

## **"The Reality of Caring for Children of Unknown Parentage in Contemporary Society and a Future Sociological Perspective on Their Care: A Content Analysis"**

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## **The Reality of Caring for Children of Unknown Parentage in Contemporary Society and a Future Sociological Perspective on Their Care: A Content Analysis**

### **Abstract:**

Understanding childhood experiences is important when addressing societal issues. Recently, many societies have experienced social problems due to an increase in children with unknown parentage. These social issues are considered major due to the risks involved, such as delinquency, drug abuse, and homelessness. This study aimed to investigate the care provided to children with unknown parentage in modern society to improve future sociological approaches. The study employed analytical methods and content analysis to extract data from secondary sources. The results reveal that religious beliefs, economic conditions, and post-birth abandonment are key factors contributing to the issue of children with unknown parentage. The results also highlight how negative perceptions and discrimination affect children who do not know their biological parents in both their immediate (residential institution and family) and external environments (community, school, or work). It was concluded that children with unknown parentage suffer the consequences of their parents' actions. The findings recommended that authorities should prioritize introducing reforms and increase the funding for children's welfare programs aimed at improving the conditions of children of unknown parents. Hence, this study's originality adds value to addressing challenges faced by children with unknown parentage.

**Keywords:** Children; Children of unknown parentage; Islam; Society; Sociological vision for the future.

### **- Introduction:**

Studying childhood is crucial for understanding societal scientific awareness. Children represent a significant part of society and the future, making the study of childhood essential. Childhood is the hope of the future, and today's children are the youth of tomorrow to whom the affairs of the family will be conveyed (El-Gebaly, 2025). The family is a fundamental unit that civilisations create, maintain, and thrive upon (Filipek, 2020). When a newborn comes into the world, they are first introduced to society through the family, which is the fundamental social unit. Children develop their personality and learn language, values, behaviours, habits, and social reactions due to the nurturing environment provided by the family. The primary function of

the family system goes beyond just the continuation of the human race and reproduction. The family system brings peace and tranquillity to our lives while also ensuring our physical and mental well-being. In essence, a basic family is where a man and a woman collaborate, show compassion and love, and raise a child from an early age. In Islam, the family is considered a highly valued aspect of human existence. In Islam, avoiding isolation and choosing marriage are strongly advised (Memon et al., 2016).

As a result, Islam, for example, encourages the formation of families and emphasises living within its framework. It is the natural way of leading a straightforward life that fulfils man's desires and meets his needs. This is the innate condition that God has accepted for human lives since the dawn of creation and His favour towards them. Referring to the teachings of the prophets, it highlights that God created spouses for companionship and mutual care. As God instilled in creation the tendency to mate and reproduce for the survival of the human race, Islam organised this instinct within the marital and family system to preserve lineages from mixing or being lost (Umar & Mustapha, 2019).

Despite these child protection, the phenomenon of children of unknown parentage (illegitimate children) has recently increased in our country (Saleh, 2023), leading to the establishment of special homes to care for them (Saad, 2021; Kyaruzi, 2022), as illegal relations between young men and women and other members of society have worsened (Hassan, 2010). This trend was reflected in research, where studies concerning childhood issues in general and children of unknown parentage in particular varied. Therefore, the current study aimed to analyse the content of a selected sample of these global research and studies, consisting of 107 Arab and foreign works conducted between 1992 and 2025. The researcher employed both quantitative and qualitative analysis based on a content analysis guide prepared for this purpose, which addressed several categories for examination.

### **The research problem:**

Childhood acquires its importance as the stage that constitutes the cornerstone in building the human personality, as talents and abilities are evident and values and trends are acquired, because the child is susceptible to influence, guidance, and formation (Laursen & Faur, 2022). Wisdom and divine will, and the instinct that God has instilled in people, have ruled the need to meet the communication

between men and women so that the offspring reproduce, reproduce and worship God Almighty, and God has honoured man, so he did not let his male and female meet as the male of the animal meets his female, but rather legalised marriage as a means to that and arranged rights and duties to verify the meeting between them, affection, mercy, immunisation and chastity, and to be a good and strong offspring that finds in the custody of parents full care (Al-Romani, 2001). The family is in the process of socialisation, as it represents the environment that surrounds the person from the moment of his birth, which has an important and prominent role in directing and determining the basic features of the type of pattern that he pursues through the stages of his growth, deviant or together (Cassola, 2022).

Ensuring the child's right to life and survival is paramount and must be protected under all circumstances. For this reason, the Sharia prohibits abortion after breathing the soul into it, that is, after four months of pregnancy, because it is an attack on a person's life, a crime and a felony against a believing soul, and there is no difference in that foetus between a valid marriage or a forbidden intercourse (Al-Mutairi, 2017; Hamdani & Ishaq, 2024). Islamic law also preserved genealogy from loss and falsification and made the proof of lineage a right for the child and the mother and even for the whole society; it is the right of the child to pay for himself and not be lost and to protect him from homelessness and deviation; the presence of a child without a parent exposes society to great risks and results in evils and complex problems (Al-Saleh, 2017; Muhammad, 2023). Therefore, children of unknown parentage face challenges due to societal norms that stigmatise their origins, leading to a lack of family support and a lower social standing. (Kamal, 2013; Saleh, 2023).

Based on the studies and theoretical writings related to children of unknown parentage, the factors that produced and led to the existence of this phenomenon in reality, the diverse needs and problems of this category, and the different types of care provided to them at all levels, the problem of the current study has been identified as follows: Analysis of the content of previous international research and studies that dealt with the issue of caring for children of unknown parentage, their needs and problems, whether these studies and research are theoretical studies or professional intervention research applied in Arab or foreign societies, to describe the contemporary reality of the care provided to children of unknown parentage in contemporary society,

which contributes to reaching a future vision to deal with these children appropriately.

Therefore, the objectives of this study are determined in two main ways, which are as follows:

1. To evaluate the reality of the patterns and care provided to children of unknown parentage through the description and analysis of the latest global research that examines the group, their needs and problems qualitatively and quantitatively, based on the content analysis methodology.
2. To create a future-oriented sociological approach for addressing the needs of children with unknown parentage.

**- Significance of the study:**

The significance of the present study arises from the official focus on society as a whole, particularly concerning children of unknown parentage, who may belong to groups lacking the familial support necessary for their security. This demographic faces various risks and challenges, yet is anticipated to contribute positively to society in the future. Therefore, addressing the needs of a crucial societal group, monotheistic religions advocate for the care and well-being of children with unknown parentage and their challenges. It is hoped that the results will inform policymaking and contribute to the enhancement of their lives. However, there is a lack of prior research analysing the studies and research on the care of children with unknown parentage and their issues, based on the researcher's knowledge at the time of the study. As a result, the results may lead to new research opportunities in content analysis or studies related to children with unknown parentage and their challenges. This is because content analysis differs from quantitative and qualitative analyses.

**- Conceptual Clarifications:**

**- Children of unknown parentage:**

Children of unknown parentage are defined as children who are disconnected from everyone or have unknown parents. This includes cases like a child acknowledged by their family post-birth, distinguishing them from orphans who have known lineage but are missing one parent for various reasons. A child of unknown parentage is someone who doesn't know their parents, has been abandoned in places like streets or hospitals, and is taken in by authorities to be placed in care institutions from a very young age.

**- Future vision:**

In this study, 'future vision' encompasses trends in social work based on past experiences, aimed at addressing the needs of children of unknown parentage. It relies on strategies from social work models and theories to drive societal changes, aligning with professional standards and state policies.

**- Methodology:**

The study employed content analysis to examine the care for children of unknown parents and the challenges they faced in Saudi Arabia. Thus, researchers use content analysis in social work to study practices, analyse documents, and evaluate services provided by institutions. In this context, this study belongs to the pattern of descriptive analytical studies, as it relied on the use of a descriptive approach and a content analysis method for the latest research and global studies associated with children of unknown parentage during a specific period to reach a set of results and conclusions associated with this concept and related issues and was also relying on the approach of documentary library research. Library documentary research is a valuable descriptive approach for conducting content analysis, research, and studies. To address the problem and achieve the study's objective, the study relied on a main tool, the content analysis guide (prepared by researchers), and this was done through several systematic steps as follows:

- a) **Analysis tool:** The researcher used a content analysis guide that includes several categories or units for analysis. Although the researcher used the virtual honesty (the sincerity of the arbitrators) to ensure the sincerity of the tool, and the tool in its initial form was composed of a set of primary data in addition to 12 categories for analysis, and after presentation to 3 arbitrator professors specialised in research, 4 other categories were added for analysis, so the tool became composed of 16 categories for analysis. The tool's stability was assessed by randomly selecting 9 studies on cognitive treatments conducted between 1992 and 2025, resulting in a stability coefficient of 0.91. With a stability coefficient of 0.91, the prepared evidence demonstrates high consistency and reliability, allowing the researcher to trust the analysis results.
- b) The sample studies were selected from Arab countries, foreign countries, and other studies linked with cognitive therapy.

- c) The analysis units are the smallest elements in the analysis process, identified in this study's content analysis manual as focusing on the concept of unknown proportions.
- d) The analysis categories helped in classifying and organising units into specific issues and problems. This process of categorisation was diligently followed (refer to the appendix).
- e) The analysis period ranged from 1992 to 2025, taking approximately six weeks to analyse the research content, draw conclusions, and finalise the research report from February 29, 2025, to April 7, 2025.

#### **Results and Discussions:**

The data analysis, interpretation, and discussion of the study are presented accordingly in this section.

#### **Findings of the research objective 1:**

Table 1: Time Range of Research and Studies, Research Sample (n = 107)

Time Range	Number	Percentage
1992-2000	17	15.88%
2001-2009	42	39.26%
2010-2025	48	44.86%
Total	107	100%

Source: Author's own work

Table 1 shows a peak percentage of 44.86% for research conducted from 2010 to 2025, with a decrease to 15.88% for research from 1992 to 2000, possibly indicating a significant rise in Arab and foreign global research. Which focus on the issues of children of unknown parentage as a segment of society during the period from 2001 to 2025, where the issues of caring for children of unknown parentage became important issues that received the attention of researchers in many research fields, and examples of those studies that were conducted during the period include (Al-Ruwaili, Asma Al-Assi 2018; Yousef 2019; Ibrahim 2003; Levene, Alisa, Taleb, & Sarah 2017; Philips, 2019).

Table 2: The scientific form of the research whose content was analysed (n = 107)

Scientific form of research	Number	Percentage
Master's Thesis	33	30.84%
PhD Thesis	4	3.74%
Research published in a referred	48	44.96%

Scientific form of research	Number	Percentage
scientific journal		
Research published in a scientific conference	19	17.76%
Referred published working paper	3	2.80%
Total	107	100%

Source: Author's own work

Table 2 data indicate that the highest percentage, 44.96%, represents research published in the referred scientific journals. An example of those studies (Hossam El-Din, 2016; Hamwi, 2007), then come the lowest percentages of 3.74%, which express doctoral theses, and 2.80%, which express working papers published in scientific conferences (Khalifa, 2002, Marsa, 2000), and this reflects the interest of many sects of researchers in community issues and modern research variables produced by the research reality, such as attention to the needs and problems of children of unknown parentage and the colours of care provided to them, and this also reflects the accumulation of knowledge.

Table 3: The scientific questions and hypotheses included in the research (n=107)

Scientific questions and hypotheses in research	Number	Percentage
Included questions or scientific hypotheses	102	95.33%
It did not. Include questions or scientific hypotheses	5	4.67%
Total	107	100%

Source: Author's own work

In Table 3, the highest percentages (95.33%) correspond to Arab and foreign global research and studies that included a set of questions or scientific hypotheses. For example, a study by Al-Taher and Farah (2017) investigated the relationship between alternative family treatment methods and emotional balance among individuals with unknown backgrounds. Then comes the percentage (4.67%), which expresses the number of global research studies that did not include scientific hypotheses or questions seeking to answer them because they represented theoretical research that tried to shed light on some important issues and aspects related to children of unknown parentage, their needs and care requirements, including those studies (Al-

Mansour, 2011) that analysed the content of family care provided in orphan care associations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).

Table 4: The type of study in terms of theoretical or field research (n = 107)

Type of study	Number	Percentage
Research (theoretical)	5	4.67%
Descriptive research	84	78.50%
Semi-experimental research	12	11.21%
Evaluation research	6	5.61%
Total	107	100%

Source: Author's own work

The data in Table 4 shows that the highest percentage, 78.50%, represents descriptive research focusing on the quantitative and qualitative analysis of phenomena. Examples include global studies like Othman (2017) on alternative families in child upbringing at the SOS Children's Village in Sudan, and Luqi (2016) on adolescent self-esteem in alternative families. In contrast, the lowest percentage, 4.67%, reflects theoretical studies on the care and issues of children of unknown parentage, like the Al-Mansour study (2011) on family care in orphan care associations in Saudi Arabia.

Table 5: The type of method used in the study (n = 107)

Methodology used	Number	Percentage
Documentary and library research methodology and content analysis	5	4.67%
Case study method	3	2.80%
Descriptive approach and social survey method	87	81.31%
Experimental and semi-experimental approach	12	11.21%
Total	107	100%

Source: Author's own work

In Table 5, the highest percentage, 81.31%, came from global research and studies using either the descriptive or social survey approach for a comprehensive inventory or random sampling. Examples of those studies are descriptive studies that relied on the social survey and the descriptive approach (Othman, 2017, a case study of the SOS Children's Village in Sudan). Following that, the lowest percentage, at 2.80%, employed the case study methodology, exemplified by the Luqi study (2016) on the self-esteem of adolescents from alternative families.

Table 6: The fields of application in Egypt and abroad (n = 107)

Areas of application and practice	Number	Percentage
Arab countries and societies	89	83.18%
Foreign countries and societies	18	16.82%
Total	107	100%

Source: Author's own work

Table 6 data indicates that the highest percentage was 83.18%. It reflects the research conducted in Arab countries and societies. The examples of such studies include Ahmed (2011), who examines the phenomenon of children of unknown parents in Muslim societies, their causes and treatment, using Khartoum as a case study. Another study is that of Luqi (2016), which investigates the level of self-esteem of adolescents of unknown parentage living in an alternative family in Algeria. Bassam Yousef's 2019 study on "Foundling and Immigrant Children in Palestine" is another example. The rate of 16.82% is for studies that were conducted in foreign countries and societies. Wertheimer (2006), for example, focuses on filiation disorder, documented fatherhood, legitimacy, and reform in the middle Ages.

Table 7: The proposed or used application models and methods (n = 107)

Application models and methods	Number	Percentage
Suggest specific treatment and methods	66	61.68%
Apply or experiment with specific therapeutic approaches	12	11.21%
Lack of suggested or applied treatment methods	29	27.10%
Total	107	100%

Source: Author's own work

Table 7 indicates that the rate of 61.68% is the highest percentage, reflecting global studies and research that proposed or ended with the development of treatment methods. A good example of these studies is Yousef (2019), which investigates the foundling children and immigrants in Palestine. Ivanovna Dara's study examines the place of residence of children of unknown parentage, and it is in dire need of

development in terms of healthcare patterns and infrastructure of institutions for the care of these children in the Netherlands. Another study was by Philips (2019) on the migration of foundling children (of unknown parentage) in England. The study of Gaydosh (2017) investigates the relationship between the lack of parents and the well-being of children of unknown parentage in Tanzania. On the other hand, the lowest percentage, 11.21%, reflects those studies and experimental research that have experimented with or applied certain therapeutic methods or techniques in understanding issues related to children of unknown parentage. A clear example includes studies by Abul-Magd and Ghazi (2001) that focus on the professional intervention and alleviation of social and psychological problems suffered by children of unknown parentage in residential institutions.

Table 8: The tools used in the study (n = 107)

Tools used	Number	Percentage
Analysis of the content of documents and records	5	4.67%
Questionnaires of all kinds	63	58.88%
Questionnaire (interview form)	12	11.21%
Observation guide	8	7.48%
Scientific standards	19	17.76%
Total	107	100%

Source: Author's own work

The data presented in Table 8 indicate the diversity of research tools that Arab and foreign studies (analysis sample) relied upon. The highest percentage, 58.88% is for studies that used scientific questionnaires as a research tool to study the correlation between variables. Some of the examples of these studies are: Abdel-Gawad (1998), on the deprivation of parental care and its relationship to achievement motivation among children of residential institutions. While the lowest percentage was 7.48% and 4.67%, which represent studies that relied on questionnaire or observational evidence, such as the Luqi (2016) study, Ghazi (2001), on social status and social self-concept among people of unknown parentage.

Table 9: The time of study or research (n = 107)

Research time	Number	Percentage
Less than months	12	11.21%
Four months	69	64.49%
Six months and above	26	24.30%
Total	107	100%

Source: Author's own work

Table 9 data shows that the highest percentage was 64.49% for studies that lasted a period estimated at four months or more. An example of such descriptive global research and studies is Phillips (2019) on the migration of foundling children (of unknown parentage) in England. The study by Gaydosh (2017) on the study of relationship between the lack of parents and the well-being of the child of unknown parentage in Tanzania. Finally, the study of Qasim (2011) examines the self-concept and its relationship to psychological loneliness. While 11.21% represent the studies that took less than four months, with the lowest percentage. These studies were experimental research and semi-experimental research. Examples of this kind of study are Ghazi's study in 2001, which focuses on social phobia in adolescents.

Table 10: The extent to which it contains proposed issues and research (n = 107)

Proposed research	Number	Percentage
Included proposed research	78	72.90%
No proposed research included	29	27.10%
Total	107	100%

Source: Author's own work

Table 10 shows that the highest percentage was 72.90%, which expresses those research studies that did not stop at extracting the results and interpreting them and answering research questions or proving the validity of error of the scientific hypotheses that it put in the research but exceeded that as it developed a set of proposals and solutions to deal with the problems of children of unknown parentage and examples of such studies Ahmed (2011) on the phenomenon of children of unknown parents. Nonetheless, 27.10% was the lowest percentage, which reflects the research studies that did not end with the development of research proposals for future research that can be carried out by other researchers. Examples include a study by Abdo (2000) on the counselling programme for the work team in maternal and child care institutions to satisfy the needs of infants of unknown parentage. Khalifa (2002) on the professional intervention and alleviation of social and psychological problems suffered by children, persons of unknown parentage in residential institutions, is another study in this category.

**Main findings from the studies**

In contemporary societies, the factors and reasons associated with the existence of children of unknown parentage, as studied globally, vary. The summarized results are as follows: Factors contributing to the phenomenon of children of unknown parentage include the weakening of religious values, engaging in illegal relationships to satisfy sexual desires, challenging economic conditions, high unemployment rates among the educated, costly marriages, easy mixing between genders, extramarital affairs, access to pornography, negative influences from peers, family disintegration, and marital infidelity.

However, many global studies have agreed on the impact of stigma on children of unknown parentage in the internal environment (residential institution - sponsoring family, or the external environment (the external community, school, university or work environment), and the effects and results on children of unknown parentage can be summarized, which could be reached through qualitative analysis of the content of previous research and studies (analysis sample) in: Constant feeling of deprivation and low self-esteem, loneliness, which leads them to introversion and isolation, feeling inferior, depression, delusion of illness, guilt, lying, love of revenge and aggression, hatred and anger against society, depression, feeling isolated, permanent tension, shock. Previous studies have also revealed the need for children of unknown parentage to enjoy a set of rights, the most important of which are the following: their right to issue identification papers such as a birth certificate and identity, their right to obtain citizenship, their right to the appropriate name through the Ministry of Social Affairs, their right to education for those under 7 years old in social nurseries and from 6 to 12 in model education homes until the completion of their studies, and then enabling them to work appropriately or preparing them to reside in the outside community.

Finally, the global research and studies reveal discrepancies in methodologies, tools, and samples used, resulting in varied outcomes. These differences are evident in the variation of curricula, tools, samples, and research fields as shown in Tables 5, 6, and 8.

**Findings on objective 2: The future vision for dealing with children of unknown parentage.****The postulation of the future vision**

The future vision is oriented towards foreseeing the future and consists of a set of proposals and alternative measures, and an agenda of action

can be taken as a guiding approach in changing the undesirable status quo that currently dominates the conditions of children of unknown parentage in contemporary societies, to a better, desirable situation in the future. Secondly, this future vision benefits from a set of general humanitarian principles and objectives, foremost of which are the principles of equity, equality, justice, empowerment, and human security, as well as the goals of the third millennium, in analyzing the current situation of care for children of unknown parentage. Finally, this future vision is derived from the previous and current experiences of the professional practice of social work and scrutinised to visualise the future

**Objectives of the future vision**

1. Bringing them to the maximum levels of growth and stability in all physical, psychological, mental, social, and behavioural aspects until they are integrated into becoming good citizens, and therefore the profession aims to achieve the goals (preventive, curative, and developmental) with that category.
2. Working to provide optimal psychological, social, and environmental care for children of unknown parentage.
3. Provide opportunities to develop plans, social programmes, and suitable treatment programmes to address the needs of children of unknown parentage effectively.

**The steps, procedures, and implementation of the future vision**

1. The availability of a package of activities at the heart of programmes for the care and rehabilitation of unknown parents, most notably time management programmes and training on the concept of time, planning, and life programming, including opening mental horizons by learning how to deal with the multiplicity of options and alternatives to solutions.
2. Drawing on the expertise of leading Arab countries like Egypt, Lebanon, and the UAE, known for establishing the renowned "Children's Village" social project, a centre recognised for its capabilities and quality of services.
3. Paying attention to this group by paying attention to the psychological structure of these children, by holding early psychological sessions by psychiatrists aimed at instilling hope and life in the hearts of this group to overcome any negative effects facing them in the future.

4. Efforts are made to shift societal perceptions of this group, emphasising their innocence in their circumstances. This is achieved by promoting a culture of respect for human rights and the value of human life.
5. It is essential to enforce the rights of children of unknown parentage in both local and international laws, integrating them into society as individuals who deserve equal treatment. They should be viewed as victims of their parents' actions, with the right to lead normal lives like any other child.
6. Conducting comprehensive studies and research to uncover the root causes of this issue is crucial. This enables the identification of institutional responsibilities in conducting awareness campaigns for young people and implementing suitable intervention methods tailored to each region's needs.
7. Harmonising and organising legislation, current laws, programmes, and activities aimed at enhancing the skills of children of unknown parentage to maximise benefits for this group across all regions.
8. Enhancing a culture of dialogue in interactions with children of unknown parentage involves conducting training workshops, interactive theatre, dialogue seminars, and cultural programmes. Additionally, developing suitable approaches to address the needs of adults from this group post-discharge from residential institutions is essential.
9. Review all policies and legislation related to the category of persons of unknown parentage in line with international human rights standards that stipulate the right of the child to prove parentage, the right of these children to obtain all official documents without any reference to distinguish them from others, and the right of the child to live in a society that respects his human existence.
10. Custody of children of unknown parentage for families deprived of childbearing, raising children of unknown parentage, and caring for them in internal institutions until they have the opportunities to embrace them; settling cases of proving their parentage; periodic follow-up of foster children and foster families to ensure their good care; family integration; psychosocial compatibility; and employment of children of unknown parentage after they enter the stage of youth, in particular, those who are difficult to incubate for reasons related to their mothers' issues.
11. Signing cooperation protocols with some ministries of social affairs in brotherly and friendly countries to exchange experiences of best

practices in the field of caring for children of unknown parentage and controlling the behaviour of those involved in illicit sexual relations.

12. Forming committees; holding forums and workshops specialised in issues of children of unknown parentage; extracting proposals and procedural steps, which will reflect positively on their protection policies; and encouraging creative and innovative initiatives in the field of caring for children of unknown parentage.
13. Preparing rehabilitation programmes for children of unknown parentage (professional, psychological, and social) and life skills to ensure the exit of qualified children from residential institutions and ensure their integration into society.
14. Supporting the function of the resident foster mother by raising the level of her performance and training her on her tasks as the basis for raising children of unknown parentage, encouraging families to include children by giving them financial assistance to families that suffer economically, to providing appropriate care for the child after joining them.

#### **The therapeutic strategies and techniques of the future vision**

1. Behaviour change strategy: The idea that it is easy to change the behaviour of a child of unknown parentage when he is in a group, more than changing his behaviour when he is alone, and that is due to the impact of integration into collective life on the behaviour of these children.
2. Cognitive reconstruction strategy: One of the important strategies through which customers are helped to be more aware of the nature of their ideas and evaluate the validity of these ideas. If they are negative and unrealistic, this is explained to customers indirectly, and we explain what they contribute to the occurrence of the problem. After that, customers are helped to replace these ideas with positive and realistic ideas, and we focus on this strategy of modifying the customer's thinking, inferences, and assumptions, and the trends behind the aspects. His cognitive goal, the aim of which is to help the client acquire new cognitive aspects, through which he can employ these new ideas in his daily practice.
3. Cognitive review strategy: represents the basic strategy for intervening in rational emotional behaviour, which includes the overall process of identification "cognitive appreciation" and change "treatment" concerning the misemployment of thoughts, beliefs, and perceptions, and the goal of this strategy is to reconstruct and stereotype perceptions

through the continuous use of procedures such as daily analysis to detect misuse of ideas.

4. Training strategy to withstand pressure: The social worker gives the child of unknown parentage the ability to deal with the problems he faces and thus increases his resistance to them. This process is done gradually by teaching him the skills related to it and then exposing him to pressure situations of sufficient strength to test the extent of his defences in resisting these problems.
5. The strategy of strengthening the same child of unknown parentage: to develop his abilities to face the various problems and situations that lie behind the psychosocial reality experienced by the child of unknown parentage, and the emergence of negative behaviours and problems.

#### **Appropriate therapeutic techniques to deal with these children**

1. Professionalism: In the professional relationship between the social worker and the client, trust, comfort, and positive feelings are essential for the assistance process to be effective.
2. Empathy: Empathy in social work involves the social worker understanding and appreciating the client's difficult circumstances, pain, and past experiences. The customer is in these situations and needs emotional participation to alleviate what he suffers from.
3. Initiative: Initiative in social work involves the specialist making efforts to encourage clients who may feel isolated or hesitant to seek help, allowing the client to take the first step.
4. Emotional emptying: This involves creating a safe environment for the client to express their emotions freely, with the specialist responding respectfully, showing appreciation for the client's feelings, and building trust.
6. Modelling: This involves learning through examples, which is effective in promoting positive behavioural changes. This method can be implemented through various forms such as films, symbolic models, and participation models.

#### **Factors for the success of the future vision**

The success of that future vision depends on a set of factors, the most important of which are the good selection of social workers and psychologists according to scientific controls and standards, and work to refine their skills periodically and improve their financial conditions so that they can perform their professional role efficiently. Financial support from civil society organisations, businesses, and philanthropists is crucial in assisting children with unknown parentage, ensuring their

needs are met from childhood through youth, including access to job opportunities and support for marriage. Increasing financial assistance to alternative families with low income in a way that helps those meet many requirements, whether these requirements are related to paying school fees or providing health insurance for children of unknown parentage.

Ongoing education and training for practitioners are essential to enhance their knowledge, refine their skills, and improve their ability to work effectively with children of unknown parentage. Forming self-help groups on social networking sites that can contain children of unknown parentage and provide the necessary knowledge, support, and assistance required. Having a hotline to address enquiries and provide consultations for children of unknown parentage is essential. It connects them with specialists in religious, psychological, and social aspects to offer assistance and propose solutions to their problems. Establishing a website for foster families to share experiences, problems, and solutions under the guidance of social and psychological specialists. This platform also aims to train volunteer teams in essential skills to support children of unknown parentage and provide relevant services and programmes.

#### **Recommendations for Future Study:**

This study may pave the way for further research on children of unknown parentage, exploring their challenges across different age groups and considering new variables. Based on the study results and content analysis, future research could explore parental support in foster families and its impact on life satisfaction, the effectiveness of social work programs in developing emotional intelligence, and the relationship between social stigma and suicide perception among adolescents of unknown parentage.

#### **Conclusion:**

The research on the care of children of unknown paternity uncovers substantial social issues stemming from the stigmatisation and marginalisation of this vulnerable demographic. The findings highlight the urgent necessity for extensive reforms in child welfare policy, stressing the significance of cultural, religious, and societal contexts in influencing the care given to these children. The study emphasises that children of unknown paternity have several challenges, including psychological problems arising from their origins and insufficient parental support. The study reveals that effective solutions must tackle

both the urgent needs of these children and the wider cultural attitudes that foster their isolation. Furthermore, the suggested future vision endorses a comprehensive strategy that encompasses the enhancement of psychological and social support networks, the fortification of legal safeguards, and the promotion of community acceptance. By putting the rights and welfare of children of unknown paternity first, society may endeavour to create a welcoming atmosphere that fosters their development and assimilation. Finally, this study sheds light on the complications surrounding children of unknown paternity and advocates for ongoing efforts by legislators, social workers, and communities to address their particular issues and ensure their proper position in society.

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**Conflict Of Interest:**

The authors declared that the study was carried out without any financial or commercial ties that might be interpreted as a potential conflict of interest.

**Ethical Statement:**

Not applicable

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**Appendix A**

Content Analysis Guide for Research and Studies of Children of Unknown Parentage, in its final form, was prepared by the authors.

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Research title:

Researcher name:

Publication: college [] University []

Scientific form of research: Studies in scientific journals [] Studies in a scientific conference [] Master's thesis [] PhD thesis [] Working paper []

Year of publication:

Categories of analysis:

Define concepts and terms accurately in Search:

The researcher refers to practical sources and previous studies related to the subject:

Processing, handling, and presentation:

The problem of the study and the issues it includes:

The scientific questions and hypotheses included:

The scientific form of research or study:

Sample of the study conducted by the researcher: (theoretical or field research)

Type of research or study: (exploratory, descriptive, experimental, semi-experimental)

Methodology used in the study:

. Fields of application of study or research in Egypt and abroad:

. Models and methods of application in study or research:

. Tools used in the study or research:

. Fields of application in Egypt and abroad:

. Research issues raised by previous studies and research:

. Processing and handling method:

. Possibilities given to the practitioner:

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