



# GOOD MORNING AMERICA

STORY SLUG: .....GOOD MORNING AMERICA

PRODUCER: ..... ABC NEWS

INTERVIEWERS: .....ROBIN ROBERTS, DIANE SAWYER

### INTERVIEWEES:

**ACTOR, ACTRESS, ADAM, JOHN AIELLO, ANNOUNCER, MAJOR GENERAL WAHEED ARSHAD, AUDIENCE, MATTHEW BARNES, JOHN BERMAN, TOM PARKER BOWLES, BRITNEY, SAM CHAMPION, SHERRI CHARRIN, CHEF, RICHARD CLARKE, CHRIS CUOMO, BRUCE CUTLER, FRANKIE, BIANNA GOLODRYGA, DAN HARRIS, ERIC HIRSHBERG, DOCTOR TIMOTHY JOHNSON, TORY JOHNSON, ISABELLE KALODNER, JACOB KALODNER, LINDA JACOBS KALODNER, KELLY, KATE MCCANN, KYLE MCCANN, MIKE MCCONNELL, IRMA MENEVE, MICHAEL, DAVID MUIR, PEDESTRIAN, GENERAL DAVID PETRAEUS, BONNIE POOLE, FREDERIC PRICE, READER, RELATIVE, MARIE ROMAN, GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS, JOHN STOSSEL, SYDNEY, COMMERCIAL VOICEOVER, MARY WALTON, NICK WATT, RAHIMULLAH YUSUFZAI, OPRAH WINFREY, DAVID LETTERMAN, JAY LENO**

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[STORY: TURNING POINTS]

[STORY2: WATCHING OVER AGING PARENTS]

[CORR: ROBIN ROBERTS/TORY JOHNSON]

[CORLOC: NEW YORK, NY USA]

[TOPIC: ]

[CONTENT: SHERRI CHARRIN, BONNIE POOLE, ELDER CARE]

[GRAPHICS: TURNING POINTS]

[1]08:15:47

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) And now to our series, "Turning Points." Working women have long balanced their job with taking care of the kids. But now, many are adding another ball to that juggling act, taking care of an aging parent. A recent ABC News poll found that 41% of Baby Boomers with a living parent are providing at least some care for them. And many are doing so while working a full-time job. Here's one woman's story.

[GRAPHICS: WATCHING OVER AGING PARENTS]

[GRAPHICS: BALANCING WORK AND ELDER CARE]

[1]08:16:11

**SHERRI CHARRIN (CARING FOR HER MOTHER)**

Can you hand me a bowl, Mom?

[1]08:16:14

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(VO) When Sherri Charrin realized her mother, Bonnie, could not take care of herself anymore, she knew exactly what she needed to do.

[1]08:16:21

**SHERRI CHARRIN (CARING FOR HER MOTHER)**

It wasn't a hard decision. She's the only mother that I have.

[1]08:16:25

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(VO) Sherri's relationship with her mother changed.

[1]08:16:28

**BONNIE POOLE (SHERRI'S MOTHER)**

At one time, I was the mother and she was the daughter. Now it seemed a reversal role. And it's, it's different.

[1]08:16:39

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(VO) Sherri placed her mother into an assisted living facility, but soon found out that caring for an elderly parent, even with help, requires lots of time.

[1]08:16:48

**SHERRI CHARRIN (CARING FOR HER MOTHER)**

It does match your eyes. She still has doctor's appointments, she has prescriptions. Her business affairs, making sure that her bills get paid. You got it?

**[1]08:16:59 BONNIE POOLE (SHERRI'S MOTHER)**

Mm-hmm.

**[1]08:17:00 ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(VO) Sherri had a great job with a large real estate company. But it required her to work up to 60 hours a week. She soon found it too difficult to juggle her job and care for her mother. So she quit.

**[1]08:17:13 SHERRI CHARRIN (CARING FOR HER MOTHER)**

We certainly don't do the same things that we were planning to do. But, you know, my parent's care just, it's got to come first.

**[1]08:17:22 ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(VO) Sherri now works part time from home. She has no company-sponsored health benefits, no paid time off, no 401k, but also no regrets.

**[1]08:17:32 SHERRI CHARRIN (CARING FOR HER MOTHER)**

I've gained time with my mother and learned things about her that I never knew. That she likes pink fingernail polish. I never knew that before. I will have moments to cherish like that and, hey, you can't put that in a 401k.

**[1]08:17:52 ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Nope, those moments are priceless. And for advice on how to juggle it all, we turn to "GMA" workplace contributor and CEO for Women for Hire, Tory Johnson. Every time we do anything on aging parents, our message board blows up because it's a concern for so many. And many can relate to Sherri's situation. And according to the AARP, the average unpaid caregiver is a 46-year-old woman working outside of the home. And you said you were impressed that Sherri was able to keep her job.

**[1]08:18:19 TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) So happy that she decided to stay in the work force. It required a change for her. She could no longer work 60 hours a week outside of the home. So she switched positions, which what she was doing and now works 30 hours, but she's kept her hand in the work force. And that's what I'm really impressed about. That she's able to juggle both things simultaneously.

**[1]08:18:34 ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Because it's so hard for many people to do that and they, they have to cut back. In fact - the AARP says the average unpaid caregiver cuts their hours by 41%...

**[1]08:18:43 TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) That's right.

**[1]08:18:43 ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) ...when caring for a parent. But you said there were specific benefits to continuing to work?

**[1]08:18:48 TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Trying to stick with it. Money is first and foremost.

**[1]08:18:50 ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Sure.

**[GRAPHICS: WHY CONTINUE TO WORK?]**

**[GRAPHICS: FOR NEEDED INCOME]**

**[1]08:18:50**

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Obviously, some income is better than no income at all. In addition to that, all the people that I talked to told me that the stimulation or distraction that work provides can be much needed relief.

**[GRAPHICS: FOR STIMULATION OR DISTRACTION]**

**[1]08:18:59**

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) To be able to talk to colleagues for a little part of your day as opposed to doctors and caregivers and insurance companies. That's been a welcome diversion in terms of how they spend their time.

**[GRAPHICS: AVOIDS GAPS IN EXPERIENCE]**

**[1]08:19:10**

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) In addition to that, staying employed avoids a big gap in experience in your resume. And that was something that Sherri was concerned about. And ultimately she's gonna have to go back to work full time. She's 52, by no means ready to retire, financially or emotionally or professionally.

**[1]08:19:24**

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Sure.

**[1]08:19:25**

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) And because she's maintained that network and has continued to work, it's gonna be easier to transition back full time than if she had left altogether.

**[1]08:19:30**

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Mm-hmm. It seems like Sherri's in a really good situation. And, you know, she was able to cut back, could afford to do that. But I don't have to tell you, there are a lot of people out there, Tory, who cannot. They have to work full time.

**[1]08:19:41**

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Absolutely.

**[1]08:19:41**

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) They need those types of benefits and, and such. So, what do they do when they, when they need that help for their parent as well a need to - keep working?

**[1]08:19:49**

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) First and foremost, talk to your employer.

**[GRAPHICS: TALK TO YOUR EMPLOYER]**

**[1]08:19:52**

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) There are 16 million people like you in the same situation. So, it's not a taboo topic, you're not alone. There's a woman I talked to last week who'd told me it was her 93-year-old mother's birthday. She wanted to leave work 30 minutes early to be able to stop and get her a treat on the way home. And I said, "Did you do it?" And she said, "No, I felt uncomfortable asking."

**[1]08:20:09**

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Mm-hmm.

[1]08:20:09

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) And I said, "You should ask." Oftentimes, we need that accommodation. She said, "Well, they deserve my eight hours." I said, "Give them eight hours the next day." Come in a day before, you know, give them that extra 30 minutes at a different time. Don't be afraid to talk to your employer.

[1]08:20:23

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Mm-hmm.

[1]08:20:23

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Sometimes in the absence of formal benefits, you have to make your own informal benefits in these special accommodations. And most employers are willing to give it if you'll talk to them.

[1]08:20:31

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Sure.

[1]08:20:32

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) And there are also some really great, just resources that are available. There are a few that we listed on the "GMA" website.

**[GRAPHICS: SEEK COMMUNITY RESOURCES]**

[1]08:20:37

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) One that I love is called A Place for Mom. They provide services for dads, too, but it's a free national referral service that anyone can call up and say, "I need help navigating the process. I need help."

[1]08:20:48

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Mm-hmm.

[1]08:20:49

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) And that benefit actually mirrors what employers are providing. So, even if you don't have it through your employer, you can have access free through this particular service.

[1]08:20:57

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) It's just good – great service. Another thing that's so great about when we do these stories are viewers. They share information with one another...

[1]08:21:02

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) I love that.

[1]08:21:02

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) ...on different - different services that are out there. And what they love also, your new show on ABC News Now...

[1]08:21:06

**TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) Oh, it's a lot of fun.

[1]08:21:08

**ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**

(OC) ..."Home Work."

**[GRAPHICS: HOME WORK]**

**[1]08:21:10** **TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**  
(OC) "Home Work."

**[1]08:21:10** **ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**  
(OC) You really talk about how to balance home and work.

**[1]08:21:13** **TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**  
(VO) We're having fun.

**[1]08:21:14** **ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**  
(OC) All right. Tory, thanks so much.

**[1]08:21:15** **TORY JOHNSON (ABC NEWS)**  
(OC) Thank you.

**[1]08:21:15** **ROBIN ROBERTS (ABC NEWS)**  
(OC) We'll be right back.

**[1]08:21:18** **SAM CHAMPION (ABC NEWS)**  
(VO) "Good Morning America's" "Turning Points" is brought to you by...