

**Addition to Danish Korean Rights  
Group's main document of August  
23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022**

## **1.0 Introduction**

On August 23, 2022, the Danish Korean Rights Group (DKRG) submitted a request to South Korea's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

In addition to this request from DKRG, 51 requests from adoptees from Denmark were also submitted.

On September 13, 2022, DKRG filed a further 232 requests from adoptees from Denmark, the USA, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Norway.

There is thus per to date submitted a total of 283 requests from adoptees from various parts of the world as well as a main application from the organization Danish Korean Rights Group.

The request from DKRG concerned the request for investigation of adoption in a large number of areas as well as descriptions of the content of the cases contained in the 283 requests from adoptees from all over the world.

### **1.1 Supplementary addendum to the Danish Korean Right Group's main application**

Since the submissions on 23 August and 13 September, DKRG has been made aware of a large number of circumstances which DKRG believes are of the greatest importance to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. That is why we have made this addendum to our request to the commission.

These conditions are explained below.

### **1.2 Submission of additional cases and case descriptions**

A number of adoptees have also decided to submit applications to the commission. These applications are attached to this supplement.

In addition, an adoptee has decided to withdraw his application. We also ask the commission to respect this.

### **1.3 Supplementary specifications of case types**

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission has vai Dr. Shin requested DKRG for more detailed specifications of the overall case complex in Korean. This will be specified below.

### **1.4 In particular regarding the language of the adoptees and English as a common language**

, DKRG will politely inform the commission that the adoptees participating in this case do not speak Korean. The adoptees in this case are overseas adoptees from Denmark, Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and the USA.

The adoptees' languages are Danish, German, Flemish, French, Norwegian and English. Since these are adoptees from South Korea, who are internationally spread over several different languages, DKRG has decided that the common language on forms and in supplementary material must be in English. Firstly, it is the most common language in international contexts among international organizations and companies, and secondly, that English is considered to be the common language, which one could expect would be a recognized common language in an international case like this, which cuts across national borders and different languages.

Since the cases of the adoptees are of a serious nature, we urge the commission to take this into consideration and understand why the descriptions of the overseas adoptees are in English because we as overseas adoptees do not speak Korean.

We also draw attention to the fact that many of the adoptees have taken great pains to

describe horrible or unpleasant experiences in English. So they have already made an effort to make the descriptions in a language other than their primary language.

In addition, many of the documents prepared by the Korean adoption agencies and by Korean authorities during the authoritarian era were prepared in English. It therefore seems very inconsequential that overseas adoptees who are victims of Korean adoption agencies and the actions of the Korean state at this time are confronted with having to translate these documents. As evidence and documentation, they appear most clearly in their original form - in the same form as they were originally appearing before adoptees, overseas adopters as well as overseas authorities.

DKRG hopes that the commission understands this not an insignificant issue.

## **2.0 Joint statement from the United Nation**

Quite recently, on September 29, 2022, the United Nations issued a joint statement with the following main points:

*"Illegal intercountry adoptions may violate the prohibition of abduction, sale of or trafficking in children and the prohibition of enforced disappearances, a group of UN rights experts said today, urging States to take action to prevent and eradicate such illicit practices.*

*"When illegal intercountry adoptions occur, various human rights are violated, including the rights of every child to preserve their identity," the experts said in a joint statement published today, adding there are "devastating consequences on the lives and rights of victims."*

*"In certain conditions as provided for in international law, illegal intercountry adoptions may constitute serious crimes such as genocide or crimes against humanity," they said.*

*The joint statement was issued while the question of illegal intercountry adoptions is being raised in several countries, with an increasing number of adoptees discovering inconsistencies or errors in their adoption process, and that stories they had been told about their origins and the reasons for their adoptions were fake.*

*The experts called on States to fulfill their duty to prevent illegal intercountry adoption by promulgating and implementing laws, policies and other necessary measures concerning the adoption process.*

*They underlined that the best interests of the child shall always be the paramount consideration in all adoption cases. "States shall especially enable children to express their views and ensure that these views are given due weight in accordance with their age and maturity in all judicial and administrative proceedings concerning an intercountry adoption decision."*

*It is also crucial for States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that no improper financial gain can be generated from intercountry adoptions for parties or intermediaries involved. "Contributions and donations should be clearly separated from the adoption process," they said, adding, "Corruption at any stage of the adoption process shall be criminalised."*

*The experts also called on States to prohibit illegal intercountry adoptions as a continuing offense under criminal law, as well as to prosecute and punish those responsible with appropriate sanctions considering the extreme seriousness of the crime. "States shall consider as an aggravating factor that the person who disappeared was a child, taking into consideration that enforced disappearances or the wrongful removal of children in the context of enforced disappearance is an extreme form of violence against children."*

*They also called for setting up independent commissions of inquiry to establish facts surrounding allegations of illegal intercountry adoptions and determine the responsibilities of all parties, facilitate the search for origins and propose adequate reparation measures for victims. "States shall ensure that all victims, including those adopted in the past, receive the assistance they need to know their origins," they said.*

*"For instance, States should create a DNA database that includes genetic samples for all cases of wrongful removal, enforced disappearance, or falsification of identity that have been reported, with the specific purpose of re-establishing the identity of victims of illegal intercountry adoption. "*

*"Victims of illegal intercountry adoptions have the right to know the truth."*

*(Geneva, September 29, 2022)*

The full statement of the United Nations can be read in Appendix 1 to this document.

The United Nations' statement supports DKRG's request for a thorough investigation of adoptions. So it is not only DKRG that requires an investigation. The United Nations also calls

for investigations into adoptions.

DKRG's demand to gain insight into the origin of adoptees and correct adoption documents.

The United Nations supports the importance of the truth coming out and the terrible consequences and ramifications it has for the affected adoptees of not knowing the truth about themselves.

United Nations emphasizes in their statement that *"In certain conditions as provided for in international law, illegal intercountry adoptions may constitute serious crimes such as genocide or crimes against humanity"*.

There is thus no doubt that, from an international legal perspective, these are possible serious and criminal matters.

DKRG hopes that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission will take this joint statement into consideration, as it is a clear statement that rests firmly on international law and where possible violations of some of the most serious international laws are involved.

This is also evident from the full statement of the United Nations, which is attached to this document as Appendix 1.

### **3.0 The role of the Korean state in overseas adoption during the authoritarian era**

DKRG has over the last while tried to thoroughly understand the role of the Korean state during the authoritarian era. We have spoken with Korean researchers with insight into adoption at this time.

In this connection, we have repeatedly come across a government project at that time called "Social Purification", which is the starting point for the Korean post-war adoptions.

The first Korean adoption agency was The Child Placement Service (CPS). CPS was not initially an adoption agency in the sense that we know adoption agencies later. CPS was established on January 20, 1954. It later became SWS (Social Welfare Society) and today is called KWS (Korean Welfare Society).

CPS is a branch under the Department of Health and Social Welfare. That means a governmental body under direct governmental instructions.

According to the CPS (later SWS and KWS) year book "The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003":

*"... President Syngman Rhee ordered the founding of 'Shelter for War Orphans'. The cabinet wished earnestly to help these children, however, then-President Rhee's personal belief in 'one state, one ethnic group' played the biggest part in this new program"* (quote, p.17, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003).

According to *The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003*: *"the original aim was to send the "mixed blood" children outside of the country, because President Rhee was concerned that these children would not fare well among the uniquely homogeneous society of Korea"* (quote, p.17, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003)

After more consideration the commission opted for the establishment of an organization that handles adoption of all orphans (Quote, p.18, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003), and the CPS was founded as a small branch, a subordinate division of the Department of Health and Social Welfare.

The person in charge was Ok Soon Hong, who was the manager of the child and welfare branch under the Government organization (source: p.19, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003).

These words come from SWS/KWS themselves from their 50 year anniversary publication called: "The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003".

The anniversary document shows a clear connection between the state of South Korea and the implementation of the South Korean adoption program. One can thus state that the overseas adoption and the Korean adoption program is a state-initiated project with the direct involvement of the president of South Korea at the time, Syngman Rhee, as well as the involvement of the Ministry of Health and Welfare at the time, and the first head of the project is a governmental head of the child welfare branch under the government at that time, Mr. Ok Soon Hong.

It appears with SWS/KWS as a source<sup>1</sup> that CPS is starting work, but is not particularly successful due to lack of manpower and experience in overseas adoption. Therefore, Holt Adoption Center introduces itself as the solution to match American adoptive parents with "mixed children", and later Holt asked CPS to carry out the work in Korea as a proxy.

The CPS, a governmental Korean body agrees to utilize Holt to seek adoptive parents in the US, and that Holt utilizes CPS to make proxy adoptions<sup>2</sup>.

According to SWS/KWS the mixed children were found around US military bases.

DKRG has had a meeting with Mr. Boo, former president at Holt. We had a 2½ hour meeting with Mr. Boo and the whole meeting was filmed by Danish and Korean national TV. The 89 pages of transcript of this meeting is added as an appendix to this document and is found as Appendix 2.

From Mr. Boo there is a cross-reference between the role of the Korean state and the adoption agency Holt. Mr. Boo says he's at the Blue House, where he's meeting Korean President Park Chung-hee. Mr. Boo says that he is presenting a solution to the mixed child problem, and that Mr. Boo subsequently helps to collect mixed children.

Furthermore, at our filing of cases on September 13, 2022, DKRG submitted additional documents showing the direct involvement of the Korean government in the overseas adoption.

We hope that the commission will find these documents useful. We would like to highlight documents attached to this supplementary document as Appendix 3. These documents in Appendix 3 are internal government documents that directly demonstrate the Korean state's role and detailed management of the overseas adoption.

This not only proves that overseas adoptions were initiated by the South Korean state at the time. It also demonstrates that the Korean state enters an agreement with Holt to solve a state task, namely matching with overseas adopters. Thirdly, it demonstrates that the South Korean state regulates the operations of adoption agencies in detail, right down to the components of the adoption process.

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<sup>1</sup> P.19, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003

<sup>2</sup> P.19, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003

### 3.1. Requests to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in relation to the role of the Korean state

#### **4.0 Investigation of possible ethnic cleansing in cooperation between adoption agencies and the Korean state under the authoritarian rule**

In relation to the description of the role of the Korean state in section 3.0, the question arises whether there was talk about ethnic cleansing as well as the cleansing of other groups of people, which was in violation of international law and human rights both then and today.

DKRG emphasizes that there may be serious violations of human rights, both in the past and today, which are independently criminalized in international law.

According to CPS/SWS/KWS, the overseas adoption was initiated by the Korean state in 1954 to target, at the request of the highest place: President Syngman Rhee, mixed blood children. Mixed blood children are children of mixed ethnic origin, e.g. children of blacks or coloreds<sup>3</sup> under the slogan "one state, one ethnic group".

The definition of ethnic cleansing is the systematic removal of ethnic or racial groups from a specific geographical area with the intention of creating ethnic homogeneity within this geographical area.

This can be done by direct removal of ethnic groups, but also constitutes deportation or displacement of population groups. It also includes indirect methods that aim at forced migration by undermining or forcing certain ethnic groups to flee.

Ethnic cleansing constitutes a crime against humanity.

#### 4.1 The role of the Korean state in ethnic cleansing

As it is stated in CPS/SWS/KWS book "The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003" the then-president Syngman Rhee's personal belief in "one state, one ethnic group" policy played the biggest part in the "shelter for War Orphans" program<sup>4</sup>.

The aim was to send the "mixed blood" children outside the country, because President Rhee was concerned that these children would not fare well among the uniquely homogeneous society of Korea<sup>5</sup>.

In reality, mixed children were not insurmountable in number in proportion to the total number of war orphans<sup>6</sup>.

That was the reason to establish CPS, and CPS was established as a governmental body under the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare at that time. That means directly under the Korean state with a fixed task of solving the challenge with "mixed blood" children. CPS later became the adoption agency SWS and today the name is KWS.

The Korean state engages with the adoption agency Holt in a collaboration that aims to be able to place "mixed blood" children outside of Korea.

Holt writes about this: "Interracial children and also their mothers were reviled by the people. Some of these children were living with their mother (...), because of their mother's love"<sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> p. 17, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003

<sup>4</sup> p. 17, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003

<sup>5</sup> p. 17, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003

<sup>6</sup> p. 18, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003

<sup>7</sup> p. 121, Holt Children's Services, Inc. 50 Years

and

"The Korean government actively encouraged expansion of foreign adoption to help children who could not adjust to this racially homogenous society"<sup>8</sup>.

There is no doubt that Holt's role and the role of the Korean state are closely related, and it is mutual. So despite Holt's distinctive rhetoric about "love", "Christian values" and "help", there is no doubt that Holt participated as a benevolent party in what were the Korean state's targeted intentions of "mixed blood" children.

Holt is thus appointed by the Korean state as an operator of the Korean state's policy on "mixed blood" children, because the Korean state agency CPS has a lack of man power<sup>9</sup> and the Korean state agrees to Holt's request.

The myths in Korean adoption history mention that "helping" the war children. It makes sending the children out of Korea appear as primarily humanitarian aid. In reality, it is clear that the primary intention is to send unwanted "mixed blood" children out of Korea. Not because of poverty, need or social circumstances per se, but because "that these children would not fare well among the uniquely homogenous society of Korea"<sup>10</sup> and the concept of "one state, one ethnic group".

That makes it more likely to be defined as deportation rather than "help" og "humanitarian aid".

This is also evident from DKRG's 2½ hour conversation with Holt's former president Mr. Boo.

“그러기 때문에 제가 이제 회장이 되서는 전국 시설에다가 편지를 보낸 거예요. 혹시 부모가 없고 입양을 국내 입양이든 해외 입양이든 가고 싶은 애를 홀트로 보내주세요”

“왜냐하면 그 이유는 뭐냐하면 혼혈아 하프하프잖아요. 그 당시에는 지금은 외국인이 많이 있지마는 제 기억으로 60년 당시에는 외국인이 라는 거는 미군 군인 아니면 혼혈아뿐이었어요”

“그때 제가 이제 그땐 박정희 대통령이 내가 박대통령을 청와대에서 가서 만났어요. 만나가지고 제가 건의를 했어요. 내가 미국 같은 데나 가서 약간 공부하면서 봤더니 미국 같은 데는 시카고 공항이나 미국 공항에 흑인이나 백인이 구두를 닦아도 별 문제가 없잖아요”

“그참아요. 만약에 애들이 한국에 남아서 성장해서 애들이 서울역이나 김포공항에서 구두를 닦을 때 ”

“전쟁 때문에 전쟁 고아들이 구두 닦이한다는 말이 나올 거 아니냐, 이런 걸 제안을 했어요.”

“그래서 제가 이제 그 시설에다 다시 편지를 보내는 거예요. 혹시 시 골이든 어느 시설에서 혼혈아를 데리고 있는 시설이 있으면 그 애들 을 입양보낼 테니까 홀트에 신청해달라고.”

“그참아요. 만약에 애들이 한국에 남아서 성장해서 애들이 서울역이나 김포공항에서 구두를 닦을 때 6.25 전쟁 때문에 전쟁 고아들이 구두

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<sup>8</sup> Quote, p.121

<sup>9</sup> P.19, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003

<sup>10</sup> Quote, p17, The 5 Decades of SWS – Since 1954 to 2003

닥이한다는 말이 나올 거 아니냐, 이런 걸 제안을 했어요. 그래서 제가 이제 그 시설에다 다시 편지를 보내는 거예요. 혹시 시 골이든 어느 시설에서 혼혈아를 데리고 있는 시설이 있으면 그 애들을 입양보낼 테니까 홀트에 신청해달라고. 67년도 당시기 때문에 6.25 전쟁 때 혼혈아 된 아이가 벌써 13살 10 살 15살 나이가 많아졌어요. 미국이나 유럽이나 나이 많은 아이는 입양 꺼려했어요.”

” 아메리카 오알 유럽. 네네. 그래서 가장 원하는 거 연령이 원 이얼즈 올드. 5 올드. 그런 사이 애들만 입양을 많이 원했어요. 피터 @영어 통 청와대로 가시고 박정희 대통령과 면담하실 때 이런 얘기를 제안을 하셨을 때 박정희 대통령님이 어떻게 부 오케이. 굿 아이디어. 좋은 안이라고. 그래서 이제 나보고 거기서 퀘션이 뭐냐면 이런 큰 아이들. 에이지가 15세 16세 17세 애들 안 데려가잖아요. 입양이 안 돼요. 그럼 미국에는 호스트 케어. 미국에 있는 교수들이나 목사님들은 입양은 안 하지마는 다른 나라 아이들 그 나라 아이들 호스트 케어하는 그런 제도가 있었어요.”

The full transcript of the meeting with Holt's former president is attached as Appendix 2.

#### 4.2 Request to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to investigate violations of human rights in relation to possible ethnic cleansing of "mixed blood" children

- 1) DKRG requests the commission to investigate whether there has been a violation of human rights in relation to "mixed blood" Korean children . There are clear sources from both the Korean state and the adoption agencies that point to this.
- 2) DKRG requests the commission to investigate the role of adoption agencies in carrying out what is considered ethnic cleansing of "mixed blood" Korean children.
- 3) DKRG requests the commission to investigate the role of the Korean state in the so-called "one state, one ethnic group" politics.

#### **5.0. Cases of child theft and lack of relinquishment documents from biological parents**

Among the DKRGs cases brought to the Commission there are case of child theft done by the adoption agencies Holt and KSS.

All cases brought to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission lack relinquishment documents. A relinquishment document is the legal document by which the child is handed over and consent to adoption is given.

As a minimum, it should be expected that the adoption agencies are able to present documentation that the child has been handed over to the adoption agency with the consent and permission of the original guardians (the biological parents). This principle is both find in the Korean adoption law and the Korean civil law at that time.

The relinquishment document is important because it is the adoption agency's documentation that they have taken possession of the child legally and properly.

In none of the more than 300 adoption cases that DKRG has presented to the commission can documentation for the legal transfer of children to the adoption agency be shown.



More and more adoptees around the world are finding their biological parents in Korea. The biological parents' story of how the adoptee was adopted does not match the narratives of the adoption agencies.

A common feature of all these adoptees is that they appear on their adoption papers as orphans, but in reality they have always had family in Korea.

In a number of worrying cases, there are even outright kidnappings of Korean children from institutions or even from the street.

As an example is the "Bill Case". Bill writes DKRG:

*"In 1976 I was seven years old. I lived in a remote rice farming village with my parents and maybe 3 siblings near Daejeon Korea. After the harvest my mother and I journeyed by bus to the city to sell produce at the outdoor market. While we were in the city, I was taken by a strange man who took me to an apartment in the city. Until then I had lived in a rural village with no plumbing or electricity. It was my first time seeing an apartment, modern furniture, refrigerator, etc. He left me at the apartment with a man and woman. The next day the man returned and took me to Sungshil Children's Home in Daejeon City. He took me to the orphanage and left me there. By this time I was severely traumatized and could not talk. All I could do was to cry for my mother. I believe the man sold me to the orphanage. I further believe he made up a false name and birth date for me.*

*Soon, I was transferred to an orphanage run by Holt. In violation of existing laws banning single parent adoptions, I was adopted to an American businessman. He was never married then it since. He took me home from the orphanage on Dec. 13, 1976. From the second night, he took me into his bed and began molesting me. This continued for the next 6 years. When I turned 13 years old, I became old enough and strong enough to fight him off of me. I also installed a lock on my bedroom door, slept with my jeans on with a tight belt, slept in a sleeping bag, and kept a knife under my pillow. That's when the abuse stopped.*

*Approximately five years ago, I read my apron file for the first time. That's when I realized that there were many inconsistencies. The first was that my file says I was adopted on February 1977. I realized that Holt Children's Services allowed my father to take me home almost the months before officially filing my papers. The second problem I saw was that I had told my father as a child that I was in two orphanages, but he kept denying it. The third thing is that my file says there is no one information on my mother. However, when I began emailing Holt, they told me first that there is no information on my mother. As I pressed the question, the case worker said my mother was a single woman who lived in the city and worked as a seamstress. She was too poor to take care of me so she abandoned me at the orphanage. That is when I realized the depth of the lies that surround my adoption.*

*I am trying to tell my story to anyone who will listen to me. For almost the entirety of my life I tried to deny, suppress or flat out lie about my desire to find my birth family. As an adoptee, I have suffered so much mental and psychological anguish. The worst part was feeling so unwanted and unloved. I have noone to talk to about the mental anguish I suffer everyday. It's even more intense when I consider that my suffering is caused by the design of those who thought so little of the value of a child's life.*

*I am not seeking any form of retribution or recompense. I just want to know if there is someone out there who misses me as much as I miss them. I hope you can either help me or point me to someone who may be able to help."*

Another example is the "Kyung Sook Jung"-case:

Kyung Sook Jung was adopted from South Korea to Norway in 1970 via the adoption agency Holt Childrens Services. Kyung Sook Jung is one of the adoptees who have joined the Danish Korean Rights Group's (DKRG) request to South Korea's Truth and Reconciliation Commission for a thorough investigation into overseas adoption from South Korea regarding violations of human rights and suspected fraud and forgery in the adoption process.

From Kyung Sook Jung's adoption documents, it appears that she is an orphan. She

can present an orphan Ho Juk where she is the head of the family. From her adoption documents it appears that she was born in 1968.

Both pieces of information are not correct as many other pieces of information from Holt. Kyung Sook Jung was not an orphan, and she was born in 1969 and not in 1968. The adoption was also not voluntary on the part of the family. Here is Kyung Sook Jung's real story:

Kyung Sook Jung is born in 1968. Her mother dies soon after of illness, leaving her and her 3 older Korean siblings to the care of the father. Kyung Sook Jung falls seriously ill shortly after her mother's death, and the father goes to the local authorities for help.

Kyung Sook Jung is hospitalized and this is the last time the father sees Kyung Sook Jung. The father never got to see Kyung Sook Jung again.

What Kyung Sook Jung's father didn't know, is that she has been put up for overseas adoption via the hospital's contacts with the adoption agency Holt, and the father never succeeded in getting Kyung Sook Jung back. In 1970, Kyung Sook Jung arrives to Norway without her father's knowledge, to a Norwegian adoptive family.

The father dies of illness in 1974. The father's last words to Kyung Sook Jung's 10-year-old sister are that the sister must promise to find Kyung Sook Jung so that the three sisters can take care of each other when the father is gone.

The loss of Kyung Sook Jung had affected her father greatly. In 1987, she reunited with her South Korean biological family. From her older sister, she has learned that in the intervening years until his death, the father searched for Kyung Sook Jung in all the orphanages in the area in South Korea.

Kyung Sook Jung's South Korean family has told her that they had in no way imagined that she was adopted out of the country to Norway, but that they had always believed that Kyung Sook Jung was somewhere in South Korea; but the truth would turn out to be different.

In 1987 her dying father's last wish was granted. Kyung Sook Jung came to South Korea for the first time. She visited her father's grave in 2017 to pay her respects to the father who had sought her and kept her in mind until the very end.

A third example is the "Helle case":

The adoptee says that she has received a letter (attached to the case as Appendix 5) from KSS, in which they admit that her background information is not correct. KSS apologizes for this and writes: "In fact this was made up for adoption procedure".

Helle's case is particularly important with regard to the letter from KSS, because the fabricated information relates to KSS itself and not to an orphanage, as it, for example, is seen in the Namkwang cases. It therefore clearly demonstrates that KSS centrally concocts fabricated and false background information on adoptees.

Helle further explains that her mother then regretted handing over the child to KSS and came back to collect the child back less than 1 month from the time of handover to KSS.

KSS replied to the mother that Helle had already been sent out of the country for overseas adoption. However, this is not correct. Helle was still in Korea in KSS custody, but kept this a secret from Helle's biological mother. According to Helle, she stayed in Korea for at least 2 months after the mother's request to KSS to get Helle back.

Thus, KSS has withheld the true information about Helle's situation. Furthermore, KSS has not respected Helle's biological mother's wish to revoke and cancel the adoption. There is thus an invalid adoption.

### 5.1 Request for investigation into theft and abduction of Korean children by Holt and KSS

There are more adoptees all over the world who say they were kidnapped or stolen by the adoption agencies Holt and KSS.

Cases of abduction and theft of children are greater than the cases brought before the commission.

Therefore, a thorough investigation of theft and child abduction is necessary.

The adoption agency Holt in particular stands out in this context when it comes to the theft of children.

The cases of theft of children are often also connected with reports of sexual abuse of children, and in this context as well, the adoption agency Holt is mentioned to a degree that makes this adoption agency stand out significantly.

The cases of sexual abuse have either taken place in the custody of the adoption agency Holt or immediately after adoption.

This may lead to the assumption that key employees in Holt may be related to pedophile networks.

This is highlighted by the "Anka case", where adoption takes place as late as 1988, where the adoptee writes:

*"I was adopted at the age of 9 in 1988. Just before I came to my new family in Belgium, I had to stay some months in Holt orphanage near the capital city. I had to witness and experience horrible situations during those months at the orphanage. All children, including my biological little sister and I were constantly underfed, beaten and humiliated by the supervisors working for the Holt orphanage. We also had to live in appalling, unsanitary conditions. Additionally I was also sexually abused on a regular basis by one of the supervisors at the orphanage".*

#### 5.1.1 Former Holt president accused of sexual abuse

The president of Holt International has been accused of sexual abuse. That shows that the Holt organization allowed accused pedophile to work in top position.

From a news article in the Seattle Weekly, October 9, 2006:

*"The 1991 lawsuit by a former altar boy, who says he was sexually molested in the 1970s for three years starting at age 11, was later dropped but has since been refiled under a California law extending the statute of limitations. Cousineau resigned his Seattle position in 2003 under a financial cloud to become director of Holt International in Oregon, a worldwide child adoption agency. Seattle Children's Home officials say they didn't know Cousineau had been accused when they hired him, a complaint Holt officials later echoed. Under pressure, Cousineau resigned from the adoption agency last year. A second alleged victim, a woman who says she was molested for four years in the 1970s beginning at age 11, is also suing him. Cousineau couldn't be reached for further comment but has denied both claims."*

News article from Thefreelibrary.com, April 28, 2004:

*"The president and chief executive officer of Eugene-based Holt International Children's Services has resigned, two months after the adoption agency learned that he once was accused of molesting an 11-year-old boy while a priest in California.*

*An independent law firm hired by Holt could not substantiate the allegations made against David Cousineau in a 1994 lawsuit, the organization said Tuesday. But the impact the accusations could have on staff members, donors and foreign partners led the agency to conclude that Cousineau's ability to manage and represent the agency was impaired, board Chairman Larry Cahill said Tuesday.*

*"I believe he's innocent," Cahill said in a phone interview from his Boston law office.*

*"He certainly made great contributions and could continue to make great contributions," he said. "Because of the nature of the allegations and David's failure to disclose them in advance to the board and to Holt, his ability to lead the agency has been compromised."*

*Cousineau, hired a year ago and on paid leave since March 1, said Tuesday that he felt he had no choice but to resign even though he wanted to continue to lead Holt.*

*"I'm greatly disappointed I won't have that opportunity," he told The Register-Guard. "I know I can continue to do great things at Holt. The opportunity is just not there."*

*Cousineau said he and his wife, Elizabeth, plan to stay in the Eugene area and that he hopes to find new work with children and families at risk.*

*"I'm going to try everything I can to stay here and continue my career," he said, but added that it won't be easy. "It's the notoriety that accompanied this accusation that is plaguing me now. How do it fight against a negative?"*

*Holt accepted his resignation on Monday, retroactive to last Wednesday, Cahill said.*

*The Holt board will meet Friday and Saturday in Eugene and discuss the appointment of an interim director as well as the search for a permanent president and CEO.*

*Cousineau worked as a priest for 18 years in Los Angeles area parishes before he left the priesthood and later married. According to a report by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, he's among 210 priests, deacons, brothers, seminarians and one bogus priest in the archdiocese who have been accused of abusing children between 1930 and 2003.*

*The archdiocese made the list of accused priests public as part of its ongoing effort to eradicate child sexual abuse and to keep victims informed. Inclusion on the list doesn't automatically indicate guilt, the report said.*

*In a 1994 civil suit, a man claimed that Cousineau started molesting him when he was 11. The suit was dismissed before it went to trial.*

*Still, the 10-year-old allegation could damage the trust Holt has built with financial supporters and partners in other countries, Cahill said.*

*"Those kinds of charges, whether they are true or false, make them wary," he said. "In this case, it's particularly tragic because the investigation we conducted through our outside attorneys concluded that the 1994 allegations were unsubstantiated. I think it would be fair to say that the report did not raise any likelihood the allegations would have been supportable at trial."*

*The lawsuit did not surface in a criminal background check of Cousineau before he was hired. Cousineau did reveal that he had served as a priest but mentioned nothing of the suit or allegation of abuse.*

*"That really created a climate of concern about the failure to disclose," Cahill said, "and so there's a trust issue that's been created."*

*Cousineau disagreed: "No, I had no reason to disclose the fact of the lawsuit at the time," he said. "The accusation was false. It was gone."*

*Long Beach resident Timothy McDonnell recently told The Register-Guard that he filed the suit against Cousineau in 1992 for abuse that occurred from 1970 to '73. He said he felt pressured to drop the suit and signed an agreement not to discuss the matter.*

*But he's one of about 500 Californians who have used a window that the Legislature opened last year allowing alleged victims of abuse by a priest to file suits that would otherwise have been rejected because of statute of limitations requirements.*

*McDonnell said he has filed a second suit against the archdiocese that names Cousineau.*

*Before coming to the Eugene area, Cousineau had been president of Seattle Children's Home, an agency providing mental health care for children, young adults and their families.*

*He also managed Catholic Charities in Southern California, an agency with a \$40 million annual budget whose outreach included coordination of refugee families from Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Eastern Europe.*

*Cousineau said he was ordained in 1972, but left the church after disagreements with the archbishop and because he fell in love with a woman."*

## **6.0. How could adoptees be Korean citizens?**

One of the major unresolved issues is how Korean children who were adopted could on the one hand be Korean citizens and on the other hand not exist in the official Korean system.

All Korean children were provided with a travel certificate or passport-like document issued by the Korean state prior to the implementation of the adoption.

The travel certificate or passport-like document states that the adoptee is a Korean citizen and that the Korean government requests the adoptee's permission for free passage to the receiving country.

Travel certificates and passport-like documents are all signed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Korea at the time the documents were drawn up.

This means that the Korean state confirms to the outside world and the recipient countries that the holders of travel documents are Korean citizens.

However, none of the official government travel documents are provided with ID numbers or other identification.

The question is therefore how Korean children who the Korean state confirms are Korean citizens do not have Korean ID numbers.

This could lead to a presumption that the adoptees were treated separately from the Korean system that applies to other Korean nationals.

Thereby, the adoptees are individualized in a separate system for themselves, outside of the regular Korean system.

Most adoptees are equipped with so-called orphan hojuks or orphan family registers, where the minor adoptees, both girls and boys, are registered as the head of their own family with parents listed as unknown.

This orphan hojuk is often the adoptee's only identification or registration in the Korean systems, and the only thing to which Korean citizenship can be attached.

It is also in these specially prepared orphan hojuks that registrations of the adoptions' deletions of Korean citizenship take place.

These special orphan hojuks are set up by the adoption agencies and approved by the family courts in Korea.

Cancellation of citizenship often takes place several years after the adoptee's arrival in the receiving country, and it takes place at the request of the adoption agency to the Ministry of Justice in South Korea.

The special hojuks for minor adoptees are problematic because it is the adoptee's only visible existence in Korean public records to this day.

But since most adoptees are not listed as birth registered in the Korean registers, the adoptees have never been given an ID number either. Without an ID number and birth registration, the adoptee does not exist in the Korean records either.

The only thing that stands alone is the specially prepared hojuk/orphan hojuk.

There are cases where the adoptee's biological parents have registered the child's birth before the adoption, and where the adopted person is registered in the biological family's hojuk.

In cases where the biological family has registered the child and entered it on the family's hojuk, the adoption agencies still prepare an orphan hojuk, so that the child has two active hojuks before being sent for adoption: a hojuk that the child's biological parents have placed the child on and a second hojuk, where the adoption agency via the Family Court has placed the child as the head of the family.

The Hojuk issue is described in more detail below, but in relation to Korean citizenship this is highly problematic, and it could appear as if the adoption agencies and the Korean state are collaborating to create a separate system for children intended for adoption, different from other Korean citizens.

There is even a case from Norway where an adopted person is required to be called up to serve in Korean military service for two years, precisely because there is both a family register that the biological parents have made and an orphan hojuk that the adoption agency has made.

#### 6.1 Request for investigation into the citizenship of adoptees from South Korea

- How did Korean adoptees become Korean citizens without birth registration?
- Why did Korean adoptees, holding a Korean citizenship, never get an ID-number?
- How was it that adoptees who were birth registered by biological parents and thereby

obtained Korean citizenship were still registered with orphan hojuks by the adoption agencies even though they knew the identities of the biological parents?

- In how many cases have Korean overseas adoptees been called up for military service?

## **7.0 Confessions of falsification of adoption documents and double archives of the adoption agencies**

For more than three decades, a theory has abounded among adoptees that the adoptees' adoption documents with the adoptees' background information have been systematically falsified by the adoption agencies.

In the DKRG original main document to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, dated August 23, 2022, this appears as one of the points that DKRG has requested the commission to investigate.

As more and more cases and documents from adoptees from all over the world have come in, more and more knowledge has also flowed in, shedding light on the adoption agencies' practices and adoption procedures.

DKRG hereby presents evidence and important documentation that the adoption agencies Holt and KSS have deliberately and systematically falsified adoption documents.

As proof of this, excerpts from cases from adoptees are presented:

### **7.0.1 Example 1 – case number: 004 20220815 Louise Kwang**

*"According to Danish adoption papers: Orphaned and found on the street in Busan. Then placed at the NamKwang Children's Home in Busan. Then on to KSS in Seoul and from here to DK.*

*However, this was fabricated information to get a faster/easier adoption - I was not an orphan and had never been to Busan.*

*Contacted KSS in 2016 to obtain a copy of my original adoption papers. The answer can be seen attached. I don't fully trust all new information to be 100% correct.*

*With the new information, I started a search myself in 2017, and in a "Traceless" way, I managed to find my biological father. It's a long story, but long story short, my father's name was in Chinese in the original papers, and since one of my Korean interpreters also happened to know Chinese, it made the search a little bit easier. We actually ran into the same postman who KSS mentioned in an email to me as being the person who delivered the letters to my father's address. Unfortunately, my father died of cancer (and other diseases) in 2020, but I managed to see him five times (1 time in 2017, 3 times in 2018 and 1 time in 2019). However, it has been a bit ambivalent, as due to an accident and a blood clot in the brain (many years ago) he was half-paralysed, sat in a wheelchair, had no language and lived in a kind of nursing home. So I haven't been able to get much information from him. However, I have found out that my name was not quite correct either, and that my father has not had contact with my mother since 1976.*

*As for my biological mother, I have not been able to find her, as KSS has not wanted to give me some information about her. But in 2018 (the year after I found my father) I brought my then 11-year-old daughter to Korea. We visited KSS once again to try to get new information. I asked my daughter to pretend she was playing on her mobile and then take pictures of the adoption papers while the employee from KSS went through the papers with me. My Korean interpreter then managed to read my biological mother's name. I asked the police in Seoul to find out how many with that name and approximately that age (based on her age at the time of adoption) were in Korea. There was 1. They therefore went down and knocked on her door and asked if she had ever lived in the area of Seoul (which was mentioned in the adoption papers). She answered no - but she had also married another man and probably didn't dare to do otherwise (if it's her). The police won't give me the address as they can't give it out without her consent. They didn't mention me to her though. So the only thing I know is that there is a woman with my mother's name in Jeollabuk-do (province with almost 2 million inhabitants!) - and I still haven't completely given up hope of meeting her.*

Well, that was the short version. It has also been emotionally hard

- to find out that the basis of my existence has been built on a lie (that I was not a foundling but actually made up by someone with both names and age
- to find and meet my biological father
- , that my biological father died, before I really got to know him that
- the corona pandemic meant that I couldn't travel to Korea for the funeral, since I don't have official papers on family in Korea, since I'm Danish now
- that I can't get more help to find my biological mother

I believe that one has the right to know one's biological roots - especially when information is actually available."

In the letter, dated December 21, 2016, KSS writes the following to the adoptee:

"First of all, I would like to apologize for the mistake in your adoption file written in English. It says you were transferred from Namkwang Children's Home in Pusan to KSS for international adoption. In fact, it was made up just for adoption procedure, and now I would like to share your adoption background as written in the original paper."

"In fact, it was made up just for adoption procedure". A pure confession of falsification of adoption documents.

#### 7.0.2 Example 2 - Case number 188 20220911 Helle Jiyeon Fukamizo

In this case the adoptee is told, that she is an orphan. In reality she is not, and have never been.

The adoptee gets a letter from KSS, October 28, 2016, saying:

*"I am writing this as a response to your request of finding your birth family, and hope this letter finds you well.*

*First of all, I would like to apologize for the wrong information in your adoption paper. It was made up just for adoption procedure and does not show any information about your adoption background. Now that you have applied for the file review, I'd like to share your adoption background recorded in your file at the time of your placement to KSS*".

"It was all made up just for adoption procedure". A pure confession of falsification of adoption documents.

Furthermore the adoptee can tell, that her biological mother came to claim the child back just a couple of weeks after being handed over to KSS. KSS refuse and tell the biological mother, that the child has already been send abroad for adoption.

That was not true. The child was still in Korea in KSS custody for months after the biological mothers claim of the child. The adoption company KSS didn't tell the biological mother the truth and didn't give the biological mother the child back.

#### 7.0.3 Example 3 - case number 152 2022 0910 Malene Weihe

Evidence of systematic falsification of adoptees' adoption and background documents.

This case contains written documentation of falsification of adoptees' background information and adoption documents.



This appears from the email from KSS's manager Mrs. Kim, that KSS used standard forms for use in the adoption process, which, among other things, results in children being made orphans on paper.

*"As we know, at the time we used the standard forms for adoption process, so the official paperwork was done as the child was an orphan without any information on the birth parents",* quote, email from Mrs. Kim, director of KSS.

This case is important, because the quote from KSS relates not only to the individual adoptee, but to adoption procedure at KSS in general.

That means that all KSS cases can be standard falsified. That is potentially 20.000 adoptees from around the world from KSS alone.

### 7.1 Double archives at KSS

As described above in Sections 7.0.1, 7.0.2 and in particular 7.0.3, three examples of admissions of falsified adoption information are given.

That is to say, there has been a set of information that the adoptees and adoptive parents in the recipient countries have been given, and then there has been the real and genuine information that the adoption agencies have kept to themselves.

In other words, this means two separate sets of adoption cases with different sets of information. One set with the fabricated and false information and one set with the true and correct information.

In the complex of cases referred to as switched identity cases, the double filing is also very clear.

In the "Tona case" and the "Anja case" from Denmark, two sets of identities are involved.

There are the official documents that the adoptive parents have received in connection with the adoption and that the adopted person has been given, and then there are the secret and unofficial documents that the adoptive parents and the adopted person are not informed about.

In these cases, the adoptee is sent out of Korea in the identity of another child. The identity in these cases is a dead Korean child who should have been sent instead of the adopted one.

The adoptee's photos, government travel documents, name and identity information belong to a dead Korean child.

The false adoption case has its own case number.

In both cases, the adopted person has come into possession of his real and true adoption case.

It appears with a completely different case number, completely different name, completely different photos and completely different identity information.



Picture of the dead girl in the "Anja-case"      Picture of the real "Anja" in the true adoption file

These documents were presented to the commission in both the "Tona case" and the "Anja case", and there is a reference to the fake case number in the genuine case documents.

In the "Anja case", the adoptee has seen the real archive by herself. It is described as an archive consisting of documents on microfilm, where there are register references between the true and the false adoption records.

In other words, the adoptee has described that a physical double archive exists at KSS.

In another switched case, the "Birthe-case" KSS writes the adoptee:

This is in response to your request to search for your birth family and I would like to share the information on your adoption background first because the information that you were from Nam Kwang Children's Home in Pusan City was just for the official adoption procedure at the time. Your real background is that you were from a midwife's clinic in Seoul where you were born, not from Pusan City, and the clinic told us that you were born the 3<sup>rd</sup> child to your birth parents and had 2 older sisters but the economic condition was so bad that your birth parents asked the clinic for your adoption. So you were placed to KSS for adoption.

But in 1996 we got contact from your birth family for you and had some more information on your background. And we sent a request letter to Adoption Center in Denmark but had no response, so would send another request on the recent request from your birth mother.

According to the birth mother, you were born the 6<sup>th</sup> child to your birth parents and had 5 older sisters but they decided on your adoption because of poverty and asked the clinic where you were born for your adoption. Now all family is doing well in good health even

The official information "on [the adoptees] adoption background" given to the adoptee were false. The information given to the adoptee "was just for the official adoption procedure at the time. Your real background is that...".

## 7.2 Double archives at Holt

KSS is not alone using double archives as described above in section 7.1.

DKRG has quite recently received information from the Danish adoption agency DIA that the adoption agency Holt also makes use of double archives as a part of adoption procedure at that time.

This information is given to representatives from DKRG's management of the Danish adoption agency's management at a meeting on 14 October 2022.

Information about the existence of the double archive at Holt is repeated in a telephone conversation with DKRG:

DKRG asks: "But wasn't that what your first meeting with Holt was about? Wasn't it exactly how the processes and the rules were back then in the 70s and 80s?".

Answer from Danish adoption agency: "Yes, exactly. They [Holt] answer that, quite honestly, that there were, two different registers, but that is not so much what is interesting to us. What is interesting to us is why did they do it that way? It's more, what was the intention behind it, and I think that might be a bit interesting for you too".

This is highly worrying information that calls into question the reliability and validity of all adoptions from the adoption agency Holt.

The adoption agency Holt is behind around half of all overseas adoptions from South Korea.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission is being asked to investigate the extent of forgeries of documents by Holt.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission is also requested to be aware of the existence of Holt's duplicate archives.

This caution must be understood to mean that information which the commission may obtain from Holt must be ensured to originate from archives containing the original and true archives and not from falsified archives.

This must be considered the biggest problem regarding Holt, that the existence of duplicate archives requires assurance that it is not the falsified information that is obtained.

DKRG recommends to the commission that both falsified and original archives with the correct information be included in the investigation so that the extent of Holt's forgeries is known.

DKRG also emphasizes that it is feared that Holt, in order to hide the truth about adoptions and the false archives, will try to get rid of incriminating documents in order to avoid the truth about Holt's misdeeds coming out.

DKRG fears that Holt will damage or destroy the adoptees' genuine and original information, and we ask the commission to protect the adoptees' original and genuine information.

### **8.0 Problems with Korean adoption documents - application for legal guardianship, establishing of orphan hojuks and legal problems with revisions of orphan hojuks**

For the adoptees, their adoption documents are difficult to understand. DKRG has learned that it is not only the adopted who find it difficult to understand their own adoption documents.

The Korean authorities also have difficulty understanding the adoption documents. DKRG has learned this when DKRG's representatives have submitted adoption papers to the Korean authorities, who themselves have overseen the preparation of the documents, because the documents do not resemble the documents that other Koreans use.

The typical central adoption papers consist of the following:

- 1) An enrollment document stating when the child was received by the adoption agency.
- 2) Medical and health documents describing the adoptee's and the adoptee's physical state of health at the time of reception.
- 3) An orphan hojuk set up by the adoption agency, where the minor adoptee becomes the head of the family with parents named as unknown.

HO JUK DEUNG BON (FAMILY REGISTRATION)

Date: March 30, 1974

Permanent Address : # 382-14 Hap Jung Dong, Ma Po Ku, Seoul, Korea  
Previous Family Chief : No Record

The following family is established as of this date March 21, 1974  
in accordance with the investigation conducted by the Chief Officer of Ma Po District Office and  
therefore duly registered.

Family Chief : Kim, Koo Jung  
Relation to Previous Family Chief : No Record  
Father : No Record  
Mother : No Record  
Sex :  
Date of Birth : Male  
Family Origin : Feb. 4, 1972  
Kim Hui

This family Kim Hui and family origin Kim Hui are given in accordance  
with permission by the Kim Hui of Home Affairs of Seoul as of this date March 15, 1974.

This is to certify that the above statement is full, true and correct copy of  
The Original Family Register.

Signed by  
Chief Officer Yang Hoo Duck  
Ma Po District Office  
Seoul, Korea

This is a full, true and correct translation of the attached certified copy of  
HO JUK DEUNG BON (FAMILY REGISTRATION).

*Choi, Young Hee*  
Holt Children's Services  
Seoul, Korea

74. 1.

4) A legal guardian document appointing a named private person as the child's guardian.

APPLICATION FOR  
CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT TO THE GUARDIAN FOR THE MINOR ORPHAN  
ACCOMMODATED IN THE ORPHANAGE

Date : April 1, 1974

This is to certify that on 1st day of April 1974  
Chung Ha Boo was appointed guardian of the following minor orphan. The  
request for the Certificate was made by Chung Ha Boo to the Mayor of the  
Special City of Seoul on April 1, 1974.

The Minor Orphan

Permanent Address : # 382-14, Hap Jung Dong, Ma Po Ku, Seoul, Korea  
Present Address : Same as above Sex : Male  
Name : Kim, Koo Jung  
Date of Birth : Feb. 4, 1972

The Guardian

Permanent Address : 3423 Sun Heul Ri, Jo Chun Myun, Buk Jea Joo Kun, Jea Joo Do  
Present Address : 376-1, Chang Jun Dong, Ma Po Ku, Seoul, Korea  
Occupation : Social Work  
Name of Organization : Holt Children's Services  
Name : Chung Ha Boo  
Date of Birth : Sept. 1. 1943

Mayor  
Special City of Seoul, Korea

This is a full true and correct translation of the attached  
certified copy of APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT TO THE  
GUARDIAN FOR THE MINOR ORPHAN ACCOMMODATED IN THE ORPHANAGE.

*Choi, Young Hee*  
Holt Children's Services  
Seoul, Korea

73. 10.

5) In KSS adoption cases, there is also a statement in which the adoption agency is released from the guardianship.

6) A statement that the child is given time off for adoption.

These documents are signed by Korean authorities such as courts, municipal authorities (eg mayors, gu and jumin centers).

If the documents are given the legal meaning and understanding that the documents appear to be, then there is an obvious problem.

A Korean child's first encounter with an adoption agency is when the child is enrolled and registered at the adoption agency.

In none of these cases is there any documentation that the child was handed over to the adoption agencies in a legal way.

The legal way will either be that the child 1) is handed in with a view to adoption by the child's parents or 2) the child is a foundling.

In none of the cases covered by this case to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission is there any indication that the adoption agencies are in possession of any kind of legal documents that leave the child in the custody of the adoption agency - other than the adoption agencies' own sparse descriptions, if any any exist at all. The adoption agencies' own descriptions can be given very little or no importance, and the reliability of the information is deeply questionable on the basis of the large documentation of false information.

In the situation with lost children, there is no documentation from either the police or local authorities that reliably defines the child as a lost child, other than the agencies' own explanations, which, as I said, must be doubted with good reason.

This is justified by the many testimonies of adoptees who have been told that they are foundlings, but find out that they never were.

The next question is who legally looks after the child's interests. As social institutions, the adoption agencies have access to part of the primary care task.

It appears from a number of cases that children are either placed in orphanages or in foster care, while the children are in the custody of the adoption agencies.

What is striking in all adoption cases is that the children's legal guardian is appointed very late in the period when the children are in the care of the adoption agencies.

In all cases, legal guardians are appointed on application from the adoption agency itself, and it is in all cases the director of the adoption agency who is appointed as legal guardian.

During the time when the child stays with the adoption agency, the legal guardian is appointed in the last period of the stay.

This means that the adoption preparatory processes are started by the adoption agencies before the child has been given a legal guardian.

The adoption agencies fail to register the births of the children they receive or to ensure that birth registration has taken place. Thereby, the children do not exist in a legal sense in Korea, and the children do not get an ID number.

The adoption agencies create, without legal guardianship, an orphan hojuk for the child, where the child is placed as family chief, head of his own family and with mother and father reported as unknown.

The children are thus only registered with their orphan hojuk in the Korean state register.

During the adoption agencies' adoption preparations, there is knowledge that children's names, ages, hometowns and other identifying information are changed.

This information is identity-bearing information that is currently protected by Articles 7 and 8 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, but was also protected under the then Korean law of

The Korean Adoption Act of 1966, Article 5, 4:

“입양알선기관은 그가 알선한 고아가 외국인의 양자가 된 후에도 그의 신상에 관한 사항을 상시 파악하여야 하며 당해 외국국적을 취득한 것이 확인 때에는 지체없이 이를 법무부장관에 보고하여야 한다.”

The adoption agency shall keep an eye on the identity of the orphan whom he has interceded even after he/she becomes a foreigner's adoption, and when it is confirmed that the orphan has acquired the foreign nationality, it shall report it to the Minister of Justice without delay.

### 5.1 The legal guardianship

The usual and most widespread definition of a legal guardian in connection with minor children is a person competent to make decisions who looks after the child's welfare and best interests.

Legal guardian is a natural person who, in cases concerning minor children, takes the place of the child's original guardians in the form of one of the parents or both of them jointly.

The legal guardian is usually also appointed as an independent guardian who is tasked with safeguarding the child's interests and making the best decisions for the minor child on an objective basis.

That the legal guardian is an independent third party is essential, as it ensures that it is in the child's interests and welfare, and this happens in a disinterested and selfish way for the legal guardian.

In all adoption cases that DKRG is aware of, and not just those submitted to the commission, the legal guardian is the director of the adoption agency himself at all times.

Thereby, doubts can be cast about the legal guardian's impartiality, because there is 100% identification between the legal guardian and the adoption agency's interests, which is not self-serving, as there are large sums of money and donations linked to the adoption agency's work.

Next, it is concluded in all adoption cases for each individual child that the adoption process is initiated in the custody of the adoption agencies before the appointment of a legal guardian, which the adoption agencies themselves apply for and is granted is their own director.

As a result, doubts can be raised about both the care of the child's sincere interests and interests, just as serious questions can be raised about the competence of the legal guardian.

The usual and most widespread definition of a legal guardian in connection with minor children is a person competent to make decisions who looks after the child's welfare and best interests.

Legal guardian is a natural person who, in cases concerning minor children, takes the place of the child's original guardians in the form of one of the parents or both of them jointly.

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That the legal guardian is an independent third party is essential, as it ensures that it is in the child's interests and welfare, and this happens in a disinterested and selfless way for the legal guardian.

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As a result, doubts can be raised about both the care of the child's sincere interests and interests, just as serious questions can be raised about the competence of the legal guardian.

#### 5.2 Conclusion on documents used for adoption

There are nowhere else in Korean law similar examples of the preparation of similar documents about legal guardianship, and this gives the impression that the document itself has no independent legal force, but can be prepared for adoption only as part of to make the adoption procedures look legitimate for e.g. authorities of the recipient countries.

If this assumption is correct, then this is yet another questionable action on the part of the adoption agencies, since the legal guardianship document is thus only intended to mislead the recipient countries and the adoptive parents of the recipient countries into believing that the adoption has taken place with the full consent of the child's guardian in the absence of consent to adoption from the children's original guardians.

#### **9.0 The "switched identity"-cases**

Switched cases are cases where the adopted person is sent out in a false identity that is different from the adopted person.

The Switched cases are concentrated primarily in KSS, but there are also a few examples from Holt.

In the KSS cases, the switched cases are switched with other Korean children who have died.

After the death of the Korean child, the adopted person is sent out in the identity of the dead child, whereby the adopted person enters into the identity of the dead child.



These include adoption papers, ID information, name, age and government travel documents. Even pictures of the dead child are included in the adoption material in which the adoptee is sent.

The adoptees only find out that something is wrong in adulthood, when they start searching for their backgrounds individually.

It is very upsetting for the adoptees to find out that they are not the person they have thought they were all their lives. It is also very upsetting to find out that the false identity also belongs to a dead Korean child.

The identity of the dead child is attached to the adoptees even after the identity fraud has been detected and acknowledged by the adoption agency, and this means that adoption agencies and Korean authorities make use of the false identity.

Thus, switched adoptees can only identify themselves with the false identity in the form of a dead Korean child if they have to go to the jumin center in Korea, contact the NCRC or ask for post adoption services, because the adoptee cannot have his false Korean identity changed to his own.

There are an incredible number of switched adoptees, but most do not dare to participate in DKRG's case at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for fear that participation in the case will impair their chances of ever having their true identity known by the adoption agencies.

Switched adoptees are told by the adoption agencies that their identities are not their real identities and their identities have been switched with dead children.

They are told by the adoption agencies that their true identity is known to the adoption agencies, but they must not be told by the adoption agencies what their true identity is.

Switched adoptees struggle to learn their true identities.

A commission can mean that the wrong done to switched adoptees can be redressed by giving them access to their true identities.

#### 9.1 Namgwang, Star of The Sea and White Lily

A number of orphanages are again involved in cases with switched adoptees.

The Namgwang Orphanage is one of the orphanages that are largely characterized by switched cases to such an extent that the orphanage is almost considered to be identical to cases involving switched-adopted and falsified identities.

It is reported from the adoption agency KSS that they recognize that there are serious identity crimes associated with Namgwang.


Other orphanages mentioned in connection with switched cases are Star of The Sea and White Lily.

The commission is called upon to investigate the circumstances that have caused KSS to systematically use Namgwang and other orphanages to falsify children's identities.

**10.0 Dead children**

(의뢰)

### 위탁 양육 가정 조사서



신청년월일: 11-22-71  
 조사자: 조인영 (백남준 30AM) → 59H → WJ

이름: **함분녀** (장영숙 - 남)

생년월일: 50년 2월 4일 경문년월일

현주소: 동산구 산천동 106호 8/7. 29번지

가: 김창희 씨

전화: 422022 전역수용과

이름	년월생별	관계	의업 (수입)	종교
장영숙	19년 7월	딸	영양	기독교
장영수	15년 11월	아들	중1	

Case#	이름	생년월일	성별	입주년월일	이주년월일	비고
10573	Kim Ae Ri Seo	12-13-71	KF	2-16-72	6-8-72	Go USA
11193	Kim Jo Ok	6-1-72	KF	6-9-72	11-29-72	Go USA
12618	Oh Kwang Suk	9-6-72	KF	11-29-72	4-19-73	Go USA
K1044	Kim Hee Hwa	3-26-73	KF	4-19-73	10-4-73	Go USA
K2627	Cha Yung Hee	7-20-73	KF	9-25-73	3-30-74	Go USA
K-1187	Hong Min	3-16-74	KF	3-28-74	9-12-74	Go Denmark
K-353	Paul Boo Won	8-1-74	KF	9-16-74	12-26-74	U.S.A
K-6346	Kim Young Hee	12-4-74	KF	1-9-75	1-28-75	Replaced
K-6862	Kim Young Geon	2-1-75	KF	5-5-75	6-2-75	U.S.A
K-8381	Kim In Ae	6-7-75	KF	6-19-75	7-11-75	Expired at I's
K-2548	Yun Nam Hee	2-6-75	KF	7-3-75	12-12-75	U.S.A
K-10021	Lee Si Young	10-4-75	KF	12-12-75	1-4-76	Expired

In the past, DKRG has heard many stories about dead children. Many dead children.

In connection with the review of adoption papers from Holt, a document is found with the list of children from a foster mother who was employed by Holt in the 1970s.

The list shows children who have been with the foster grandmother in question and the list also shows where the children have been sent. Eg. Denmark and the USA.

The designation "Expired" also appears on the list. DKRG wondered what "Expired" might mean, and DKRG therefore put the question to a journalist who was supposed to meet with Holt's former president in the 1970s, Mr. Boo.

K-6360	Kim Young Hee	2-1-75	KF	5-5-75	6-2-75	U.S.A
K-6862	Kim Young Geon	2-1-75	KF	5-5-75	6-2-75	U.S.A
K-8381	Kim In Ae	6-7-75	KF	6-19-75	7-11-75	Expired at I's
K-2548	Yun Nam Hee	2-6-75	KF	7-3-75	12-12-75	U.S.A
K-10021	Lee Si Young	10-4-75	KF	12-12-75	1-4-76	Expired

In an interview with a Korean TV media, Mr. Boo that "Expired" means dead. That the child was dead.

During the interview, Mr. Boo that an average of 8 Korean children died a day during the time Mr. Boo was president in the period 1972 to 1979.

If so, as Mr. Boo states is correct, then 8 dead children per day in the period 1972 to 1979 is a very high child death rate, and this number is for the adoption agency Holt alone.

Mr. Boo states that he personally helped drive around and collect the dead children from Holt's addresses. The children were loaded onto a Bongo car and driven to the Holt compound in Ilsan, where Holt City is located today, where the children were buried. Mr. Boo said that he helped transport and bury the children himself.

As the children were not birth registered, according to Mr. Boo also not to death register them.

Similar information about dead children comes from the adoption agency KSS, where DKRG has seen email correspondence between KSS and the adoptee, where KSS states that dead children were burned at KSS's crematorium and that the ashes were scattered in the mountains behind KSS's area in Seoul.

In the switched case, the "Anja case", the adoptee asks what happened to the child who died and whom the adoptee sent away instead of in the identity of the deceased girl.

To that, the KSS replied that the dead girl was burned in the KSS crematorium and that the ashes were scattered in the mountains. KSS' leader Mrs. Kim informed the adoptee that since the child was not birth registered, KSS did not have to register the death either.

If this information is correct, then it is considered very serious. The high death tolls and the extremely strange, childish treatment of the dead seem peculiar and highly revolting.

DKRG requests the commission to focus on dead Korean children. The large number of dead children at Holt could indicate neglect and cannot be explained solely by the children's poor health.

Details of starvation and poor sanitation are described in the "Anka case" of 1988. South Korea was not a poor country in 1988.

DKRG finds that Holt's descriptions of the children and the condition of the children are exaggerated and may have been created, in the same way as Holt's other falsehoods, to create a smokescreen about the truth behind adoption from South Korea.

It must be remembered that Holt is behind the deportations of Korean children due to race, disability and the marital status of the parents in cahoots with the Korean state at the time.

DKRG urges the Commission to investigate the number of dead children in the custody of adoption agencies.

The public has a right to know the number and names of the dead Korean children who were victims of the adoption agencies and the Korean state's adoption program.