

# System Design for Virtual Adoption

Project 2 | Presentation

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# Overview

- Goal of the Project
- Adoption
  - Definition
  - History – Process Earlier & today
  - Adoption Statistics
  - Laws/ Acts for Adoption
  - Stages of Adoption
- Sponsorship Process
- Initial Research
  - Brainstorming & Mind Mapping
  - User studies
- Scope for Design
  - Observations
  - Insights
  - Problems Identified
- Ideation
- Scenario & Final Design
- Acknowledgements
- References

# Goal of the Project

- Making the process less time consuming
- Providing Information related to availability of orphan homes & kids
- To develop better interactions between the Parents & Kids
- Reducing competitiveness amongst parents

# Adoption - Definition

- **Adoption** is the act of legally placing a child with a parent or parents other than those to whom they were born.
- The act of adopting, or state of being adopted; voluntary acceptance of a child of other parents to be the same as one's own child.
- Admission to a more intimate relation; reception; as, the adoption of persons into hospitals or monasteries, or of one society into another.
- The choosing and making that to be one's own which originally was not so; acceptance; as, the adoption of opinions.
- **‘Adopt’** means take into one's family



# History – Process Earlier & Today

- Earlier adoption used to take place within the families, where a couple used to adopt, their cousins or brother/ sister's kids.
- This tradition was followed to escape the legal hassles.
- These days 'Adoption' is considered as a motivation to help someone in need of families.
- Apart from biological need, today people consider adoption as a source of "Completing a Family"

# Adoption Service - CARA

- AIM – Finding permanent & stable homes for children whose parents are unable or unwilling to take care of them until they reach adulthood.
- Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA)
  - It is an autonomous body
  - Central Authority
- Recognised Indian Placement Agency for Inter-country Adoption (RIPA) and Shishu Grehs
- Licensed Adoption Placement Agency for In-Country Adoption (LAPA)
  - Recognised by the state government.

# Adoption Statistics

Number of children placed in adoption through Recognized Indian Placement Agencies and Shishu Grehs during the last 06 years.

Year(Jan. to Dec.)	In-country Adoption			Inter-country adoption by NRIs / PIOs / Foreigners NOCs issued by CARA	Total(4+5)
1	2	3	4	5	6
	RIPAs	Shishu Grehs	Total(2+3)		
2001	1960	573	2533	1298	3831
2002	2014	690	2704	1066	3770
2003	1949	636	2585	1024	3609
2004	1707	587	2294	1021	3315
2005	1541	743	2284	867	3151
2006	1536	873	2409	852	3261
2007	1510	984	2494	770	3264
2008	1419	750	2169	821	2990

(However, this doesn't include in-country adoption figure of other licensed adoption agencies recognized by State Governments.)

# Laws / Acts for Adoption

- Hindu Adoption & Maintenance Act, 1956 (HAMA)
- Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (JJ Act)
- Guardianship Petitions under Guardian & Wards Act, 1890

# Stages of Adoption

STAGE I - Registration

STAGE II- Home study

- Pre- adoptive counseling

- Eligibility of parents

- Finding Suitable child

STAGE III- Child is shown

- In older children – written & verbal consent is obtained

STAGE IV- On matching

- Petition is filed in the court

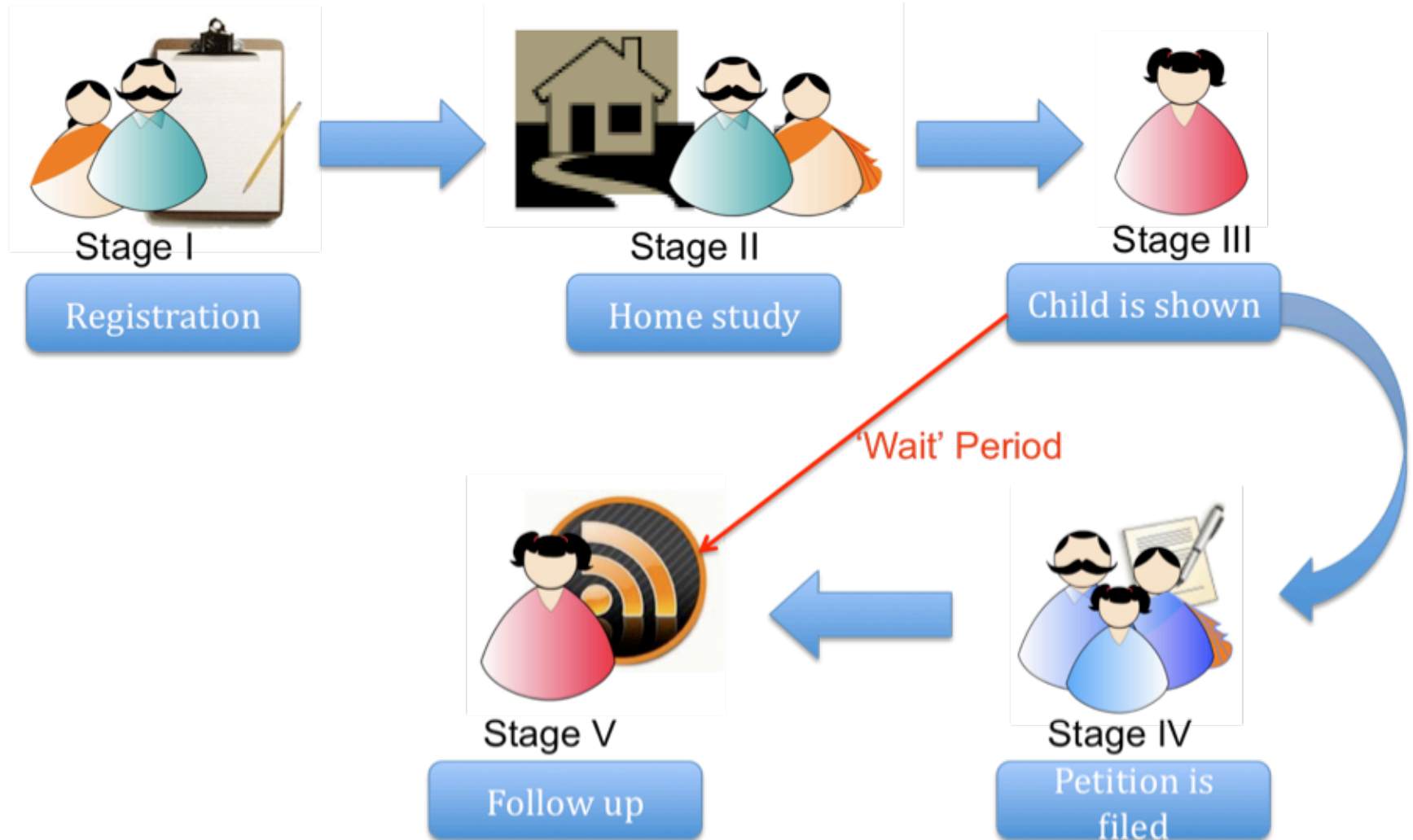
- Acts those are applicable are informed (6 -8 weeks)

STAGE V- Follow up visits

- Post Adoption counseling (at least 1 year)

- Copies of follow up reports are sent

# Stages of Adoption



# Sponsorship

- A sponsorship is a financial contribution made regularly by an individual donor or an organisation/company so as to support a child on long term basis.
- Through regular contributions, one ensures to help the organisation's financial stability and the children's well-being, education and integration into their local community.



# Process of Sponsorship

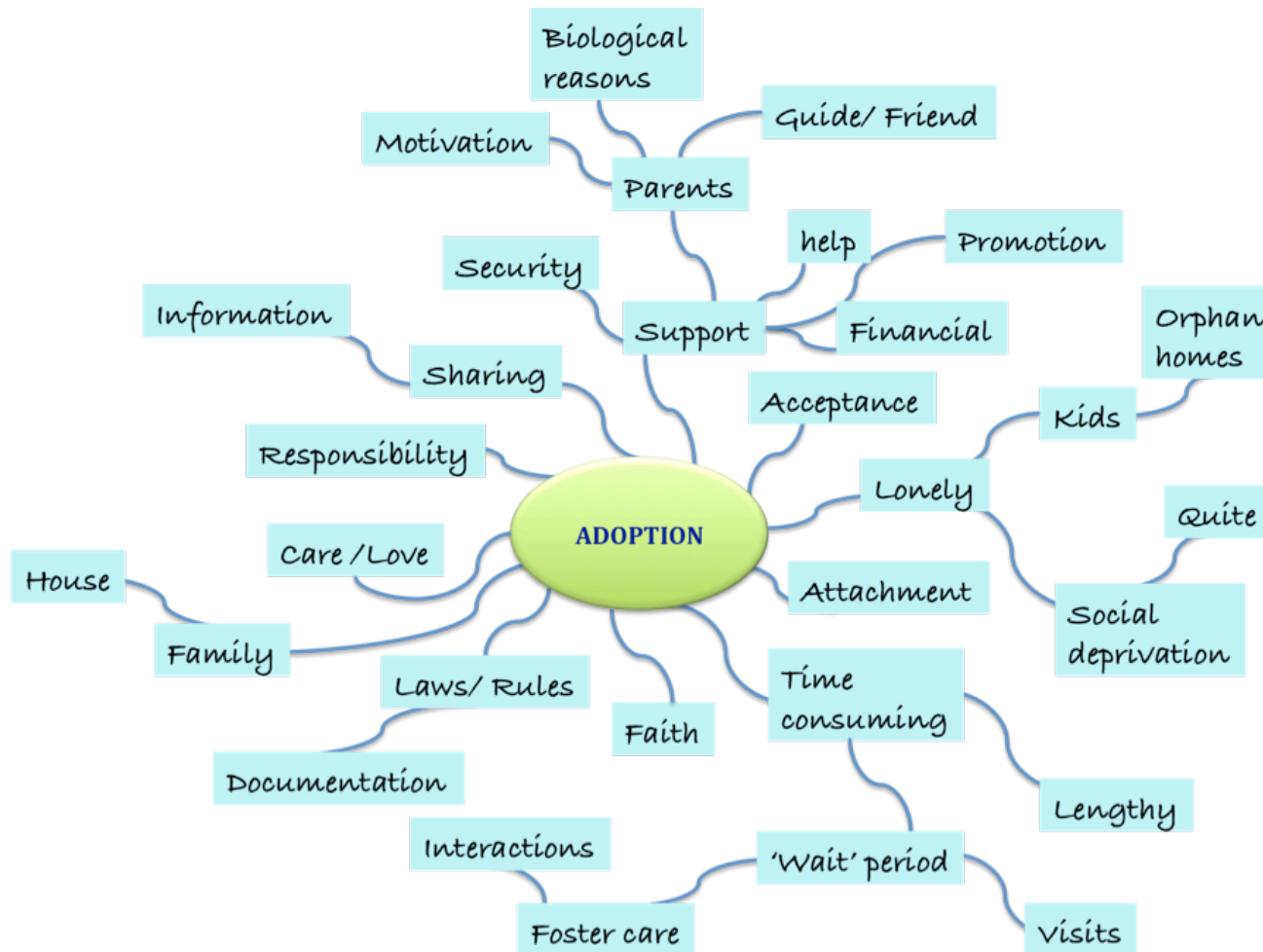
- Sign up as a Sponsor through the website.
- Create an account.
- Selection of a child with criteria's of age, area, health, grade details
- Can keep contact through letters
- Meeting the kid personally
- Other features available -sending greeting cards, gifts, clothes, etc.



# Process of Sponsorship

- Organisation provides –
- Clean water
- Nutritious Food
- Health care
- Educational opportunities
- Spiritual Nurture

# Brainstorming & Mind Mapping

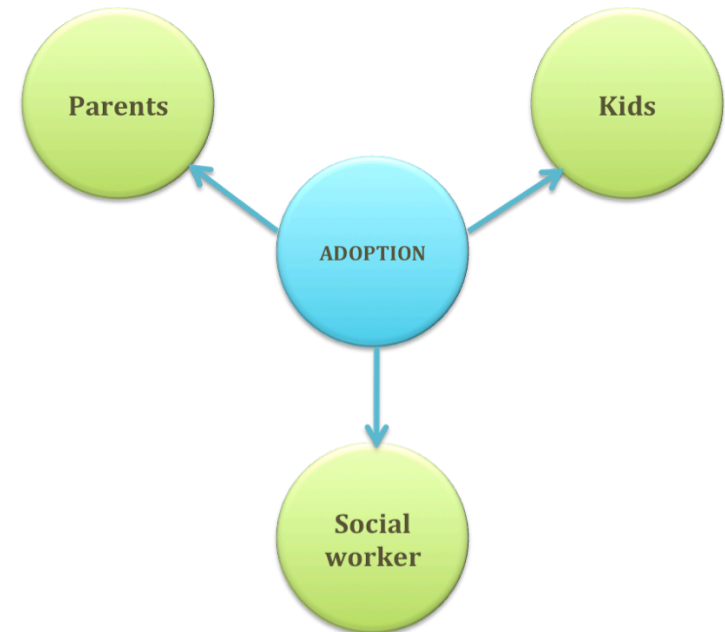


## Keywords

- Guide / Friend
- Support
- Loneliness
- Quick
- Information sharing
- Attachment
- Documentation
- Family

# User Studies

- This process is interlinked between three segment of people
- Parents, who are willing to adopt
- Kids, who are to be adopted
- Social workers who are interacting between the two groups
- Interviewed 10 users from different segments
- Social workers
- Parents
- Sponsors



# Observations

- **Adoption Process**
- Selection of Orphan homes is a very important factor.
- Sharing of experiences, info helps new adoptive parents
- Preference to physically fit and good looking kids
- Education & Medical assistance are the basic needs of the kid
- 'Wait' period requires one-one interaction
- Security issues evolve if the parents show interest in taking out the kid
- New Adoptive parents have issues handling/ interacting with kids.
- People visits orphan home, as an acknowledgement

# Insights

- Preference for Culture and Community inclination
- Kids tend to be lonely in nature, as they are isolated because of the social deprivation.
- People rely on the close acquaintances for a support, as a second opinion – Guide
- People consider adoption some kind of taboo, and give an ill-treatment to the people who resume to adoption.

# Problem Identification

## Visiting Agency

- Awareness/ Availability
- Finding popular agencies
- Selection Issues

## Documentation/ Registration

- Preparing documents / FAQ's
- Database management
- Tips on Registration

## Home study / Counseling

- Interactions & visits by SW
- Interactions with experienced parents about the same

# Problem Identification

## Referral of child

- Availability of the child
- Medical reports /information
- Child is shown physically

## Acceptance of the child

- Signing of the documents
- Need to develop better interaction between the parents & kid

## Filing of Petition

- Foster care period which needs better communication
- Submission of documents

# Problem Identification

## Pre adoption Foster care

- Parents are allowed to visit & meet
- Not all agencies allow kids to be taken home
- Knowledge about feeding schedule of child/ eating/ sleeping habits are overlooked

## Court hearing

- Simple questions
- Attending court along with the child
- Investment needed in child's name

## Court order

- Judge issues the order on showing the receipts
- Incase of HAMA registration with local registrar's office is required.

## Follow up

- Child's wellbeing report is given to the court for 1-2 yrs.
- This step is ignored as it is time consuming



# Problems & Scope for Design

- Developing a 'quick' process or less time consuming.
- Finding information about nearest orphan homes, and the most popular ones.
- Need for sharing of information about adoption to the prospective adoptive parents.
- Organization needs to keep records/ files of individual kid.
- During the selection there is comparison

# Problems & Scope for Design

- In the 'Wait' period there is a need for establishing interactions.
- Help or assistance for the prospective kids is needed
- Keeping contacts with the homes, after the child is adopted.

# Observations & Insights

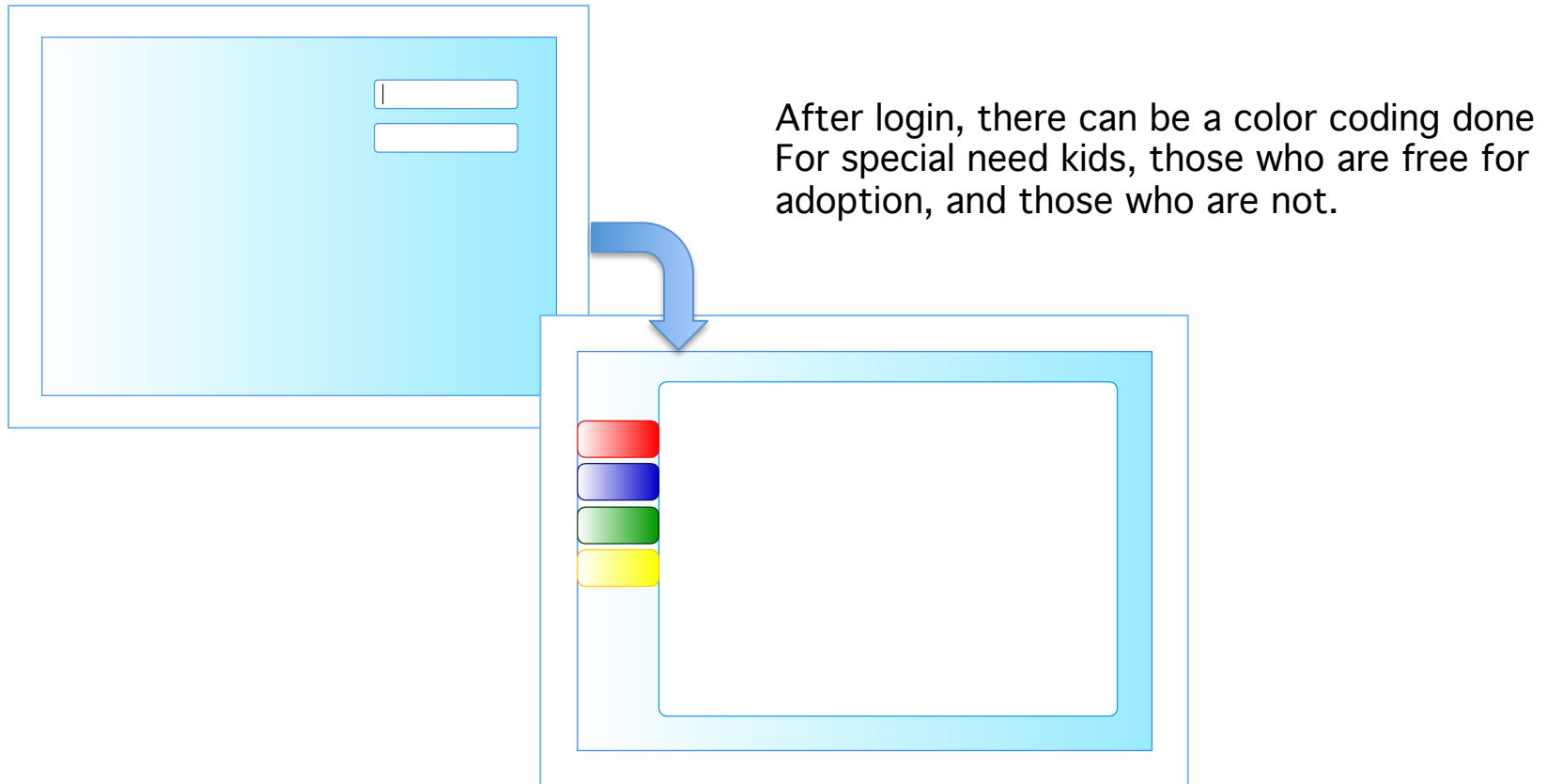
- **Sponsorship Process**
- Rules are not specified.
- Maintaining the privacy/security is the important aspect
- Utilization of funds is not known
- For assurance people need to go and meet the kid personally
- Need for establishing an effective & interactive method for communication.
- Anyone can extend their hands to help for sponsorship.

# Problems & Scope for Design

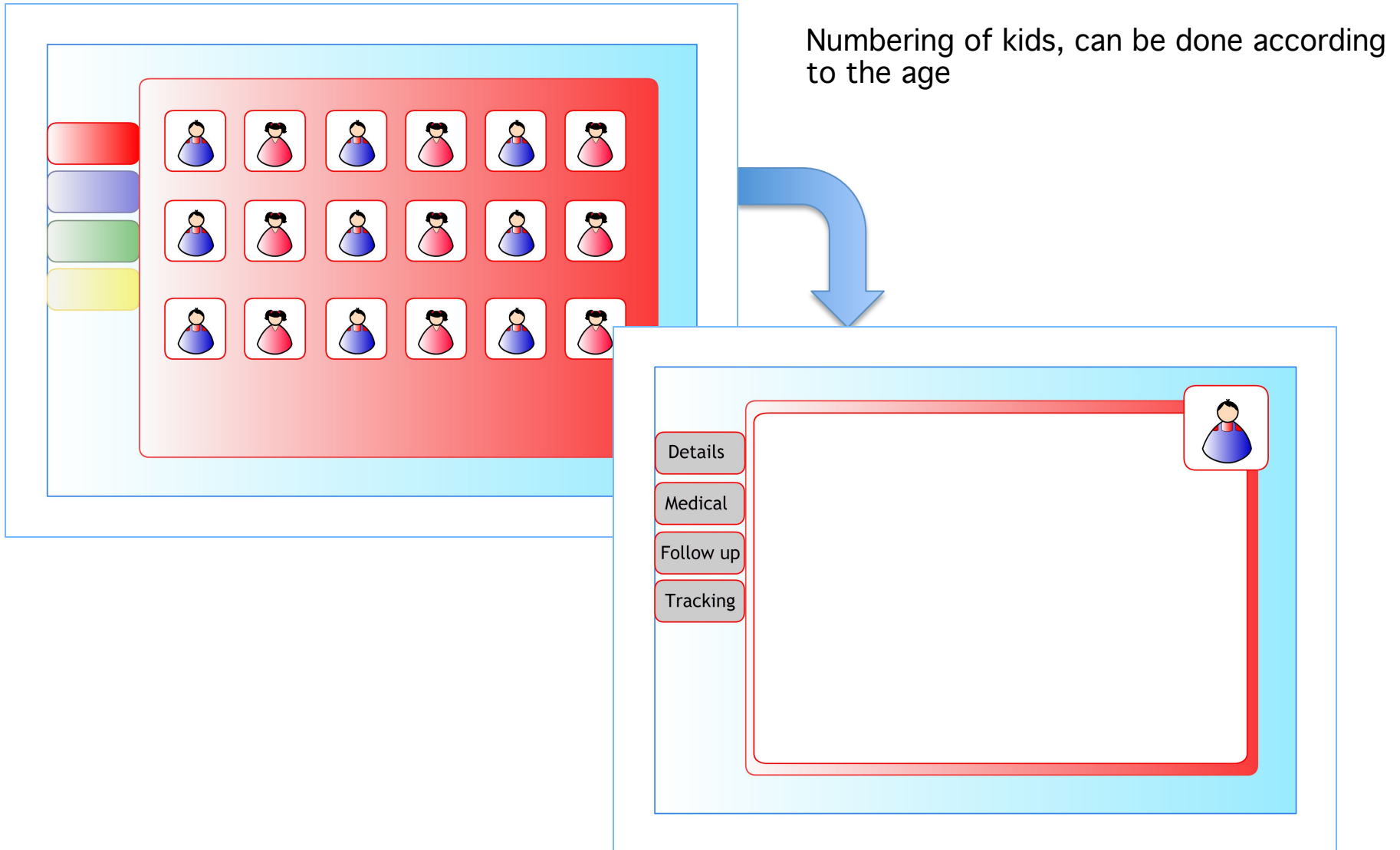
- Though there is automation done there are no interactions developed for the Sponsor and Kid.
- No lively communication of the kid and sponsor.
- Details of the kids, likings & needs are not specified, which would help for building up a relationship.
- No other factors and needs are considered, which could be supported by the sponsor.
- There are no details of how the kid is being benefitted and how the funds are used.

# Ideation – Initial Design Ideas

- Initial Design Ideas consisted of developing a database for social workers to keep track of the adoption process, medical records of kids and other details.



# Ideation – Initial Design Ideas



# Ideation – Initial Design Ideas

Details

Medical

Follow up

Tracking

Name

Age  Gender


DOB  Place

Background

Father

Mother

Other



Details would include, Family background and other information

Time versus stages would help to follow the deadlines and the important dates can be displayed.

Medical history would be stored and updated timely.

Tracking would include application tracking of the court.

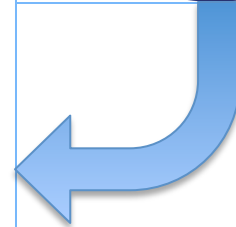
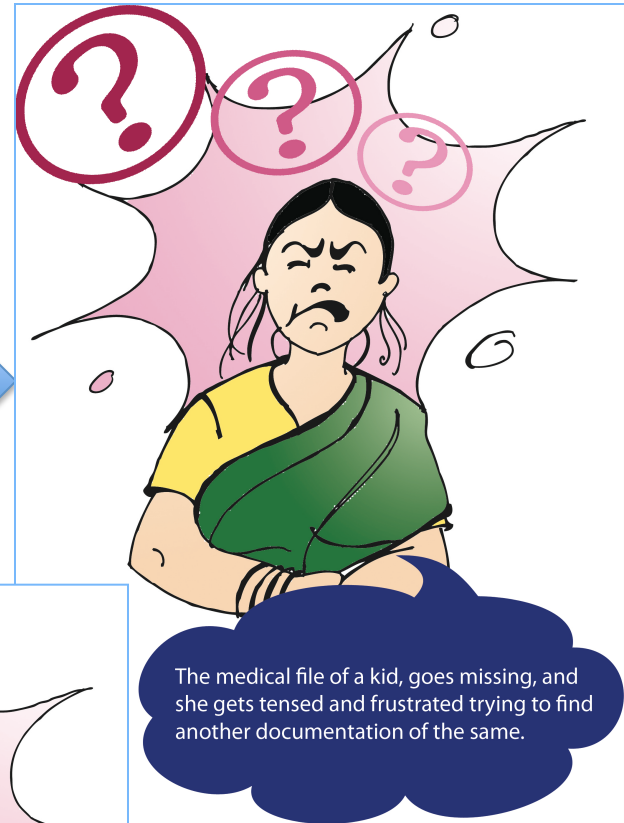
Follow up will include details that would be further entered by the feedback of the parents

# Ideation – Initial Design Ideas

- Other ideas consisted of developing an interactive device for wait period.
- Handheld device that would keep kids in orphan home busy and thus help them communicate and socialize in the orphan home.
- A web portal with a guide metaphor, that would assist parents to follow the process of adoption.



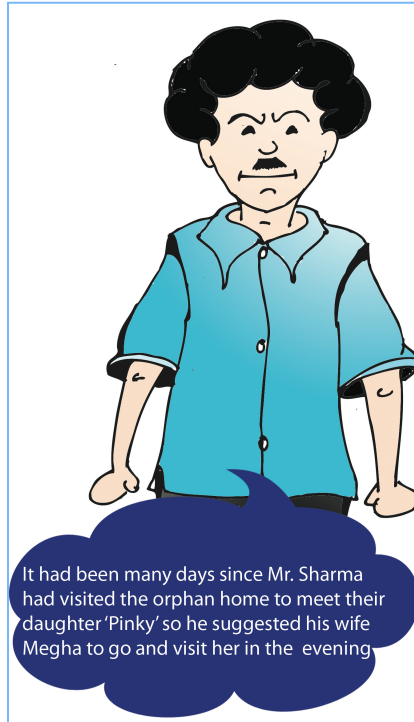
# Scenario



# Final Design

- Metaphor –
- As the pearls join together in a thread to complete a Necklace, so also every kid, joins a family to COMPLETE a family.
- Relationship & Bonding is very delicate like a thread.
- Helps to get introduced with the process of adoption, FAQ's and further one can create a profile and make this process a lot more easier.
- “Anubandha Prototype”

# Final Design



# Final Design

- For the couples who are really busy, and miss on the important dates or documents, due to busy schedule - Alerts can be the best feature.
- Alerts Prototype
- “Search” option proves to be a boon in finding the orphan homes, in locality and as the home study data gets stored, one can find their desired kids too.
- Networking helps them to share information, and socialize, whereas Events helps them to get knowledge about where, any related programs are taking place.

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Thank you!