

UTAH'S ADOPTION CONNECTION

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES



Mario, Jessie, Gilbert, Stevie, Alicia, Fernando and Shylo are waiting...

UTAH'S ADOPTION CONNECTION

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

QUARTERLY DCFS NEWSLETTER



Aaron, age 18 is waiting...

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If you are interested in learning more about any of the waiting children in this publication, please contact The Adoption Exchange at 801-265-0444.

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Lindsay Kaeding, Design Director

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You Know You Are in a Permanent Home If...

- You are introduced as "son or "daughter."
- You have your own Christmas stocking.
- You have your picture on the wall. An 8 x 10.
- Your picture is on Grandma's wall.
- Your clothes are not labeled.
- You get braces on your teeth.
- You think of calling your social worker, and you don't have one!
- Your mom and dad sign your school permission slips.
- You do not worry about moving to another family.
- You go on family vacations.
- You stay with your grandma, friends or relatives if your parents go on a trip.
- Your name is printed on family Christmas cards.
- You move with your family to another state.
- You stay with one of your parents if they get a divorce.
- You stay with the family even if mom or dad is seriously ill.
- You know what school you will attend next year.
- You have a savings account, or a college fund.
- You can tell school friends about your next summer vacation plans.
- You are insured to drive the family car.
- You wear your mother's wedding dress at your own wedding.
- Your parents help you with a down payment on car, apartment, furniture, etc.
- Your mother becomes your children's grandmother.
- You can come home, even with your kids, if you need help.
- Your name is in the family will.
- You can inherit the family ranch.
- You feel that you "belong" in this family.
- Having the key to the house.
- Having someone to call in case of emergency.
(or when you have a flat tire on your way to work on your first day.)



Parents Matter Too!

I once heard Dr. Wayne Deuhn, an extraordinary trainer and child welfare consultant say that he always asks stressed-out foster and adoptive parents, “What are your hobbies or avocations?” When he gets answers like skiing, woodworking, book club, or going to art movies, he then asks, “How many of you have done this in the last year?” He says he is no longer amazed that very few hands go up. Most of these parents are clear on what makes them feel good, but few of them are actually doing it in their lives right now.

Many of the things that give parents enjoyment and bind them together get overlooked when children come – either through birth or adoption. Self care gets put aside for kid care. While this is typical for most parents, it becomes a more crucial issue for adoptive parents, who have all the “normal” childhood issues to deal with, plus a whole lot more! The special needs of adopted children often take additional time and create additional stress, and their difficult behaviors provide extra challenges to the parental relationship.

When parents don’t actively pursue time together and participate in some of the things that make them feel good and support their own relationship, it is all too easy for a troubled child to go through the relationship crack and create havoc within. If the relationship hits one of those all-too-common rough patches that all long-term relationships experience, the child finds it easier to triangulate and split the parents. The resulting conflict can increase the likelihood of someone leaving the family – mom, dad, or, even the child.

Sadly, our American determination to “do things ourselves”

plus the general lack of understanding about adoption issues keep couples struggling to cope with all of this in isolation. Family and friends can see the strain, but don’t understand it. Without meaningful support, relationships can flounder.

What to do? Reconnect, Relate, Recharge!

Reconnect:

- Give yourself permission to spend time with each other, without the children. Don’t talk about the kids when you spend special time together. There is PLENTY of time to talk about the problems. There is only a short time to reconnect with each other. If you can’t stop talking about the kids problems, then it is time to have a serious conversation about reclaiming your relationship.

- Do something you used to enjoy together. Make it something that doesn’t exhaust you and leaves time for you to talk, laugh and remember special times.

- Reconnect with friends – his friends, her friends, or family friends—adults only, if possible, but getting together with other families works too. Do this simply – a barbeque or game day at someone’s home. Don’t try to make it the “perfect” day. Just have fun.

Relate:

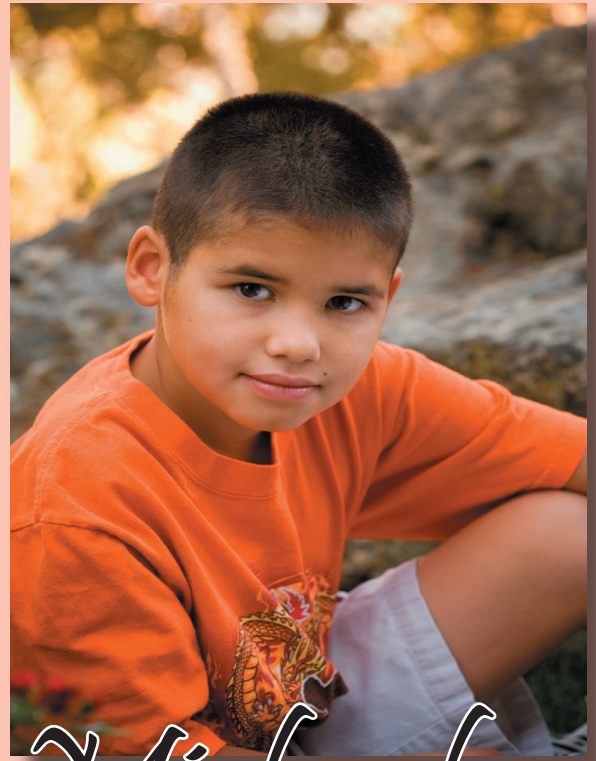
- Remember what made your relationship special (prior to kids). Talk about it to capture some of those old feelings.

- Try to insert some of the special language, inside jokes, or symbolic gestures that used to make your relationship special into your everyday conversations with each other. Since so many adopted children have relationship problems, it is very important that they learn from you what a healthy relationship looks like.
- Get the kids into their bedrooms early certain nights and just talk to one another and laugh.
- Put some time into figuring out how to work together to avoid the child's manipulation (splitting and triangulation). You can't blame the child for this survival behavior, but the two of you can make a plan on how to teach the child that it doesn't work. This helps both your relationship and your child's healing.
- Since one of the parents usually experiences more of the child's problem behaviors than the other, talk about this issue and how the other parent can be supportive. Then make a pact to support one another regardless of your initial reaction to something that happens. Resolve that you will support the other and then talk about the issue later, away from the kids.

Recharge:

- Put respite into your plan. Don't wait until you are totally exhausted and upset and the situation becomes an emergency. That tells the child you can't handle things. Focus instead on the continuing health of your relationship and factor in respite as part of that focus. Emotionally healthy parents are more likely to have the energy necessary to help their adopted children heal. Don't be afraid to ask friends and family to help you. (Do warn them first about splitting and triangulation, so when they see it, they will be prepared). Trade time with other foster or adoptive parents who understand the issues or use trained respite providers if this is not possible.
- Date nights and couple's vacations give you a chance to have adult conversation again. You can read the newspaper, sleep late or have a chance to be intimate with one another without having to meet the needs of the children first. You can actually relax! Even one overnight can make a huge difference.
- Nurture your relationship. Do things you use to enjoy together. Since children learn from parental modeling, it's important that adopted children see good relationship modeling.
- Do things that feed your spirit. Remember those hobbies or avocations. Perhaps you can't pursue them in the same way – you can't ski every other week like you once did. But you can put the kids in respite and have a day or two during the winter season to enjoy the slopes.

Life's challenges have a way of changing you, shaping your life and your family's life. Sometimes this is so gradual that you don't realize it is happening. The answers to the questions at the beginning of this article may startle you into recognizing that you have indeed let go of some things and some relationships that are very important to you. Reclaim your life and your important relationships. By doing so, you are showing your children how to "take good care of themselves". Healthy families are healthy for all family members.



Michael, age 10
is waiting...

This very loving ten year old little boy loves playing in the park but especially enjoys the slides. Michael likes trucks, watching his foster sibling play baseball, playing games like "Ring-around-the-Rosie", and watching animals.

Michael is currently in the 4th grade. He has some developmental challenges but is working well in speech, occupational, & physical therapy. He is learning sign language. Michael is a happy child who seems to have many stories to tell.

Michael does very well with adults and works best with older children. Michael is in individual therapy.

If your family is interested in this lovable little boy and can provide him with the love and support he needs, we ask that you inquire. Michael does have siblings that he may wish to have contact with in the future. Financial assistance for adoption related services may be available.

View Michael's **Wednesday's Child** Video at www.kutv.com in the lifestyle section.



Listening To Parents

*Every child deserves a home.
And every home needs a parent.*

Dear Adoptive Parent Group Leader:

I am delighted to announce "Listening to Parents", a project designed to give voice to adoptive parents, and those seeking to adopt children from foster care.

The goal of this effort is increase the number of children being adopted from foster care by making child welfare agencies more responsive to those interested in adopting a child from foster care.

Discussion Board

The centerpiece of ListeningtoParents.org is a discussion board for adoptive, waiting, and prospective parents to share their experiences. Each state has its own area where parents can discuss the adoption process- what works, what doesn't work, and changes they would like to see in their state's adoption process.

Imagine the power of the collected wisdom of hundreds of parents sharing their experiences and their suggestions for improving the adoption process in their state.

Go to www.listeningtoparents.org, click on "What parents say in your state" to join the discussion.

Join the mailing list to receive a monthly newsletter on what people are doing to make the adoption process more welcoming of prospective parents.

About The Listening To Parents Project

The Listening to Parents project began in response to a contradiction. With interest in adoption at all all-time high, why do so many waiting children languish in foster care?

To better understand this problem, and develop ways to improve adoption services, researchers at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and the Urban Institute conducted a national study to understand the adoption process from the perspective of people wanting to adopt a child from foster care. The report was released in conjunction with the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute.

The report, titled Listening to Parents is the most comprehensive study of its kind, using data analysis, case record reviews, surveys of child welfare agencies, interviews, and focus groups to document and understand the large attrition of prospective parents as they go from their initial information call to the adoption of a child. According to the research, in a given year 240,000 people called for information about adopting a child from foster care, but fewer than 10,000 actually did so. Listening to Parents documented the many obstacles parents face in dealing with child welfare agencies. These include poor customer service, difficulty in reaching the right staff, disproportionate agency focus on screening out prospective parents, and bureaucratic delays.

Listening to Parents gives voice to the experience of thousands of Americans who are interested in adopting a child from foster care and acts as a catalyst in making adoption programs more responsive to those wanting to adopt a child from foster care.

I look forward to working with you to create solutions to the obstacles adoptive parents face. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jeff Katz
Listening to Parents



SPEAKING OUT FOR OUR NATION'S WAITING CHILDREN

EXPANDED ACCESS TO COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID FOR FORMER FOSTER YOUTH

A new federal law removes a financial disincentive to adopting teens in foster care

How Will the New Law Help Youth?

The new law will make it possible for teens in foster care to be adopted without losing access to college financial aid. Under this new law, youth who are adopted from foster care at any point after their 13th birthday will not have to include their parents' income in the calculations for determining their need for financial aid.

The Fostering Adoption to Further Student Achievement Act became law as an amendment to the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110-84). This law includes a revised definition of an "independent student." Currently, youth who were still in foster care as of their 18th birthday are considered to be independent students, meaning that they do not need to count parental income for determining their eligibility for college financial aid. The revised definition of "independent student" will extend to youth who were in foster care on or after their 13th birthday, even if they have subsequently been adopted.

When Will This Change Take Effect?

This expanded definition of "independent student" will go into effect in July 2009, to apply for the 2009-2010 school year. The provision will apply to youth even for adoptions that were finalized before the law was passed in 2007. Youth who meet the new definition will need to indicate their status as an independent student when they fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form for college financial aid.

Legal reference: Section 604(a)(2) of Public Law 110-84 amends the definition of an independent student in federal law at 20 U.S.C. 1087vv(d) to include an individual who: "is an orphan, in foster care, or a ward of the court, at any time when the individual is 13 years of age or older."

202-210-8118 | voiceforadoption@gmail.com
www.voice-for-adoption.org



A little help in keeping your kids

Utah Child Care Resource & Referral

Bridgerland--Box Elder, Cache, Rich Counties

(800) 670-1552

(435) 797-1552

Utah State University

6510 Old Main Hill

Logan, UT 84322-6510

Carrie Stott, Co-Director

(435) 797-1595

carrie@cc.usu.edu

Northern--Weber, Morgan, Davis Counties

(888) 970-0101

(801) 626-7837

Weber State University

1309 University Circle

Ogden, UT 84408-1309

Leslie Trottier, Director

(801) 626-7861

ltrottier@weber.edu

Metro--Tooele, Salt Lake Counties

(800) 839-7444

(801) 355-7444

Children's Service Society

124 South 400 East, Suite 400

Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Encarni Gallardo, Director

(801) 326-4380

encarni@cssutah.org

Mountainland--Summit, Utah, Wasatch Counties

(800) 952-8220

(801) 863-8220

Utah Valley State College

800 W. University Parkway-163

Orem, UT 84058

Julia Mohr, Director

(801) 863-8557

mohrju@uvsc.edu

Eastern--Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah, Carbon, Emery, Grand, San Juan Counties

(888) 637-4786

(435) 613-5662

College of Eastern Utah

451 East 400 North

Price, UT 84501

Anne Mackiewicz, Director

(435) 613-5619

anne.mackiewicz@ceu.edu

Western--Juab, Piute, Wayne, Millard, Sanpete, Sevier, Iron, Washington, Kane, Garfield, Beaver Counties

Cedar City Office:

(888) 344-4896

1070 West 1600 South, Building B

Lis Barker, Director

(435) 586-0170

St. George Office:

(800) 543-7527

88 E. Fiddler's Canyon Road, Suite H

lis@childcarehelp.org

er Fun

ds busy and safe all summer long.

Summer Kid's Camps

Alpine School District Summer Camp
Clear Creek, UT 84526
(435) 448-9439

Camp Connection
904 W 730 North Cir
St George, UT 84770-5008
(435) 688-0790

Camp Kostopulos Inc
2500 E Emigration Canyon Rd
Salt Lake City, UT 84108-1517
(801) 582-0700

Camp Maple Dell
14166 Payson Canyon Rd
Payson, UT 84651-9598
(801) 465-2272

Camp Nostalgia
87 W Center St
Kanab, UT 84741-3447
(435) 644-3055

Camp Shawnee
Liberty, UT 84310
(801) 745-6612

Camp Utaba-Lodge/Office
7005 N Fork Rd
Liberty, UT 84310-9742
(801) 745-8236

Camp Wapiti
1600 Left Hand Fork Rd
Tooele, UT 84074
(435) 882-5241

Carr Challenge Camps
812 Lava Point Dr
St George, UT 84770-8728
(435) 652-0435

Episcopal Camp & Conference Center
Brighton, UT 84121
(435) 649-9979

Hobblecreek Cub Day Camp
E Hobble Creek Canyon Rd
Springville, UT 84663
(801) 489-0302

Kids Together Camps
321 E 2100 So
Salt Lake City, UT
(801) 487-0862

Mountain Shadows Mobile Community
13275 S Minuteman Dr
Draper, UT 84020-9227
(801) 571-4024

Navajo Trails Adventure Camp
1880 S 1500 E
Bicknell, UT 84715
(435) 425-3469

Pioneer Bible Camp
3165 E 3350 North
Eden, UT 84310-9712
(801) 745-3998

Pleasant View L D S Stake Camp
1921 E 5700 North
Liberty, UT
(801) 745-3014

Utah Camping Ministries
2519 Jefferson Av
Ogden, UT 84401-2410
(801) 334-8596

Valley Camp
Eden, UT 84310-9669
(801) 745-0821

Utah Foster Care Foundation

CHALK Art Festival

June 13-14
The Gateway
FREE Admission

Bring your family to The Gateway where artists will create beautiful, temporary works of art. Visit the Kids Korner where your kids can join the fun!



Proceeds from the festival benefit the 2600 children in foster care in Utah who need foster/adoptive families to care for them.

Volunteer and sponsorship opportunities available!

Friday, June 13th ☀️ 4pm to 9pm

Saturday, June 14th ☀️ 10am to 9pm

Foster Dad of the Year awards Saturday at noon near the fountains.



Utah Foster Care
FOUNDATION

1-877-505-KIDS
utahfostercare.org

Boondocks

Fun Center

75 E. SOUTH FORK DRIVE (14270 SO.), DRAPER, UTAH

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UNLIMITED FUN PASS
60" AND OVER
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INCLUDES GO-KARTS, ROOKIE GO-KARTS, SLICK TRACK, ROCK WALL, BUMPER BOATS,
MINIATURE GOLF, LASER TAG, AND KIDDIE COVE
10 ARCADE TOKENS FOR GUESTS 60" AND TALLER
20 ARCADE TOKENS FOR GUESTS UNDER 60"
SOME HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS REQUIRED ON SOME ATTRACTIONS

TICKETS ARE GOOD MONDAYS THROUGH FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, SPECIFIC HOLIDAYS AND SUMMER BREAK. OFFER GOOD UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2008. PLEASE CALL TO VERIFY HOURS.

ORDERING IS EASY!

TO ORDER YOUR TICKETS USE ANY OF THE THREE STEPS BELOW:

1. CALL: (801) 265.0444
2. FAX THIS COMPLETED ORDER FORM TO (801) 265.0834
3. MAIL THIS COMPLETED ORDER FORM TO:
THE ADOPTION EXCHANGE
302 W. 5400 S. SUITE 108
MURRAY, UT 84107

YOUR TICKETS WILL BE MAILED OUT TO YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

CONTACT NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
PHONE: _____

PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING BOONDOCKS TICKETS:

_____ ALL DAY PASS 60" AND ABOVE-\$20.00

_____ ALL DAY PASS UNDER 60"-\$14.00

PAYMENT ENCLOSED: CHECK CASH CREDIT CARD

CARD# _____

EXPIRATION DATE _____

AMOUNT DUE: \$



PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT BENEFIT
THE ADOPTION EXCHANGE



ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

CLIP-AND-SAVE GUIDE

How to Be an Adoption Advocate

Road-Tested Tips for Families

BY KATHERINE MIKKELSON

As an attorney, I used to advocate for my clients. But when I left work at the end of the day, my cases and my lawyering skills stayed at the office. A few years ago, however—about the time Zack, my oldest, entered preschool—I noticed that my professional skills had crossed over into my dealings with friends, neighbors, and others in the community. I was becoming an adoption advocate.

You don't have to be an adoption professional to take on this role. Every time you educate or enlighten someone, you are advocating adoption.

Think of adoption advocacy as a slow, evolving process rather than a list of projects that you should tackle all at once. First-time parents may be so swamped that they can only think about the next feeding and diaper change. Take your time and do only what feels comfortable for you and your family. I'm guessing that, if you're like me, the longer you're an adoptive parent, the more you'll want to persuade the world that adoption is a wonderful way to build a family.



POSITIVE ADOPTION LANGUAGE

◆ **USE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE AND GENTLY CORRECT THOSE WHO DON'T.** When a store clerk asks, "Where's his natural mom?" respond with "Do you mean his birthmother?" When your prying neighbor asks, "Why was she given up for adoption?" respond that your child's birthparents made an adoption plan knowing that was the best option for her. You don't have to chastise anyone for their incorrect terminology, but you will notice that others will begin to copy the terms you use.

◆ **MAKE CORRECTIONS TO FORMS THAT USE INAPPROPRIATE TERMS.** When I was petitioning the court for Zack's adoption in 1997, our adoption agency gave us sample pleadings that we could adapt and file with the court. The samples contained the terms "natural mother and father." When I asked our agency about it, they told me that the court in this particular jurisdiction was very traditional and still used such terms. Not settling for "its-always-been-done-this-way," I changed all of the terms to read to "birthmother and -father." And do you know what? The judge signed the final order of adoption with my modifications. You can emend medical or school information forms—or any other document crying out for an update—in much the same way.

◆ **WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR ABOUT INAPPROPRIATE TERMS** used in print, and consider sending along the adoption stylebook created by the Accurate Adoption Reporting group. This stylebook contains guidelines and appropriate language for journalists to follow when writing about adoption issues. You'll find it in *Adoptive Families* Jan/Feb 02, www.adoptivefamilies.com/articles.php?aid=405.

Lobby Your Employer for Adoption Benefits

Adoptive parents should have the same benefits as parents who give birth. If your employer does not have equitable leave benefits or reimbursement for adoption fees, write a letter to the CEO or president urging changes to your company's policy. Not much of a writer? For a sample letter you can use as a model, check out Betsy Mair's article, "How to Lobby Your Employer for Adoption Benefits" (*AF* May/June 00, www.adoptivefamilies.com/pdf/employment_benefits.pdf).

ILLUSTRATION BY WOOK JIN JUNG

Katherine Mikkelson is an attorney-turned-writer in the Chicago area. She is the mother of two boys from Korea.

ADOPTION AT SCHOOL

STRATEGY:

Discuss adoption with your child's teacher. Ask about potentially sticky assignments. Use the appointment as an opportunity to educate the teacher about adoption.

Talk to the school's principal or director. Offer to lead a discussion group on adoption issues for all the teachers.

Make an adoption presentation to your child's class. Zach's kindergarten teacher said she thought my talk cleared up some misconceptions.

Revisit adoption as your child progresses through school. At six, your child may be delighted to have you talk to her class. At 14, she might not want the attention. Keep the lines of communication open.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

"A Memo to My Fellow Teachers" (AF Jan/Feb 02, www.adoptivefamilies.com/pdf/MemoToTeachers.pdf) or "Adoption in the Classroom" (AF Nov/Dec 01, www.adoptivefamilies.com/pdf/Adoption_School.pdf).

"Becoming an Advocate" (AF May/ June 02, www.adoptivefamilies.com/articles.php?aid=291).

"How I Explained Adoption to the First Grade" (AF March/April 02, www.adoptivefamilies.com/pdf/how_I.pdf).

"Can We Talk?" by Beth Roth (page 26 of this issue and at www.adoptivefamilies.com/articles.php?aid=677)

HOW TO ANSWER INTRUSIVE QUESTIONS



Be prepared for nosy questions in the grocery aisle. People seem to love asking our kids, "Where did you come from?" "Is she your real mother?" and "Why did your real mother give you away?" If you are prepared, you can answer (or refuse to answer) with confidence, showing the questioner and your child that you are proud to be an adoptive parent.

Have everyone in the family practice appropriately vague answers. The question I get over and over is "How much do you know about Zack and AJ's birthparents?" People want all the imagined juicy details, including medical histories, but I never bite. My pat response is "Oh, enough that we were comfortable with our decision to adopt them." If you have trouble coming up with answers, see "Too Many Questions," by Eliza Thomas (AF May/Jun 01, www.adoptivefamilies.com/articles.php?aid=675), for tips on helping you and your child cope with intrusive questions.

Teach your child that it's OK not to answer intrusive questions. "That's private" is a perfectly acceptable answer. Our children's histories are theirs alone, and we need to help them maintain their privacy.

EDUCATING YOUR COMMUNITY

PROJECT	HOW GET IT DONE	INSPIRATION & IDEAS
<p>Educate your community group, book club, church, or other organizations.</p>	<p>I asked the pastor of my church if he would recognize National Adoption Awareness Month with a blessing of adoptive families during a service in the month of November. Not only was he happy to do so, he also suggested that I write a note for the parish bulletin.</p>	<p>For the bulletin, I fashioned a statement about the top ten myths of adoption and provided sources of accurate information, including my state's Department of Children and Family Services and several adoption Web sites.</p>
<p>Arrange a display at your public library.</p>	<p>When I asked my local librarian to create a special display of adoption books for National Adoption Awareness Month, all it took was one letter pitching my idea, with an offer to donate several books for their collection.</p>	<p>Later, the librarian told me that the books had generated quite a bit of interest. She was constantly having to replace the checked-out books with new ones.</p>
<p>Write a story for your local paper about an adoptive family or adoption event in your area, or write an editorial on an adoption-related issue.</p>	<p>Get to know local reporters and editors, and send them ideas for stories about adoption. Try to tie your story into a national news story if you can. If you're not a writer, you can always offer yourself as an "expert" to be quoted in their stories about adoption.</p>	<p>For tips on how to approach local media outlets, see "Until They Get It Right," by veteran journalist and adoption advocate Adam Pertman (AF Mar/Apr 03, www.adoptivefamilies.com/articles.php?aid=617).</p>
<p>Let your senator or representative know where you stand on adoption-related legislation.</p>	<p>Every member of the U.S. Congress has his or her own Web site, complete with mailing address, numbers to call, and, in most cases, an e-mail form that makes getting in touch convenient.</p>	<p>Adoptive families are an increasingly organized, vocal, and powerful interest group—and politicians are taking notice!</p>



I want you to take a moment and think..

"What makes you afraid?"

By: Riley Stanley, age 18

*are you afraid of:
losing your keys?
forgetting a hair appointment
losing your job
death
divorce
disease*

now think of what gives you comfort as you work through your fears.

I believe that your comforts can be summarized down to one thing....love. You may find comfort through a

loving spouse, a loving friend, a loving family member, a loving God.

Let me tell you some of the things that made me afraid.

I was afraid of having my mom come home either drunk or on drugs.

I was afraid of having men break into my home.

Afraid of being taken away with my brother and sisters and being locked up in a shelter because

my mom's boyfriend was trying to burn us.

Afraid when I watched my mom get beat up.

Afraid when I was forced to deal drugs for my mom.

finally I was just afraid to go home.





Where was my comfort?

At the age of 14 I found comfort as a foster child being taken in by someone who loved me. My birth mom was given chances to correct some things, but eventually her parental rights were taken away. I was finally in a good spot, but foster care is not always consistent or permanent and I went through some very dark times as an early teen and eventually found myself in a detention center with little hope for a bright future. Faced with the idea of turning 18 and having no support, my best option was to just get married and perhaps repeating the cycle my mom went through.

"My Comfort:"

My comfort now is my new amazing family. I can go to every single member of my family and just talk to them about anything. I feel the love when I am around them. I feel wanted and welcomed. I love my new family and I am so thankful that they are a part of my life and heart. I love you guys, you are amazing.

*I think the Beatles had it right when they sang:
all you need is love, all you need is love, all you need is love love,
~love is all you need~*



302 West 5400 South Ste, 108
Murray, UT 84107

CALL YOUR POST-ADOPTION SPECIALIST

Northern Region:

Aubrey Myers (801) 395-5973

Salt Lake Region:

Linda Vrabel (801) 264-7500

Western Region:

Am. Fork/Lehi
Rachel Jones (801) 376-8594

Orem/Lindon
Cassie Beck (801) 224-7844

Provo/Heber
Dan Wheatley (801) 374-7817

Spanish Fork/Nephi
John Worthington (801) 794-6731

Southwest Region:

Rick Clements (435) 867-2760
Susan Goodman (435) 867-2760

Eastern Region:

Blanding /Moab Al Young (435) 678-1490
Price/Castledale Josh Jenkins (435) 636-2373
Vernal/Roosevelt Fred Butterfield (435) 722-6561

You're Invited To...
...take the
CHALLENGE

7th ANNUAL

Wendy's Golf Challenge

for Wednesday's Child

May 28th, 2008

8:00 a.m.

The Homestead Resort

Register online at www.adoptex.org
or call Lindsay at 801-265-0444.

All proceeds benefit The Adoption Exchange.