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## The Children's Airlift

To the Editor:

As adoptive mothers of thirteen children, including five Korean children and five black American children, we are deeply disturbed by much of the misinformed and emotional counter-reaction to the airlift of Vietnamese orphans.

All of our children faced life in institutions if we had not applied to adopt them. Children born of any nationality or any race have an absolute right to life and the security of parents who love them. Childhood is short, and hungry and unloved children need solutions now, not when the great moral issues of war and racism have been resolved.

Ideally, political, social and economic conditions would be such that all parents would be able to raise the children born to them, or orphaned children be returned to the race and culture of their birth for adoption. However, we know from our own experience that children of different races and cultures can be raised together to be proud and understanding of their individual heritage.

Last Sunday, as volunteers, we carried frightened and malnourished

Vietnamese children off an airplane to the arms of loving parents. This is a valid solution for children who were cared for and supported in Vietnam by Americans, and faced years of deprivation and possible death, not because Vietnamese do not love their children, but because 100,000 parentless children is too heavy a burden for any nation to carry.

"Save the children" is a plea that must transcend national and racial alliances.

FAYE CAPERNA

SUSAN WILDERMUTH

Oceanside, L. I., April 8, 1975

To the Editor:

This is truly a great country abroad as well as at home. What other great power would make so many children orphans (as in Vietnam) and then go to the trouble of kidnapping them from their countrymen and adopting them into decent God-fearing American families who want children of their own and cannot have any. It's a truly Swiftian process, I believe, by which, once again, everybody except the people of Vietnam are getting something for their money's worth from an American war.

RICHARD ELMAN

New York, April 7, 1975