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00:00:00,330 --> 00:00:05,790

It's really great pleasure for me to introduce our speaker today, Professor Esther Hetzel,

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00:00:05,790 --> 00:00:12,240

who is a professor of social anthropology at Zephyr Academic College in Israel.

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00:00:12,240 --> 00:00:23,280

She has spent the past 30 years researching, teaching and also being an activist on feminism and social struggles.

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00:00:23,280 --> 00:00:34,530

Her work focuses on bureaucracy and gender within the context of immigration, politics, welfare, education, development projects and the Holocaust.

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00:00:34,530 --> 00:00:39,870

A visit to her website will show you the extent of her work and publication show.

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00:00:39,870 --> 00:00:46,920

I will not go into that. She's the author of numerous books and articles, and there's her talk.

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00:00:46,920 --> 00:00:55,470

Today is based on one of her books, which has come out recently, which is called Stage Violence towards mothers and Children,

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00:00:55,470 --> 00:01:01,290

and the title of her talk is threatened motherhood in the Israeli welfare state,

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00:01:01,290 --> 00:01:09,040

the discourse and the practise behind the disqualification of disadvantaged women motherhood.

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00:01:09,040 --> 00:01:18,390

Another of her good books, good books like all our other books, is immigrants and bureaucrats Ethiopians in an Israeli absorption centre.

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00:01:18,390 --> 00:01:23,810

And she's a co-editor of Israel Local Anthropology and Many, many more.

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00:01:23,810 --> 00:01:29,490

So I'm going to stop here and ask you to give us the benefit of your tool, right?

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00:01:29,490 --> 00:01:34,410

So over to you. Thank you. OK, thank you so much, Soraya.

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00:01:34,410 --> 00:01:44,160

I'm really grateful. So thank you for inviting me to give a talk on this distinguished platform of the women's rights in the Middle East seminars.

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00:01:44,160 --> 00:01:49,250

And I'm honoured to be hosted by the Middle East Centre in Oxford.

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00:01:49,250 --> 00:01:57,740

And my thanks go also to me, Stacy Churchill, for her valuable assistance in organising these events and for the wonderful poster,

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00:01:57,740 --> 00:02:05,540

my academic home, it's a fact academic college and able the book's publication the one that my talk is based on.

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00:02:05,540 --> 00:02:13,160

And I'm grateful for that. So in my talk, I shall elaborate on the role of state authorities,

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00:02:13,160 --> 00:02:19,610

especially the welfare system and the courts, in undermining disadvantaged women's motherhood.

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00:02:19,610 --> 00:02:30,230

I should also describe a few cases as time will allow, illustrating the devastating outcomes of this confrontation for both mothers and children

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00:02:30,230 --> 00:02:36,620

in the hopeless struggle of mothers to prevent the disqualification of their mother would.

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00:02:36,620 --> 00:02:46,670

My study emerges from 30 years of involvement in single mothers, struggles against expropriation of the custody over the offspring.

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00:02:46,670 --> 00:02:54,380

Many insights were also gained from critical reading or feminist studies on motherhood and poverty.

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00:02:54,380 --> 00:03:04,710

I came to realise that although motherhood is widely cherished, its value in practise is connected to state policies and various interests.

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00:03:04,710 --> 00:03:11,780

Hence, I shall examine the gap between the highly esteemed value bestowed on motherhood vis-a-vis its work.

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00:03:11,780 --> 00:03:21,260

In reality, my participation in mothers struggles against the expropriation of their motherhood started in the beginning of the 90s.

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00:03:21,260 --> 00:03:26,560

It happened when I met Curlin, young newcomer from South Africa.

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00:03:26,560 --> 00:03:32,690

Killen was referred to me by a journalist who wrote about the problematic attitude of the social workers

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00:03:32,690 --> 00:03:41,240

toward her complaints about her divorces suspected sexual conduct toward the two year old daughter.

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00:03:41,240 --> 00:03:49,730

After our meeting, I became profoundly involved in Jones case for a long time and told me that the social workers blamed

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00:03:49,730 --> 00:03:57,260

her and her daughter for imagining things and suggested that she should have psychiatric tests.

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00:03:57,260 --> 00:04:07,010

Soon after the article was published, the social workers claimed that Gunn is an unfit mother in an abusive mother.

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00:04:07,010 --> 00:04:15,260

They recommended to the court to provide protection for the child, who is allegedly maybe at risk.

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00:04:15,260 --> 00:04:22,520

The youth investigator's evaluation determined that the child could have been sexually molested in the site.

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00:04:22,520 --> 00:04:28,730

The psychiatrist suggested that the father is capable of losing the sense of what is forbidden.

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00:04:28,730 --> 00:04:36,200

Nevertheless, the judge's verdict was to remove the girl from her mother's custody to the father's custody.

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00:04:36,200 --> 00:04:42,440

Based on the social workers recommendations, the mother suffers from the symbiosis syndrome.

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00:04:42,440 --> 00:04:49,760

The judge ruled that the mother harms the girl, perceiving her as part of her entity.

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00:04:49,760 --> 00:04:52,700

Quoting the psychiatrist opinion,

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00:04:52,700 --> 00:05:04,490

he concluded that Killen is unaware of her difficulties was the father and is both well and therefore they are capable of dealing with them.

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00:05:04,490 --> 00:05:09,590

Our efforts to get to get help from senior officers in the ministry,

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00:05:09,590 --> 00:05:17,600

from children's rights organisations, from Parliament members and even from the town's mayor, failed.

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00:05:17,600 --> 00:05:22,100

The little girl was removed to her father's home later on.

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00:05:22,100 --> 00:05:25,070

When my involvement with many other cases expanded,

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00:05:25,070 --> 00:05:33,440

I came to realise the parents and daughters of affair represented a broad reality beyond this specific case.

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00:05:33,440 --> 00:05:38,450

The social workers and the judge's attitude was found to be part of a generally

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00:05:38,450 --> 00:05:44,870

bitter declining to examine thoroughly unjust and evil decisions and practises,

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00:05:44,870 --> 00:05:50,300

unable or unwilling to take steps to do justice with mothers and children,

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00:05:50,300 --> 00:05:56,150

adhering to state authorities expectations and to power sent those interests.

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00:05:56,150 --> 00:06:04,160

I learnt that Karen's case is not exceptional, but it rather represents a bureaucratically structured phenomenon.

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00:06:04,160 --> 00:06:10,010

It entails consistent behavioural patterns of officials who are committed to the employing

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00:06:10,010 --> 00:06:17,110

organisation from which they think that living engaged social and professional benefits.

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00:06:17,110 --> 00:06:21,700

State authorities underline Mother's custodial rights over the treatment,

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00:06:21,700 --> 00:06:28,750

especially through the discourse about child well-being and parental incompetence.

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00:06:28,750 --> 00:06:34,510

Blaming mothers for physically endangering and neglecting their children.

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00:06:34,510 --> 00:06:40,120

While the formal discourse emphasises the value of biological motherhood in practise,

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00:06:40,120 --> 00:06:45,880

underprivileged mothers custody over the offspring can be easily undermined.

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00:06:45,880 --> 00:06:52,780

Single parent mothers are a susceptible group for which babies can be taken away to adoption,

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00:06:52,780 --> 00:06:59,590

and the children can be taken away to foster families or to welfare institutions.

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00:06:59,590 --> 00:07:05,590

Although motherhood is repeatedly praised in court hearings and in general, public discourse.

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00:07:05,590 --> 00:07:12,340

Yet in practise, it is often placed below the well-being and lives of women's children.

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00:07:12,340 --> 00:07:21,160

It follows the considering the good of the child is so superseding the good of the mother inadvertently

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00:07:21,160 --> 00:07:30,620

implies perceiving the mother is an object and a function for the other in bulgogi focus words.

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00:07:30,620 --> 00:07:42,580

However, quite often when the social and legal authorities intervene in their lives, neither the mother nor the child brides seem to prevail.

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00:07:42,580 --> 00:07:52,370

The mother child conflicts in the Israeli welfare state is widely revealed in practises of adoption and out-of-home placement of children and youth.

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00:07:52,370 --> 00:08:01,490

Involving the expropriation of government troops when they explore friend or foe to these imports, according to Shimoni, and been banished,

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00:08:01,490 --> 00:08:06,230

single parent mothers are the most susceptible population with regard to

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00:08:06,230 --> 00:08:10,910

outperform placement of babies and children well being taken away to adoption,

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00:08:10,910 --> 00:08:22,850

foster families or to welfare institutions. This wilful policy is justified by claims about physical abuse and dangerous neglect of minors.

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00:08:22,850 --> 00:08:33,290

I suggest that the expropriation of disadvantaged single mothers for parenthood serves the interests economic, organisational and professional.

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00:08:33,290 --> 00:08:42,910

Thus, they argue that women's fertility is exploited by powerful groups to gain custody over their offspring.

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00:08:42,910 --> 00:08:51,340

The expropriation of custody over babies and children from disadvantaged mothers is also perceived as means of silencing mothers,

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00:08:51,340 --> 00:08:58,890

claims conveying a threatening message to other women will demand economic assistance from the state.

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00:08:58,890 --> 00:09:02,790

Some feminist studies stress the connexion between globalisation,

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00:09:02,790 --> 00:09:09,900

neo liberal policies and women's poverty, in particular of those heading single parent families.

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00:09:09,900 --> 00:09:19,410

However, these studies ignore the connexion between women's weakness and the hidden threat of losing custody over the children.

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00:09:19,410 --> 00:09:25,770

My research and social activity unveiled this hardly spoken phenomenon.

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00:09:25,770 --> 00:09:32,250

Stigmatising and disqualifying disempowered women's motherhood occurs by blaming these women as

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00:09:32,250 --> 00:09:40,470

failing mothers and by blurring society's responsibility for bill and the children situation.

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00:09:40,470 --> 00:09:47,400

Andrew Wylie and Mary Pool to argue in a similar vein that blaming the stigma and stigmatising

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00:09:47,400 --> 00:09:54,780

women is paid mothers is a familiar response to many social problems in the last decades.

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00:09:54,780 --> 00:10:02,820

Those growing feminist research relating to the profound role of motherhood in the feminine identity.

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00:10:02,820 --> 00:10:11,370

Afro American scholars criticised the white feminists for ignoring the immense importance of motherhood for women.

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00:10:11,370 --> 00:10:20,880

According to a Riley, and go to this week's thought, the feminist attitude to motherhood emerges from perceiving motherhood as a major source

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00:10:20,880 --> 00:10:28,110

of women's oppression and is causing that vulnerability and limitation in Israel,

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00:10:28,110 --> 00:10:33,150

too. There's a growing tendency to connect motherhood and the feminine identity.

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00:10:33,150 --> 00:10:44,400

Similar studies focus on full mother's hardships. However, almost none deal with a potential threat over these women's motherhood.

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00:10:44,400 --> 00:10:50,160

The caring for the child discourse on the one hand in the bed mother discourse on the other

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00:10:50,160 --> 00:10:57,210

ensure the widely accepted public legitimacy for taking away children from their families.

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00:10:57,210 --> 00:11:02,820

The gap between the rhetoric above the right of motherhood and the practises that

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00:11:02,820 --> 00:11:09,600

undermine it can be explained as serving the interests of the World Institutions lobby,

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00:11:09,600 --> 00:11:15,300

which depends on the out-of-home placement welfare policy.

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00:11:15,300 --> 00:11:19,110

If you verdicts issued by several prominent judges,

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00:11:19,110 --> 00:11:25,140

will serve can serve to illustrate how decisions for expropriate and women's motherhood

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00:11:25,140 --> 00:11:31,260

are based on rhetoric about biological motherhood versus children's welfare.

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00:11:31,260 --> 00:11:34,830

So Judge Beam House Chief Monk, for instance,

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00:11:34,830 --> 00:11:43,470

admitted that the verdict he examines raised the concern that taking away babies for adoption is a problematic practise.

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00:11:43,470 --> 00:11:50,580

He implied that there is an inconsistency between the rhetoric opposing adoption of disadvantaged parents,

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00:11:50,580 --> 00:12:00,570

offspring by better off couples and actual decisions in specific cases, he wrote in his book as follows.

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00:12:00,570 --> 00:12:09,270

It appears to me that all agree that the adoption law is not a tool for redistribution of children's population in the country.

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00:12:09,270 --> 00:12:19,290

We are not ready. The children will be taken away from the parents custody just because the economic or spiritual situation is unfavourably.

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00:12:19,290 --> 00:12:25,020

Similar statements were expressed in other various verdicts by High Court judges.

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00:12:25,020 --> 00:12:32,100

In one case, Judge, you're sure people from the original court rejected the social workers recommendation to

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00:12:32,100 --> 00:12:39,210

transfer a girl to an adoptive family based on psychologist's observation that the mother is,

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00:12:39,210 --> 00:12:41,700

quote, retarded and primitive.

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00:12:41,700 --> 00:12:52,380

In his verdict, you the adoption law was not designed to enable a redistribution of children and the transfer from one family to another family.

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00:12:52,380 --> 00:13:00,990

Just because even the new family, the parents level is much higher or because in another family conditions of

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00:13:00,990 --> 00:13:06,990

bringing up children in the atmosphere are better than in the biological family.

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00:13:06,990 --> 00:13:16,890

Thus, just be a bit of statement criticises the distribution of babies, according to parents socio economic status.

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00:13:16,890 --> 00:13:27,210

It seems, therefore, that the judge's reproach of the social workers emphasising that the state cannot be an agency that transfers babies from

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00:13:27,210 --> 00:13:36,640

poor parents to better off parents demonstrates his understanding that this is what the authorities do in practise.

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00:13:36,640 --> 00:13:42,070

A similar judicial criticism of the social workers was expressed by the former High Court judge,

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00:13:42,070 --> 00:13:52,030

a local culture school graduate expressed her reservations with regard to the prolonged legal discussions in the two called Baby of Strive case.

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00:13:52,030 --> 00:14:02,890

She criticised sharply the wilful authorities for the deep and I quote blow to the natural justice principle for no fault of the mother.

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00:14:02,890 --> 00:14:14,030

End of quote inform using the parent's weakness, giving up the child in school bussing crisis forgot to blame the social work,

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00:14:14,030 --> 00:14:24,130

especially to get in haste parents acceptance to the adoption capturing parents in providing acceptance to the adoption.

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00:14:24,130 --> 00:14:36,370

Abusing mothers weakness to get control over the children seems to be embedded in the social order and the power of social political bargains.

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00:14:36,370 --> 00:14:41,950

This veiled implication behind the expropriation of women's custody over the babies

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00:14:41,950 --> 00:14:49,240

and children gain only negligible attention in the Feminist Research Council level,

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00:14:49,240 --> 00:14:50,140

for instance,

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00:14:50,140 --> 00:15:00,910

should suggest that the Social Workers Act is a whip against single parent mothers and that they do not feel empathy to the mother situation.

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00:15:00,910 --> 00:15:08,780

Yet she ignores the connexion between women's poverty and the disqualification of motherhood.

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00:15:08,780 --> 00:15:14,600

It is argued then the legal and wilful practises in April,

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00:15:14,600 --> 00:15:23,030

the expropriation of disadvantaged women's motherhood using the children as a resource for social transaction.

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00:15:23,030 --> 00:15:34,010

This argument will be illustrated by the drug rehabilitation syndrome that refers to pregnant and boosting drug addicted women, handling cannabis,

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00:15:34,010 --> 00:15:41,390

work on mother foetus relationships and the use of drugs by pregnant women describe the legal

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00:15:41,390 --> 00:15:48,050

development that created the independent status of the minor an unborn baby in this case.

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00:15:48,050 --> 00:15:51,680

Apart from the mother status and rights. In fact,

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00:15:51,680 --> 00:16:02,150

the separate status of the unborn baby from that of the mother enables those in authority to abolish the mother's rights with regard to the foetus,

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00:16:02,150 --> 00:16:07,220

justifying this by claiming that the mother may harm the baby.

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00:16:07,220 --> 00:16:16,490

This position serves the wilful or reduced in its quote, stimulating what was called pregnancy police,

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00:16:16,490 --> 00:16:26,970

which will intervene in any decision that the woman makes during her pregnancy, claiming that it can influence negatively the foetus.

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00:16:26,970 --> 00:16:33,840

How harbouring Calgary argues that the draconian so that's how she would take draconian steps

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00:16:33,840 --> 00:16:41,460

she says are employed against pregnant women who are in a medically and needful position.

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00:16:41,460 --> 00:16:49,200

Society found here, she writes the chance to impose supervision through the feminine birthing functions,

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00:16:49,200 --> 00:16:54,520

which are anyway very susceptible to its control. Nevertheless,

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00:16:54,520 --> 00:17:04,510

I suggest that this is the opportunity to take away unborn babies for women in a vulnerable situation that is behind the pregnancy police,

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00:17:04,510 --> 00:17:14,750

rather than intentional, practise this practise of undermining women's birth rights or of punishing drug addicted women.

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00:17:14,750 --> 00:17:25,370

Hence, it is not surprising that about 50 percent of the babies that are born with the drug rehabilitation syndrome were taken away to adoption.

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00:17:25,370 --> 00:17:30,410

They suggest that taking away babies for adoption takes place from underprivileged

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00:17:30,410 --> 00:17:37,330

mothers and not only from mothers who are suspected of harming the foetus.

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00:17:37,330 --> 00:17:47,050

This policy stimulates the widely accepted belief that those mothers babies should be taken away for the baby's sake.

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00:17:47,050 --> 00:17:56,740

It appears, therefore, that the state intervention in individuals and families lives and the use of coercive means are directed

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00:17:56,740 --> 00:18:06,350

toward marked groups was so-called social deviants or absence of parental competence a widely accepted.

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00:18:06,350 --> 00:18:10,760

He then pressures that lobbyists and better off childless people,

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00:18:10,760 --> 00:18:18,860

certain politicians seem to lie behind the rhetoric, the legislation and the coercive means.

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00:18:18,860 --> 00:18:24,410

The discourse that perceived the good of the child ascending above biological motherhood

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00:18:24,410 --> 00:18:30,500

has been revealed in various struggles relating to adoption brought to the Israeli courts.

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00:18:30,500 --> 00:18:41,330

Disadvantaged mothers vulnerability, which makes it easier to take away the babies, was exposed in several cases that became known as the baby strife.

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00:18:41,330 --> 00:18:49,760

There were three cases famous cases one 2004, the other in 2013 and the other one in 2017.

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00:18:49,760 --> 00:19:01,080

Those cases can demonstrate how the adoption practises undermine the biological role of motherhood, especially that of disadvantaged mothers.

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00:19:01,080 --> 00:19:02,520

In several cases,

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00:19:02,520 --> 00:19:13,630

both mothers who suffered from postpartum depression gave up their babies for adoption but regretted the decision a short time later.

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00:19:13,630 --> 00:19:19,780

The most famous affair took place in 2004 and 2005.

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00:19:19,780 --> 00:19:28,540

I was exposed to that fear following a meeting with the birth mother and her spouse while our pin was discussed at the High Court.

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00:19:28,540 --> 00:19:36,400

In that case, the mother confirmed her consent to giving up the baby because of economic and emotional difficulties.

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00:19:36,400 --> 00:19:42,340

She regretted her decision after a short time, according to the law at the time,

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00:19:42,340 --> 00:19:48,880

a birth mother could relinquish her consent to give away her baby within three months

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00:19:48,880 --> 00:19:54,880

and her babies would be returned to her after a long legal struggle in the courts.

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00:19:54,880 --> 00:20:04,390

The High Court's verdict the dumping that the baby should be left with the adoptive parents, according to the social workers recommendations.

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00:20:04,390 --> 00:20:09,400

The verdict was saturated with rhetoric about the value of the family.

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00:20:09,400 --> 00:20:17,020

The voice of blood and the voice of nature. Side by side with claims about the good of the child.

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00:20:17,020 --> 00:20:29,950

Although the latter concept is vague and ambiguous, as revealed by some scholars the judges decided seem to prefer the adoptive parents choose.

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00:20:29,950 --> 00:20:35,800

A law school scholar argue that this verdict illustrates how High Court judges are

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00:20:35,800 --> 00:20:43,690

influenced by the world views and tend to ascribe heavy weight to experts opinions.

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00:20:43,690 --> 00:20:48,270

Ben David, another school scholar from social work.

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00:20:48,270 --> 00:20:58,770

Also pointed to the problematic use of definitions of parenthood, competence and the good of the child in forced adoption processes.

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00:20:58,770 --> 00:21:06,120

The legal discourse, she argued, brings in the voice of the professional expert What is the biological parents?

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00:21:06,120 --> 00:21:14,910

Voice is not heard. The verdict in the abovementioned case demonstrate the fake biological motherhood of underprivileged

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00:21:14,910 --> 00:21:22,230

mothers is subject to powerful social bargaining and is controlled by state authorities.

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00:21:22,230 --> 00:21:29,520

In this reality, it is possible to carry out unofficially into class trade in babies.

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00:21:29,520 --> 00:21:35,040

Judge BrokerCheck implied this understanding. Calling to cancel the adoption.

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00:21:35,040 --> 00:21:38,970

She exposed the bias behind the hearings caused, for instance,

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00:21:38,970 --> 00:21:47,160

by the prolonged trial which benefited the doping couple who had kept the baby with them through that time.

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00:21:47,160 --> 00:21:50,040

Contrary to placate judge on one block,

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00:21:50,040 --> 00:21:57,990

the president of the High Court at the time and the other five judges decided not to cancel the adoption process.

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00:21:57,990 --> 00:22:05,850

The explanations reality the mother's emotional distress after giving birth and ignored the fact that she

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00:22:05,850 --> 00:22:13,380

was psychologically pressured by social workers to sign her consent to offering her baby for adoption.

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00:22:13,380 --> 00:22:24,720

They also ignored the recommendations of the mother's advocate, the baby's guardian and the psychologist, none of which fitted the position.

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00:22:24,720 --> 00:22:34,500

The judges adopted the hypothetical assessment of endangering the minor if it were to be returned to his biological mother.

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00:22:34,500 --> 00:22:45,510

Disqualifying the supremacy of biological mother would block use the term optimal parental competence to justify the High Court's decision.

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00:22:45,510 --> 00:22:46,530

Thus,

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00:22:46,530 --> 00:22:57,600

the discourse on the good of the child served to whitewash the cruel implications for the biological mother and for biological motherhood at large.

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00:22:57,600 --> 00:23:06,600

It appears, therefore, the judge's verdict explores a striking contradiction between the rhetoric and the actual decisions.

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00:23:06,600 --> 00:23:13,740

Institute specific cases The formal rhetoric criticised decisively taking away children of poor,

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00:23:13,740 --> 00:23:22,440

disadvantaged parents for adoption, perceiving it as an act of this redistribution connected to the class structure,

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00:23:22,440 --> 00:23:32,810

justice and social workers who come from realistic, relatively better off groups seem to prefer those who are closer to the social status.

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00:23:32,810 --> 00:23:41,690

Relying conveniently on social workers recommendations, the judges transfer babies of mothers in stressful situations to better off

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00:23:41,690 --> 00:23:49,040

parents endorsing the supremacy of optimal parenthood over biological attachment.

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00:23:49,040 --> 00:23:56,750

It is argued before the courts and the welfare system serve the interests of better off groups facilitating the

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00:23:56,750 --> 00:24:06,320

exploitation of the birthing capability of disadvantaged women as a resource for fulfilling the demand for babies.

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00:24:06,320 --> 00:24:15,660

If more affluent women. I shall describe no one case in which I was profoundly involved accompanying a mother who

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00:24:15,660 --> 00:24:22,800

struggles to prevent the welfare authorities and the courts from taking away her 11 year old son.

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00:24:22,800 --> 00:24:32,580

This case illustrates the unbearable outcomes for disadvantaged single parent mothers in confronting powerful state agencies.

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00:24:32,580 --> 00:24:37,650

The professional discourse plays a prominent role in such cases.

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00:24:37,650 --> 00:24:44,010

The conspicuous stance used in this discourse against parental incompetence and the good of

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00:24:44,010 --> 00:24:51,690

the child both are perceived by the social and legal authorities as potentially incompetent.

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00:24:51,690 --> 00:24:59,430

Some 24 years ago, Edun was taken away from Batya, an impoverished, blind single parent,

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00:24:59,430 --> 00:25:06,710

and he was transferred over a period of one year and a half to state controlled institutions.

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00:25:06,710 --> 00:25:11,720

I was exposed to this case when Roger called me following a radio interview in

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00:25:11,720 --> 00:25:17,360

which I talked about the disturbing conditions in the world for institutions, for youth at risk.

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00:25:17,360 --> 00:25:22,160

My involvement in this offer included daily telephone conversations,

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00:25:22,160 --> 00:25:28,100

group visits at home, participating in court hearings and talking with journalists,

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00:25:28,100 --> 00:25:35,060

Knesset members, lawyers, police officers, professionals in children's rights organisations and others.

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00:25:35,060 --> 00:25:45,090

I witnessed but just incidents, intolerable experiences caused by various local and state officials and in court hearings.

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00:25:45,090 --> 00:25:55,380

These are first started following, but just demand that her son be removed to another class because of the clash between her and his class teacher.

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00:25:55,380 --> 00:26:01,590

Her request was dismissed by the school director and the head of the local immigration department.

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00:26:01,590 --> 00:26:07,950

He then stayed at home for a whole year while Matthew tried to find another school for his son.

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00:26:07,950 --> 00:26:14,580

Is these efforts were blocked by the head of the Education Department Budget carried on her fight by turning

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00:26:14,580 --> 00:26:21,840

to the local and national media to the State Controller Organisation for Children's Welfare and Human Rights.

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00:26:21,840 --> 00:26:31,980

Knesset members and to officials in the Ministry of Education. These ActionScript angrily responded by the local Department of Education Welfare,

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00:26:31,980 --> 00:26:36,810

but there was one that her son would be taken away from her if she did not stop

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00:26:36,810 --> 00:26:42,540

the public accusations as butter continued her confrontation with the authorities.

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00:26:42,540 --> 00:26:50,100

The social workers in the scene, the local welfare department, recommended expropriating for custody of Edun.

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00:26:50,100 --> 00:26:58,170

The main claim was that she was suffocating her son depending on him and disturbing his development.

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00:26:58,170 --> 00:27:05,010

The courts accepted the social workers recommendation, as they do in most similar cases.

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00:27:05,010 --> 00:27:12,930

The order to abolish all custody and to remove the done against his and his mother switched to an emergency shelter.

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00:27:12,930 --> 00:27:20,520

Edun stayed there for 11 months. He ran away a few times and was called by the policeman who returned him to the shelter.

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00:27:20,520 --> 00:27:26,280

Then Ivana was transferred to a welfare hostel in Jerusalem, far from his mother's home.

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00:27:26,280 --> 00:27:34,530

He stayed there for another seven months. Following my suggestion to serve as a foster family for Edun, which was approved by the court.

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00:27:34,530 --> 00:27:41,490

Edun was transferred to my home. He told us about his tough experiences in the shelter and the hostel,

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00:27:41,490 --> 00:27:51,480

and about the coercive means used to control and to punish the inmates amongst which were cold showers and then forced isolation.

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00:27:51,480 --> 00:27:56,880

But to complain the few times about the worker's violent behaviour and was repeatedly told

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00:27:56,880 --> 00:28:05,910

by police officials that everything was OK when Edun was 16 but died of breast cancer,

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00:28:05,910 --> 00:28:09,300

he then left us and returned to his mother's home.

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00:28:09,300 --> 00:28:17,430

Edun has never succeeded to recuperate, and he was repeatedly involved in illegal activities dealing with the police and the courts.

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00:28:17,430 --> 00:28:23,670

From a gifted child, he became a homeless person and often involved in criminal circles.

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00:28:23,670 --> 00:28:29,460

This example demonstrates the oppressive power that state authorities hold and employ,

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00:28:29,460 --> 00:28:35,040

especially when it comes to individuals who lack socio economic resources.

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00:28:35,040 --> 00:28:38,310

My understanding is, therefore, as stated earlier,

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00:28:38,310 --> 00:28:48,030

the disadvantage women like Batya can be conveniently stigmatised by the welfare and legal state system is unfit mothers.

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00:28:48,030 --> 00:28:55,890

This case also reveals how the welfare and education departments serve as a law, as the long arm of the local municipality,

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00:28:55,890 --> 00:29:04,150

silencing and punishing mothers who are troublemakers by expropriating the custody of the children.

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00:29:04,150 --> 00:29:13,680

Expropriating custody of the children serves to convey a warning of threat to single parent mothers against this bill being reduced by,

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00:29:13,680 --> 00:29:21,480

for instance, demanding housing or subsistence assistance and becoming a burden on the state treasurer in.

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00:29:21,480 --> 00:29:31,260

But just in case the public attention gains with the media coverage of the story irritated the officials and incited the desire to teach,

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00:29:31,260 --> 00:29:41,670

but only some taking away the only child could signal to other mothers in a similar situation to be careful when turning to the authorities.

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00:29:41,670 --> 00:29:46,170

Thus, mothers can be controlled by threatening the mother.

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00:29:46,170 --> 00:29:51,450

In general, judges appear to assume in good faith or under constraint.

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00:29:51,450 --> 00:29:59,760

The social workers are driven by sincere concern of children's well-being in carrying out invaluable work.

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00:29:59,760 --> 00:30:04,380

Although abuse of children seem to occur often in welfare institutions,

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00:30:04,380 --> 00:30:12,360

judges seem to believe that they are better than a home in which the mother is allegedly unable to protect her child.

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00:30:12,360 --> 00:30:19,170

Judges routinely rely on diagnosing agencies that cooperate with their welfare authorities.

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00:30:19,170 --> 00:30:26,010

Thus, both the good of the child and the right of motherhood are not guaranteed in the welfare state.

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00:30:26,010 --> 00:30:29,460

It seems that the child will be in the child.

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00:30:29,460 --> 00:30:37,610

Mother bonding can be joke or dies by state authorities, especially when it comes to disadvantaged mothers.

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00:30:37,610 --> 00:30:41,960

So to conclude, elaborating on the mother child conflict,

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00:30:41,960 --> 00:30:49,490

revealed that the social value attached to the concept of the good of the child serves as a smokescreen in bowls

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00:30:49,490 --> 00:30:57,560

and game ghitis words to conceal the instrumental use of motherhood for realising social political interests.

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00:30:57,560 --> 00:31:02,970

Discussing the context of the Australia welfare policy at present concerning babies and children,

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00:31:02,970 --> 00:31:11,090

the twist may highlight the fragile status of motherhood is influenced by women's socio economic situation.

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00:31:11,090 --> 00:31:17,180

Disadvantage with custody can be easily terminated by using the terminology of caring

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00:31:17,180 --> 00:31:23,780

for minors would be the Sydney is preceding their mother's right to motherhood.

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00:31:23,780 --> 00:31:33,770

I try to unveil the destructive outcomes of the unrestricted power of state agencies and other powerful organisations over wars, children and mothers.

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00:31:33,770 --> 00:31:45,080

Hence, I conclude that underprivileged women's, biological and sociological natures exploited by more affluent people, the state and various agencies.

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00:31:45,080 --> 00:31:51,520

Thank you. Thank you very much. It just really fascinating paper.

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00:31:51,520 --> 00:32:00,580

I really appreciate hearing about this because we know that Israel is a pro naturists country.

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00:32:00,580 --> 00:32:10,810

In fact, when it comes to infertility treatment, Israel has got the highest rate number of free IVF cycles in the world.

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00:32:10,810 --> 00:32:16,210

So when you think you know, in a country like that, everything has to be encouraged towards motherhood,

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00:32:16,210 --> 00:32:21,560

and everything you're telling us is that discrimination exists there.

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00:32:21,560 --> 00:32:33,840

And I imagine we can discuss it later about, is it a particular social group of women who are being actually targeted, vulnerable groups?

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00:32:33,840 --> 00:32:40,960

You know, you are saying women are exploited, women's facilities exploited, you would have.

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00:32:40,960 --> 00:32:50,170

So they want to encourage people to have more children, and this is surely a disincentive for people to go on reproducing.

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00:32:50,170 --> 00:32:55,250

So I wanted to thank you very much, all the participants.

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00:32:55,250 --> 00:32:56,990

Thank you for coming.

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00:32:56,990 --> 00:33:05,200

And I very much hope that at some point we can open and be in-person and meet everybody, which is a completely different dynamics.

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00:33:05,200 --> 00:33:12,970

But thank you so much as that. I really, really learnt and enjoyed, learnt from and enjoy your paper and what I see you next.

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00:33:12,970 --> 00:33:17,530

I will ask you many more questions on that. Thank you so much.

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00:33:17,530 --> 00:33:22,780

And thank you so very much. And thanks, Stacy, for a wonderful work.

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00:33:22,780 --> 00:33:25,793

And it was really a pleasure. Thank you.