

IOWA HIGH SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS
IOWA YOUTH SYMPOSIUM
Final Resolution (2013)
Adopted on: Wednesday, October 23, 2013
Resolution created by the Social Committee
Regarding: International Adoptions

Preambulatory

Recognizing international adoptions or inter-country adoptions are the adoptions of children typically from developing nations by developed nations, and

Taking note of various cultural guidelines put in place by individual states, and

Acknowledging the agreements made in the Hague Convention to establish safeguards for intercountry adoption, and

Recognizing that the number of international adoptions by the United States had steadily risen since the 1990s, peaking in 2004, and that since then the number has declined, signaling widespread concern over this practice because of recent controversies that have involved child trafficking and kidnapping, and

Recognizing that 5 million Americans alive today are adoptees, that 2-4 percent of all families have adopted, and that 2.5 percent of all children under 18 are adopted, and

Takes note that international adoptions cost on average \$28,000-\$64,000 per child and this large price limits the amount of families able to adopt internationally, and

Acknowledging the Child Citizen Act that gives adoptive children immediate citizenship upon the finalization of their adoption, and

Recognizing that “rehoming” is the act of finding a new home for an adoptive child without notifying or consulting the proper authorities, and also applies to both domestic and international adoptions, and

Acknowledging that UNICEF and many other international children's organizations promote the idea that unparented children should be kept at almost all costs in their country of origin, and

Keeping in mind the United States condemns all forms of illegal adoptions, and

Observing that the United States wants international adoption to be an international priority because an adoption can be extremely beneficial for both families and children, who are the future of our world, and

Recognizing the average home study fee is \$2,108.50, the average agency application and

program fee is \$16,170.75, the average document preparation and paperwork fee is \$1,761.75, and average travel expenses are \$8,601.25, the average in country expenses are \$6,462, the average post adoption expenses are \$4,513, and the average cost of all other adoption costs are \$3,689, and

Actuating

Encourages countries to advance the adoption programs in developing nations in order to be able to obtain more thorough medical records, thus enabling adoptive parents to provide a more efficient health care plan for that child, and

Emphasizes the importance of having robust programs for following-up on completed adoptions to ensure their continuing success, and

Encourages member nations to restrict and closely monitor cases of rehomed children via a set of laws, and

Condemns the use of international adoption as a political bargaining tool in international negotiations, and

Proclaims that legal international adoption is nearly always a better option than leaving a child in an institution or orphanage, and

Encourages countries to educate the public about family planning and provide women with services that would help them avoid abandoning their children when compliant with cultural norm, and

Urges member states to work with international adoption agencies in order to reduce costs of international adoption as well as to reduce the time needed to process the child, and

Encourages the education of adopting families in the cultural norms of the potential internationally adopted child, and

Urges the education of the biological family of the international adoptee on the permanence of the adoption's proceedings, and

Encourages international adoptions because they form and strengthen intercountry relationships as well as give children better homes, and

Recommends that adoption agencies provide utmost transparency of the adoption processes to stop corruption and ensure the children's safety and security, and

Endorses the prosecution of people or groups that violate international laws and treaties regarding international adoption in a court of law, and

Encourages all international adoption agencies to get Hague accreditation and approval, and

Urges the United States' State Department to actively seek a solution to end the temporary ban of adoptions for political reasons, and

Urges member states to enforce policies that combat and prevent child trafficking, and

Condemns the return of children that have completed the adoption process to their country of origin.