

## The Child's Rights: Perspectives and Possibilities

Group Members:		
Group's Perspective:	μ Canadian Adoptive Parent                      μ Canadian Government Official μ Natural Parent    μ Chinese Government Official μ The Child	

Every group member must complete this organizer. Discuss each issue, so that all group members have a clear understanding of this perspective, and are prepared to discuss issues at the U.N. Secretary-General's special meeting.

<b>U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child</b>	<b>What should be done <u>now</u> to protect this right for the child who has been adopted internationally by Canadian parents?</b>	<b>What should be done <u>in the future</u> to ensure that this right is protected?</b>
<b>Every child has the right to:</b>		
<b>Be cared for:</b>		
Governments should respect children's right to a name, a nationality and family ties. (Article 8)		
Children should not be separated from their parents unless it is for their own good. (Article 9)		
Children who cannot be looked after by their own family must be looked after properly, by people who respect their religion, culture and language. (Article 20)		
When children are adopted, the first concern must be what is best for them. The same rules should apply whether the children are adopted in the country where they were born, or if they are taken to live in another country. (Article 21)		
<b>Freedom of expression:</b>		
Children have the right to say what they think should happen when adults are making decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken into account. (Article 12)		
Children have a right to learn and use the language and customs of their families, whether these are shared by the majority of people in the country or not. (Article 30)		