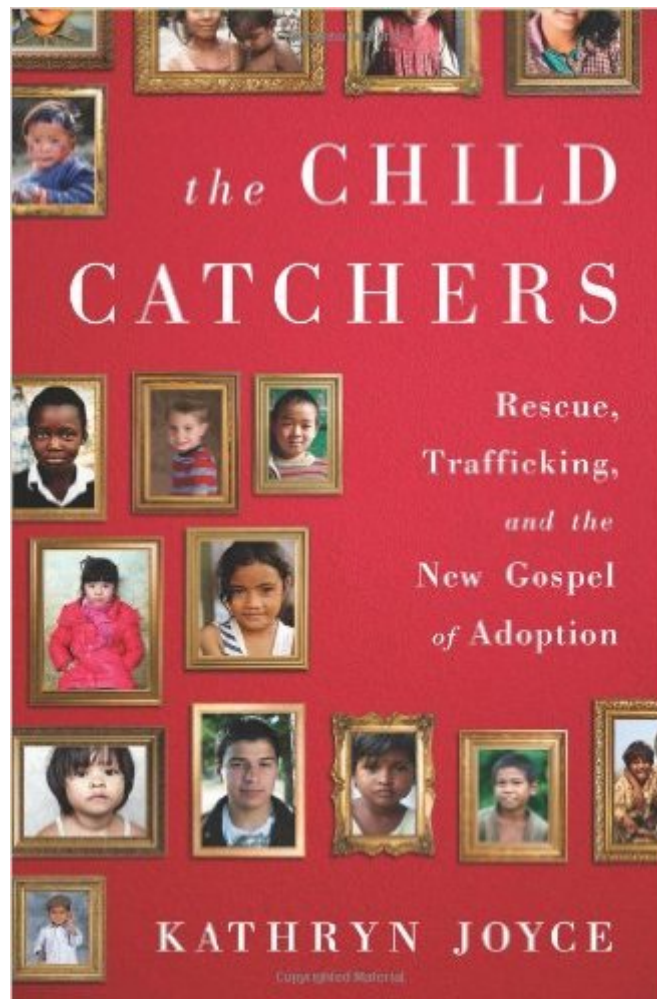


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# The Child Catchers: Rescue, Trafficking, And The New Gospel Of Adoption



## Synopsis

When Jessie Hawkins's adopted daughter told her she had another mom back in Ethiopia, Jessie didn't, at first, know what to think. She'd wanted her adoption to be great story about a child who needed a home and got one, and a family led by God to adopt. Instead, she felt like she'd done something wrong. Adoption has long been enmeshed in the politics of reproductive rights, pitched as a win-win compromise in the never-ending abortion debate. But as Kathryn Joyce makes clear in *The Child Catchers*, adoption has lately become even more entangled in the conservative Christian agenda. To tens of millions of evangelicals, adoption is a new front in the culture wars: a test of pro-life bona fides, a way for born again Christians to reinvent compassionate conservatism on the global stage, and a means to fulfill the Great Commission mandate to evangelize the nations. Influential leaders fervently promote a new orphan theology, urging followers to adopt en masse, with little thought for the families these orphans may already have. Conservative evangelicals control much of that industry through an infrastructure of adoption agencies, ministries, political lobbying groups, and publicly-supported crisis pregnancy centers, which convince women not just to choose life, but to choose adoption. Overseas, conservative Christians preside over a spiraling boom-bust adoption market in countries where people are poor and regulations weak, and where hefty adoption fees provide lots of incentive to increase the supply of adoptable children, recruiting orphans from intact but vulnerable families. *The Child Catchers* is a shocking exposé of what the adoption industry has become and how it got there, told through deep investigative reporting and the heartbreaking stories of individuals who became collateral damage in a market driven by profit and, now, pulpit command. Anyone who seeks to adopt of whatever faith or no faith, and however well-meaning is affected by the evangelical adoption movement, whether they know it or not. The movement has shaped the way we think about adoption, the language we use to discuss it, the places we seek to adopt from, and the policies and laws that govern the process. In *The Child Catchers*, Kathryn Joyce reveals with great sensitivity and empathy why, if we truly care for children, we need to see more clearly. <sup>^</sup>

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am one of those right-wing, Evangelical Christians that the author seems to not care for.....so this may be interesting! I am mom to biological sons and often thought about adopting a daughter from China. I started to research and found out a lot of information about children being kidnapped from their parents in China and was SO disturbed because I had NO idea that this was going on. I don't think most Americans understand that when you pay to adopt of a child in a 3rd world country that you are inadvertently, supporting child trafficking. Whenever a lot of money is involved and there is a demand, regardless of what the demand is for...corruption always comes....and the end does not justify the means. As a Compassion International sponsor to children in Ethiopia, I started to research adoption in Ethiopia, as well as, the orphan crisis and street children there. I went with Compassion Int to Ethiopia to meet my sponsor kids and also met boys at an orphanage. I became a mom to 4 boys at an orphanage. I have been back several times to visit them. I am their mother in every sense except that I am not physically with them all of the time. As I learned more about adoption and met more and more people that had adopted.....I was SHOCKED...the first time...an adoptive parent sitting on my couch in my house said....."when, I met her mother." When you met her mother?? She has a mother?? YES, but she is very poor and cannot take care of her. SO.....you spent 30,000 to take her away from her mother instead of helping the mother keep her own child? I thought it was an isolated incident but I heard it OVER and OVER again! As a Christian, I cannot believe that my fellow Christians do not have a HUGE problem with this. If I were poor and someone from.....let's say Spain....

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