



Adoptions From The Heart®

Questionnaire for Trans-racial & International Adoptions

Since you are considering adopting a child from a country and/or race other than your own, we have some questions for you to consider. Each applicant should complete his or her own questionnaire.

1. Why have you decided to adopt a child from a country and/or race that differs from your own background?
2. Raising a child from a country and/or race other than your own will pose some special social issues. What situations in your community do you foresee as being sources of some such issues?

How will you respond to them?

3. The support of your extended family is very important in an international and/or trans-racial adoption. What are the feelings and responses of your extended family members to your decision to adopt a child from a different country and/or race than your own?
4. What are the cultural and racial compositions of your community?

If there are none or very few people persons in your community of the cultural and racial background of the child you hope to adopt, would you consider moving? Yes ☐ No ☐

Would you consider enrolling your child in a school outside of your public school system, so that the child could go to school with children who share his/her background? Yes ☐ No ☐

5. Do you have friends from cultural and/or racial groups outside of your own? Yes ☐ No ☐
If yes, from which groups?
6. How do your friends feel about your plan to adopt trans-culturally and/or trans-racially?
7. Are you comfortable with teaching a child of its heritage, if this heritage differs from your own? Yes ☐ No ☐
If yes, how will you do this? To whom can you turn for assistance in doing so?
8. Are there any adoptive parent support groups in your area? Yes ☐ No ☐
Do they include trans-cultural and/or trans-racial families? Yes ☐ No ☐
Would you be willing to join them? Yes ☐ No ☐
9. What would you say to the people who will tell you what a wonderful person you are for adopting your child, and how lucky your child is that you have adopted him/her?
10. What would be (or currently is) in your home that would convey to the child you hope to adopt that it's good to be of his/her cultural and racial background?
11. Do you have magazines, books, and/or pictures pertaining to the country and/or race of the child you hope to adopt? Yes ☐ No ☐ If not, would you purchase any? Yes ☐ No ☐
12. Do you think your life would be different than it is now if you were of the culture and/or race of the child you hope to adopt? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, how so?

Please consider the following situations:

1. You are at the playground with your child, standing with a group of parents. Someone says, "I didn't know that your spouse is Black/Hispanic/Asian" (ie. of a different cultural and/or racial background than you). How would that make you feel, and how would you respond?

2. You find your child scrubbing its face frantically before his/her fourth birthday party. You ask why, and the child answers that s/he is "trying to get the color off." What would you say?

3. Your child is waiting for you to pick him/her up at the bus stop. When you arrive, another child says, "That can't be your father/mother; s/he is white!" How can you help your child learn to respond to such comments?

We would like families considering a trans-racial placement to read the book **Inside Trans-racial Adoption** by Gail Steinberg & Beth Hall. AFTH carries this book for \$20. You can also find it in your local bookstore.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Thank you for taking the time. Please return with your application.