

Submission No: 269

AUTHORISED: 9-11-05 JLA

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[REDACTED], we have adopted a little girl from China. Her name is Dang Xiao Ye, now known as Xiaoye Isabelle King. Xiaoye is from Luoyang, Henan Province. She was adopted on the 20th September 2004 and we have been home 13 months. Her date of birth is 20th August 2001.

I wish to stress the necessity of obtaining an Australian Birth Certificate for many reasons. One of the main reasons is to possess official documents that are standard and do not show any personal history. Adoption papers invariably do.

I am sure, by now, you know more about adoptive families and the efforts it took to become a family (for all involved). Having an Australian Birth Certificate would be another small step to being a family in more official eyes as well. I think, it would be very important, mostly for the child.

There are other matters also which various members of our community have addressed. And a community we are, a very strong community indeed. We educate each other, we learn from each other and somehow we all grow together. I have never felt so connected to other people than now, within Australia and within far away China. You probably have heard about the "Red Threads" that are woven between people. An Australian Birth Certificate would weave "True Blue Threads" between our children and their new country, Australia.

I wish for my child that her new country supports her where it can and helps her to find her her rightful place in a world that she is getting to know as her own. Xiaoye has already given so much in return.

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