

How can the rights of this child best be protected?

The Hopeful Canadian Parent

You are an average Canadian, who, for whatever reason, wishes to adopt a child. You have gone through Canada's rigorous process to determine whether you will be a good parent to a new child, and passed with flying colours. You will love your new child unconditionally, and you believe that you offer the best option possible for a baby who might otherwise have no real home.

The Child's Natural Parent

You are an average Chinese parent. You love your child, but cannot keep her. You feel that your only option is to offer her for adoption, even if it means that she will move to a country halfway around the world, with a completely different culture. Your sincerest hope is that other parents will not have to make the painful decision you feel you have been forced into by circumstances beyond your control.



U.N. Rights of the Child

The Child

You are the child caught in the middle. Being adopted by loving Canadian parents means that you will have opportunities that would not be possible otherwise. Even though you are very grateful to have been adopted, you wonder about what you might have lost in the process.

Even though international adoption has worked out well for you, what about the children still waiting? Is international adoption the best option for these children? If so, what should be done to ensure that adoptive children's rights are protected? If not, what needs to be done so that they can live happily with their natural parents, in the country of their birth?

Canadian Government Official

You are a dedicated public servant, whose job it is to make sure that everything possible is done to ensure that adoptive children in Canada, no matter their country of origin, have the same rights as all other Canadian citizens. It is also your job to work cooperatively with other countries to try to make sure that the rights of children everywhere are respected and protected.

Chinese Government Official

You are a dedicated public servant, whose job it is to think of the good of your country and its people. Despite your best efforts, your government cannot care for all children, and supports the international adoption process. You are dedicated to doing the best for these children, but you are also looking for a long-term solution, so that your country can take care of its own.