



e-News from the MCWNN (June 13, 2011)

The Migration and Child Welfare National Network (MCWNN) is a [FREE membership](#) coalition for individuals and agencies interested in the intersection of immigration and child welfare.

Resources for Child Welfare Agencies

[Guatemalan Child Return & Reintegration Project](#) (KIND – Kids in Need of Defense). KIND (Kids in need of Defense) is working with five nonprofit Guatemalan agencies (not part of the government) to help unaccompanied children find safety, support and help when they are deported or voluntarily chosen to leave the U.S. to return to Guatemala.

[Addressing issues of globalization in the training of public child welfare workers: Lessons from a training program in the USA](#) (International Social Work, 52:72-83, January 2009).

[Adapting Trauma Interventions for Refugee Families](#) (from The Dialogue – A Quarterly Technical Assistance Bulletin on Disaster Behavioral Health, SAMSHA, Vol7, Issue 2, 2011).

[New Youth Connections \(NYC\)](#) is a general interest teen magazine written by and for New York City Youth and is distributed in every public high school in New York City, as well as hundreds of libraries and community based agencies in New York. Some sample articles include:

[Why do Muslim Women Wear Veils?](#) (by Isa Gonzalez, New Youth Connections, May-June 2011). Interview with Middle East Studies professor to explain why Muslim women wear veils.

[Sad Senioritas –Girls feel unfairly treated in Latino Families](#) (by Darlyn Rodriguez, New Youth Connections, May-June 2011). Conflict felt by many Latina youth with different expectations from Hispanic and American cultures about roles and behaviors.

[My Nigerian Romeo – He’s chosen me over his culture – are we destined or doomed?](#) (by Ebony Coleman, New Youth Connections, Nov 2010). Cross-cultural affair between black Dominican and Nigerian immigrant youth and conflict with his immigrant family.

Policy and Research

[Special Immigrant Juvenile Status: Problems with Substantive Immigration Law and Guidelines for Improvements](#) (by Maria Virginia Martorell, Jan 18, 2011). Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1832043>

[Child Welfare Regulation 32A-4-12.1 Disposition of an undocumented immigrant child in a proceeding under the Abuse and Neglect Act](#) (New Mexico) Regulation requiring child welfare department review

permanency planning to include determination of whether a child is eligible for special immigrant juvenile status.

[Policy Implications from the Field of International Child Welfare](#) (Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare, University of MN, Blog Entry, June 8, 2011). This first entry in June's theme of international child welfare will discuss a few ways in which international child welfare policies are already impacting policy here in the United States and in Minnesota.

[Immigrant Children - Future of Children](#) (Spring 2011) The Brookings Institution and Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School have released the latest Future of Children volume "Immigrant Children." The articles in this volume present critical information about children in immigrant families in the U.S., and makes recommendations that will ultimately improve their wellbeing.

[Foster Care Statistics 2009](#) (Child Welfare Information Gateway, May 2011). This factsheet provides the most recent national estimates for children and youth in foster care from fiscal year (FY) 2009, as well as earlier data from FY 2000, to allow for some estimate of trends over time. NOTE - The percentage of Black/Non-Hispanic children in care decreased between FY2000 and FY2009 (39% vs 30%), while there were increases in the percentage of both White/Non-Hispanic (38% vs 40%) and Hispanic children (15% vs 20%).

[2011 Immigration-Related Laws, Bills and Resolutions in the States](#) (National Conference of State Legislators, Jan 1- Mar 31, 2011). In the first quarter of 2011, state legislators introduced 1,538 bills and resolutions relating to immigrants and refugees. This number surpasses the first quarter of 2010, when 1,180 bills were introduced. Among enacted laws, the top areas of interest were health, identification/driver's licenses, law enforcement, and resolutions. Utah's package of immigration-related laws gained significant attention.

[Deportation in the Time of Cholera: DHS's Mixed Response to Haiti's Earthquake](#) (Immigration Policy Center, May 2011). The dramatic announcement on May 17, 2011 that DHS would extend Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for another eighteen months to Haitians, including those who entered the country no later than January 12, 2011, is a welcome step forward in the saga of the Haitian earthquake. In many ways, DHS's handling of the devastating January 2010 earthquake in Haiti is emblematic of the triumphs and tribulations of the Obama administration. This critique found that the immigration agencies appear to be tackling issues affecting Haitians independently, failing to coordinate their enforcement and benefits-oriented policies.

[A Description of the Immigrant Population – An Update](#) (Congressional Budget Office, June 2011)

News and Opinions

[Legalities baffle immigrant parents](#) (Roanoke Times/Virginia, June 13, 2011). The article describes a refugee mother battling the foster care system and seeking mental health services for her teen in Virginia.

[The adoption option - Two El Paso families find different routes to fulfill the same dream](#) (El Paso Times, June 13, 2011). The article describes the differences two families encounter in adopting their child – one using the foster care/domestic adoption system vs. an international adoption.

[How the Other Half Lives, Still](#) (New York Times Opinion, May 26, 2011). At the Lower East Side Tenement Museum in Manhattan, visitors can view recreated moments in the lives of immigrant families live there in the 1870s, struggling against poverty and isolation. New immigrants in New York still crowd into derelict apartments with parents toiling and children suffering. However, while most of the last centuries' newcomers were Americans in the making, many today have no way to naturalize

[Missing the Boat: 60 Minutes Reports on Children in the Fields](#) (by Len Morris, Media Voices, May 27, 2011). Commentary on how 60 Minutes story omits meaningful discussion of pesticides and hazardous working conditions for migrant children, not mentioning the CARE Bill, and high-school drop-out rates for these children.

[Illegal Immigrants' Children Suffer, Study Finds](#) (New York Times, May 20, 2011). Eulogia was scared and adrift. At 25, she was poor, pregnant and an illegal immigrant. She worried about how she would pay for medical care and raise her baby, and even whether a trip to the hospital might prompt her deportation to Mexico. But when she plunged into a postpartum depression in 2003 after the birth of her daughter, the first of three children, a hospital social worker referred her and her husband to an East Harlem social service agency that has counseled them and helped them get care for their family and get the government assistance their children were eligible for as American citizens. "I think I very am lucky," Eulogia said in an interview this week, asking that her last name not be used because she still fears deportation. She said most illegal immigrant parents felt tremendously isolated and did not have "the confidence to ask for help." Indeed, a recently published study of the early development of children born to illegal immigrants in New York City suggests that most stories that begin like Eulogia's do not end as well.

[She's Ten and Now May Be Sold to a Brothel](#) (New York Times Opinion, May 2, 2011). M. is an ebullient girl, age 10, who ranks near the top of her fourth-grade class and dreams of being a doctor. Yet she, like all of India, is at a turning point, and it looks as if her family may instead sell her to a brothel.

[U.S. Child Farmworkers: Dreading their Summer Vacation](#) (By Wendy Cervantes, First Focus blog, May 25, 2011). With warm weather approaching and the school year coming to a close, children around the country are eagerly anticipating their summer vacations. Many look forward to day camp, family trips, or long days spent by the pool. However, for thousands of U.S. farmworker children, the impending summer months mean long days (often six to seven days a week) of hard labor under the hot sun picking fruit, hoeing cotton, or detasseling corn. The suntans these children will earn won't come from playing on the beach (MORE)

NOTE FROM MCWNN eNEWS EDITORS – BRAVO to MCWNN Public Policy Co-chair Angie Junck for her success in winning the Minota case described in the following articles:

[No One Can Do This Alone": How an Immigrant Family Beat Deportation](#) (New American Media/Silicon Valley De-Bug, Video, June 12, 2011). Jeysson Minota, a permanent legal resident, faced deportation over a vandalism charge due to graffiti. After four years in and out of detention, he was able to beat the deportation order and stay with his family in the US. This min-documentary is part of an ongoing series chronicling the stories of Silicon Valley De-Bug's Albert Cobarrubias Justice Project, a community organizing model that encourages family and community involvement in the court systems.

[Stopping Deportations Before They Start – How Advocates Can Protect Immigrants Facing Criminal Charges](#) (OP ED by Angie Junck and Raj Jayadev, Silicon Valley De-Bug, March 30, 2011). On the heels of

the one-year anniversary of a historic Supreme Court decision, attorney Angie Junck and organizer Raj Jayadev share lessons learned from a case of a San Jose man who beat a deportation order. This week marks the one-year anniversary of *Padilla v. Kentucky* – arguably the most important U.S. Supreme Court decision to date in terms of the nexus between local criminal courts and federal immigration laws. This is also the first week of renewed freedom for Jeysson Minota, a 28-year-old legal permanent resident from Colombia who had been in and out of federal detention centers for the past four years due to charges stemming from graffiti. His detention and his ultimate freedom tell the story of the need and possibility of the Padilla standard.

This e-News is created by co-editors Yali Lincroft, MBA, Policy and Program Consultant, yali@childpublicpolicy.com and Lara Bruce, MSW, American Humane Association Child Welfare Specialist, larab@AmericanHumane.org. 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. Please contact larab@AmericanHumane.org if you would like to be removed from this listserv.