KENTUCKY UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY OFFICIAL PROPOSAL

Proposal #: 42

Assignment:



Country: Namibia

School: Rockcastle Co. MS City: Mount Vernon, Kentucky

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Title: An act to minimize the number of orphans and "baby dumping" through intercountry adoption.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Justification Clause:

Baby Dumping is a major problem in the country of Namibia. Baby Dumping is a phenomena where mothers or families abandon their babies in garbage cans, dumpsters, and other places, including instances where the babies were stuffed between mattresses and left to die. In a city of only 350,000 people, 480 babies and fetuses on average are dumped every year, according to the Namibian Press Agency. In a country with such staggering and unfortunate conditions, adoption policies limit the amount of children that can be adopted outside their country. Namibian families and single mothers are unable to care for these newborn children and, in their eyes, have few other choices.

Section I:

Countries whose rate of orphans exceeds 5% of the total child population will be required to meet the guidelines of the Hague Convention of Intercountry Adoption.

Section II:

The Haque Convention of Intercountry Adoption states the following guidelines:

- a. Countries must establish a Central Authority to be the source of information and point of contact in the country.
- b. It aims to prevent the abduction, sale of, or traffic in children, and works in the best interest of the children.
- c. It recognizes the advantage of a permanent home to a child when a suitable family has not been found in the child's country of origin.
- d. It provides a formal international and intergovernmental recognition of adoption.

Section III:

The United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) will oversee and execute this program.

Section IV:

This proposal will go into effect upon passage.