

Sending Babies to Be Raised in Child-Friendly China

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Body

To the Editor:

"Squeezed by Debt and Time, Mothers Ship **Babies** to **China**" (front page, Sept. 14) should have mentioned that underpaid workers in Chinatown are not the only parents who are **sending** their **children** back to **China**. When my wife, who is Chinese, and I have a **child**, we plan to do so because **China** is much more **child-friendly** than the United States.

When I lived in **China**, I knew of a number of **children** being **raised** by grandparents while their parents were in the United States, Hong Kong or Britain. Two well-educated couples I met told me they wanted their **children** to be **raised** by extended families and away from the dissipating excesses of Western culture. There is a trade-off, of course, but I will take schools without air-conditioning and computers over schools with guns and drug pushers any day.

STUART ZIMMERMAN

Fairfax, Va., Sept. 14, 1999

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