



CHILD ADOPTION: A PANACEA FOR A HAPPY HOME  
AMONG CHILDLESS COUPLES IN RIVERS STATE OF NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Child adoption is a legal process by which a set of parents become parents of a child not naturally born to them. This act among others is one of the mechanisms of placing a homeless child in a childless home in contemporary society which in turn could bring happiness in such a home and so serve as a panacea for a happy home. With this aim the present study was carried out to explanatively and qualitatively study child adoption as a panacea for a happy home. The study presented the meaning of child adoption, child adoption policy and reasons for adoption. Problems associated with child adoption as well as the link between a child and a home was also explored. In conclusion, it was emphasized that despite the perceived challenges that may be associated with child adoption, with proper counselling, childless homes can adopt a child which is the potential of bringing some degree of happiness to such homes. And so, child adoption is recommended as a panacea to a happy home particularly where infertility is probably not curable.

*Keywords:* Child adoption, infertility, Parenting, Nigeria.