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NCFA Condemns Racist, Inflammatory Political Ad as “Anti-Adoption and Un-American”

January 7, 2012 – Alexandria, VA – The National Council For Adoption joins former governor of Utah and U.S. ambassador to China and presidential candidate Jon Huntsman in his outrage over a political ad created and circulated by a group of Ron Paul’s supporters. The ad, uploaded to YouTube on January 5 by “NHLiberty4Paul,” attacks Huntsman’s “American values” by targeting his daughter, Gracie Mei, who was abandoned as an infant and later adopted from an orphanage in China by the Huntsman family.

In the ad, clips of Huntsman speaking Chinese alternate with pictures of him and Gracie Mei Huntsman. The ad also describes Huntsman as “the Manchurian candidate” and suggests that he is “weak on China – wonder why?” Huntsman’s daughter Asha Bharati, who was adopted from India, is also pictured.

“This racist, inflammatory ad is anti-adoption as well as un-American, and utterly misrepresents and insults children of intercountry adoption and their families,” says NCFA president and CEO Chuck Johnson. “Through adoption, many thousands of orphaned and vulnerable children worldwide have found safe, permanent, and loving families. The United States has a strong and vibrant culture of adoption, and American citizens adopt more children internationally than all other nations combined.”

Presidential candidate Ron Paul attempted to distance himself from the ad during an interview with CNN on Friday. A spokesperson from his campaign claimed that the ad does not represent Rep. Paul’s beliefs.

Attacking a candidate’s family, especially his minor children, is a line that no campaign should cross. The ad by a group of Ron Paul’s supporters goes even further, maligning intercountry adoption as a whole and insulting Governor Huntsman’s family, as well as all other adoptive families. For this reason, NCFA calls on Rep. Paul to disassociate himself completely from those behind the ad and personally condemn those who targeted Huntsman and his adopted children in the strongest terms.

“This is a nasty, vicious campaign ad, one that could not have been made for any reason other than to encourage fear and prejudice for political gain,” says Chuck Johnson. “The people behind it should examine their own ‘American values.’”

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Founded in 1980, the National Council For Adoption (NCFA) is an adoption advocacy nonprofit that promotes a positive culture of adoption through education, research, and legislative action. Through its core areas of focus—infant adoption, adoption out of foster care, and intercountry adoption—NCFA serves children, birthparents, adoptive families, adoption agencies, U.S. and foreign governments, policymakers, media, and the general public as the authoritative voice for adoption. More information is available on our website, www.adoptioncouncil.org.

Note: NCFA is a nonpartisan advocacy organization that does not endorse or support any political candidates.