

Mothers and fathers are traditionally defined as the creators and caregivers of new life. However, the ladder is not promised. Children that are not as fortunate to be raised by biological parents are cast to an orphanage, foster system, or other temporary housing arrangement. This has inadvertently resulted in an increased population because couples with the ability to procreate continue to do so, while foster youth remain in need of adoption.

Increases in population necessarily lead to concerns about a rapid rate of global climate change; more mouths to feed mean more resources needed to feed them, and more pollution is generated in order to make resources available.

Furthermore, largely practiced religions such as Christianity and Catholicism dictate that childbirth outside of a marriage is morally bad, and therefore should not be practiced.

(May, "Married Couples Have a 'Right' to a Child?"). In other

words, raising a child is only morally good if the child is conceived between a married man and woman. I disagree wholeheartedly with this religiously bound and exclusive sentiment, and argue that raising a child under any circumstance is morally good. Furthermore, men have no right to create that which they cannot create themselves, and expecting a woman to undergo the burdens of childbirth is unreasonable and should not be tradition.

With this campaign I hope to challenge traditional norms of raising a child with the main solution being adoption. Adoption is the ideal s

solution to contemporary issues concerning population control, global climate change, and universal togetherness.

Many children are born without the security, love, and compassion of parents; approximately 183 million are placed in foster care worldwide (The Most Orphans Worldwide?). Despite this fact, couples with the ability to procreate continue to give birth to new life bringing approximately 140 million children into the world every year ("Number of Births Per Year"). To clarify, children placed into foster programs are not all infants. So, why then do couples continue to create children of their own?

Why not alleviate the overwhelming number of foster youth and take in a life already made? Every individual has their own unique experiences that motivate biological childbirth. The first and most common reason being an innate desire to satisfy a biological impulse. For

example, a couple with the ability to procreate has been happily married for years and want to bring new life into the world, therefore they plan to birth and raise a child of their own.

The second most common reason for childbirth is accidental. Two people of opposite sexes decide to have intercourse without the intention of reproduction, and by accident a child is born. While both of these reasons are valid for the creation of new life, the first of these two is most often self centered. Couples that have the ability to take advantage of their power and use it selfishly placing value on familial genetics rather than the sole principal of raising a child. If the child were not bound to them by DNA, would the parents still love and care for them?

carbon footprint of a child is roughly 58.6 metric tonnes annually, whereas that of a Malawian child has consistently been estimated between 0.07 and 0.1 metric tonnes annually.⁶

In other words, raising a child in the United States is far more detrimental to the health of the environment than in developing countries. This fact has changed the way many Americans perceive the future for themselves and for potential offspring, myself included. Personally, I don't want to bring a child into the world knowing what lies ahead for them.

The damage we have done and will continue to inflict on earth's environment is slowly becoming irreversible, and I don't want to leave my negative contributions to my children. I would rather leave them for a child that was going to experience the issues of global climate change.

Raising a child of your own blood reinforces beliefs that family is a closed group of people, connected only by genetics. Adoption challenges the definition of family by creating one that enforces the idea that anyone has the potential to be a family member. Many people consider close

and lifelong friends family, and even resent people within their biological family. This sentiment only strengthens the arguments that a family is a group of people that one chooses, not necessarily that one is born into. Family should be built on a loving, caring, and symbiotic relationship, and any family can attain these traits outside their own blood.

Adoption creates a strengthened bond with the world for both parent and child. In the case of the parent, they are essentially taking a stranger into their home with the intent to love and care for it until the child is able to sustain itself. Biological parents are welcoming strangers into their own

home as well, the main difference being they'll have an idea of what the child will look like.

In taking in an unforeseeable face, the sentiment that anyone can be family is enforced, and they are therefore more willing to have a kinder attitude towards other strangers in the future. In the case of the child, they are being given a chance that they would not have had otherwise, and therefore understand the beauty of strangers when they reach an age of maturity. Similar to their parents, they will likely be more open to judging people based on actions rather than appearance, which can slowly remedy the plague of racism, prejudice, and fear of the unknown.

In many cases of biological parenthood, reasons for childbirth are self centered and ignorant of those in need of a home. Adoption is a much more inclusive and environmentally sound option and should be at the very least considered when planning on raising a new life.



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Learn more about adoption at www.yoloforkids.com/for-adoption

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