

Corruption in International Adoptions - new website

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You'll be interested in this new website:

<http://www.brandeis.edu/investigate/gender/adoption/index.html>

Regards
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----- Original Message -----

From: [Christine Cole](#)

To: undisclosed-recipients

Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2008 2:51 PM

Subject: Apology Alliance: Women's Weekly: the chosen ones p. 239

Hi Everyone,

Furness and crew are promoting adoption again. There are so many things wrong with this article - the title for a start. I feel like we are back in the 1960s - when all the unwanted babies were 'chosen' by altruistic adopters. I would hate to have to live up to that level of gratitude. The article talks about the 'alleged' theft of the Indian child. It is not alleged - they were stolen. This is typical of media campaigns orchestrated by the intercountry adoption lobby when they want to expand adoption to meet their needs. Red tape, anti-adoption culture and unfeeling bureaucrats - all interfering with the saving of orphans and the childless making families. You will note one of the children was adopted twice, the first adoption failed. There is no discussion of this. Also the fact that one family lost their child because they were poor, the adoptive family were lied to and told that it was the child of a stigmatised single mother. (this seems to make adopters feel okay about adopting - even though, obviously, the child is not an orphan) No mention of the grief of the parents who lost their baby because of poverty. Or the fact that it is apparently routine to lie to adopters.

Furness unfazed by the corruption in intercountry adoption is still pushing to shorten the waiting time for adopters. In fact she says the corruption is even more reason to keep the States out of things. The end of the article is disgraceful: "They tell people like us there are no local children available for adoption, even though so many children are in foster care....There attitude leaves people with **no choice other** than inter-country adoption." I wonder how intercountry adoptees feel hearing this.

Who are they going to get to supply them babies so they are not **forced** to look overseas?

Please write to the Women's Weekly. I am going to write to NSW Docs and ask them to please respond to this article. It is not true that we have an anti-adoption culture - Australia is just not pushing the old style, closed secret style of adoption THAT NEVER WORKED - we have a culture that hopefully respects the rights of families in developing countries and is mindful that demanding babies creates black markets and child trafficking. We are, in fact, pro-family.

kind regards
Chris