

October 2011

Swedish Social Services Committee
Socialnämnden
Gotlands Kommun
621 81 Visby
SWEDEN

Dear Committee:

I am writing to you today about a situation of grave concern regarding parental rights to countless families around the world.

In June 2009, Swedish authorities forcibly removed a young boy named Domenic Johansson from his parents after they had boarded a plane to India. The officials who seized Domenic did not have a warrant nor were his parents charged with any crime. Domenic was taken from his parents primarily because they had chosen to homeschool him and because of the false pre-conceived notions social services associated with homeschooling.

For more than two years, Domenic has been separated from his parents, whose visitation time with them has become increasingly less and less. Meanwhile, Domenic's case languishes in the legal system, causing heartbreak and trauma not only for Domenic, but for his parents as well. The situation already has caused irreparable harm to this family who only wished to pursue their dream of working with orphans in India and having their son experience a life that precious few children his age would otherwise have had the opportunity to enjoy.

Domenic's seizure is not only illegal, it is beyond contempt. It also paints a picture of Sweden to the outside world of religious intolerance, a picture that I seriously doubt your nation wants to perpetuate. Please re-consider your decisions regarding Domenic and return him back to the loving arms of his parents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Your name]