



JCHS Press Release – January 19, 2016

The JCHS invites all interested persons to join them for a peaceful protest on **Tuesday January 26, 2016** outside the offices of the Delegation of the European Union to Jamaica, 8 Oliver Road, Kingston 8 from **7:00 – 8: 30 a.m.** in order to bring awareness to an unlawful and immoral action by the Norwegian State.

The JCHS is objecting to the repressive action taken by the Norwegian State against the Bodnariu family when the Child Welfare Service of Norway (Barnevernet) in November 2015 removed the 5 siblings from their parents, including a 4 month old baby still being breast fed. This is an indecent and dreadful act and one of indescribable and inhumane treatment against the children and their parents.

By way of letter sent to the Honorary Consul General of Jamaica to Norway, the JCHS has registered its strongest criticism of the Norwegian government's action and called on that State to immediately return the 5 children of the Bodnariu family to their biological parents and restore this family unit to its previous flourishing condition. The government's action goes directly against the established fact of natural law, history, and sociology, that children's interests are best served when they are raised by their biological parents in the setting of a faithful monogamous union.

The JCHS is alarmed that the State of Norway - inspired by a secular atheistic philosophy - has acted to separate vulnerable children from their parents in a loving home where they were all thriving and there is no evidence of abuse. It is also understood that these children are now being put up for adoption. This is an unthinkable, egregious act of State oppression and reflects a gross violation of the fundamental human rights of the children and parents.

Particularly disturbing is the targeting of immigrants and people of faith. The action of the State based on unjust laws has now reached epidemic proportions in Norway, with a reported 3000 children of immigrants in State custody as of May 2015.

The UN Declaration on the Rights of the Child, 1959, provides *inter alia* that children are entitled to legal protection because of their increased vulnerability. Neither are they to be subject to any form of cruelty. The JCHS is calling upon the European Union and the United Nations to urge the State of Norway to conform to the basic tenets of the fundamental human rights of this family and restore these siblings to their parents immediately.

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