

# GOOD DOCS

Engaging and educating through the power of documentary



When China passed its One Child Policy to limit population growth, an unexpected surge of abandoned baby girls started flowing into its orphanages. Since 1991, over 80,000 of those girls have been adopted by American families. While many adoption-focused documentaries give voice to adoptive parents, **Somewhere Between** explores the emotional and cultural impact of adoption from the point of view of four teenage girls, all adopted from China. This award winning film shares their personal journeys as these adoptees convey the experiences of a generation of young people attempting to reconcile their multiple identities while navigating the already perilous waters of American adolescence.

A recent adoptive parent of her own Chinese baby, filmmaker Linda Goldstein Knowlton opens the film expressing her concerns for her daughter. How will she build a strong sense of identity as she grows older? Will she feel like an "outsider" living in a family with two Caucasian parents? How will she supplement the missing pieces of her early life? Goldstein Knowlton seeks these answers by chronicling the experiences over two years of Haley, Jenna, Ann, and Fang, all struggling to find their place in the world. Each girl approaches her Chinese heritage differently, connecting with her birth culture in varying degrees. And each grapple in different ways with the the discrimination and racism they face, as their identity challenges typical ideas about race and culture for themselves and their communities.

Shedding stereotypes and a one-size-fits-all identity, **Somewhere Between** poignantly conveys the vulnerability, confusion, and courage of these girls as they wonder, "Who am I?" As Somewhere Between plunges the viewer into their ordinary and sometimes extraordinary experiences, we too, are encouraged to pause and consider who we are —both as individuals and as a nation of immigrants and people from diverse backgrounds.

"It's not just that the participants turn out to be poised, articulate and candid. Their position between cultures has made them more than usually thoughtful and self-aware. ... You'd have to be a stone not to be moved."

**Kenneth Turan**  
**The Los Angeles Times**

"While this film connects those in the adoption community, it also demonstrates everyone's needs to feel connected and rooted. "

**Jaclyn Skalnik, MSW**  
**Adoption Professional**  
**Transracial Adoptee**

**Linda Goldstein Knowlton, Director**  
**88 Minutes + 45 Minute bonus DVD, 2012**  
**Available for Streaming**  
**Trailer available at [www.gooddocs.net](http://www.gooddocs.net)**  
**Online Preview available upon request**