

Examining the Effects of Government Leadership on Legal Adoption Process in Kenya

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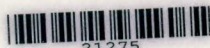
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this study was to examine the effects of government leadership on the legal adoption process in Kenya. The scope of the study comprised of the; effects and role of government leadership on the adoption process, the factors hindering child adoption and impacts of recent changes by the government to simplify adoption process.

The researcher used the case study design methodology and utilized structured questionnaires for collecting data. The findings from the research indicate that, government leadership has a great effect on the Kenyan legal adoption process. From the findings, it was clear that the current legal structure inhibits many children from being adopted due to bureaucracy hence, making adoption in Kenya a tedious process. These factors discourage many from adopting hence; leaving many would be adoptees in foster homes. The researcher also discovered that, although a professional legal advice was costly to prospective adopters and adoption agencies that used the services of lawyers were far more likely to succeed at adoption than those who did not. From the findings the researcher discovered that almost all the kids above the age of twelve years and above were willing to be adopted and be able to be integrated back to society in a traditional family setting.

The study recommended that further research be done involving a larger sample size, which incorporates the adoption secretariat based under the children's department as part of the target group. The study concluded that the government needs to improve its role in the adoption process in order to simplify it and make it friendly to prospective adopters.