Supplementary Materials

Paper: Religion and continuity for children in care – an examination of public views in 40 countries

The supplementary materials consist of four parts: Part 1 presents results on treatment and discusses reasons to consider pooling the data, Part 2 outlines the operationalisation of variables, Part 3 provides results related to the main decision, and Part 4 presents results on the justification. Some text sections overlap with our methodology and variable operationalisation reports on our transparency page.

Table S1 - Countries included in the study

Australia	AUS	Hungary	HUN	Scotland	GB-SCT
Austria	AUT	Iceland	ISL	Slovakia	SVK
Belgium	BEL	Ireland	IRL	Slovenia	SVN
Canada	CAN	Israel	ISR	South Korea	KOR
Chile	CHL	Italy	ITA	Spain	ESP
Colombia	COL	Japan	JPN	Sweden	SWE
Costa Rica	CRI	Latvia	LVA	Switzerland	CHE
Czech Republic	CZE	Lithuania	LTU	Turkey	TUR
Denmark	DNK	Mexico	MEX	United States	USA
England	GB-ENG	Netherlands	NLD	Wales	GB-WLS
Estonia	EST	New Zealand	NZL		
Finland	FIN	Northern Ireland	GB-NIR		
France	FRA	Norway	NOR		
Germany	DEU	Poland	POL		
Greece	GRC	Portugal	PRT		

Part 1: Treatments

Reiterating the treatment description from the main paper, the questions and statements asked of respondents to measure the paper's dependent variable are as follows.

> A 5-year-old child was removed from his parents because of abuse. The child is now with a new family where he is settling in well and is happy. The biological parents are deeply religious [**(T1**) / and **belong to a small religious community** (**T2**)]. They insist that the child be moved to a family who shares their faith. The social worker thinks it is in the child's best interest to stay where he is. What do you think should happen?

1. The social worker should move the child to a family that shares the biological parents' faith (**move**)
2. The social worker should keep the child in the home where he is currently living **(stay)**
3. Do not know / Do not want to answer

Table S2 - Treatment Allocation

Treatments	N per Group	Share per Group (%)
T1	19872	49.97
T2	19892	50.03

Table S3 - Treatment Allocation and Randomisation Tests Results on Background Variables

Age	Young (18-34)		Adult (35-64)		Old (65+)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
T1	5446	50.0%	11227	49.6%	3199	51.2%
T2	5443	50.0%	11399	50.4%	3050	48.8%
	10889	**100%**	**22626**	**100%**	**6249**	**100%**

Gender	Female		Male		Non-Binary	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
T1	10255	50.0%	9615	50.0%	1	25.0%
T2	10274	50.0%	9614	50.0%	3	75.0%
	20529	**100%**	**19229**	**100%**	**4**	**100%**

Education	Lower		Middle		Higher	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
T1	2696	50.3%	7654	49.9%	9517	50.0%
T2	2663	49.7%	7690	50.1%	9531	50.0%
	5359	**100%**	**15344**	**100%**	**19048**	**100%**

Presence of a Partner	No		Yes	
	N	%	N	%
T1	6697	49.8%	12733	50.1%
T2	6755	50.2%	12699	49.9%
	13452	**100%**	**25432**	**100%**

Children	No		Yes	
	N	%	N	%
T1	12199	50.0%	7248	49.9%
T2	12180	50.0%	7293	50.1%
	24379	**100%**	**14541**	**100%**

Employment	Unemployed		Employed	
	N	%	N	%
T1	7310	49.9%	11787	50.0%
T2	7330	50.1%	11792	50.0%
	14640	**100%**	**23579**	**100%**

Income	Lower		Middle		Higher	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
T1	6634	49.7%	7004	50.2%	3222	50.2%
T2	6724	50.3%	6951	49.8%	3198	49.8%
	13358	**100%**	**13955**	**100%**	**6420**	**100%**

Notes: Independent Samples T-Tests were conducted to examine whether there are significant differences between the treatment groups with respect to the sociodemographic control variables. Significant differences are marked in italics and with significant stars in brackets. *p < 0.05; **p < 0.01; ***p < 0.001.

Furthermore, follow-up questions on the dependent variable were also asked to the respondents, depending on their previous choices. We reiterate the design in the supplementary materials as well. Respondents who chose "move" had three reasons to value its importance, while those who chose "stay" had four reasons to value, as shown in Table S4.

Table S4 - Follow-Up Questions to Dependent Variable

Chosen response from DV	Follow-up question	Statements	Value
Move (A)	In your opinion, how important are the following reasons for moving the child?	Out of respect for the biological parents' request **(A1)** Because the child should grow up in his religious community **(A2)** It is in the child's best interest **(A3)**	1 = Not important, 2, 3, 4 = Very important, 5 = Do not know / Do not want to answer
Stay (B)	In your opinion, how important are the following reasons for not moving the child?	Because the child is settling in well and is happy **(B1)** Because the child needs stable caregiving **(B2)** Because of the social worker's assessment **(B3)** It is in the child's best interest **(B4)**	

Table S5 - Descriptive Statistics on Main and Follow-Up Questions

Variable	n	mean	se	sd	median	min	max	range	skew	kurtosis
T1	17778	0.885	0.002	0.319	1	0	1	1	-2.415	3.833
T1-A1	1980	3.058	0.022	0.954	3	1	4	3	-0.671	-0.589
T1-A2	1960	3.05	0.022	0.983	3	1	4	3	-0.726	-0.566
T1-A3	1965	3.397	0.018	0.806	4	1	4	3	-1.249	0.854
T1-B1	15649	3.885	0.003	0.404	4	1	4	3	-4.085	18.627
T1-B2	15617	3.836	0.004	0.445	4	1	4	3	-3.104	10.896
T1-B3	15309	2.925	0.007	0.88	3	1	4	3	-0.489	-0.464
T1-B4	15553	3.836	0.004	0.458	4	1	4	3	-3.231	11.736
T2	17724	0.887	0.002	0.316	1	0	1	1	-2.444	3.973
T2-A1	1931	3.038	0.022	0.937	3	1	4	3	-0.661	-0.508
T2-A2	1923	2.973	0.024	1.025	3	1	4	3	-0.639	-0.771
T2-A3	1928	3.393	0.019	0.834	4	1	4	3	-1.283	0.876
T2-B1	15671	3.884	0.003	0.402	4	1	4	3	-4.074	18.857
T2-B2	15628	3.845	0.004	0.429	4	1	4	3	-3.103	10.743
T2-B3	15325	2.954	0.007	0.871	3	1	4	3	-0.518	-0.404
T2-B4	15535	3.829	0.004	0.465	4	1	4	3	-3.076	10.411

Table S6 - Distribution of Responses per Variable

Variable	Alternatives	N	Share (%)	Share (%)
T1	Move (0)	2201	10.89	12.15
	Stay (1)	15908	78.69	87.85
	DK/Refused	2108	10.43	-
T1-A1	1	165	7.5	7.73
	2	374	16.98	17.5
	3	702	31.9	32.87
	4	895	40.67	41.91
	DK/Refused	65	2.96	-
T1-A2	1	199	9.04	9.43
	2	326	14.8	15.44
	3	702	31.91	33.28
	4	883	40.13	41.85
	DK/Refused	91	4.12	-
T1-A3	1	68	3.1	3.22
	2	210	9.53	9.9
	3	640	29.09	30.21
	4	1201	54.56	56.66
	DK/Refused	82	3.71	-
T1-B1	1	77	0.49	0.49

	2	266	1.67	1.68
	3	1106	6.95	6.99
	4	14369	90.32	90.84
	DK/Refused	90	0.57	-
T1-B2	1	73	0.46	0.46
	2	278	1.75	1.76
	3	1859	11.68	11.77
	4	13574	85.33	86
	DK/Refused	124	0.78	-
T1-B3	1	1104	6.94	7.14
	2	3263	20.51	21.09
	3	6737	42.35	43.54
	4	4369	27.47	28.24
	DK/Refused	434	2.73	-
T1-B4	1	93	0.59	0.59
	2	299	1.88	1.9
	3	1739	10.93	11.06
	4	13588	85.42	86.44
	DK/Refused	189	1.19	-
T2	Move (0)	2168	10.71	12
	Stay (1)	15896	78.55	88
	DK/Refused	2173	10.74	-
T2-A1	1	167	7.7	7.96
	2	355	16.38	16.93
	3	749	34.56	35.72
	4	826	38.1	39.38
	DK/Refused	71	3.26	-
T2-A2	1	240	11.05	11.46
	2	347	16	16.58
	3	683	31.52	32.67
	4	822	37.9	39.29
	DK/Refused	77	3.53	-
T2-A3	1	83	3.81	3.94
	2	207	9.54	9.86
	3	598	27.57	28.51
	4	1209	55.79	57.68
	DK/Refused	71	3.29	-
T2-B1	1	85	0.53	0.53
	2	240	1.51	1.51
	3	1180	7.42	7.45
	4	14333	90.17	90.5
	DK/Refused	59	0.37	-
T2-B2	1	51	0.32	0.32

	2	281	1.77	1.78
	3	1795	11.29	11.36
	4	13666	85.97	86.53
	DK/Refused	103	0.65	-
T2-B3	1	1026	6.45	6.62
	2	3130	19.69	20.21
	3	6819	42.9	44.02
	4	4514	28.4	29.14
	DK/Refused	407	2.56	-
T2-B4	1	80	0.51	0.51
	2	349	2.19	2.22
	3	1795	11.29	11.43
	4	13476	84.77	85.83
	DK/Refused	196	1.23	-

Table S7 - T-Test Results in Comparing the Two Treatments, Group 1: T1, Group 2: T2

Variable	Mean Group 1	Mean Group 2	Diff. in Mean	N Group 1	N Group 2	Statistic	df	p
Main	0.885	0.887	-0.002	17790	17693	-0.55	35480.906	0.582 (ns)
A1	0.733	0.741	-0.007	1983	1935	-0.521	3915.053	0.602 (ns)
A2	0.738	0.709	0.029	1963	1928	2.032	3879.072	0.042 (*)
A3	0.865	0.86	0.006	1968	1932	0.509	3893.056	0.611 (ns)
B1	0.979	0.981	-0.002	15660	15635	-1.103	31240.803	0.27 (ns)
B2	0.978	0.98	-0.001	15629	15586	-0.795	31189.632	0.427 (ns)
B3	0.717	0.731	-0.013	15326	15290	-2.596	30609.203	0.009 (**)
B4	0.975	0.973	0.002	15565	15498	1.208	30997.247	0.227 (ns)

Table S8 - Logistic Regressions on Decision and Follow-Up Questions, Treatment as IV

	Dependent variable:							
	Move (0) or Stay (1)							
	Main	A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	B4
Treatment: Belong (Ref: Baseline)	1.023	1.030	0.850*	0.927	1.092	1.067	1.076**	0.914
	(0.035)	(0.076)	(0.062)	(0.088)	(0.089)	(0.087)	(0.028)	(0.067)
Constant	7.711***	2.762***	2.852***	6.406***	46.001***	45.300***	2.522***	39.407***
	(0.184)	(0.142)	(0.148)	(0.430)	(2.608)	(2.589)	(0.046)	(2.067)
R-Sq (McFadden)	0	0.002	0.004	0.002	0	0	0	0
Observations	35,483	3,918	3,891	3,900	31,295	31,215	30,616	31,063

Notes: The table reports logistic regressions, which asked respondents about the decision for the child to move or stay (0/1 binary, 0: move, 1: stay). The regression analyses exclude observations that answered, "Do not Know / Do not Want to Answer" or "NA". Standard errors are reported in parentheses. *p <0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p<0.001.

Part 2: Variables Operationalisation

Operationalisation of Religiousness

We operationalise religiousness based on an individual's religious affiliation. It is arguably the most parsimonious method in understanding one's religiousness (Anderson, 2015). Nevertheless, it is also a common practice in representative national and cross-cultural surveys, such as the *World Values Survey* and the *European Values Study*. Following this example, we operationalise religious affiliation using a question item we ask respondents. The question and response options are as follows:

> Do you regard yourself as belonging to any particular religion, and if so, to which of these do you belong?
>
> 1. I do not regard myself as belonging to any particular religion
> 2. Christianity – Protestantism
> 3. Christianity – Catholicism
> 4. Christianity – Other
> 5. Islam – Sunni
> 6. Islam – Shia
> 7. Judaism
> 8. Hinduism
> 9. Sikhism
> 10. Buddhism
> 11. Shinto
> 12. Other
> 13. Prefer not to say
> 14. Do not know

The question and responses are a standard from YouGov, our survey provider. However, the option "Christianity – Orthodox" was added only for data collection in Greece, per the suggestion of our country-language expert. From these options, we operationalise religiousness as follows: those who answer "Other", "Prefer not to say", or "Do not know" are considered non-responses and recoded as 99 (later treated as NA in analyses). "I do not regard myself as belonging to any particular religion" is recoded as 0 for "Not affiliated", while the remaining responses are recoded as 1 for "Affiliated".

Operationalisation of Religious Groups' Rights

We operationalise the variable on religious groups' rights by measuring respondents' views on whether several groups in society have enough rights, including religious

groups. As explained in the Methodology Report, this question is a replicated question from a previous survey conducted by the Centre for Research on Discretion and Paternalism, titled "Four Country Survey". The question is as follows:

> To which degree do you believe the following groups in your society have enough rights?
> **Religious people**
> 1. Too many rights
> 2. Have enough rights
> 3. Too few rights
> 4. Do not know/Do not want to answer

For our analysis, we reversed the order to 1: too few and 3: too many. We attempted to transform the variable to a 0-1 scale; however, we deemed it more explainable to keep it as a categorical variable when reporting the analysis results.

Operationalisation of Authoritarian Value

Authoritarian value was measured using the child-rearing measurement, initially introduced by Feldman and Stenner (1997) and based on a dataset from the American National Election Study (ANES) in 1992. The measurement was revisited by the same author in 2003 (Feldman, 2003) and later redeveloped by Engelhardt et al. (2023) with four additional measurement items, resulting in an 8-item measurement. The question we asked the respondents, the corresponding items, and the represented value are presented below.

> Although there are several qualities that people think children should have, every person thinks that some are more important than others. Although you may feel that both qualities are important, please choose which one of each pair is more important for a child to have. Would you say that it is more important for a child to be:

Table S9 - Child's quality options per item

	Low Value of Authoritarianism	High Value of Authoritarianism
Item 1	Independent	Respectful of their elders
Item 2	Curious	Good-mannered
Item 3	Self-reliant	Obedience
Item 4	Considerate	Well-behaved
Item 5	Free-spirited	Polite
Item 6	Imaginative	Orderly
Item 7	Adaptable	Disciplined
Item 8	Open-minded	Loyal

For these questions, the order of alternatives for each item is randomised, i.e., some respondents saw "Independent" first, while others saw "Respectful of their elders" first. The respondents must choose one of the two options, as any other response is unavailable for this question. The low value responses are valued as 0, while the high value responses are valued as 1. We then aggregated the eight items for each respondent, resulting in a 0-1 scale in which 0 indicates a low level and 1 indicates a high level of authoritarianism.

Operationalisation of Confidence in the Child Protection System

We operationalise confidence in the child protection system in this study based on a prior study by Juhasz and Skivenes (2017). The same questions were also later replicated in the Berrick et al. (2022a) work. To measure confidence in child protection services, we asked the respondents the following questions.

> Please tell us how much confidence you, personally, have in:
>
> 1. The child welfare agencies that shall protect children
> 2. The child welfare workers at these agencies
> 3. The judges in court who make decisions about care orders

The respondents receive all four statements, with each statement given the alternatives of: very little (1), some (2), quite a lot (3), a great deal (4), or do not know/do not want to answer (99). The question asked about the confidence of three actors in the child welfare or child protection system. While we used the term 'confidence', 'trust' and 'confidence' have been interchangeable in the discipline. Therefore, we argue that there should be no issue with the terminology.

For our analysis, we use a latent variable that aggregates the three actors into a single system, excluding observations with non-response answers in any of the three components. We conducted correlation and reliability tests on the three actors, as shown in Table S10. We found that the pairings exhibit a moderate to strong positive correlation. Furthermore, results from Cronbach's Alpha test show that the latent variable is reliably good. We then operationalised the confidence in the child protection system variable on a 0-1 scale, with 0 indicating low confidence and 1 indicating high confidence in the system.

Table S10 - Correlation and Cronbach's Alpha for Trust in Child Protection System

	Child Welfare Agencies	Child Welfare Workers	Judges in Court
Child Welfare Agencies			
Child Welfare Workers	0.744		
Judges in Court	0.611	0.61	
Cronbach's Alpha	0.85 (Reliability: Good)		

Operationalisation of Institutional Context

The institutional context of the child protection system is operationalised based on the global child protection typology from the *Oxford Handbook of Child Protection Systems* (Berrick et al. 2023). Several studies have used the typology to investigate country differences in institutional context. Helland et al. (2023) studied populations from England, Finland, Norway, and California (USA), which represented two systems. Skivenes and Benbenishty (2022b) studied populations from eight European countries and the USA, which represented three system orientations. Skivenes et al. (2024) studied populations of the same eight European countries as the previously mentioned research. Lastly, Loen and Skivenes (2025) used the typology to study populations from a different set of six European countries that represent three system orientations.

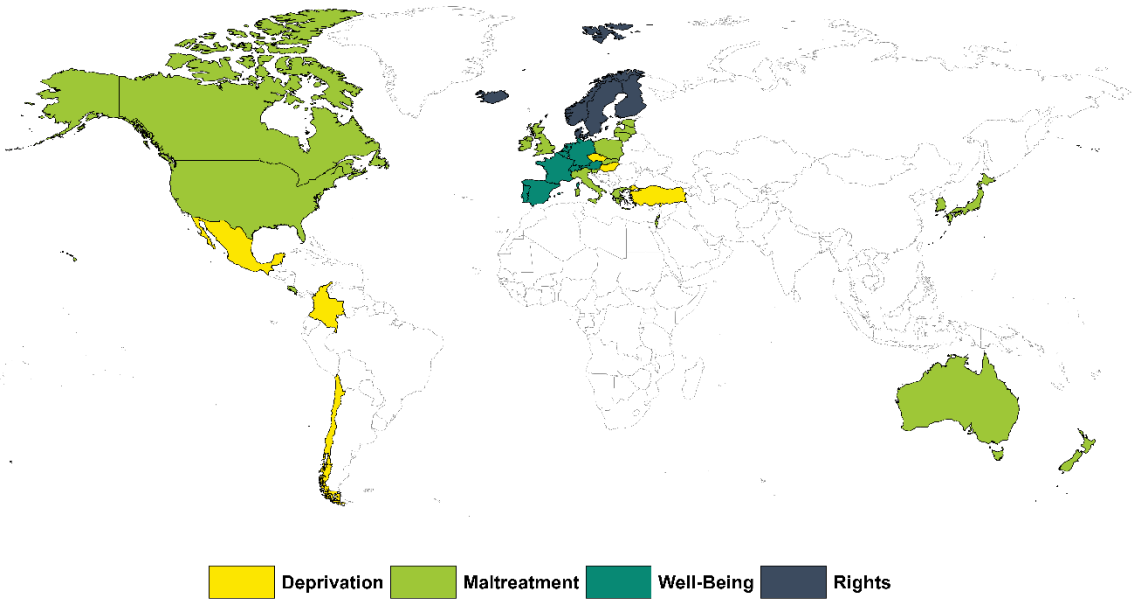
None of the countries covered by this survey was classified as having a child exploitation-based protection system. Most countries are classified as having a child maltreatment-based protection system. In the regression analysis, we treat the child rights-based protection system as the reference category. The 40 countries included in the study are categorised in Table S11 below.

Table S11 - Child Protection System Typology (Berrick et al. 2023) and the Classification of the 40 Countries in the Study

CPS Typology	Number of Countries	Country Names
Child Exploitation	0	-
Child Deprivation	6	Chile, Colombia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Mexico, Turkey
Child Maltreatment	22	Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, England, Estonia, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Poland, Scotland, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, the US, Wales
Child Well-Being	8	Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, and Switzerland

Child Rights	5	Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden

Figure S1 - Countries included in this study, with their classification of CPS typology



Operationalisation of Background Variables

The operationalisation of control variables for the 40C study can be accessed here (https://discretion.w.uib.no/files/2026/01/40C-Background-Variables.pdf). Control variables used in the regression analyses in this paper are listed in the given document. We present, in bold, the analysis categories, the original coding categories, and the recoding scheme for each control or background variable.

Part 3: Findings on Main Decision

In this section, we present country distributions on the decisions (Table S12), followed by binary logistic regressions for total sample that considers alternative reference group of the institutional context (Table S13), considers only sociodemographic control variables (Table S14), and lastly logistic regression per country results with two models of only independent variables and the full model (Table S15).

Table S12 - Distribution for Decision to Move or Stay, per Country

Country	Move		Stay	
	n	%	n	%
Australia	104	11.56	792	88.44
Austria	69	7.86	813	92.14
Belgium	78	9	790	91
Canada	106	12.44	747	87.56
Chile	118	12.96	791	87.04
Colombia	106	12.51	745	87.49
Costa Rica	122	13.27	795	86.73
Czech Republic	80	8.93	820	91.07
Denmark	59	6.47	854	93.53
England	73	7.67	873	92.33
Estonia	87	9.86	800	90.14
Finland	64	6.9	870	93.1
France	137	15.86	729	84.14
Germany	107	11.86	798	88.14
Greece	86	9.92	779	90.08
Hungary	108	12.92	730	87.08
Iceland	20	2.22	892	97.78
Ireland	92	10.82	760	89.18
Israel	183	24.86	554	75.14
Italy	83	9.47	793	90.53
Japan	33	4.52	703	95.48
Latvia	106	12.81	722	87.19
Lithuania	135	15.54	733	84.46
Netherlands	96	10.65	807	89.35
New Zealand	86	9.48	823	90.52
Northern Ireland	23	5.12	432	94.88
Norway	86	9.55	815	90.45
Poland	163	20.03	649	79.97
Portugal	70	7.69	845	92.31
Scotland	39	4.22	877	95.78
Slovakia	90	10.52	764	89.48
Slovenia	126	13.99	776	86.01
South Korea	115	12.74	786	87.26
Spain	92	10.56	783	89.44
Sweden	75	8.16	846	91.84
Switzerland	110	12.9	745	87.1
Turkey	258	31.25	567	68.75
US	284	16.59	1428	83.41
Wales	31	3.47	860	96.53
TOTAL	**4035**	**11.37**	**31466**	**88.63**

Table S13 - Logistic regression with focus on the institutional context (CPS) as IV, total sample

	Dependent variable:		
	Move (0) or Stay (1)		
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Religiousness - Religious (Ref: Not Religious)		0.468***	0.441***
		(0.022)	(0.023)
Rights for Religious People: Too Few (Ref: Enough)		0.386***	0.443***
		(0.020)	(0.026)
Rights for Religious People: Too Many		0.873**	0.948
		(0.042)	(0.050)
Authoritarian Value		0.245***	0.259***
		(0.018)	(0.021)
Confidence in the Child Protection System		0.633***	0.807*
		(0.052)	(0.074)
Institutional Context (CPS) - Deprivation (Ref: Maltreatment)	0.728***	0.810***	0.980
	(0.033)	(0.043)	(0.061)
Institutional Context (CPS) - Well-Being	1.091	1.089	1.036
	(0.049)	(0.055)	(0.059)
Institutional Context (CPS) - Rights	1.846***	1.493***	1.387***
	(0.122)	(0.110)	(0.112)
Control Vars	No	No	Yes
R-Sq (McFadden)	0.008	0.074	0.125
Observations	35,483	28,757	24,364

Notes: The table reports logistic regressions, in which respondents were asked whether the child should move or stay in the current foster home (0/1 binary; 0 = move, 1 = stay). The table uses the child maltreatment-protective system as a reference group to further understand differences across the four child protection systems. Control variables are age groups, gender, having a partner, having children, education level, employment status, and income level. The regression analyses exclude observations that answered, "Do not Know / Do not Want to Answer" or "NA". Standard errors are reported in parentheses. *p <0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p<0.001.

Table S14 - Logistic regression, sociodemographic control variables only, total sample

	Dependent variable:	
	Move (0) or Stay (1)	
	(1)	(2)
Religiousness - Religious (Ref: Not Religious)		0.441***
		(0.023)
Rights for Religious People: Too Few (Ref: Enough)		0.443***
		(0.026)
Rights for Religious People: Too Many		0.948
		(0.050)
Authoritarian Value		0.259***
		(0.021)
Confidence in the Child Protection System		0.807*
		(0.074)
Institutional Context (CPS) - Deprivation (Ref: Rights)		0.706***
		(0.068)
Institutional Context (CPS) - Maltreatment		0.721***
		(0.058)
Institutional Context (CPS) - Well-Being		0.747**
		(0.067)
Age - Young (Ref: Adult)	0.529***	0.496***
	(0.021)	(0.023)
Age - Old	1.873***	1.893***
	(0.154)	(0.171)
Gender - Male (Ref: Female)	0.460***	0.499***
	(0.018)	(0.023)
Having Partner - Yes (Ref: No Partner)	1.018	1.038
	(0.044)	(0.051)
Having Children - Yes (Ref: No Child)	0.537***	0.626***
	(0.022)	(0.029)
Education - Lower (Ref: Middle)	0.769***	0.789***
	(0.044)	(0.052)
Education - Higher	1.107*	1.085
	(0.047)	(0.053)

Employment - Employed (Ref: Not Employed)	1.023	0.974
	(0.047)	(0.051)
Income - Lower (Ref: Middle)	0.734***	0.793***
	(0.032)	(0.040)
Income - Higher	1.056	1.015
	(0.056)	(0.061)
Constant	18.897***	98.953***
	(1.309)	(12.278)
R-Sq (McFadden)	0.063	0.125
Observations	29,275	24,364

Notes: The table reports logistic regressions, in which respondents were asked whether the child should move or stay in the current foster home (0/1 binary; 0 = move, 1 = stay). Control variables are age groups, gender, having a partner, having children, education level, employment status, and income level. The regression analyses exclude observations that answered, "Do not Know / Do not Want to Answer" or "NA". Standard errors are reported in parentheses. *p <0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p<0.001.

Table S15 - Logistic Regression per country, DV: Stay vs Move

Country	Model IVs Only				Model IVs and BG Vars				
	IV	n	AIC	R-Sq (McFadden)	IV	BG Vars	n	AIC	R-Sq (McFadden)
Australia	Authoritarian	769	555.277	0.07	Authoritarian	Age (Old)	644	438.894	0.185
Austria	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	723	370.76	0.122	Authoritarian	-	572	297.48	0.195
Belgium	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few)	667	374.095	0.1	-	-	503	299.369	0.143
Canada	Religious Group Rights (Few)	707	506.214	0.071	-	Gender (Male), Education (Lower)	608	395.387	0.22
Chile	Religious Group Rights (Few)	710	524.314	0.024	-	Gender (Male)	677	488.617	0.101
Colombia	-	692	544.377	0.012	-	-	549	424.836	0.046
Costa Rica	-	797	618.234	0.012	-	Gender (Male)	659	518.399	0.04
Czech Republic	Religiousness, Authoritaria	718	427.174	0.088	Confidence in CPS	-	594	366.84	0.146

	n, Confidence in CPS								
Denmark	Religious Group Rights (Few)	715	273.459	0.139	Religious Group Rights (Few)	Age (Young)	586	207.342	0.295
England	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	775	381.821	0.106	Authoritarian	Age (Young), Having Children (Yes)	638	282.781	0.286
Estonia	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few)	673	456.383	0.125	Religiousness	Income (Lower)	587	393.387	0.193
Finland	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	761	361.688	0.125	Authoritarian	Having Children (Yes)	655	299.708	0.254
France	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	667	560.012	0.092	Religiousness, Authoritarian	Age (Young), Gender (Male)	591	452.503	0.247

Germany	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian, Confidence in CPS	742	415.92	0.232	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	Having Children (Yes)	636	351.965	0.333
Greece	Authoritarian	736	467.891	0.084	Authoritarian	-	618	394.413	0.137
Hungary	Authoritarian	661	485.859	0.056	Authoritarian	Gender (Male)	518	348.937	0.174
Iceland	Religious Group Rights (Many), Confidence in CPS	677	146.484	0.196	Religious Group Rights (Many)	-	558	117.311	0.517
Ireland	-	716	501.163	0.06	-	Age (Young)	595	393.47	0.182
Israel	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	668	773.456	0.082	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	-	615	699.244	0.121
Italy	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few)	708	441.75	0.068	-	-	571	390.395	0.139

Japan	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	339	158.167	0.109	-	-	281	130.611	0.297
Latvia	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	610	481.32	0.083	Authoritarian	Gender (Male)	542	400.138	0.205
Lithuania	Authoritarian	748	748.115	0.009	-	-	666	654.318	0.068
Netherlands	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few)	748	433.39	0.15	Religiousness	Gender (Male)	584	342.965	0.24
New Zealand	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	787	451.473	0.087	Authoritarian	Age (Young)	714	381.973	0.19
Northern Ireland	Religious Group Rights (Few)	390	134.553	0.164	Religiousness	-	315	109.355	0.37
Norway	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few),	725	405.472	0.207	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few)	Education (Lower)	593	277.441	0.349

	Authoritarian								
Poland	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	655	560.433	0.135	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	Gender (Male), Having Children (Yes), Education (Lower)	560	434.898	0.238
Portugal	Religious Group Rights (Few)	748	422.239	0.041	-	-	646	357.817	0.123
Scotland	Authoritarian	748	220.801	0.176	Authoritarian	Income (Higher)	615	139.816	0.399
Slovakia	Religiousness	692	450.759	0.051	-	Gender (Male)	575	371.081	0.098
Slovenia	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	808	628.611	0.087	Authoritarian	Age (Old), Gender (Male), Having Children (Yes)	733	532.028	0.198
South Korea	Confidence in CPS	781	599.748	0.043	-	Having Children (Yes)	779	586.33	0.093
Spain	Religious Group Rights (Few),	735	449.853	0.071	-	Age (Young)	617	396.427	0.14

	Religious Group Rights (Many), Authoritarian								
Sweden	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	695	359.977	0.148	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	Age (Young), Gender (Male)	584	290.777	0.315
Switzerland	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	669	479.387	0.127	Religiousness, Religious Group Rights (Few)	Age (Young), Gender (Male)	553	400.238	0.212
Turkey	Religious Group Rights (Many), Authoritarian, Confidence in CPS	690	767.46	0.114	Religious Group Rights (Many), Authoritarian	Education (Higher)	600	657.041	0.153
US	Religiousness, Religious Group	1413	1128.588	0.108	Religiousness,	Age (Young), Gender	1243	920.195	0.193

	Rights (Few), Authoritarian, Confidence in CPS				Authoritarian	(Male), Having Children (Yes)			
Wales	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	720	210.31	0.192	Religious Group Rights (Few), Authoritarian	-	563	163.954	0.333
Australia	Authoritarian	769	555.277	0.07	Authoritarian	Age (Old)	644	438.894	0.185

Notes: The table reports logistic regressions per country, in which respondents were asked whether the child should move or stay in the current foster home (0/1 binary; 0 = move, 1 = stay). Control variables are age groups, gender, having a partner, having children, education level, employment status, and income level. Written independent variables and control variables are those that yield significant results in the logistic regression for each country. The regression analyses exclude observations that answered, "Do not Know / Do not Want to Answer" or "NA". Standard errors are reported in parentheses. *p <0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p<0.001.

Part 4: Findings on Justifications of Reasons

In this section, we present country distributions for the importance of reasons to let the child stay (Table S16) and move (Table S17), followed by binary logistic regressions for total sample on each reason with the same independent and control variables used previously (Table S18).

Table S16 - Distribution for the Importance of Reasons to Stay

Country	Settling Well		Stable Caregiving		Social Worker's Assessment		Child's Best Interest	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Australia	782	99.05	780	98.71	605	78.21	777	98.92
Austria	789	97.75	789	97.9	562	70.55	785	97.88
Belgium	772	98.34	766	97.72	478	61.73	762	97.58
Canada	723	97.29	736	99.2	601	82.33	720	97.68
Chile	773	97.9	779	98.79	694	88.45	744	95.66
Colombia	721	97.92	723	98.21	613	85.03	710	97.22
Costa Rica	776	97.94	772	97.91	677	86.18	730	93.07
Czech Republic	790	96.68	790	97.37	323	40.26	770	95.4
Denmark	834	98.25	838	98.59	373	45.58	831	98.55
England	863	99.2	860	99.09	681	79.55	865	99.55
Estonia	780	97.88	772	97.19	562	72.1	780	97.98
Finland	862	99.42	853	98.84	677	79.28	847	98.05
France	706	97.68	704	97.41	560	78.94	698	97.1
Germany	776	97.68	781	98.47	584	74.32	761	96.94
Greece	757	97.67	768	98.84	626	81.83	758	97.8
Hungary	715	98.36	712	97.82	558	77.96	714	99.03
Iceland	879	99.03	778	91.52	602	70.02	871	98.68
Ireland	741	97.97	735	97.78	598	80.13	736	98.33
Israel	531	95.94	530	96.05	444	81.4	530	96.86
Italy	769	97.23	758	96.48	484	63.34	759	96.54
Japan	679	97.26	679	97.43	383	61.69	670	96.63
Latvia	699	97.24	701	97.66	542	76.48	681	96.29
Lithuania	721	99.02	709	97.25	351	50.26	703	96.83
Netherlands	795	98.63	796	98.85	373	47.98	779	97.24
New Zealand	805	98.29	810	99.11	650	80.4	803	98.92
Northern Ireland	427	98.77	423	97.93	363	84.86	428	99.09
Norway	800	98.87	803	99.25	478	61.2	792	99.1
Poland	638	98.31	635	98.31	437	70.73	626	97.5
Portugal	831	98.69	826	97.74	621	75.01	823	97.86

Scotland	867	99.12	867	99.28	692	80.79	856	98.77
Slovakia	739	98.01	740	97.76	517	70.16	735	97.61
Slovenia	746	96.64	754	97.46	367	48.62	751	97.46
South Korea	763	97.37	767	97.87	438	56.31	766	98.06
Spain	767	97.96	770	98.71	633	82.1	716	93.91
Sweden	823	97.83	822	98.06	596	74	829	99.26
Switzerland	730	98.38	716	96.77	484	66.36	706	96.17
Turkey	533	95.5	543	96.46	505	90.06	535	96.75
US	1385	97.23	1397	98.28	1110	79.71	1386	97.92
Wales	847	98.7	852	99.43	642	76.26	845	98.54
TOTAL	**30681**	**97.96**	**30591**	**97.91**	**22160**	**72.34**	**30283**	**97.41**

Table S17 - Distribution for the Importance of Reasons to Move

Country	Parents' Wishes		Religious Community		Child's Best Interest	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Australia	86	83.16	80	79.24	92	89.95
Austria	48	69.7	37	54.51	55	80.86
Belgium	56	75.7	58	77.43	64	84.37
Canada	75	74.37	69	69.73	89	87.39
Chile	64	56.63	71	63.39	92	84
Colombia	70	66.59	74	71.25	83	82.13
Costa Rica	77	64.96	87	76.02	105	86.7
Czech Republic	46	62.29	33	44.42	57	79.51
Denmark	38	64.77	30	51.22	42	72.98
England	43	63.49	49	72.05	55	82.26
Estonia	64	75.66	60	73.31	70	83.11
Finland	50	80.61	42	66.36	54	85.54
France	107	82.41	87	66.9	110	86
Germany	87	82.54	74	70.31	95	88.8
Greece	62	73.89	67	80.82	77	90.64
Hungary	81	77.6	76	71.84	89	88.98
Iceland	14	71.01	17	89.54	17	85.09
Ireland	56	63.58	58	64.67	73	81.57
Israel	136	74.75	139	76.39	165	90.41
Italy	54	67.48	54	68.41	67	82.48
Japan	15	46.83	21	67.59	24	74.92
Latvia	81	78.74	73	70.29	90	85.62
Lithuania	117	88.14	101	78.07	120	88.93
Netherlands	62	64.43	72	77.52	77	84.52
New Zealand	67	77.34	70	80.77	78	92.04
Northern Ireland	13	61.53	14	73.62	18	89.48

Norway	65	77.32	63	76.87	74	87.25
Poland	130	82.31	119	76.84	141	91.54
Portugal	56	81.23	50	73.46	60	86.95
Scotland	29	76.54	29	74.62	32	83.46
Slovakia	58	73.5	52	62.12	78	89.68
Slovenia	89	71.08	94	74.96	112	89.67
South Korea	79	71.28	81	73.13	98	89.57
Spain	62	68.23	65	73.15	65	75.49
Sweden	59	79.42	51	69.54	63	84.87
Switzerland	82	77.35	63	62.96	90	88.36
Turkey	174	70.02	202	80.98	212	87.49
US	215	79.18	216	79.78	229	83.67
Wales	22	71.76	17	55.16	25	83.88
TOTAL	**2883**	**73.7**	**2813**	**72.44**	**3350**	**86.05**

Table S18 - Logistic regressions on the importance of reasons for the child to move and stay, total sample

	Dependent variable:						
	Not Important (0) or Important (1)						
	Settling Well and Happy (Stay)	Stable Caregiving (Stay)	Social Worker's Assessment (Stay)	Child's Best Interest (Stay)	Parents' Wishes (Move)	Growing in Religious Community (Move)	Child's Best Interest (Move)
Religiousness - Religious (Ref: Not Religious)	0.590***	0.782*	1.192***	0.790*	1.244*	1.996***	1.055
	(0.073)	(0.088)	(0.041)	(0.081)	(0.137)	(0.207)	(0.154)
Rights for Religious People: Too Few (Ref: Enough)	0.517***	0.641**	1.188**	0.932	1.192	1.429**	0.936
	(0.074)	(0.098)	(0.076)	(0.137)	(0.138)	(0.174)	(0.142)
Rights for Religious People: Too Many	0.989	1.066	1.112**	1.038	0.963	0.720**	0.894
	(0.127)	(0.131)	(0.041)	(0.112)	(0.109)	(0.080)	(0.129)
Authoritarian Value	0.452***	0.919	1.114	0.400***	2.631***	1.534*	1.053
	(0.082)	(0.172)	(0.071)	(0.069)	(0.515)	(0.299)	(0.269)
Confidence in the Child Protection System	1.440	1.680*	6.764***	1.661**	2.808***	2.666***	2.711***
	(0.301)	(0.361)	(0.489)	(0.308)	(0.466)	(0.446)	(0.582)
Institutional Context (CPS) - Deprivation (Ref: Rights)	0.690	1.625*	2.345***	0.508**	0.638*	1.128	0.919

	(0.158)	(0.324)	(0.156)	(0.109)	(0.128)	(0.224)	(0.238)
Institutional Context (CPS) - Maltreatment	0.672*	1.474*	1.629***	0.595**	0.870	1.050	1.035
	(0.131)	(0.229)	(0.081)	(0.114)	(0.162)	(0.189)	(0.245)
Institutional Context (CPS) - Well-Being	0.693	1.339	1.277***	0.449***	0.987	0.839	1.027
	(0.151)	(0.240)	(0.072)	(0.092)	(0.205)	(0.167)	(0.268)
Age - Young (Ref: Adult)	0.391***	0.536***	0.813***	0.340***	0.615***	0.642***	0.461***
	(0.043)	(0.059)	(0.032)	(0.033)	(0.059)	(0.062)	(0.058)
Age - Old	1.795**	1.484*	0.965	1.413	1.011	1.034	1.077
	(0.381)	(0.257)	(0.048)	(0.249)	(0.208)	(0.204)	(0.328)
Gender - Male (Ref: Female)	0.326***	0.348***	0.720***	0.489***	0.984	0.864	0.508***
	(0.038)	(0.040)	(0.024)	(0.047)	(0.095)	(0.085)	(0.070)
Having Partner - Yes (Ref: No Partner)	1.234	1.070	0.957	1.163	1.056	1.113	0.995
	(0.141)	(0.119)	(0.035)	(0.118)	(0.109)	(0.114)	(0.134)
Having Children - Yes (Ref: No Child)	0.749**	0.712**	1.008	0.713***	1.130	1.214*	0.854
	(0.084)	(0.079)	(0.037)	(0.071)	(0.110)	(0.120)	(0.108)
Education - Lower (Ref: Middle)	0.728*	0.851	1.020	0.731*	0.827	0.975	0.888
	(0.114)	(0.137)	(0.056)	(0.100)	(0.110)	(0.129)	(0.150)
Education - Higher	0.924	0.836	0.992	0.933	1.129	1.369**	1.309*

	(0.109)	(0.096)	(0.036)	(0.096)	(0.115)	(0.139)	(0.176)
Employment - Employed (Ref: Not Employed)	1.027	1.116	1.002	1.065	0.914	1.124	1.332*
	(0.133)	(0.139)	(0.039)	(0.121)	(0.099)	(0.120)	(0.186)
Income - Lower (Ref: Middle)	0.769*	0.906	0.905**	0.837	0.999	0.936	0.853
	(0.095)	(0.105)	(0.035)	(0.089)	(0.107)	(0.100)	(0.120)
Income - Higher	0.899	1.338*	1.007	1.118	1.031	0.953	1.200
	(0.127)	(0.193)	(0.045)	(0.149)	(0.130)	(0.124)	(0.208)
Constant	396.348***	80.714***	0.802**	221.667***	1.201	0.765	7.851***
	(118.199)	(20.254)	(0.064)	(57.474)	(0.324)	(0.203)	(2.910)
R-Sq (McFadden)	0.084	0.044	0.043	0.068	0.043	0.063	0.057
Observations	21,386	21,351	21,107	21,286	2,865	2,838	2,848

Notes: The table reports logistic regressions, which asked respondents about the importance of the reasons for the child to move and stay (0/1 binary, 0: not important, 1: important), depending on the previous choice for the decision question. Control variables are age groups, gender, having a partner, having children, education level, employment status, and income level. The regression analyses exclude observations that answered, "Do not Know / Do not Want to Answer" or "NA". Standard errors are reported in parentheses. *p <0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p<0.001.

For exploratory purposes, we conduct binary logistic regressions that ask respondents about the importance of each reason for the child's move or stay with the current foster family. We use the same independent variables as in the decision analysis, along with sociodemographic control variables.

Justifications of Reasons to Stay

Illustrated in Figures 4 and 5 in the paper and Table S16, there is an overwhelming consensus on the importance of three out of four reasons for a child to stay in their current family. Therefore, we explain only the importance of the social worker's assessment as a reason for the child to stay in Table S18, although we still display the results from the other three reasons.

From the model with control variables in Table S18, we found interesting results. In relation to reasons for the child to stay at the current foster home, religiously affiliated respondents have higher odds of valuing the importance of the social worker's assessment as a reason for the child to stay. This result contrasts with the findings on the decision for a child to stay or move, in which religiously-affiliated people tend to have the child move to another foster home with the same faith as the biological parents (Table 2). Regarding the rights of religious groups, the results show that those who think their rights are either too few or too many are more likely to value the importance of a social worker's assessment than those who think there are enough rights for the religious group. We also found no significant association between authoritarian values and the importance of the social worker's assessment. On the other hand, we see higher and significant odds for those with high confidence in the child protection system regarding social workers' assessments, which we argue align with expectations. However, results show that respondents from systems that focus on protecting children from deprivation, maltreatment, and well-being have higher odds of valuing the importance of social workers' assessments than respondents from the more 'comprehensive' or holistic child rights-protection system. One would logically expect that high confidence in the child protection system reflects the capability and capacity of a better, more holistic child protection system. Thus, the two should reach similar conclusions about the value of the social worker's assessment. However, the regression results show otherwise.

Justifications of Reasons to Move

Table S18 also presents the regression results on the reasons for moving the child to another foster family with the same faith as the biological parents, and, similar to before, the following explanations focus on the models with control variables. Since results from

Figures 4 and 6 in the paper and Table S17 show that there are more country variations in the distribution in each reason, we describe all three reasons here.

Regarding religious affiliation, those affiliated with a particular religion have higher odds of valuing parents' wishes and allowing the child to grow up in that community. Meanwhile, there is no significant difference between the affiliated and non-affiliated in valuing the child's best interest as a reason to move the child. Regarding the view of religious people's rights, only within the growing religious community do we see a significant association between the opinions that religious people's rights are too few and that they are enough. The group of people who think that there are too few rights for religious people has higher odds of valuing children to grow in a religious community as a reason to move them.

Regarding the authoritarian value, a higher authoritarian value leads to higher odds of valuing parents' wishes and the child growing up in a religious community, as a reason to move the child to another foster family. There is no significant association between the authoritarian value and the value of importance in a child's best interest. On the other hand, all reasons have a significant association with confidence in the child protection system. The higher the confidence, the greater the odds of valuing the three reasons.

Regarding the association between the reasons and the institutional context with the rights-protective system as reference group, a significant difference can only be found in the importance of parents' wishes. Countries with child deprivation-protection systems have lower odds of valuing the parents' wishes compared to the child rights-based systems. Meaning that between these two system, child rights-protective system value more the wishes from the parents to move their child to family with the same faith.

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