



April 06, 2010

Elían González 10 years later

Jeannie DeAngelis

[Elizabet Broton](#), Elían González's mother, was so determined to ensure her seven-year old son live in freedom that at four a.m. the fraught woman ushered her child toward a rickety boat to join a dozen people for a trek across dark, choppy waters from Cuba to the US.

Elizabet and ten others lost their lives at sea. Before dying Broton desperately attempted to assure Elían's safety by placing the boy into a black inner tube to keep him from drowning. Elían was later found sleeping, fished from shark-infested waters and turned over to the U.S. Coast Guard.

Elían became the center of a child custody struggle defined by paternal rights versus a Cuban-American family who escaped Castro's tyrannical regime that believed the child should be granted asylum. Elían's cousin [Marisleysis González](#) became the public spokesperson for the child's right to independence in a nation his mother died trying to reach.

After a lengthy, media driven custody battle Attorney General for the Clinton Administration, Janet Reno ordered armed federal authorities to enter the home of Elían's extended family and intercept the child, returning him to his father Juan Miguel González Quintana.

As Elían was placed into the elder González's arms Elizabet's death was officially for naught. Hope for Elían growing up liberated disappeared beneath the cold, murky waters between Cuba and the U.S. like a mother failing to find safe haven for an only child.

Fast-forward ten years and take a [glimpse into Elían's life](#) as a teenager. Instead of a Miami Dolphins Jersey, "[Cuba](#) released photos of one-time exile cause celeb Elían [González](#) wearing an olive-green military school uniform." Elían González is what youthful subjugation looks like when a boy, a heartbeat from freedom, is deprived the liberty Little Havana fought to hard, but failed to deliver.

In Cuba, [Elían is a hero](#). Yearly, Fidel approved celebrations marking González's birthday because Elían epitomizes the height of Cuban triumph over America. Lest we forget America willingly acquiesced in the battle to grant a defenseless child freedom, choosing instead to don riot gear and send a terrified child back under Castro inflicted bondage.

If Elían had been granted asylum, today he would be a teenager preparing to go to college with every opportunity for success ahead of him. Instead, on the cusp of adulthood, Elían poses for propaganda photos sandwiched between Cuban army soldiers attending the Union of Young Communists congress in Havana.

Wonder if on the night Elían was placed in that doomed rowboat, Elizabeth envisioned, "González formally join[ing] [the Young Communist Union](#)?"

To this day, Elían and parliament member father Juan Miguel are both closely monitored by state authorities who restrict the duo's contact with the international press-unless of course it serves Cuban cant to put forward the image of Elían as a contented, committed Communist.

The youthful González should have been wrapped in the America flag. Instead a boy who once represented the quest for

the God given right to be free, waves a Cuban flag symbolizing poverty, oppression, authoritarianism and misinformation.

As Barack Obama emulates Fidel Castro's [health care system](#) and ferries a reluctant nation toward socialism, the scenario is reminiscent of a frightened Elian Gonzalez being [wrested from the arms of liberty](#) by an out of control federal government dictated to by a liberal American president.

Free people should take a good, long look at Elian Gonzalez and observe what our nation has the potential to become ten years down the line if, instead of moving in the opposite direction, America's row boat continues to inch closer to Cuba's shores.

Authors content: www.jeannie-ology.com

Page Printed from: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2010/04/elian_gonzales_10_years_later.html at April 07, 2010 - 09:45:00 AM CDT