

GOOD NEWS SUNDAY FAIRFIELD

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47th edition – November 14, 2021



GOOD NEWS PAGE 1

RESEARCH PAGE 2

BRAIN POWER PAGE 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS PAGE 4

This is our 47th edition, bringing you good news, inspiring stories, and useful information. Today, we are sharing the story of Jessica and Ava.

I arrived in China not knowing what to expect. Then I met Ava, it was love at first sight. I was so excited. I felt like any other parent. Ava was 1 year old, she adjusted in one week. It is very important for babies to be held and loved. Ava needed that.

When I adopted Ava, I became a mom and Ava was my priority. I had to do many things to adopt Ava. I needed to do interviews and a background check, not just me but my entire family. They had to inspect my home to see if it is safe and clean and have enough space. They also had to see if I was mentally and financially okay and if I was ready to take care of Ava. I also had to get approvals from the adoption agency, state and both countries - China and USA. My friend worked at the adoption agency and she had 2 kids from China and kept on pushing me to adopt. I always thought that I would need a husband to have kids. China was closing single parent adoption so I had to act fast and got on the list two days before it closed.

I want others to adopt because if you adopt kids with different backgrounds the community will be more diverse and it is a way to spread love. When you see all the orphans you want to save them all. I do think adoption is important because a lot of parents can't keep their babies and they end up in orphanages. Having no family is very difficult and no one should have to go through that. I think adoption affects the community in a good way and that you should love everyone no matter their background. It is so worth getting a new family member and there are a lot of children who need and are waiting for a family. I also think it is sad that many families wanted children but could not have one on their own. I would recommend families to look at adoption as an option.

There are a lot of organizations in CT to help people understand the process. There are a lot of kids out there that would love to have a loving family. In November and December, The Annie Courtney foundation is offering education sessions go to www.anniec.org to learn more.

Research

This month is national adoption awareness month and the need for permanent families. It commemorates the hard work of many people to make adoption easier. We want to share some of the history around adoption.

Some of the earliest instances of adoption was in Ancient Rome in the 6th century AD. There was a law that allowed adoption if the family patriarch was going to die without a heir. So the most powerful and influential families in Rome would adopt each others sons. They did this so that the wealth and power would stay in a few select families. Adoption continued to work that way until the late middle ages.

Then most countries discouraged it and in some it was outright forbidden. This happened because they changed the laws of inheritance so that it is blood relation only. They did this to keep the royal families in power. Then oblation started which is where you leave the child at a religious organization and they "adopt" the child. The churches regularize this and made the first orphanages.

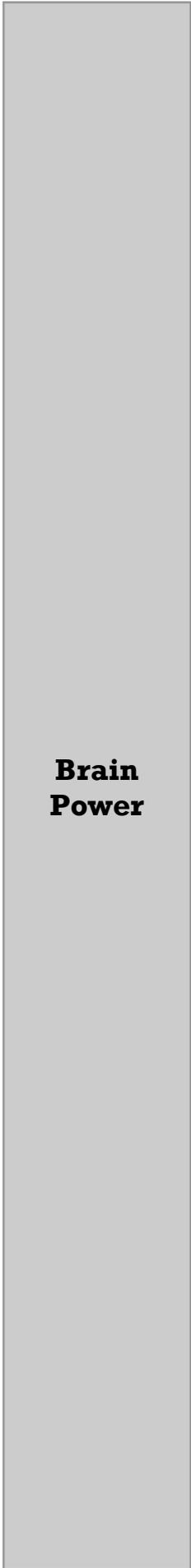
Orphanages became very popular and then expanded into the public and private sector. Soon these orphanages got overwhelmed and they couldn't support them so "indentured servitude" or "foster servitude" was created. This is where kids in the crowded orphanages were moved into families to learn a skill or craft. Through this kids were moved into an apprenticeship instead, most of the time unfortunately it was just about providing cheap labor. Then, in 1652 a law expanded this and left well off families to take in orphaned or poor children and force them into a mandatory apprenticeship until they came of age. This kind of treatment continued on until the mid-19th century when people started thinking about how the welfare of the orphaned child should be taken into consideration.

In 1851 the Massachusetts Adoption of Children Act was the first law to protect the interest of the child. This law made it so that the adoptive parents had to obtain consent from the child's biological parents or their guardian. It required the adoptive parents to prove they could support the child and raise the child well. The law made it so that the final approval was left to a judge.

During the civil war most adoptions came to a halt leading to the overcrowding of many U.S. orphanages. Then in 1854 Charles Loring Brace came up with the idea of orphan trains to move abandoned kids from urban areas to rural areas. Most of the children moved didn't get adopted. This led to the beginning of the modern foster care system.

In 1909 at the First White House Conference on the Care of Dependent Children, President Roosevelt recommended moving away from institutional care. This led to regulating adoption and the creation of the first U.S. adoption agencies in 1910. After WW1 and WW2 there were a lot of orphans and more families wanted to adopt. With so many adoptions soon some of the first transracial adoption happened. Many laws were then passed to protect the rights of these transracial adoption. Soon after the first international adoptions took place with orphaned children in Germany being sent to Greece, Japan and the US.

Adoption has changed a lot and it will keep changing. To learn more about the history of adoption go to [What Is the History of Adoption? | Adoption.org](https://www.adoption.org/What-Is-the-History-of-Adoption/). To learn more about adoption in general go to www.adoption.org.



**Brain
Power**

Quote of the week.

“Adoption for an option.”

- Jessica L.

Name: _____

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Adoption
Find the words!

N H I C N A P P R E N T I C E S H I P X
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ADOPTION
PARENTS
SERVITUDE
APPRENTICESHIP

CHILDREN
INTERNATIONAL
OBLATION
FAMILIES

BIOLOGICAL
INDENTURED
ORPHANAGES

Announcements

On the 19, 20 and 21 of November there is a book sale at the main library. There are all types of books on sale and even DVDs. This cash only book sale is in the Rotary room at the main library. All proceeds go to the library.

November is National Novel Writing Month. Because of this the library is doing a youth writing program through the month of November for kids in 2-12th grade. You set a weekly word count and when you reach it you get a prize. To sign up go to [Virtual-NaNoWriMo Challenge | Fairfield Public Library \(librarymarket.com\)](#).



You can decide how your body ages.

About 20% of what happens to you health-wise is genetically programmed, but research is uncovering that over 80% of your health and fitness condition is **controlled by you and your daily choices**. **Regular exercise should be one of those choices.**

If I can help you celebrate **your fittest birthday yet**, all virtual!- Let's chat- no obligation... I've been helping folks figure out fitness for over 30 years, maybe I can help you, too. Contact me at Linda@FitTraining.net or FitTraining.net

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Have a great Sunday!