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**From:** Lynelle Beveridge [mailto:icasn@bigpond.net.au]  
**Sent:** Wed 23/07/2008 11:02 PM  
**To:** Christine Cole  
**Subject:** RE: Alliance for Apology: thanks

Thanks Christine for all those emails .. lots of interesting reading!

Sounds like you've got a very active group of women and men! Especially terrific to see them writing to the likes of the Govt and Deborra Lee's group to try and educate and help them understand the emotional costs of adoption!

I also hope that by exposing some of our adoptee network to what your members have been writing, that it might help the adoptees "find their voices" from a political standpoint. For 10 years I've been waiting for Aust adoptees to get active .. but I find them largely to take up the position of the adoptive families - of course, they've raised us .... but hopefully, if adoptees hear the voices of our 1st families, it might raise these thoughts from their subconscious to the conscious level and get them thinking and perhaps acting on those thoughts one day??!!

It is good tho' that on a worldwide level, there are adoptees around the world from Intercountry situations who are taking on active and political positions and starting to speak out and shout to Govts and organisations!

Let's hope for a day where discussions and actions will be more balanced and the "best interests" of the child and their 1st families will be truly represented!

Regards

Lynelle Beveridge

Founder/Director

Inter-Country Adoptee Support Network (ICASN)

[www.icasn.org/](http://www.icasn.org/)

Sent 24/7/2008

Hi Lynelle,

I think its brilliant your going to disseminate the emails. Mothers really want their adult children to know that they are very much loved and were not willingly given away. We also want the adoption community to be very aware that not only did we fight alongside adoptees for open records we are still fighting for them in Queensland. The APPG keep saying that 'birthmothers' were guaranteed secrecy - that is a load of hogwash. I know of no mother that was given that assurance, nor do I know of anyone who asked for it. My research indicates it was very much the APs who demanded it.

I believe that the Govt's pro-adoption stance is connected to saving the State money. They are concerned about the aging population. In a submission by an adoptive parent group they actually told the Govt how opening up adoption could assist with this problem. And unless we make them aware of the cost to the community via our mental health damage then they will continue to be pro. That U-tube video about the Korean adoptees and the high levels of

suicide is a case in point. I think I have forwarded the two studies mentioned on that doco to you. If I have not and they are of interest I will forward them on.

I know what you mean about the difficulty for adoptees to speak out. Thanks God for the internet and the fact that adoptees are mobilising and those more radical, along with mothers' organisations, are making a space for adoptees to be heard.

Anyway once again it is great what your doing, and speaking on behalf of the many mothers I represent I thank you sincerely.

kindest regards  
Chris

Christine A. Cole BSc.(Psy) Soc Hon LLB GDL  
PhD Candidate  
School of Social Sciences  
University of Western Sydney  
Locked Bag 1797 Penrith South DC 1797  
Email: c.cole@uws.edu.au  
9772 6411 & 0433166637