



FYI from the MCWNN (AUGUST 19, 2011)

The Migration and Child Welfare National Network (MCWNN) is a [FREE membership](#) coalition targeted for individuals and agencies focused on the intersection of immigration and child welfare. Have you missed a recent e-news? They are now [available online](#)! Follow the MCWNN on [Twitter](#).

Policy

[U.S. eases deportation policy](#) (Wall Street Journal, August 19, 2011). In a surprise announcement, the Obama administration said it will review the deportation cases of 300,000 illegal immigrants and might allow many of them to stay in the U.S., a decision that angered immigration hard-liners and pleased Hispanic advocacy groups. Under the plan, federal authorities will review individually all cases of immigrants currently in deportation proceedings. Those who haven't committed crimes and who aren't considered a threat to public safety will have a chance to stay in the U.S. and to later apply for a work permit.

[Fewer youths to be deported in new policy](#) (New York Times, Aug 18, 2011). The Obama administration announced Thursday that it would suspend deportation proceedings against many illegal immigrants who pose no threat to national security or public safety. The new policy is expected to help thousands of illegal immigrants who came to the United States as young children, graduated from high school and want to go to college or serve in the armed forces.

[US will focus on deporting criminals](#) (Boston Globe, Aug 18, 2011) The Obama administration declared yesterday that it would grant an indefinite reprieve to an estimated thousands of immigrants facing deportation, allowing them to stay and work legally so officials can more quickly deport convicted criminals and other serious cases. Federal officials said they are launching a review of each of the roughly 300,000 cases in the nation's immigration courts to ensure that new and existing ones reflect the administration's priorities to detain and deport criminals and threats to public safety.

[Obama eases student deportations with new policy applauded by Durbin, Gutierrez](#) (Chicago Sun-Times, Aug 18, 2011). The Obama administration established a new policy on Thursday, virtually stopping deporting students who are in the U.S. illegally, taking steps even as Congress has resisted passing the DREAM Act, which would allow children of illegal immigrants a chance to stay in the U.S.

[Memo from Secretary Janet Napolitano regarding new interagency working group who will initiate a case-by-case review of all individuals currently in removal proceedings](#) (Department of Homeland Security, Aug 18, 2011)

Resources for Child Welfare Agencies

[DEADLINE for TPS filing for Haitians is August 22, 2011](#) (USCIS Press Release, Aug 12, 2011). The final day for TPS-Haiti beneficiaries to re-register is Aug. 22, 2011. Temporary Protected Status (TPS) was originally designated for Haiti in January 2010 in response to a catastrophic earthquake that devastated that country. The current 18-month extension of TPS for Haiti will remain in effect through Jan. 22, 2013.

[Presentation on bringing your internationally adopted child to the US](#) (USCIS Aug 19, 2011, 26 pages)

[ASISTA](#) is a national nonprofit organization providing centralized assistance for advocates and attorneys facing complex legal problems in advocating for immigrant survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Many service providers are overwhelmed by the increasing complexity of immigration law as it overlaps with other areas. The ASISTA clearinghouse offers samples and best practices, as a one-on-one case consultation and assistance by skilled consultants

Research

[U.S. Migration Policy and Mexican/Central American Migration Flows: Then and Now](#) (Migration Policy Institute, Aug 2011, 32 pages). In the past 40 years, difficult, even unacceptable, conditions at home, massive opportunity differentials within the region, and the formation of increasingly dense social networks have propelled migration from Mexico and Central America's "Northern Triangle" region (El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras) to the United States — from less than 1 million immigrants in the 1970s to 14 million today. This report delves into the push-and-pull factors that drive migration from this region, as they have spread to new destinations throughout the United States, and the changed occupational profiles of these immigrants.

[African Immigrants in the United States](#) (Migration Policy Institute, July 2011). The 1.5 million African immigrants residing in the United States in 2009 accounted for 3.9 percent of all US immigrants. This article examines the origins, socioeconomic characteristics, and legal status of the African-born immigrant population.

[Obama extends Liberian immigration status](#) (Twin City Daily Planet, Aug 16, 2011). President Obama announced an 18-month extension of Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) status for Liberians in the United States on August 16. Some of the Liberians awaiting this decision have been protected by this status since 1991.

[New Streams: Black African Migration to United States](#) (by Randy Capps, Kristin McCabe, and Micheal Fixx, Migration Policy Institute, 2011, 26 pages).

[2011 Kids Count Data Book](#) (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2011) Across the nation, research by the Annie E. Casey Foundation has found that child poverty increased in 38 states from 2000 to 2009. In the foundation's first examination of the impact of the recession on the nation's children, researchers concluded that low-income children will likely suffer academically, economically and socially long after their parents have recovered.

[Removing the Dead Hand on the Future: Recognizing Citizen Children's Rights Against Parental Deportation](#) (Alison M. Osterberg, Lewis & Clark Law Review, Fall 2009, 36 pages). Argues that the rights of citizen children should be factored into their undocumented parents' removal proceedings.

Legislation

["Humane Enforcement and Legal Protections for Separated Children Act" or "HELP Separated Children Act"](#) (112th Congress, S1399 Franken/HR2607 Woolsey, June 22, 2011). A bill to protect children affected by immigration enforcement actions.

["Trafficking Victims Protection Act - TVPRA"](#) (Senators Leah, Brown, Kerry, June 29, 2011). Bill to reauthorize the historic Trafficking Victims Protection Act, which enhanced the government's efforts to combat human trafficking in the United States and abroad.

News and Opinions

[How best to protect children?](#) (Washington Post, August 16, 2011). Op Ed from a SF pediatrician about reporting a child abuse case for West African teen, alienating patients, and about acceptable punishment in different cultures.

[Bishops criticize tough Alabama immigration](#) (New York Times, August 14, 2011). Since June, when Republican Gov. Bentley signed one of the toughest immigration enforcement law in the country, the opposition has been vocal and unceasing.

[Undocumented immigrants face checks on Amtrak, Greyhound](#) (Miami Herald, Aug 14, 2011). Immigration searches on public transportation sites are not well publicized. Border patrol agents generally protect the border or coastline. But, Steve Cribby, spokesperson for U. S. Customs and Border Protection, says agents have the authority to conduct immigration checks in public places. And checks on Greyhound buses and Amtrak are meant to disrupt human smuggling activities into the country's interior, he said.

Movies/Films

[Oranges and Sunshine](#) (2010) Tells the story of Margaret Humphreys, a social worker, who uncovered one of the most significant social scandals in recent times: the forced migration of children from the United Kingdom. Almost singlehandedly, Margaret reunited thousands of families, brought authorities to account and worldwide attention to an extraordinary miscarriage of justice. She discovered a secret that the British government had kept hidden for years: one hundred and thirty thousand children in care had been sent abroad to commonwealth countries, mainly Australia. Children as young as four had been

told that their parents were dead, and been sent to children's homes on the other side of the world. Many were subjected to appalling abuse. They were promised oranges and sunshine, they got hard labour and life in institutions.

DISCLAIMER: The information in this e-news does not represent the opinion or endorsement of MCWNN. This information is intended to provide general discussion on the topic and should not be used as a substitute for professional advice which takes into consideration specific circumstances of the situation. Those seeking case consultation should seek the services of a competent professional. Much apologizes in advance for any typographical or grammatical errors. If you are interested in sharing information on FYI from MCWNN, please contact co-editors, [Yali Lincroft](#), MBA, First Focus Policy Consultant, and [Lara Bruce](#), MSW, American Humane Association Child Welfare Specialist.