

Perceptions of Indian Residents Towards Factors Influencing Adoption in India

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Abstract

The aim of this research study was to identify and examine Indian residents' perceptions towards the factors influencing adoption decisions. A survey was formulated after research regarding the most important factors that generally influence people who aim to adopt and it was responded to by 144 respondents (out of which 110 were female, 33 were male and one person was non-binary; 104 respondents were married and 40 were not married; the age range was 14- 78, and all were Indian residents) who rated the importance several factors influencing adoption such as age, medical/emotional need, birth origin of the child and financial stability of the parent(s), ability to care for the child, the parents marital status etc. The study showed that the most important factor to people was the adoptive parents' ability to care for the child and a person's partner's willingness to adopt. The study also showed that having a biological relationship with the child has a 4% influence on a person's willingness to adopt a child. This implies that having a biological relationship with the child can influence up to 4% whether a person will adopt that child or not.

Keywords: adoption, adoption in India, orphans, factors influencing adoption, Indian residents and child care.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The world has a serious orphan crisis: there were nearly 140 million orphans globally in 2015, including 61 million in Asia (India Today, 2021). India is no different: despite there being 31 million orphans (Nar, 2020) who made up 4% of India's population in 2019-2020 (Kalra, 2018), only 3,351 children (CARA, n. d.) were adopted within India. So what could be contributing to this phenomenon?

One of the most commonly cited answers to infertility is adoption. Infertility treatments are very expensive and time consuming and have a low success rate which is around 20-40% (Yassini et al., 2012). Thus adoption is considered the best alternative to infertility treatment for couples who want to raise a child but cannot biologically reproduce .

This reinforces the point above that people would only resort to adoption when they are not able to have biological children. Most couples only adopt if they are suffering from infertility in India (Joshi et al., 2015).

The reason why infertility would be the chief motivating force is the significant importance placed on biological parenting, as indicated by a study titled "Perceived Barriers of Child Adoption: A Qualitative Study among Women with Infertility in Northern Ghana" in 2019. In this study involving 200 parents in Ghana, it was found that there are many barriers influencing adoption decisions but the greatest one is the importance placed on biological parenting. This need parents feel toward being biologically related to their child stems from cultural and religious background. It should be noted that women who struggle with infertility depend a lot on their husbands and families when it comes to adoption decisions (Nachinab et al., 2019). Therefore the final say of if adoption is a viable option in the face of infertility is often given by men, their family members and religious community leaders.

There is not much published research regarding why the adoption rate is so low in india. There only 470,000 children are in institutionalised care (Kalra, 2018). Only 41% of births are registered in India (Nar, 2020). A lot of these children who are not institutionalized or adopted live alone on the streets or beg for a living. Some sources say that this is the reason for the low adoption rate. India has been battling social inequality, lack of universal healthcare and poverty for several years which also leads to the high number of orphans(Nar, 2020). As a comparison, the USA has 443,000 foster children and more than 123,000 of those kids are being considered for adoption (Adoption.com, 2021). Essentially, they have been recorded within the system. This means that despite having a similar number of institutionalised/ foster care children, adoption is more uncommon in India than countries like the USA.

There is also a lot of stigma surrounding adoption in India. Family preservation and having a biological relationship with your child is important for most Indian families (Kapoor, 2019). The class and caste system also add to this as sometimes people view orphans from a different socio-economic background poorly.

There has not been much research done on what factors are important according to people while adopting and there has not been much research on what factors Indian people consider most important when adopting and how that affects their willingness to adopt.

Within the context of this research study adoption is defined as and an orphan is defined as a child who has been abandoned or has lost both parents. (SOS Children's Village, n.d.) Adoption will be defined as the act of legally taking a child to be taken care of as your own within this study. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.)

II. METHODOLOGY

Research Aim and Research Approach

The aim of the research study was to identify and examine Indian residents' perceptions towards the factors influencing adoption decisions in India through a mixed method approach. First, under the quantitative approach, the respondents were asked to rate factors that would influence adoption decisions in general on a scale of 1-10, "1" being the least important and "10" being the most important. The respondents were then asked two open ended questions (see the questionnaire, Appendix)

The relevant factors have been identified as follows, based on an exhaustive review of literature:

- **Biological relationship with the child:** the importance of having a biological relationship with the adoptive child.
- **Financial stability:** a stable financial situation of the adoptive parents while considering adoption
- **Societal judgements:** perception towards adoption and judgement by the parents community, friends, and family.
- **Adoptive parents ability to care for the child:** the ability of the adoptive parents to care for the child emotionally, financially, and medically.
- **Being married:** the importance of the parent(s) being legally married when considering adoption
- **A person's partner's willingness to adopt:** the willingness of a person's partner/spouse to adopt.
- **Biological origins of the child:** the biological background of the child such as their birth family, family history, initial years of the child
- **Child's age:** the age of the adoptive child at the time of the adoption
- **Potential medical/emotional needs of the child:** the existing medical and emotional needs a child might have at the time of adoption such as trauma therapy, disability, existing illness etc.

Hypothesis

1a. **Null hypothesis:** There are no differences between the mean ratings of the importance of factors that influence adoption.

1b. **Alternative hypothesis:** There are differences between the mean ratings of the importance of factors that influence adoption.

Moreover, the respondents were also asked about their willingness to adopt.

2a. **Null hypothesis:** The self-reported ratings have no effect on the willingness to adopt.

2b. **Alternative hypothesis:** The self-reported ratings have an effect on the willingness to adopt.

Under the qualitative approach, open-ended questions were also asked to elicit the respondents' explanations of their ratings.

Consent and Ethical Issues

Informed consent was taken from all participants for data collection. Confidentiality and privacy of the respondents were maintained; no data would be disclosed to a third party. No identifiers such as name or pictures were disclosed in the article or while conducting the study. Ethical guidelines of research were followed.

Sample

The respondents were all middle to upper class Indian Residents, of all ages and genders.

Data collection

A survey was formulated after research regarding the most important factors that generally influence people who aim to adopt. The survey was sent out to respondents selected randomly who live in India. The survey was on a google form and sent out through social media platforms i.e. Instagram, WhatsApp, email etc.

The importance of factors such as age, medical/emotional need, birth origin of the child and financial stability of the parent(s), ability to care for the child, the parents marital status etc. were rated by the respondents.

Data Analysis

Descriptive statistics were used to present the differences between the mean ratings of the influencing factors. A one-way ANOVA was run to determine the statistical significance. A multiple regression analysis was also conducted to identify the factors that have an impact on the respondents' willingness to adopt and the extent of the impact. Finally, the qualitative analysis of the data would be done to enrich the analysis and supplement the quantitative data.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this section, all the relevant results from the statistical and qualitative analyses, as outlined in the "Description of the Research Study", are presented and discussed. The respondents gave background information of the following: 1) age; 2) ethnicity; 3) gender identity; 4) marital status; 5) number of biological children, and 6) number of adoptive children. Furthermore, they were also asked to rate the relative importance of the variables identified: 1) biological relationship with the child; 2) financial stability; 3) societal judgements; 4) adoptive parents' ability to care for the child; 5) being married; 6) a person's partner's willingness to adopt; 7) biological origins of the child; 8) child's age; and 9) potential emotional/medical needs of the child. They were also asked to rate their current willingness to adopt. Finally, in terms of the open-ended data, they were also asked to elaborate on any of the above ratings.

Comparison of the Factors Influencing Adoption Decision

Descriptive statistics show that, according to the respondents' ratings, the ability of the adoptive parents to care for the child ($M= 9.62$, $SD= 0.85$) is most important, followed by the partner's willingness to adopt ($M= 9.20$, $SD=1.30$); potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child ($M= 8.93$, $SD= 1.90$); financial stability ($M= 8.24$, $SD= 2.18$); child's age ($M= 5.26$, $SD= 2.78$); biological relationship ($M= 4.60$, $SD= 3.31$); being married ($M= 4.30$, $SD= 2.75$); biological origins of child ($M= 3.69$, $SD=2.72$); and lastly, societal judgements ($M= 2.67$, $SD= 2.24$). (see Table 1, Appendix)

To determine the statistical significance of the mean differences, a one-way ANOVA was run. The one-way ANOVA for the factors influencing adoption shows that the differences between the mean ratings of the level of importance of the nine factors are statistically significant: $F(8, 1287) = 190.27$ (higher than the F critical value of 1.95), $p < .01$ (see Table 2, Appendix).

Of particular significance is the fact that the mean ratings of the importance of adoptive parents' ability to care for the child (9.62) and a person's partner's willingness to adopt (9.20) are the highest. Therefore, one can see how the pragmatic concerns of being able to take on the responsibility to care for the child are uppermost in the mind of the respondents. This is reflected in the statement of the following respondent who considers the ability to care for the child in an all-encompassing way, i.e., covering multiple areas:

One should adopt when one is in the right space on the above. If I do not have the means, physical, mental, emotional and financial to support a child, then I should not consider, since I will be doing injustice to the child.

The fact that the second-highest factor is the partner's willingness to adopt is unsurprising, as the two factors both play a part in addressing the ability to care for a child. After all, if a partner is not willing to adopt, the couple's ability to undergo the entire adoption process and beyond would be undermined. They may be more sceptical of things like adoption fees, the birth parents' intentions, and the entire process of the adoption itself. It is said that the couple should only adopt a child when both people in a couple are ready and committed. Otherwise, this would create an unhealthy dynamic in the household due to a tense household environment (American Adoptions, 2021). Qualitative responses from the respondents indicated similar ideas:

Partner's choice is essential, as is the case in any parenting. Both partners need to be involved and committed as it's a huge responsibility being a parent.

Both partners' agreement is important [for] adopt[ing] a child.

Partner/Spouse' willingness will be important for the overall well-being of their child. After all, the child's happiness and overall well-being is important.

Partner's willingness is very important, because the child should always feel welcomed, so that it becomes natural to become family.

In stark contrast, the mean rating of societal judgements is not only the lowest among all the factors, but also extremely low at 2.67 out of 10. This finding is rather unusual because a lot of social stigma is caused by the importance placed on biology and lineage in India due to tradition (Kalra, 2018). For instance, in “A Study of Knowledge and Attitude Towards Adoption Amongst Infertile Couples” by Joshi et al. (2015), 60% of the respondents stated that natural parenthood is superior to adoptive parenthood. Therefore, the disparity of the findings of Joshi et al. (2015) study and this study could suggest a change in the stigma associated with adoptive parenting over the past few years. In fact, only one respondent in the survey of this research study commented about this factor: “It’s important to be prepared for the social stigma and be open to communication.”

Furthermore, the distribution of the respondents’ ratings on each of the importance of the nine factors influencing adoption was further examined and compared (see Figures 1–9, appendix). The distribution of the ratings confirms the perceived importance of the adoptive parents’ ability to care for the child and the partners’ willingness to adopt for the adoption decision. Approximately 97.9% and 91% of the respondents rated these two factors “8” and above in influencing their adoption decision, respectively. What is also of note is that the potential medical/emotional needs of the child and financial stability were also considered important, with 88.2% and 84% of the respondents rating them “7” or above. Their importance was also shown through the descriptive statistics with potential medical/emotional needs of the child being rated with a mean importance of 8.93 (this ranked 3rd most important in the descriptive statistics) and financial stability being rated with a mean importance of 8.24 (this ranked 4th most important in the descriptive statistics). This thus suggests that the most important factors in influencing a person’s willingness to adopt are related to finances.

This means that a majority of the respondents consider financial stability to be important when considering adoption. The respondents’ open-ended responses also echo this concern:

I feel financial stability is very important, so that if one adopted a child, one could take care of the child in a proper manner and provide the child with the best one’s resources can.

Financial stability is important to enable education and future of the child.

Financial stability is definitely an important factor to consider, as adoption agencies in India place a strong emphasis on this. In their investigation of the applicants’ backgrounds, they have to ensure that the parent(s) have a stable job, sufficient income, work experience, and also they need to have 5-10 lakhs set aside in liquid instruments in case of any emergency or additional need of the child (Mathur, 2010). This may also be another reason adoption rates are so low in India, as 91% of the adult population in India had wealth below \$10,000 (approximately 7.45 lakh rupees) as of 2018 (Jefferies, 2018). Thus lack of financial resources can also be another barrier to adoption for potential adoptive parents.

Next, a more focused analysis was conducted by dividing the sample into the following categories, based on three demographic factors: age, gender, and marital status. Respondents were split into two groups for each demographic based on their age, gender, and marital status. Results for the descriptive statistics and a one-way ANOVA were presented and discussed in the following sections.

Age

A more detailed analysis was conducted with data from the respondents aged between 20 and 55, as they fell within the age range whereby people in India were allowed to adopt. The sample was split into two age categories—20–37 and 38–55—to determine whether the ages of the respondents affected the relative importance of the factors that influenced their decision to adopt. These two groups were compared.

For people aged 20–37, the mean age of the respondents is 29.11 ($SD= 6.25$).

As show in Table 3 (Appendix), the ability of the adoptive parents to care for the child is rate the most important ($M= 9.89$, $SD= 0.32$), followed by potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child ($M= 9.47$, $SD= 1.02$); financial stability ($M= 9.26$, $SD= 0.99$); person's partner's willingness to adopt ($M= 9.00$, $SD=1.45$); biological relationship with the child ($M= 5.47$, $SD= 6.25$); child's age ($M= 5.26$, $SD= 2.66$); being married ($M= 4.53$, $SD= 3.13$); biological origins of the child ($M= 4.47$, $SD=2.72$); and lastly, societal judgements ($M= 3.42$, $SD= 2.78$). The mean current willingness to adopt is 4.84 ($SD= 3.37$).

To determine the statistical significance of the mean differences, a one-way ANOVA was run. The one-way ANOVA for factors influencing adoption, as presented in Table 4 (Appendix), shows that the differences

between the mean ratings of the level of importance of the 9 factors are statistically significant: $F(8, 162) = 25.25$ (higher than the F critical value of 2.00), $p < .01$.

For people aged 38–55, the mean age of the respondents is 45.59 ($SD = 4.56$).

As shown in Table 5 (Appendix), among this group, the ability of the adoptive parents to care for the child is most important ($M = 9.57$, $SD = 0.95$), followed by a person's partner's willingness to adopt ($M = 9.16$, $SD = 1.32$), potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child ($M = 8.74$, $SD = 2.15$), financial stability ($M = 8.04$, $SD = 2.38$), child's age ($M = 5.45$, $SD = 2.76$), biological relationship with the child ($M = 4.34$, $SD = 3.28$), being married ($M = 4.17$, $SD = 2.67$), biological origins of the child ($M = 3.63$, $SD = 2.84$) and lastly societal judgements ($M = 2.39$, $SD = 2.04$). The mean current willingness to adopt is 4.83 ($SD = 3.23$).

To determine the statistical significance of the mean differences, a one-way ANOVA was run. The one-way ANOVA for factors influencing adoption, as presented in Table 6 (Appendix), shows that the differences between the mean ratings of the level of importance of the 9 factors are statistically significant: $F(8, 855) = 126.26$ (higher than the F critical value of 1.95), $p < .01$ (see Table 6, Appendix).

From the presentation of the results above, it is noticeable that the top factors with mean ratings of “8” and above are related to the pragmatic capabilities of caring for a child, rather than psychological and social concerns about the biological origins/relationship of the child and societal judgements, for both age ranges. More specifically, the adoptive parents’ ability to care for the child is the most important, while the societal judgements is least important, for both age categories eligible to adopt. However, there are some distinctions. In general, the mean ratings provided the respondents aged 20–37, whether they pertain to the adoptive parents’ ability to care for the child (9.89) or societal judgements (3.42), are higher than both the overall sample (9.62 and 2.67) and the respondents aged 38–55 (9.57 and 2.39).

Nonetheless, it is interesting to point out that respondents in both age ranges gave more or less the same average willingness to adopt with only a 0.01 difference (4.84 for those aged 20–37 vs. 4.83 for those aged 38–55). The congruence of these two sets of ratings would thus suggest that the respondents weighed the responsibility of adopting a child with similar levels of seriousness.

In addition, both of these scores are also lower than a mean willingness to adopt of 4.97. As the overall sample includes respondents who are not within the age group to currently adopt—below 20 and above 55, this may be the case of respondents who are not actively acknowledging significance of the responsibilities in their responses to the surveys. Therefore, the splitting of the sample could thus have provided a more accurate representation of the landscape of adoption in India. This may mean that people who are younger are not aware of the responsibilities and effort it takes a child as compared to the older group.

Gender

The respondents were split into two groups based on their gender identity, female and male. These two groups were then compared.

For respondents who identified as female, the mean age of the respondents is 42.57 ($SD = 11.68$). As shown in Table 7 (Appendix), among this group, the ability of the adoptive parents to care for the child was rated as most important ($M = 9.63$, $SD = 0.91$), followed by a person’s partners willingness to adopt ($M = 9.02$, $SD = 1.40$); potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child ($M = 8.95$, $SD = 1.83$); financial stability ($M = 8.27$, $SD = 3.40$); child's age ($M = 4.97$, $SD = 2.81$); biological relationship with the child ($M = 4.86$, $SD = 3.40$); biological origins of the child ($M = 3.88$, $SD = 2.76$); being married ($M = 3.97$, $SD = 2.69$); and lastly, societal judgements ($M = 2.45$, $SD = 1.94$). The mean current willingness to adopt is 5.22 ($SD = 3.35$).

To determine the statistical significance of the mean differences, a one-way ANOVA was run. The one-way ANOVA for factors influencing adoption shows that the differences between the mean ratings of the level of importance of the 9 factors are statistically significant for females: $F(8, 981) = 149.04$ (higher than the F critical value of 1.975, $p < .01$ (see Table 8, Appendix).

For people who identified as male, the mean age of the respondents was 38.03 ($SD = 14.63$). As show in Table 9 (Appendix), among this group, a person’s partner’s willingness to adopt ($M = 9.79$, $SD = 0.60$) is most important followed by the ability of the adoptive parents to care for the child ($M = 9.58$, $SD = 0.66$); potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child ($M = 8.82$, $SD = 2.14$); financial stability ($M = 8.12$, $SD = 2.12$); child's age ($M = 6.18$, $SD = 2.52$); being married ($M = 5.36$, $SD = 2.76$); biological relationship with the child ($M =$

3.82, $SD= 2.88$); societal judgements ($M= 3.42$, $SD= 2.97$); and lastly, biological origins of the child ($M= 3.06$, $SD=2.59$). The mean current willingness to adopt is 4.24 ($SD= 3.35$).

To determine the statistical significance of the mean differences, a one-way ANOVA was run. The one-way ANOVA for factors influencing adoption shows that the differences between the mean ratings of the level of importance of the 9 factors are statistically significant for males: $F(8, 288) = 45.33$ (higher than the F critical value of 1.97), $p < .01$ (see Table 10, Appendix).

- While female respondents rated the adoptive parents' ability to care for the child ($M= 9.63$ $SD= 0.91$) as the most important factor, their male counterparts considered the partner's willingness to adopt ($M= 9.79$, $SD= 0.60$) to be the most important.
- The female respondents' current willingness ($M=5.22$, $SD= 3.35$) is higher than that of the males ($M=4.24$, $SD= 3.35$), with a disparity of 0.98.

The implications of the disparities identified shows that it is the females within a couple relationship who are driving the adoption decision. This could mean that adoption agencies should target women rather than men in India as they would be more willing to adopt currently. This is in contrast to the U.S., where men are twice as likely to adopt than women, according to the CDC (DeeNoon, 2008).

Marital Status

Next, the respondents were divided by marital status: married (currently married) and unmarried (e.g., never been married, divorced, or separated).

The mean age of the married respondents is 46.27 ($SD= 7.28$).As show in Table 11 (Appendix), among this group, the ability of the adoptive parents to care for the child is most important ($M= 9.61$ $SD= 0.90$), followed by a person's partner's willingness to adopt ($M= 9.12$ $SD= 1.32$); potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child ($M= 8.93$, $SD= 1.94$); financial stability ($M= 8.17$, $SD= 2.27$); child's age ($M= 5.42$, $SD= 2.89$); biological relationship with the child ($M= 4.51$, $SD= 3.36$); being married ($M= 4.25$, $SD= 2.73$); biological origins of the child ($M= 3.67$, $SD=2.84$); and lastly, societal judgements ($M= 2.55$, $SD= 2.19$). The mean current willingness to adopt is 4.94 ($SD= 3.35$).

To determine the statistical significance of the mean differences, a one-way ANOVA was run. The one-way ANOVA for factors influencing adoption shows that the differences between the mean ratings of the level of importance of the nine factors are statistically significant for married people: $F(8, 927) = 133.03$ (higher than the F critical value of 1.95, $p < .01$ (see Table 12, Appendix).

The mean age of the respondents who are not married is 29.38 ($SD= 14.84$).Descriptive statistics show that the ability of the adoptive parents to care for the child is the most important ($M= 9.65$, $SD= 0.74$), followed by a person's partners willingness to adopt ($M= 9.43$, $SD= 1.24$); potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child ($M= 8.93$, $SD= 1.82$); financial stability ($M= 8.43$, $SD= 1.97$); child's age ($M= 4.85$, $SD= 2.46$); biological relationship with the child ($M= 4.83$, $SD= 3.19$); being married ($M= 4.43$, $SD= 2.85$); biological origins of the child ($M= 3.73$, $SD=2.42$); and lastly societal judgements ($M= 2.98$, $SD= 2.38$). The mean current willingness to adopt is 5.05 ($SD= 3.44$). (see Table 13, Appendix).

To determine the statistical significance of the mean differences, a one-way ANOVA was run. The one-way ANOVA for factors influencing adoption shows that the differences between the mean ratings of the level of importance of the 9 factors are statistically significant for unmarried people: $F(8, 351) = 57.65$ (higher than the F critical value of 1.96), $p < .01$ (see Table 14, Appendix).

From this we can see that both married unmarried people see the most important factor while considering adoption to be the adoptive parents ability to care for the child. The least important factor for both married and unmarried people is societal judgements.

For married people the mean rating of the highest rated factor, the adoptive parents ability to care for the child is 9.61, while for unmarried people it is 9.65. The overall groups mean rating for the importance of the adoptive parents ability to care for the child is 9.62. Thus unmarried people have rated it the highest as compared to married people and the overall group.

For married people the importance of societal judgements was rated at a mean of 2.55, while for unmarried people it has a mean rating of 2.98, while the overall group's mean rating is 2.67. Thus societal judgements are least important to married people. This could be related to the fact that married couples may face less judgement for adopting a child.

The current willingness to adopt for married people ($M=4.94$, $SD= 3.35$) is lower than unmarried people ($M=5.05$, $SD= 3.44$). This implies that currently unmarried people are more willing to adopt than married people.

A multiple regression analysis was conducted to predict the effects of the respondents' background characteristics and their ratings of the importance of the factors in influencing their adoption decision on their likelihood of adoption. Of the 12 factors, only the biological relationship with the child was found to be statistically significant and associated with the respondents willingness to adopt: $b = 0.34$, $t(131) = 2.01$ (higher than the t critical value of 1.98), $p = .047$. (see Table 15, Appendix).

The regression analysis was done again, with biological relationship with the child as the only independent variable. The predictive effect of biological relationship with the child was confirmed. $b = 0.21$, $t(142) = 2.57$ (higher than critical value of 1.97681099), $R^2 = 0.04$, $F(1, 142) = 6.59$, $p = 3.2567E-14$ (see Table 16, Appendix). Since biological relationship with the child only accounts for 4% of the decision to adopt there are clearly other factors affecting adoption that need to be identified.

The linear equation for calculating a person's willingness to adopt:

Willingness to adopt= $3.99 + 0.21 * (\text{rating of the importance of biological relationship with the child})$.

Now a more in-depth analysis will be done based on three demographic parameters: age groups, gender, and marital status.

Age

The respondents currently eligible by age to adopt in India were divided into two age ranges: 20–37 and 38–55 age ranges.

A multiple regression analysis was conducted to predict the effects of the ratings of the factors based on their importance regarding their adoption decision as well as some background information on their likelihood of adoption. Of the 10 factors none were found to be statistically significant for the 20–37 age group. (see Table 17, Appendix).

A multiple regression analysis was conducted to predict the effects of the respondents' (from ages 38- 55) ratings of the factors they consider most important regarding adoption as well as some background information on their likelihood of adoption. Within this group, the following factors were found to be statistically significant : Age, $b = -0.15$, $t(85) = -2.10$ (higher than t critical value of 1.98826791) , $p = .04$; societal judgements, $b = 0.45$, $t(85) = 2.62$ (higher than t critical value of 1.98826791), $p = .01$; Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child , $b = -0.88$, $t(85) = -2.19$ (higher than t critical value of 1.98826791), $p = .03$ (see Table 18, Appendix).

A limited regression was conducted again, using only the factors of age, societal judgements, and the adoptive parent's ability to care for the child to predict their effect on the willingness to adopt for people aged 38 to 55.

Age and societal judgements were statistically significant in the second regression as well (see Table 19, Appendix): age, $b = -0.16$, $t(92) = -2.24$ (higher than critical value of 1.9860863), $R^2 = 0.15$, $F(3, 92) = 5.29$, $p = 0.03$; societal judgements , $b = 0.45$, $t(92) = 2.87$ (higher than critical value of 1.98608632), $R^2 = 0.15$, $F(3, 92) = 5.29$, $p = 0.01$.

The adoptive parents ability to care for the child however is not statistically significant, as the p value of .08 exceeds .05.

The following linear equation provides an association between age, societal judgements and a person (from 38 to 55 years) willingness to adopt:

Willingness to adopt = $0.45 * (\text{rating on importance of societal judgements}) - 0.16 * (\text{Age}) + 16.74$.

Gender

The respondents were split up into two groups according to the gender they identify as: male or female.

Female

A multiple regression analysis was conducted to predict the effects of the female respondents' ratings of the factors they consider most important regarding adoption as well as some background information on their likelihood of adoption. Within this group, the following factors were found to be statistically significant: being married, $b = 0.40$, $t(99) = 2.70$ (higher than t critical value of 1.98421695), $p = .0008$; , $b = -0.27$, $t(99) = -1.9886675$ (higher than t critical value of 1.98421695), $p = .049$ (see table 20, Appendix).

A limited regression was conducted again by using only the factors of being married and biological origins of the child to predict their effect on the willingness to adopt for females

Being married was statistically significant in the second regression as well: $b = 0.46$, $t(107) = 3.79$ (higher than critical value of 1.98238337), $R^2 = 0.12$, $F(2, 107) = 7.20$, $p = 0.00025223$ (see Table 21, Appendix).

However, biological origins of the child was not found to be statistically significant: the p value of .11 exceeds .05.

The following linear equation provides an association between being married and a female person's willingness to adopt:

Willingness to adopt = 0.46^* (rating on importance of being married) + 4.14.

Male

A multiple regression analysis was conducted to predict the effects of the male respondents' ratings of the importance of the factors they considered to influence their adoption decision. regarding adoption as well as some background information on their likelihood of adoption. Of the 10 factors, none was found to be statistically significant. (see table 22, Appendix).

Marital Status

The respondents were separated into two groups according to their marital status: married and unmarried.

Married

A multiple regression analysis was conducted to predict the effects of the married respondents' ratings of the factors they consider most important regarding adoption as well as some background information on their likelihood of adoption. Within this group, the following factors were found to be statistically significant :biological relationship with the child, $b = 0.27$, $t(93) = 2.14$ (higher than t critical value of 1.98580181), $p = .04$; biological origins of the child, $b = -0.34$, $t(93) = -2.44$ (higher than t critical value of 1.98580181), $p = .02$. (see table 23, Appendix).

A regression was conducted again by using only the factors of biological relation with the child and biological origins of the child to predict their effect on the willingness to adopt for married people

Biological relationship with the child was statistically significant in the second regression: $b = 0.27$, $t(101) = 2.50$ (higher than t critical value of 1.983731), $R^2 = 0.07$, $F(2, 101) = 3.51$, $p = 0.01401716$ (see Table 24, Appendix).

Biological origins of the child was not found to be statistically significant as the p value of 0.05352967 exceeds that of alpha of 0.05

The following linear equation provides an association between the rating of importance of biological relationship with a child and a married persons willingness to adopt:

Willingness to adopt = 0.27^* (rating on importance of biological relationship with the child) + 4.64.

Unmarried

A multiple regression analysis was conducted to predict the effects of the unmarried respondents' ratings of the factors they consider most important regarding adoption as well as some background information on their likelihood of adoption. Of the 10 factors, none was found to be statistically significant. (see Table 25, Appendix).

IV. CONCLUSION

This research study aimed to evaluate the importance of factors that influence adoption decisions as per the ratings of Indian residents. Based on the results, every null hypothesis is rejected.

The most important factors according to Indian residents influencing adoption are the ability of the adoptive parents to care for the child and a person's partner's willingness to adopt. Conversely, the least important factors to the respondents were biological origins of child and societal judgements towards adoption.

These findings can help adoption agencies in India increase adoption by focusing on the relevant factors outlined below.

· **Indian residents as a whole:** Overall, the results illustrate that the adoptive parents to care for the child and a person's partner's willingness to adopt are the most critical factors that Indian residents consider while thinking of adoption.

1. **Adoption agencies looking to find homes for more children can help ensure parents are able to care for potential adoptive children:** Since it was found that Indian residents are concerned about the adoptive parents' ability to care for their child before they decide to adopt, adoption agencies can help prepare parents. This may imply holding classes about parenting, ensuring that parents know financial responsibility as well as dealing with the complexities that come with raising a child. If parents are better prepared to raise adoptive kids then adoption rates can potentially increase.

2. **Agencies should also ensure that if a person in a relationship wants to adopt that both partners are willing to adopt:** Since a person's partner's willingness to adopt is rated highly by Indian residents, adoption agencies should target people in relationships where both partners are willing to adopt as this can ensure stability for the child.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Ms. Kah Ying Choo and Ms. Aamina Rahim for their contribution to my study. I would also like to thank my mother for her constant support.

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Appendix

Questionnaire

1. Age
2. Ethnicity
3. Gender Identity (choose one):
 - a. Male
 - b. Female
 - c. Non- Binary
 - d. Other
4. Marital status (choose one):
 - a. Married
 - b. Unmarried
 - c. Other
5. How many biological children do you have?
6. How many adopted children do you have?
7. On a scale of 1-10, "1" being "Not Important at all" and "10" being "Extremely Important", how important would you rate the importance of the following factors when considering adoption?
 - a. Biological relationship with the child
 - b. Financial stability
 - c. Societal judgements
 - d. Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child
 - e. Being Married
 - f. A person's partner's willingness to adopt
 - g. Biological origins of the child
 - h. Child's age
 - i. Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child
8. Please elaborate on any of your ratings.
9. On a scale of 1- 10, 1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest, how would you rate your current willingness to adopt a child?
10. Please elaborate on your rating above.

Participation Invitation Letter

Dear Invitee,

My name is Samara Mohan, and I am currently in my junior year of high school. I am kindly requesting your participation in a research study that I am conducting titled: "Perceptions of Indian Residents Towards Adoption in India". The aim is to identify and examine Indian residents' perceptions towards factors influencing adoption decisions in India.

The study involves completing basic demographic information and ratings of factors that you think influence adoption.

Participation is completely voluntary and you may withdraw from the study at any time. The study is anonymous; therefore, it does not require you to provide your name or any other identifying information.

If you would like to participate in the study, please click the survey link at the end.

Thank you for your time and participation.

Sincerely,
Samara Mohan

Figures

Figure 1
Ratings of Importance of Biological Relationship with the Child (N= 144)

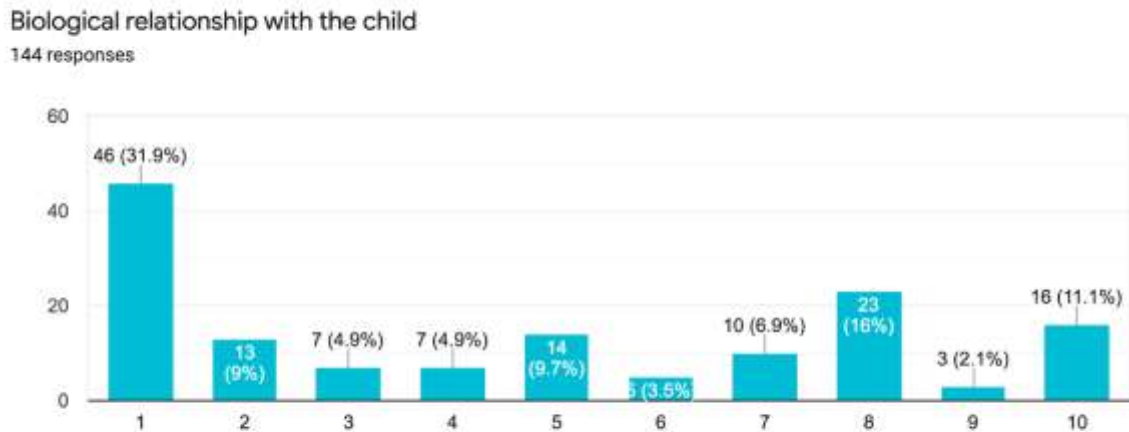


Figure 2
Ratings of Importance of Financial Stability (N= 144)

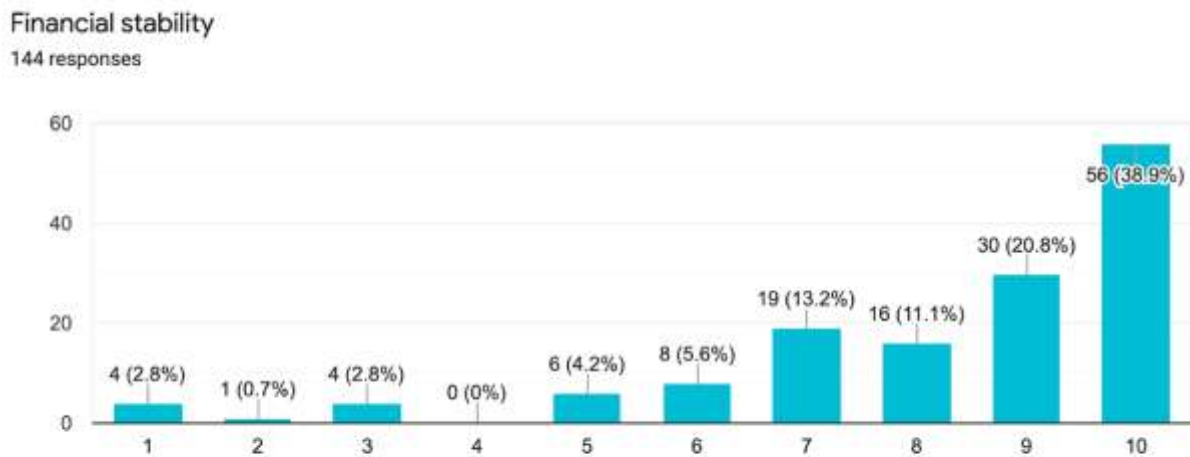


Figure 3
Ratings of Importance of Societal Judgements (N= 144)

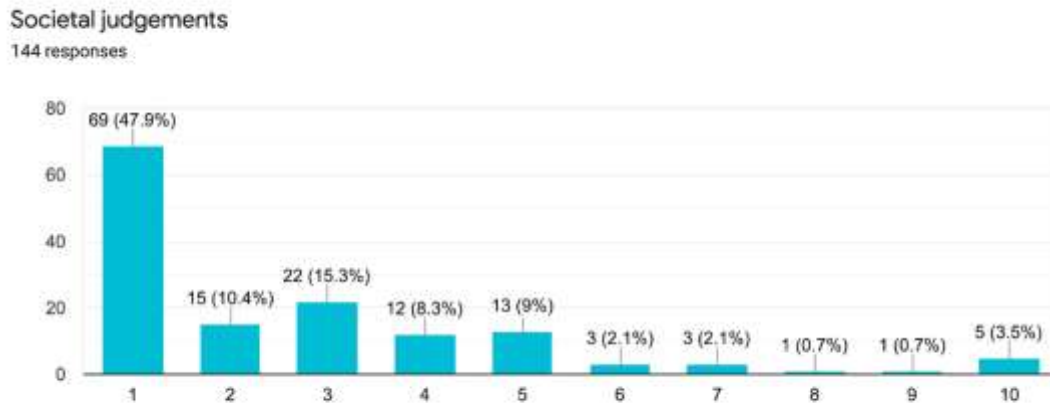


Figure 4
Ratings of Importance of the Adoptive Parents' Ability to Care for the Child (N= 144)

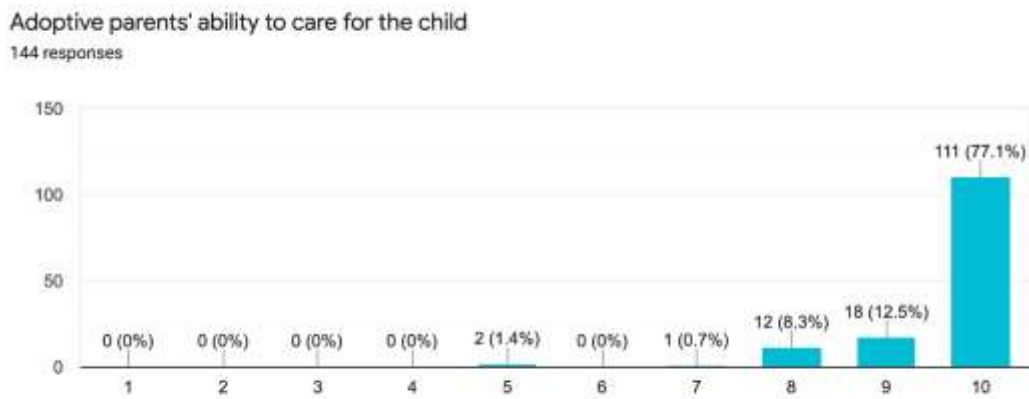


Figure 5
Ratings of Importance of Being Married (N= 144)

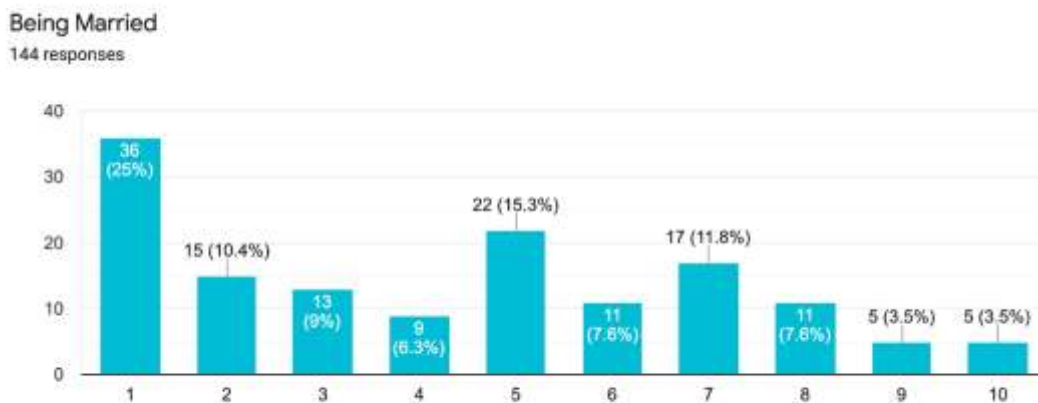


Figure 6
Ratings of Importance Persons Partners Willingness to Adopt (N= 144)

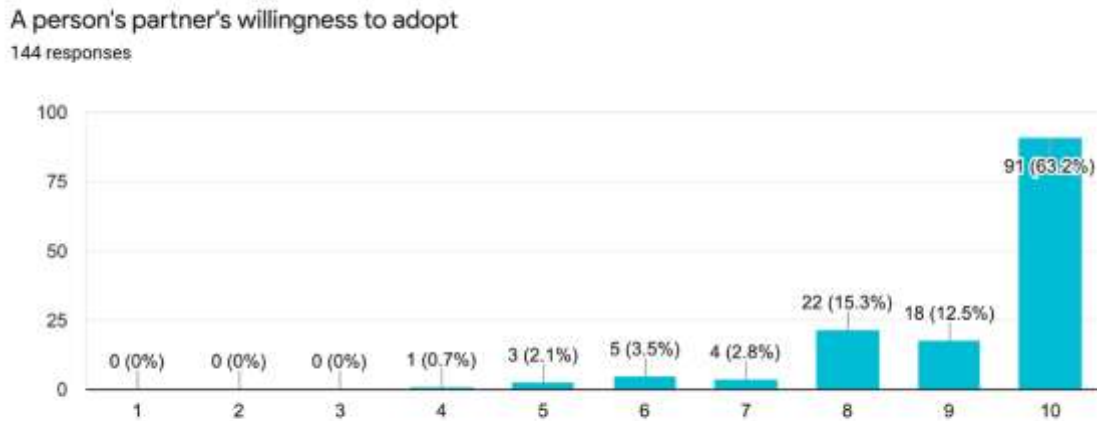


Figure 7
Ratings of Importance of Biological Origins of the Child (N= 144)

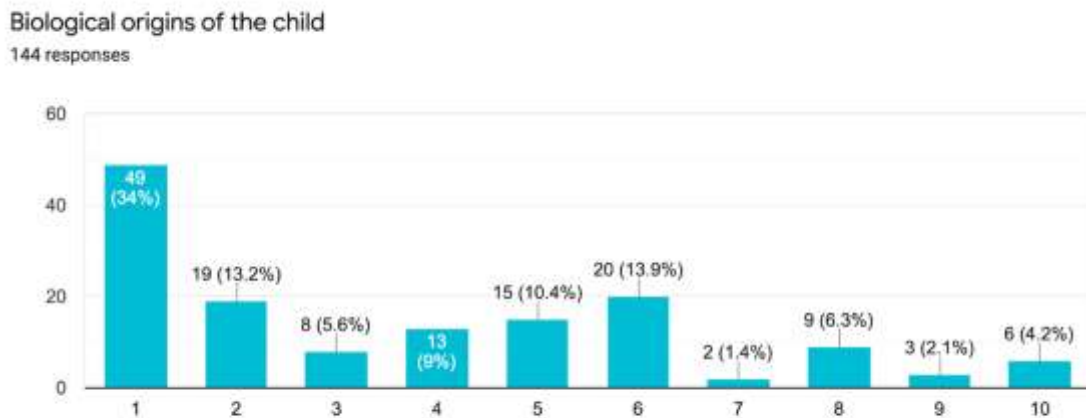


Figure 8
Ratings of Importance of the Child's Age (N= 144)

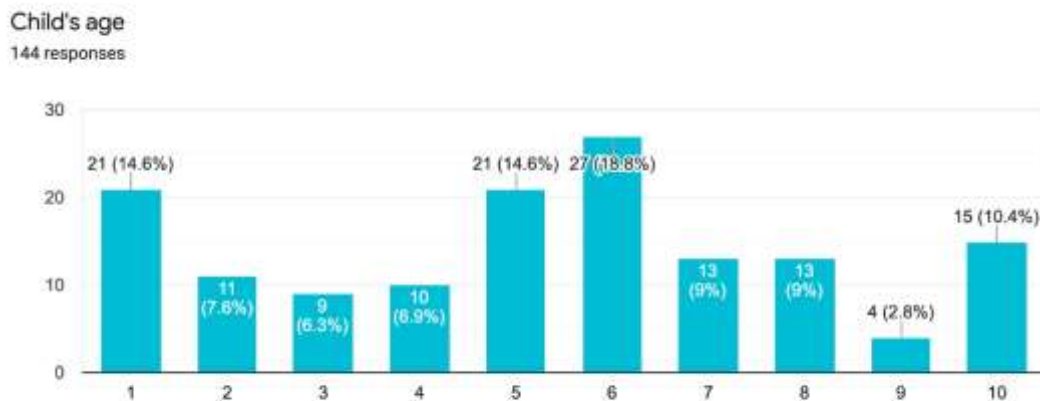
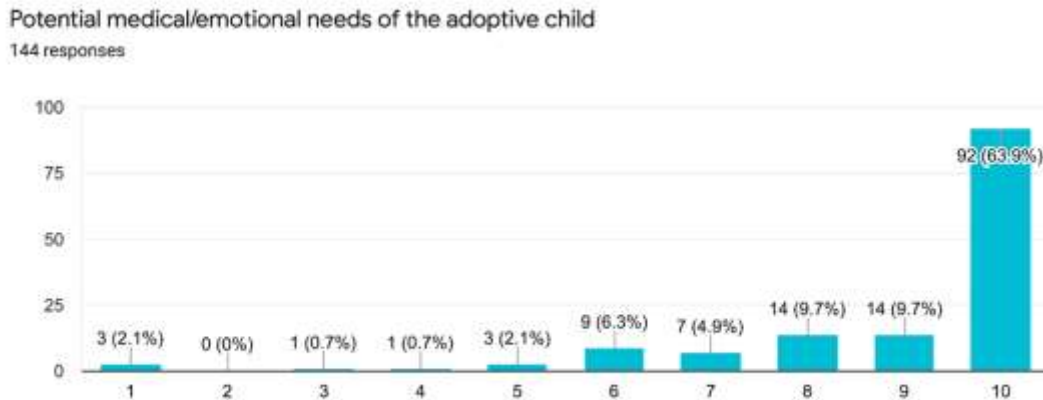


Figure 9

Ratings of Importance of Potential Medical/Emotional Needs of the Adoptive Child (N= 144)



Tables

Table 1

Descriptive Statistics — Comparison of Ratings of the Importance of Factors for Influencing an Adoption Decision

	Biological relationship with the child	Financial stability	Societal judgements	Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	Being Married	Partner's willingness to adopt	Biological origins of the child	Child's age	Potential medical and emotional needs of the adoptive child
Mean	4.60	8.24	2.67	9.62	4.30	9.20	3.69	5.26	8.93
Standard Error	0.28	0.18	0.19	0.07	0.23	0.11	0.23	0.23	0.16
Median	4.00	9.00	2.00	10.00	4.00	10.00	3.00	5.50	10.00
Mode	1.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	6.00	10.00
Standard Deviation	3.31	2.18	2.24	0.85	2.75	1.30	2.72	2.78	1.90
Range	9.00	9.00	9.00	5.00	9.00	6.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Count	144.00	144.00	144.00	144.00	144.00	144.00	144.00	144.00	144.00

Table 2

One-Way ANOVA — Comparison of Ratings of Importance of Each Factor on Decision to Adopt

Factors	Count	Sum	Average	Variance
Biological relationship with the child	144.00	662.00	4.60	10.94
Financial stability	144.00	1187.00	8.24	4.77
Societal judgements	144.00	384.00	2.67	5.03
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	144.00	1385.00	9.62	0.73

Being Married	144.00	619.00	4.30	7.58
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	144.00	1325.00	9.20	1.69
Biological origins of the child	144.00	531.00	3.69	7.41
Child's age	144.00	758.00	5.26	7.73
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	144.00	1286.00	8.93	3.60

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	8369.78	8.00	1046.22	190.27	5.108E-212	1.95
Within Groups	7076.66	1287.00	5.50			
Total	15446.44	1295.00				

Table 3

Descriptive Statistics — Comparison of Ratings of the Importance of Factors for Influencing an Adoption Decision for ages 20-37

	Age	Biological relationship with the child	Financial stability	Societal judgments	Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	Being Married	Partner's willingness to adopt	Biological origins of the child	Child's age	Potential medical emotional needs of the adoptive child	Willingness to adopt
Mean	29.11	5.47	9.26	3.42	9.89	4.53	9.00	4.47	5.26	9.47	4.84
Standard Error	1.43	0.70	0.23	0.64	0.07	0.72	0.33	0.62	0.61	0.23	0.77
Median	29.00	6.00	10.00	3.00	10.00	5.00	10.00	5.00	6.00	10.00	6.00
Mode	35.00	8.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	5.00	2.00	10.00	1.00
Standard Deviation	6.25	3.04	0.99	2.78	0.32	3.13	1.45	2.72	2.66	1.02	3.37
Range	16.00	9.00	3.00	9.00	1.00	9.00	4.00	9.00	9.00	3.00	9.00
Count	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00

Table 4

One-Way ANOVA — Comparison of Ratings of Importance of Factors Influencing Decision on Adoption (Ages 20-37)

Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance
Biological relationship with the child	19.00	104.00	5.47	9.26
Financial stability	19.00	176.00	9.26	0.98

Perceptions of Indian Residents Towards Factors Influencing Adoption in India

Societal judgements	19.00	65.00	3.42	7.70
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	19.00	188.00	9.89	0.10
Being Married	19.00	86.00	4.53	9.82
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	19.00	171.00	9.00	2.11
Biological origins of the child	19.00	85.00	4.47	7.37
Child's age	19.00	100.00	5.26	7.09
Potential medical and emotional needs of the adoptive child	19.00	180.00	9.47	1.04

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	1020.95	8.00	127.62	25.25	5.5601E-25	2.00
Within Groups	818.74	162.00	5.05			
Total	1839.68	170.00				

Table 5
Descriptive Statistics — Comparison of Ratings of the Importance of Factors Influencing Adoption Decision (Ages 38-55)

	Age	Biological relationship with the child	Financial stability	Societal judgements	Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	Being Married	Partner's willingness to adopt	Biological origins of the child	Child's age	Potential medical and emotional needs of the adoptive child	Willingness to adopt
Mean	45.59	4.34	8.04	2.39	9.57	4.17	9.16	3.63	5.45	8.74	4.83
Standard Error	0.47	0.34	0.24	0.21	0.10	0.27	0.14	0.29	0.28	0.22	0.33
Median	44.00	3.00	9.00	1.00	10.00	4.00	10.00	2.00	6.00	10.00	5.00
Mode	42.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	6.00	10.00	1.00
Standard Deviation	4.56	3.28	2.38	2.04	0.95	2.67	1.32	2.84	2.76	2.15	3.23
Range	15.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	5.00	9.00	6.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Count	96.0	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00

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Table 6

One-Way ANOVA — Comparison of Ratings of Importance of Factors Influencing Adoption Decision (Ages 38-55)

Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance
Biological relationship with the child	96.00	417.00	4.34	10.78
Financial stability	96.00	772.00	8.04	5.66
Societal judgements	96.00	229.00	2.39	4.16
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	96.00	919.00	9.57	0.90
Being Married	96.00	400.00	4.17	7.11
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	96.00	879.00	9.16	1.75
Biological origins of the child	96.00	348.00	3.63	8.09
Child's age	96.00	523.00	5.45	7.64
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	96.00	839.00	8.74	4.62

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	5690.22	8.00	711.28	126.26	3.262E-139	1.95
Within Groups	4816.44	855.00	5.63			
Total	10506.66	863.00				

Table 7

Descriptive Statistics — Comparison of Ratings of Importance of Factors Influencing Decisions of Female Respondents to Adopt

	Age	Biological relationship with the child	Financial stability	Societal judgements	Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	Being Married	Partner's willingness to adopt	Biological origins of the child	Child's age	Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	Willingness to adopt
Mean	42.57	4.86	8.27	2.45	9.63	3.97	9.02	3.88	4.97	8.95	5.22
Standard Error	1.11	0.32	0.21	0.19	0.09	0.26	0.13	0.26	0.27	0.17	0.32
Median	43.00	5.00	9.00	2.00	10.00	4.00	10.00	4.00	5.00	10.00	5.00
Mode	42.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	6.00	10.00	1.00
Standard Deviation	11.68	3.40	2.22	1.94	0.91	2.69	1.40	2.76	2.81	1.83	3.35

Perceptions of Indian Residents Towards Factors Influencing Adoption in India

Range	64.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	5.00	9.00	6.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Count	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00

Table 8

One-Way ANOVA — Comparison of Ratings of Importance of each factor on adoption for females

Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance
Biological relationship with the child	110.00	535.00	4.86	11.55
Financial stability	110.00	910.00	8.27	4.93
Societal judgements	110.00	270.00	2.45	3.77
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	110.00	1059.00	9.63	0.82
Being Married	110.00	437.00	3.97	7.26
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	110.00	992.00	9.02	1.96
Biological origins of the child	110.00	427.00	3.88	7.59
Child's age	110.00	547.00	4.97	7.92
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	110.00	985.00	8.95	3.36

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	6514.42	8.00	814.30	149.04	1.182E-163	1.95
Within Groups	5359.80	981.00	5.46			
Total	11874.22	989.00				

Table 9

Descriptive Statistics — Comparison of Ratings of the Importance of Each Factor on Decision of Male Respondents to Adopt

	Age	Biological relationship with the child	Financial stability	Societal judgements	Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	Being Married	Partner's willingness to adopt	Biological origins of the child	Child's age	Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	Willingness to adopt
Mean	38.03	3.82	8.12	3.42	9.58	5.36	9.79	3.06	6.18	8.82	4.24
Standard Error	2.55	0.50	0.37	0.52	0.12	0.48	0.10	0.45	0.44	0.37	0.58
Median	42.00	4.00	9.00	2.00	10.00	5.00	10.00	2.00	6.00	10.00	3.00
Mode	42.00	1.00	9.00	1.00	10.00	5.00	10.00	1.00	5.00	10.00	1.00
Standard Deviation	14.63	2.88	2.12	2.97	0.66	2.76	0.60	2.59	2.52	2.14	3.35

Perceptions of Indian Residents Towards Factors Influencing Adoption in India

Range	52.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	2.00	9.00	3.00	8.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Count	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00

Table 10

One-Way ANOVA — Comparison of Ratings of Importance of Each Factor on Decision to Adopt for males

<i>Factors</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Biological relationship with the child	33.00	126.00	3.82	8.28
Financial stability	33.00	268.00	8.12	4.48
Societal judgements	33.00	113.00	3.42	8.81
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	33.00	316.00	9.58	0.44
Being Married	33.00	177.00	5.36	7.61
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	33.00	323.00	9.79	0.36
Biological origins of the child	33.00	101.00	3.06	6.68
Child's age	33.00	204.00	6.18	6.34
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	33.00	291.00	8.82	4.59

<i>Source of Variation</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>F crit</i>
Between Groups	1918.41	8.00	239.80	45.33	9.7331E-47	1.97
Within Groups	1523.39	288.00	5.29			
Total	3441.80	296.00				

Table 11

Descriptive Statistics — Comparison of Ratings of the importance of factors for influencing an adoption decision for married people.

	Age	Biological relationship with the child	Financial stability	Societal judgements	Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	Being Married	Partner's willingness to adopt	Biological origins of the child	Child's age	Potential medical / emotional needs of the adoptive child	Willingness to adopt
Mean	46.27	4.51	8.17	2.55	9.61	4.25	9.12	3.67	5.42	8.93	4.94
Standard Error	0.71	0.33	0.22	0.21	0.09	0.27	0.13	0.28	0.28	0.19	0.33
Median	44.00	4.00	9.00	1.00	10.00	4.00	10.00	2.00	6.00	10.00	5.00
Mode	42.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	6.00	10.00	1.00
Standard Deviation	7.28	3.36	2.27	2.19	0.90	2.73	1.32	2.84	2.89	1.94	3.35

Perceptions of Indian Residents Towards Factors Influencing Adoption in India

Range	45.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	5.00	9.00	6.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Count	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00

Table 12

One-Way ANOVA — Comparison of Ratings of Importance of each factor on adoption for married people

Factors	Count	Sum	Average	Variance
Biological relationship with the child	104.00	469.00	4.51	11.30
Financial stability	104.00	850.00	8.17	5.13
Societal judgements	104.00	265.00	2.55	4.79
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	104.00	999.00	9.61	0.80
Being Married	104.00	442.00	4.25	7.43
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	104.00	948.00	9.12	1.73
Biological origins of the child	104.00	382.00	3.67	8.07
Child's age	104.00	564.00	5.42	8.36
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	104.00	929.00	8.93	3.75

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	6076.11	8.00	759.51	133.03	3.206E-148	1.95
Within Groups	5292.38	927.00	5.71			
Total	11368.50	935.00				

Table 13

Descriptive Statistics — Comparison of Ratings of the importance of factors for influencing an adoption decision for unmarried people

	Age	Biological relationship with the child	Financial stability	Societal judgements	Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	Being Married	Partner's willingness to adopt	Biological origins of the child	Child's age	Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	Willingness to adopt
Mean	29.38	4.83	8.43	2.98	9.65	4.43	9.43	3.73	4.85	8.93	5.05
Standard Error	2.35	0.50	0.31	0.38	0.12	0.45	0.20	0.38	0.39	0.29	0.54
Median	22.00	4.50	9.00	2.00	10.00	4.50	10.00	3.00	5.00	10.00	5.50
Mode	17.00	1.00	9.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	10.00	1.00	3.00	10.00	1.00
Standard	14.84	3.19	1.97	2.38	0.74	2.85	1.24	2.42	2.46	1.82	3.44

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Deviation											
Range	56.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	3.00	9.00	5.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Count	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00

Table 14

One-Way ANOVA — Comparison of Ratings of Importance of each factor on adoption for unmarried people

<i>Factors</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Sum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Biological relationship with the child	40.00	193.00	4.83	10.20
Financial stability	40.00	337.00	8.43	3.89
Societal judgements	40.00	119.00	2.98	5.67
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	40.00	386.00	9.65	0.54
Being Married	40.00	177.00	4.43	8.15
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	40.00	377.00	9.43	1.53
Biological origins of the child	40.00	149.00	3.73	5.85
Child's age	40.00	194.00	4.85	6.03
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	40.00	357.00	8.93	3.30

<i>Source of Variation</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>F crit</i>
Between Groups	2313.75	8.00	289.22	57.65	1.9786E-59	1.96
Within Groups	1761.03	351.00	5.02			
Total	4074.78	359.00				

Table 15

Regression: Impact of the Importance of Factors on Indian Residents Willingness to Adopt

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
Multiple R	0.34
R Square	0.11
Adjusted R Square	0.03
Standard Error	3.31
Observations	144.00

ANOVA

	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>
Regression	12.00	183.83	15.32	1.40	0.17
Residual	131.00	1436.06	10.96		
Total	143.00	1619.89			

	Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	Lower 95.0%	Upper 95.0%
Intercept	6.96	4.23	1.65	0.10	-1.41	15.34	-1.41	15.34
Age	-0.02	0.03	-0.67	0.50	-0.08	0.04	-0.08	0.04
Biological relationship with the child	0.21	0.11	2.01	0.04697591	0.00288601	0.42	0.00288601	0.42
Financial stability	0.13	0.15	0.82	0.41	-0.18	0.43	-0.18	0.43
Societal judgements	0.16	0.14	1.14	0.26	-0.12	0.43	-0.12	0.43
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	-0.30	0.40	-0.75	0.45	-1.08	0.49	-1.08	0.49
Being Married	0.09	0.11	0.76	0.45	-0.14	0.31	-0.14	0.31
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	-0.13	0.22	-0.56	0.57	-0.57	0.32	-0.57	0.32
Biological origins of the child	-0.18	0.12	-1.46	0.15	-0.42	0.06	-0.42	0.06
Child's age	0.01	0.11	0.10	0.92	-0.21	0.23	-0.21	0.23
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	0.09	0.17	0.52	0.60	-0.25	0.42	-0.25	0.42

Table 16

Regression: Impact of the Rating of the Importance of Biological Relationship with Child on Willingness to Adopt

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
Multiple R	0.21
R Square	0.04
Adjusted R Square	0.04
Standard Error	3.30
Observations	144.00

ANOVA

	df	SS	MS	F	Significance F
Regression	1.00	71.89	71.89	6.59	0.01
Residual	142.00	1548.00	10.90		

Perceptions of Indian Residents Towards Factors Influencing Adoption in India

Total	143.00	1619.89			
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	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95.0%</i>	<i>Upper 95.0%</i>
Intercept	3.99	0.47	8.44	3.2567E-14	3.05	4.92	3.05	4.92
Biological relationship with the child	0.21	0.08	2.57	0.01126091	0.05	0.38	0.05	0.38

Table 17

Regression: Impact of the Importance of Factors on Indian Residents Ages 20-37 Willingness to Adopt

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
Multiple R	0.78
R Square	0.60
Adjusted R Square	0.11
Standard Error	3.19
Observations	19.00

ANOVA

	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>
Regression	10.00	123.28	12.33	1.21	0.40
Residual	8.00	81.25	10.16		
Total	18.00	204.53			

	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95.0%</i>	<i>Upper 95.0%</i>
Intercept	31.72	27.94	1.14	0.29	-32.71	96.15	-32.71	96.15
Age	0.05	0.23	0.24	0.82	-0.47	0.58	-0.47	0.58
Biological relationship with the child	-0.43	0.35	-1.22	0.26	-1.23	0.38	-1.23	0.38
Financial stability	2.47	1.17	2.11	0.07	-0.24	5.18	-0.24	5.18
Societal judgements	0.23	0.33	0.68	0.52	-0.54	1.00	-0.54	1.00
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	-4.70	3.54	-1.33	0.22	-12.86	3.46	-12.86	3.46
Being Married	0.17	0.38	0.45	0.66	-0.70	1.04	-0.70	1.04
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	0.60	0.74	0.81	0.44	-1.11	2.30	-1.11	2.30

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Biological origins of the child	-0.16	0.34	-0.48	0.65	-0.96	0.63	-0.96	0.63
Child's age	-0.20	0.50	-0.39	0.70	-1.34	0.95	-1.34	0.95
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	-0.81	1.28	-0.63	0.54	-3.76	2.14	-3.76	2.14

Table 18
Regression: Impact of the Importance of Factors on Indian Residents Ages 38-55 Willingness to Adopt

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
Multiple R	0.47
R Square	0.22
Adjusted R Square	0.13
Standard Error	3.02
Observations	96.00

ANOVA					
	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>
Regression	10.00	220.03	22.00	2.42	0.01
Residual	85.00	773.31	9.10		
Total	95.00	993.33			

	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95.0%</i>	<i>Upper 95.0%</i>
Intercept	20.51	5.79	3.54	0.00064307	9.00	32.01	9.00	32.01
Age	-0.15	0.07	-2.10	0.04	-0.29	-0.01	-0.29	-0.01
Biological relationship with the child	0.18	0.12	1.49	0.14	-0.06	0.43	-0.06	0.43
Financial stability	0.00	0.16	0.01	0.99	-0.32	0.33	-0.32	0.33
Societal judgements	0.45	0.17	2.62	0.01	0.11	0.78	0.11	0.78
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	-0.88	0.40	-2.19	0.03	-1.68	-0.08	-1.68	-0.08
Being Married	0.11	0.14	0.83	0.41	-0.16	0.39	-0.16	0.39
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	-0.36	0.25	-1.40	0.17	-0.86	0.15	-0.86	0.15

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Biological origins of the child	-0.21	0.14	-1.54	0.13	-0.48	0.06	-0.48	0.06
Child's age	0.03	0.12	0.28	0.78	-0.21	0.28	-0.21	0.28
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	0.12	0.17	0.70	0.49	-0.22	0.46	-0.22	0.46

Table 19

Limited Regression Analysis: Impact of the Ratings of the Importance of Factors on Indian Residents Ages 38-55 Willingness to Adopt

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
Multiple R	0.38
R Square	0.15
Adjusted R Square	0.12
Standard Error	3.03
Observations	96.00

ANOVA

	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>
Regression	3.00	146.14	48.71	5.29	0.00207306
Residual	92.00	847.19	9.21		
Total	95.00	993.33			

	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95.0%</i>	<i>Upper 95.0%</i>
Intercept	16.74	4.92	3.40	0.00098559	6.97	26.50	6.97	26.50
Age	-0.16	0.07	-2.24	0.03	-0.30	-0.02	-0.30	-0.02
Societal judgements	0.45	0.16	2.87	0.01	0.14	0.76	0.14	0.76
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	-0.61	0.34	-1.79	0.08	-1.28	0.07	-1.28	0.07

Table 20

Regression: Impact of the Importance of Factors on Female Indian Residents Willingness to Adopt

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
Multiple R	0.40
R Square	0.16
Adjusted R Square	0.07
Standard Error	3.23
Observations	110.00

ANOVA

	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>
Regression	10.00	194.59	19.46	1.87	0.06
Residual	99.00	1032.17	10.43		
Total	109.00	1226.76			

	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95.0%</i>	<i>Upper 95.0%</i>
Intercept	3.90	4.23	0.92	0.36	-4.49	12.30	-4.49	12.30
Age	-0.03	0.03	-0.96	0.34	-0.08	0.03	-0.08	0.03
Biological relationship with the child	0.06	0.12	0.49	0.62	-0.17	0.29	-0.17	0.29
Financial stability	0.14	0.18	0.81	0.42	-0.21	0.49	-0.21	0.49
Societal judgements	0.12	0.19	0.67	0.51	-0.24	0.49	-0.24	0.49
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	0.02	0.43	0.04	0.97	-0.83	0.87	-0.83	0.87
Being Married	0.40	0.15	2.70	0.00820137	0.10	0.69	0.10	0.69
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	0.18	0.23	0.78	0.44	-0.28	0.64	-0.28	0.64
Biological origins of the child	-0.27	0.13	-1.9886675	0.04949818	-0.54	-0.0006006	-0.54	0.0006006
Child's age	0.08	0.12	0.70	0.49	-0.15	0.31	-0.15	0.31
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	-0.23	0.22	-1.04	0.30	-0.66	0.21	-0.66	0.21

Table 21

Limited Regression Analysis: Impact of the Ratings of the Importance of Factors on Female Indian Residents Willingness to Adopt

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
Multiple R	0.34
R Square	0.12
Adjusted R Square	0.10
Standard Error	3.18
Observations	110.00

ANOVA

	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>
Regression	2.00	145.56	72.78	7.20	0.00116264
Residual	107.00	1081.21	10.10		
Total	109.00	1226.76			

	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95.0%</i>	<i>Upper 95.0%</i>
Intercept	4.14	0.61	6.77	7.28E-10	2.93	5.35	2.93	5.35
Being Married	0.46	0.12	3.79	0.00025223	0.22	0.70	0.22	0.70
Biological origins of the child	-0.19	0.12	1.62	0.11	-0.43	0.04	-0.43	0.04

Table 22
Regression: Impact of the Importance of Factors on Male Indian Residents Willingness to Adopt

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
Multiple R	0.61
R Square	0.38
Adjusted R Square	0.09
Standard Error	3.19
Observations	33.00

ANOVA

	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>
Regression	10.00	135.50	13.55	1.33	0.28
Residual	22.00	224.56	10.21		
Total	32.00	360.06			

	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95.0%</i>	<i>Upper 95.0%</i>
Intercept	32.06	15.08	2.13	0.04	0.78	63.35	0.78	63.35
Age	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.96	-0.11	0.11	-0.11	0.11
Biological relationship with the child	0.39	0.26	1.49	0.15	-0.16	0.94	-0.16	0.94
Financial stability	0.28	0.34	0.85	0.40	-0.41	0.98	-0.41	0.98
Societal judgements	0.20	0.21	0.95	0.35	-0.23	0.63	-0.23	0.63
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	-1.63	1.00	-1.63	0.12	-3.72	0.45	-3.72	0.45
Being Married	-0.10	0.24	-0.44	0.67	-0.60	0.40	-0.60	0.40
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	-1.57	1.07	-1.47	0.16	-3.79	0.65	-3.79	0.65
Biological origins of the child	-0.23	0.32	-0.72	0.48	-0.88	0.43	-0.88	0.43
Child's age	-0.44	0.30	-1.48	0.15	-1.06	0.18	-1.06	0.18
Potential medical/emotional	0.29	0.30	0.95	0.35	-0.34	0.92	-0.34	0.92

needs of the adoptive child								
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Table 23
Regression: Impact of the Importance of Factors on Married Indian Residents Willingness to Adopt

Regression Statistics	
Multiple R	0.39
R Square	0.15
Adjusted R Square	0.06
Standard Error	3.24
Observations	104.00

ANOVA

	df	SS	MS	F	Significance F
Regression	10.00	178.77	17.88	1.70	0.09
Residual	93.00	978.88	10.53		
Total	103.00	1157.65			

	Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	Lower 95.0%	Upper 95.0%
Intercept	12.35	5.15	2.40	0.02	2.12	22.57	2.12	22.57
Age	-0.01	0.05	-0.15	0.88	-0.10	0.08	-0.10	0.08
Biological relationship with the child	0.27	0.12	2.14	0.04	0.02	0.51	0.02	0.51
Financial stability	0.04	0.18	0.21	0.84	-0.33	0.40	-0.33	0.40
Societal judgements	0.32	0.16	1.96	0.05	-0.00456	0.65	-0.00456	0.65
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	-0.74	0.47	-1.59	0.12	-1.68	0.19	-1.68	0.19
Being Married	0.13	0.14	0.93	0.35	-0.15	0.40	-0.15	0.40
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	-0.27	0.26	-1.03	0.31	-0.79	0.25	-0.79	0.25
Biological origins of the child	-0.34	0.14	-2.44	0.02	-0.62	-0.06	-0.62	-0.06

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Child's age	0.05	0.12	0.40	0.69	-0.19	0.29	-0.19	0.29
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	0.07	0.20	0.35	0.72	-0.33	0.47	-0.33	0.47

Table 24

Limited Regression Analysis: Impact of the Ratings of the Importance of Factors on Married Indian Residents Willingness to Adopt

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
Multiple R	0.26
R Square	0.07
Adjusted R Square	0.05
Standard Error	3.27
Observations	104.00

ANOVA

	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>
Regression	2.00	75.28	37.64	3.51	0.03
Residual	101.00	1082.37	10.72		
Total	103.00	1157.65			

	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95.0%</i>	<i>Upper 95.0%</i>
Intercept	4.64	0.59	7.86	4.39E-12	3.47	5.81	3.47	5.81
Biological relationship with the child	0.27	0.11	2.50	0.01	0.06	0.49	0.06	0.49
Biological origins of the child	-0.25	0.13	1.95	0.05	-0.51	0.004	-0.51	0.004

Table 25

Regression: Impact of the Importance of Factors on Unmarried Indian Residents Willingness to Adopt

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
Multiple R	0.58
R Square	0.34

Adjusted R Square	0.11
Standard Error	3.25
Observations	40.00

ANOVA

	df	SS	MS	F	Significance F
Regression	10.00	155.91	15.59	1.48	0.20
Residual	29.00	305.99	10.55		
Total	39.00	461.90			

	Coefficients	Standard Error	t Stat	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%	Lower 95.0%	Upper 95.0%
Intercept	-3.57	8.55	-0.42	0.68	-21.06	13.91	-21.06	13.91
Age	-0.06	0.04	-1.43	0.16	-0.15	0.03	-0.15	0.03
Biological relationship with the child	0.05	0.22	0.23	0.82	-0.39	0.49	-0.39	0.49
Financial stability	0.51	0.32	1.59	0.12	-0.14	1.17	-0.14	1.17
Societal judgements	-0.04	0.28	-0.16	0.87	-0.61	0.52	-0.61	0.52
Adoptive parents' ability to care for the child	0.29	0.91	0.32	0.75	-1.57	2.15	-1.57	2.15
Being Married	0.10	0.24	0.43	0.67	-0.38	0.58	-0.38	0.58
A person's partner's willingness to adopt	0.21	0.51	0.41	0.68	-0.83	1.24	-0.83	1.24
Biological origins of the child	0.31	0.27	1.18	0.25	-0.23	0.85	-0.23	0.85
Child's age	-0.33	0.26	-1.30	0.20	-0.86	0.19	-0.86	0.19
Potential medical/emotional needs of the adoptive child	0.15	0.33	0.45	0.66	-0.52	0.82	-0.52	0.82

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