

## U.S.-born kids source of more adoptions

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- International restrictions on foreign adoptions and concerns over human rights resulted in the adoption of more U.S.-born children, USA Today said. Potential parents asking about adopting children from foster care rose 47 percent in 2007 and several adoption agencies reported an increased interest in U.S.-born children from 2006 to 2007, USA Today said Monday in an independent survey. The Michigan-based Bethany Christian Services saw a greater than 15 percent increase in inquiries from foster care and adoptions. The U.S. State Department reports a similar reverse trend in the number of foreign children adopted by Americans. USA Today says the interest in U.S.-born children is in part due to the waiting period for adopting abroad. China, once the leading foreign source of children, imposed restrictions on adopting to single, homosexual, low-income and elderly applicants, which further prohibits the process. Paul Placek with the National Council for Adoption said the supply does not meet demand as less than 1 percent of unmarried pregnant woman offer unwanted children up for adoption. "The interest is there in domestic adoptions, but the supply of babies is not," he said.

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