

Intercountry Adoption In Ireland for Adoptive Parents and those in the Childcare services

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Abstract

This is a study of intercountry adoption in Ireland through a qualitative approach. The aim of this thesis is to present an overview of intercountry adoption for parents and those in the childcare services. Six interviews with adoptive parents have taken place. This study will show that intercountry adoption is a positive option for institutionalised children and that prolonged institutionalisation results in emotional and physical deprivation. Thematic analysis is method that will be applied to this study.



Introduction

According to the Health service executive website, intercountry adoption is when a child born outside of Ireland is adopted and brought back into Ireland. Intercountry adoption was not a feature of Irish society until the 1990's. The main focus of this study is to provide a background information for those considering intercountry adoption and those in the childcare services. Qualitative design will be used to demonstrate peoples viewpoints and personal experiences.

Method

For this project Nvivo 9 was used, data analysis software for organised codes. In qualitative research, descriptions of feelings, opinions and thoughts are identified and coded.



Design

Qualitative research was used for this thesis. It is used to study peoples thoughts and perceptions. Interviews allow for people to discuss their experiences in relation to questions asked by the researcher in the form of conversation or a simple answer. Variables were not used in this study. Interpretive validity was used as the information received was considered to be accurate.



Sampling

The type of sampling used was purposive sampling, as the participants were chosen to suit a certain criteria. The type of sampling was non-random.



Materials

Interviews were conducted to obtain a clear view on the opinions of the participants. Semi- Structured interviews were used. There were a total of 6 interviews completed. The apparatus used was a sound recording device.

Results

A total of 6 themes were used in describing the results of the interviews as they remained constant throughout the data. These themes were: Opinions on the adoption process, time frame, assistance and support, views on state agencies, intercountry adoption: the parents views and financial factors.

Discussion

A qualitative approach using thematic analysis was used to interpret these results. The aim of this research study has been to show the positive outcome of intercountry adoption in Ireland. From the interviews it can be seen that the outcome for the children who were adopted into Irish families has been positive. The evidence from the families in this study has been that their children have embraced their new nationality without any feeling of loss for their original culture. At the outset of this study, it was stated that institutionalisation is damaging to children. The life of the institutionalised child is very clearly illustrated throughout this study through documentaries such as 'Ceausescu's Children', (Chris Rogers 1990) and 'The Dying Rooms' (Blewett, K. & Woods, B. (1995) and other research.

References

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