

Family Welfare Programs Adaptation Awareness in Kanpur Nagar: A Geographical Study

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Abstract:

According to the geographical analysis, this abstract will examine the large disparities in the number of people that are aware of and can receive adoption assistance in urban and rural sections of Kanpur Nagar. The study attempted to establish the key causes of understanding or lack of understanding of adoption and issues that they face when seeking help. First findings demonstrate that there is a distinct gap: the majority of adoption services and information are located in urban settings and therefore, rural residents are much less aware of adoption. City residents can use the Internet and are more likely to get directly to special services. On the contrary, the rural folks primarily rely on antiquated methods of disseminating information which are not as effective. The disparity is further increased by money and education disparities, such as those who can read digital content and the extent of earnings earned by individuals. Negative perceptions on adoption are also more in the rural areas. The research identifies large practical issues such as the distance to agencies that is long and difficult rules that particularly impact the individuals who do not have access to technology. The findings reveal that there is a need to find strategies that suit every region and observe local culture. An inter-combination of the Internet-based tools and offline outreach to the local community would probably be the most effective approach to creating a more equitable and improved adoption support in Kanpur Nagar.

Keywords: Adoption Awareness, Geographical Disparity, Urban-Rural Divide, Adoption Services Access

Introduction:

Adoption provides children who cannot remain with their birth families with a new loving home. Adoption is a statute order that places a child among another family to provide for them and to improve their life. In India, the government regulates adoptions through monetary organizations, including the Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA), an agency that comes under the Ministry of Women and Child Development. CARA ensures adoptions are fair, transparent and deliver best interests of the child and adhere to national and international laws.

But despite the rules being there many people in India aren't aware enough regarding the concept of adoption especially in the semi-urban and rural areas of Kanpur Nagar. As a result of the difficulty in obtaining this information, many people who would potentially consider adoption are discouraged from doing so. Adoption still has a stigma very often attached to it

and people are misunderstanding lengthening the time that children in care are cared for. We have this thorny issue of plying for awareness on adoption services in Kanpur Nagar, considering the service deploying the awareness.

Most of the adoption services are available in the city centers in Kanpur Nagar. Those areas have readily accessible legal assistance, government services and adoption agencies. The rural parts of the district have very few agencies and no programs in teaching people to take about adoption. This distance issue is a significant factor contributing to variation in adoption rates vis-a-vis pan-sectional factors. There are a number of people living area in distant locations, and it is not their lot to know about and take part in the adoption process.

So, this study will create a space by bridging the gap between the reach and knowledge of adoption in Kanpur Nagar. Through an examination of geospatial mapping of services and basically finding out where the services do not exist, the study will inform new strategies for awareness-raising. In order to better structure interventions to support children in need of families no matter where they live and, to achieve the well-being of these children, the knowledge transfer would also need to understand the local context and the local needs of the population.

Literature of Review:

Joshi et al. (2015): "Knowledge and Attitude towards Adoption in Infertile Couples, a Study. This research paper in Pune, Maharashtra demonstrates that although most city adults believe in adoption as a good measure, a substantial number of them are yet to understand more about the legal processes. The findings are useful to Kanpur Nagar in demonstrating the level of awareness and attitudes are not equal to actual knowledge.

UNICEF India (2022): "The Children in the Street Situations in India Study. The report is not on adoption in particular but it provides valuable background information about children who live in the Indian cities streets. It illustrates potential connections between street life and adoption system and emphasizes the necessity of activities that can assist these children. This forms the basis of the number of children that could be adopted in Kanpur.

PIB (2025): "Each year 4,515 Child Adoptions in FY 2024-25, largest in 12 years. According to the Press Information Bureau press release, the adoption rates in the entire of India are on the increase due to the increased campaigns and enhanced online information provided by the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA). This countrywide information allows us to see the level of awareness of people in Kanpur regarding adoption.

Mahmood and Visser (2015): "Existential issue: Adopted children: A question of identity? Concentrated on the way adoptive families cope with identity talk, this work demonstrates that stigma is an important factor. It emphasizes that a favorable attitude of society can increase the levels of adoption, which is important when researching the awareness in a particular place.

Kumar and Sharma (2021): COVID Orphans in India: The Interplay of Social Media and Misinformation and the Adoption System in India. The paper demonstrates the use of social media counterfeit messages that generated unlawful adoption request during the pandemic. It brings out the risk of misinformation and the knowledge people have or lack regarding the legal

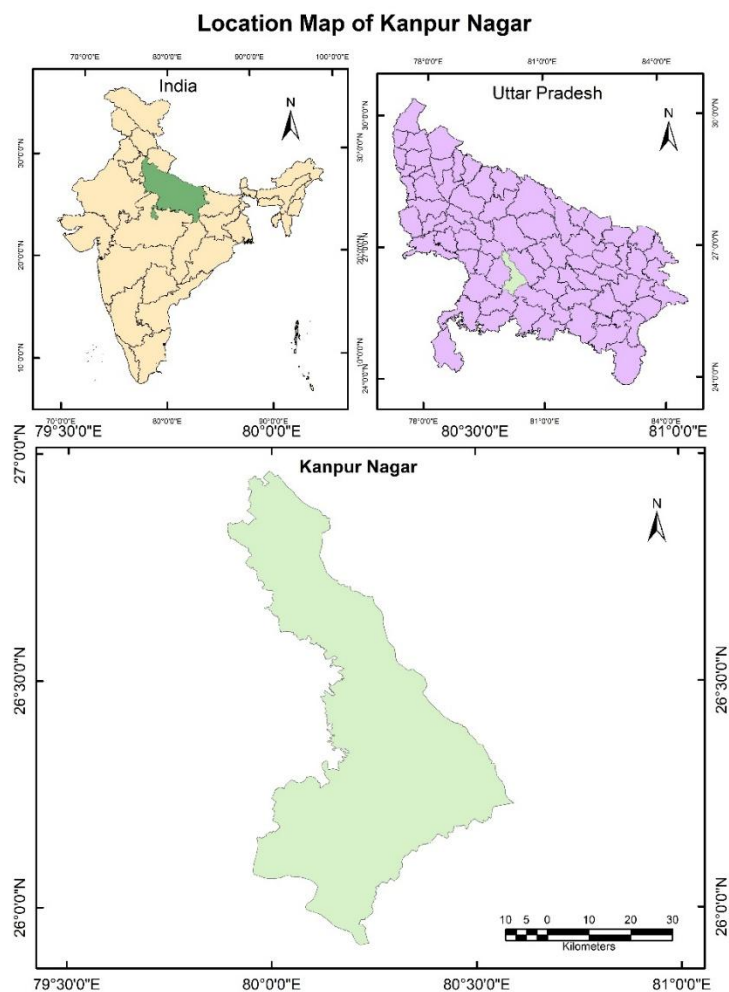
procedures. It mentions the spread of information in various digital and social environments, and it is significant when considering awareness within an urban area.

D'Souza (1985): It is a trend report published by the Indian Council of Social Sciences Research (ICSSR) in which past work on Indian urban sociology was surveyed. This literature would be applicable in explaining the effect of urban centres on family units and social orientations towards social practices such as adoption especially in a fast-developing city such as Kanpur. It brings out the fact of traditional values being persistent even in a context of urbanization.

Give.do (2023): "The way NGOs can enhance human rights in India. This paper has described how NGOs support individuals in the form of fighting on their behalf, influencing policy, and sensitizing people, particularly vulnerable individuals. Considering Kanpur, we would have to examine how local NGOs facilitate the adoption awareness campaigns.

familiesofjoy.org (2023): "India Child Adoption: CARA Process: Eligibility to Adopt a Child. This guide illustrates the legal process to follow like the legal persons who can adopt, the necessary papers and the age restrictions. A research project in Kanpur may examine the extent to which this information reaches and gets comprehended by the locals.

Overview of the Study Area:



Source: Prepared by ArcMap Using Survey of India Data

Kanpur Nagar is a historic and industrial city on the banks of the Ganges in Uttar Pradesh, India. It used to be known as the "Manchester of the East" due to its busy textile industry in the past. Today it is the commercial capital of the state and a world-famous centre for leather goods. The name might be taken from the mythological hero Karna or Raja Hindu Singh. It has a rich history. It played an important part in the Indian rebellion of 1857, and the building of the Kanpur Memorial Church and Nana Rao Park has been built in commemoration of the struggles. Today, Kanpur is not merely a textile and leather-based economy. It also has chemical, engineering and hosiery industry. Harcourt Butler Tech (HBTU), IIT Kanpur as well as other esteemed educational institutes, being one of the major cities, it is also an educational hub. The city also has tourist attractions such as the Sri Radhakrishna Temple (JK Temple), Allen Forest Zoo, Moti Jheel, etc.

The district is located in the fertile sections of the Indo-Gangetic Plains. As per the 2011 census, Kanpur Nagar's population was more than 4.5 million (which made it the largest city cluster in Uttar Pradesh). The base majority is people of Hindu faith, including a sizable Muslim minority. The foremost spoken languages are Hindi and Urdu. According to the population census published in 2011 and the latest estimates, the population is primarily urban and of different religions. The population of Expat Olimuteni was 4,581,268 in 2011, 65.83% of the population lives in urban areas, while 34.17% of the population lives in rural areas. This solid urbanization trend has existed for decades. Hindu (82.78%) and Muslim (15.73%) are the main groups. Sikhs, Christians, and Jains too form a part of the community. With regard to language, Hindi is the official language and is also widely spoken along with Urdu.

The profile of the streets of the district displays significant data on education and sex. Gender Gap: The disparity between male and female literacy rates means that the male literacy rate was 83.62%, while the female literacy rate was 75.05% in 2011. The sex ratio was 1000:862 (There were 1000 females for every 862 males, which is below the national average. Populations have maintained an upward trend since 2011 as the city continues to act as a major force in the region's economy as well as a destination for internal migration.

Objectives

1. To examine the factors influencing public awareness of adoption services in Kanpur Nagar.
2. To identify the challenges faced by residents in accessing adoption services in different areas of Kanpur Nagar.

Methodology:

This study utilizes secondary data to examine the level of adoption awareness and the geographical distribution of adoption services in Kanpur Nagar, India. The analysis will compile data from government reports, adoption agency publications, local records, and demographic sources such as Census and National Family Health Surveys, to evaluate how population and economic factors influence adoption awareness. Government maps and online mapping resources will be used to identify the locations of adoption centers, orphanages, and children's support organizations. GIS technology will then be applied to visualize these sites

across urban and rural areas, helping to pinpoint regions with limited adoption services. Additionally, the study will review existing adoption awareness programs by government bodies, NGOs, and local organizations. Previous reports, evaluations, and other relevant studies will be analyzed to assess the effectiveness of these initiatives based on their reach and impact on the public. This approach will allow for a comprehensive understanding of the current state of adoption awareness and service accessibility in Kanpur Nagar.

Result and Discussion:

Factors that affect publicity of adoption services in Kanpur Nagar.

The services of adoption within Kanpur Nagar are based on the combination of the location, the society, the money and the infrastructure. These are unlike in the city and the village. A closer look will reveal that there is a large variation in the extent of the knowledge of people and the easy access to assistance, and it was preconditioned by the locale and the residents of it. Smartphones and the internet are also useful in urban areas to disseminate awareness on adoption. Phones and internet are available to many city dwellers and hence they are aware of such thing as Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA). There is a site of CARA named CARINGS where a person can register himself and monitor the progress of the case, as well as legal information. Social media including facebook post to people who have access to internet. In villages, the gap shows. The people in the village lack either resources or capabilities to access the internet. In a study carried out in Pune and Meerut in 2015, rural residents were found to be less aware of adoption than urban ones and the same is witnessed in the Kanpur Nagar villages. In villages, information is in the form of oral messages, local leaders or health workers such as ASHAs. Such approaches are not always stable and right, which is why adoption programs turn out to be less efficient.

The proximity of the adoption offices is also another aspect that is taken seriously. In the city, agencies are primarily found and few/none in villages. City dwellers do not have to travel far to get consultations and information. The fact that there are no agencies in the villages keeps many people oblivious of the idea of adoption, or shy about the distance they are going. This physical distance causes individuals to believe that adoption is only limited to city residents pushing the people in the villages even distant. Education and money also influence people to learn and provide adoption services. Greater education and financial security in urban areas allow citizens to cope with all the legal requirements involved. Adoption is more likely to get to the ears of city couples who are not blessed with children. In the villages, there is less money and people are lowerly educated and hence, it becomes difficult to learn about the paper work and the internet gadgets. Rural individuals can possibly lack the comprehension of the process and instead concentrate on everyday finances rather than long term strategies such as adoption.

There is further complexity of social and cultural beliefs. In small towns, adoption is generally being regarded as a taboo since the families would give preference to their own children and would not want to adopt children with different roots. The village practice is high and kids have the likes of boys and this has influenced the adoption. Completely there is also stigma in cities and it has been minimized due to open campaigns and advanced thoughts. Data on CARA revealed that fewer girls are adopted in other years, particularly in cases where the availability

of awareness is greater, and traditional bias is lower. there is greater awareness and less adherence to traditional biases.

Table No. 01		
Factor	Urban Areas	Rural Areas
Digital Penetration	High internet usage, access to CARA's online platform	Low digital competence, reliance on informal sources
Access to Adoption Services	Multiple adoption agencies easily accessible	Limited or no adoption agencies, difficult physical access
Education & Socioeconomic Status	Higher education and income, better understanding of adoption processes	Lower education levels and income, lack of awareness
Cultural Norms & Social Stigma	Stigma exists but is reducing due to awareness campaigns	Strong stigma, preference for biological children and male heirs
Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Department of Health & Family Welfare (U.P.)		

Difficulties encountered by the residents when obtaining adoption services in other regions of Kanpur Nagar.

The people of Nagar Kanpur, particularly, in villages, struggle to access adoption in the area. Their physical location, procedural, financial and social location are obstacles that prevent their adoption. This is a huge issue of infrastructural deficiency. Villagers are not close to adoption agencies. They are forced to take long journeys, spend by purchasing long journeys and taking long journeys using poor transport. Making numerous trips to conduct a counseling, home studies and the process to take various steps is tedious and costly. The city people are able to travel freely since they have better means of transport. In addition to that, the rural population does not have quality internet access and digital skills to utilize CARINGS portal and, therefore, are unable to employ the online adoption services. There is also hindrance by bureaucracy and paper work. It is a very heavy-paperwork, counseling, and formalities process. It is too cumbersome to people who are not educated or known about the law. The urban population has NGOs and other community organs to depend on, and the rural population has to work individually. They usually depend on remote cities or adhoc net in place of receiving incorrect or uncomplete information.

Money is a major barrier. Adoption contains huge expenses such as application charges, home study and legal expenditures. The rural families of Kanpur whose incomes are low might be not aware of financial assistance or remedial charge. They also bear expenses on travel, lost earnings and up-additional fees on counseling. To the poor families it all makes

adoption impossible. There are social and emotional barriers, as well. The situation means that the process of adoption is stigmatized in villages and the value of the family structure. Individuals are afraid of being judged by the neighbors and family members. They shroud their intentions to adopt and do not have emotional support. There exists counseling and support groups of the city families. Rural families tend to receive no kind of post adoption support after the adoption of the child thus making it difficult to acclimatize the child to the family leading to behavioral or emotional difficulties.

Findings and implications:

The online disparity between the urban and rural environments is enormous. Individuals can utilize electronic programs such as the CARINGS portal and make the adoption process simpler and quicker. This demonstrates a wider technology divide: cities will enjoy the advantages of digitization and villages will be left behind because of low internet connectivity and lack of skills. Consequently, they find the adoption process even more difficult.

The other systemic problem is that there is adoption serves that are primarily located in urban areas. There are agencies where they are based in cities, hence limited access of the villages. This continues to make adoption a privilege to individuals. The government has made efforts to monitor the agencies yet, it has not decentralized services. Rural people would still remain non-inclusive without the spread of services. The adoption is also dependent on cultural attitudes. The rural Kanpur has stigma against adopting children whose origin is unknown or people with infertile families. Although the number of girl adoptions that are occurring is on the rise, conservative villages have opposed. The cultural backgrounds prefer biology children, more so sons. Effective adoption programs should consider these beliefs and conform to local culture in terms of the message.

Implications to Policy and Practice.

The research proposes some policy and practice ideas to minimize the disparities between the regions in their knowledge and use of adoption. First, address awareness campaigns that are manageable in rural places. The media locally like radio and news glues of local territory and local leaders as health workers and the ASHAs (Accredited Social Health Activists) used to disseminate information and simplified the legal adoption process. Traditional media and community meetings are extremely crucial in the rural regions where Internet penetration is minimal and awareness creation is done through traditional communication. Such campaigns are also necessary to discuss the cultural matters and societal taboos currently surrounding the issue of adoption so that people could perceive it as normal and diminish the stigma level. Another important tip is the decentralization of adoption services. As a solution to bridging the volunteer-city and village divide, the government can think of establishing small offices or mobile counseling units which make frequent visits to the villages. These mobile services shall collaborate with the existing rural locations like local councils or health services to provide easy access by those who would wish to adopt. The government can manage to overcome the distance issue by facilitating

the rural distribution of services, thus making adoption services more accessible to the population.

Enhance the capacities of the locals that can assist, also include community health workers, local NGOs and other rural community. Train the workers, such as the ASHAs to choose the workers through adoption, as they are now expected to cause no transmission of false information. These local faithful employees would be able to break the oddities that are formed due to a deficiency of formal facilities in rural regions. They also might serve as credible information providers regarding the adoption services, reduce the misinformation, and develop credibility towards the system. Both the adoption awareness and access should be done with multi-pronged approach. Digital tools such as the CARINGS portal should be useful, but not enough. Outreach will also have to access the rural population through the conventional means. Through positive adoption myths and highlighting positive adoption scenarios, campaigns would establish the level of trust and popularize it since it is more conservative in certain places. Incorporating online and paper-based access will ensure that there is equal accessibility of city and village residents to adoption services.

Conclusion:

This research demonstrates that there are high variations of the city and village people with regard to adoption knowledge and access in Kanpur Nagar. The residents of the city access digital information and the services are located near them, creating awareness. There are a lot of barriers to villagers: restricted information, distance services, and stigma. The gap is to be addressed by a strategy involving the use of digital tools and effective community outreach depending on the region. By solving these problems, Kanpur Nagar will be able to develop a more equitable system of adopting kids that in any case provides them with a loving family regardless of the location.

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