

**Adoption without parental consent is  
wrong in principle**

**Louise Tickle, freelance journalist**

## Local government

# Blair: 'Why adoption is close to my heart'

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Prime Minister Tony Blair spoke publicly today about how his father, Leo, was adopted after his travelling entertainer parents left him with a couple they met on tour.

Mr Blair was speaking as he met a group of adopted children and their families, with his wife, Cherie, to coincide with today's launch of the adoption white paper on adoption.

Mr Blair had taken a personal interest in the adoption shake up, chairing a cabinet committee which led to the introduction of new laws.

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## System taking hundreds of babies for adoption

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Adoptions of very young children spiralled after targets were set in 2000

By Andrew Alderson, Ben Leapman and Tom Harper  
12:01AM BST 01 Jul 2007

64 Comments

Campaigners are to renew an attempt to open up the proceedings of family courts, after figures showed that the number of babies aged less

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Adoption

# Michael Gove relaunches adoption rules with attack on 'ridiculous bureaucracy'

Children's charities welcome education secretary's new guidelines intended to cut time taken to match children to home

Amelia Hill

@byameliahill

Tuesday 22 February 2011 18.17 GMT



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## How social services are paid bonuses to snatch babies for adoption

By SUE REID

Last updated at 23:10 31 January 2008



Created: 31 January 2008

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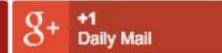
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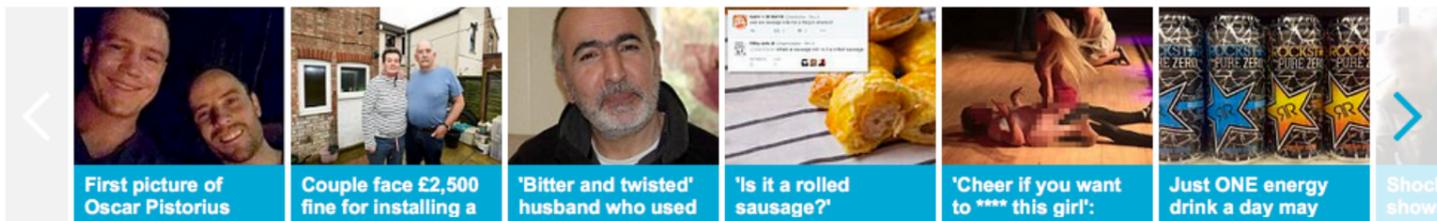
**Exposure: Don't Take My Child**

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## Blood-chilling scandal of the thousands of babies stolen by the State: TV agony aunt DENISE ROBERTSON writes about her lengthy investigation

- Agony aunt reveals the 'rotten' side of the adoption system in Britain
- Shares stories of parents who have had their children forcibly removed
- Received 450 letters last year from desperate families who were affected
- Her book is dedicated to the Websters who had three kids taken from them

By FRANCES HARDY FOR THE DAILY MAIL

PUBLISHED: 01:26, 27 May 2015 | UPDATED: 08:22, 27 May 2015

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The woman's face was pale and tear-stained; her eyes raw from crying. 'Please may I speak to Denise?' she begged my husband. Fired by desperation, she'd found my home and rung my doorbell one evening six years ago. I was her last hope, she said.

As a magazine and TV agony aunt with a regular slot on ITV's This Morning, my job is to give constructive and compassionate advice to those who seek it. I take my role — and the responsibility it involves — very seriously.

So although I usually make it a rule not to see people in my home, this time the woman's distress

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“In fact, last year I received 450 letters and emails from desperate families begging for help after their children or grandchildren had been forcibly taken from them by the family courts.

“The majority were subject to gagging orders and risked prison sentences by talking to me. Such restrictions imposed by the courts, ostensibly in the interests of children, effectively silence discussion about questionable adoption procedures.”

Denise Roberts. Daily Mail

News > UK > Home News

# Adoption rates in freefall after court ruling leaves children languishing in unsuitable homes

Exclusive: Authorities are frightened of removing children from birth families

Emily Dugan | @emilydugan | Tuesday 12 May 2015 | 22 comments





## Couple win fight to save three-year-old grandson from adoption after judge concludes they have a happy relationship and are capable of caring for him

- Company boss and his wife were told they could not adopt their grandson
- Social workers said that the couple could not meet the child's needs
- But they have now been awarded special guardianship over the 3-year-old
- Judge Richard Bond said they had a happy relationship with the boy

By DAILY MAIL REPORTER

PUBLISHED: 01:12, 26 August 2015 | UPDATED: 08:18, 26 August 2015



A company boss and his wife have won a family court fight to care for their three-year-old grandson.

Despite social workers saying the couple could not meet the child's needs, a judge has granted them a special guardianship order.

Judge Richard Bond told the hearing the boy had an established and happy relationship with his grandparents. And he concluded that the couple were fully capable of caring for him.

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# Couple cleared of child cruelty reveal heartbreak after being told baby has been adopted

21:45, 8 OCT 2015 | UPDATED 10:52, 9 OCT 2015 | BY BEN ROSSINGTON, LAURA CONNOR

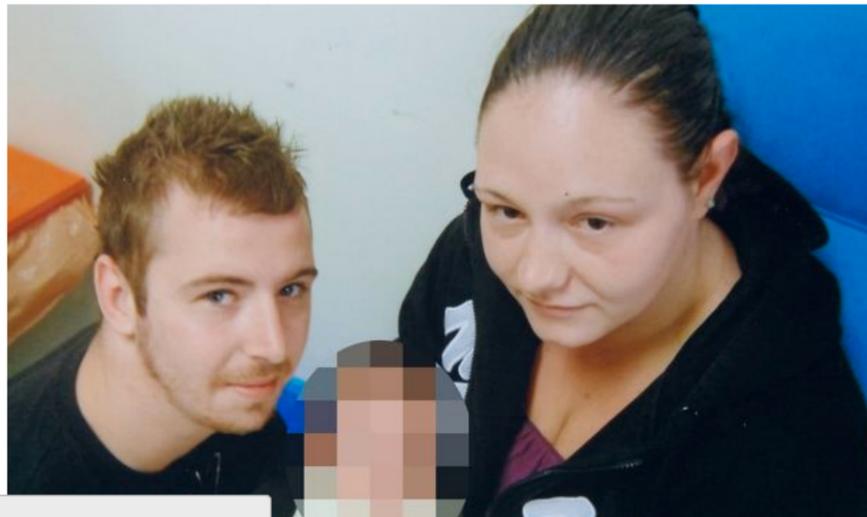
Karrissa Cox and fiancée Richard Carter fought back tears as they re-lived being put through every parent's nightmare

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Karrissa Cox and Richard Carter unlikely to get family court to overturn decision to put baby up for adoption, shadow justice secretary suggests

Nadia Khomami

@nadiakhomami

Friday 9 October 2015 09.51 BST



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Karrissa Cox sends a message to her child, who was taken into care at six weeks old.



# Parents Vow To Get 'Stolen' Baby Back

Karrissa Cox and Richard Carter are cleared of harming their baby, three years after the child was taken away and then adopted.

20:29, UK  
Friday 09 October 2015



Video: Mother Tells Of Abuse Nightmare



The parents of a baby taken into care and adopted have vowed to fight until their "last breath" to be reunited with their child after a court cleared them of abuse.

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# As parents cleared of abuse denied return of their child one adoptive mum explains her heartache

22:30, 12 OCT 2015 | UPDATED 16:39, 14 OCT 2015 | BY CLAIRE HIGNEY

Karissa Cox and Richard Carter have been cleared of child abuse but their son has been adopted, here adoptive mum Claire Higney explains why it's hard for the baby's new parents too



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## Family law

### Adoption

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#### **Adoption of a Dutch child**

Very few children are available for adoption in the Netherlands. The average number is only 28 each year. Anyone wanting to adopt a Dutch child must fulfil a number of conditions. The most important of these are as follows.

home > politics

UK Independence party (Ukip)

# Family courts must open up to avoid 'outrageous injustices', warns Ukip

MP Douglas Carswell launches Ukip policy calling for greater sensitivity in legal process to avoid breakup of families and forced adoptions

Nicholas Watt Chief political correspondent

Monday 26 October 2015 14.08 GMT



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ITV REPORT 2 November 2015 at 8:30am

## David Cameron calls for quicker adoptions to end 'tragedy' of children waiting for homes



*'Quicker adoption' proposals will be aimed at speeding up an end to the* Credit: Dominic Lipinski/PA

Prime Minister David Cameron has announced his plans for a "quicker adoption" process.

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# David Cameron in call to speed up adoption process

ROBIN DE PEYER | Monday 2 November 2015 | 1 comment

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# We must end the anguish and cut lengthy waits for adoption, says Cameron

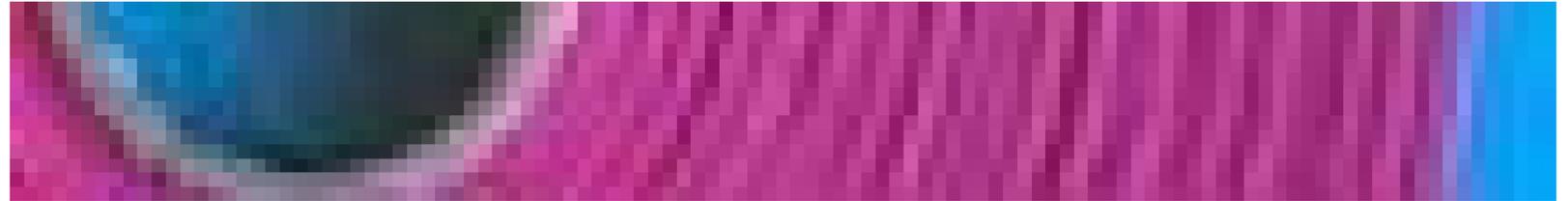
THE adoption process will be speeded up to end the "tragedy" of children waiting a long time to be placed with a new family, David Cameron has announced.

By **GEOFF MAYNARD**

PUBLISHED: 18:56, Mon, Nov 2, 2015 | UPDATED: 19:16, Mon, Nov 2, 2015

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“the airwaves appear full of cries of “more adoption” and “more quickly. All semblance of nuance in the debate has disappeared”

“there is now no attempt to distinguish between finding more good placements promptly for those who can’t go home and just generally removing all children from crappy parents everywhere in some kind of class cleansing.”

“...I can’t even be bothered to do a proper post about the gazillion ways this is legally wrong, morally bankrupt, economically stupid and socially catastrophic I am so despondent.”

Pink Tape family law blog

“The policy imperative towards more and quicker forced adoption means we may well look back at this period in horror as we do now to the forcible removal of thousands of children to Australia in the 1930s, 40s and 50s without their parents’ knowledge or consent.”

“That was done because it was felt it was the right thing, but now we think, ‘how on earth could we possibly have done that?’”

Maggie Mellon, vice chair, British Association of Social Workers