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ADOPTIVE PARENT'S PERSONAL PROFILE

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions:

This profile is designed to help you think about important issues in preparation for adoptive parenthood. It will take some time to complete.

This is not a test; your answers will reflect your thoughts as an individual. Please complete these questions without talking with your spouse. After completing the profile, you may compare answers; however, please do not change what you have written. If you need more space, please use the back of the page.

This profile will become a confidential part of your adoption record and a basis for interviews with your Adoption Consultant.

****THE BEST WRITTEN HOME STUDIES ARE IN PART A PRODUCT OF THE MORE THOROUGHLY WRITTEN PERSONAL PROFILES. THEREFORE, TAKE SOME TIME TO COMPLETE YOUR ANSWERS WITH CARE AND FORETHOUGHT.**

A. YOUR PERSONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Full Legal Name:

First	Middle	Maiden	Last
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Place of Employment: _____

Title or Position: _____

B. OTHERS IN THE HOME:

If anyone lives in your home besides your spouse, please provide the following information about each individual: (physical description, interests and hobbies, physical and emotional health)

C. PERSONALITY/PHYSICAL DESCRIPTIONS:

Height _____	Hair Color _____
Weight _____	Eye Color _____
Build _____	Complexion Tone _____

Please describe your personality:

How do you think others would describe you?

What do you see as your personal strengths?

What personal qualities do you think need improvement?

What are your personal goals?

Please describe your involvement in your community in civic activities.

What are your hobbies and special interests outside of work?

D. HOME AND COMMUNITY:

Please describe your house and its surroundings. (Please include square footage and lot size if available)

Please write about your community, its resources, its racial and ethnic character.

Please discuss the accessibility of schools, religious institutions, recreational and medical facilities to your home. Please list specific locations of each category and indicate how far they are from your home.

E. YOUR BIRTH FAMILY:

-----Full Name-----Age---Education-----Occupation-----Religion-----Residence

Father:

Stepfather:

Mother:

Stepmother:

Sibling(s):

Half-Sibling(s):

Step-Sibling(s):

If any of your immediate family members have died, please give the date and cause of death.

Please write about what it was like to grow up in your family.

Briefly describe your parents as individuals.

How did your parents encourage you to be self-reliant and independent?

How were you disciplined throughout your childhood and teenage years?

Please write about your relationship with your parents as you were growing up, and describe how it has changed up to the present time.

Please answer the same question with regard to your brothers and sisters.

F. EDUCATION:

Where did you go to school? (include names and location)

High School _____

Location _____ Date Graduated _____

College _____

Location _____ Date Graduated or years attended _____

Degree/Major _____

Post Graduate _____ Location _____

Date Graduated or years attended _____ Degree & Specialization _____

Technical School or other vocational training (describe).....

Date completed or years attended _____

Certification or Specialization _____

Please write about your school life? What kind of student were you?

What kind of outside interests and activities were you involved in?

G. MARRIAGE:

If you were previously married, please give the following information for each marriage:

Name of spouse: _____

Length of marriage: _____ Date and grounds for divorce: _____

Children of the marriage: -----Names-----D.O.B-----Location

Why the marriage ended:

Please describe how your present marriage is different from your previous marriage? What did you learn?

Describe how you and your current spouse met and dated.

Why were you attracted to your spouse?

Describe your wedding.

What adjustments did each of you have to make in the early part of your marriage?

Please describe your spouse's personality.

What interests and activities do you enjoy as a couple?

In what ways has your marriage been influenced by your parents' marriage?

What do you disagree about?

Please write about how you handle disagreements.

How do you make decisions about the major things in life (buying a home, having children, deciding where to live)?

How do you make everyday decisions (how responsibilities are shared, how money is spent, what to do in leisure time)?

Please describe how you get along with your spouse's parents and siblings.

What is there about you that makes you a good husband or wife?

What could you do to be a better marriage partner?

What is there about your spouse that makes him or her a good husband or wife?

What could your spouse do to be a better marriage partner?

What makes your marriage successful?

Describe how adopting a child will affect your marriage relationship.

Please write about problems you have experienced in your marriage and how you and your spouse have worked them out.

If you and your spouse have ever separated or contemplated separation, please describe the circumstances, and how you resolved your difficulties.

H. HEALTH:

How would you describe your general health?

Please describe any illnesses or physical conditions for which you take medicine, or for which you receive on-going medical treatment. What adverse effects might this illness or physical condition have on you?

Have you visited a medical specialist in the last 5 years, or had surgery? If so, give date, diagnosis, and treatment.

If you smoke, please describe how much.

If you drink alcoholic beverages, please describe how much and how often.

If you have received or are currently receiving counseling or psychiatric treatment for emotional, marital, or addiction problems, please describe below. Include names of caregivers and dates of treatment.

I. EMPLOYMENT:

Please list previous places of employment and approximate dates of employment in chronological order.

Please describe your current duties and position at work.

Please describe the type of company, business, or organization for which you work.

What are your working hours and/or weekly schedule? What percent of your work requires traveling?

How satisfied are you with your present employment or in/home situation? What would you change?

What are your employment goals for the future?

J. FINANCES:

If you plan to use daycare for your child, what do you expect to pay for it each month?

If you will not be returning to work, how will loss of income affect your lifestyle? How have you prepared for this?

How do you intend to pay for this adoption?

K. ETHICAL AND RELIGIOUS VALUES:

What was your involvement in religious activities as a child?

What is your present participation in an organized religious setting?

Please write about the importance of your religious faith, especially as it relates to your everyday life as a spouse and a parent.

How do you plan to impart your religious and ethical values to your child?

L1. ADOPTION:

Please write about your reasons for adopting a child.

** **If infertility has brought you to adoption, please answer the following questions:* What is the nature of your infertility?

What help have you sought to be able to have children biologically?

How did you feel when you first learned you would not be able to experience biological birth and parenthood?

How did your spouse react?

Please write about how you feel about yourself in regard to your infertility.

At what point are you in resolving your feelings about infertility? Please describe.

How has your infertility affected your marriage relationship?

L2. ADOPTION:

What do you expect will change about you and your life when you become a parent? (If you are already a parent, please write about the changes you've already experienced and the expectations you have for being a parent to more than one child.)

Why do you believe you should be selected as a potential adoptive parent?

There are differences in parenting biological children and children who enter a family through adoption. What do you see as special adoption-related issues that might come up in the future?

What is your understanding of loss and abandonment as it relates to adoption?

What personal losses have you experienced during your life (i.e., death, divorce, financial loss, loss of job, etc.)? What enabled you to cope with these losses? What lessons did you learn from these experiences?

Who have you told of your adoption plans? Please describe the reactions of your friends and families to your plans to adopt a child.

Please write about how you will prepare children already in your home for the adoption of a child?

Please write about how you will help the adopted child(ren) understand adoption?

Please write in general about your feelings toward those birth parents who made adoption plans for their children.

To what extent are you willing and expecting to have contact with your child's birth parents?

How do you feel about your child having future contact with his/her birth parents?

When your child becomes an adult, what would be your feelings if the child wants to search for his/her birthparents?

Please describe the characteristics in a child you would like to adopt. (age, race, physical conditions, health, background factors, etc.)

Please describe characteristics in a child you could not accept (age, race, appearance, physical condition, background factors, etc.)

Have you ever been turned down for adoption? If you have, please describe the reasons as you know them.

M1. PARENTING: *(For clients who already have children.)*

- 1) Please list name, age and sex of your child or children. Are they adopted or biological? If child is adopted, please give their age at the time they were adopted, and list from where they were adopted.

- 2) What types of activities do you most enjoy doing with your child(ren)?

- 3) What do you see as your child(ren)'s strengths?

- 4) What do you see as your child(ren)'s weaknesses?

- 5) What forms of rewards and punishments do you use (or did you use) with your child?

- 6) Have you ever sought professional help in dealing with your child's behavior? If yes, please describe.

- 7) For married clients: Do you and your spouse spend time alone together (without your child/children?) How do you arrange this?

- 8) What was the most difficult situation you have had to face thus far as a parent, and how was this addressed?

M2. PARENTING: (To be answered by all clients.)

- 1) What strengths, background, or experience with children do you have that will enable you to be a good parent?
- 2) In what ways are you and your spouse in agreement about your parenting style or plans?
- 3) In what ways do you and your spouse differ in parenting style or plans?
- 4) What values and goals do you plan to impart to your children?
- 5) In what ways do you want your parenting style to be similar to the ways in which your parents raised you?
- 6) In what ways will your parenting style be different?
- 7) How do you plan to reward and punish your child or children?
(Please disregard this question if you answered section M-1).
- 8) What do you teach in discipline?
- 9) Why do you believe your spouse will be a good parent?
- 10) Have you chosen guardians for your child? If so, who are they, and have they agreed to this responsibility?
- 11) Do you have a will? If not, when do you plan to execute a will that will protect your child or children?

N. READINESS:

Please describe your support system (i.e., friends, coworkers, family, etc.).

What are your plans for leave when a child joins your family? When do you intend to resume working?

What are your plans for childcare after placement?

How have you educated yourself about adoption?

O. PRECLEARANCE:

Have you ever been accused of child abuse, sexual abuse, child molestation, or domestic violence, even if it did not result in an arrest? If 'yes', please explain.

If you have been fingerprinted and/or arrested for any crime, please describe fully below. Include offense, date, place, and disposition. (Offenses include, but are not limited to, DUI's, driving on a suspended license, writing bad checks, etc.)

FAILURE TO DISCLOSE ANY AND ALL ARRESTS REGARDLESS OF HOW LONG AGO THE ARREST(S) OCCURRED COULD RESULT IN TERMINATION OF THE HOME STUDY PROCESS AND FORFEITURE OF ALL FEES PAID TO PIA.

P. (For Families Planning to Adopt Transracially or Internationally)

- 1) What are your feelings regarding mixed race marriages? Mixed race children? Have you considered that your family and your other children will now be considered Aisan, Russian, Hispanic, Black, etc.

- 2) What problems do you see in adopting a child of another race/culture? (For example, how would you feel if a stranger saw you with your child and assumed your spouse was of your child's ethnicity?)

- 3) How do you think your friends and extended family will react to a child of another ethnicity or race?

- 4) What have you learned about the culture of the child you are considering?

- 5) What have you learned about skin care and hair care for persons of your child's ethnicity or race?

- 6) Who do you know already of the same ethnicity or race of the child you want to adopt? If no one, what are your plans to change this?

- 7) What are your social and professional contacts with persons of this same race or ethnicity?

- 8) Where will you find appropriate role models for your child?

- 9) How do you plan to help your child learn about his/her culture and heritage?

- 10) Discrimination takes many forms. Your child may face teasing, snide remarks, refusal to allow other children to play with or date your child?) How would you help your child deal with such forms of discrimination?

If you have questions you would like to address with your Adoption Consultant, or if you have additional comments about any part of you life or about yourself, please note them here. Thank you for completing this profile.

Adoptive Parent Signature

Date