



May 1994

International and Transracial Adoptions. Christopher Bagley with Loretta Young and Anne Scully.

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Recommended Citation

(1994) "*International and Transracial Adoptions.* Christopher Bagley with Loretta Young and Anne Scully," *The Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare*: Vol. 21 : Iss. 2 , Article 22.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/jssw/vol21/iss2/22>

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perspective of disabled people and support disabled people as they seek to change the social, structural and economic barriers which impede their attainment of full citizenship.

Christopher Bagley with Loretta Young and Anne Scully. *International and Transracial Adoptions*. Aldershot, England: Avebury, 1993. \$66.95 hardcover. (Distributed in the United States by Ashgate Publishing Co. Brookfield, VT).

In Western countries today, adoption practice is changing very rapidly indeed. The conventional mode of adoption in which childless white middle class families adopt children born outside marriage to young white women is fast disappearing. Consequently, childless couples are engaging in new forms of adoption of which international and transracial adoptions are becoming much more prominent.

The authors report that the outcomes for children in international and transracial adoptions can be extremely positive. Based on extensive empirical studies, they show that the majority of children who are placed make healthy adjustments and do well in the longer term. The authors do not deny that a minority of children do not succeed, and they do not fail to recognize that some adoptive parents experience difficulty in rearing and children of different cultural backgrounds. Nor do they avoid the complex controversies that attend international and transracial adoptions. Nevertheless, they believe that if the current trend towards truly open adoptions continues and if the cultural identity of the child is sustained, transracial and international adoptions offer a positive means of meeting the needs of abandoned and neglected children around the world.

Alice S. Baum and Donald W. Burnes, *A Nation in Denial: The Truth About Homelessness*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1993. \$49.95 hardcover; \$16.95 papercover.

Most experts agree that the problem of homelessness has become more visible during the last fifteen years. However, there is less agreement about its causes and about the steps needed to address the problem. While much academic research points to the role of economic and social factors in the etiology of