alone

Classifications identifying those who live alone are not uniformly interchangeable within the research community. The phrase, living alone, is hereafter interchangeable with the phrase, one-person household. In the United States, it is common for older women to live alone, especially the oldest-old. Women are far more often than men the occupants of elderly one-person households. This trend has been increasing over the past four decades and is expected to continue.

Marital status differentiation of rates of older women who live alone are similar between the never-married and formerly-married. The absence of a spouse, either by having never married or by the loss of a spouse, is a key indicator of the potential for an older woman to be alone. Trends indicate that rates of marriage postponement and dissolution will likely continue. Increasing numbers of unmarried, elderly, and female householders will likely to be living and managing their finances alone.

Family Resource Management Theoretical Framework

Theoretical frameworks of Deacon and Firebaugh (1975, 1988) in family resource management and the concepts of continuity theory and anticipatory socialization from the social sciences are presented as guides to the study of financial management planning styles among older women. The Deacon and Firebaugh framework will be presented first, followed by continuity theory and the construct of anticipatory socialization.

Deacon and Firebaugh Theoretical Framework

The Deacon and Firebaugh (1975, 1988) family resource management systems theory is well known among family economics and home management specialists in home economics. This theory is reviewed as a framework suited to guiding the analysis of household management planning behavior.

The overview will first present the family system, which is comprised of a personal subsystem and managerial subsystem. Second, the personal and managerial subsystems will be described in relation to the system's input, throughput, and output. Third, the planning component of the managerial system will be explained.

Deacon and Firebaugh (1975, 1988) presented a systems approach toward understanding the household managerial functions of individuals and families. The system is defined as "... an integrated set of parts that function to accomplish a set of goals" and the subsystem is considered to be "... a set of components functioning together for a purpose fulfilling the same conditions as a system and playing a functional role in a larger system" (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988, p. 7).

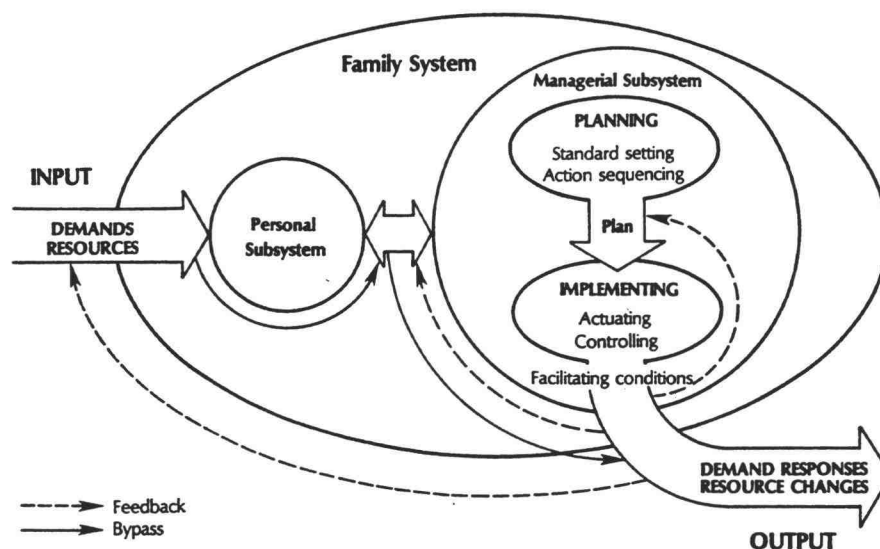
A family system, which is applicable to individuals as well as families, is comprised of two interacting subsystems, each considered to influence the other (Figure 1). These are the personal and managerial subsystems and they explain the means by which the objectives of daily living are accomplished as follows:

A **personal subsystem** contributes values, goal orientations, and underlying capacities to managerial processes.

A **managerial subsystem** accepts output from the personal subsystem and encompasses two fundamental aspects of management, viz., planning and implementing.

The interaction of these personal and managerial subsystems is considered in the context of interaction with an environment and other factors generated from the feedback loop.

Figure 1
Family System, With Managerial Subsystem Emphasis



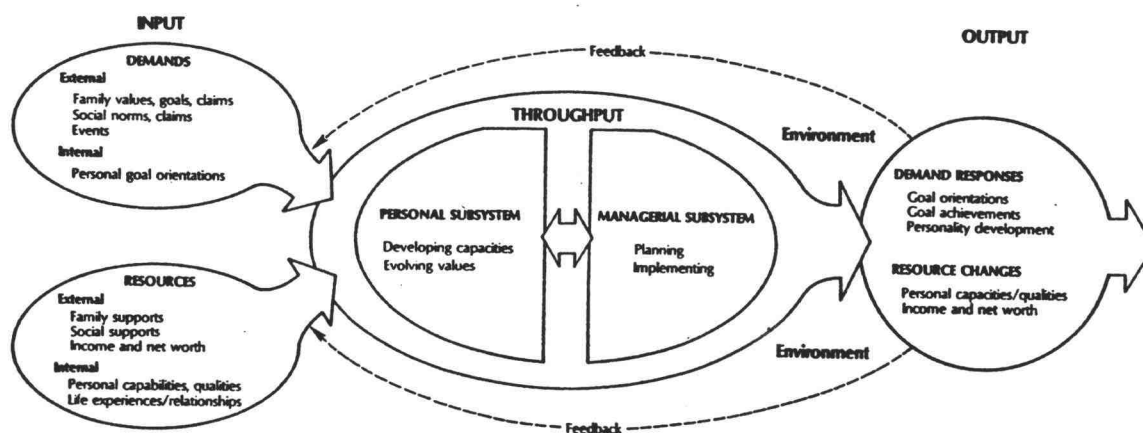
Source: Deacon, R. E. and Firebaugh, F. M. (1988). Family Resource Management (2nd Ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon, Inc., p. 8.

Systems are characterized as relatively open or closed in terms of the exchange between the system and its environment. A closed system "does not make significant exchanges with its environment. . . the internal transfers are far more important than the exchanges across the system's boundary" (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988, p. 16). In an open system there is an ongoing exchange between system and environment. Further, systems are typed by their orientation to change and receptivity to feedback. Systems which are ". . . adaptive and growth supporting in response to change" (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988, p. 18) are classified as morphogenic; systems which are "stable. . . somewhat mechanistic and relatively closed" (p. 18) are called morphostatic. These system classifications are consistent with the literature

characterizing family paradigms as open, closed or random in nature (Constantine, 1986; Kantor & Lehr, 1975). Relatively closed systems are compatible with morphostatic types of systems and open systems parallel morphogenic system types. The random system descriptor is comparable to a residuary classification indicative of spontaneous behavior. A paradigm structure which differs from either morphogenic or morphostatic traits likewise is classified as random.

The personal and managerial subsystems function within an overarching system framework (Figure 2). This framework is comprised of three elements: 1) Input, 2) Throughput, and 3) Output. Morphogenic and morphostatic characteristics, which permeate the personal and managerial subsystems, are reasoned to be reflected in the system as a whole.

Figure 2
Individual Personal / Managerial System



Source: Deacon, R. E. and Firebaugh, F. M. (1988). Family Resource Management (2nd Ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon, Inc., p. 22.

System elements presented in Figure 2 are further described as follows:

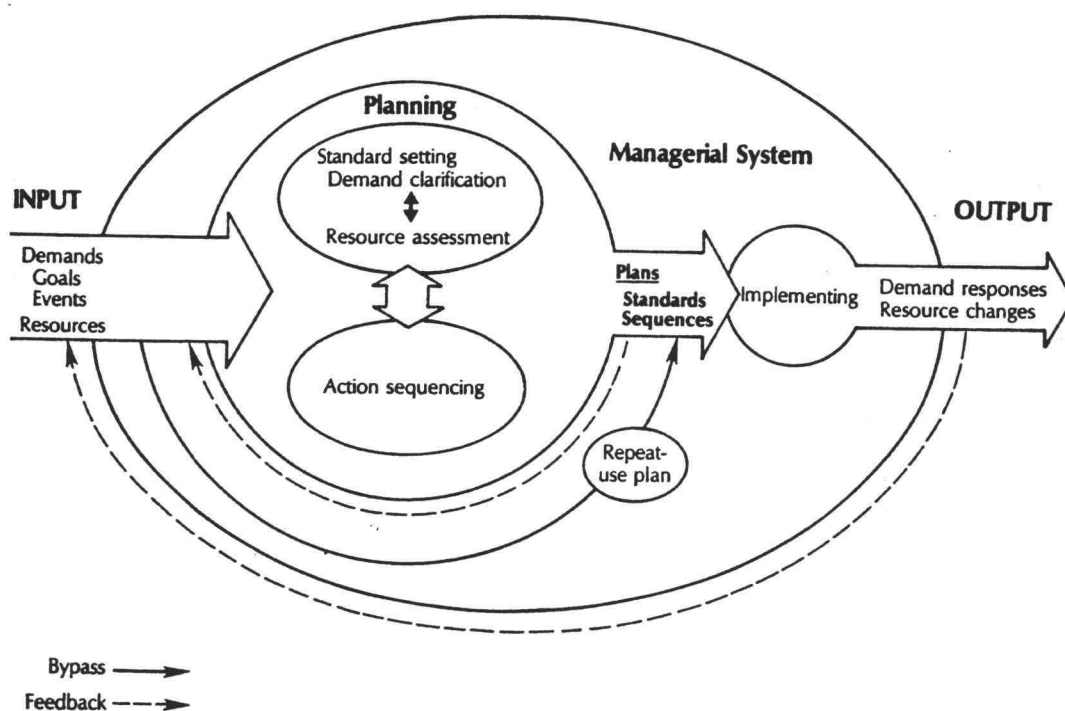
1) **Input:** "... matter, energy, and/or information entering a system in various forms to affect throughput (transformation) processes in the achievement of outcome or output" (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988, p. 8) commonly classified as demands and resources, both external and internal.

2) **Throughput:** "... transformation of matter, energy, and/or information by a system from input to output" (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988, p. 10) commonly classified as planning, implementing and communicating.

3) **Output:** "... matter, energy, and/or information produced by a system in response to input and from throughput (transformation) processes" (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988, p. 12) called demand responses and resource changes.

It is within the managerial subsystem of the main throughput that actual managerial activities are based. With a focus now on managerial functions, the managerial subsystem is characterized as a system comprised of input, throughput, and output components. The throughput of the managerial system contains a subunit of planning behavior. This planning element is comprised of 1) standard setting, which encompasses demand clarification and resource assessment, and 2) action sequencing (Figure 3).

Figure 3
Managerial System, Planning Emphasis



Source: Deacon, R. E. and Firebaugh, F. M. (1988). Family Resource Management (2nd Ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon, Inc., p. 77.

Because planning is included in throughput, which is a precursor of output, the study of planning behavior is reasoned to be useful in understanding the output of household management systems. Since the late 1970's, the Deacon and Firebaugh systems theory has been widely utilized to analyze household managerial processes (Beard & Firebaugh, 1978; Buehler & Hogan, 1986; Garrison & Winter, 1986; Godwin & Carrol, 1985; Heck, 1983; Heck & Douthitt, 1982; Prochaska-Cue, 1990; Steggel, 1992; Walker et al., 1984).

Management Research

Management is defined by Deacon and Firebaugh (1988) as "... a process of thought and action through which resources are utilized in the meeting of demands" (p. 21). This process is considered essential in order for individuals to function in managing the demands of daily living. Researchers in family resource management have applied the Deacon and Firebaugh (1988) systems framework to the investigation of various aspects of this managerial process (Buehler & Hogan, 1986; Godwin & Carroll, 1985; Heck, 1983; Steggel, 1992; Walker et al., 1984; Williams, 1985). Overall, the studies are related to family units. Findings generally support a relationship between managerial effectiveness and resource satisfaction or well being.

Williams (1985) analyzed data collected in 1977 and 1978 as part of a research project on quality of life. It was found that "managerial behavior directly and indirectly contributed to resource satisfaction and, through increased sense of control, contributed to quality of life" (Williams, 1985, p. 237). A study of attitudes related to family financial management behavior conducted by Godwin and Carroll (1985) concluded that there were "some statistically significant effects of inputs and throughputs on satisfaction, but effects were different for husbands than for wives" (p. 225). Also, Walker et al., (1984) and Heck (1983) confirmed that there is a link between managerial behavior and well-being. Studies are not available testing similar relationships between managerial behavior and well-being in elderly one-person households. Management research, especially in relation to financial

planning, has focused primarily on pre-retirement age multiple member households (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988; Heck, 1983; Israelsen, 1990).

Management Research Related to the Elderly

Deacon and Firebaugh (1975) briefly addressed management in relation to the interests of elderly individuals and families in their textbook, Home Management Context and Concepts. It was noted that management is important to older persons facing declining human and material resources at a time when demands on those resources are not necessarily reduced (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1975). Research on managerial behavior followed the era of this textbook and incorporated the refinements made in the systems framework by Deacon and Firebaugh (1975, 1988). This representation of the elderly in their home management textbook alludes to the significance of addressing the particular managerial needs of the elderly. Nevertheless, related household management research on this population has been scarce.

Planning Styles Research

A measurement instrument developed by Beard and Firebaugh (1978) has been utilized to research planning among families. The work was an outgrowth of the Deacon and Firebaugh (1975) systems approach to management. The 86-item instrument provided analyses of “proneness to

morphostasis and morphogenesis as exhibited through planning behavior of families in response to, or to initiate, change" (Beard & Firebaugh, 1978, p. 192). In 1981, Buehler and Hogan (1986) adapted this instrument for the purpose of studying planning in the households of single-parent families. Buehler and Hogan (1986) explained the premise of their research on planning styles as follows:

Theoretically, planning has been conceptualized as a process that may be affected by managerial inputs and that may affect managerial outcomes. Because process is very difficult to measure, scholars often use indicator variables that represent a 'snapshot' of the process. For this study, planning styles were used as indicators of the planning process. Conceptually, planning styles differ from managerial inputs, such as resources and demands, and from managerial outputs, such as goal attainment and satisfaction. (p. 352)

Three planning styles identified in these family households were named 1) Resource-centered (morphogenic), 2) Goal-centered (morphostatic), and Constrained (random). Buehler and Hogan (1986) described these styles as follows:

1) **Resource-centered** (morphogenic): Characterized by increasing, creating, or substituting resources while maintaining the family's set of goals, wants, and needs. . . .

2) **Goal-centered** (morphostatic): Characterized by modifying, deleting, or reprioritizing family demands, while accepting the family's current set of resources. . . .

3) **Constrained** (random): Characterized by few efforts to change either demands or resources. Rather, planning behavior centered around 'getting by' day-to-day. (p. 355)

Findings provided empirical support for "the influence of socio-demographic factors and family characteristics on planning" (Buehler & Hogan, 1986, p. 361). Additional research, if conducted, utilizing either the Beard and Firebaugh (1978) instrument or the adapted Buehler and Hogan (1986) instrument has not been published to date.

A representation of elderly persons is found in a study of financial practices which incorporates the components of Deacon and Firebaugh's managerial subsystem (Figure 2) among other theoretical models. Financial management styles were analyzed by Prochaska-Cue (1990) in the context of cognitive style based upon theories of learning and information processing. A measurement instrument was developed to assess personal financial management styles modeled after four classifications of managers: 1) Feeling, 2) Analyzing, 3) Systematic, and 4) Holistic. Prochaska-cue (1990) reported, "Analyzing style was found to be significantly related to both age and income. Older people and people with higher incomes had higher mean scores on the Analyzing Scale" (p. 25). Classifications were formulated according to perception of detail and evaluation of information in a sequential, step-by-step manner, rather than an intuitive manner. Living arrangements of the participants in the Prochaska-Cue (1990) study were not reported. Limitations related to subject selection and the small representation of subjects age 61 or older (7.8 percent) obstruct the extrapolation of findings to older persons. No relationship was found between singlehood and cognitive personal financial management style (Prochaska-Cue, 1990, p. 5).

Research on planning styles and planning behavior has primarily addressed family units and rarely included elderly persons. The few studies present an extremely limited representation of planning by the elderly (V. M. Keith, 1993; Plonk & Pulley, 1977; Prochaska-Cue, 1990). Research is not available that specifically addresses financial management planning styles related to elderly persons living alone.

Planning Behavior Research

A limited representation of elderly persons is also observed within planning behavior studies. Elderly persons most notably appeared in a study of financial management practices among retired couples reported in 1977 by Plonk and Pulley. Types of financial plans, record keeping, use of credit and financial problems were assessed among 50 retired couples living in single family units. Financial plans were found to be predominantly mental (34/50 couples) and reported to be “an aid to a higher level of living” (Plonk & Pulley, 1977, p. 257). All but one of the couples kept records of expenditures. The use of credit was found to be prevalent (47/50 couples). Most of the participants (47/50 couples) reported no financial management problems. Research of similar managerial functions for retirees living alone is not available.

Garrison and Winter (1986) used the Deacon and Firebaugh (1975, 1988) model to analyze managerial behavior in families with preschool children. The authors reported that measuring transformation processes, which include managerial functions, is difficult since these processes are

comprised primarily of mental rather than physical activities. Albeit, managerial behavior was assessed with a 14-item Likert-type scale that described “activities thought to be part of effective managerial behaviour” (p. 252). Only four of the 14 items appear to be related to planning behavior. Summed scores determined a managerial behavior score for each respondent. It was concluded that “socio-economic/demographic variables contribute significantly to the effectiveness of reported managerial behaviour” (Garrison and Winter, 1986, p. 253). Three variables found to be significantly related to the effectiveness of managerial behavior were 1) household size (inversely), 2) age of the woman in the household, and 3) education of the head of the household (Garrison & Winter, 1986). The authors cited seven studies from family resource management in which “income, education, age of household head and household size” (Garrison & Winter, 1986, p. 249) affected managerial behavior. Six of these studies appeared in unpublished theses, dissertations, or research bulletins between 1967 and 1979.

Planning behavior was included in a study by Heck (1983) whose objective was to test a 1981 model of the Deacon and Firebaugh systems theory. Planning was represented by each respondent’s self-assessment as being either a planner or a non-planner. Heck (1983) expected the planners to be the ones more satisfied with family outputs. Combined with decision-making styles, planning was found to be related to satisfaction with several outputs. Heck (1983) reported, “Planners or individuals who are futuristic thinkers were more satisfied with their family’s output levels. This finding substantiates Deacon & Firebaugh’s household management theory. It would seem that planning is an integral and satisfaction-enhancing component of the management system” (p. 132). Although the Heck (1983) sample was

comprised of two-spouse households with and without children, the purpose and conclusions are pertinent for two reasons. First, support was found for the validity of the Deacon and Firebaugh model. Second, a call was made for more testing of the model and for the model to be featured in data collection. Family resource management specialists are often restricted in their study of the Deacon and Firebaugh system's components because of exclusions in data collection.

V. M. Keith (1993), in a study of financial strain and distress experienced by older adults, assessed the respondents' personal control in relation to the "ability to plan ahead and manage their lives" (p. 134). Sixty-one percent of the sample were older women of whom the majority (60 percent) were unmarried. The study focused on gender differences related to exposure and vulnerability to chronic financial strain and distress. Personal control was indicated to be a resource subject to erosion by such constraints. Findings revealed "a significant direct relationship between financial strain and control. . . thus older women are more likely to experience a diminished sense of control only because they are more likely to experience economic stress" (V.M. Keith, 1993, p. 139). The author concluded, "Older women's greater exposure to financial strain overwhelmed their ability to maintain a sense of control, which, in turn, resulted in greater distress" (V.M. Keith, 1993, p. 123). Therefore, it may be inferred that effective planning behavior among older, unmarried women may be threatened by their increased exposure to financial problems.

Summary of Management and Planning Research

The Deacon and Firebaugh (1988) systems framework postulates that the management process is fundamental to meeting life's demands. This framework has demonstrated its usefulness in the analysis of managerial behavior in multiple member households. It is reasoned that the personal and managerial subsystems identified in this framework (Figure 2) function for individuals whether in single or multiple member households. It has been demonstrated that effective management is related to resource satisfaction and well-being. Research on household managerial practices of the elderly has been scarce. However, family resource management specialists have noted the importance of effective managerial skills for older persons confronting imbalances between resources and demands. It is suggested that the study of managerial behavior contributes to understanding the reconciliation of resources and demands, viz., system output, as well as satisfaction with this output.

Elderly persons are rarely included in research related to individual and family managerial functions. Studies related to financial planning behavior have only been available in the last three decades. These studies focus on families or couples and occasionally include elderly respondents. None exclusively address the one-person households of women age 60 or older. The Deacon and Firebaugh (1975, 1988) systems framework appears to be a primary theoretical framework for this research area. Planning behavior research became established with a study of the financial management practices of elderly couples conducted by Plonk and Pulley in 1977.

Subsequent studies have similarly addressed planning in family households finding managerial behavior linked to demographic variables and satisfaction with household management practices. Planning behavior in terms of control for older, unmarried women appears to become increasingly threatened as financial problems increase. Older women are receiving attention in the research community, however, studies are limited in relation to financial management practices.

Social Sciences Theoretical Framework

Continuity theory and the concept of anticipatory socialization are the two social science constructs which merge with the overarching family resource management systems theory. The logic of these constructs is applied to life course experiences of older women to analyze their financial management planning styles and practices in retirement.

Continuity Theory

Continuity theory maintains that preferences and behavior manifested in retirement are likely to be reflections of, or the continuation of, pre-retirement conditions and responses (Atchley, 1972; Covey, 1981; Neugarten, Havighurst & Tobin, 1968). According to Atchley (1972), continuity theory posits that

In the process of becoming an adult, the individual develops habits, commitments, preferences, and a host of other dispositions that become a part of his personality. As the individual grows older, he is predisposed toward maintaining continuity in his habits, associations, preferences, and so on. (p. 36)

Atchley (1989), further explains continuity theory is based upon a central premise that

In making adaptive choices, middle-aged and older adults attempt to preserve and maintain existing internal and external structures and that they prefer to accomplish this objective by using continuity (i.e., applying familiar strategies in familiar areas of life). (p. 183)

Atchley (1989) noted that researchers in the mid 1960's had originally attempted to use activity theory to account for the internal and external continuity thought by some to be characteristic of aging. Activity theory essentially contends that "... excepting biological changes and health problems, the aged and the middle-aged share identical psychological and social needs" (Fry, 1992, p. 263). However, activity theory was considered a "homeostatic or equilibrium model" (Atchley, 1989, p. 183) and thereby based upon a tendency toward "restoration to previous equilibrium" (p. 183). Considering the incongruous relationship between irreversible aging and any such return to equilibrium, the application of continuity theory was found more useful in the analysis of aging issues than activity theory.

In contrast to the homeostatic nature of activity theory, continuity theory has been described as evolutionary, allowing for the integration of change without the consequence of disequilibrium (Atchley, 1989). Thus, continuity theory "... offers a parsimonious explanation for and description of the ways adults employ concepts of their past to conceive of their future and structure their choices in response to the changes brought about by normal aging" (Atchley, 1989, p. 183). It is within the context of "coherence or consistency of patterns over time" (Atchley, 1989, p. 184) that continuity theory appears to be suited to guide the identification of planning style predictors.

Covey (1981) reviewed continuity theory, based upon Atchley's (1972) definition, for the purpose of better understanding the maintenance and continuation of social roles among older people. Three propositions were analyzed in the context of this theory and related testamentary research. Covey (1981) explored the proposition that "... as the person's resources and abilities increase, the ability to continue in social roles increases" (p. 629). It was concluded that a high socioeconomic status more easily sustains previous social roles than the contrary. Continuity theory was also endorsed as a theory moving us "... in a more satisfactory direction in explaining the social behavior of older people" (Covey, 1981, p. 632). Assuming that such a predisposition for continuity in preferences and behavior may occur in relation to financial management planning and practices, continuity theory is deemed useful in guiding analyses in the study of older women's financial management practices.

Anticipatory Socialization

Anticipatory socialization is a widely used construct explaining adaptation and adjustment to role changes. It suggests that anticipation is one of the precedents of adequate role performance. Ward (1985), in a study of well-being in later life, noted, "... little research has been conducted on the extent to which older people are socialized for old age or the sources of such socialization" (p. 59). Variations in managing alone may follow patterns of socialization as well as changes in economic and social climates. Thompson (1984) studied the vulnerability of older women in terms of socialization and stated that

Today's older women are in a vulnerable position as a result of early socialization patterns to be dependent and subordinate (Dowling, 1981). . . . Trained to expect to be protected, to be taken care of, and have her dependency needs met by her strong husband, she did not herself prepare for economic independence and so is seriously limited in options open to her. (p. 106)

Anticipatory socialization has been characterized as a mental process comprised of a "... variety of activities which include daydreaming, forecasting future situations, role rehearsal, etc." (Clausen, 1968, p. 8). Such activities are reasoned to be applicable to women prior to age 60 should they anticipate roles in their later years, whether married or unmarried. For those projecting a long-term status of being unmarried, rehearsal for being alone in one's advanced years may possibly enter this anticipatory process.

Anticipatory socialization has been considered in relation to the management of personal resources, including finances, among the unmarried in old age (P. M. Keith, 1986). Variations related to role transitions, e.g., “on-time” and “off-time” (P. M. Keith, 1986, p. 87) or nonoccurrence are considered to be influential in adjusting to the aging process. However, P. M. Keith (1986) stated, “Presumably with dissemination of information about the great probability of widowhood, older women can begin to prepare for this transition” (p. 87). Therefore, adjustment to role changes in later life may be enhanced by socialization for managing personal resources independently.

Earlier, Merton (1968) presented a description of anticipatory socialization as

... the acquisition of values and orientation found in statuses and groups in which one is not yet engaged but which one is likely to enter. It serves to prepare the individual for future statuses in his status sequence. An explicit, deliberate, and often formal part of this process is . . . education and training. But much of such preparation is *implicit, unwitting, and informal*. . . ” (p. 384)

Accordingly, anticipatory socialization was utilized by Rettig and Mortenson (1986) as the “. . . implicit, often unconscious learning for roles which will be assumed sometime in the future” (p. 1) in their study of money management competencies. In their summary of research, Rettig and Mortenson (1986) reported:

The family, in concert with peers, schools, and the media, is an important economic socialization agent for individuals throughout the lifespan. The anticipatory socialization that occurs in families resulting in future competence in money

management involves the acquisition of: (a) values and goals regarding money use in adult roles, (b) specific information that is applied in later years, and (c) general planning and evaluation skills that are called into play throughout life (Ward, 1974, 2). (p. 2)

The Rettig and Mortenson (1986) review of the family as a socialization agent for financial management included findings relevant to the financial management styles of older women. However, data collected did not include information related to childhood characteristics. Rettig and Mortenson (1986) reported that parents typically “. . . have had few explicit goals and have seldom included children, particularly girls, in discussions of important family financial issues” (p. 4). Further, “girls also have continued to have less experience earning, investing, and borrowing money” (Rettig & Mortenson, 1986, p. 4).

Anticipatory socialization represented an essential first-stage element in a model of individual socialization into an occupational setting by Feldman in 1976. This first of three stages, i.e., anticipatory socialization, accommodation, and role management, shifts the focus from the process of culture transference to how individuals adjust to the work environment. As a learning process, anticipatory socialization is identified in terms of expectations about what things will be like in future roles, i.e., “realism” and the degree to which resources and needs are in “congruence” (Feldman, 1976, p. 434).

According to Wallace and Wolf (1991), anticipatory socialization represents a process deemed “functional for both the aspiring individual and

for the group he or she eventually enters" (p. 60). Rosow (1974) described a link between role rehearsal and socialization in aging as follows:

Obviously, in aging there are no patterned opportunities to rehearse future roles directly. Not simply because the role is so devalued that there is little incentive, but rather because it is so diffuse and indefinite. Without clear expectations, there is no significant opportunity to rehearse a future role. (p. 134)

It is the "personal identification with a role" (Rosow, 1974, p. 35) that is considered critical to socialization. An awareness of possibly assuming a future role is "... intrinsic to the process of anticipatory socialization" (Rosow, 1974, p. 35). Personal identification with the role of managing household finances is likely to be commonplace among women because of the pervasive pre- and post-retirement age involvement in this household function. It is reasoned that when a role in middle age, such as managing personal finances, is also common to the retirement stage, it is subject to a rehearsal. It is also a role which is subject to previous experience, preparation through informal and formal education, and quite possibly anticipation of having to be handled alone in the later years. Such traits are suggested to be associated with the focus areas of anticipatory socialization. Anticipation of managing alone may relate to differences among older women in preparation for economic independence. Consequently, understanding means whereby anticipatory socialization has been functional in realizing the effective management of finances is suggested to be useful in serving the needs of older women living alone.

Summary of Social Sciences Theoretical Framework

Continuity theory and the construct of anticipatory socialization are considered to be compatible with a systems framework from family resource management. Continuity theory is based upon the premise that preferences and behavior manifested in retirement are likely to be the reflection of, or continuation of, pre-retirement conditions and responses. Applied to financial management behavior, continuity theory is deemed useful in predicting financial management practices in retirement. Anticipatory socialization offers an approach to explaining adaptation and adjustment to role changes. Researchers have suggested that the vulnerability of today's older women may be attributed in part to a lack of socialization for economic independence. Anticipatory socialization and continuity theory are presumed to be useful in the search for optimizing preparation for handling the role of living alone and managing finances in the later years.

Comparisons of Always-single and Formerly-married Women

Research based on data collected in 1978 revealed that never-married, older women tend to arrive at retirement with higher incomes than either older widowed or divorced women (P. M. Keith, 1986). Albeit, when these women were viewed by age classifications, it was older women who were found to be "... most disadvantaged. They more often [had] postretirement income below the poverty level (60%) than [did] unmarried men (40%) or

couples (20%)" (P. M. Keith, 1986, p. 89). Data collected in 1969 and 1979 from a national sample of 1,072 unmarried women aged 58 to 63 years were analyzed by P. M. Keith (1985). Findings similarly showed that "never-married women enjoyed more favorable economic circumstances at retirement than widowed and divorced/separated women" (P. M. Keith, 1985, p. 415). In general, "compared with never-married women, widowed and divorced and separated women seemed especially vulnerable" (P. M. Keith, 1985, p. 415). Never-married women were found to have higher incomes than widowed or divorced women in old age as well (P. M. Keith, 1986).

Older people's satisfaction with money and resources was investigated by Stull and Scarisbrick-Hauser (1989) using the 1979 Longitudinal Retirement History Study conducted by the U.S. Bureau of the Census for the Social Security Administration. This 1979 nationally representative sample of 436 never-married, elderly men and women included a large subsample of women (Stull & Scarisbrick-Hauser, 1989). The never-married, among all marital groups, were found to be the most satisfied with their standard of living (Stull & Scarisbrick-Hauser, 1989).

Research related to unmarried older persons became more prevalent after the 1970's. Studies related to income differences support similar findings that older never-married persons tend to have advantages over the widowed and divorced (Kutner, Fanshel, Togo & Langner, 1956; Larson, 1978; Pihlblad & Adams, 1972). More recently, Iijima (1987) reported never-married females to be "... relatively well-off compared to other females in terms of an income to needs ratio" (P. M. Keith, 1989, p. 56).

Money management responsibilities among widows were investigated by Morgan (1986). He stated, "Older widowed women are believed to be vulnerable due to income loss at widowhood and inexperience with money" (Morgan, 1986, p. 663). However, the Morgan (1986) analysis of 1975 Longitudinal Retirement History Survey data revealed,

It is not lack of experience with finances or poor advice regarding money matters, either before or after loss of spouse, which can be blamed for the poverty found among older widows. . . . While the economic problems associated with widowhood may not, to the extent previously thought, include inexperience with managing money, the very real problems of poverty and limited economic alternatives remain. (p. 668)

An investigation of differences in financial planning practices and characteristics between always-single and formerly-married older women is therefore of interest to understanding management needs in the later years.

Marital Status Predictors and Life Style

Marital status has been found to be a predictor of some advantages and disadvantages which never-married individuals have over other unmarried groups or the married. Studies include investigations related to well-being related to independence, life style continuity, and type of work career style.

Factors characterizing singlehood among older, never-married persons were analyzed by Ward in 1979. Research cited in support for Ward's study described the life styles of this population as geared toward "preserving personal independence and the development of one's own faculties" (Ward, 1979, p. 862). Ward (1979) stated, "In some respects, the never-married appear to be better off than the widowed or divorced" (p. 868). Ward (1979) reported that although the never-married are disadvantaged relative to "happiness and excitement" (p. 864) they report a higher global happiness than the widowed or divorced. This was attributed to the factor that the never-married do not encounter the effects of widowhood or divorce. In general, "the never-married may find later life less problematic" (Ward, 1979, p. 868). Marital status was a predictor of living arrangements for older women, finding the never-married as more likely to live alone (Ward, 1979, p. 864). Although Ward (1979) reported that older never-married women had the "highest income of any marital status (although differences were not statistically significant)" (p. 864), he also concluded, "... the thrust of these findings is that the never-married are a vulnerable segment of the older population. . . " (p. 868). Apart from monetary factors, older never-married women may adopt different approaches to planning finances than the formerly-married based upon differing experiences throughout the life course.

A study by Gubrium in 1974 utilized marital status as a measure of continuity in social engagement in a study addressing isolation and loneliness among older persons. Gubrium (1974) explained,

It is not a certain absolute degree of isolation that makes for feelings of loneliness in old age, but rather *becoming* socially isolated relative to a prior degree of social engagement. This change or discontinuity in social engagement is referred to as *desolation*. . . . Maintaining continuity in social engagement, as far as one's marital status over the life cycle, means that everyday life remains fairly stable into old age. The everyday routines and life style developed over time by a single person, which were not generated with a spouse, continue relatively uninterrupted. (p. 107)

It was concluded that the never-married and the married, considered to be "nondesolate," were more positive in evaluating everyday life than the widowed and divorced, i.e., the "desolate" (Gubrium, 1974, p. 107).

Differences between the always-single and the formerly-married in their rehearsals for planning finances alone may be affected by continuity in social engagement (Gubrium, 1974). Thus, the marital status variable was useful in distinguishing variations in life style continuity in the Gubrium (1974) study.

Keating and Jeffrey (1983) found marital status to be a predictor of the type of work career style and history of older women. Never-married women were compared with married women in order to evaluate marital status as a predictor of three styles of work role involvement: 1) Passive, 2) Reactive, and 3) Initiating (Lopata & Steinhart, 1971). Passive and reactive workers were believed to perceive themselves as having little control over the work role; initiating workers were seen as more actively involved in the work role and planning job advancement (Lopata & Steinhart, 1971). The Keating and Jeffrey (1983) sample of 80 women (mean age 68.5 years) included an over-representation of never-married women for analytical purposes. The women

were characterized as similar because "... all had been socialized to expect their family role to be the salient role throughout their lives" and "... all had had a work career for substantial periods of their lives" (Keating and Jeffrey, 1983, p. 418). Nevertheless, despite such similarities, differing work patterns, based upon interruptions of work careers, emerged for the never-married versus married women. Notably, the majority of the sample had work histories with little career progression, however, almost twice as many never-married as married women had a systematic progression of jobs (Keating & Jeffrey, 1983). Further, the never-married women were found to have advantages related to the timing and length of gaps affecting work history, discriminatory hiring practices, and likelihood of promotion (Keating & Jeffrey, 1983). It was concluded that the historical context of work patterns more than work style related to marital status. Evidence was found supporting the influence of early socialization upon differences in work history patterns in relation to marital status.

According to Crystal and Shea (1990), income sources reflect a cumulative advantage or disadvantage gained over the life course for the older population. The prevalence of asset and pension income is a significant characteristic which must be considered in the interpretation of differences between the always-single and the formerly-married. These income sources for always-single and formerly-married older women are considerably unlike those of most unmarried women, minorities, and physically impaired which disproportionately represent the lowest quintile of the elderly population. The increased level of education and labor force participation may therefore be indicative of descriptors of future cohorts of women as well as indicators of means whereby constraints may be lifted from women less well off.

Marital Status Predictors and Coping Strategies

Previous studies comparing the economic resources and financial satisfaction of older women found the never-married had economic advantages over the formerly-married (P.M. Keith 1985, 1986, 1988). However, a study of 1,782 unmarried and married older persons showed the married claimed economic advantages in health and financial matters (P.M. Keith & Lorenz, 1989). "The data for the divorced-separated and never-married respondents suggest[ed] a significant sensitivity of financial strain to income" (P.M. Keith & Lorenz, 1989, p. 688). No evidence was found to support the hypothesis that this greater financial strain influenced the health status of the respondents. However, the lifelong single were identified with positive characteristics emerging from such challenges. P.M. Keith and Lorenz (1989) reported,

The never married in particular may have had a lifetime of accommodation to an unconventional status (Stein, 1976). As observed earlier, Stein (1976) maintained that being single is hard, and only one manifestation of this is the poorer financial situation of the unmarried. That persistent financial strain did not result in poorer physical health among any group of the unmarried may indicate superior coping skills among both those who have experienced loss and those for whom singleness has been a lifelong status. Especially for the never married, who might have fewer supports in the event of severe illness or disability, there may be a tendency to evaluate health appreciatively relative to economic resources. Lifelong singleness may foster independence and hardiness that flourishes in the face of challenge, even that of financial precariousness. (p. 690)

Johnston and Eklund (1984) cited research differentiating marital status characteristics as a foundation to their study, Life-Adjustment of the Never Married. It was suggested that the never-married developed “long-term strategies for coping with their single state” (Johnson & Eklund, 1984, p. 235) by the time they reach old age. Research on younger cohorts supports the never-married as experiencing a less problematic singlehood than other unmarried groups (Cockrum & White, 1985).

Summary of Research Related to the Always-single and Formerly-married

Studies over the past two decades have indicated that older never-married women have economic and coping advantages compared to older formerly-married. A less problematic, uninterrupted singlehood plus long term coping strategies were attributed to a more favorable accommodation to the later years by those older and never married. Never-married persons, compared to others unmarried, have been found to be more satisfied with their standard of living and more positive in evaluating everyday life. Marital status comparisons favor never-married older women in their employment history relative to discriminatory practices and promotion. Never-marrieds formed positive coping strategies in facing financial strain and long-term singlehood.

Contributions of the Review of Literature

The literature review identified a growing population of older women living alone and thereby presumed to be primarily responsible for their financial management needs. Characteristics and practices related to personal management have been identified which contribute to independent living and satisfaction with resource utilization. Studies have shown planning styles in family households to be distinguishable as morphogenic, morphostatic, or random in nature. These studies did not address the planning practices of older women living alone. Theoretical frameworks meet for investigating styles of planning as well predictors of financial behavior and satisfaction in these households have been identified in family resource management and the social sciences. Marital status, as a predictor variable, has been useful to researchers revealing differences in traits between always-single persons and the formerly-married. For example, variations related to income and resources held upon entering retirement, employment history, and coping strategies among older women often favored the always-single over the formerly-married. These findings implied that differences may be distinguishable between the experiences of the always-single and formerly-married related to planning characteristics during retirement. Could it be that the pre-retirement experience of the always-single, compared to that of the formerly-married, more likely provides a rehearsal for living alone in old age? Could education then influence such a rehearsal circumventing marital status history?

III. METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the methodological procedures used in this research. It describes the sample, survey instrument and measures, data collection procedures, dependent and independent variables used in the inferential analyses, hypotheses, and statistical procedures.

Overview of the Study

This research was accomplished in a threefold manner: The identification of 1) financial management planning styles among unmarried women over 60 years of age, 2) factors associated with those styles, and 3) predictors of post-age 60 planning styles. Both pre-age 60 and post-age 60 financial management planning styles of this sample population were explored. The self-assessed financial management planning styles were measured by selected items from an instrument originally developed by Beard and Firebaugh in 1978.

Objective I of this study is an investigation of relationships between demographic or characteristic factors and post-age 60 planning styles and predictors of those styles, i.e., 1) Resource-centered (morphogenic) planning, 2) Goal-centered (morphostatic) planning, and 3) Constrained (random) planning. Pre-age 60 planning styles are among the variables tested as predictors of post-age 60 planning styles.

Objective II explores factors deemed a rehearsal or influence on post-age 60 planning styles and the self-reported satisfaction with this planning. Rehearsal, as used in this study, implies experiencing before hand the managerial role women encounter when living alone in their later years.

Objective III addresses the inference that the always-single, in comparison with the formerly-married, may have a different rehearsal of managing a one-person household and differing financial management planning styles in retirement. Therefore, analyses controlling for marital status were conducted in consonance with the hypotheses and procedures in Objective I and Objective II.

Assumptions

This study accepts the premises of utility theory as applicable to the financial management planning behavior of the respondents before and after age 60. This assumption is based upon the work of Ofshe and Ofshe (1970), who stated,

Although decisions vary in content, importance and social context, the abstract principles which guide behavior in these choice situations are basically the same. In all situations an individual is forced to choose a particular element from a set of alternatives, and it is assumed that he makes his decision from a set of alternatives, and it is assumed that he makes his decision in a manner which will maximize his expected utility. (p. 3) . . . The term, utility, as it is used here does not refer simply to the reward associated with each alternative, but also to any other considerations which may increase the subjective value of a particular choice. (p. 12)

Therefore, it was presumed that the respondents could and did maximize their subjective sense of satisfaction or utility in the practice of financial management planning behavior and household resource allocation decisions. The premise was accepted that the respondents were rational decision makers capable of recognizing and prioritizing preferences toward their individual or household advantage. Respondents were further assumed to be capable of interpreting the survey instrument and accurately reported their perceptions and responses to the measures.

Sample

The purposive sample was derived from the population of the 404 retirement age women who are former home economics students and graduates prior to 1953 of the present-day College of Home Economics and Education at Oregon State University. Based upon graduation dates, the women contacted were presumed to be at least 60 years of age. Prior to contact, the living arrangements of the sample members were not distinguishable. Nevertheless, based upon the review of literature, it was presumed likely that one-person households would be well represented.

Members of the sample population resided in 21 states. A predominant proportion of the sample members were residents of Oregon (Table 1). To protect the anonymity of any participant who might be the only sample member in a given state, geographic status data were not collected. Also, zip code data were separated from the returned questionnaires and reported collectively to protect the anonymity of the respondents.

Table 1
Geographic Distribution of Sample Members

<u>State</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>f</u>
Alabama	2	Louisiana	1	North Dakota	1
California	75	Maryland	4	Oregon	247
Colorado	2	Minnesota	3	Pennsylvania	1
Florida	3	Montana	3	Texas	1
Hawaii	3	Nevada	5	Utah	1
Idaho	9	New Mexico	1	Washington	38
Illinois	1	North Carolina	1	Wisconsin	2

Limitations and Advantages of Sample

Limitations of this study restrict extrapolation of the findings to the general population of the United States (Table 2). The purposive sample of college alumnae over age 60 represents a comparatively small proportion of the aged. Only 13.2 percent of those age 65 to 74 and 10.5 percent of those age 75 and older have four or more years of college (U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1992b).

Socio-economic and ethnic distinctions among women generally accessing a college education in the United States prior to the 1950's are likely to pattern the sample's limitations representing the general population. Trends continue to reflect the pattern of 1970 in which white women, compared to black and Hispanic women, were reported as more likely to access four or more years of college, at the rates of 8.4 percent, 4.6 percent, and 3.2 percent, respectively. In 1991, the proportions were 19.3 percent, 11.6 percent and 9.4 percent, respectively (U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1992b).

Table 2
Sample Profile Compared With Retirement Age Women in the United States

<u>Characteristic</u>	<u>Rodgers (1995) Sample by Percent</u>	<u>Retirement Age Women in the United States</u>
LIVING ARRANGEMENTS	Live Alone	Women are the majority (78.8 %) of the 9.2 million aged who live alone. (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1992b)
AGE	Mean Age: 76 years 63 to 74 years: 39.6 75 to 84 years: 47.3 85 to 94 years: 11.6 95 to 103 years: 1.5	In 1980, 34.0 % of women aged 65-74 and 48.4 % of those aged 75-84 lived alone. (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1992a)
MARITAL STATUS	Always-single: 20.0 Widowed: 70.6 Divorced: 8.9 Separated: 0.5	Always-single 5.0 Widowed: 49.0 Divorced: 5.0 Married: 40.0 (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1992a)
EDUCATION	Some College: 6.8 Bachelor's Degree: 35.8 Some Graduate Study: 43.2 Master's Degree: 14.2 Always-single: 41.7 Formerly-married: 7.1	Four Years of College: 5.0 Five or More Years of College: 3.5 (Schmittroth, 1991)
INCOME	Less than \$10,000: 3.5 \$10,001 to 16,000: 14.5 \$17,000 to 30,000: 34.9 \$31,000 to 44,000: 26.8 \$45,000 or more: 20.3	Median income in 1987: Always-single: \$8,261; Widowed: \$7,432; Divorced: \$7,567 (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1989c). Elderly men and women who lived alone in 1986: \$5,100 or less: 24.0 \$5,101 to 10,000: 25.0 \$10,001 to 15,000: 13.0 \$15,001 to 25,000: 9.0 \$25,001 or more: 6.0 Initially not sure: 13.0 Refused to tell income: 11.0 (Harris, 1986)

Variations in family patterns and trends in living arrangements which align with racial and ethnic groups are to be considered in the extrapolation of the findings based upon unmarried, presumably white, women over age 60. For example, a study of unmarried women age 55 and over revealed white women were more likely to live alone than any of the following Asian Americans: Japanese, Chinese, Filipino or Korean women, at the rates of 59.2 percent, 40.0 percent, 28.5 percent, 10.9 percent and 14.5 percent, respectively (Burr & Mutchler, 1993). Research has also shown trends toward a higher incidence of extended household structures and more pronounced family support systems among black households, Hispanics, and other minority groups compared to the white elderly population (Angel, Angel & Himes, 1992; Angel & Tienda, 1982; Burr & Mutchler, 1992; Choi, 1991; Farley & Allen, 1987; Markides & Mindel, 1987; Taylor, 1985; Thomas & Wister, 1984; Tienda & Angel, 1982; Wolf, 1984). Consequently, variations in demographic profiles, characteristics, and decisions in financial planning behavior must be considered as affecting the extrapolation of this study's findings beyond the sample population.

Advantages of this sample for the purpose of this study are related to the home economics college background of the participants. Not only is having a formal education likely to enhance participation in a rehearsal of financial management practices, but with a home economics focus, that education may all the more distinguish this sample as uniquely suitable for study of financial management practices. Older women living alone, self-sufficient, financially secure, and satisfied with how they are managing their finances are notably uncharacteristic of the nation's elderly women overall. Elderly minority women, especially, face disproportionate rates of poverty

(U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1989b, 1992; Rhodes, 1982; Worobey & Angel, 1990). The identification of the extent to which a background of home economics contributed to the characteristics of this sample was beyond the scope of this study. However, the implications suggest a counterpoint to the sample's limitations. Is it possible that home economics contributes to the acquisition of either opportunities or skills which foster well-being in later life? Study of the actual managerial practices of the respondents was likewise beyond the scope of this study. Rather, the data collected are considered to reflect the respondents' perceptions and recollections of such managerial practices relative to both the dependent and independent variables in this research.

Survey Instrument

The survey instrument, HOW DO YOU MANAGE? (Appendix C), was designed by the author. The content of the self-administered, mail questionnaire is based upon the review of literature to serve the objectives of this study. Recommendations by Dillman (1978) were incorporated in the layout and plan for implementation. Design features related to spacing, font size, layout and wording in consideration of an older sampling population. Time estimated to complete the instrument, exclusive of the two open-ended questions and optional remarks, was approximately 35 to 45 minutes. Prior to distribution, the survey instrument and procedure for administration were approved by the Board for the Protection of Human Subjects at Oregon State University.

Measures of Financial Management Planning Styles

The measures of financial management planning styles were adapted from an 86-item instrument originally developed by Beard and Firebaugh (1978) utilizing the concepts of morphogenic and morphostatic types of behavior found in family settings. Based upon the Beard and Firebaugh analysis, Buehler and Hogan (1986) revised the instrument to 57 items for use in a study of 203 single-parent households. The reduction of items was made by eliminating measures "... with factor loadings lower than 0.40 or with moderate loadings on two factors" (Buehler & Hogan, 1986, p. 355). From the 57-item instrument there emerged 22 measures with factor loadings greater than 0.40 within a three factor formation. These three factors were subsequently identified as the Resource-centered (morphogenic), Goal-centered (morphostatic), and Constrained (random) styles of planning.

In consideration of avoiding formidable survey instrument characteristics for this older sampling population (Herzog & Kulka, 1989), nine measures of financial management planning styles were selected from the 22 Buehler and Hogan (1986) items. Three measures were selected for each of the three financial management planning styles, i.e., 1) Resource-centered (morphogenic), 2) Goal-centered (morphostatic), and 3) Constrained (random). Selection was based upon the three highest factor loadings within each of the three classifications of planning styles. A 6-point Likert-type scale, in lieu of the 5-point scale used by Buehler and Hogan (1986), was selected in order that high, medium, and low ranks of scores may be clustered and to avoid a single middle rank on the scale.

The nine statements were rephrased to facilitate a streamlined questionnaire format suited to older survey participants (Appendix Tables B-2, B-3, and B-4). One set of the nine statements was phrased in the past verb tense to measure planning behavior style occurring prior to age 60. One set of the nine statements was phrased in the present verb tense to measure planning behavior style occurring in the present time, i.e., post-age 60 (Appendix C, Items Q-11 through Q-28). These statements are identified in the forthcoming description of dependent variables.

Validity

Confirmation of validity, which indicates whether the items employed actually measured the research questions as intended, was based upon the agreement of experts in the fields of home economics and sociology. The nine Likert-type measures of financial management planning styles were reputed to have effectively measured planning styles in an alternate unit of analysis, i.e., single-parent households. These nine measures were selected from the 22 items in the Buehler and Hogan (1986) adaptation of the 86-item instrument originated by Beard and Firebaugh (1978). The measures selected from the Buehler and Hogan (1986) items are presented in Table 3. Three items were selected to measure each of the three planning styles on the criterion of highest factor loadings, except as noted. The closer the coefficient approaches the unit of 1, the greater the support for the item being a measure as indicated. Factor loadings for all the Buehler and Hogan (1986) measures are presented in Appendix Table B-1.

Table 3
Measures of Financial Management Planning Styles, With Factor Coefficients and Cronbach's Alphas, Selected from Buehler and Hogan (1986) Measures

Buehler & Hogan (1986) Item No.	Rodgers (1995) Item No.	<u>Factor Coefficients</u>		
		I Resource- centered	II. Goal- centered	III. Constrained
I. Resource-centered (alpha = 0.75)				
1	1	0.66	0.01	0.07
2	2	0.61	0.06	-0.50
4	3	0.58	-0.19	0.38
II. Goal-centered (alpha = 0.64)				
1	1	0.24	0.65	-0.09
2	2	0.05	0.59	-0.25
3	3	0.01	0.58	0.17
III. Constrained (alpha = 0.65)				
1	1	0.05	0.08	0.68
3	2	0.03	0.22	0.55
4	3	0.11	-0.55	0.51

The Buehler and Hogan (1986) Resource-centered Item 3, with a factor loading of .61, was excluded from consideration because it addressed children. Consequently, the next highest ranking Resource-centered item was Item 4 (Appendix Table B-1). The Buehler and Hogan (1986) Constrained Item 2 was excluded from consideration because it addressed housing maintenance, which would not be applicable to apartment dwellers in the study. Consequently, the next highest ranking Constrained items were Item 3 and Item 4 (Appendix Table B-1).

Factor analysis confirmed the internal validity of the planning style measures and supported the Buehler and Hogan (1986) results. The procedure and results are presented in Chapter IV. Demographic measures and measures of anticipatory socialization hypothesized as influencing the adoption of planning styles were confirmed by experts in the fields of home economics and sociology.

Measures of Continuity and Anticipatory Socialization

Measures of continuity and anticipatory socialization were associated with variables related to pre-age 60 financial management planning styles and the variables described below. For convenience, a reference number precedes each variable identifying first, the hypothesis and second, the placement of the variable in the hypothesis. For example, variable (1.11) refers to the eleventh independent variable in Hypothesis One. The following independent variables were measures of continuity and anticipatory socialization: (1.11) Involvement in tracking finances before age 60; (1.12) Participation in planning retirement income; (3.01) Duration of living alone before age 60; (3.02) Duration of living alone after age 60; (3.04) Years since widowed, divorced, or separated, as applicable; (3.07) Financial management experience before age 60; (3.08) Helpfulness of financial management experience before age 60; and (3.09) Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60. As a measure of anticipatory socialization, participants were asked to respond to an open-ended question,

viz., Q-41) Before you reached retirement age, did you recognize the possibility that you could live alone at this stage in your life?

Data Collection

A packet consisting of one 1) Letter of introduction, 2) Questionnaire, HOW DO YOU MANAGE?, 3) Postcard, and 4) Pre-addressed, postage-paid return envelope was sent by first class mail in a stamped, hand-addressed envelope to each of the 404 members of the purposive sample (Dillman, 1978). The single-page letter of introduction (Appendix C) explained the purpose of the mailing, the procedure, assurance of confidentiality and anonymity, and an acknowledgment of appreciation (Dillman, 1978). The postage-paid postcard (Appendix C) in the packet was to be sent by return mail at the time the questionnaire was returned. The participant was provided the opportunity to 1) request a copy of the findings of the study, 2) volunteer to participate in future studies related to managing a home or finances, and 3) volunteer for an in-person interview for future research. All completed questionnaires were separated from the return envelopes to protect the anonymity of the respondents. Zip codes were recorded to identify the regions of the nation in which the respondents resided. Within one week after the initial mailing, a follow-up postcard was sent to each sample member. The two-fold purpose of the postcard was to 1) thank those who responded and 2) provide a reminder to those who had not replied. The letter of introduction requested that those ineligible to participate, based upon the criterion of living alone, return their blank questionnaire. Four months

later a summary of the results was mailed to each respondent who had requested that the findings be mailed to them.

Variables

Dependent Variables

Present-day financial management planning styles of respondents:

Based upon responses to the nine Likert-type statements measuring financial management planning styles, a sum of scores for each of the measures was computed. No generally accepted criteria for labeling individuals as Resource-centered, Goal-centered, or Constrained planners were available at the time this study was conducted. Therefore, it was decided not to characterize individual respondents according to planning style. Rather, the analyses of the three planning styles were made on the basis of the mean responses to the measures of each planning style. Each planning style, i.e., Resource-centered (morphogenic), Goal-centered (morphostatic), and Constrained (random), was measured for pre-retirement and post-retirement conditions.

Measures of financial management planning styles: Respondents were asked to respond to nine Likert-type statements, three each designed to measure the Resource-centered, the Goal-centered, and the Constrained planning style, respectively. The measures of retirement age planning styles were phrased in the present verb tense; measures of pre-retirement age planning styles, specifically between age 40 and age 60, were phrased in the

past verb tense. The respondents were asked to assess the extent to which each statement described their financial management behavior. The six-point scale ranged from 1, representing “Not like me,” through 6, representing “Exactly like me.” The following nine measures are presented in the present verb tense (Appendix C, Items Q-11 through Q-28).

Measure 1 for Resource-centered (morphogenic) style: “When things I want seem beyond what I can afford, I can usually think up new ways to get them” (Appendix C, Item Q-20; Buehler & Hogan, 1986, Item 1, Resource-centered).

Measure 2 for Resource-centered (morphogenic) style: “I can work most really important wants into my plans” (Appendix C, Item Q-24; Buehler & Hogan, 1986, Item 2, Resource-centered).

Measure 3 for Resource-centered (morphogenic) style: “I often change my plans for using my money to take care of new goals” (Appendix C, Item Q-21; Buehler & Hogan, 1986, Item 4, Resource-centered).

Measure 1 for Goal-centered (morphostatic) style: “Once I establish a good money plan or budget, I make an effort to carry it out without being tempted to get extra things” (Appendix C, Item Q-27; Buehler & Hogan, 1986, Item 1, Goal-centered).

Measure 2 for Goal-centered (morphostatic) style: “I avoid ‘borrowing’ money which I’ve set aside for essential things, like food and taxes, to buy extra things” (Appendix C, Item Q-28; Buehler & Hogan, 1986, Item 2, Goal-centered).

Measure 3 for Goal-centered (morphostatic) style: “I make plans to buy something only after I am sure that time and money are available” (Appendix C, Item Q-22; Buehler & Hogan, 1986, Item 3, Goal-centered).

Measure 1 for Constrained (random) style: “I often must settle for less than I expect because of emergencies or unexpected events” (Appendix C, Item Q-25; Buehler & Hogan, 1986, Item 1, Constrained).

Measure 2 for Constrained (random) style: “Money is my primary consideration when selecting where I live” (Appendix C, Item Q-23; Buehler & Hogan, 1986, Item 3, Constrained).

Measure 3 for Constrained (random) style: “I often ‘borrow’ from funds set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, to buy extras not in my budget” (Appendix C, Item Q-26; Buehler & Hogan, 1986, Item 4, Constrained).

Measures of financial management planning styles before age 60: Respondents were asked to respond to nine Likert-type statements, three each designed to measure the Resource-centered (morphogenic), the Goal-centered (morphostatic), or the Constrained (random) planning style. The nine statements were the same items used to measure post-age 60 planning styles. Thus, the measures for pre-age 60 planning styles were phrased in the past verb tense (Appendix Tables B-2, B-3, and B-4).

Independent Variables for Descriptive Analyses

Age of respondent: Respondents reported their ages by each writing her age in years on a blank line (Appendix C, Item Q-35).

Living arrangements: Respondents were asked to identify which of four housing arrangements described their situation of living alone. The fifth

option, viz., "Other" provided a blank line for an explanation (Appendix C, Item Q-01).

Home ownership: Respondents were asked to report whether their home was owned with a mortgage, without a mortgage, or rented (Appendix C, Item Q- 02).

Marital status: Unmarried status was reported by respondents as "Always single," "Widowed," or "Divorced." The status "Married" was included as a possible alternative. Those responding as "Widowed" were requested to write on a blank the number of years since widowed. Those responding as "Divorced" were requested to write on a blank the number of years since divorced (Appendix C, Item Q-33).

Years married altogether: Those respondents who had ever been married were asked to write the total number of years married on a blank line (Appendix C, Item Q-34).

Adult children: Respondents were asked to write the number of daughters and sons they have (Appendix C, Item Q-09).

Education: Because sample members had previously been identified as college graduates, respondents were asked to select from four categories their level of education completed as "Bachelor's degree," "Some graduate courses," "Master's degree," or "Doctoral degree" (Appendix C, Item Q-36).

Occupation: Respondents were asked to identify their primary occupation most of the time since graduating from college by writing their job title on a blank line (Appendix C, Item Q-37).

Income sources: Twelve categories of likely sources of income were provided, including "Other." As the first of three steps in this question ,

respondents were asked to mark an "X" on the line next to each income source pertaining to them (Appendix C, Item Q-38, Step 1).

Income source ranked: In Step 2 of Question 38, respondents were asked to write the number of the rank next to each of the income sources checked in Step 1. They were to write a "1" next to the source providing the most income, a "2" beside the second most, and so on (Appendix C, Item Q-38, Step 2).

Income source that provided more than half of income identified: In Step 3 of Question 38, respondents were asked to circle the one source, if any, that provided more than half of their income (Appendix C, Item Q-38, Step 3).

Income level: Respondents were asked to indicate which of eight categories included their total household income for the previous year (Appendix C, Item Q-39).

Independent Variables for Inferential Analyses

Involvement in planning present-day finances: Respondents were asked the extent to which they were involved first, Q-05) in planning current day-to-day finances and second, Q-06) in planning current major financial decisions. Assessment was selected from "A great deal," "Some of the time," "A little," and "Not at all" (Appendix C, Item Q-05 and Item Q-06).

Adequacy of finances in retirement: Respondents were asked to think about how well they are able to provide for their living expenses these days.

Next, they were to describe the adequacy of their finances to meet their needs by selecting from the following four options: 1) I cannot make ends meet, 2) I have just enough, no more, 3) I have enough, with a little extra sometimes, and 4) I always have money left over (Appendix C, Item Q-31).

Adequacy of finances when respondents were between age 40 and age 60: This was a companion question to Q-31 with response alternatives phrased in the past verb tense. Measures for Q-31 and Q-32 were previously utilized in the 1969 and 1979 Longitudinal Retirement History Study conducted by the U. S. Bureau of the Census for the Social Security Administration (P. M. Keith, 1989, p. 23) (Appendix C, Item Q-31 and Item Q-32).

Duration of living alone before age 60: Respondents were asked to select one of six groupings of number of years to describe the duration, altogether, of living alone prior to reaching age 60 (Appendix C, Item Q-07).

Duration of living alone after age 60: Respondents were asked to select one of six groupings of numbers of years to describe the time they had spent living alone since reaching age 60 (Appendix C, Item Q-08).

Involvement in tracking finances before age 60: Respondents selected from six answer choices to describe their involvement in handling day-to-day finances prior to age 60. This measure was previously utilized in the 1975 Longitudinal Retirement History Study conducted by the U. S. Bureau of the Census for the Social Security Administration (Morgan, 1986, p. 663). Answer choices ranged from 1) I did - Never had a spouse, 2) I did - Spouse somewhat involved, 3) I did - Spouse not involved, 4) My spouse and I did - About half and half, 5) My spouse did - I was somewhat involved, and 6) My spouse did - I was not involved (Appendix C, Item Q-29).

Financial management experience before age 60 and its helpfulness in present-day management: Respondents were asked to assess their overall experience in planning finances before retirement age. An answer choice was to be selected from among "A great deal," "Some," "A little," or "No experience." Helpfulness was assessed as "Very helpful," "Helpful," or "Not helpful" (Appendix C, Item Q-03 and Item Q-04).

Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60: A self-assessment was requested of the respondents to describe their preparedness to plan finances for their retirement years. "Well prepared," "Somewhat," "Little," or "Not prepared" were the answer choices (Appendix C, Item Q-10).

Participation in planning retirement income: Respondents were asked to report the extent to which they, or a spouse, a combination, or other person planned their present-day income (Appendix C, Item Q-30).

Satisfaction with the way personal finances are managed: Respondents were asked to think about how satisfied they were with the way they were managing their finances. Then they were asked to circle a digit between zero and nine on a line to represent their level of satisfaction. The higher the number circled, the greater the level of satisfaction (Appendix C, Item Q-40).

Question: "Before you reached retirement age, did you recognize the possibility that you could live alone at this stage in your life?" Respondents were asked to discuss if they anticipated living alone during their retirement years (Appendix C, Item Q-41).

Question: "When it comes to managing your finances these days, -- what, if anything, would you like to do differently?" Respondents were

asked to write their assessment of how they are managing their finances and to suggest any changes they would like to make (Appendix C, Item Q-42).

Hypotheses

Based upon a review of the literature, three factors were posited as occurring among one-person households of older women: 1) financial management planning behavior is characteristically “Resource-centered,” “Goal-centered,” or “Constrained,” 2) financial management planning styles are influenced by selected factors which precede the experience of living alone in the retirement years, and 3) factors of influence associated with always-single older women differ from those associated with formerly-married women. These guiding hypotheses evolved from research directed to households other than the type proposed in this study. Therefore, with no previous research for comparisons, null hypotheses were tested in the statistical analyses. A summary of the hypotheses tested is provided below:

H₀ 1: There is no correlation between three dependent variables of post-age 60 financial management planning styles among elderly women living alone represented as

- 1.a Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 1.b Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 1.c Constrained (random) style after age 60

and a combination of independent variables represented as

- 1.01 Age of respondent
- 1.02 Living arrangements
- 1.03 Home ownership
- 1.04 Marital status
- 1.05 Years married altogether
- 1.06 Adult children
- 1.07 Education
- 1.08 Occupation
- 1.09 Income sources
- 1.10 Income level
- 1.11 Involvement in tracking finances before age 60
- 1.12 Participation in planning retirement income
- 1.13 Adequacy of finances between age 40 and age 60
- 1.14 Adequacy of finances in retirement
- 1.15 Satisfaction with managing finances

H₀ 2: There is no correlation between a given post-age 60 planning style adopted by older women living alone in the retirement years represented as

- 2.a Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 2.b Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 2.c Constrained (random) style after age 60

and pre-age 60 planning style adopted in the years preceding retirement age represented as

- 2.01 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style before age 60
- 2.02 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style before age 60
- 2.03 Constrained (random) style before age 60

H₀ 3: No single planning style more than another of the post-age 60 financial management planning styles known as

- 3.a Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 3.b Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 3.c Constrained (random) style after age 60

is predicted by a combination of independent variables related to a rehearsal for living alone in the later years represented as

- 3.01 Duration of living alone before age 60
- 3.02 Duration of living alone after age 60
- 3.03 Marital status: Always-single
- 3.04 Marital status: Formerly-married
- 3.05 Years since widowed, divorced, or separated, as applicable
- 3.06 Occupation
- 3.07 Involvement in tracking finances before age 60
- 3.08 Financial management experience before age 60
- 3.09 Helpfulness of financial management experience
- 3.10 Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60
- 3.11 Participation in planning retirement income
- 3.12 Resource-centered (morphogenic) planning style before age 60
- 3.13 Goal-centered (morphostatic) planning style before age 60
- 3.14 Constrained (random) planning style before age 60

H₀4: There is no significant relationship between self-reported satisfaction with personal financial management among elderly women living alone and selected independent variables related to pre- and post-age 60 financial management planning styles and income represented as

- 4.01 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style before age 60
- 4.02 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style before age 60
- 4.03 Constrained (random) style before age 60
- 4.04 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 4.05 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 4.06 Constrained (random) style after age 60
- 4.07 Income level
- 4.08 Involvement tracking finances before age 60
- 4.09 Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60

H₀ 5: Between always-single and formerly-married elderly women living alone, there is no difference in the patterns of correlation between post-age 60 financial management planning styles represented as

- 5.a Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 5.b Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 5.c Constrained (random) style after age 60

and pre-age 60 financial management planning styles represented as

- 5.01 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style before age 60
- 5.02 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style before age 60
- 5.03 Constrained (random) style before age 60

H₀ 6: Between always-single and formerly-married elderly women living alone, there is, respectively, no significant relationship between any one of the following post-age 60 financial management planning styles represented as

- 6.a Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 6.b Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 6.c Constrained (random) style after age 60

and a combination of independent variables related to a rehearsal for living alone in the later years represented as

- 6.01 Involvement in planning current day-to-day finances
- 6.02 Involvement in planning current major financial decisions
- 6.03 Duration of living alone before age 60
- 6.04 Duration of living alone after age 60
- 6.05 Financial management experience before age 60
- 6.06 Helpfulness of financial management experience
- 6.07 Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60
- 6.08 Participation in planning retirement income

H₀ 7: Between always-single and formerly-married elderly women living alone, there is, respectively, no significant relationship between satisfaction represented as self-reported satisfaction with personal financial management and eight selected independent variables related to pre- and post-age 60 financial management planning styles, income and rehearsal variables represented as

- 7.01 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style before age 60
- 7.02 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style before age 60
- 7.03 Constrained (random) style before age 60

- 7.04 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 7.05 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 7.06 Constrained (random) style after age 60
- 7.07 Income level
- 7.08 Financial management experience before age 60
- 7.09 Helpfulness of financial management experience
- 7.10 Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60

Statistical Procedures

Four types of statistical procedures, i.e., factor analysis, descriptive analysis, correlation analysis, and multiple regression procedures were utilized to accomplish the purposes of this study. These analytical procedures were applied to primarily categorical data arranged in continuous format. Responses to the two open-ended questions were excluded from these analyses (Appendix C, Items Q-41 and Q-42).

Findings were determined statistically significant at the 0.05 level of confidence. The computer software package, SAS, was used for conducting these procedures (Cody & Smith, 1991).

Factor analysis was performed to validate the nine measures of financial management planning styles selected from the adapted Buehler and Hogan (1986) instrument. This procedure tested the suitability of these measures for use with the research population in this study. Findings of the factor analysis supported the Buehler and Hogan (1986) results and are reported in Chapter IV.

Univariate analyses consisted of 1) frequencies of responses for selected measures, 2) distribution of respondents per variable, as suitable, and 3) profile descriptors of the sample. Details of findings are provided in Appendix A.

Inferential statistical procedures consisted of correlation analyses and multiple regression tests. Correlation analysis identifies whether a relationship exists between the means of given variables. Coefficients identify the relationship direction and level of significance from which an affinity may or may not be inferred. Multiple regression analysis identifies the effects of multiple independent variables on one dependent variable. These procedures, which are suited for representative samples with a normal distribution, are used in this study because analyses were conducted upon a population of interest, i.e., home economics alumnae from Oregon State University. Thus the population under study represented the sample.

Correlation analysis was used to describe relationships 1) between post-age 60 financial management planning styles and selected demographic characteristics (Hypothesis One) and 2) between pre-age 60 and post-age 60 financial management planning styles (Hypothesis Two). Summed scores of the nine pre-retirement age planning style measures and the nine post-retirement age planning style measures were used in testing Hypothesis Two. Similarly, correlation analysis was used to test Hypothesis Five. Hypothesis Five parallels Hypothesis Two, while testing for marital status differences. Multiple regression procedures were used to test Hypotheses Three, Four, Six, and Seven to identify 1) predictors of post-age 60 planning styles and 2) satisfaction with personal financial managerial practices in relation to planning styles.

IV. FINDINGS

The purpose of this research was to determine the presence of three financial management planning styles and related predictor variables among selected elderly women living alone. This chapter presents the descriptive statistical findings and the results of null hypotheses testing pertaining to: 1) Continuity between pre-retirement and retirement-age planning styles in Hypotheses One and Two, 2) Prediction of planning styles by rehearsal variables in Hypothesis Three, 3) Satisfaction with financial management practices in relation to post-age 60 planning styles in Hypothesis Four, and 4) Marital status as a predictor of rehearsal variables and satisfaction with managing finances and planning styles in Hypotheses Five, Six and Seven.

Sample Profile

Participants in this study were former home economics students and graduates prior to 1953 of the present-day College of Home Economics and Education at Oregon State University. Sample members contacted for participation resided in 21 states across the nation. Eligible respondents resided in 12 states, based upon zip code data (Appendix Table A-1).

Usable questionnaires were returned by 180 unmarried women age 63 or older who live alone. Seventy-one returned questionnaires were determined to be unusable because either the respondent lived in a retirement facility (27 percent, $n = 21$), the respondent did not otherwise meet the criterion of living alone (65 percent, $n = 43$), the data were incomplete

(7 percent, $n = 6$) or the data were spurious (1 percent, $n = 1$). Another seven questionnaires were undeliverable and another nine were returned too late to be usable. Seven of the nine were found in a supposedly empty container according to the U.S. Postal Service. Ten of the original sample members were deceased.

The rate of return for usable questionnaires from the mailing of 404 survey instruments was 45 percent. Approximately 64 percent of the responses were mailed in Oregon, 17.6 percent in California, and 8.5 percent in Washington (Appendix Table A-1). The remainder of the returns were from Arizona, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Nevada, North Carolina, and Texas.

Descriptive Statistics for Sample

A sample profile includes demographic characteristics, income and self-reported financial adequacy, financial management characteristics prior to and after age 60, and respondents' attitudes toward managing personal finances.

Demographic Characteristics

Ages of the participants ranged from 63 to 103 with a mean age of 76 years (Appendix Table A-2). Approximately 80 percent of the respondents had previously been married (Appendix Table A-3). Marriage duration ranged from 17 to 67 years with the loss of spouse for most having occurred

within the last seven years (Appendix Tables A-4 and A-5). The proportion of the sample reporting they have adult children patterned the proportion married (Appendix Table A-6).

Many respondents had not lived alone for long either before or after retirement age (Appendix Tables A-7 and A-8). Forty-three percent had lived alone less than a year before retirement.

Most respondents lived in a house (63.7 percent), followed by apartments, condominiums, or attached housing (28 percent) (Appendix Table A-9). Nearly 69 percent owned their homes without a mortgage, while 16.8 percent were renters (Appendix Table A-10).

Occupational backgrounds covered 39 positions with Homemaker named most often (30 percent) followed by Teacher (24.6 percent). For analytical purposes occupations were differentiated between labor force employment (70 percent) or Homemaker (Appendix Table A-11).

Income and Self-reported Financial Adequacy

Income data related to levels, sources, ranking of sources based upon proportion of income, and designation of source, if any, when one of the alternatives provided more than half of the income. Complete information on income sources is provided in Appendix Table A-12. Income sources ranked in comparison with the source which was first in importance are presented in Appendix Table A-13. Sources were ranked first in order of importance were interest and dividends (27 percent), Social Security from spouse's work

(16.3 percent), pension from respondent's work (15.6 percent), and pension from spouse's work (14.9 percent) (Appendix Table A-14). Details on income sources providing more than half of the household income are presented in Appendix Table A-15.

Income level data revealed 64 percent of the sample had an annual income the previous year exceeding \$24,000. Notably, 20.3 percent of the respondents claimed an annual income exceeding \$45,000 annually (Table 4).

Table 4
Income Levels

	<i>f</i>	Percent of Sample
Less than \$10,000	6	3.5
\$10,001 to 16,000	25	14.5
\$17,000 to 23,000	31	18.0
\$24,000 to 30,000	29	16.9
\$31,000 to 37,000	29	16.9
\$38,000 to 44,000	17	9.9
\$45,000 to 50,000	16	9.3
More than \$50,000	19	11.0
Frequency Missing	8	
n =	180	100.0

The profile presented in Table 5 reveals interest or dividend income to be a prominent source in these households. Pension income from the respondents' labor force employment appears to parallel occupations associated with their education level.

Table 5
Income Sources and Ranks, by Percent of Sample

Source	Is a Source of Household Income		Ranked as 1st or 2nd in Importance		Provides More than Half of Income	
	<i>f</i>	Percent	<i>f</i>	Percent	<i>f</i>	Percent
Interest or Dividends	146	83.0	72	44.2	28	15.9
Social Security / Spouse's Work	93	52.8	64	38.6	14	8.0
Social Security / My Work	77	43.8	41	24.4	7	4.0
Savings (Principal)	75	42.6	17	10.1	1	0.6
Pension From My Work	71	40.3	41	23.7	20	11.4
Insurance or Annuities	64	36.4	21	12.5	1	0.6
Pension From Spouse's Work	60	34.1	35	20.9	17	9.7
Sale of Stocks or Real Estate	42	23.9	16	9.3	2	1.1
Employment (Part- or Full-time)	26	14.8	13	7.8	6	3.4
Other: Real estate, inheritance, trust accounts, military, etc.	25	14.2	16	9.4	7	4.0
Income From Family, Friends	11	6.3	5	2.9	1	0.6
Government (S.S.I., Public Aid)	3	1.7	1	0.6	0	0.0

Two measures of financial adequacy were presented to compare present-day and past circumstances (Appendix Table A-15). The past was defined as the respondents' experience between age 40 and age 60, typically the peak income years in the life cycle. A profile of the respondents' self-reported adequacy of finances to meet their living expenses is presented in Table 6. Perception of financial adequacy appears to shift towards increased adequacy in the retirement years compared to the period between age 40 and age 60.

Table 6
Self-reported Adequacy of Finances to Meet Living Expenses,
by Percent of Sample

Description of Sense of Financial Adequacy	Pre-age 60		Post-age 60		Change in Percent
	<i>f</i>	Percent	<i>f</i>	Percent	
Had/Has trouble making ends met	5	2.8	2	1.1	-1.7
Usually had/has just enough, no more	23	12.8	10	5.6	-7.2
Had/Has enough, with a little extra	98	54.7	58	32.2	-22.5
Always had/has money left over	53	29.6	110	61.1	+31.5
	Total 179 99.9		Total 180 100.0		

Financial Management Characteristics Before and After Age 60

Financial management characteristics of the sample will be described by response frequencies related to 1) measures of Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained planning styles, and 2) measures most often reported as descriptive and not descriptive of the respondents. Complete response frequencies for pre- and post-age 60 Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained planning measures are presented in Appendix Tables A-16 (Resource-centered), A-17 (Goal-centered), and A-18 (Constrained).

Pre-retirement and post-retirement age financial management planning styles were measured by eighteen Likert-type statements.

Respondents reported on a scale of one to six the extent to which a given statement was “Not like,” “Exactly like,” or “Somewhere in between” their self-assessed description.

Overall, responses to the measures of the three financial management planning styles were similar across time from pre- to post-retirement age periods. The Resource-centered Measure 1 (viz., important wants being worked into plans) was rated five or six by 65 percent of the respondents for pre-age 60 planning and 83.7 percent for post-age 60 planning. The remaining two Resource-centered measures tended not to be descriptive of the respondents’ planning (Appendix Table A-16).

Goal-centered measures for both the pre-age 60 and post-age 60 sets received balanced response rates indicating all three items were descriptive of the planning behavior of the respondents. The upper ratings of five and six, (i.e., “Exactly like me”) were selected by over 78 percent of the sample on all three Goal-centered measures for both the pre- and post-age 60 sets (Appendix Table A-17).

The Constrained sets of measures had more variation than either the Resource-centered or Goal-centered styles. Response rates were mixed for the Constrained Measure 1 (viz., emergencies often make/made it necessary to settle for less than expected) and Measure 3 (viz., money the primary consideration in selecting a place to live). Measure 2 (viz., money set aside for essentials being borrowed to pay for things not in the budget) was rejected as a descriptor by 72.3 percent of the sample responding “Not like me” (Appendix Table A-18). The descriptor “Exactly like me” was most often reported for corresponding post-age 60 and pre-age 60 measures. A

summary of the most frequent responses, ranked by use with post-age 60 measures, are presented in Table 7.

Table 7

Most Frequent Responses to Planning Style Measures, by Percent of Sample, Ranked by Pre-age 60 Responses

Planning Style	Planning Measures Ranked Most Frequently Ranks 6 and 5 Describing "Exactly Like Me"	Pre-age 60 by Percent	Post-age 60 by Percent
Goal-centered	"Borrowing" from funds set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, to buy things not in the budget is/was avoided.	83.5	81.5
Goal-centered	Once a good money plan is/was established, an effort is/was made to carry it out without being tempted to get extra things.	79.0	78.2
Goal-centered	Plans made for buying things only after it is/was obvious time and money are/were available.	78.7	89.2
Resource-centered	Most really important wants are /were worked into plans.	65.0	83.7
Planning Style	Planning Measures Ranked Most Frequently Ranks 1 and 2 Describing "Not Like Me"	Pre-age 60 by Percent	Post-age 60 by Percent
Constrained	Money set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, frequently "borrowed" to pay for things not in the budget.	88.7	89.8
Resource-centered	Wants beyond the affordable are/were often obtained through a special effort to think up new ways to get them.	51.1	49.2
Resource-centered	Plans for using money change(d) to take care of new goals.	47.7	42.2
Constrained	Money is/was the primary consideration in selecting a place to live.	37.8	37.1

Financial management experience was measured relative to 1) personal involvement in planning current household income, and 2) handling day-to-day financial tasks and major financial decisions. Self-assessed preparedness for handling financial tasks was reported along with financial management experience prior to age 60 and the helpfulness of this experience toward present-day planning (Appendix Tables A-19 and A-20). Many respondents (43 percent) stated they planned their present-day household income alone or with advice. An additional 41.0 percent planned with their spouse. For some, the spouse planned the retirement income alone (4.5 percent) and for others (8.5 percent) retirement income was not planned (Appendix Table A-21).

Respondents expressed a high level of personal involvement in handling present-day financial matters (Appendix Table A-23). Ninety-one percent of the sample take care of daily tasks such as check writing and record keeping. Eighty-two percent reported being involved a great deal in their major financial decisions.

Self-reported assessment of preparedness to plan finances for retirement prior to age 60 was generally positive. Forty-two percent responded “Well prepared” and 45.5 percent “Somewhat prepared” compared to 12.4 percent reporting “Little” or “Not prepared” (Appendix Table A-23).

When asked, “Who usually kept track of the bills, expenses, and other day-to-day finances in your household before you became age 60,” approximately sixty percent answered they were solely responsible even when their spouse was available; 27.1 percent shared this responsibility with their spouse. For 13 percent of the respondents the responsibility of tracking finances was the primary or sole responsibility of their spouse. Overall, 59.8

percent of the sample, including the always-single, had in the past experienced primary or total responsibility for tracking bills, expenses, and other day-to-day finances (Appendix Table A-24).

Self-reported assessment of experience before age 60 of handling financial tasks was reported by 60.6 percent responding "A great deal" and 25.6 percent claimed having had "Some experience" (Appendix Table A-20). Helpfulness of this experience in managing current finances was rated "Very helpful" by 65.9 percent and "Helpful" by 27.9 percent. Only 6 percent considered their past financial management experience "Not helpful" to their present-day experience (Appendix Table A-21).

Attitudinal Profile Relative to Managing Personal Finances

Two variables describe the respondents' attitudes toward their financial practices. Reported satisfaction with how finances are presently managed will be followed by an overview of the expressed desires to change those ways of managing. Next, responses related to recognizing the possibility of living alone in the later years will be discussed.

Satisfaction with the way finances are presently managed was measured by a Likert-type item with a 0 to 9 scale. Respondents were asked to think about how satisfied they were with the way they manage their finances, then to circle a numeral ranging from 0 (viz., Not at all satisfied) to 9 (viz., Extremely satisfied), representing their level of satisfaction. Responses reported in Table 8 suggest a split placing the majority of 74.2 percent in the upper range of satisfaction.

Table 8
Satisfaction With Management of Finances, by Percent of Sample

	Not At All Satisfied						Extremely Satisfied				
Scale	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Sample Percent	0.0	0.6	1.7	2.9	2.3	4.6	13.8	27.6	23.6	23.0	100.1
Sample N	0	1	3	5	4	8	24	48	41	40	174

Respondents were provided an opportunity by means of an open-ended question to describe changes, if any, they would like to make in the management of their finances. The comments, in full text, are presented in Appendix D. The desire to change present-day financial management practices was expressed by 35 percent of the respondents. Participants were asked, When it comes to managing your finances these days, what, if anything, would you like to do differently? Changes in the present time were suggested by 17.2 percent of the sample. Approximately 18 percent suggested changes before retirement age, 31.7 percent desired no changes; some (11.1 percent) expressed their hopes and others (1.7 percent) offered advice based upon their experience (Appendix Table A-25).

Approximately 80 percent responded Yes to an open question asking whether the possibility of living alone had been recognized in the past. Sixteen percent stated that no such living arrangement had been anticipated (Appendix Table A-26).

Inferential Statistics

Inferential Procedures Overview

Inferential analyses included factor analyses of the planning style measures and procedures for null hypothesis testing including correlation analysis and multiple regression. Unrotated and rotated principal components analyses were performed on both pre- and post-retirement age planning style measures. Pearson correlation coefficients structured parsimonious tests to investigate 1) continuity between planning styles and descriptor variables in Hypothesis One and 2) the carryover, if any, of planning styles across pre- and post-retirement settings in Hypotheses Two and Five. Multiple regression models were generated to investigate relationships between variables in Hypothesis Four and determine predictor variables in Hypotheses Three, Six and Seven. These models allow the viewing of each independent variable in the regression function which adjusts for all other independent variables.

Factor Loadings of Planning Style Measures

A principal components factor analysis was performed with orthogonal varimax rotation on the nine pre- and post-age 60 measures of financial management planning style, respectively. The rotated solution on the three sets (i.e. Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained) of three factors was found to be consistent with the Buehler and Hogan (1986)

design. Suitability of the application of these planning style measures to the elderly households in this study, as well as Buehler and Hogan's single-parent households, was thereby supported.

Results of the Varimax Rotation Method are presented in Tables 9 through 12. Table 9 presents eigenvalues from the unrotated principal components analysis for pre- and post-retirement age planning style measures. Column titles are abbreviated R-C, G-C, and C representing the Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained planning styles, respectively.

Table 9
Eigenvalues of Initial Unrotated Factors for Pre- and Post-retirement Age Planning Style Measures

<u>Pre-retirement Planning Style Measures</u>								
R-C-1	R-C-2	R-C-3	G-C-1	G-C-2	G-C-3	C-1	C-2	C-3
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX
2.879372	1.724505	0.968888	0.820675	0.674957	0.554731	0.529884	0.485185	0.361803
<u>Post-retirement Planning Style Measures</u>								
R-C-1	R-C-2	R-C-3	G-C-1	G-C-2	G-C-3	C-1	C-2	C-3
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX
2.280670	1.784360	1.361865	0.901155	0.710502	0.588418	0.525111	0.446116	0.401802

Prompted by the eigenvalue of 0.96888 for Factor III in pre-retirement age planning measures (Table 9) a varimax factor rotation was used to force a three factor pattern. This step was taken because the 0.96888 eigenvalue was near the Kaiser significance criterion of one. When the forced three-factor pattern (Table 11) was compared with the two-factor pattern (Table 10), similar patterns were observed. Factors I, II, and III emerged as Resource-centered, Goal-centered and Constrained styles, respectively. Confluence appears between both the Resource-centered and Constrained styles and the Goal-centered and Constrained styles. Ultimately, all nine measures for the pre-retirement financial management planning styles were retained.

Table 10
Varimax Rotated Two-factor Pattern, Pre-retirement Age Planning Styles

Pre-retirement Planning Style Measures	<u>Factor I</u>	<u>Factor II</u>
	Variance explained 2.359441	Variance explained 2.244436
Resource-centered 1	-0.22059	0.37433
Resource-centered 2	0.82657	-0.10859
Resource-centered 3	0.64720	-0.06669
Goal-centered 1	0.11822	0.76580
Goal-centered 2	0.03799	0.72159
Goal-centered 3	-0.16800	0.78022
Constrained 1	0.69872	-0.15233
Constrained 2	0.43960	-0.59005
Constrained 3	0.69541	0.02858

The Kaiser criterion was used to determine the number of components to retain for further analysis. For the pre-retirement data, two components or factors were indicated (Table 10). For the post-retirement data, three components or factors were indicated (Table 11). Similarly, all nine measures for the post-retirement financial management planning styles were retained on the basis of the three-factor pattern emerging from the principal components analysis (Table 12).

Table 11
Varimax Rotated Forced Three-factor Pattern, Pre-retirement Age Planning Styles

Pre-retirement Planning Style Measures	<u>Factor I</u>	<u>Factor II</u>	<u>Factor III</u>
	Variance explained 2.281844	Variance explained 2.056432	Variance explained 1.234489
Resource-centered 1	-0.02749	0.10501	0.90123
Resource-centered 2	0.82006	-0.06656	-0.15201
Resource-centered 3	0.66449	-0.06297	-0.02489
Goal-centered 1	0.06952	0.79653	0.02296
Goal-centered 2	-0.03815	0.78629	-0.08977
Goal-centered 3	-0.14761	0.71283	0.33316
Constrained 1	0.62799	-0.03145	-0.40473
Constrained 2	0.42099	-0.52414	-0.30004
Constrained 3	0.75323	-0.02171	0.15854

Table 12
Varimax Rotated Three-factor Pattern, Post-retirement Age Planning Styles

Post-retirement Planning Style Measures	<u>Factor I</u>	<u>Factor II</u>	<u>Factor III</u>
	Variance explained 1.982851	Variance explained 1.774760	Variance explained 1.669284
Resource-centered 1	0.00277	0.12383	0.80465
Resource-centered 2	-0.09072	0.07927	0.82025
Resource-centered 3	0.19635	-0.64476	0.37614
Goal-centered 1	0.76329	-0.04919	-0.14711
Goal-centered 2	0.83658	0.08867	-0.01923
Goal-centered 3	0.68526	-0.03609	0.07329
Constrained 1	0.20237	0.66098	0.15550
Constrained 2	-0.00980	0.82004	0.20990
Constrained 3	-0.37807	0.46527	0.33453

Results of Null Hypotheses Testing

Seven null hypotheses were tested to investigate relationships and predictor variables among the three previously identified 1) Resource-centered, 2) Goal-centered, and 3) Constrained styles of financial planning. The null hypothesis structure was established in the absence of comparative studies. Hypotheses were designed in relation to the Deacon and Firebaugh (1988) systems theory and are summarized as follows:

- 1) **Hypotheses One and Two** address continuity between pre-retirement and retirement-age planning styles.
- 2) **Hypothesis Three** tests rehearsal variables as predictors of retirement age financial management planning styles.
- 3) **Hypothesis Four** tests satisfaction with financial management practices in relation to post-age 60 planning styles.
- 4) **Hypotheses Five, Six and Seven** test for marital status differences relative to the rehearsal variables and satisfaction with managing finances and planning styles between the always-single and formerly-married women.

Null Hypotheses Related to Objective I:
Continuity Between Pre-retirement and Retirement Planning Styles

Hypothesis One Overview

This study of older women living alone prompted interest in a possible link between selected characteristics and financial planning style adopted in later life. Hypothesis One was designed to test the statistical significance of the association of 14 selected demographic and attitudinal characteristics with each of three financial management planning styles, viz., Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained. This test was accomplished through use of the Pearson correlation procedure.

Hypothesis One

H₀ 1: There is no correlation between three dependent variables of post-age 60 financial management planning styles among elderly women living alone represented as

- 1.a Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 1.b Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 1.c Constrained (random) style after age 60

and a combination of independent variables represented as

- 1.01 Age of respondent
- 1.02 Living arrangements
- 1.03 Home ownership
- 1.04 Marital status
- 1.05 Years married altogether
- 1.06 Adult children
- 1.07 Education
- 1.08 Occupation
- 1.09 Income sources
- 1.10 Income level
- 1.11 Involvement in tracking finances before age 60
- 1.12 Participation in planning retirement income
- 1.13 Adequacy of finances between age 40 and age 60
- 1.14 Adequacy of finances in retirement
- 1.15 Satisfaction with managing finances

Resource-centered Planning Style and Significantly Correlated Variables, Post-age 60

(1.01) Age of respondent was found to be inversely related to Resource-centered planning, $r = -0.21391$ ($p = 0.005$). (1.09) Pension income from respondent's work was positively correlated with Resource-centered planning, $r = 0.25297$ ($p = 0.001$), albeit insignificantly related to either the Goal-centered (inversely), $r = -0.03941$ ($p = 0.611$), or Constrained, $r = 0.00687$ ($p = 0.930$). Pension income from spouse's work was significantly divided between and inversely related to both the Resource-centered style, $r = -0.15885$ ($p = 0.040$), and Constrained style, $r = -0.19677$ ($p = 0.011$), although notably not significantly correlated with Goal-centered planning, $r = 0.00822$ ($p = 0.916$). (1.15) Satisfaction with managing finances was not statistically significant in correlation with Resource-centered planning, $r = 0.14745$ ($p = 0.058$), compared to significant correlation with the Goal-centered, $r = 0.26597$ ($p = 0.001$), and Constrained (inversely), $r = -0.22972$ ($p = 0.003$), styles.

Goal-centered Planning Style and Significantly Correlated Variables, Post-age 60

(1.02) Living arrangements were not significantly correlated with planning styles, except condominium or attached housing was shown to be inversely related to Goal-centered planning, $r = -0.201$ ($p = 0.008$).

(1.09) Social Security income based upon the respondent's work was found inversely correlated, $r = -0.17820$ ($p = 0.020$), to Goal-centered planning and the only income source significantly correlated with this style.

(1.15) Satisfaction with managing money was positively correlated with the Goal-centered planning style, $r = 0.26597$ ($p = 0.001$), and negatively correlated with Constrained planning, $r = -0.22972$ ($p = 0.003$), while not significantly correlated with Resource-centered planning, $r = 0.14745$ ($p = 0.058$).

Constrained Planning Style and Significantly Correlated Variables, Post-age 60

(1.09) Pension income from spouse's work was significantly correlated inversely with both the Constrained style, $r = -0.19677$ ($p = 0.011$), and the Resource-centered, $r = -0.15885$ ($p = 0.040$), but not correlated with the Goal-centered style, $r = 0.00822$ ($p = 0.916$). Income received from interest or dividends was significantly correlated inversely with the Constrained style only, $r = -0.28915$ ($p = 0.001$). (1.10) Income level was negatively correlated with the Constrained style, $r = -0.22823$ ($p = 0.004$), but correlated neither with Resource-centered, $r = 0.07541$ ($p = 0.337$), nor Goal-centered, $r = -0.03159$ ($p = 0.687$). (1.12) Participation in planning present-day income was correlated with the Constrained style, $r = 0.26704$ ($p = 0.001$), but neither Resource-centered, $r = -0.08288$ ($p = 0.283$), nor Goal-centered, $r = -0.14451$ ($p = 0.060$). Accordingly, the Constrained planning style was more likely to be linked with women for whom retirement income had not been planned, or those women whose spouse had planned the retirement income alone.

Notably, 43.3 percent of the women in the sample reported having planned their retirement income alone or with advice and 41.0 percent reported that they had planned retirement income with their spouse (Table A-21).

(1.13) Adequacy of income in the pre-retirement age years was found to be inversely correlated with Constrained planning, $r = -0.26924$ ($p = 0.001$), as was (1.14) Adequacy of income in the retirement age years, $r = -0.39093$ ($p = 0.001$). By contrast, neither Resource-centered, $r = -0.06431$ ($p = 0.403$), nor Goal-centered, $r = 0.10391$ ($p = 0.175$) styles were significantly correlated. (1.15) Satisfaction with managing money was inversely associated with the Constrained style, $r = -0.22972$ ($p = 0.003$), and with Goal-centered planning, $r = 0.26597$ ($p = 0.001$), while not significantly correlated with Resource-centered planning, $r = 0.14745$ ($p = 0.058$).

Variables Not Significantly Correlated With Post-age 60 Planning Styles in Hypothesis One

Of the fourteen categories of independent variables, the following were found to have no significant relationships with the type of post-age 60 planning style adopted by the respondents: (1.02) Living in a house, compared to other living arrangements, was not statistically significant, though an inverse relationship was identified with Resource-centered planning, $r = -0.14374$ ($p = 0.061$); (1.03) Home ownership; (1.04) Marital status; (1.05) Years married altogether; (1.06) Adult children; (1.07) Education; (1.08) Labor force employment; (1.09) Income sources related to a) current employment, b) spouse's Social Security, c) government aid, d) insurance or annuities, e) savings, f) sale of stocks or real estate, g) income from family or

friends, or h) sources noted as Other; and (1.11) Involvement in tracking finances before age 60.

By extending the 0.05 level of statistical significance, upon which the findings of this study were based, to the 0.10 level of statistical significance, the following correlations with post-age 60 planning styles were gained in the test of H_{01} : Resource-centered planning added correlations with the following six variables: (1.02) Living in a single-family house (inversely), $r = -0.14374$ ($p = 0.061$), (1.04) Always-single marital status (inversely), $r = -0.14205$ ($p = 0.063$), (1.04) Formerly-married marital status, $r = 0.14827$ ($p = 0.052$), (1.08) Occupation, $r = 0.13383$ ($p = 0.080$), (1.14) Adequacy of finances in retirement, $r = 0.14735$ ($p = 0.054$), and lastly, (1.15) Satisfaction with managing finances, $r = 0.14745$ ($p = 0.058$). Goal-centered planning added one negative correlation with (1.12) Participation in planning present-day income, $r = -0.14451$ ($p = 0.059$). Constrained planning added one negative correlation with (1.02) Home ownership, $r = -0.13607$ ($p = 0.079$).

Summary of Results of Hypothesis One Test

The null hypothesis was accepted for the post-age 60 Resource-centered planning style for all independent variables, with the following exceptions: (1.01) Age of respondent (inversely correlated), (1.09) Pension income from respondent's work, and (1.15) Pension income from spouse's work (inversely). Accordingly, as age increases it is likely there is a reduction in opportunities to increase or substitute resources. Pension recipients appeared to have either derived sufficient income to maintain goals or skills

enabling them to increase, create, or substitute resources. Those whose income was derived from pension generating occupations are suggested to have acquired and sustained attitudes fostering Resource-centered planning traits. At the extended 0.10 level of significance, Resource-centered planners were receiving a comfortable income and were satisfied with the way they were managing.

For the post-age 60 Goal-centered planning style, the null hypothesis was accepted for all independent variables, with the following exceptions where Hypothesis One was rejected and a statistically significant correlation was found: (1.02) Living arrangements related to condominiums or attached housing (inversely), (1.09) Social Security income based upon the respondent's work (inversely), and (1.15) Satisfaction with managing finances. At the extended 0.10 level of significance, participation in planning present-day income was characteristic of Goal-centered planners.

For the post-age 60 Constrained planning style, the null hypothesis was accepted for all independent variables, with the following exceptions where Hypothesis One was rejected and statistically significant correlations were found: (1.09) Pension income from spouse's work (inversely), (1.10) Income level (inversely), (1.12) Participation in planning retirement income, (1.13) Adequacy of income between age 40 and age 60 (inversely), (1.14) Adequacy of income in the retirement age years (inversely), and 1.15 Satisfaction with managing money (inversely). Constrained planners appeared to be more readily described than either Resource-centered or Goal-centered planners. The less likely the husband had pension income, the more likely the widow was a Constrained planner. Lack of participation in the planning of retirement income also aligned with unplanned retirement

income and led to post-age 60 Constrained planning. As expected, limited financial resources during and prior to the retirement years was linked to post-retirement age Constrained planning. Limitations on pre-age 60 resources may be expected to affect post-age 60 income. However, overall findings suggest that behavior patterns established during the limited income period likely carried over into retirement, even when income adequacy increased in the later years. Constrained planning was linked to dissatisfaction with financial practices in retirement. At the extended 0.10 level of significance, (1.03) Home ownership was added to the negative correlations for Constrained planning. Complete information on correlation coefficients and p-values related to the Hypothesis One test is presented in Appendix Table A-27.

Hypothesis Two Overview

Upon determining styles of behavior related to financial planning during the retirement years, there arises interest in ways of projecting the occurrence of a given planning style. Planning behavior is included among the varied dimensions of the transformation of resources in meeting demands, i.e., the system's throughput (Deacon & Firebaugh, 1988). Consequently, the capability of projecting links between a given planning style and the system's output, such as resource utilization in the later years, may be helpful in formulating financial management strategies. Thus, projecting the likelihood that a given planning style be adopted in the later years may allow for selective adjustments or reinforcements of pre-retirement

planning practices. Hypothesis Two, which is based on the concepts within continuity theory, investigated the likelihood that planning style characteristics are carried forward from pre- to post-retirement age periods.

Hypothesis Two

H₀ 2: There is no correlation between a given post-age 60 planning style adopted by older women living alone in the retirement years represented as

- 2.a Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 2.b Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 2.c Constrained (random) style after age 60

and pre-age 60 planning style adopted in the years preceding retirement age represented as

- 2.01 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style before age 60
- 2.02 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style before age 60
- 2.03 Constrained (random) style before age 60

Findings Related to Hypothesis Two

The purpose of Hypothesis Two was to investigate the strength of continuity, if any, between pre-retirement and post-retirement age financial management planning styles among elderly women who live alone. A Pearson correlation matrix was used for the test. The planning style variables were created from sample means for each of the three styles. Means were derived from sample scores of each of the three sets of planning style

measures (Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained) for pre- and post-retirement age items.

Significant correlation coefficients were found between pre-age 60 and post-age 60 measures for each of the three styles (Table 13). Thus, based upon the significance of the coefficients, a strong pattern of continuity was detected between the pre-age 60 and post-age 60 stages.

Table 13
Pre- and Post-age 60 Financial Management Planning Styles Correlation Matrix, Full Sample

	Pre-age 60 Resource- centered Style	Pre-age 60 Goal- centered Style	Pre-age 60 Constrained Style	Post-age 60 Resource- centered Style	Post-age 60 Goal- centered Style	Post-age 60 Constrained Style
Pre-age 60 Resource- centered Style						
Pre-age 60 Goal- centered Style	-0.03935 <i>p</i> = 0.612					
Pre-age 60 Constrained Style	0.47472 <i>p</i> = 0.001	-0.23702 <i>p</i> = 0.002				
Post-age 60 Resource- centered Style	0.44546 <i>p</i> = 0.001	0.08595 <i>p</i> = 0.267	0.19231 <i>p</i> = 0.136			
Post-age 60 Goal- centered Style	0.01168 <i>p</i> = 0.881	0.53321 <i>p</i> = 0.001	-0.14153 <i>p</i> = 0.071	0.04480 <i>p</i> = 0.564		
Post-age 60 Constrained Style	0.36636 <i>p</i> = 0.001	-0.13698 <i>p</i> = 0.077	0.57231 <i>p</i> = 0.001	0.18684 <i>p</i> = 0.017	-0.07336 <i>p</i> = 0.348	

Findings from the Pearson correlation analysis reveal a significant relationship between pre- and post-age 60 Resource-centered planning, $r = 0.44546$ ($p = 0.001$), between pre- and post-age 60 Goal-centered planning, $r = 0.53321$ ($p = 0.001$), and between pre- and post-age 60 Constrained planning, $r = 0.57231$ ($p = 0.001$). Frequencies for pre- and post-age 60 responses represented in Table 13 are presented in Appendix Tables A-16, A-17, and A-18. Hypothesis Two was rejected.

Statistically Significant Relationships Beyond Complementary Styles

Statistically significant relationships also occurred outside the diagonal of correlation between like planning styles (Table 13). The pre-age 60 Resource-centered style was also found to be positively correlated with the pre-age 60 Constrained style, $r = 0.47472$ ($p = 0.001$). Likewise, pre-age 60 Resource-centered style was positively correlated with post-age 60 Constrained planning, $r = 0.36636$ ($p = 0.001$); the post-age 60 Resource-centered style was correlated with the post-age 60 Constrained style, $r = 0.18684$ ($p = 0.017$). Results of the two-factor rotated pattern which emerged from the survey instrument item analysis reflect these findings. It may be inferred that Resource-centered planning behavior could overlap Constrained behavior in both pre- and post-retirement periods. Resource-centered planners appear to collapse into Constrained patterns, rather than turning to Goal-centered behavior, when opportunities to create, increase, or substitute resources are restricted. It seems that limitations may accumulate in relation to Resource-centered behavior as the elderly advance in years.

Pre-age 60 Constrained style was found to be inversely correlated with pre-age 60 Goal-centered planning, $r = -0.23702$ ($p = 0.002$). Further, at the extended 0.10 level of significance, pre-age 60 Goal-centered planning and post-age 60 Constrained planning, $r = -0.13698$ ($p = 0.077$) were inversely correlated; pre-age 60 Constrained planning and post-age 60 Goal-centered planning were inversely correlated, $r = -0.14153$ ($p = 0.071$). In contrast to the pre-age 60 Resource-centered planners, the pre-age 60 Goal-centered planners were not likely to become Constrained planners in retirement. Constrained planning occurring prior to retirement was not likely to develop into Goal-centered behavior. Thus, Resource-centered and Goal-centered planning skills appear more likely to collapse into Constrained behavior than the reverse. Resource-centered planners accustomed to creating, increasing, or substituting resources may become more challenged by disparities between resources and goals in retirement than Goal-centered planners who are accustomed to deleting, modifying, or prioritizing demands. For this cohort of women living through the economic challenges of the 1930's Depression, goal-tending skills may be favored more than resource-creating skills. Further, the elderly may be better able to sustain Goal-centered planning skills than Resource-centered behavior.

Null Hypotheses Related to Objective II:
Prediction of Planning Styles by Rehearsal Variables
and Satisfaction With Managing Finances

Hypothesis Three Overview

Interest in planning styles extends beyond companion characteristics and predictors of occurrence. Hypothesis Three explored factors influencing the adoption of post-age 60 financial management planning styles in relation to before-hand experience or rehearsal. Guided by the elements of continuity theory and anticipatory socialization, 14 independent variables, deemed rehearsal variables, were tested.

Multiple regression analysis was used to create a model for Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained (dependent variable) planning, respectively, and the rehearsal variables (independent variables).

Hypothesis Three

H₀ 3: No single planning style more than another of the post-age 60 financial management planning styles known as

- 3.a Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 3.b Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 3.c Constrained (random) style after age 60

is predicted by a combination of independent variables related to a rehearsal for living alone in the later years represented as

- 3.01 Duration of living alone before age 60
- 3.02 Duration of living alone after age 60
- 3.03 Marital status: Always-single
- 3.04 Marital status: Formerly-married
- 3.05 Years since widowed, divorced, or separated, as applicable
- 3.06 Occupation
- 3.07 Involvement in tracking finances before age 60
- 3.08 Financial management experience before age 60
- 3.09 Helpfulness of financial management experience
- 3.10 Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60
- 3.11 Participation in planning retirement income
- 3.12 Resource-centered (morphogenic) planning style before age 60
- 3.13 Goal-centered (morphostatic) planning style before age 60
- 3.14 Constrained (random) planning style before age 60

Findings Related to Hypothesis Three

A multiple regression procedure resulted in the following statistically significant predictors of post-age 60 planning styles (Table 14): The Resource-centered regression model contained one statistically significant predictor variable: (3.12) Pre-age 60 Resource-centered planning style, (4.695, $p = 0.001$). The Goal-centered regression model produced two significant predictors: (3.07) Involvement in tracking day-to-day finances prior to age 60, (2.258, $p = 0.030$), and (3.13) Pre-age 60 Goal-centered style, (6.321, $p = 0.001$).

Table 14

Predictor Variables of Post-age 60 Financial Management Planning Styles
Among Elderly Women Living Alone, Including Pre-age 60 Planning Styles

Predictors of Post-age 60 Planning Styles		Resource-centered Post-age 60		Goal-centered Post-age 60		Constrained Post-age 60	
		T for H ₀	p-value	T for H ₀	p-value	T for H ₀	p-value
3.01	Duration of living alone under age 60	-0.231	0.818	0.139	0.890	0.246	0.806
3.02	Duration of living alone over age 60	0.802	0.424	-0.315	0.753	-0.205	0.838
	Marital status						
3.03	Always-single	-0.534	0.594	-0.028	0.978	1.056	0.293
3.04	Formerly-married	-0.141	0.888	-0.242	0.809	-0.439	0.661
3.05	Years without spouse	0.894	0.373	-1.137	0.257	-1.267	0.297
3.06	Occupation	1.002	0.318	0.187	0.852	-0.502	0.617
3.07	Involvement tracking finances under 60	-0.460	0.646	2.258	0.026	-0.735	0.464
3.08	Financial management experience under 60	-0.313	0.755	-0.341	0.734	-2.216	0.028
3.09	Helpfulness of financial experience	0.292	0.771	-0.110	0.912	1.775	0.078
3.10	Preparedness under age 60 to plan finances	-0.970	0.334	-1.027	0.306	2.814	0.006
3.11	Participation planning present-day income	0.158	0.875	-1.157	0.249	1.932	0.055
3.12	Resource-centered before age 60	4.695	0.001	0.238	0.813	2.321	0.022
3.13	Goal-centered planning before age 60	1.054	0.294	6.321	0.001	0.029	0.977
3.14	Constrained planning before age 60	-0.082	0.935	0.689	0.492	4.560	0.001

Only Goal-centered planning was predicted by (3.07) Involvement tracking finances before age 60. Measures of (3.07) Involvement tracking finances before age 60 was ranked in relation to spousal participation according to:
1) Total responsibility because of no spouse, 2) Spouse somewhat involved,

3) Spouse not involved, 4) Half and half with spouse, 5) Spouse had primary responsibility, and 6) Spouse had total responsibility. The Constrained regression model produced four statistically significant predictors as follows: (3.08) Financial management experience before age 60, ($-2.216, p = 0.028$), (3.10) Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60, ($2.814, p = 0.006$), (3.12) Resource-centered planning style before age 60 ($2.321, p = 0.022$), and (3.14) Constrained planning style before age 60 ($4.560, p = 0.001$).

(3.08) Financial management experience before age 60, which was a significant predictor of the Constrained planning style (Table 14), was ranked as 1) A great deal, 2) Some, 3) A little, and 4) No experience. The negative direction indicated that women with the greater financial management experience before age 60 were among those less likely to experience a Constrained style of planning in their later years.

(3.10) Preparedness to plan finances was a significant predictor of the Constrained planning style (Table 14). (3.10) Preparedness to plan finances was ranked from "Well prepared" to "Not prepared." Consequently, Constrained planners perceived themselves as not prepared to plan their finances for retirement.

Hypothesis Three was supported with the exception of the following three rehearsal variables, viz., (3.07) Involvement in tracking finances before age 60, (3.08) Financial management experience before age 60, and (3.10) Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60. Also, Hypothesis Three was supported with the exception of the three pre-age 60 planning styles: (3.12) Resource-centered (morphogenic) planning style

before age 60, (3. 13) Goal-centered (morphostatic) planning style before age 60, and (3. 14) Constrained (random) planning style before age 60 (Table 14).

The test of Hypothesis Three also supported two premises. First, planning style behavior prior to retirement age appears to provide practice and influence on post-retirement age planning behavior. Thus, pre-age 60 planning is likely to be a strong predictor of financial management planning in the later years. Second, interaction between pre-age 60 Resource-centered planning behavior and pre-age 60 Constrained planning behavior types appears to be significant in identifying post-age 60 Constrained planning.

At the extended 0.10 level of statistical significance, the following predictors of post-age 60 planning style were gained in the test of H_{03} : Resource-centered planning added none, Goal-centered planning added none, and Constrained planning added (3.09) Helpfulness of financial experience before age 60, (1.775, $p = 0.078$), and (3.11) Participation in planning present-day income, (1.932, $p = 0.055$).

The multiple regression models for testing Hypothesis Three are presented in Appendix Table A-28. Significant findings are identified at the 0.05 level of significance.

Hypothesis Four Overview

The purpose of Hypothesis Four was the identification of factors useful in predicting satisfaction with financial management practices among elderly women living alone. Satisfaction was suggested as a measure of desirability for adopting any given style.

The majority of the respondents expressed a high level of satisfaction with their current financial management practices (Table 8). Nevertheless, 35 percent of the respondents expressed a desire to make a change in their practices. Hypothesis Four was designed to distinguish factors which may contribute to satisfaction with handling personal finances. A multiple regression procedure was used to test nine independent variables related to pre- and post-age 60 planning styles, income, and pre-age 60 involvement and preparedness in financial planning.

Hypothesis Four

H₀4: There is no significant relationship between self-reported satisfaction with personal financial management among elderly women living alone and selected independent variables related to pre- and post-age 60 financial management planning styles and income represented as

- 4.01 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style before age 60
- 4.02 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style before age 60
- 4.03 Constrained (random) style before age 60
- 4.04. Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 4.05 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 4.06 Constrained (random) style after age 60
- 4.07 Income level
- 4.08 Involvement tracking finances before age 60
- 4.09 Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60

Findings Related to Hypothesis Four

The multiple regression model produced one predictor in the test of Hypothesis Four. (4.09) Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60, (-2.169, $p = 0.032$), was negatively related to satisfaction with managing personal finances in retirement. The model yielded an F-test value of 2.801 ($p = 0.005$). Individual t-test values for each parameter are presented in Table 15.

Table 15
Predictors of Satisfaction With Post-age 60 Personal Financial Management

Test for Hypothesis Four:			F-Value	Prob >F
Dep. Var.: Satisfaction With Financial Management			2.801	0.005
Variable	R-square	0.1584	T for HO:	Prob > T
	Adj. R-sq	0.1018	Parameter = 0	
	Intercept		6.690	0.001
4.01	Resource-centered style before age 60		-0.812	0.418
4.02	Goal-centered style before age 60		0.088	0.930
4.03	Constrained style before age 60		-1.203	0.231
4.04	Resource-centered style after age 60		1.844	0.067
4.05	Goal-centered style after age 60		0.848	0.398
4.06	Constrained style after age 60		-0.910	0.364
4.07	Income level		0.759	0.449
4.08	Involvement tracking finances before 60		1.551	0.123
4.09	Preparedness to plan retirement income		-2.169	0.032

By extending the 0.05 level of statistical significance to the 0.10 level, the (4.04) Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60 (1.844, $p = 0.067$) is added as a predictor of satisfaction with financial management (Table 15).

Null Hypotheses Related to Objective III:
Marital Status Differences, Rehearsal Variables
and Satisfaction With Managing Finances in Relation to Planning Styles

The remaining hypotheses address Objective III whereby the analyses focus on differences among the respondents based upon marital status. The sample is henceforth separated into two groups: Always-single and formerly-married participants. Selected descriptive statistics are followed by the concluding inferential analyses for Hypotheses Five through Seven.

Descriptive Statistics: Always-single Versus Formerly-married

The always-single respondents were found to be somewhat less likely than the formerly-married to live in houses (55.6 percent vs. 65.7 percent) or if in a house, to own their homes mortgage free (61.1 percent vs. 70.6 percent). Differences in education levels featured a high rate of advanced degrees for the always-single (41.7 percent) contrasted with the formerly-married (7.1 percent) (Table 16). This sample is a select group of women in terms of educational achievements compared with most women over age 60. In 1988 approximately 5 percent of women age 60 and over had completed 4 years of college and 3.5 percent had completed five or more years of college (Schmittroth, 1991, p. 140).

Table 16
Education, Comparing Always-single and Formerly-married Respondents

Education Levels	Total Sample by Percent N = 180	Always- single by Percent N = 36	Formerly - married by Percent N = 144
Some College	6.8	5.6	7.2
Bachelor's Degree	35.8	19.4	40.0
Some Graduate Study	43.2	33.3	45.7
Master's Degree	14.2	41.7	7.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Income sources were represented in similar patterns among the two marital groups, excepting obvious differences associated with spousal income (Table 17). A greater proportion of the always-single than the formerly-married named income from Social Security benefits (73.5 percent vs. 36.6 percent) and pension income (79.4 percent vs. 31.0 percent) from their own work history. A greater proportion of the formerly-married compared to the always-single named proceeds from the sale of stocks and real estate as income (26.9 percent vs. 11.8 percent).

Table 17

Income Sources, Comparing Always-single and Formerly-married,
by Proportion of Respondents, Ranked by Always-single Responses

Income Sources (Multiple Sources per Respondent)	Total Sample by Percent N = 180	Always- single by Percent N = 36	Formerly- married by Percent N = 144	Always-single Difference by Percent
Pension/My Work	40.3	79.4	31.0	+ 48.40
Interest or Dividends	83.0	79.4	83.8	- 4.40
Social Security/ My Work	43.8	73.5	36.6	+ 36.90
Savings (Principal)	42.6	41.2	43.0	- 1.80
Insurance or Annuities	36.4	38.2	35.9	+ 2.30
Other: Real estate, trusts, etc.	14.2	20.6	12.7	+ 7.90
Employment (Part- or Full-time)	14.8	17.6	14.1	+ 3.5
Sale of Stocks /Real Estate	23.9	11.8	26.8	- 15.00
Income From Family/Friends	6.3	8.8	5.6	+ 3.20
Pension/Spouse's Work	34.1	0.0	42.3	n/a
Social Security/Spouse's Work	52.8	0.0	65.5	n/a
Government (S.S.I., Public Aid)	1.7	0.0	2.1	n/a

Income levels were proportionally higher among the formerly-married compared to the always-single. Response frequencies were similar below an annual income of \$24,000; thereafter, the formerly-married were more often represented in the upper income categories, except in the \$31,000 to 37,000 range, as reported in Table 18.

Table 18

Income Levels. Comparing Always-single and Formerly-married.
by Proportion of Respondents

Income Levels	Total Sample by Percent N = 180	Always- single by Percent N = 36	Formerly- married by Percent N = 144
Less than \$10,000	3.5	2.9	3.6
\$10,001 to 16,000	14.5	14.7	14.5
\$17,000 to 23,000	18.0	17.6	18.1
\$24,000 to 30,000	16.9	11.8	18.1
\$31,000 to 37,000	16.9	29.4	13.8
\$38,000 to 44,000	9.9	5.9	10.9
\$45,000 to 50,000	9.3	8.8	9.4
More than \$50,000	11.0	8.8	11.6
Total	100.0	99.9	100.0

Inferential Statistics: Always-single Versus Formerly-married

Hypotheses Five Through Seven Overview

Hypotheses Five through Seven are directed to investigating characteristic differences, if any, between the always-single and formerly-married. The always-single respondents, considering they had lived without a spouse with whom to share financial management practices, may presumably have had a greater opportunity to rehearse the planning role all sample members were currently experiencing. Thus, planning style differences between the always-single and the formerly-married were investigated by testing Hypotheses Five through Seven. These same issues were previously investigated for the total sample in tests for Hypotheses One through Four.

Hypothesis Five Overview

Hypothesis Five was tested to investigate differences between the patterns for always-single older women and the formerly-married regarding planning styles from the pre- to post-age 60 experience. The Pearson correlation procedure used in this test.

Hypothesis Five

H₀ 5: Between always-single and formerly-married elderly women living alone, there is no difference in the patterns of correlation between post-age 60 financial management planning styles represented as

- 5.a Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 5.b Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 5.c Constrained (random) style after age 60

and pre-age 60 financial management planning styles represented as

- 5.01 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style before age 60
- 5.02 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style before age 60
- 5.03 Constrained (random) style before age 60

Findings Related to the Always-single in Hypothesis Five

Results of the test for Hypothesis Five pertaining to always-single respondents are presented in the lower left quadrant of Table 19. For the always-single respondents, statistically significant correlations between the pre- and post-age 60 planning style behavior were discovered in each of the three sets of styles. It may be inferred that the always-single respondents, who align with a given pre-age 60 style tend also to align with the correlative post-age 60 style, be it the Resource-centered, Goal-centered, or Constrained style. Notably the comparisons indicated a stronger correlation for both the Goal-centered and Constrained styles, (0.68565,

$p = 0.001$ and 0.84962 , $p = 0.001$, respectively), than for the Resource-centered (0.35541 , $p = 0.033$) (Table 19).

Findings Related to the Formerly-married in Hypothesis Five

Results of the test for Hypothesis Five pertaining to the formerly-married respondents are presented in the upper right quadrant of Table 19. Correlations between pre- and post-age 60 Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained planning styles are all statistically significant. Comparatively, as observed with the always-single respondents, the pre- and post-age 60 Constrained measures carry the strongest correlation coefficient, (0.51213 with $p = 0.001$), a coefficient less than the always-single correlatives. By extending the 0.05 level of statistical significance to the 0.10 level, no additional correlations were found in the test of H_{05} for either the always-single or the formerly-married respondents. Hypothesis Five was rejected relative to both always-single and formerly-married respondents.

Hypothesis Six Overview

Hypothesis Six continued the investigation of differences between the always-single and formerly-married regarding predictors of post-age 60 planning styles. To accomplish this, a test was conducted for each of the three post-age 60 planning style and eight rehearsal variables.

Hypothesis Six

H₀ 6: Between always-single and formerly-married elderly women living alone, there is, respectively, no significant relationship between any one of the following post-age 60 financial management planning styles represented as :

- 6.a Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 6.b Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 6.c Constrained (random) style after age 60

and a combination of independent variables related to a rehearsal for living alone in the later years represented as

- 6.01 Involvement in planning current day-to-day finances
- 6.02 Involvement in planning current major financial decisions
- 6.03 Duration of living alone before age 60
- 6.04 Duration of living alone after age 60
- 6.05 Financial management experience before age 60
- 6.06 Helpfulness of financial management experience
- 6.07 Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60
- 6.08. Participation in planning retirement income

Findings Related to Hypothesis Six

None of the rehearsal variables was found to be statistically significant predictors of style within either the Resource-centered model nor the Goal-centered model (Tables 20 and 21). However, (6.08) Participation in planning present-day income was found to approach significance in the Goal-centered model ($-1.954, p = 0.053$). Similarly, (6.01) Involvement in planning current day-to-day finances ($-1.672, p = 0.097$), like (6.08) Participation in planning present-day income, showed a tendency to be influential in the context of marital status differences (Table 21).

Table 20

Resource-centered Regression Model for Test of Hypothesis Six

Test for Hypothesis Six: Resource-centered Model		F-Value	Prob >F	
Dep. Var.: Post-age 60 Resource-centered Planning		0.615	0.783	
Reference Group: Always-single				
Variable	R-square Adj. R-sq	0.0347 -0.0217	T for H ₀ : Parameter = 0	Prob > T
Intercept			8.735	0.001
6.01 Involvement planning current finances			-0.542	0.588
6.02 Involvement planning major decisions			-0.833	0.406
6.03 Duration living alone before age 60			0.836	0.405
6.04 Duration living alone after age 60			-0.046	0.964
6.05 Financial experience before age 60			-0.419	0.676
6.06 Helpfulness of financial experience			-0.494	0.622
6.07 Preparedness to plan retirement finances			-0.031	0.975
6.08 Participation planning retirement income			-0.510	0.611
Marital status			-0.258	0.797

Table 21
Goal-centered Regression Model for Test of Hypothesis Six

Test for Hypothesis Six: Goal-centered Model		F-Value	Prob >F	
Dep. Var.: Post-age 60 Goal-centered Planning		2.189	0.026	
Reference Group: Always-single				
Variable	R-square Adj. R-sq	0.1121 0.0609	T for H ₀ : Parameter = 0	Prob > T
Intercept			14.706	0.001
6.01 Involvement planning current finances			-1.672	0.097
6.02 Involvement planning major decisions			0.671	0.504
6.03 Duration living alone before age 60			0.357	0.722
6.04 Duration living alone after age 60			-0.139	0.890
6.05 Financial experience before age 60			-0.671	0.503
6.06 Helpfulness of financial experience			-0.590	0.556
6.07 Preparedness to plan retirement finances			-1.466	0.145
6.08 Participation planning retirement income			-1.954	0.053
Marital status			-1.163	0.247

Table 22
Constrained Regression Model for Test of Hypothesis Six

Test for Hypothesis Six: Constrained Model		F-Value	Prob >F	
Dep. Var.: Post-age 60 Constrained Planning		3.458	0.0007	
Reference Group: Always-single				
Variable	R-square Adj. R-sq	0.1699 0.1208	T for H ₀ : Parameter = 0	Prob > T
Intercept			2.072	0.040
6.01 Involvement planning current finances			0.002	0.998
6.02 Involvement planning major decisions			0.692	0.490
6.03 Duration living alone before age 60			-0.262	0.794
6.04 Duration living alone after age 60			0.132	0.896
6.05 Financial experience before age 60			-2.113	0.036
6.06 Helpfulness of financial experience			1.412	0.160
6.07 Prepared to plan retirement finances			3.798	0.001
6.08 Participated planning present income			2.814	0.006
Marital status			0.886	0.377

Among the three regression models for the post-age 60 planning styles, only the Constrained Model was found to contain statistically significant predictors (Table 22). The three factors found to be explanatory variables of post-age 60 Constrained planning, when controlling for marital status, were (6.05) Financial management experience before age 60, ($-2.113, p = 0.036$), (6.07) Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60, ($3.798, p = 0.001$), and (6.08) Participation in planning retirement income, ($2.814, p = 0.006$).

By extending the 0.05 level of statistical significance to the 0.10 level in the test of H_{06} , only the Goal-centered model added a predictor of post-age 60 planning style. This predictor was (6.08) Participation in planning retirement income ($-1.954, p = 0.053$). A reduced level of participating in planning retirement income may reflect a more confined approach to planning whereby demands are seen to be altered rather than resources increased.

Hypothesis Six was accepted for all eight rehearsal variables for post-age 60 Resource-centered and Goal-centered planning styles. Five of the eight rehearsal variables for the post-age 60 Constrained planning style supported Hypothesis Six.

Hypothesis Seven Overview

Hypothesis Seven was generated to test the possibility that satisfaction with managing financial matters alone may differ between the always-single and formerly-married. A multiple regression procedure was used to test for

differences in satisfaction, including the influence of pre- and post-age 60 planning style, income, and three rehearsal variables.

Hypothesis Seven

H₀ 7: Between always-single and formerly-married elderly women living alone, there is, respectively, no significant relationship between satisfaction represented as self-reported satisfaction with personal financial management and eight selected independent variables related to pre- and post-age 60 financial management planning styles, income and rehearsal variables represented as

- 7.01 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style before age 60
- 7.02 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style before age 60
- 7.03 Constrained (random) style before age 60
- 7.04 Resource-centered (morphogenic) style after age 60
- 7.05 Goal-centered (morphostatic) style after age 60
- 7.06 Constrained (random) style after age 60
- 7.07 Income level
- 7.08 Financial management experience before age 60
- 7.09 Helpfulness of financial management experience
- 7.10 Preparedness to plan finances for retirement before age 60

Findings Related to Hypothesis Seven

Marital status, ($-1.341, p = 0.182$), appears to render no significant influence in the determination of satisfaction with financial management behavior in the retirement years in the sample studied. A profile comparing response frequencies of the always-single and the formerly-married relative to satisfaction with present-day personal financial management is presented in Table 23.

Table 23

Satisfaction With Management of Finances, Response Frequencies For Sample, the Always-single, and the Formerly-married

Scale	Not At All Satisfied								Extremely Satisfied		Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Sample											
Percent	0.0	0.6	1.7	2.9	2.3	4.6	13.8	27.6	23.6	23.0	100.1
Always- single	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9	2.9	8.8	5.9	32.4	23.5	20.6	100.0
Formerly- married	0.0	0.7	2.1	2.1	2.1	3.6	15.7	26.4	23.6	23.6	99.9

Based upon response frequencies, reported satisfaction was found to be proportionately balanced between the always-single and the formerly-married at levels seven through nine (76.5 percent and 73.6 percent, respectively). The formerly-married, compared to the always-single, were the greater proportion (21.4 percent vs. 17.6 percent) in levels of four to six and the lesser proportion in levels zero to three, (4.9 percent vs. 5.9 percent).

By extending the 0.05 level of statistical significance to the 0.10 level in the test of H_{07} one additional predictor was revealed, viz., (7.04) Post-age 60 Resource-centered planning, (1.796, $p = 0.075$). (7.10) Preparedness to plan finances, (-1.636 $p = 0.104$), appears to approach significance as a predictor of satisfaction with post-age 60 financial management practices (Table 24).

Table 24

Predictors of Satisfaction With Post-age 60 Personal Financial Management and the Influence of Marital Status

Test for Hypothesis Seven: Satisfaction Model			F-Value	Prob >F
Reference Group: Always-single			2.230	0.016
Variable	R-square Adj. R-sq	0.1547 0.0853	T for H_0 : Parameter = 0	Prob > T
Intercept			6.431	0.001
7.01 Resource-centered style before age 60			-0.822	0.413
7.02 Goal-centered style before age 60			0.072	0.943
7.03 Constrained style before age 60			-1.252	0.213
7.04 Resource-centered style after age 60			1.796	0.075
7.05 Goal-centered style after age 60			0.750	0.455
7.06 Constrained style after age 60			-0.898	0.371
7.07 Income level			0.871	0.385
7.08 Financial experience before age 60			-0.532	0.595
7.09 Helpfulness of financial experience			0.731	0.466
7.10 Preparedness to plan retirement finances			-1.636	0.104
Marital status			-1.341	0.182

Hypothesis Seven was accepted for the sets of pre- and post-age 60 planning styles, income level, and each of the three rehearsal variables at the 0.05 level of significance. Hypothesis Seven was rejected at the 0.10 level of significance for retirement age Resource-centered planning. A summary of predictors of retirement age planning styles is presented in Table 25.

Table 25
Summary of Significant Correlations and Predictors of Post-age 60
Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained Planning Styles

<u>Resource-centered Model</u>			
<u>Source of Data in</u> <u>Survey Instrument</u>	<u>Independent Variables</u>	<u>Test</u>	<u>p-</u> <u>value</u>
Q-35	Age (inversely)	H ₀ 1	0.005
Q-01	Living in a House (inversely)	H ₀ 1	0.061
Q-33	Always-single (inversely)	H ₀ 1	0.063
Q-33	Formerly-married	H ₀ 1	0.052
Q-37	Occupation in Labor Force Before Age 60	H ₀ 1	0.080
Q-38	Pension Income From My Work	H ₀ 1	0.001
Q-38	Pension Income From Spouse's Work (inversely)	H ₀ 1	0.040
Q-31	Adequacy of Finances After Age 60	H ₀ 1	0.054
Q-11 through Q-19	Resource-centered Planning Before Age 60	H ₀ 2	0.001
Q-11 through Q-19	Resource-centered Planning Before Age 60	H ₀ 3	0.001
Q-40	Satisfaction With Financial Management	H ₀ 4	0.058

<u>Goal-centered Model</u>			
<u>Source of Data in</u> <u>Survey Instrument</u>	<u>Independent Variables</u>	<u>Test</u>	<u>p-</u> <u>value</u>
Q-01	Living in Condominium (inversely)	H ₀ 1	0.008
Q-38	Social Security Income From My Work (inversely)	H ₀ 1	0.020
Q-11 through Q-19	Constrained Planning Before Age 60	H ₀ 2	0.071
Q-11 through Q-19	Goal-centered Planning Before Age 60	H ₀ 2	0.001
Q-11 through Q-19	Goal-centered Planning Before Age 60	H ₀ 3	0.001
Q-40	Satisfaction With Financial Management	H ₀ 4	0.001

Table 25, Continued
Summary of Significant Correlations and Predictors of Post-age 60
Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained Planning Styles

<u>Constrained Model</u>			
<u>Source of Data in</u> <u>Survey Instrument</u>	<u>Independent Variables</u>	<u>Test</u>	<u>p-</u> <u>value</u>
Q-02	Home Ownership (inversely)	H _O 1	0.079
Q-38	Pension Income From Spouse's Work (inversely)	H _O 1	0.011
Q-38	Interest or Dividend Income (inversely)	H _O 1	0.001
Q-39	Income Level	H _O 1	0.004
Q-31	Adequacy of Finances After Age 60 (inversely)	H _O 1	0.001
Q-32	Adequacy of Finances Before Age 60 (inversely)	H _O 1	0.001
Q-30	Participation in Planning Retirement Income	H _O 1	0.001
Q-11 through Q-19	Resource-centered Planning Before Age 60	H _O 2	0.001
Q-11 through Q-19	Goal-centered Planning Before Age 60	H _O 2	0.077
Q-11 through Q-19	Constrained Planning Before Age 60	H _O 2	0.001
Q-11 through Q-19	Resource-centered Planning Before Age 60	H _O 3	0.022
Q-11 through Q-19	Constrained Planning Before Age 60	H _O 3	0.001
Q-03	Financial Management Experience Before Age 60	H _O 3	0.028
Q-10	Preparedness to Plan Retirement Finances	H _O 3	0.006
Q-40	Satisfaction With Financial Management (inversely)	H _O 4	0.058

V. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, IMPLICATIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

This research was an investigation of financial management planning styles among elderly women living alone. It was meant to be responsive to needs of older women burdened by resource constraints and limited managerial skills. Findings of this study imply a usefulness in developing strategies for optimizing preparation for effective planning skills in the later years.

A review of the research literature revealed support for effective managerial practices being precursors of resource utilization and satisfaction with managerial outcomes. Further, planning behavior was identified as fundamental to the managerial system within which individuals and families function to reconcile their demands and resources in daily living. The theoretical framework was comprised of 1) Deacon and Firebaugh's (1975, 1988) family resource management systems theory, 2) gerontology's Continuity theory, and 3) the construct of anticipatory socialization from the sociology.

Original data were collected in 1994 from a purposive sample of older women living alone who were former home economics students or graduates prior to 1953 of the present-day College of Home Economics and Education at Oregon State University. The 42-item mailed survey instrument entitled, HOW DO YOU MANAGE? was designed to appeal to a sample of older participants. One hundred eighty respondents residing in 12 states were

eligible to participate from among the original sample of 404 women living in 21 states.

The study focused on determining the presence of three planning styles which had previously been identified in family households, viz., Resource-centered planning (characteristically morphogenic), Goal-centered planning (morphostatic), and Constrained planning (random). Measures of the planning styles were adapted for and restricted to financial management planning behavior. Nine items, framed for pre- and post-retirement stages, were selected from among 22 items utilized by Buehler and Hogan (1986) to investigate planning styles in single-parent households. The source of the original measures was an 82-item instrument developed by Beard and Firebaugh in 1978. Measures of rehearsing for living alone and managing finances during retirement, as well as possible differences between always-single and formerly-married respondents in such a rehearsal, were developed in consequence to the review of literature.

Univariate analyses provided a sample profile and characteristics associated with post-age 60 financial management planning styles. Inferential analyses, based upon testing seven null hypotheses, provided findings related to 1) continuity between pre- and post-retirement age planning styles, 2) predictors of post-age 60 planning styles, 3) the relationship of satisfaction with managing finances and post-age 60 planning styles, and 4) differences between the always-single and formerly-married in relation to the above focuses.

Summary of Theoretical Framework

The Deacon and Firebaugh (1975,1988) systems theory structured the rationale, subject content, and merger with continuity theory and the construct of anticipatory Socialization. The rationale is based upon a three part system, i.e., input, throughput, and output. The research objectives are based within the managerial subsystem of the throughput. This subsystem, when viewed as a system, contains a secondary level of input, throughput, and output. This secondary throughput contains focus of this study, viz., planning. Thus, planning style, as a subunit of a managerial subsystem interacting with a personal subsystem, is reasoned to be influenced by the personal subsystem's traits of morphogenesis and morphostasis. Input was measured in terms of resources only and output was measured in terms of satisfaction with financial management.

Summary of Univariate Analyses

Univariate analyses are summarized here in relation to the sample profile and the hypothesis testing Objective I. Characteristically, sample members were likely to be residents of Oregon (65 percent), formerly-married (80 percent), previously employed in the labor force (70 percent) and receiving income well above the national profile for older women. Income was generally derived from long term sources. Employment was comprised primarily of professional and managerial positions, of which 24 percent had been in education. Financial adequacy was generally perceived as greater

during retirement than in middle age. Most lived in their own house without a mortgage; only 17 percent were renters. Most had lived alone more years after the onset of retirement than before.

Involvement in financial management practices prior to age 60 was common. Present-day income was planned alone or with advice (43 percent) or planned with a spouse (41 percent). The majority (60 percent) reported having a great deal of experience planning finances. Most (60 percent) had the primary responsibility for tracking expenses and handling day-to-day finances prior to retirement and 27 percent had shared these responsibilities with their spouse. Approximately 13 percent considered themselves little prepared or not prepared to plan their finances for retirement.

Involvement in financial management practices after age 60 was also common. Nearly all (91 percent) were handling their day-to-day finances and making their major financial decisions (82 percent). Most (94 percent) considered their earlier financial management experience to be helpful or very helpful.

An attitudinal profile relative to managing personal finances consisted of two parts: 1) Satisfaction with how finances are presently managed and 2) Desire to change how finances are managed. While 46.6 percent reported being highly or extremely satisfied, a similar proportion (41.4 percent) reported lesser degrees of satisfaction. The desire to change present-day financial management practices was conveyed by 35 percent of the respondents and 31.7 percent said that no changes were wanted.

Anticipation of living alone during the retirement years was reported by approximately 80 percent of the sample. Whereas, four percent of these noted they had recognized the possibility, yet gave little attention to the issue

or thought such an occurrence unlikely. Sixteen percent reported no anticipation of living alone.

Each planning style was found to have predictors of adoption during the retirement years. The prominent financial management planning style, as represented by frequencies of descriptor responses, was Goal-centered planning. Resource-centered measures were somewhat less descriptive, and lastly respondents considered themselves generally not at all like the Constrained measures.

Summary of Inferential Analyses

Inferential analyses are summarized in relation to the hypotheses addressing Objectives I, II and III. A summation for each of the hypotheses is provided in Chapter IV.

Objective I, to investigate the extent to which selected demographic and characteristic factors were correlated with three post-age 60 financial management planning styles, was addressed by testing Hypothesis One. Findings revealed demographic and characteristic variables more often predicted the Constrained style than either Resource-centered or Goal-centered planning in retirement. Constrained planners were less likely to be receiving income from pension or investment sources, had a lower income level in pre- and post-retirement stages, a low level of participation in planning or no planning of retirement income, and a greater likelihood of dissatisfaction with financial management practices in retirement.

Resource-centered planning was significantly correlated with 1) age (inversely), 2) pension income from respondent's work, and 3) pension income from spouse's work (inversely). Goal-centered planning was significantly correlated with 1) living in a condominium or attached housing (inversely), 2) Social Security income based upon the respondent's work (inversely), and 3) a high level of satisfaction with managing money. Constrained planning was significantly correlated with 1) pension income from spouse's work (inversely), 2) income level (inversely), 3) who planned retirement income (i.e., women for whom retirement income had not been planned and women whose spouse alone had planned the retirement income), 4) adequacy of income in pre-retirement years (inversely), 5) adequacy of income in the retirement years (inversely), and 6) satisfaction with managing money (inversely).

Objective II, to explore factors deemed to influence or provide a rehearsal related to post-age 60 planning and satisfaction with financial practices, was addressed by testing Hypotheses Two and Three. Findings revealed the planning style adopted in the pre-retirement years was most likely to be adopted in later life, even when resource levels fluctuated. The Resource-centered planning style was found likely to collapse into Constrained planning both in pre and post-age 60 stages. Pre-age 60 Goal-centered planning, by comparison, was not likely to collapse into Constrained planning in retirement.

Significant rehearsal factors were task related in contrast to simulation of the role of living alone, e.g., duration of living alone or length of time since loss of spouse. Notably, for most of the sample the duration of living alone appeared longer during retirement than in their pre-retirement years.

When controlling for income, two variables, viz., 1) Preparedness prior to age 60 to plan finances for retirement and 2) Participation in planning retirement income were inversely related to post-age 60 Constrained planning.

Multiple regression models excluding income revealed: Resource-centered planning was predicted by pre-age 60 Resource-centered planning; Goal-centered planning was predicted by involvement in tracking day-to-day finances prior to age 60 and pre-age 60 Goal-centered planning. Constrained planning had four predictors: 1) Financial management experience prior to age 60 (inversely related), 2) Preparedness before age 60 to plan finances for retirement, 3) Pre-age 60 Resource-centered planning and 4) Pre-age 60 Constrained planning. Satisfaction with financial management practices was found to be predicted by preparedness before age 60 to plan finances for retirement.

Objective III, to explore the inference by previous research that the always-single, in contrast with the formerly-married, may have had more rehearsal for managing finances alone, was addressed by testing Hypotheses Four through Six. Always-single respondents were characteristically similar to the formerly-married respondents, except for variations in education and some income sources. The always-single more frequently had obtained a Master's degree (41.7 percent vs. 7.1 percent), although some graduate study occurred more frequently among the formerly-married. The always-single more often reported pension income and Social Security related to their own work history than even the formerly-married who reported such income based upon their spouse's work history. Formerly-married respondents compared to the always-single reported higher income overall, except for an income bracket ranging from \$31,000 to

37,000. Both groups were found prone to carry forward their pre-retirement planning styles into their retirement years.

A test of eight rehearsal variables resulted in no significant predictors distinguished by marital status for either post-age 60 Resource-centered or Goal-centered planners. However, three differences were found among Constrained planners. Compared to the always-single respondents, the formerly-married were negatively affected by 1) Financial management experience before age 60 and positively affected by 2) Preparedness before age 60 to plan finances for retirement, and 3) Participation in planning present-day income. Satisfaction with financial practices during retirement was not significantly different between the two groups.

Conclusions

Conclusions drawn from the findings and extrapolation to the general population of older women are restricted based upon the purposive characteristics of the sample and the response rate. Had data been received from the nonrespondents eligible to participate because of living alone, variations may have occurred among the findings.

Nevertheless, educators and service providers, including financial planners and counselors, may utilize these findings, as deemed appropriate, to add to their perception of precursors and consequences of financial planning behavior for older women. The discussion begins with findings related to the theoretical framework and previous research. Next, conclusions related to financial management planning styles are presented.

Discussion of Findings in Relation to Theoretical Frameworks and Previous Research

Deacon And Firebaugh's Family Resource Management Framework

The Deacon and Firebaugh (1975, 1988) systems theory provided for the successful identification of three planning styles in the households of elderly women living alone. The styles were based upon proneness toward morphogenesis and/or morphostasis, or neither, as posited by the Deacon and Firebaugh (1975,1988) systems theory. This theory structured the development of the measurement instrument (Beard & Firebaugh, 1978) from which the measures for this study originated. Confirmation of these three styles enabled the testing of the hypothesis conjoining the family resource management and social sciences frameworks.

Results were overall in agreement with previous studies utilizing Deacon and Firebaugh's (1975, 1988) work in the following aspects. Three financial management planning styles aligned with morphogenic, morphostatic, or random characteristics (Buehler & Hogan, 1986). Managerial effectiveness appeared to contribute to resource satisfaction (Williams, 1985). Managerial behavior appeared to be related to well-being (Walker et al., 1984; Heck, 1983).

Household management research generally supports a relationship between managerial effectiveness and resource satisfaction. (Godwin & Carroll, 1985; Heck, 1983; Steggel, 1992; Walker, et al., 1984; Williams, 1985). Satisfaction with financial management practices was found to be correlated with either Resource-centered or Goal-centered planning, but

not Constrained. The Constrained planning style may thus be considered a comparatively less effective planning style. Satisfaction appears to be realized when planning skills provide control over resources and demands.

The socio-economic status of this sample did not appear to reflect Deacon and Firebaugh's (1975) perception that older people are generally believed to face declining resources but not necessarily a decline in demands. A definitive basis is needed for comparison purposes. Financial resources for most elderly have improved over the decades, albeit, many women living alone continue to be severely disadvantaged, especially women of minorities. A test for the reduction of agility, skills, and opportunities for altering either resources or demands, which may also represent a decline in resources, was beyond the scope of this study. However, there appears to have been a predominance of Goal-centered planning among the participants in this study. Also Goal-centered planners were less likely than Resource-centered planners to collapse into Constrained planning in the later years. Perhaps Goal-centered planning is most useful to elderly persons facing declining resources as well.

Planning has been found to be an integral and satisfaction enhancing component of the management system (Heck, 1983). Similarly, Resource-centered and Goal-centered planners, in contrast to Constrained planners, were more likely to be satisfied with their financial management practices. To the extent that Constrained planning represents the getting by day-by-day with limitations on altering either resources or demands, dissatisfaction is a predictable consequence. Satisfaction with financial practices may therefore be achieved through the development of skills in creating, increasing, or substituting resources and deleting, modifying, or prioritizing goals.

Continuity Theory Framework

Continuity theory in the social sciences has been supported by research showing that preferences and behavior occurring in retirement are likely to reflect or be a continuation of pre-retirement conditions (Atchley, 1972; Covey, 1981; Neugarten, et al., 1968). This theory was similarly supported by findings whereby the post-retirement planning was a continuation of pre-retirement planning style.

Continuity theory was useful in discovering patterns of planning behavior spanning the middle years and later life. This discovery resulted in predictors of post-age 60 planning for all three styles based upon their pre-age 60 type planning style. Findings support a continuation of planning style in two ways from middle age into the later years. First, each of the planning styles type equivalent was found to carry over from middle age to retirement. Second, there also appeared to be permeable boundaries between pre- and post-age 60 Resource-centered planning and Constrained planning. It appears that the Resource-centered traits of creating, increasing, or substituting resources while maintaining goals may be threatened by conditions in retirement. Otherwise, it is reasoned through Continuity theory that Resource-centered behavior experienced by this sample would be responsive to their perception of increased financial adequacy in retirement. The potential for the traits of Goal-centered planning, i.e., deleting, modifying, or prioritizing goals, to also resort to Constrained planning amidst this sense of increased financial adequacy (at the extended 0.10 level of significance) appears to reflect challenges appearing with advanced years.

High socio-economic status has been found to sustain previous social roles more than the contrary (Covey, 1981). The continuation of planning styles from pre- to post-retirement periods may have been supported by the upper income status of this sample as well as reported perception of income adequacy had in retirement.

Anticipatory Socialization Framework

The construct of anticipatory socialization guided the discovery of four rehearsal variables which appeared to influence financial planning in retirement. Goal-centered planning was predicted by pre-retirement involvement in tracking expenses and handling day-to-day finances. Constrained planning was related to limited financial management experience and preparedness to plan retirement income as well as pre-retirement Resource-centered planning.

It is suggested that anticipatory socialization may contribute to explaining these findings. Approximately 80 percent of the participants had recognized the possibility of living alone in their later years. Perhaps a forecasting of future situations, as Clausen (1968) describes anticipatory socialization, occurred either directly or indirectly for these participants.

Aspects of anticipatory socialization occurring in families and affecting future competence in money management have been described as the gathering of information and general planning that extends into the later years (Rettig & Mortenson, 1986). Findings related to Constrained planners

appear compatible with that research. Significant predictors, which included a lack of preparedness or experience with financial management practices, may be established early in the life for girls. The Rettig and Mortenson (1986) study found that girls were seldom included in discussions of important family financial issues. Without the benefit of longitudinal research, such findings may explain conditions which either foster Constrained planning in the pre-retirement years, or the collapse of Resource-centered and Goal-centered planning in the retirement years.

The financial management experience of this sample in tracking expenses and handling day-to-day finances prior to retirement may be compared to findings reported by Morgan (1986) from the 1975 Longitudinal Retirement History Study. Morgan (1986) found widows to have more experience than expected in such tasks. Nearly half (45.7 percent) reported having the primary responsibility when their husband was present. Among the formerly-married home economics graduates in this study, 66 percent of the sample reported active responsibility for the finances when their husband was present (38.9 percent primarily and 27.1 percent shared with spouse). Such findings dispel the myths that women are removed from family financial matters and support the education of women in gaining skills for effective planning and financial management practices.

Conclusions Related to Financial Management Planning Styles

Planning Styles Were Identified Among Elderly Women Living Alone

Financial management planning behavior among these one-person households of older women appeared to coincide with styles identified in family households. These styles represent gradations of aligning with morphogenic or morphostatic traits similar to those characterizing family paradigms. The adoption of Resource-centered (morphogenic), Goal-centered (morphostatic), or Constrained (random) planning behavior may therefore be framed by an overarching type of household or family setting experienced over the life course. Planning behavior in retirement appears to be shaped not only by pre-retirement planning, -- a significant finding of this study, but also by the context of education and experiences during middle age.

Planning Style in Retirement Predictable

The tendency to align with a given financial management planning style in retirement appears to be predictable based upon a variety of factors, -- especially by pre-retirement planning behavior. The planning style adopted in the middle years is likely to be the style practiced in retirement, at least until factors intervene resulting in Resource-centered and Goal-centered planners becoming Constrained. Those with adequate and long term financial resources, experience handling finances, or those having participated in planning retirement seem most likely to adopt a Resource-

centered or Goal-centered planning style. Constrained planning occurs among the well educated and those with adequate financial resources in retirement. Therefore, pre-retirement planning behavior may be influenced by limited resources and a low level of involvement in handling or planning finances even when retirement resources are increased.

Effective Planning Related to Satisfaction in Managing Finances

Resource-centered and Goal-centered planning appear to be indicative of effective management in contrast to Constrained planning. The Constrained planners, i.e., those characterized as getting by day-by-day rather than adjusting either their resources or demands, were found more likely to be dissatisfied with their financial practices. It is concluded that the capability of altering either one's resources or goals contributes to achieving satisfactory system output.

Rehearsal for Managing Alone Related to Tasks Not Environs

Rehearsal for independent financial management in retirement for women was hypothesized to contribute to planning effectiveness. Further, it was considered that always-single women may have had greater opportunity for autonomy in resource management than the formerly-married who likely shared such experience with a spouse. Significant rehearsal variables were related not to a simulation of living in a one-person household but rather to income sources, income level, pre-retirement planning and experiences

related to financial practices. Therefore, a rehearsal for living alone in later life may be enhanced through education without necessarily experiencing a one-person household prior to retirement.

Potential for Resource-centered and Goal-centered Planning Collapsing into Constrained Planning

In the pre-retirement data, both Resource-centered and Goal-centered planners were correlated with Constrained planning. Likewise, pre-age 60 Resource-centered and pre-age 60 Goal-centered planning were correlated with post-age 60 Constrained planning. Are such correlations indicative of choice or collapse? It appears that individuals may be influenced toward morphogenesis or morphostasis by influence from the personal system. Yet these traits may be overwhelmed by constraints which inhibit creating, increasing, or substituting resources or deleting, modifying, or prioritizing goals. As post-age 60 Resource-centered planners tended to be the younger of the sample members, it is concluded that the advancing years may contribute to such constraints. Effective management not only needs to be identified for developing skills in the early years to serve throughout the life course, but also for being sustained, as long as feasible, in the retirement years. Foresight from professionals, including educators, counselors, financial planners, and researchers, who address strategies for sustaining effective planning behavior into the advancing years may improve the well being of older women living alone.

Is Rehearsal an Influence? Does it Differ Between the Always-single and Formerly-married?

Yes, rehearsal was found to be an influence, especially upon post-retirement Constrained planning behavior, and to a lesser extent post-retirement Goal-centered planning. However, predictors are limited. Involvement and mental preparedness seem to override a rehearsal of being amidst the environs of a one-person household. It was hypothesized that the always-single, by not having a spouse and being inclined to live alone prior to retirement, would have increased opportunities to experience the environs of living alone in retirement. A never-married advantage in this purposive sample seems not to have been realized. Both the always-single and the formerly-married carried forward their planning style of middle age. Aside from education and income patterns, the always-single and formerly-married were characteristically similar. It is suggested that because the two marital status groups in this sample are characteristically similar because of their common education and income that they are therefore not dissimilar because of their marital history. Further, each of these two marital status groups is concluded to be more representative of the national profile of always-single older women. In the future, marital history may be less of a differential influence in planning behavior for women than education and experience.

Implications

Implications of this research focus on support for educating girls and women for independent financial management and contributions to the research community. It is probable that most women will spend some of their later years unmarried and living alone. Throughout the life course, planning is considered to be a pervasive form of thought processing and behavior. Its influence upon the perpetual reconciliation of resources and demands may likely influence satisfaction with conditions and type of management in the later years. Positive, fruitful managerial skills established early in formal education programs and practiced over the life course may dramatically affect the type of living conditions in store for elderly women of the future. It appears that the adoption of characteristically Resource-centered and Goal-centered planning skills, in contrast to just getting by with a Constrained style of planning, was related to satisfaction with financial management practices for the participants in this study.

Findings to the 0.10 level of significance have been transposed into implied characteristics distinguishing Resource-centered, Goal-centered, and Constrained planners in retirement. Professionals may consider the applicability of incorporating information derived from these findings into educational and counseling curricula. Researchers may explore the potential for more thorough, more representative investigations of these results.

Characteristics Significant Among Resource-centered Planners

1. Capacities to create, increase, and/or substitute resources.
2. Younger rather than older among those of retirement age.
3. Formerly-married more likely than always-single.
4. Labor force employment.
5. Pension income likely from own labor force employment.
6. Pension income not likely based on husband's work.
7. Adequate finances in retirement likely.
8. Single-family dwelling not likely.
9. Satisfaction with financial management likely in retirement.
10. Resource-centered planning likely practiced before age 60.
11. Possible collapse into Constrained planning in retirement.

Characteristics Significant Among Goal-centered Planners

1. Capacities to delete, modify, and/or prioritize goals.
2. Social Security benefits not likely based on own labor force employment.
3. Involvement tracking day-to-day finances before retirement was likely.
4. Satisfaction with financial management in retirement likely.
5. Likely to have been a Goal-centered planner, and possibly shifted to a Constrained planner, before age 60.

Characteristics Significant Among Constrained Planners

1. Planning centered around getting by day-to-day.
2. Home ownership not likely.
3. Pension income based upon husband's work not likely.
4. Interest and dividend income not likely.
5. Income level lower in retirement.
6. Income less than adequate in pre-retirement and retirement.
7. Financial management experience before retirement not likely.
8. Preparation to plan finances for retirement was likely.
9. Retirement income either not planned or planned by husband without wife's input.
10. Dissatisfaction with financial management likely in retirement.
11. Likely to have been a Constrained planner before retirement, possibly a Resource-centered or Goal-centered planner shifted to Constrained before and after retirement.

Contributions to the Research Community

Elderly householders, especially those living alone, stand to benefit from the expertise of professionals in home economics and the social sciences. This study offers input to these professionals by reporting on the planning behavior among elderly women living alone. Strategies for preventative and intervening measures may be devised from the findings to improve the conditions of older women.

Future studies seeking distinctions between the life experience differences based upon the absence and presence of a resource partner or spouse may consider the homogeneity of the subuniverse studied here. It is suggested that because the women in this study are characteristically similar that information on differences related to rehearsal patterns between the always-single and the formerly-married were not distinguishable. Analyses of women in the general population of varying education and economic levels may reveal differences in planning practices which pattern the literature cited.

The application of the Beard and Firebaugh (1978) planning style measures were extended beyond households of homemakers with children at home and single-parent families to include older women living alone. The Buehler and Hogan (1986) findings were further supported by the factor analysis conducted for this study.

Recommendations for Further Study

It is recommended that the objectives and measures of financial management planning styles featured in studying this purposive sample of older women with a home economics college background be extended to a sample representative of the general population of older women. Further, it is suggested that findings be compared to these women with the home economics background to explore the perceived long term influence of study in home economics on planning behavior.

The literature suggests distinguishing characteristics appear in resource levels between the always-single and formerly-married in their later years. Because always-single and formerly-married participants were characteristically similar, further study appears useful in understanding differences distinguished by marital history. Additional study of the component of planning where increased variation in education and resource levels are available may reveal such differences. Thereafter, satisfaction producing elements could be incorporated into the study of management for girls and women, as well as for boys and men.

An investigation into the correlation between Resource-centered and Goal-centered planning with Constrained planning would be useful. Are skills associated with creating, increasing, or substituting resources more vulnerable to decline than skills associated with deleting, modifying or prioritizing goals? Is it easier for persons who have dealt with deprivations, such as this cohort of women who endured economic depression, to control demands rather than to control resources? How may Resource-centered and Goal-centered planning traits be sustained, or perhaps developed, in the retirement period? Answers to such questions translated into educational components may provide a long lasting influence on women's planning behavior and the subsequent output in resource utilization.

The search for planning style dimensions beyond the resource-centered, goal-centered, and constrained styles may be useful in financial counseling and education settings. The more accurate the understanding of precursors of resource utilization, the more likely can resource satisfaction and well being be realized in the later years, especially in the households of older women living alone.

REFERENCES

- Angel, R. J., Angel, J. L., and Himes, C. L. (1992). Minority group status, health transitions, and community living arrangements among the elderly. Research on Aging, 14, 496-521.
- Angel, R. and Tienda, M. (1982). Determinants of extended household structure: Cultural pattern or economic need? American Journal of Sociology, 87, 1360-1383.
- Atchley, R. C. (1972). The social forces in later life. An introduction to social gerontology. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing.
- Atchley, R. C. (1989). A continuity theory of normal aging. The Gerontologist, 29, 183-190.
- Beard, D., & Firebaugh, F. M. (1978). Morphostatic and morphogenic planning behavior in families: Development of a measurement instrument. Home Economics Research Journal, 6, 192-205.
- Borsch-Supan, A. H. (1990). A dynamic analysis of household dissolution and living arrangement transitions by elderly Americans. In D. A. Wise (Ed.), Issues in the economics of aging (pp. 90-119). Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Buehler, C., & Hogan, M. J. (1986). Planning styles in single-parent families. Home Economics Research Journal, 14, 351-362.
- Bumpass, L. L. (1990). What's happening to the family? Interactions between demographic and institutional change. Demography, 27, 483-498.
- Burr, J. A. and Mutchler, J. E. (1992). The living arrangements of unmarried elderly Hispanic females. Demography, 29, 93-112.

- Burr, J. A. and Mutchler, J. E. (1993). Nativity, acculturation, and economic status: Explanations of Asian American living arrangements in later life. Journal of Gerontology, 48 (2), S55-S63.
- Burr, W. (1972). Role transitions: A reformulation of theory. Journal of Marriage and the Family, 24, 407-416.
- Carp, F. M., & Christensen, D. L. (1986). Older women living alone: Technical environmental assessment of psychological well-being. Research on Aging, 8, 407-425.
- Chevan, A., & Korson, H. J. (1972). The widowed who live alone: An examination of social and demographic factors. Social Forces, 51, 45-53.
- Choi, N. G. (1991). Racial differences in the determinants of living arrangements of widowed and divorced elderly women. The Gerontologist, 31, 496-504.
- Clausen, J. A. (Ed.). (1968). Socialization and society. Boston: Little, Brown, and Company.
- Cockrum, J. & White, P. (1985). Influences on the life satisfaction of never-married men and women. Family Relations, 34, 551-556.
- Cody, R. P. & Smith, J. K. (1991). Applied statistics and the SAS Programming Language (3rd ed.). New York: North-Holland.
- Constantine, L. L. (1986). Family paradigms: The practice of theory in family therapy. New York: The Guilford Press.
- Covey, Herbert C. (1981). A reconceptualization of continuity theory: Some preliminary thoughts. The Gerontologist, 21, 628-633.

- Crystal, S., & Shea, D. (1990). Cumulative advantage, cumulative disadvantage, and inequality among elderly people. The Gerontologist, 30, 437-443.
- Deacon, R. E., & Firebaugh, F. M. (1975). Home management context and concepts. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Deacon, R. E., & Firebaugh, F. M. (1981). Family resource management: Principles and applications. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, Inc.
- Deacon, R. E., & Firebaugh, F. M. (1988). Family resource management, Principles and applications (2nd ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon, Inc.
- Dillman, D. A. (1978). Mail and telephone surveys. The total design method. New York: John Wiley & Sons, A Wiley-Interscience Publication.
- Dowling, C. (1981). The cinderella complex. New York: Summit Books.
- Emberson, H. (1988). A longitudinal analysis of single, female labor force participants' net worth: Balance sheet in the pre-retirement years. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.
- Farley, R. and Allen W. R. (1987). The color line and the quality of life in America, The population of the United States in the 1980's, A census monograph series. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Feldman, D. C. (1976). A contingency theory of socialization. Administrative Science Quarterly, 21, 433-452.
- Fry, P. S. (1992). Major social theories of aging and their implications for counseling concepts and practice: A critical review. The Counseling Psychologist, 20, 246-329.

- Garrison, M. E., & Winter, M. (1986). The managerial behaviour of families with preschool children. Journal of Consumer Studies and Home Economics, 10, 247-260.
- Godwin, D. D., & Carroll, D. D. (1985, June). Spouses' attitudes, behavior, and satisfaction regarding family financial management: A path analytic model. In S. Y. Nickols (Ed.), The Balancing Act: Thinking Globally / Acting Locally, Proceedings of a workshop sponsored by the Family Economics / Home Management Section of the American Home Economics Association (pp. 225-236). Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.
- Godwin, D. D., & Carroll, D. D. (1986). Financial management attitudes and behaviour of husbands and wives. Journal of Consumer Studies and Home Economics, 10, 77-96.
- Gubrium, J. F. (1974). Marital desolation and the evaluation of everyday life in old age. Journal of Marriage and the Family, 36, 107-113.
- Harris, Louis and Associates, Inc. (1986). Problems facing elderly Americans living alone. Conducted for the Commonwealth Fund, Commission on Elderly People Living Alone. New York.
- Heck, R. K. (1983). A preliminary test of a family management research model. Journal of Consumer Studies and Home Economics, 7, 117-135.
- Heck, R. K., & Douthitt, R. A. (1982). Research modeling implications of conceptual frameworks in family management. Journal of Consumer Studies and Home Economics, 6, 265-276.
- Herzog, A. R. and Kulka, R. A. (1989). Telephone and mail surveys with older populations: A methodological overview. In M. P. Lawton and R. R. Herzog (Eds.), Special research methods for gerontology (pp. 63-89). Amityville, NY: Baywood Publishing Company, Inc.

- Holden, K. C. (1988). Poverty and living arrangements among older women: Are changes in economic well-being underestimated? Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences, 43 (1), S22-S27.
- Iijima, Y. (1987). Incidence of poverty among elderly men and women. Unpublished doctoral dissertation. Iowa State University, Ames, IA.
- Israelsen, C. L. (1990). Family resource management research: 1930-1990. Financial Counseling and Planning, The Journal of the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education, 1, 3-39.
- Johnston, M. W., & Eklund, S. J. (1984). Life-adjustment of the never-married: A review with implications for counseling. Journal of Counseling and Development, 63, 230-236.
- Kantor, D., & Lehr, W. (1975). Inside the family: Toward a theory of family process. Washington, DC: Jossey-Bass.
- Keating, N., & Jeffrey, B. (1983). Work careers of ever married and never married retired women. The Gerontologist, 23, 416-421.
- Keith, P. M. (1985). Work, retirement, and well-being among unmarried men and women. The Gerontologist, 25, 410-416.
- Keith, P. M. (1986). The social context and resources of the unmarried in old age. International Journal of Aging and Human Development, 23, 81-96.
- Keith, P. M. (1989). The unmarried in later life. New York: Praeger.
- Keith, P. M., & Lorenz, F. O. (1989). Financial strain and health of unmarried older people. The Gerontologist, 29, 684-691.
- Keith, V. M. (1993). Gender, financial strain, and psychological distress among older adults. Research on Aging, 15, 123-147.

- Key, R. J., & Firebaugh, F. M. (1989). Family resource management: Preparing for the 21st Century. Journal of Home Economics, 81, 13-17.
- Kobrin, F. (1976). The fall of household size and the rise of the primary individual in the United States. Demography, 12, 127-138.
- Kotlikoff, L. J., & Morris, J. (1988). Why don't the elderly live with their children? A new look. In D. A. Wise (Ed.), Issues in the economics of aging (pp. 150-171). Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Kutner, B., Fanshel, D., Togo, A., & Langner, T. (1956). Five hundred over sixty. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Larson, R. (1978). Thirty years of research on the subjective well-being of older Americans. Journal of Gerontology, 33, 109-125.
- Lawton, M. P., Moss, M., and Kleban, M. H. (1984). Marital status, living arrangements, and the well-being of older people. Research on Aging, 6, 323-345.
- Lopata, H. Z. and Steinhart, F. (1971). Work histories of American urban women. The Gerontologist, 11, 27-36.
- Lown, J. M. (1986). Family financial management: Guidance from research. Journal of Home Economics, 78, 5-12.
- Markides, K. S. and Mindel, C. H. (1987). Aging and Ethnicity. Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications.
- Merton, R. K. (1968). Social theory and social structure. Glencoe, IL: Free Press.
- Morgan, L. A. (1986). The financial experience of widowed women: Evidence from the LRHS. The Gerontologist, 26 (6), 663-668.

- Neugarten, B. L., Havighurst, R. J., and Tobin, S. S. (1968). Personality and patterns of aging. In B. L. Neugarten (Ed.), Middle age and aging (pp. 173-177). Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Norton, A. J., & Moorman, J. E. (1987). Current trends in marriage and divorce among American women. Journal of Marriage and the Family, 49, 3-14.
- Ofshe, L., & Ofshe, R. (1970). Utility and choice in social interaction. Englewood, NJ: Prentice-Hall.
- Pihlblad, C., & Adams, D. (1972). Widowhood, social participation and life satisfaction. Journal of Health and Social Behavior, 3, 323-330.
- Plonk, M. A., & Pulley, M. A. (1977). Financial management practices of retired couples. The Gerontologist, 17, 256-261.
- Prochaska-Cue, K. (1990). Towards one component of a model of psychological financial management style. Paper presented at the meeting of NCR-116, Chicago, IL, April 26-27, 1990.
- Rettig, K. D., & Mortenson, M. (1986). Household production of financial management competence. Paper presented at the Human Resources Symposium, St. Louis, MO, March 7, 1986.
- Rhodes, L. (1982). Retirement, economics, and the minority aged. In Ron C. Manuel (Ed.), Minority aging, sociological and social psychological issues, (pp. 123-129). Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.
- Rosow, I. (1973). The social context of the aging self. The Gerontologist, 13, 82-87.
- Rosow, I. (1974). Socialization to old age. Berkeley: University of California Press.

- Rubinstein, R. L. (1987). Never married elderly as a social type: Re-evaluating some images. The Gerontologist, 27, 108-113.
- Schick, F. L. and Schick, R. (Eds.). (1994). Statistical handbook on aging Americans. Phoenix, AZ: Oryx Press.
- Schmittroth, L. (Ed.) . (1991). Statistical record of women worldwide. First Edition. Detroit: Gale Research, Inc.
- Schwartz, S., Danziger, S., & Smolensky, E. (1984). The choice of living arrangements among the aged. In Henry Aaron and Gary Burtless (Eds.), Retirement and economic behavior (pp. 229-253). Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.
- Steggel, C. (1992). Management strategies and time use in food preparation in two-parent, two-child Utah families. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.
- Stein, P. (1976). Single. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.
- Stull, D. E., & Scarisbrick-Hauser, A. (1989). Never-married elderly: A reassessment with implications for long-term policy. Research on Aging, 11, 124-139.
- Taylor, R. J. (1985). The extended family as a source of support to elderly blacks. The Gerontologist, 25, 488-495.
- Thomas, K. and Wister, A. (1984). Living arrangements of older women: The ethnic dimension. Journal of Marriage and the Family, 46, 301-311.
- Thompson, B. D. (1984). Implications of traditional sex role socialization: The vulnerability of older women. Convergence in Aging, Older women: Current Issues and Problems, 2, 106-112.

- Tienda, M. and Angel, R. (1982). Headship and household composition among blacks, Hispanics, and other whites. Social Forces, An International Journal of Social Research, 61, 508-531.
- U. S. Bureau of the Census. (1989a). Population profile of the United States 1989. U. S. Department of Commerce, Current Population Reports, Special Studies, Series P-23, No. 159. Issued April 1989. Washington, DC: U. S. Government Printing Office.
- U. S. Bureau of the Census. (1989b). Poverty in the United States 1987. U. S. Department of Commerce, Current Population Reports, Consumer Income, Series P-60, No. 163. Issued February 1989. Washington, DC: U. S. Government Printing Office.
- U. S. Bureau of the Census. (1989c). Studies in Marriage and the Family. U. S. Department of Commerce, Current Population Reports, Special Studies, Series P-23, No. 162. Issued June 1989. Washington, DC: U. S. Government Printing Office.
- U. S. Bureau of the Census. (1990). Marital status and living arrangements: March 1989. U. S. Department of Commerce, Current Population Reports, Population Characteristics, Series P-20, No. 445. Issued June 1990. Washington, DC: U. S. Government Printing Office.
- U. S. Bureau of the Census. (1992a). Sixty-five plus in America. U. S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration, P-23, No. 178. Washington, DC: U. S. Government Printing Office.
- U. S. Bureau of the Census. (1992b). Statistical abstract of the United States: 1992 (112th edition.) U. S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. Washington, DC: U. S. Government Printing Office.
- Walker, F. S. , Tremblay, K. R., Jr., & Parkhurst, A. M. (1984). Financial management and family life. Family Strengths 5: Continuity and Diversity. Newton, MA.

- Wallace, R. A. and Wolf, A. (1991). Contemporary sociological theory. Continuing the classical tradition. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Ward, R. A. (1979). The never-married in later life. Journal of Gerontology, 34, 861-869.
- Ward, R. A. (1985). Informal networks and well-being in later life: A research agenda. The Gerontologist, 25, 55-61.
- Williams, F. L. (1985, June). Family and personal resource management as affecting quality of life. In Sharon Y. Nickols (Ed.), The Balancing Act: Thinking Globally / Acting Locally, Proceedings of a workshop sponsored by the Family Economics / Home Management Section of the American Home Economics Association (pp. 237-250). Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.
- Wolf, D. A. (1984). Kin availability and the living arrangements of older women. Social Science Research, 13, 72-89.
- Wolf, D. A. (1990). Household patterns of older women: Some international comparisons. Research on Aging, 12, 463-486.
- Worobey, J. L. and Angel, R. J. (1990). Poverty and health: Older minority women and the rise of the female-headed household. Journal of Health and Social Behavior, 31, 370-383.
- Zedlewski, S. R., Barnes, R. O., Burt, M. R., McBride, T. D., & Meyer, J. A. (1990). The needs of the elderly in the 21st century. Urban Institute Report 90-5. Washington, DC: Urban Institute Press.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Tables of Descriptive and Inferential Data

Table A-1
Regional Distribution of Respondents by State, Per Return Zip Code

State	<i>f</i>	Percent
Oregon	121	64.4
California	33	17.6
Washington	16	8.5
Indiana	4	2.1
Hawaii	3	1.6
Arizona	2	1.1
Florida	2	1.1
Maryland	1	0.5
Minnesota	1	0.5
Nevada	1	0.5
North Carolina	1	0.5
Texas	1	0.5
Total*	186	99.8

*Total includes 6 zip codes later deemed unuseable
 Note: Zip codes were separated from completed
 questionnaires to protect anonymity of respondents.

Table A-2
Age of Participants

Age	<i>f</i>	Percent	Age	<i>f</i>	Percent
63 to 69	33	18.4	85 to 89	17	9.4
70 to 74	38	21.2	90 to 94	4	2.2
75 to 79	44	24.5	95 to 99	2	1.0
80 to 84	41	22.8	100 to 103	1	.5
Mean Age: 76.03 years			N = 180	Total percent: 100.5	

Table A-3
Marital Status

	<i>f</i>	Percent
Always Single	36	20.0
Widowed	127	70.6
Divorced	16	8.9
Separated	1	0.5
Total	180	100.0

Table A-4
Years Married

Number of Years	<i>f</i>	Percent		Number of Years	<i>f</i>	Percent
0	36	20.1		40 to 44	25	14.6
17 to 24	11	6.2		45 to 49	24	13.6
25 to 29	11	6.2		50 to 54	23	12.8
30 to 34	16	8.9		55 to 59	12	6.8
35 to 39	15	8.4		60 to 67	5	2.9
N = 179				Total Percent 100.4		

Table A-5
Years Since Loss of Spouse

Number of Years	Since Widowed, Divorced or Separated		Number of Years	Since Widowed, Divorced or Separated	
	<i>f</i>	Percent		<i>f</i>	Percent
0	36	20.0	15 to 19	13	7.2
1 to 4	35	19.5	20 to 24	13	7.2
5 to 9	48	26.9	25 to 29	6	3.4
10 to 14	23	12.9	30 to 41	5	2.9
N = 179			Total Percent 100.0		

Table A-6
Adult Children

	<i>f</i>	Percent
<u>Daughters</u>		
None	73	40.8
One	50	27.9
Two	37	20.7
Three	13	7.3
Four	6	3.4
Frequency Missing	1	
Total	180	100.0
<u>Sons</u>		
None	66	36.9
One	50	27.9
Two	43	24.0
Three	14	7.8
Four	5	2.8
Five	1	.5
Frequency Missing	1	
Total	180	99.9

Table A-7
Duration of Living Alone Prior to Age 60

	<i>f</i>	Percent
Not At All or Less Than One Year	77	43.3
1 to 3 Years	28	15.7
4 to 8 Years	25	14.0
9 to 16 Years	19	10.7
17 to 26 Years	9	5.1
More Than 26 Years	20	11.2
Frequency Missing	2	
Total	180	100.0

Table A-8
Duration of Living Alone After Age 60

	<i>f</i>	Percent
Less Than One Year	2	1.1
1 to 2 Years	15	8.5
3 to 6 Years	57	32.4
7 to 10 Years	38	21.6
11 to 14 Years	26	14.8
More Than 15 Years	38	21.6
Frequency Missing	4	
Total	180	100.0

Table A-9
Living Arrangements

Dwelling in Which Participants Live Alone	<i>f</i>	Percent
A House	114	63.7
An Apartment	25	14.0
A Condominium or Attached Housing	25	14.0
Manufactured Housing/Mobile Home	11	6.1
Other	4	2.2
Quadroplex		
Condominium Alternated with House		
Farmhouse		
No Explanation		
Frequency Missing	1	
Total	180	100.0

Table A-10
Home Ownership

Ownership of Dwelling	<i>f</i>	Percent
Owns Home With a Mortgage	25	14.0
Owns Home Without Mortgage	123	68.7
Rents Home	30	16.8
Other	1	0.5
Frequency Missing	1	
Total	180	100.0

Table A-11
Primary Occupation Since College

Occupation	<i>f</i>	Percent	Occupation	<i>f</i>	Percent
Administrator	5	2.8	Quality Controller	1	0.6
Artist	1	0.6	Realtor	2	1.1
Assistant to Manager	2	1.1	Secretary- Admin.	2	1.1
Beautician	1	0.6	Secretary- Legal	3	1.7
Broadcaster	3	1.7	Secretary	1	0.6
Business Owner	9	5.0	Seed Analyst	1	0.6
Business Partner	3	1.7	Teacher - Comm. College	1	0.6
Cook	1	0.6	Teacher - College	2	1.1
Coordinator	1	0.6	Teacher - Elementary	4	2.2
Customer Rep.	1	0.6	Teacher - H.S. Home Ec.	6	3.3
Dietitian	7	3.9	Teacher - High School	6	3.3
Home Economist	11	6.1	Teacher - Junior High	1	0.6
Homemaker	54	30.0	Teacher - Pre-school	3	1.7
Homemaker + Employed	17	9.4	Teacher - Music	1	0.6
Librarian	1	0.6	Teacher - Part-time	1	0.6
Merchandiser	1	0.6	Teacher - Vice Principal	1	0.6
Military Officer	1	0.6	Teacher	18	10.0
Missionary	1	0.6	Therapist	1	0.6
Office Worker	3	1.7	Writer	1	0.6
Property Manager	1	0.6			
			Total	180	100.9

Table A-12
Income Sources

Income Sources	Yes, Is a Source		Not a Source	
	<i>f</i>	Percent	<i>f</i>	Percent
Interest or Dividends	146	83.0	30	17.0
Social Security / Spouse's Work	93	52.8	83	47.2
Social Security / My Work	77	43.8	99	56.3
Savings (Principal)	75	42.6	101	57.4
Pension From My Work	71	40.3	105	59.7
Insurance or Annuities	64	36.4	112	63.6
Pension From Spouse's Work	60	34.1	116	65.9
Sale of Stocks or Real Estate	42	23.9	134	76.1
Employment (Part- or Full-time)	26	14.8	150	85.2
Government (S.S.I., Public Aid)	3	1.7	173	98.3
Other	25	14.2	151	85.5
1 Alimony				
1 Farm products				
1 Government retirement plan from spouse's work				
1 Inheritance				
2 Military				
1 Owns ranch				
2 Partnership in family business				
1 Real estate contracts				
10 Rental income				
1 Rent room				
1 Stock				
1 Timber				
2 Trust accounts				

Table A-13
Income Source, Order of Importance, by Percent of Sample

Income Source	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth
Interest or Dividends	27.0	17.2	19.0	9.8	6.1	2.5	0.6	—
Social Security / Spouse's Work	16.3	22.3	4.8	6.0	1.8	—	—	—
Pension From My Work	15.6	8.1	6.4	4.0	3.5	—	—	—
Pension From Spouse's Work	14.9	6.0	4.8	2.4	0.6	0.6	—	0.6
Social Security / My Work	8.3	16.1	10.7	5.4	—	—	—	—
Employment (Part- or Full-time)	5.2	2.3	2.9	1.7	1.2	—	—	—
Other (See Table A-12)	4.7	4.7	1.7	1.2	2.3	—	—	0.6
Insurance or Annuities	3.6	8.9	10.1	8.3	3.0	1.2	—	—
Savings (Principal)	3.6	6.5	10.1	7.7	7.7	3.0	1.2	—
Sale of Stocks or Real Estate	2.9	6.4	6.4	2.9	0.6	1.2	1.2	—
Income From Family, Friends	2.3	0.6	0.6	1.1	0.6	0.6	—	—
Government (S.S.I., Public Aid)	0.6	—	—	—	0.6	—	—	—

Table A-14
Income Source Providing More Than Half of Income

Income Source	Respondents Who Said, "Yes, More Than Half"		Respondents Who Said, "Not More Than Half"	
	<i>f</i>	Percent	<i>f</i>	Percent
Interest or Dividends	28	15.9	148	84.1
Pension From My Work	20	11.4	156	88.6
Pension From Spouse's Work	17	9.7	159	90.3
Social Security / Spouse's Work	14	8.0	162	92.0
Social Security / My Work	7	4.0	169	96.0
Employment (Part- or Full-time)	6	3.4	170	96.6
Sale of Stocks or Real Estate	2	1.1	174	98.9
Income From Family, Friends	2	1.1	174	98.9
Insurance or Annuities	1	0.6	175	99.4
Savings (Principal)	1	0.6	175	99.4
Government (S.S.I., Public Aid)	0	0.0	176	100.0
Other	6	3.4	170	96.6
1 Alimony				
1 Inheritance				
1 Partnership in family business				
2 Rental Income				
1 Timber				
Frequency Missing	4			

Table A-15
Financial Adequacy Profile

	<i>f</i>	Percent
<u>Response to the Question:</u> "How would you describe the adequacy of your finances to meet your living expenses when you were between age 40 and age 60?"		
I (We) had trouble making ends met	5	2.8
I (We) usually had just enough, no more	23	12.8
I (We) had enough, with a little extra	98	54.7
I (We) always had money left over.	53	29.6
Frequency Missing	1	
Total	180	99.9
	<i>f</i>	Percent
<u>Present Day Financial Adequacy:</u>		
I cannot make ends met	2	1.1
I have just enough, no more	10	5.6
I have enough, with a little extra sometimes	58	32.2
I always have money left over.	110	61.1
Total	180	100.0

Table A-16

Resource-centered Planning Style Measures Rates of Response, by Percent of Sample

R-C Measure 1: Q-11/Q-24. Most really important wants could/can be worked into plans.

Pre-retirement						Post-retirement					
Not Like		<u>Pre-retirement</u>		Exactly Like		Not Like		<u>Post-retirement</u>		Exactly Like	
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
1.1	4.0	12.4	17.5	32.8	32.2	1.1	2.8	4.5	7.9	38.2	45.5

R-C Measure 2: Q-15/Q-21. Plans for using money were/are often changed to take care of new goals.

Pre-retirement						Post-retirement					
Not Like				Exactly Like		Not Like				Exactly Like	
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
26.7	21.0	22.7	12.5	13.1	4.0	25.1	17.1	20.0	13.1	16.0	8.6

R-C Measure 3: Q-16/20. Wants beyond what were/are affordable were/are often obtained through a special effort to think up new ways to get them.

Pre-retirement						Post-retirement					
Not Like		<u>Pre-retirement</u>		Exactly Like		Not Like		<u>Post-retirement</u>		Exactly Like	
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
37.5	13.6	15.9	15.3	9.7	8.0	32.4	16.8	15.6	12.7	14.5	8.1

Table A-17

Goal-centered Planning Style Measures Rates of Response, by Percent of Sample

G-C Measure 1: Q-17/Q-22. Plans were/are made for buying things only after it was/is obvious that time and money were/are available.

Pre-retirement						Post-retirement					
Not Like		<u>Pre-retirement</u>		Exactly Like		Not Like		<u>Post-retirement</u>		Exactly Like	
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
3.9	2.2	5.6	9.6	27.0	51.7	1.1	2.3	3.4	4.0	24.4	64.8

G-C Measure 2: Q-18/Q-28. "Borrowing" from funds set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, to buy things not in the budget was/is avoided.

Pre-retirement						Post-retirement					
Not Like				Exactly Like		Not Like				Exactly Like	
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
6.8	1.7	2.8	5.1	19.3	64.2	10.1	2.8	1.7	3.9	21.9	59.6

G-C Measure 3: Q-19/27. Once a good money plan or budget was/is established, an effort was/is made to carry it out without being tempted to get extra things.

Pre-retirement						Post-retirement					
Not Like				Exactly Like		Not Like				Exactly Like	
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
2.3	2.8	5.1	10.8	37.5	41.5	2.9	5.7	4.6	8.6	33.9	44.3

Table A-18

Constrained Planning Style Measures Rates of Response, by Percent of Sample

C Measure 1: Q-12/25. Emergencies or unexpected events came/come along which often made/make it necessary for me to settle for less than I expected/expect.

Pre-retirement						Post-retirement					
Not Like				Exactly Like		Not Like				Exactly Like	
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
19.1	21.4	13.9	21.4	18.5	5.8	32.2	22.0	9.0	14.1	12.4	6.2

C Measure 2: Q-13/Q-26. Money set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, was/is frequently "borrowed" to pay for things not in the budget.

Pre-retirement						Post-retirement					
Not Like				Exactly Like		Not Like				Exactly Like	
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
72.3	16.4	4.0	3.4	1.1	2.8	80.1	9.7	1.7	2.3	3.4	2.8

C Measure 3: Q-14/Q-23. Money was the primary consideration in selecting a place to live.

Pre-retirement						Post-retirement					
Not Like				Exactly Like		Not Like				Exactly Like	
1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
26.9	10.9	17.7	12.0	18.9	13.7	25.3	11.8	11.2	15.3	17.1	19.4

Table A-19

Pre-retirement Age Financial Management Behavior: Experience Planning Finances Before Age 60

	<i>f</i>	Percent
Response to the Question: "Which best describes your overall experience planning your finances before age 60?"		
A Great Deal	109	60.6
Some	46	25.6
A Little	20	11.1
No Experience	5	2.8
Frequency Missing	0	
Total	180	100.1

Table A-20

Helpfulness of Financial Management Experience Before Retirement Age

	<i>f</i>	Percent
Very Helpful	118	65.9
Helpful	50	27.9
Not Helpful	11	6.1
Frequency Missing	1	
Total	180	99.9

Table A-21

Pre-retirement Age Financial Management Behavior: Participation in Planning Retirement Income

	<i>f</i>	Percent
Response to the Question: "Who planned your present-day income?"		
I Planned Alone or With Advice	77	43.3
My Spouse and I Planned Together	73	41.0
Spouse Planned Alone	8	4.5
Retirement Income Not Planned	15	8.4
Other	5	2.8
Spouse's SSA		
Parents' Trust Accounts		
Some Together, Some by Spouse		
By Sons After Husband Deceased		
With a Financial Advisor		
Frequency Missing	2	
Total	180	100.0

Table A-22

Post-retirement Age Financial Management Behavior: Planning Day-to-day, Planning Major Decisions

	<i>f</i>	Percent
"For planning day to day finances such as writing checks, record keeping, etc., I am involved. . ."		
A Great Deal	164	91.1
Some of The Time	10	5.6
A Little	6	3.3
Not At All	0	0.0
Total	180	100.0
	<i>f</i>	Percent
"For planning major decisions such as taxes and investments, I am involved"		
A Great Deal	147	81.7
Some of The Time	25	13.9
A Little	8	4.4
Not At All	0	0.0
Total	180	100.0

Table A-23
Preparedness to Plan Finances For Retirement Prior to Age 60

	<i>f</i>	Percent
Well Prepared	75	42.1
Somewhat Prepared	81	45.5
Little Prepared	17	9.6
Not Prepared	5	2.8
Frequency Missing	2	
Total	180	100.0

Table A-24
Pre-retirement Age Financial Management Behavior: Who Tracked Finances Before Age 60

	<i>f</i>	Percent
"Who usually kept track of the bills, expenses and other day-to-day finances in your household before you became age 60? "		
I Did -- Never Had a Spouse	37	20.9
I Did -- Spouse Not Involved	59	33.3
I Did -- Spouse Somewhat Involved	10	5.6
My Spouse and I -- About Half and Half	48	27.1
My Spouse -- I Was Somewhat Involved	20	11.3
My Spouse -- I Was Not Involved	3	1.7
Frequency Missing	3	
Total	180	99.9

Table A-25

Open Remarks to Q-42: What, If Anything, Would You Do Differently About Managing Your Finances These Days

Response To: "When it comes to managing your finances these days, -- what, if anything, would you like to do differently?"

	<i>f</i>	Percent
No Comment	37	20.6
No Change	57	31.7
Changes Suggested Prior to Retirement	31	17.2
Changes Suggested During Retirement	32	17.8
Advice Offered	3	1.7
Hopes Expressed	20	11.1
Total	180	100.1

Table A-26

Open Remarks to Q-41: Anticipation of Living Alone During Retirement

	<i>f</i>	Percent
Total "No" Responses	28	16.4
Total "Yes" Responses	137	80.1
Evasive Responses	6	3.5
Frequency Missing	9	
Total	180	100.0
Yes	102	59.6
Yes, With Positive Approach	8	4.7
Yes, With Negative Approach	1	0.6
Yes, Husband Helped	5	2.9
Yes, Husband Was an Influence	12	7.0
Yes, With Little Thought, or Thought It Unlikely	7	4.1
Yes, But Actual Experience Different Than Expected	2	1.2

Table A-27
Correlation Coefficients for Variables Testing Hypothesis One

Independent Variable		Resource- centered Post-age 60	Goal- centered Post-age 60	Constrained Post-age 60
1	Age of Respondent	-0.2139 0.005	0.0055 0.942	-0.0010 0.989
2	Living Arrangements	-0.1437	0.0087	-0.1157
	Living in House	0.061	0.910	0.135
2	Living in Apartment	0.1058 0.168	-0.0271 0.724	-0.0536 0.4901
2	Living in Condo/ Attached	0.0811 0.292	-0.2009 0.008	0.0387 0.618
2	Living in Manufactured	0.0115 0.881	-0.0244 0.751	0.0229 0.769
3	Home Ownership	-0.1057 0.169	0.0633 0.410	-0.1361 0.0789
4	Marital Status	-0.1421	0.1086	-0.0047
	Always Single	0.063	0.155	0.952
4	Formerly Married	0.1483 0.052	-0.1149 0.132	0.0212 0.785
5	Years Married Altogether	-0.1185 0.123	0.0994 0.194	-0.0010 0.990
6	Adult Children	0.0098	0.0072	0.1046
	Daughters	0.899	0.925	0.177
6	Sons	0.0003 0.9967	-0.0951 0.215	0.0593 0.445
7	Education	-0.0960	0.0047	-0.0783
	Bachelor's Degree	0.216	0.951	0.316
7	Master's Degree	0.1110 0.152	-0.0410 0.526	0.0571 0.465
8	Occupation in Labor Force	0.1338 0.080	-0.0514 0.502	0.1001 0.195

Table A-27, Continued
Correlation Coefficients for Variables Testing Hypothesis One

	Independent Variable	Resource- centered Post -age 60	Goal- centered Post -age 60	Constrained Post -age 60
9	Income Source Employment (Part- or Full-time)	0.0776	-0.0171	0.0404
		0.317	0.825	0.607
9	Pension From My Work	0.2530	-0.0394	0.0069
		0.001	0.611	0.930
9	Pension From Spouse's Work	-0.1589	0.0082	-0.1968
		0.040	0.916	0.011
9	Social Security, My Work	0.1015	-0.1782	0.1175
		0.190	0.020	0.133
9	Social Security, Spouse's Work	-0.0907	0.0229	-0.0227
		0.243	0.768	0.772
9	Government (S.S.I., Public Aid)	-0.0123	-0.0821	-0.0458
		0.874	0.289	0.560
9	Insurance or Annuities	0.1177	-0.1133	-0.0500
		0.129	0.142	0.524
9	Savings (Principal)	0.1203	-0.0248	0.0686
		0.120	0.749	0.382
9	Interest or Dividends	0.0791	0.0679	-0.2892
		0.308	0.381	0.001
9	Sale of Stocks or Real Estate	0.0947	-0.1194	-0.1255
		0.222	0.122	0.108
9	Income From Family / Friends	-0.0041	-0.0559	0.0143
		0.958	0.471	0.855
9	Other Income Sources	-0.0468	-0.0470	-0.0087
		0.547	0.544	0.912
10	Income Level	0.0754	-0.0316	-0.2282
		0.337	0.687	0.004

Table A-27, Continued
Correlation Coefficients for Variables Testing Hypothesis One

Independent Variable		Resource- centered Post -age 60	Goal- centered Post -age 60	Constrained Post -age 60
11	Involvement in Planning Income	-0.0829 0.283	-0.1445 0.059	0.2670 0.001
12	Income Adequacy Age 40 to 60	-0.0643 0.403	0.1039 0.175	-0.269 0.001
13	Income Adequacy Present-day	0.1474 0.054	0.0350 0.648	-0.3909 0.001
14	Satisfaction Managing Finances	0.1475 0.058	0.2660 0.001	-0.2297 0.003

Table A-28

Multiple Regression Models for Testing Hypothesis Three.Model 1: Resource-centered Planning. Model 2: Goal-centered Planning. and Model 3: Constrained Planning

Test for Hypothesis Three:		Model 1	F-Value 2.868	Prob >F 0.0008
Dep. Var.: Post-Age 60 Resource-Centered Planning				
Variable	R-square Adj. R-sq	0.2279 0.1484	T for HO: Parameter = 0	Prob > T
Intercep			1.644	0.103
3.01 Duration living alone before age 60			-0.231	0.818
3.02 Duration living alone after age 60			0.802	0.424
3.03 Marital status: Always-single			-0.534	0.594
3.04 Marital status: Formerly-married			-0.141	0.888
3.05 Years since loss of spouse			0.894	0.373
3.06 Occupation			1.002	0.318
3.07 Involvement tracking finances before 60			-0.460	0.646
3.08 Financial management experience			-0.313	0.755
3.09 Helpfulness of experience			0.292	0.771
3.10 Preparedness to plan retirement finances			-0.970	0.334
3.11 Participation planning retirement income			0.158	0.875
3.12 Resource-centered style before age 60			4.695	0.001***
3.13 Goal-centered style before age 60			1.054	0.294
3.14 Constrained style before age 60			-0.082	0.935

Test for Hypothesis Three:		Model 2	F-Value 4.558	Prob >F 0.0001***
Dep. Var.: Post-Age 60 Goal-Centered Planning				
Variable	R-square Adj. R-sq	0.3146 0.2456	T for HO: Parameter = 0	Prob > T
Intercep			3.605	0.001
3.01 Duration living alone before age 60			0.139	0.890
3.02 Duration living alone after age 60			-0.315	0.753
3.03 Marital status: Always-single			-0.028	0.978
3.04 Marital status: Formerly-married			-0.242	0.809
3.05 Years since loss of spouse			-1.137	0.257
3.06 Occupation			0.187	0.852
3.07 Involvement tracking finances before 60			2.258	0.026*
3.08 Financial management experience			-0.341	0.734
3.09 Helpfulness of experience			-0.110	0.912
3.10 Preparedness to plan retirement finances			-1.027	0.306
3.11 Participation planning retirement income			-1.157	0.249
3.12 Resource-centered style before age 60			0.238	0.813
3.13 Goal-centered style before age 60			6.321	0.001***
3.14 Constrained style before age 60			0.689	0.492

Table A-28, Continued

Multiple Regression Models for Testing Hypothesis Three.Model 1: Resource-Centered Planning, Model 2: Goal-Centered Planning, and Model 3: Constrained Planning

Test for Hypothesis Three:		Model 3	F-Value 6.692	Prob >F 0.0001***
Dep. Var.: Post-Age 60 Constrained Planning				
Variable	R-square	0.4061	T for HO: Parameter = 0	Prob > T
	Adj. R-sq	0.3454		
			0.008	0.994
3.01			0.246	0.806
3.02			-0.205	0.838
3.03			1.056	0.293
3.04			-0.439	0.661
3.05			-1.267	0.297
3.06			-0.502	0.617
3.07			-0.735	0.464
3.08			-2.216	0.028*
3.09			1.775	0.078
3.10			2.814	0.006**
3.11			1.932	0.055
3.12			2.321	0.022*
3.13			0.029	0.977
3.14			4.560	0.001***

* Significant at $p \leq .05$ level** Significant at $p \leq .01$ level*** Significant at $p \leq .001$ level

APPENDIX B

Planning Style Measures Alphas and Adaptations

APPENDIX B

Table B-1

Buehler and Hogan (1986) Factor Coefficients and Cronbach's Alphas for Planning Style Items

Items	Coefficients		
	I	II	III
I. Resource-centered (alpha = 0.75)			
1. Wants beyond what we seem to be able to afford are often obtained through a special effort to think up new ways to get them.	.66	.01	.07
2. Most really important wants can be worked into plans.	.61	.06	-.05
3. The children are learning to be creative in reaching goals that at first seem impossible.	.61	.05	-.14
4. Plans for use of money are frequently changed to take care of new goals.	.58	-.19	.38
5. With the increase in cost of living, we use means other than money to get some of the things we used to buy.	.53	.23	.18
6. If I were a mother/father of pre-schoolers, I would make time for working part-time and taking refresher courses in case I should return to work full-time in the future.	.53	.16	-.03
7. If the refrigerator breaks and the vacation fund is the only readily available money, some way would be found to pay for both a vacation and refrigerator.	.52	-.17	-.19
8. We find time and money for guest meals as often as we want to entertain.	.49	-.05	-.33
9. Plans are often made to do or buy something for which the time and money are not yet available since a way to increase resources can usually be found.	.48	-.32	.06
10. When wants cost more money than is available, attempts are made to increase income.	.43	-.02	.06
II. Goal-centered (alpha = 0.64)			
1. Once a good money plan (budget) is established, an effort is made to carry it out without being tempted by additional wants.	.24	.65	-.09
2. "Borrowing" from a fund set aside for food, taxes, etc. to buy things not in the budget is avoided.	.05	.59	-.25
3. Plans are made for buying something only after it is obvious that time and money are available.	.01	.58	.17
4. Wants beyond what we can afford are either changed to something that costs less or delayed until we can afford them.	.00	.54	.09
5. When wants cost more than money is available, wants are reduced to make things balance.	-.08	.53	.36
6. If the children want something that the parents approve of but cannot afford, they are encouraged to choose other goals to teach them to live at a level they can afford.*	.07	.35	.27
III. Constrained (alpha = 0.65)			
1. We often must settle for less than we expect because of emergencies or unexpected events.	.05	.08	.68
2. Housing maintenance (repair) is delayed as long as possible because of time or money costs.	-.06	.05	.65
3. Money is the primary consideration in the selection of housing for the family.	.03	.22	.55
4. We frequently "borrow" money from a fund set aside for food, taxes, etc., to buy things not in the budget.	.11	-.51	.51
5. The family wants things we cannot afford.	.02	-.16	.49
6. When money is scarce and time and skill are limited, it is difficult to think of ways to accomplish new goals.	.03	.05	.41

* Although this item had a coefficient below 0.40, it was retained for conceptual reasons to concur with Factor I.

Source: Buehler, C., & Hogan, M. J. (1986). Planning styles in single-parent families. Home Economics Research Journal, 14, p. 356.

Table B-2

Comparison of the Original Buehler and Hogan (1986) Wording and the Rodgers (1995) Adaptations for Resource-centered Planning Style Measures

Resource-centered (morphogenic) Planning Style		
Buehler and Hogan (1986) Original Wording	Rodgers (1995) Adapted for Pre-age 60	Rodgers (1995) Adapted for Post-age 60
<p>"Wants beyond what we seem to be able to afford are often obtained through a special effort to think up new ways to get them."</p> <p>(Buehler & Hogan, Item 1)</p>	<p>"Wants beyond what was affordable were often obtained through a special effort to think up new ways to get them."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-16)</p>	<p>"When things I want seem beyond what I can afford, I can usually think up new ways to get them."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-20)</p>
<p>"Most really important wants can be worked into plans."</p> <p>(Buehler & Hogan, Item 2)</p>	<p>"Most really important wants could be worked into plans."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-11)</p>	<p>"I can work most really important wants into my plans."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-24)</p>
<p>"Plans for use of money are frequently changed to take care of new goals."</p> <p>(Buehler & Hogan, Item 4)</p>	<p>"Plans for using money were often changed to take care of new goals."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-15)</p>	<p>"I often change my plans for using my money to take care of new goals."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-21)</p>

Table B-3

Comparison of the Original Buehler and Hogan (1986) Wording and the Rodgers (1995) Adaptations for Goal-centered Planning Style Measures

Goal-centered (morphostatic) Planning Style		
Buehler and Hogan (1986) Original Wording	Rodgers (1995) Adapted for Pre-age 60	Rodgers (1995) Adapted for Post-age 60
<p>"Once a good money plan (budget) is established, an effort is made to carry it out without being tempted by additional wants."</p> <p>(Buehler & Hogan, Item 1)</p>	<p>"Once a good money plan or budget was established, an effort was made to carry it out without being tempted to get extra things."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-19)</p>	<p>"Once I establish a good money plan or budget, I make an effort to carry it out without being tempted to get extra things."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-27)</p>
<p>"'Borrowing' from a fund set aside for food, taxes, etc. to buy things not in the budget is avoided."</p> <p>(Buehler & Hogan, Item 2)</p>	<p>"'Borrowing' from funds set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, to buy things not in the budget was avoided."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-18)</p>	<p>"I avoid 'borrowing' money which I've set aside for essential things, like food and taxes, to buy extra things."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-28)</p>
<p>"Plans are made for buying something only after it is obvious that time and money are available."</p> <p>(Buehler & Hogan, Item 3)</p>	<p>"Plans were made for buying things only after it was obvious that time and money were available."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-17)</p>	<p>"I make plans to buy something only after I am sure that time and money are available."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-22)</p>

Table B-4

Comparison of the Original Buehler and Hogan (1986) Wording and the Rodgers (1995) Adaptations for Constrained Planning Style Measures

Constrained (random) Planning Style		
Buehler and Hogan (1986) Original Wording	Rodgers (1995) Adapted for Pre-age 60	Rodgers (1995) Adapted for Post-age 60
<p>"We often must settle for less than we expect because of emergencies or unexpected events."</p> <p>(Buehler & Hogan, Item 1)</p>	<p>"Emergencies or unexpected events came along which often made it necessary for me to settle for less than I expected."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-12)</p>	<p>"I often must settle for less than I expect because of emergencies or unexpected events."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-25)</p>
<p>"Money is the primary consideration in the selection of housing for the family."</p> <p>(Buehler & Hogan, Item 3)</p>	<p>"Money was the primary consideration in selecting a place to live."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-14)</p>	<p>"Money is my primary consideration when selecting where I live."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-23)</p>
<p>"We frequently 'borrow' money from a fund set aside for food, taxes, etc., to buy things not in the budget."</p> <p>(Buehler & Hogan, Item 4)</p>	<p>"Money set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, was frequently 'borrowed' to pay for things not in the budget."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-13)</p>	<p>"I often 'borrow' from funds set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, to buy extras not in my budget."</p> <p>(Appendix C, Item Q-26)</p>

APPENDIX C

Sample Correspondence and Survey Instrument

APPENDIX C

February 7, 1994

Dear Home Economics Graduate:

Home economists are among those interested in how women these days are managing alone. However, information is scarce and especially lacking when it comes to knowing how women plan their finances.

You and others who graduated from the "School" or College of Home Economics at Oregon State University were selected to take part in a study for a doctoral dissertation. All it takes is completing a questionnaire. There is no cost either to you or the College -- all expenses are paid by the student. The information collected will be used for no other purpose. We need your participation.

This study is directed especially to women who live alone. If you are in this category, we would like for you to complete the enclosed questionnaire. It is likely to take approximately 35 to 45 minutes. Then mail it in the postage-paid envelope. If you do not live alone, please return the blank questionnaire. You will remain anonymous either way.

You may be assured of complete confidentiality and anonymity. The questionnaire is not numbered or coded -- and we ask you not to put your name on it. If you would like a copy of the results of the study (available June 1994), simply mail the enclosed postcard at the same time you mail your completed questionnaire.

A postage paid, pre-addressed envelope has been provided for you. We need to have your completed questionnaire mailed by

Saturday, February 26, 1994.

You will notice at the end of the questionnaire, we are asking for your "insight and experience." We hope to pass along information from this study to educators of girls and women of all ages. This may help many of them with planning for the future. Again, all information will be reported collectively and anonymously. Your participation is important and sincerely appreciated.

If you have questions, you may call Ruth-Anne Rodgers at (503) 753-2428.

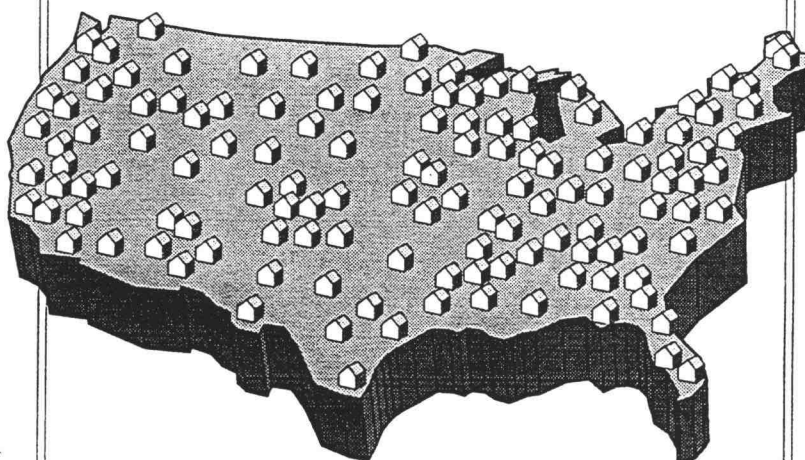
Thank you for your interest.

Ruth-Anne Rodgers, Graduate Student
Family Resource Management,
Oregon State University

Arlene Holyoak, Ph.D., Major Professor
College of Home Economics and Education
Oregon State University

APPENDIX C

HOW DO YOU MANAGE ?



**A Study Of Financial Management Planning Styles
Of Home Economics Graduates
Maintaining Independent Households
Throughout The United States**

Q-07 Altogether, how many of your adult years did you live alone BEFORE you reached age 60? (Circle the number of the group which includes your response)

- 1 NOT AT ALL OR LESS THAN 1 YEAR
- 2 1 - 3 YEARS
- 3 4 - 8 YEARS
- 4 9 - 16 YEARS
- 5 17 - 25 YEARS
- 6 26 OR MORE YEARS

Q-08 How long have you been living by yourself SINCE you became age 60? (Circle one number)

- 1 LESS THAN ONE YEAR
- 2 1 - 2 YEARS
- 3 3 - 6 YEARS
- 4 7 - 10 YEARS
- 5 11 - 14 YEARS
- 6 15 OR MORE YEARS



Q-09 Do you have any daughters or sons? (Write in number)

____NUMBER OF DAUGHTERS

____NUMBER OF SONS

Q-10 Think of your knowledge and experience planning finances before you became age 60. Which best describes how you were prepared to plan your finances for your retirement years? (Circle one number)

- 1 WELL PREPARED
- 2 SOMEWHAT PREPARED
- 3 LITTLE PREPARED
- 4 NOT PREPARED



...This is about how your planning used to be...

Think about how you mostly planned your finances between age 40 and age 60. After reading a statement, decide how closely it describes you in those days -- exactly like you, or not like you, or somewhere in between. Then circle one number on the line to show your answer.

Q-11 Most really important wants could be worked into plans.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

Q-12 Emergencies or unexpected events came along which often made it necessary for me to settle for less than I expected.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

Q-13 Money set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, was frequently "borrowed" to pay for things not in the budget.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

Q-14 Money was the primary consideration in selecting a place to live.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

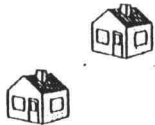
Q-15 Plans for using money were often changed to take care of new goals.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

Q-16 Wants beyond what was affordable were often obtained through a special effort to think up new ways to get them.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

Continued on the next page



DIRECTIONS



HOW TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS...

Please read each of the following items.

Circle the number of the answer choice which BEST describes you.
Pen or pencil is acceptable.

Please DO NOT write your name on this form.
Your answers will be held in strict confidence
and not disclosed individually. All responses will be anonymous.

IF YOU DO NOT LIVE ALONE, please mail the blank questionnaire
back to us in the postage paid envelope ...
... you will remain anonymous.

Q-01 Knowing where you live helps acquaint us with your household
type. Would you tell us where you live alone? (Circle one number)

- 1 IN A HOUSE
- 2 IN AN APARTMENT
- 3 IN A CONDOMINIUM OR ATTACHED HOUSING
- 4 IN MANUFACTURED HOUSING/MOBILE HOME
- 5 OTHER _____

(PLEASE EXPLAIN)

Q-02 Do you own or rent the home in which you live? (Circle one number)



- 1 OWN MY HOME -- WITH A MORTGAGE
- 2 OWN MY HOME -- WITHOUT MORTGAGE
- 3 RENT

Q-03 Which of the following best describes your overall experience
planning your finances BEFORE you became age 60? (Circle one
number)

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
- 2 SOME
- 3 A LITTLE
- 4 NO EXPERIENCE

Q-04 Please tell us, how much does your planning experience in those
days help you manage your finances now? (Circle one number)

- 1 VERY HELPFUL
- 2 HELPFUL
- 3 NOT HELPFUL

Next, in Q-05 and Q-06 we would like to ask about how much you
take part in planning your current finances. For each statement
below, which best describes your involvement now? (Circle number
which best completes each statement for you)

Q-05 For planning day to day
finances such as writing checks,
record keeping, etc., I am
involved

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
- 2 SOME OF THE TIME
- 3 A LITTLE
- 4 NOT AT ALL

Q-06 For planning major
decisions such as taxes
and investments, I am
involved

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
- 2 SOME OF THE TIME
- 3 A LITTLE
- 4 NOT AT ALL



... how your planning used to be ... continued

- Q-17 Plans were made for buying things only after it was obvious that time and money were available.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

- Q-18 "Borrowing" from funds set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, to buy things not in the budget was avoided.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

- Q-19 Once a good money plan or budget was established, an effort was made to carry it out without being tempted to get extra things.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

... Next, how you plan your finances now. ...

After reading a statement, think about how closely it describes you NOW -- exactly like you, or not like you, or somewhere in between. Then circle one number on the line to show your answer.

- Q-20 When things I want seem beyond what I can afford, I can usually think up new ways to get them.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

- Q-21 I often change my plans for using my money to take care of new goals.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

Continued on the next page

... how you plan now. ... continued

- Q-22 I make plans to buy something only after I am sure that time and money are available.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

- Q-23 Money is my primary consideration when selecting where I live.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

- Q-24 I can work most really important wants into my plans.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

- Q-25 I often must settle for less than I expect because of emergencies or unexpected events.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

- Q-26 I often "borrow" from funds set aside for essentials, like food and taxes, to buy extras not in my budget.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

- Q-27 Once I establish a good money plan or budget, I make an effort to carry it out without being tempted to get extra things.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

- Q-28 I avoid "borrowing" money which I've set aside for essential things, like food and taxes, to buy extra things.

Not like me 1 2 3 4 5 6 Exactly like me

Q-29 Who usually kept track of the bills, expenses and other day-to-day finances in your household before you became age 60? Was it something you usually did or did your spouse take care of it?

- 1 I DID -- NEVER HAD A SPOUSE
- 2 I DID -- SPOUSE SOMEWHAT INVOLVED
- 3 I DID -- SPOUSE NOT INVOLVED
- 4 MY SPOUSE AND I DID -- ABOUT HALF AND HALF
- 5 MY SPOUSE DID -- I WAS SOMEWHAT INVOLVED
- 6 MY SPOUSE DID -- I WAS NOT INVOLVED

Q-30 Who planned your present-day income?(Circle one number)

- 1 I PLANNED ALONE OR WITH ADVICE
- 2 MY SPOUSE AND I PLANNED IT
- 3 MY SPOUSE ALONE PLANNED IT
- 4 MY INCOME FOR TODAY WAS NOT PLANNED
- 5 OTHER _____
(PLEASE EXPLAIN)

Q-31 Think about how well you are able to provide for your living expenses these days. How would you describe the adequacy of your finances to meet those needs?

- 1 I CANNOT MAKE ENDS MEET
- 2 I HAVE JUST ENOUGH, NO MORE
- 3 I HAVE ENOUGH, WITH A LITTLE EXTRA SOMETIMES
- 4 I ALWAYS HAVE MONEY LEFT OVER

Q-32 How would you describe the adequacy of your finances to meet your living expenses when you were between age 40 and age 60?

- 1 I (WE) HAD TROUBLE MAKING ENDS MEET
- 2 I (WE) USUALLY HAD JUST ENOUGH, NO MORE
- 3 I (WE) HAD ENOUGH, WITH A LITTLE EXTRA SOMETIMES
- 4 I (WE) ALWAYS HAD MONEY LEFT OVER

Q-33 What is your current marital status? (Circle one number)

- 1 ALWAYS SINGLE
- 2 WIDOWED
- 3 DIVORCED
- 4 MARRIED

Q-40a How long ago were you widowed?

____ NUMBER OF YEARS AGO

Q-40b How long ago were you divorced?

____ NUMBER OF YEARS AGO

Q-34 How many years, altogether, were you married? (Please write in number. If not applicable, enter "0")

____ TOTAL YEARS MARRIED

Q-35 What was your age on your last birthday? (Write your age on the blank)

____ AGE IN YEARS ON LAST BIRTHDAY

Q-36 What is your highest level of education completed? (Circle one number)

- 1 BACHELOR'S DEGREE
- 2 SOME GRADUATE COURSES
- 3 MASTER'S DEGREE
- 4 DOCTORAL DEGREE

Q-37 What has been your primary occupation most of the time since you graduated from college?

____ JOB TITLE SINCE COLLEGE

Q-38 It will be very helpful to learn how planning is related to money sources. Please take a moment to think of the sources of your income these days. Then follow the 3 steps to describe the sources which apply to you.

Just a reminder: all answers are anonymous and confidential.

	Step 1 "X" here	Source of Income	Step 2 Rank here
Step 1 -- In the left column: Mark an "X" on the line, if it is a source of income.	a. <input type="checkbox"/>	EMPLOYMENT (part- or full-time)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	b. <input type="checkbox"/>	PENSION FROM MY WORK	<input type="checkbox"/>
	c. <input type="checkbox"/>	PENSION FROM SPOUSE'S WORK	<input type="checkbox"/>
Step 2 -- In the right column: Rank as to amount provided. Write "1" beside the most, then "2" beside the second most, and so on.	d. <input type="checkbox"/>	SOCIAL SECURITY FROM MY WORK	<input type="checkbox"/>
	e. <input type="checkbox"/>	SOCIAL SECURITY SPOUSE'S WORK	<input type="checkbox"/>
	f. <input type="checkbox"/>	GOVERNMENT (S.S.I., PUBLIC AID)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	g. <input type="checkbox"/>	INSURANCE OR ANNUITIES	<input type="checkbox"/>
	h. <input type="checkbox"/>	SAVINGS (PRINCIPAL)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	i. <input type="checkbox"/>	INTEREST OR DIVIDENDS	<input type="checkbox"/>
	j. <input type="checkbox"/>	SALE OF STOCKS OR REAL ESTATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
	k. <input type="checkbox"/>	INCOME FROM FAMILY OR FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. <input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Step 1 -- Circle the source that provides more than half of your income.

Q-39 Which of the following categories includes your total household income last year? (Circle one number)

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 LESS THAN \$10,000 | 5 \$31,000 to 37,000 |
| 2 \$10,000 to 16,000 | 6 \$38,000 to 44,000 |
| 3 \$17,000 to 23,000 | 7 \$45,000 to 50,000 |
| 4 \$24,000 to 30,000 | 8 MORE THAN \$50,000 |

Now, to help us learn from your insight and experience. . .

Hopefully, the results of this study will reach a variety of professionals working to help girls and women think about preparing for retirement.

Would you please share some of your thoughts?

Q-40 Think about how satisfied you are with the way you manage your finances. Circle the number on the line below which represents your level of satisfaction: The higher the number you circle, the more you are satisfied.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Not at all satisfied Extremely satisfied

Q-41 Before you reached retirement age, did you recognize the possibility that you could live alone at this stage in your life?

Q-42 When it comes to managing your finances these days, -- what, if anything, would you like to do differently?

Do you have any concerns about planning your finances that you would like to add?
Your comments are welcome in the space below.

Thank you for helping us!
Your participation is an important part of this research. If you want to receive
a copy of the results of this study, please mail the pre-addressed postcard.
Your completed questionnaire will remain anonymous.

Please mail this completed questionnaire in the postage-paid envelope by
Saturday, February 26, 1994

APPENDIX C

Please mail this card when you mail your questionnaire.

I have returned my completed questionnaire separately.

(PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME)

Check

- ____ I would like a copy of the results.
- ____ I would be interested in participating in future studies related to managing a home or finances.
- ____ I would be willing to participate in a personal interview.

Thank you for your help with this important study!

Just a Reminder. . . . and a Thank You!

Regarding *How Do You Manage?* --
the questionnaire mailed to you last week --

If you have not yet completed and mailed your copy,
there's still time to participate. We need your input!
The deadline to mail back is **Saturday, February 26th.**

If you have already responded, we appreciate your help!

Ruth-Anne Rodgers, Graduate Student
Family Resource Management,
Oregon State University

Arlene Holyoak, Ph.D., Major Professor
College of Home Economics and
Education, Oregon State University

APPENDIX D

Responses to Open-ended Question 42

APPENDIX D

THE CASE FOR EDUCATING WOMEN TO MANAGE INDEPENDENTLY:

Responses to Open-Ended Question 42: "When it comes to managing your finances these days, -- what, if anything, would you like to do differently?"

ADVICE FROM RESPONDENTS

"Be a millionaire! Seriously - understand financing more fully. I do have a good accountant and a stockbroker that help tremendously."

"If you are depending on stocks and bonds, be sure to have a knowledgeable and honest broker, and know what he is doing for you at all times."

"Plan early with your first job to save for yourself."

CHANGES TO OCCUR DURING RETIREMENT

" 'Waste not - want not' was my family motto. Now after living in the same house for 50 years and never throwing anything of value away becomes a problem."

"Be less conservative? (I grew up during the depression.)"

"Perhaps, be less conservative in 'The Market' "

"I wish I were not so conservative -- be willing to take a risk and invest in something that would bring better returns than CD's. The present interest rate is deplorable but I'm too old to change."

"Be more adventurous in trying new ideas."

"Take a few more chances."

"Perhaps reinvest - But do not want to chance losing the security I now have."

"I would like to have the higher return of mutual funds than the CD's I now have; but am afraid to switch, remembering what happened to stocks in October 1929."

"Fewer dealings with brokers -- More mutual funds -- low risks."

"Take more courses on finance. I really find them fascinating now."

"I need a high school-level course in bonds, stocks, mutual funds, IRA (etc.), how they work, etc. Once you have a frame of reference you can figure out what to do with information from various sources. . . ."

"I need to study, be more knowledgeable how the stock market works. When to leave the mutual funds. I need to find a person who would be impartial, not working for their employer."

"I would like to understand more about investing in the stock market. Presently I am pursuing this goal by membership in an investment club."

"Wish I knew more about stocks, bonds, etc."

"Would like a better understanding of investments. Also, a more accurate tax knowledge would be helpful."

"Change some investments/stocks, etc. Dabble in the real estate market."

"I am weighing the pros and cons of annuitizing (sic) our annuity, but am still not certain which way to go. Other than that I am satisfied."

"Seek more professional advice."

"I would like a [financial] advisor regarding investments."

"If I could afford it, I'd like to have a good objective financial advisor. I dislike making decisions about shifting financial investments around to ease the tax burden, but do the best I can. I know I err on the side of conservatism."

"I'm very well satisfied with arrangements. I would like to have less responsibility and more help in making decisions."

"I tend to be a "generalist" in financial planning. Wish I could be a bit more exact in my planning and execution."

"I would like to have a plan as it is, at this age [83] I live in a state of confusion and mainly forget."

"Pay more attention to investments."

"Search for sources of better dividends and interest payments."

"I would like to buy a house or condominium."

"Increase tax shelters."

"Not to loan money to relatives."

"Probably try to put more in savings; I live very comfortable - travel a it, buy and satisfy my needs."

"Spend for planned large ticket items with a sense of comfort."

"Spend less!"

"Take fewer trips; Save more."

"Do away with limiting income between 62 and 70 that is imposed by government. Be allowed to earn as much as I'm able. Get my Masters with grant money work on research."

"Although I have established a workable living trust, my assets now exceed the \$600,000 limit to avoid probate and estate taxes. I make annual gifts of cash to my children and grand-children, but so far I have received no advice from tax experts to offer a satisfactory solution."

"When the IRS stops counting as income principal paid on sale of real estate (because of capital gains). My income taxes will be less. Farm land we bought in '47 for \$10,000 was sold in 1989 for \$80,000. In 2 years it will be paid off. I don't consider the amount paid on the principal as income, but principal to be re-invested!"

CHANGES TO OCCUR PRIOR TO RETIREMENT

"Study finance management."

"Learn more about financial management at an early age and keep informed about changes in the field as the years go by. I wish I had this opportunity in college instead of learning how to fix an iron or make a pie."

"I would have taken more courses in finance & planning."

"... I wish I had learned how to manage money, about stocks, bonds, mutual funds, insurance, etc. I wish I understood percentages in the relation to the cost of money. ... about all the different kinds of businesses and how they go about accumulating profit – the things necessary to conduct a successful business. ... about taxes and how to do my income tax."

"To have had a better understanding of stocks & bonds."

"Like to enjoy it more. Wish I'd had early training in book or record keeping and finance. Wish I'd taken more part in managing our personal finances before age 53 when separated."

"1. Save at an earlier age - even a little; 2. Invest in mutual funds; 3. Invest in real estate earlier; 4. Don't buy stock unless have time to study market; 5. Take chances in making money; 6. Budget well; 7. Enjoy money along - some people save then too late to enjoy."

"Save to buy an annuity or annuities earlier. Learn more about stocks and bonds investments."

"Saved more in early marriage and have it put in my name."

"To have been able to save more for retirement."

"I would have given more thought to it sooner. I would also have saved through stocks or bonds, or alternative savings."

"The same only start sooner with a good investment firm. I use Merrill Lynch."

"I would surely have shared the financial planning with my husband. I cannot believe we were so oblivious to what might happen. I want to become more organized in the future & am working toward those ends. Making educated decisions is very difficult."

"Wish I had invested in a home."

"Have more money deducted from paycheck in 401K plan."

"Plan more aggressively and with more knowledge and adequate help in investments."

"Pre-plan better."

"Satisfactory. Early planning – option insurance - Medicare would have given new brace every year - etc."

"Find a good health plan and a good "no load" [investment] fund."

"I wish I'd paid more attention to investing. The company my husband worked for had an excellent investment plan. Our money was invested in his company until his death."

"I would not make one investment that I made which did not do as well as expected."

"Invest in more real estate."

"Invest more wisely."

"Make better investment decisions."

"Might invest in property; got mobile home only few years ago as [place] to recreate, rest, etc. Less diversification of investments – too much bookkeeping!"

"Keep better records and keep them up to date."

"Keep closer check on how money is spent."

"More math."

"I've given away a little more than I can afford. Low interest rates cut my income."

"There isn't much more I can do since my whole life is or has been planned for me by my parents (both now deceased), also my sister, to have their inheritance for me to be doled out to me and upon my death unfairly I would say to my sister's son and her husband."

"1. Inflation and depression has made the big difference in my income; Life is always a challenge, thank goodness!"

WISHES AND HOPES FOR CHANGE

"Get more return on money I have."

"I wish interest rates were higher! I have one piece of real estate I'd like to sell."

"I would like more income. Inflation has eroded my buying power immensely."

"Receive higher interest from CD's."

"See interest rates on bonds go up."

"Since interest rates went down, income has declined. Even w/ bond mutual funds, my income is not what I'd hoped. That means I'll be working (p/t.) for longer than I'd planned. Perhaps that is a blessing in disguise."

"Wish interest rates would go up on investments. At 81 I'm delving into principal. I'm hoping it holds out."

"I am content with the choices that I have made. With greater finances I would travel more."

"I would like to have a part-time job that would provide for those extras...like a trip or to redecorate my house.. or to landscape my yard."

"If I had the money, I'd like to travel."

"Have a little more income for extras."

"Qualify for bigger retirement check."

"Need more."

"I'm loaning \$800 a month to a child and I hope that will end soon for his sake and mine."

"Just hope that nothing catastrophic happens to necessitate replanning. Having a financial adviser that I can trust, makes me comfortable with the use of my savings. I have loaned money to my children, but on a business like basis with interest income. Everything is written up to avoid problems."

"Pay less taxes about the same as always."

"Stay in my own home -- cheaper [since] it was paid for."

"I really do not like living alone. I have lots of friends that I enjoy -- still wish I had someone to live with."

"NO CHANGES "

"1. Bought life insurance; 2. Satisfied with money security."

"All is ok. I'd just like to know how to retire."

"At this moment nothing -- if there were more friends, I would help others as enjoyed doing most of time -- especially when others were living by 'skin of their teeth.' "

"At this point and time would not do anything differently."

"Can't think."

"Everything is ok."

"For the present I would make no changes."

"I can't think of anything."

"I don't know of anything I would do differently at this point. As far as I know, I am adequate financially. Besides Medicare, I have a custodial care policy, my funeral policy is in effect. It was for my husband, too. I need to update my will."

"I don't think I'd make any drastic changes."

"I feel very secure and comfortable with my plans."

"I just recently put my funds in the hands of a money manager. It's a little strange but I feel good about the change I can always change things if I want to."

"I'm doing fine now -- love life -- health is great - my mother still lives and I expect to drive around U.S. and see a lot more of our beautiful country. God has been gracious to me -- and I cannot disagree with any respect of my finances. " [age 75]

"I'm happy the way things are at present."

"I'm satisfied."

"No."

"No change."

"None."

"Not much, I am conservative and keep savings in bank rather than risk uninsured investments - Suits me!"

"Nothing -- I love my work and it pays well. I see my best earning years ahead. " [age 65]

"Nothing at the moment. It does take high amounts for taxes yearly. Insurance, health plan goes up."

"Nothing at this time."

"Nothing I can think of."

"Nothing! My management of my finances is not orthodox -- I watched several family members die at an early age and after "saving" for their old age. Some one else has had fun spending it. I'm doing the spending."

"Nothing, really. I am financially comfortable now. Our early years of marriage were difficult, but we managed to have our family and some happy times, as the economy improved."

"Nothing. Have set up a standby trust in event I become unable to continue managing my financial affairs."

"Nothing. However, I could have listened more carefully to my husband's wisdom on investing."

"Nothing. I found a financial advisor who now handles my portfolio."

"Nothing. Marrying a marvelous man is the secret."

"Once we had 3 in college one year. We took in 2 family seniors and one lived 5 years; [one] 27-1/2 years in our home. So we planned for our retirement."

"Presently I have a living trust and I am satisfied with its management."

"Reasonably satisfied."

"Satisfied the way things are."
