

## Some Prospects for Enhancing Adoption in Japan

### ABSTRACT

This is the first survey in Japan to explore the public's preferences regarding openness in adoption, as well as their attitudes toward adoption placement, with the purpose of enhancing adoption as permanency planning for dependent children in Japan. The sample (N=418; 192 from the public, 116 social workers, 80 adoptive parents, and 30 birth mothers) responded to a mail questionnaire. The data were analyzed in terms of members and nonmembers of the adoption triangle. The results indicate that the public generally favor adoption placement, and that the public, compared to the adoption triangle parties (the adoptive parents and birth mothers currently experiencing semiopen adoption), prefer closed adoption. The writer believes in the possibility that more children in Japan will be successfully placed in adoptive homes when the public becomes more aware of the necessity of meeting the needs of birth mothers as well as the needs of the children with regard to maintaining some degree of communication between them.

**Key Words:** adoption, open adoption, Organizational-Relational Theory