

Stolen children in great Britain: the scandal continues ...

In Britain, thousands of children, mostly from poor families or middle class, are removed each year by the authorities and put up for adoption without the consent of their parents, and the law makes it difficult to talk about it. Florence Bellone wanted to break the law of silence. This Saturday at 12am in Transversales is the third part of the large survey by Florence Bellone, set wave by Jean-Marc Vierset.

In 2010 and 2011, Transversales released two issues devoted to abuse by the system of social protection of children in the UK, which too often resulted in forced adoptions.

These reports have earned our correspondent Florence Bellone, the prestigious European Lorenzo Natali Prize for Human Rights. They provoked many reactions and many letters.

Despite alarms and enquiries launched, not much has changed. Yet even foreign states are worried. Slovakia identified 25 cases of Slovak children having been removed from their parents while residing in Great Britain and this has grabbed the attention of the Commissioner for Human Rights at the Council of Europe.

As a reminder, each year, the British social services, assisted by the police, kidnap thousands of children from poor or middle class families. Based on surveys, often superficial or minor complaints or bad referrals, these families are considered socially vulnerable or suspected child abusers. Children are placed in foster care before being put up for adoption without parental consent.

The fact that European countries such as the United Kingdom knowingly remove children from their own families and do adopt without the consent of the birth parents remains, despite reports of Florence Bellone, a little known phenomenon, as affected families do not have the right to discuss their case outside the family courts, let alone talk to a journalist, and are threatened with imprisonment. The "gagging order" protects the state at the expense of the freedom of the press and freedom of expression. Parents have come to use alternative media to describe their ordeal and especially to find their children ... For two years, they have confided in Florence Bellone as the law of silence is not valid outside the UK borders ...

Having received numerous testimonies from families in the first two stories, in this third edition, Florence Bellone's investigation took her into the heart of the system itself. An investigation made difficult since many system employees refuse to speak, even anonymously. Her investigation uncovers downright illegal practices. It also shows the substantial financial profits generated by this system of adoption for the private sector and foster families providers are owned by the largest capital investment companies. Some agencies have an extensive portfolio to all Anglo-Saxon countries and the Far East. Our correspondent also highlights the dubious collaboration of psychiatry into the well-oiled system.