

# ADOPTION MADE EASY

SELECTED TIPS - 76 PAGES!

Adoption Made Easy



76 Pages!

Brought to you by Wings of Success

## Contents

All About Adoptions .....	8
Why You Should Choose Adoption .....	10
Adoption Statistics – Some Telling Facts About The Process Of Adoption .....	12
Adoption Dos & Don'ts .....	14
Children Awaiting Adoption .....	16
Steps to Put Your Child Up for Adoption .....	18
Adoption Resources .....	20
Adoption Photo Listing .....	22
Adoption Records - Why Are They So Important? .....	24
How To Prepare For The Home Study As Part Of The Adoption Process .....	26
Adoption Lawyers .....	28
Adoption Agencies .....	30
Choosing the Right Adoption Agency and What to Expect .....	32
Four Places to Help You Find the Right Adoption Agency .....	34
Where To Find Financial Help When Adopting A Child .....	36
First-time Adoption .....	38
Meeting Your Adoptive Child .....	40
Preparing The Home For An Adoptive Child – 5 Steps .....	42
Types of Domestic Adoption .....	44
The Differences Between Open and Closed Adoptions .....	46
Deciding Between Open and Closed Adoptions .....	48
Adopting Your Stepchild .....	50
Adopting Siblings .....	52
Adopting A Special Needs Child .....	54
Transracial Adoption .....	56
Adoption from Same Sex Couples .....	58
Public Adoption .....	60
International Adoption .....	62
The Pros and Cons of International Adoption .....	64
Canadians Adopting From The US .....	66
Russian Adoption .....	68
Vietnamese Adoptions .....	70
Adopting from China .....	72

## All About Adoptions

Adoption is when the birth parents of a child sever all legal ties to their child, and the parental rights are legally given over to the new adoptive family, who are strangers.

Apart from adopting a child from your own country, intercountry adoption is also available as there are also many children from international countries who need a family.

In the UK and the USA, children are usually given up for adoption because they have been mistreated; other reasons are due to teenage pregnancy, or because the birth parents are no longer able to look after the child, or they have given up the child because it isn't the right sex, it has some form of disability, or because they simply don't want a child.

There are many different reasons for wanting to adopt - if couples are unable to conceive, if they want to help others by adopting, and now there are same-sex couples who prefer to adopt.

The adoption process varies from one country to another. The ethics for eligibility can differ in each country which can include the age limit, the requirements for same-sex adoption couples, and whether a single person is able to adopt.

Placing a child into care and up for adoption is free in the United States. Adopting fees for the parents vary in different countries, and even in some, to charge an adoption fee would be illegal. In the United States, for adoptions you are given a \$10,000 tax credit.

The new parents face many concerns in adoption. The child's family history and their family medical history may be unknown, or kept secret until the child starts to ask questions about where they come from. This usually happens when a child is old enough to ask the right questions, or when they feel the need to 'find themselves'. There are always misconceptions about children who have been fostered and this is usually fuelled by the media. Some children are thought of as not being able to develop properly or will become problem, but that is not always the case, as children can fare well when given a new, loving home and go on to lead successful lives. However, many children lose out and some reach the eighteen when they are too old to be adopted and are legally adults. They fall out of the system.

## Adoption Made Easy

Not everyone chooses to understand or support adoption, although Americans are experienced in it. The history of adoption can be traced as far back as the 18th Century B.C. During Ancient times it was more popular to adopt adults rather than children so that they could carry on the family heritage or to protect the family's property rights. Men and women single or married had the right to adopt.

Modern adoption laws are based on the heritage in 18th Century B.C. of the Hammurabi Code. Adopting adults was the focus in Ancient Times as a means for someone to follow in one's footsteps; whilst the Middle Ages set some ground rules with their focus on the adoption of children. Certain laws were placed in order to protect children, so by this time adoptions were dealt with by the court systems. It was in 1851, in Massachusetts, that the first state adoption took place. Rev. Charles Loring Brace was the founder of the New York Children's Aid Society in 1853, which helped orphaned and abandoned children. He wanted to rescue these children and transport them to good Christian homes. They were placed on Brace's 'Emigration Plan' onto regular trains called the 'Orphan Trains' for families to view at each station, until they were taken up by one of many of the wealthy farming families.

Times have changed, although we still want the best for our children, although it is still sometimes difficult to know what that is. Adoption is one of the best things to have happened over the centuries, to give children without a home a good chance to find one.

## Why You Should Choose Adoption

All you need to know about adoption; is it the right choice for you and your partner, or your family if you already have children.

For many people unable to have children of their own, adoption is the only answer to their prayers. It answers all the hopes and dreams of ever having a child they can call their own. Many people all over the world are not able to have children due to health reasons or who have tried I.V.F. (In Vitro Fertilization) treatment and been unsuccessful. Some have tried many fertility treatments and still been unable to conceive. To experience so much disappointment is heartbreaking when a couple is desperate for a child. To be told by their doctor, that they will be unable to have children naturally is enough to shatter anyone's dreams.

If a couple cannot reproduce adoption is their only alternative and not a decision to be taken lightly. It takes a lot of time, research and discussions with health professionals for a couple to decide on whether this is the right option for them. For many couples, adoption provides them with any hope of raising a child they can call their own. Sometimes it is enough to find happiness in other people's children, related or not. The opportunity of becoming a family is a privilege and being parents can bring a lot of happiness and joy. Couples usually start by adopting one child, and then some years later, they may decide to adopt another.

There are other reasons for choosing adoption; some couples can conceive and reproduce, but opt for the alternative to adopt. Families used to consist of many children, up to five or more children. These days due to the cost of living and with couples both working, today families usually consist of one, two or even three children. It is only a few who choose to have larger families. To be financially secure, having a family and working is usually important. A mother will usually take maternity leave, then return to work either part-time or full-time, however they feel as there are also childcare fees to consider. By choosing to adopt, a couple are providing a home for one of millions of children in care around the world; children who are looking for a loving home and parents to love them. Luckily, for these children, couples who actively seek to adopt realize this need and choose this path, rather than reproducing their own. It is truly a selfless act when a couple decide to adopt and a lot of admiration for deciding to take on a child that is not genetically their own.

## **Adoption Made Easy**

Families that already have both parents and their own children, also choose to adopt a child. They are financially well off and wish to provide for another child who is looking for a family. Parents and their children alike, sometimes have the compassion on seeing those children that are in need. What better way to provide a home for them where they are truly wanted, helping someone who is less fortunate. The families are committed to welcoming a child locally, nationally and sometimes internationally into their loving, stable family environment. Some parents have children that have grown up, and feel they are not ready to give up being a parent; they are healthy and young enough to carry on bringing up another young child.

Adoption for anyone is a selfless and wonderful act full of compassion and love. For many unable to conceive it brings their only hope of ever having children of their own; for others it's a choice to help someone who is less fortunate and needs their love and support. Adopting a child, and sharing the love they feel brings happiness and the dreams of a bright future ahead.

## Adoption Statistics – Some Telling Facts About The Process Of Adoption

To know the bigger picture regarding what the nature and process of adoption is all about; adoption statistics are more than just numbers for people looking to adopt and those hoping to study the patterns and history of this vital way to building a family and therefore the nation, in turn. Many Americans have been touched by this process of adoption and just a decade ago, in 1997, Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute conducted a survey to report over 60 per cent of US families had experienced adoption in some form or the other. In some instances, the participant was a product of an adoption, in others, one or more family members or a friend had been adopted or had placed a child for the same process. Thus, we find that this interesting study reveals a major portion of American families have been affected in some way by adoption.

The other aspect of adoption relates to the female demographics: women who place their unborn kids up for adoption. This is known as prenatal adoption and usually such women tend to have an inverse relationship with their socioeconomic status (SES) and academic level; sometimes, the decision is influenced by that of the birth mother and at others, by those within her family who are linked to these factors. E.g. a woman with a mother having finished at least a year college is statistically 3 times more likely to place a child for adoption than one a woman whose mother did not graduate high school, reveal studies. Research claims that the latter come families less supportive of giving the child up for adoption which the former are lucky to have, but females from lower SES and academic backgrounds may equally be decisive about giving their children for adoption felt one California research.

Some of these adoption statistics and opinions may be somewhat outdated but as with other issues, the commercials have not been tampered with or changed much, giving us reasonable information that is accurate and revealing about the estimated cost of adoption: the adoption agency hired to find a child is the chief cost incurred by prospective parents. Hiring a local agency for a domestic adoption (public agency) may cost around \$2500 or even less than that to nominal amounts, especially the non-profit ones, whereas if handed over to a private agency, the cost of adoption can range from \$4000 to \$30,000 because these are not subsidized by the state and also offer support services later.

## **Adoption Made Easy**

However, the important thing to remember when discussing adoption statistics is that these numbers are only a small element of the adoption procedure and to be used merely to gain an insight into the past of adoptive processes and trends; they are not meant to be yardstick for future figures - go by insight.

## Adoption Dos & Don'ts

We cover some essential do's and don'ts regarding adoption in this article and we hope these will help the thousands of couples looking to adopt a child and build a family unit. It is necessary to comply with these state outlined adoption rules so as to make the adoption process a legal and successful one, therefore learning about the basics of proper adoption procedures is a big help for prospective parents and they should educate themselves about these to avoid disappointments and debacles later.

Some of the adoption rules are very strict and not following them to the 't' may cause the couple to forfeit their chances at a promising adoption, so prospective parents looking to adopt a child are advised strongly to learn about the rules and play by them too, in order to obtain lawful and above-board privilege to adopt from the state concerned.

All details of the adoption process must be outlined before hand and prospective adoptive parents must make an effort to educate themselves on all aspects of the adoption procedure, including costs and timeline issues besides the state's adoption regulations and checking for their own eligibility criterion to ensure all details are in order.

They must also carefully go over the adoption contract to ensure they have not missed out on any relevant point or slacking in giving correct and updated information as well as submit and file all necessary documents for speedy processing of the same; if they do not understand some of the legal aspects or details, it is advisable to contact an adoption lawyer or consult an agency to clear these doubts instead of overlooking important issues. Being a long-drawn out procedure, prospective parents must also consider and prepare beforehand their finances for covering the decision to adopt as it can involve many different types of fees.

Prospective parents should understand the various risk factors associated with adoption and work to eliminate these! One of the most typical risk factors involved in adoption includes the birth mother suddenly changing her mind and wanting to raise the child herself; proper screening of the birth mother can help prospective adoptive parents minimize those candidates who exhibit a potential risk of indecisiveness and zero in on those that are likely to go through

## **Adoption Made Easy**

with the agreement. This precaution can help reduce disappointment at losing out on a child that could have been yours.

Besides the above factor, adoptive parents also need to keep their emotions in check and keep anxiety at bay to avoid making mistakes at crucial points in the adoption procedure as many nervous parents are prone to doing; unnecessary haste and ill-informed parents going in for adoptions make for bad decisions that do not bode well for wanting to build a real family. Understand that adoption process takes time and take this time to read, review and ascertain all aspects of legal documents to ensure an official adoption as well as a lawful one.

Do not be guided by just about anyone when you are looking to adopt a child: go over the legal, social, mental and medical aspects besides the cultural ones of the child as well as academic ones to ensure the right fit for your family environment and your emotional needs; avoid frauds and touts.

## Children Awaiting Adoption

Most people looking to adopt children always ask questions about what a child is like. This is an important factor to consider, as any parent who wants to welcome a child, who is not their own, into their home, needs to know all about a child and all the options available to them. Every child is different so it is difficult to know what to expect of a child, and also being placed in a different environment can change a child. By looking at children who have already been adopted, a general picture can be painted of what to expect.

By adopting children within the U.S. these will generally be infants who are African-American Hispanic, or of mixed race. Caucasian children are usually dealt with by private Adoption agencies and not put up for public adoption. There are many people who wish to adopt an infant from an early age, maybe to simulate the experience of bringing up a child from birth. There are long waiting lists for people wishing to adopt a baby as it is the most popular choice, and it is difficult to find a child that young who has been placed for adoption, so it could be some time before a child becomes available.

The second domestic option is to adopt a child from a foster family and waiting for a permanent home. Usually these children are older, ranging from grade school age up to adolescence. Some of these children have special needs - whether it be emotional, mental and or including physical disabilities. These are often called 'waiting children' and are treated as special cases which are handled by both public and the private adoption agencies. They have entities called adoption exchanges so that a suitable match can be found between the child and the parents. If a child has special needs, adoption subsidies are often available for the parents to help with the costs of caring for the special needs child.

The third option is to adopt a child internationally. There over fifty foreign countries to choose from that have children available for adoption. There are many reasons why a child is placed for adoption, which is usually connected to their race or culture of their parents. An example is that in South Korea, if a mother is unwed they are looked upon with shame, so the mother usually puts the child up for adoption. Many of these children can be found in orphanages,

## **Adoption Made Easy**

waiting for someone to come along and adopt them. Adopting a child internationally can be a long and arduous process, but there are agencies and attorneys set up especially for this.

Each individual has to find the option that is most suitable for them, but no matter: there are many children out there who available and hoping to be adopted. The children range from babies to adolescence, and can be found at home or abroad - children who have no families. For those parents expecting a child, and those wishing to adopt, adoption can be the solution and should be given careful consideration. More information can be found from sources online - Adoption.com and Adopting.org. These both provide essential information about adoption for all parties concerned. Adoptablekids.com has photo listings of many children who are currently available and waiting to be adopted; this adoption exchange internet service is excellent for those who like to search and browse and see who is available.

## Steps to Put Your Child Up for Adoption

Considering putting your child up for adoption? For whatever reason, read on so you can determine the best solution for all!

Some mothers become pregnant unexpectedly, at a time where they are unprepared and feel unable to cope with a child, and all the responsibilities of being a parent. Issues that a person may come across include financial worries or lack of funds, emotional problems or physical disabilities. When faced with pregnancy some people have an abortion; others may not feel that is right to terminate a pregnancy, and some have left it too late as they did not know they were pregnant. One option is to put your child up for adoption - this is a good idea if you feel that you truly cannot care for the child on your own as you don't have enough support. The following shows the process, step by step, for putting your child up for adoption.

Firstly, you should make an appointment to see your General Practitioner before the birth, and let them know that you wish to put your child up for adoption. If you feel more comfortable talking to a stranger rather than your doctor, you can always make arrangement to a professional at your local health center. They will have all the information necessary about adoption and put you in touch with the relevant agencies. There are many bogus adoption agencies claiming to be professional, so it is important to go to your local health services who have a list of licensed agencies. That way you can feel confident that the adoption agency you are dealing with are legitimate.

Next, you should get all the information on your medical records if you are going to put your child up for adoption. If at all possible, the father of the child should be encouraged to get hold of his medical records too as this is important information. It is important that the medical records of the child are recorded for future reference. The child's medical records can get lost in the process of adoption, so it is a good idea to have the parents' medical records. This is very helpful if a child becomes ill, especially if they need hospital care, to determine what could be wrong with the child, or if there is anything to look out for in the future. It could prove very beneficial if you can also obtain the medical records of the child's grandparents.

## **Adoption Made Easy**

Thirdly, now that you have decided to place your child up for adoption, you need to make a decision on whether to have an open or closed adoption. An open adoption allows the parent can continue to have interrelations with their child even though they have been adopted, so that they can keep close ties. Some parents opt for a closed adoption if they want to cease all contact with their child, in the best interest of the child, so that they consider their adoptive parents as theirs. It is more common for parents to choose an open adoption so they can continue to interact with their child and never sever that bond they feel for their child. If this is what you prefer and it works well for both parents, then an open adoption is the right choice for you.

## Adoption Resources

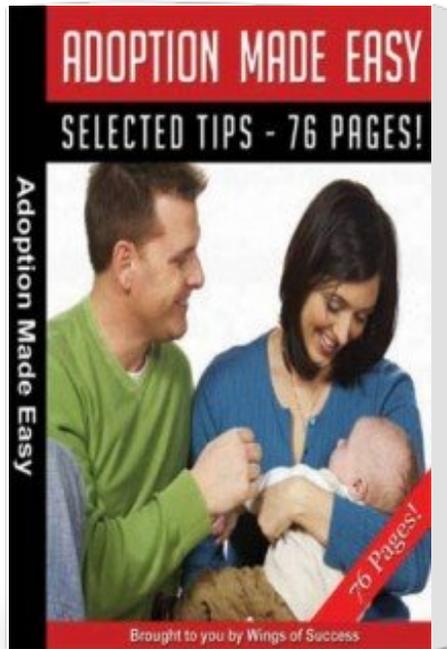
For adoption resources to be useful, couples looking to adopt may consult individuals or agencies that deal with this specialized family building up segment to get more information about types of adoption, (private, domestic, International, special needs or Open etc) and learn which one will suit their personal situation best.

Adoption resources help to educate couples interested in adopting a child about the various kinds of adoption processes, procedures and fees involved, professional expertise available for making the action an easy one and legal aspects of the decision to adopt. At times, written matter regarding adoption aspects help prospective parents learn more about the pros and cons of adopting, what are the mistakes they can make, how to avoid these and ways to avoid disappointments. It is important to learn about the downside of adoption as well to be aware of the all-round aspect of a major life-changing decision and thus adoptive parents are advised to focus on these as much as they are keen to know about the positive side of adopting their special child.

Prospective parents can further query adoption resources centers with other details that are not mentioned in the written resources given to them and these can usually be found at social services or child welfare organizations, state departments' agencies that support domestic adoption etc. Adoption resources usually contain basics about the nature, scope and regulations of adoption from the chosen place, besides restrictions on couples regarding the procedure, eligibility criterion for adoption and facts and figures to guide adoptive parents about the steps towards legal adoption procedures.

Besides local groups and adoption centers, there are many publications in the market today that deal with various aspects of adoption and even the Internet is a good adoption resource for those that cannot contact an agency or state center dealing with adoption. From books on adoption to associations and groups directly dealing with adoption procedures to helping find lawyers and professionals for the job, the web is a great place for helping adoptive parents reach out to appropriate contacts. From facts on International adoption to laws on Inter-state adoption to statistics about available children across different geographical locations, there is comprehensive information available on thousands of websites that is sure to benefit

# Adoption Made Easy



Publisher :

Author :

Type the URL : <http://www.kopykitab.com/product/1879>



Get this eBook