Accompanying a parent adopting a disabled child by health professionals

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Introduction

The Child Protection Institute (INPE) welcomes children without family support for adoption. The physiotherapist of INPE knows better the state and care of the handicapped child. Despite this, during adoption procedures, the physiotherapist has no intervention with adopting couples. Can this support help facilitate the adoption of disabled children?

Methods

From January to April 2018, 26 adopting couples were interviewed by a 4-axis questionnaire. The acquisition or not of knowledge about the experience of the institutionalized child and the consequences on his development. - The meeting or not with health professionals during adoption procedures. The couple's satisfaction with the information related to the child’s health status, issued by health professionals. The speakers most requested by the couples for an accompaniment.

-2 groups were identified:
- Group A (9 couples agreeing to adopt a disabled child);
- Group B (17 couples refusing to adopt a disabled child).

- Main of Group A and Group B couples cited health professionals as the most requested providers for support.
- According to Group B, the adoption of disabled children is too hard.
- Most couples in both groups wanted to be guided in their future parent’s role to the adoptive child’s needs.

Results

Adopting parents education level:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Niveau d'instruction</th>
<th>Groupe A</th>
<th>Groupe B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>primaire</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>secondaire</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>supérieur</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reason for adoption:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Le motif de l'adoption</th>
<th>Groupe A</th>
<th>Groupe B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>infertilité</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>motivation humaine</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The type of disabilities accepted by adopting couples:

- 58% déficience motrice
- 31% déficience mentale
- 11% déficience psychique
- 0% déficience sensorielle

La satisfaction des couples:

- 70% Satisfait
- 30% Non satisfait

Conclusions

The complexity of adopting disabled children is related to the specific path of the couple who will expect an idealized child in a specific cultural context. The physiotherapist contributes to the success of the adoption project for the disabled children.

References