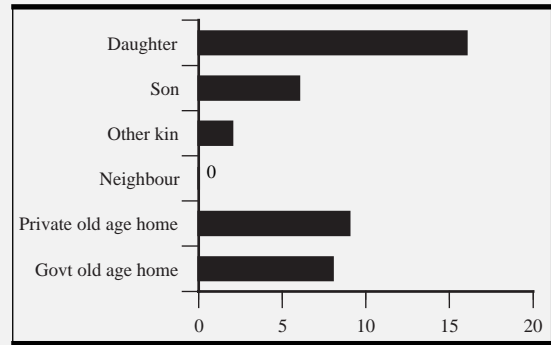


Caring for the aged

Who offers the best care for aged people who can no longer take care of themselves? We asked Australians to rate from 'best' to 'not suitable' a variety of carers for the elderly. Grown daughters were substantially the most widely endorsed carers, with about twice as many people choosing them as the next most popular option. Not all personal care is seen as best: both grown sons and 'other relatives' were less frequently endorsed than nursing homes. Many respondents felt that several forms of care were suitable, but nominated no single form as 'best'. Flexible policies would seem to be best suited to this diversity of preferences, but with

Best carer for the old (percent)



pride of place reserved for policies aiming to help daughters care for their elderly parents.

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