
Local notions of kinship – *not entirely traditional*

- Child circulation – elastic criteria for the definition of kin

In constant confrontation with:

- National civil registers

ex: Brazilian-style adoption involving step-fathers, grandmothers, etc.(cf. Abreu)

- Biomedicine

DNA paternity tests used to refute “false” birth registers

State policies of child welfare – *not entirely national*

International arena		Brazil
Demand for adopted children		
		Greater emphasis on legal adoption
1993 Hague convention: national adoptions first		
(cf. Selman)		Local Adoption Support Groups emphasize adoption of
		Older, special needs children.

Phase I of the Brazilian adoption debate: 1989-2002

National X international

- International adoption – a scapegoat that leaves *national* adoption (class hierarchy and inequality) relatively unquestioned
 - In Brazil, during this period, legal plenary adoption precluded all other options – *foster care*, for example, fell into total disrepute.
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Phase II: 2002 – today

Diversifying solutions

- Five conferences in three years sponsored by Terra dos Homens, UNICEF and local activists.
 - Foster-care programs under study, BUT
 - Only on emergency basis (6 – 12 months)
 - Not yet discussed:
 - Long-term fosterage
 - Intra-family fosterage
 - Subsidized adoptions
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Adoptive parents in Europe and North America:
“We have nothing to do with the social policies
of sending countries”.

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- Transnational influences in the social production of adoptable children: The case of Brazil

Journal: International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy **ISSN:** 0144-333X **Year:** 2006 **Volume:** 26
Issue: 3/4 **Page:** 154 - 171

- Transnational connections and dissenting views: intercountry adoption in Brazil
(<http://sitemason.vanderbilt.edu/files/eUjZJu/Fonseca%20Claudia.rtf>)
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