

## **Holt International Response to Abercrombie & Fitch**

The recent marketing of t-shirts featuring racist caricatures of Asians by Abercrombie and Fitch, is appalling. It reflects a complete lack of sensitivity to the very real issues of racism in this country. The explanation by the company-- that the t-shirts were for the "purpose of adding humor to the fashion line" -- is unacceptable.

In response to overwhelming negative reaction, Abercrombie and Fitch have removed the t-shirts from stores in 49 states and from its website. The company issued a statement that "we apologize if we caused offense to anyone. It wasn't our intention." This corporate apology is feeble and inadequate.

More must be done immediately. While the shirts have disappeared from store shelves, what has not appeared is a full explanation of how the company intends to eliminate them. If Abercrombie and Fitch is sincere in its regret, it must provide proof that it did not profit from the shirts and that all remaining shirts have been destroyed.

Holt International Children's Services encourages everyone, especially adoptive families with Asian children, to express outrage to Abercrombie and Fitch and demand immediate action to destroy the remaining shirts. Sending this disgusting merchandise overseas for re-sale, or allowing it to be marketed on other web sites will add to the insult.

Contact Abercrombie & Fitch:  
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