

# **Centennial Honors College**

*Western Illinois University*  
Undergraduate Research Day 2012

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## **Podium Presentation**

### **A Long Race Home: The Sociological Perspective as to why Black Children are Least Selected for Adoption**

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**African American Studies**

This presentation will also discuss why this is the case and the types of concerns and issues that are holding people back from adopting black children. An unanswered question that has surrounded the issue of black adoption for decades is whether or not it is better for African American children to be adopted by guardian of the same race. Because the majority of potential adoptees are White couples, typically looking for fellow White or Asian children, this makes lives of Black children seem quite bleak. The treatment of these children is beyond unacceptable, and somebody needs to be held responsible for this. The presentation will not only explore the underlying issues that are so covert with the system, but also look at specific cases to draw various conclusions.

This presentation will seek to accomplish the following goals and objective:

- Bring awareness to the alarming number of black children in the foster care system.
- Let others understand the differences in care that happen when dealing with the transracial adoption.
- Bring to light what kind of agencies are out there to aid in helping African American children get out of the system faster.
- Educate people about a topic that many do not care to or try to understand.
- My main goal is to maybe help people come to the realization that no matter what race you are when adopting a black child, there are ways to help that child cope with the harsh realities of society today.

These objectives will be carried out through direct and indirect observations and interviews. This research will be further gained through the use of an extensive literature review carried out by the researcher.