

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a birth mother and do not need to be protected.

My daughter and I recently found each other 49 years after I was pressured to give her up. 49 years.

The joy of reunion is tempered by all the lost years.

My large family has welcomed her with open arms. That cannot make up for a lifetime for her having no idea who she is or what her story is.

While younger family members can't understand 'what the big deal was' about illegitimacy and the requisite secrecy and shame, those of us old enough to remember know. And know how wrong and destructive it was.

Thank God for Ancestry.com.

After years of both of us searching, and being stopped by arcane state policies, each of us popped up on the others Ancestry.com site.

The Great Lie is that birth mothers don't want to be found and adoptees don't care or don't want to know who they are.

We birth mothers are aging and dying. My daughter was born in 1969 and will soon be 50. I am 70 and will be grateful for every day that my daughter and I can have together. Many others are not so fortunate.

Please pass Senate Bill 972 so that birth mother and their children can more easily find one another.

Sincerely,

Miki G. Elizondo