

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Chris Maduri and I live in Darien, CT and have been a lifelong CT resident. I was born in New London, CT on September 29, 1978 along with my twin brother Michael. Because of the unfair laws that are in place, that is really all I know about my birth.

The lack of information has caused me an incredible amount of mental and emotional pain as well as physical. While you believe that you are protecting birth parents, you are also causing an incredible amount of pain and suffering in adoptees. Over the past 12 years I have been dealing with an unknown autoimmune issue that the doctors can't figure out how to treat. Since I have no knowledge of my family's medical history, I can provide little insight and so I continue to suffer every single day.

The mental anguish that I have experienced over the last 41 years cannot be understated. I know nothing about myself, other than that I was not wanted by my birth parents. This has become my identity because I've been denied the right to information about me. The thought that you legislators have information that can help thousands of people and continue to choose to withhold that information is incredibly cruel.

We have spent our entire lives feeling like we do not matter, like we could be discarded and given away like a pile of clothes that you would bring to goodwill. Even when I adopted my two dogs I was given information on their birth parents, and you will not even give us the same decency that is provided to them. The thought that we live in the information age where he hold so little regard for individual privacy, yet somehow the identity of adoptees are guarded like nuclear launch codes.

The psychological impact of being adopted is well documented. Like many adoptees, I have struggled with addiction issues and the fight continues every day. The one commonality in all of my darkest moments was feeling like I was worthless, which always comes back to the shame of being adopted. I have wept countless tears, as I am while typing this very letter, and only your actions can make those tears stop flowing.

As adoptees, our journey from the beginning was not a natural one. We were discarded by the very people whose responsibility was to care for us. We have spent countless minutes, hours, days and years wondering where we came from and why we not wanted. The level of self doubt throughout every step of life is immeasurable, this is a pain that haunts us every single day.

You have the power to change that with your vote and I pray that you will help to finally ease our incredible burden.

Sincerely

Christopher Maduri