

**Appendix A**  
**to CBSC Decision 99/00-262**  
***CHAN-TV (BCTV) re News Item (Children and Foster Care)***

---

The news item in question was the newscast's top story. The news item was as follows:

**Tony Parsons:** Good evening. Imagine having your children ripped from your arms, taken from your home by virtual strangers. Then imagine how much worse it would be at this time of year. Well that did happen this afternoon in Surrey. With just ten days to go before Christmas, two girls have been taken from their home against their wishes by the people who are supposed to protect their interests. As you can only imagine, the girls and the parents are horrified. The parents are foster parents but they have raised the girls since they were infants. And the only thing they are accused of "doing wrong" is getting old.

**John Daly (Reporter):** This is warm home filled with children, biological, adopted and foster children. And Cayleigh and Carrea are going to have to leave, just ten days before Christmas. So their foster parents had the whole family celebrate last night get their gifts. This has been their home for the last 10 years, when authorities first brought them here.

**Mrs. Draayer (on the phone):** you knew what age we were when you brought them here

**Daly:** Now 66 and 71, they received this certificate for 36 years of foster parenting but they were told they could not keep their kids.

**Mr. Draayer:** We were told by social workers that if we talked to media or any other people, that they would pull the children right away. We have been in contact with the Child Commissioner who is now working on the case and trying to see if he can stop it.

**Daly (to Mrs. Draayer):** You were committed to looking after these children until they were grown. And you've had them from when they were 1 and 2 ½.

**Mrs. Draayer:** And now in beginning of March, they are going to be 10 years with us and so the children do not know anybody else.

**Daly:** This is going to be tough. The girls know where they are going, to live with their relative in the Okanagan whom they visited this summer. They feel they are better off with the mom and dad they know.

**Daly (to the girls):** What do you think of this business that maybe they are too old?

**Girls:** We do not think they are too old. Cause they are not too old.

**Daly (to the girls):** Do they do things with you?

**Girls:** Yeah.

**Daly (to the girls):** Are they good parents?

**Girls:** Nod.

**Mr. Draayer:** This is what they are saying: "we can't go down the hill with the children anymore." No we can't but we can still give them proper care and love. And that's all the children need. And they need a lot of love. ...

**Daly:** Then, just after two this afternoon, the authorities arrived to take the girls away. Each deals with the separation in her own way.

**One of the girls (crying in the arms of her foster mom):** They can't do this. I can't go.

**Daly:** Their foster parents fear the girls will never be back but they promise them they will stay in touch. Promise them that they will always love them.

**Tony Parsons:** The Ministry of Children and Families declined an on-camera interview until late this afternoon and by phone they say they cannot discuss the specifics of an individual case. But there is no age limit on foster parents. The Draayers say they have been fighting the plan to move the girls for two years, hoping that common sense would win out. The Ministry says the decision to move children in mid-school year, just before a holiday, is only taken after careful, clinical assessment and consideration.