



★ European ★ Network of ★ National ★ Observatories on ★ Childhood

RESULTS OF THE WORKING GROUP N. 3 ADOPTION FAILURES

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The discussion themes were the following ones :

- 1) *Definition of the subject : what do we consider as “adoption failure” ?*
 - Instead of speaking of failures, we would rather speak of difficulties -
 - Before the adolescence or at the adolescence
 - Disruption doesn't always signify failure (long term process)
- 2) *Risk or success indicators of adoption*
 - The age of the child is not an indicator in itself
 - Information, preparation of the child and of the prospective adoptive parents previous to the adoption, careful matching of child and PAPs
 - Importance of the level of expectations of the PAPs
- 3) *Characteristics of the follow-up services provided : “mandatory” or “at the request”, specific services or general child protection services, duration of the follow-up, etc...*
 - It should always be at the request after the adoption decision but the confidence of the adoptive parents and the child with the professional must be carefully developed previously
- 4) *Cooperation between authorities of the receiving and sending countries (in case of international adoption)*
 - Confidence between both authorities and reliability of the information on child and PAPs exchanged before the adoption takes place