2 PROPS

- **FAM BONDS: BIAS/INSIGHT**
  1. Pers Experience
  2. 3 decades of study incl Social Science

- **CHART: Tragedy & Outrage**

  **Decline = Human Rights Issue**

- 10,000-20,000 kids/yr not getting homes (x 10/100 potential)
- Why Human Rights Focus
  1. For kids is that: And IA an easy, cheap, successful solution
  2. Human Rights organizations are Responsible

**FIRST: WHY IS RIGHT HUMAN RIGHTS POSITION PRO- IA?**

- Millions of Kids in need: in institutions
- Right to Nurturing parenting Basic Human Right, needed for other Rights
- No real-world good alternative today in-country
- IA is a good alternative: Social Science shows it works
- Adoption Stigma literature – see chapter: Good & Junk Soc Sci (your Lipton reading)
- Adoption pays for itself: not a diversion of resources, but adds resources to poor countries

**SECOND: WHY ARE HUMAN RIGHTS ORGS THE ENEMY**

- Key Force behind the drop, more than Sending Country Governments
  1. Sending Countries & Receiving also responsible
  2. But UNICEF, UN CommRights of Child pressure all
- **IRONY & WORSE:** How hard it is to guarantee Child Rights
  1. Child Human Rights Orgs Role
  2. CRC Role
QUESTIONS

- Adoptees want Birth Parents; Means IA as last resort?; What to do: NO to Last Resort
  1. Some want
  2. Respect that: Dec 10 Peru Trip
     - Meaningful for us
     - Dangerous/Problematic generally– Don’t over-romanticize
  3. Policy Direction??
     - NO to Last Resort: Knowledge vs Speculation
       - Know kids need early Nurturing
       - Speculate how important Heritage is
     - YES to Keep records, facilitate meetings upon maturity
       - For kids
       - For birth parents, countries – facilitate contact
       - Risks for kids?? Yes; Should they be Responsible?

- Cultural Identity Issues – So favor in-country? NO
  1. Complicated:
     - Good Social Science: Delays matter and Cult Heritage doesn’t
     - Born “Peruvian”;
     - Irrationality of borders;
     - Hypocrisy: Adults want to immigrate: Peruvian Protector of Children story; What if Walled out Adults?
     - But Respect nonetheless for Cult Heritage
  2. No re In-country Preference
     - Danger of Preferences: see MEPA history & result
     - Esp danger when no adoptive homes available
     - Sig of Delays vs Same-Race/Culture placement
  3. Law: Hague: some pref so “concurrent planning”
Egregious Abuse: Baby Buying, Exploitation of Disasters

1. Facts
   - How many cases
   - Compare Evils
     - Evil of “illegal adoptions”:
       o Some poor mothers get $ & kids do well adopted
       o Some Haitian kids got out faster to adoption
     - Evil of Shut Down: Kids locked into inhuman institutions, graduating to real Exploitation on streets

2. My Policy Position:
   - Stop Illegal conduct
   - Jail Perpetrators not Children

Resources: on IA or Larger Group of Kids? False choice