

Domestic Adoption Parent Questionnaire

Please answer the following questions as completely as possible. There are no right or wrong answers. We ask these questions not to judge your answers but as a means of getting to know you so that we may describe you in your home study or to birth parents who might be interested in you adopting their child. Please use a separate sheet of paper for your answers. Please include the text of the question as you respond.



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ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND

1. List your immediate family including parents, siblings and children; list their names and ages. Please include any deceased with year of death.
 - which family members are you closest to and why;
 - which family members are you least close to and why.
2. Describe the following:
 - where you grew up;
 - those who raised you;
 - those who lived with you;
 - those with whom you shared a close relationship;
 - your parents' personalities, health, values, family roles, i.e. boss, disciplinarian, nurturer;
 - your parents' methods of discipline;
 - the way your parents communicated with you and with each other;
 - how your parents expressed feelings of love, concern, approval, disapproval;
3. What are your fondest childhood memories?
4. Please list the schools you have attended, including
 - city and state where the schools were located
 - the dates you were there
 - your major and any degrees received.
5. Describe your school experience:
 - your relationship with teachers and peers;
 - your dating experiences;
 - your extra curricular activities;
 - the highest grade you completed.
6. During your childhood, were there any serious family problems (explain):
 - mental illness, drug or alcohol abuse, divorce, unemployment, other problems.
 - How did your parents handle these problems?

ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR PARTNER

7. Describe yourself, your physical appearance, personality and health.
8. Have you ever had, or do you now have, a significant health problem? If so, please explain.
9. Do you smoke? If yes, how much and for how many years?
Do you drink alcohol? If yes, how much and for how many years?
Do you take prescription or other drugs? If yes, please state for what condition, what drugs, the amount and for how long?
10. Describe your spouse's physical appearance, personality and health.

11. Have you been previously married?
If you are currently married, how is this marriage unlike the past marriage?
12. Describe your current relationship; what do you feel are its strengths and challenges?
13. How do you communicate your thoughts and feelings to your partner?
How does your partner communicate with you?
How do you handle conflict in your relationship?
12. How do you foresee the addition of a child affecting your relationship?
- How do you expect this to impact the amount of time you will be able to spend together?
- How do you expect this to impact the time you will be able to spend on yourself?
13. What do you like to do for fun?
- What are your hobbies and interests?
- What community activities do you participate in?
14. What three things do you like best about yourself?
In what about yourself do you take the most pride?
What positive personal changes have you made as an adult?
15. What crises have you coped with as an adult?
How did you handle these crises?
Do you feel you were successful, and how?
If you could do it over again, what would you do differently?
16. Have you been in therapy or other treatment for emotional difficulties?
If so, please describe the circumstances.
If so, describe the results.
17. What is the greatest personal risk you have ever taken?
How did it turn out?
18. What is the role of religion or faith in your life?
- Are you part of a faith community? How often do you attend services?
19. What are the three major personal goals you hope to achieve in the next five years?
20. How did you arrive at the decision to pursue a certain line of work?
21. Which jobs have you found particularly satisfying or unsatisfying?
22. Describe your present job, including how long you have been in your present position, your responsibilities, attitude toward your job, your desire—or lack of desire—to stay in your present position, and your career goals.
23. Please describe your home:
- what the inside consists of and looks like;
- the space you have prepared for the additional child;
- what the outside looks like and the kind of neighborhood you live in;
- what family pet(s) you have or plan to have;

About Parenting and Adoption

24. Describe the type of child you see becoming a member of your family.
25. What are your primary fears, hesitations, concerns, or uncertainties:
- about adoption at this time in your life;
- about your perception of the children available;
- about interacting with birth parents?
- about your capacities to succeed with an adoption?
26. What are your child care plans after adopting? Will one of both of you take a leave of absence when you adopt? Will one of you become a full-time parent?
27. What experience do you have with adoption?
- as a birth parent? The friend or relative of a birth parent?

- as an adopted person? The friend or relative of an adopted person?
 - as an adoptive parent? The friend or relative of an adoptive parent?
28. How have you educated yourself about adoption so far?
- List book titles, articles you've read, classes you've attended.
 - What do you think is different about being an adoptive parent?
 - What are your plans for talking with your child about his or her adoption?
29. What are the three most important personal values you would like to pass on to your child?
30. How do you, or how will you, discipline your child?
- Will you use physical punishment?
- If so, what form will it take?
- how often will it be administered?
 - under what circumstances? (be specific)
31. What elements of your child rearing do you hope to continue with your child? What will you choose to discard?