

A Critical Assessment of the 1994 Uniform Adoption Act of the United States—Lessons for Taiwan in Reforming Its Legal System Concerning Adoption

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to make an in-depth examination and assessment of the Uniform Adoption Act (UAA) of the United States, which was enacted in 1994. Following the introductory remarks, the contents of the paper can be divided into four parts. Part One describes the general background, legislative history, major provisions, and the Act's acceptance by various states. Part Two provides a critical evaluation of the UAA, including its merits and shortcomings. Part Three first examines whether the Act, in both its letter and spirit, can be "transplanted" to Taiwan, and then offers a number of concrete suggestions for doing so. In the concluding section, the paper points out that since the adoption system in Taiwan lacks the positive involvement of social dimensions, and since the interests of young adoptees cannot be ignored, several practices in the UAA can still be emulated while this country is currently engaged in the reform of its out-of-date legal system concerning adoption.

Key Words: adoption, Legal System Concerning Adoption, Uni-

form Adoption Act of 1994—United States, adoption information, reform of the adoption system in Taiwan