

To Connecticut Lawmakers,

I am a first mother, and I have always wanted to be found. From my personal experience, mothers who relinquish their children almost always want to be found. The ones who don't are the rare exception. Have you seen all those reunion commercials? Mothers never forget losing their baby/child, EVER. For most there is always a longing, deep grief, an eternal hole in our heart and a great desire to reconnect. I was never promised anonymity from my child or her adoptive family, but that I would forget I had a baby, which is insulting insensitive and a grossly cruel untruth, for myself and my child. I was promised they would make better parents than I, but a different life does not always guarantee a better life...

To keep birthparents in the shadows of society and anonymous to their children is to continue our cultural shame and stigma around adoption for all involved. Please don't use the excuse of protecting birthparents as an [excuse](#) to deny or marginalize adoptees. We as adults, as families, as parents want what is the very best for our children, including adult children. Secrets equal shame, fear, dysfunction and corruption. Adoptees need their truth so let's evolve in a healthy manner together.

I believe adult adoptees should have the civil right to their own original birth certificates. They are adults and deserve the same rights and respect as everyone else. Withholding original birth certificates is to render them eternal children, vulnerable, powerless, and without any choices over themselves which extends to impact their adoption frustrations/traumas. They did not ask for any of this, and they should have access and not be denied to their own family of origins information, family health information, and possibly family. Please grant them the rights they deserve to their own personal information and original birth certificates. Please do the right thing for adult adoptees of Connecticut. It's time.

Thank you,
Marina Tunes-Nichols
Freeland, WA.