



The Child Care Planning Council compiled these resources from a variety of electronic newsletters. We have now compiled them by subject. We hope it is helpful!

Adoption, Foster Care Reports and Resources

- **Adoption in the Schools: A Lot to Learn: Promoting Equality and Fairness for All Children and Their Families:** A recent report from the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute addresses the challenges that many adoptive children and families face within the school system, and it offers recommendations for how educators—teachers, counselors, and other school personnel—can best meet the needs of these children and families. In many cases, teachers and other educators have received no training in adoption and foster care, and they may inadvertently convey the message that some families are more "normal" than others. Teacher training in the issues surrounding adoption may help sensitize educators to the best way to help children in their classroom who are adopted or in foster care. The report offers several recommendations, including:
 - Modify school assignments (such as the family tree) that are problematic or inappropriate for adopted and foster children.
 - Include education about adoption and foster care in diversity courses and development trainings for teachers and other school personnel.
 - Provide accurate information about children so that educators can identify children's needs correctly and provide effective interventions.
 - Develop school policies that prohibit harassment and negative comments about adoption and foster care.
 - www.adoptioninstitute.org/policy/2006_09_adoption_in_the_schools.php.
- **KIDS COUNT 2007 Released:** The Annie E. Casey Foundation's [KIDS COUNT 2007 Data Book](#) is now available online and for purchase. The new book presents ~~current state-by-state statistics~~ and background on the well being of America's children. This year it also includes an essay focusing on permanency for children in foster care. To view the new and easy to use online database containing the most current data, click [here](#). Source: Zero to Three Policy Network, 8/6/07, http://www.zerotothree.org/site/PageServer?pagename=BM_08_06_07
- **Safeguarding the Rights and Well-Being of Birthparents in the Adoption Process:** The study reports on the rights and status of birth parents by exploring the context of infant adoption in today's society, examining how laws and practices affect birth parents' rights, and reviewing research on the impact of relinquishment. Domestic infant adoption shows a number of changes from previous generations. For instance:
 - The majority of parents placing their infants for adoption are not teenagers but women in

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their 20s.

- Most adoption agencies and independent practitioners offer open adoptions.
 - Most birth mothers help to choose the adoptive parents for their child.
 - The report concludes with a series of recommendations to bolster the rights and well-being of birth parents. These include some recommended changes to State laws, such as those governing the timing of relinquishment and revocation, as well as suggested changes in practice, such as more aggressive protection of fathers' rights. The report suggests that it is in the interest of society at large to create a supportive community of practice and an adequate framework to meet the needs and guarantee the rights of all involved. The report is available on the Adoption Institute website:
www.adoptioninstitute.org/research/2006_11_birthparent_wellbeing.php.
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