-----Original Message-----
From: Christine Cole [mailto:C.Cole@uws.edu.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 May 2008 9:05 am
To: Intercountry Adoption
Subject: FW: Understanding

Hi,

I have had many emails from distressed mothers, fathers and adopted persons re your planned intention to celebrate adoption after Mother's Day commencing in 2009. Only someone without one iota of compassion for those separated by adoption would want to celebrate what for us is a distressing time commiserating our losses. I will be forwarding other such emails to you as I would be be very surprised if the DLF promoters of adoption/anti-family will alert you the very high level of distress that is being felt

regards

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From: Intercountry Adoption [mailto:INTERCOUNTRYADOPTION@ag.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2008 4:23 PM
To: Christine Cole
Subject: FW: Understanding [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear Ms Cole,

Thank you for your email of 13 May 2008 regarding the National Adoption Awareness Week recently announced in the media. Thank you also for sharing with the Branch the correspondence you have received from of other parents regarding this event.

We are aware of recent media regarding this event. I wish to clarify that this is not an initiative of the Australian Government. I am conscious of the concerns raised by yourself and others regarding the timing of the event. I apologise for the delay in responding to your email, I have been trying to confirm if the timing of the event has now changed so it no longer coincides with Mother's Day and my understanding is that this is now confirmed. The Australian Government acknowledges the numerous complex issues regarding intercountry adoption. Community education and campaigns about intercountry adoption need to be sensitive to the experiences of those on all sides of the intercountry adoption triangle.

Your comments are valued and I wish to thank you for sharing them with the Government.

Yours sincerely _____
Kathleen Falko | Acting Assistant Secretary
Intercountry Adoption Branch
Australian Government Attorney-General's Department
Robert Garran Offices | National Circuit | Barton ACT 2600
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