



e-News from the MCWNN (MAY 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

[Safe Start Trauma Informed Tip Sheets](#) (April 2011). Seven trauma informed tip sheets include “tips for child welfare staff,” “tips for early childhood providers,” “tips for engaging men and fathers,” etc. The website also includes many Safe Start Resources [in Spanish](#).

[Meeting the Needs of Immigrant Children and Youth in Child Welfare](#) (National Association of Social Workers - NASW, June 2010, 5 pages). NOTE: Article includes citation of the MCWNN’s social worker toolkit.

[Learning How to Dance with the Public Child Welfare System: Mexican Parents’ Efforts to Exercise Their Voice](#) (by Ayon, Cecilia, Aisenberg, E., Elera, P., Journal of Public Child Welfare, April 20, 2010). This article describes how Mexican parents’ perceive their voices as integrated in child welfare cases and what factors hinder or promote this process, including recommendations for reform.

[Intercountry Adoption from A to Z](#) (U.S. State Department – Office of Children’s Issues, 36 pages).

[State Adoption Assistance Specialists](#) (USHHS/ACF Child Welfare Information Exchange, April 23, 2011). This website includes contact information for the adoption assistance specialist in every state and territory.

[Resources in Spanish](#) (Child Welfare Information Exchange). This website includes many child welfare resources, including a [child welfare glossary](#) of common child welfare terms from English-to-Spanish and Spanish-to-English.

[Tips for Caregivers](#) (Child Welfare Information Exchange, available in Spanish). Nine, one-page handouts include information on attachment, military families, etc.

Child Welfare Information Gateway (2011). [“Addressing racial disproportionality in child welfare.”](#) Washington, DC: US Dept of Health and Human Services, Children’s Bureau.

“What’s Happening in Court? An Activity Book for Children Who Are Going to Court in California” (Judicial Council of California). Available [in English](#) and [in Spanish](#). This booklet is developed for

children and introduces them to the court process. It is meant as a teaching tool that may foster conversation between children and adults about the court system, and a game book that gives children who are waiting in court something to do.

[Immigration – What Teens Need to Know](#) (Public Counsel, 2010)

May is National Foster Care Month. For more information, go to www.fostercaremonth.org, www.chidlwelfare.gov/pubs/f_fospar.cfm or www.casey.org/families/FosterParents/Resources.htm.

Policy and Research

[Disappearing Parents: A Report on Immigration Enforcement and the Child Welfare System](#) (The University of Arizona Law School, May 5, 2011). This report describes families entangled in two vast bureaucracies: the federal immigration enforcement system and the state child welfare system. The failure of these two systems to work together results in abrupt separations of parents and children after a parent is swept up in immigration enforcement and, at times, long-term stays in foster care for youth whose parents are detained or deported.

[Joint Memo from the Department of Education/Department of Justice](#) regarding the rights of all students, regarding of their immigration status, to equal access to public education at the elementary and secondary level (May 6, 2011).

[Children at the Border: The Screening, Protection and Repatriation of Unaccompanied Mexican Minor](#) (Appleaseed and Appleaseed Mexico, April 2011). This report, a collaborative pro bono product by four private law firms and Appleaseed, investigates the extent to which the Trafficking Victims Protection and Reauthorization Act of 2008 has improved the screening and protection of unaccompanied Mexican minors at the border and after repatriation. The report documents substantial noncompliance with federal law regarding the treatment of Mexican children who are detained after crossing the U.S.-Mexico border when unaccompanied by a parent or guardian. The report also documents the failure of the Mexican government to ensure children's safety as they prioritize family reunification.

[Criminal Alien Statistics](#) – Information on Incarcerations, Arrest, and Costs (GAO, March 2011)

[Poor Children by Parents' Nativity](#) (National Center for Children in Poverty, April 2011, 10 pages). This policy brief examines differences among children of native-born parents, children of recent immigrant families, and children of established immigrant families across a range of socio-demographic characteristics.

[SNAP Take-Up Among Immigrant Families with Children](#) (National Center for Children in Poverty, March 2011). This report on SNAP (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program; formerly known as food stamp) shows eligible immigrant families tend to access this benefit at significantly lower rates than do native families, identifies traits among low-income immigrant families and provides policy recommendations.

[The Relationship Between Hispanic Parents and Their Preschool-Aged Children's Physical Activity](#) (Pediatrics – The Official Journal for the American Academy of Pediatrics, April 11, 2011). The results of this study suggest that parental activity levels are a powerful explanation of preschool-aged child activity levels. Parents play a critical role in setting physical activity patterns in their children.

News and Opinions

[City revises its stance on illegal immigrant youths](#) (SF Chronicle, May 11, 2011). San Francisco no longer will report to immigration authorities juveniles suspected of being in the United States illegally when they are arrested on a felony charge if they can show they have family ties to the Bay Area, are enrolled in school and are not repeat offenders, Mayor Ed Lee said Tuesday.

[Keeping the DREAM Alive](#) (Huffington Post, May 11, 2011). Blog by Senator Bennett (D-Colorado) who joined Senator Dick Durbin in re-introducing the DREAM Act in the Senate.

[What President Obama left out in his immigration speech](#) (Colorlines, May 12, 2011).

[All kids, legal or not, entitled to school](#) (AP, May 6, 2011). The U.S. Department of Education sent a letter to districts around the country Friday, reminding them that all students — legal or not — are entitled to a public education. The letter comes amid reports that schools may be checking the immigration status of students trying to enroll, and reminds districts they are federally prohibited from barring elementary or secondary students on the basis of citizenship status.

[Citizen children and life under the radar](#) (by Hirokazu Yoshika, Los Angeles Times Opinion, May 12, 2011). In the U.S. are 4.5 million citizens whose parents are illegal immigrants. Often these fearful parents keep their children from programs and opportunities that would improve their development.

[Group aims for more diversity among foster families](#) (The Gazette/IA, May 9, 2011). Article describes the need for maintaining connection between the child and his and her background, including Spanish-speaking and African American families involved in the child welfare system.

[The Adoption Commandment – Declaring a global “orphan crisis” US evangelicals ride to the rescue – with unintended results](#) (by Kathryn Joyce, The Nation, May 9, 2011).

[In Calif. Town, Prison may Fix One Employment Problem, But Create Another](#) (PBS, May 5, 2011). The story describes how one small California farm community has labor shortage and turns to building an immigration detention facility to deal with its employment problems.

[Did DHS miss chance to save tot?](#) (Des Moines Register, May 2, 2011). Sudanese immigrant mother sentences to more than 12 years in prison for the beating death of their toddler. Father argues that Iowa Human Services workers did not take seriously his attempts to report mother’s alleged abuse of the children due to her depression, psychosis and paranoia.

[Advocates: Law not enforced, Mexican children crossing border are vulnerable to danger](#) (Associated Press, April 27, 2011). Mexican children illegally crossing the border alone remain vulnerable to drug cartels, gangs and other dangers because a 2-year-old law (“TVPRA”) designed to protect them is not being executed well, advocates from the U.S. and Mexico said in a report from Appleseed.

[Poll Results: Protecting Children's Programs in the Federal Budget](#) (First Focus, April 26, 2011). A telephone survey, commissioned by First Focus in April reveals strong public support for protecting federal investments that benefit children.

[Migrants forces to be sex slaves in Mexico](#) (Yahoo News, April 26, 2011).

[Noncriminals swept up in federal deportation program](#) (Los Angeles Times, April 25, 2011) – An immigrant mother faces deportation and separation from her 3-year old son as a result of reporting her domestic abusers to the authorities.

[Latino Family Joins Forces in Alzheimer's Care to Make Memories](#) (New American Media, April 11, 2011). Latino brothers move in with their elderly parents to help provide care for father with Alzheimer. Article describes the need of immigrant families with senior care responsibilities.

[Republican Senator Sponsors Bill for Adoption of North Korean Orphans](#) (New American Media, April 12, 2011). Senator Richard Burr (R-North Carolina) sponsored a bill that, if passed would expedite the adoption process for Americans seeking to adopt orphaned children of North Korean refugees.

[More Americans are Marrying Outside Their Race](#) (NPR, March 31, 2011). A report from the Pew Hispanic Center found that one in seven new U.S. marriages are interracial or interethnic.

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