



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.

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NEWS AND OPINIONS

[No Child Is "Illegal"](#) (Blog By Wendy Cervantes, First Focus, August 20, 2012). [A new report](#) by the Center for American Progress (CAP) takes a comprehensive look at the detrimental impact of federal and state immigration enforcement policies on children and families. The report, written by Joanna Dreby of the State University of New York, lifts up the voices of children themselves—those whose families have been torn apart and those that live in fear of that threat every day. In addition to highlighting the economic and emotional impacts, Dreby also identifies emerging trends such as children entering the child welfare system due to immigration enforcement measures as well as the increase in “sudden single motherhood” among immigrant families due to the high rate of fathers being deported (NOTE: This blog was cross-reported in Moms Rising, <http://www.momsrising.org/blog/no-child-is-illegal/>)

[Immigrants' detention profits companies](#) (Associated Press, Aug 14, 2012). Hundreds of thousands of undocumented immigrants are in federal detention, almost half in private facilities that earn millions in profits for three main companies.

[Health reform may expose immigrant status of millions](#) (Reuters, Aug 9, 2012). As more low-income citizens receive insurance, the fear is that many of the estimated 12 million undocumented immigrants will be easier to identify just because they lack coverage.

[LIRS stands in prayerful solidarity with the Sikh community](#) (Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, Aug 5, 2012)

[Don't Deport the Tamale Lady](#) (CNN, Aug 1, 2012).

[More Latinos are becoming foster parents or adopting, but need is still great](#) (NBC Latino, July 31, 2012). More Latinos are gradually coming forward to adopt and foster children, as they get increasingly informed of the process. The US Children's Bureau Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) reports that the percent of public agency adoptions by parents of Hispanic ethnicity has increased every year between 2002 and 2010 to 15.5 percent.

[Immigrants Prove Big Business for Prison Companies](#) (Associated Press, Aug 2, 2012). The U.S. is locking up more [unauthorized] immigrants than ever, generating lucrative profits for the nation's largest prison companies, and an Associated Press review shows the businesses have spent tens of millions of dollars lobbying lawmakers and contributing to campaigns.

[Federal government's open-door immigration policy on welfare under fire](#) (The Daily Caller, Aug 6, 2012). Ranking Republican members of the Senate Finance, Agriculture, Budget, and Judiciary Committee wrote to DHS Secretary Napolitano and Secretary of State Clinton demanding to know why immigrants are able to access welfare safety net programs such as food stamps and housing benefits and remain immune from repercussions to their immigration status.

[Law reuniting immigrant families gains support from US bishops](#) (Catholic News Agency, July 30, 2012). The U.S. bishops have joined more than 130 organizations urging legislation to help reunite children who have been separated from family members due to immigration measures against their parents.

[When one passport isn't enough](#) (CNN, July 4, 2012). It is nearly impossible to estimate how many U.S. citizens have dual -- or even triple -- citizenships, because there is no single registry of these individuals, and the numbers change so rapidly. For millions, the road to holding two passports is not always simple.

[Tucson becomes an 'Immigrant Welcoming City'](#) (Arizona Daily Star, Aug 8, 2012). The city of Tucson is now an "Immigrant Welcoming City." After hearing impassioned speeches over the ravages of prejudice and fear-mongering, the City Council voted 6-1 to declare opposition to the remaining parts of SB 1070 and to begin a citywide discussion of how Tucson can be as inclusive as possible and bring the community closer together.

INFORMATION ON DEFERRED ACTION

[Young immigrants, in America illegally, line up for reprieve](#) (New York Times, Aug 14, 2012).

[Key Factors, unresolved issues in new deferred action program for immigrant youth will determine its success](#) (by Muzaffar Chishti and Faye Hipsman, Migration Policy Institute, Aug 16, 2012). Even as thousands of applicants lined up to apply or seek information on the program's first day, a number of key factors, some still unknown or unresolved, will ultimately determine the success of an initiative that will allow qualifying unauthorized immigrants a conditional reprieve from deportation.

[Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals – Criminal Bars Chart](#) (Immigrant Legal Resource Center, Aug 2012). This one-page chart provides a brief overview of how a criminal history can affect an individual's application for Deferred Action. The chart is intended as a general reference and corresponds with the longer DACA Criminal Bars FAQ.

[Updated: Understanding the Criminal Bars to the Deferred Action Policy for Childhood Arrivals FAQ](#) (Immigrant Legal Resource Center, Aug 2012). This FAQ defines the criminal bars provided by DHS and reviews other areas of a criminal history that may prevent an individual from receiving a DACA approval. The FAQ also provides information on how to obtain criminal records before applying.

[Updated: Practice Advisory for Criminal Defenders: Certain Criminal Offenses May Bar Persons from Applying for the New Deferred Action Status Program Announced by President Obama](#) (Immigrant Legal Resource Center, Aug 2012). This advisory reviews the general requirements of the DACA program to help defenders identify eligible clients. It outlines defense strategies to preserve a client's possible eligibility for DACA.

[Do DREAM'ers Really Need Lawyers](#) (by Laura Lichter, American Immigrant Lawyer Association Blog, Aug 3, 2012). Even though the requirements look simple, you don't need a law degree to know that looks can

be deceiving. So when do you really need a lawyer? And just as importantly, what can (and should) a lawyer do for you? ... Some of the red flags are obvious; some are not.

[Online Legal Help for DREAM'ers Nationwide](#) (Heartland Alliance's National Immigrant Justice Center, Aug 3, 2012). Available on Aug 15, the same date USCIS will begin applications, NIJC will launch DREAMerJustice.org, a self-assessment tool to help eligible youth to apply for temporary relief from deportation.

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

[Foster Youth Internship Report - Hear me now](#) (Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, July 31, 2012). Fourteen former foster youth who spent their summer interning on Capitol Hill provide recommendations for challenges facing youth in care including juvenile justice, human trafficking, psychotropic medication, etc.

[Immigration related laws and resolutions](#) (National Council of State Legislators, Aug 6, 2012, 10 pages). In 2012, the introduction and enactment of immigration bills and resolutions in the states dropped markedly from previous years. Legislators found that state budget gaps and redistricting maps took priority, consuming much of the legislative schedule. Perhaps more significant, state lawmakers cited pending litigation on states' authority to enforce immigration laws as further reason to postpone action. This summer's U.S. Supreme Court ruling on Arizona v. United States upheld only one of the four state provisions challenged by the U.S. Department of Justice. That provision allows law enforcement officers to inquire about a person's immigration status during a lawful stop.

RESOURCES FOR DIRECT SERVICE PROVIDERS

[The Burden of Deportation on Children in Mexican Immigrant Families](#) (by Joanna Dreby, University at Albany, SUNY, Journal of Marriage and Family 74, August 2012: 829-845). Drawing on interviews with 91 parents and 110 children in 80 households, the author suggests that, similar to the injury pyramid used by public health professionals, a deportation pyramid best depicts the burden of deportation on children.

[Intergenerational Conflict in Migrant Families Teenage Years](#) (Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre (MRC). Addresses inter-generational conflict and parenting adolescents in newly and established communities. It focuses on four communities: former Yugoslavia, Turkish, Assyrian-Chaldean and Somali. The tip sheets include topics like getting to know about teenager years, smart parenting, how to communicate with teenagers, and how to stop fighting.

[Opening Doors booklets](#), from the Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association of NSW, examine the perceptions of disability within particular culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Australia. The booklets are available in multiple languages.

["Parent Training Among Ethnic Minorities: Parenting Practices as Mediators of Change in Child Conduct Problems,"](#) from the journal on *Family Relations*, examines the parenting practices as mediators of changes in child conduct problems in ethnic minority families participating in Parent Management Training-Oregon Model (PMTO). The participants included 96 Somali and Pakistani immigrant mothers and their children in Norway.

[Inspirational Stories: Stories of Raising Children by Parents from Refugee Backgrounds in Australia](#) was designed to assist newly arrived parents from refugees backgrounds who would like to hear stories from other parents in their own language, about their parenting experiences. Nine transcripts are written in English and accompany the "Inspirational Stories" CD with stories recorded in English, Kirundi, Dari, Karen and Arabic.

[Family Group Conferencing as a culturally adaptable intervention: Reforming intercountry adoption in Guatemala](#) (by Rotabi, K. S., Pennell, J., Roby, J. L., & Bunkers, K. M. (2012). *International Social Work*, 55(3), 402-416. doi: 10.1177/0020872812437229

RESEARCH

[Immigration Enforcement: How Children, Families and Communities are Impacted](#) (by Joanna Dreby, Center for American Progress, August 20, 2012). What happens to children when their parents are deported? How do these deportations, now more numerous than ever, affect families and the communities in which they live? In this report, we argue that deportations break families up and have a wider effect on the community as a whole, not just the individual and the family involved. Deportations leave children in foster care and create a large number of single mothers struggling to make ends meet. But even families who do not directly experience the detention or deportation of a loved one feel its effects: children and parents live in constant fear of separation, children routinely conflate the police with immigration officials and begin to associate all immigrants with illegal status, regardless of their own identity or legal status.

[Slow Path to Progress for U.S. Immigrants](#) (Washington Post, Aug 8, 2012). Immigrants lag behind native-born Americans on most measures of economic well-being - even those who have been in the U.S. the longest, according to a report from the Center for Immigration Studies, which argues that full assimilation is a more complex task than overcoming language or cultural differences.

[Intercountry adoption declines lead to new practices of global surrogacy in Guatemala: Global human rights concerns in the context of violence and the era of advanced fertility technology.](#) (by Rotabi, K., Bromfield, N., Affilia, May 2012) ABSTRACT: Intercountry adoption has declined significantly in the last five years. It is not as feasible an option anymore for building a family with a very young child or infant from Guatemala. However, global surrogacy appears to be meeting the need for some individuals and couples. Contracting surrogacy with a woman in another nation is explored, focusing on vulnerable women. Specifically, surrogacy in India and Guatemala is discussed with concerns about informed consent in the context of poverty and, in the case of Guatemala, violence against women and human trafficking. Technological advances and globalization are also considered as the authors pose critical questions about the practice of global surrogacy. Implications for social workers and human rights defenders are also posed, underscoring the importance of awareness to this emergent global practice.

[Watch SinPais](#) (PBS), Winner of a Student Academy Award, Sin País (Without Country) explores one family's complex and emotional journey involving deportation.

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, Program Specialist, Butler Institute for Families at the University of Denver.