

## **APPENDIX**

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**Title of publication:** Children's capacities and role in matters of great significance for them. An analysis of the Norwegian County Boards decision making in cases about adoption from care.

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## Table A: Weighing of the child's opinion displayed by three age categories

Children aged 4-6 years. N=112				
Opinion is mentioned by the board? N=112.	Yes		12	11 %
	No		100	89 %
Opinion is relied upon by the board? N=12	Yes- all		7	58 %
		Yes - unspecified	7	58 %
		Yes - a lot	0	0 %
		Yes- some	0	0%
	Not mentioned		5	42 %
	No		0	0 %
Children aged 7-11 years. N= 44				
Opinion is mentioned by the board? N=44	Yes		40	91 %
	No		4	9 %
Opinion is relied upon by the board? N=40	Yes - all		27	68 %
		Yes - unspecified	16	40 %
		Yes - a lot	6	15 %
		Yes - some	5	13 %
	Not mentioned		4	10 %
	No		9	23 %
Children above age 12 years. N=23				
Opinion is mentioned by the board? N=23	Yes		21	91 %
	No		2	9 %
Opinion is relied upon by the board? N=21	Yes - all		19	90 %
		Yes - unspecified	11	<i>52 %</i>
		Yes - a lot	8	38 %
		Yes - some	0	0%
	Not mentioned		2	10 %
	No		0	0 %





Table B: Factors of importance when considering the child's opinion and its weight. N=73 children

Child's age (21)   Child's understanding (19)   Clarity of opinion/reflection (13)   Opinion held over time (10)   Child's understanding (19)   Child's understanding (19)   Child's maturity (6)   Opinion is coherent/well thought out (6)   Sufficient information (4)   Whether opinion is formed under pressure (3)   Features of the child/child's constitution (2)   Opinion is consistent with what is in the child's best interests (1)   Child's understanding (12)   Child's understanding (13)   Child's understanding (14)   Child's understanding (15)   Child's understanding (16)   Child's understanding (17)   Child's understanding (18)   Child's understanding (19)   Child's unders	Weight assigned to the child's opinion	Factors the board relies upon to assess the capacity of the child (in parenthesis number of children in which a factor is	
N= 53 (73%)  Child's understanding (19)  Clarity of opinion/reflection (13)  Opinion held over time (10)  Child's maturity (6)  Opinion is coherent/well thought out (6)  Sufficient information (4)  Whether opinion is formed under pressure (3)  Features of the child/child's constitution (2)  Opinion is consistent with what is in the child's best interests (1)  Yes - unspecified how much weight  N= 34 (47%)  Pes - 4 (47%)  Whether opinion is consistent with what is in the child's understanding (12)  Child's maturity (6)  Sufficient information (4)  Opinion held over time (4)  Whether opinion is formed under pressure (2)  Opinion is coherent/well thought out (2)  Features of the child/child's constitution (2)  Opinion is consistent with what is in the child's best interests (1)  Yes - a lot of weight  N= 14 (19%)  Opinion is consistent with what is in the child's best interests (1)  Clarity of opinion/reflection (6)  Child's age (5)  Opinion is coherent/well thought out (3)  Whether opinion without pressure (1)  Yes - some weight  N= 5 (7%)  Opinion is coherent/well thought out (1)  Not mentioned  11 (15%)  Child's understanding (2)  Opinion held over time (1)  Child's understanding (8)  Child's understanding (8)  Child's maturity (1)  Clarity of opinion/reflection (1)		mentioned at least once).	
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whether opinion is formed under pressure (1)		Whether opinion is formed under pressure (1)	