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Presentation title: Links between adult children's persistence or desistance and parents' provision of emotional and instrumental support

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Parental assistance is often required as young adults navigate uncertain paths to contemporary young adulthood. Less is known about whether adult children’s continued criminal involvement and accumulated criminal justice exposure affects parental resource transfers (i.e., instrumental and social support, co-residence). It is important to distinguish adult children who have desisted from the consistently prosocial. Further, different forms of assistance are affected by parental disapproval of children’s lifestyles and parents’ own incarceration history. The study used a life-course perspective and longitudinal data from the Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study (n=875, ages 22-29), and 33% had prior criminal justice contact. Preliminary analyses revealed that net of sociodemographic and other controls, children with prior criminal justice contact and those currently engaged in criminality received more extensive instrumental support. While parental disapproval was associated with greater instrumental support, parents’ incarceration was tied to lower levels of support. Receipt of parental social support was higher for adult children with justice contact and current criminality in bivariate, but not multivariable, regressions. Further, parental disapproval was associated with less social support. Although one-fourth of respondents co-reside with parents, co-residence was not statistically higher among those with justice contact or current criminal activity. Additional analyses will distinguish desisters from the continuously prosocial respondents. Our preliminary results suggest that the neediest adult children (i.e., persisters, those with criminal justice contact) receive more instrumental support, but that parental disapproval of their child’s lifestyle and their own justice background (incarceration history) are complicating factors. Results highlight the utility of a network perspective on desistance processes.