

SUBMISSION NO. 138

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From: James & Rosey Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 29 April 2005 4:04 PM
To: Committee, FHS (REPS)
Subject: Adoption of children from Overseas

The Secretary
Standing Committee on family and Human services
Inquiry into Adoption of children from Overseas

Dear Sir/Madam

We believe that the Federal Government should allow children adopted from Taiwan to travel home to Australia after the Initial Decree has been granted. It can only be in the best interest of the child and the adoptive parents - the sooner they get together the better for all concerned.

We are parents of a darling boy from Taiwan and we have experienced the long wait to travel to be with our son.

The average age of Australian babies leaving Taiwan to commence life with their family is 27 weeks. Dutch babies are usually 4 - 6 weeks younger when they leave Taiwan. At this stage of an infant's development, 4 - 6 weeks can mean a great deal of difference.

There is documented evidence to suggest that the first and most persistent bond of all is that of a child to its parents and that the earlier this bonding occurs, the better for the child.

Yours truly

James and Rosey Martin