



**generations
united**[®]

Because we're stronger together[®]

But I am still young!
Why is Social
Security Important
to Me?

**Intergenerational Conflict
in the U.S.?p. 5**





● We formed Generations United to argue for a caring society.



Sewing the Social Compact



More than 6.5 million children receive Social Security as part of their family income



**More benefits to children than
any other federal program**



Types of Benefits for Children & Families



SURVIVORS BENEFIT

- ◉ Unmarried Children under 18
- ◉ Only life insurance for the majority of children in U.S.
- ◉ Protects 98 percent of children if they lose a parent



When she was a baby, Franni lost her father, a decorated WWII veteran in a car accident leaving her mother widowed with five kids

As soon as Franni's youngest sister started school her mom got a job working odd hours in a supermarket. Her paycheck, a small widow's benefit and survivors benefits from Social Security weren't always enough to keep the heat on during Maine winters but they did put food on the table.



When his father died unexpectedly from a heart attack, a 16 year old boy and his family were left to fend for themselves

“I did a lot of growing up pretty fast then... It gave me a pretty cold, quick lesson which was that life was short, so make the best of it.”



DISABILITY BENEFIT



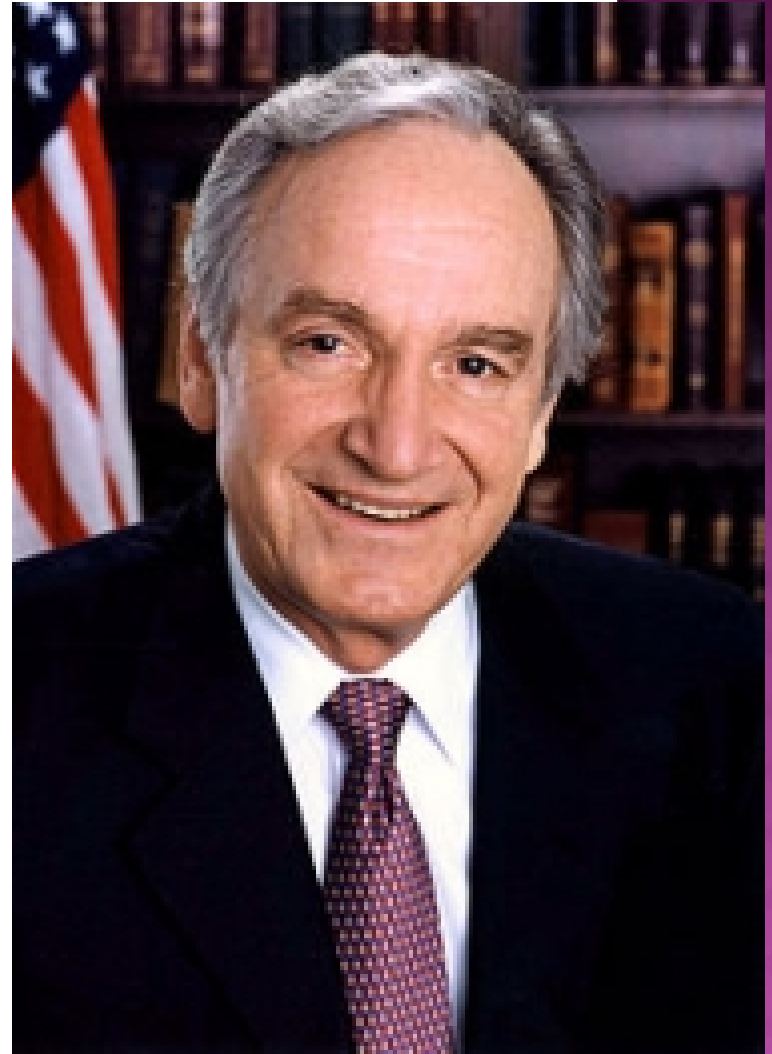
- For children of disabled workers
- Provides benefits equivalent to \$414,000 disability insurance
- Serves approximately 17 million children



I was in junior high...

Tom's Father worked in the Iowa coal mines until he saved enough money to buy a farm. After the Great Depression he lost the farm and his savings. His wife and mother of his children passed away. He was left with three kids under 18 and a broken body.

“If it had not have been for Social Security, I don't know what would have happened to my family. How would we have stayed together? It's the only income we had. It kept us together and in school.”



RETIREMENT BENEFIT

- ◉ Child retirement benefit available to dependent children in addition to retired parent or grandparent caregiver
- ◉ Nearly 350,000 children receive
- ◉ Important to Grandfamilies





About 7.8 million children across the country live in households headed by grandparents or other relatives

Even with Social Security benefits, 21 % of grandparent-headed families are poor.



Without Social Security benefits, the group's poverty rate would be 59 % or more.



George Arevalo





SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI)

- Children who are disabled and whose parents' income and resources fall below limit
- About 1.2 million blind and disabled children receive SSI





Strengthen Social Security:
Reinstate the Student Benefit

STUDENT BENEFIT

- ◉ 1965 Congress expanded eligibility for Social Security child benefits through age 22 for those enrolled in college
- ◉ Enabled thousands of young adults to complete higher education who would not have
- ◉ Two thirds of those receiving the benefit had incomes below poverty line
- ◉ Eliminated in 1981

Bill Libro's father died when he was 8 years old...



(Insert your picture here)

**What will Social Security
mean for you?**

GENERATIONS UNITED RESOURCES

- ◉ Visit www.gu.org
- ◉ Social Security: What's at Stake for Children, Youth and Grandfamilies (Profiles)
- ◉ Children and Families Have a Stake in Social Security
- ◉ Benefits of Social Security for Children
- ◉ Benefits of Social Security for Grandfamilies
- ◉ The Lost Social Security Benefit for Students

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ◉ Jaia Peterson Lent jlent@gu.org
- ◉ Generations This Week - sign up at www.gu.org
- ◉ Facebook: www.facebook.com/generationsunited
- ◉ Twitter: [@GensUnited](https://twitter.com/GensUnited)
- ◉ YouTube: www.youtube.com/GenerationsUnited

The logo for Generations United features the word "generations" in a bold, orange, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "united" is written in a bold, dark purple, sans-serif font. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located to the right of the word "united".

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