

**Call for Papers
to Session 39**

on the XVIth World Economic History Congress, Stellenbosch, 9-13 July, 2012:

**BUYING AND SELLING CHILDREN: THE ETHICS AND ECONOMICS OF CHILD
DISPLACEMENT IN GLOBAL AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE**

In 2010 Australia (supported by the Netherlands) promoted the Child Trafficking Protocol at the Hague Special Commission. This conference session will bring together historical perspectives on trade and trafficking in children with recent humanitarian concerns. There has been renewed interest in both the history of childhood and parenting. Natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, drought and the like have led to increased concern about the slippage of international adoption into child trafficking. Australia has recently acknowledged the displacement of more than half a million 'Forgotten Australians' who grew up in poor conditions in children's homes in the twentieth century due to poverty, child migrancy or aboriginal 'stolen generation' schemes. Recently the disappearance of many babies during Franco's Spain has caused similar public alarm.

The history of the South African Cape involves auctions of child slaves, the movement of orphan girls from the Netherlands to the Cape and the selling of British children in the Cape under the auspices of the Children's Friend Society as well as the more recent displacement of many orphans due to AIDS.

Proposals for papers are welcome and should be sent to the corresponding organiser no later than **31 August 2011**. The abstracts should contain a title and up to 200 words along with details of the affiliation and contact addresses of the proposer. Papers can be considered from any time period and with regard to any country or countries. Of particular interest are papers considering child auctions, baby farming and fostering arrangements as well as adoption and other care arrangements involving economic transactions.

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