

From: Beasley, Anthony [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 11 May 2005 1:12 PM
To: Committee, FHS (REPS)
Subject: Submission to the Inquiry into Adoption of Children from Overseas

I wish to make a short submission to this inquiry.

My wife and I married 12 years ago and after discovering that we were not able to have children naturally tried IVF unsuccessfully 5 times, we were grateful for the financial support provided by the Government at this time.

A number of years after this we decided to adopt and were advised that our best option was an overseas adoption as there are so few adoptions within Australia. After 2 years of interviews, paperwork and about \$20,000 in costs for travel, to immigration, to the Korean Agency we finally arrived back in Australia with our son.

During this time we received no financial assistance from any Government Department, and to add salt to the wound heard that couples from the USA who adopt overseas receive a \$10,000 tax credit!

If this Government is serious about families and increasing the Australian population more assistance needs to be provided to couples and families who wish to adopt children overseas, for example tax credits, the ability to claim money paid to overseas adoption agencies as a tax deduction or at least removing the charges we had to pay to both State and Federal Governments.

I find it strange that when the Government wished to cut back on assistance to couples going through the IVF process there was a great uproar, which I think was quite right, but nothing is said or done to help people who wish to adopt.

Thank you

Anthony Beasley

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] South Australia