


**Transracial Adoption,
Kinship & Foster Care:**
Parenting a child of a different race


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www.njarch.org

NJ Adoption Resource Clearing House
(NJ ARCH) www.njarch.org

NJ ARCH: The One-Stop Resource for those touched by adoption; website includes over 1500 sortable pages of resource information on adoption and foster care. Free lending library, newsletter, training workshops and more.



NJ ARCH is a program of Children's Aid and Family Services




Website: www.njarch.org

- Numerous tri-state resources
- Free Lending Library – books & articles
- Handbooks & publications
- Upcoming events
- Training Workshops
- NJ ARCH Newsletter: *Under the ARCH* (3x year)
- Virtual supports/podcasts
- Adoptees Birthright Act Information

NJ ARCH Warline
Phone: 877-4ARCHNJ (877-427-2465)
Email: warmline@njarch.org

Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Warline specialists are available to answer calls during business hours.

All contact is confidential; calls or emails are returned within one business day; resolved within one week.







Resource Directory

- Adoption Agencies
- Camps
- Children's Crisis Intervention Services/Mobile Response
- Family Support Organizations & Family Success Centers
- Legal Services
- Mental Health Professionals
- Other Services
- Support Groups

Free Lending Library

- Over **3,000** books, articles and videos on adoption, foster care and kinship care in our free lending library
- **Includes:**
 - Professional Resources
 - General for families & individuals
 - Children's books
 - Spanish resources



Kinship Care Clearing House (KinKONNECT)

KinKONNECT: An Information Center for Kinship Legal Guardianship and Kinship Care Families; website includes over 700 sortable pages of information related to Kinship Care.

www.kinkonnect.org




Learning Objectives

Participants will...

Be	Identify	Develop
Be able to describe why a "race aware" attitude is important in transracial parenting.	Identify examples of microaggressions their children may face.	Develop skills and techniques to help their child navigate a race conscious world.

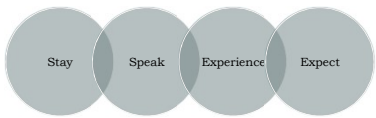

Group Question:
What keeps us from talking about race?

Do the best you can until you know better.
Then, when you know better
Do better.
- Maya Angelou




Courageous Conversations

The Four Agreements

- Racism
- Microaggression
- Unconscious/Implicit Bias
- Privilege
- Identity


Importance of Shared Vocabulary



- Emotional issues of adopted, kinship or foster children in transracial placements are no different from children in same race placements.

EVERY child is unique and has individual needs based on their particular situation.

Myth vs. Reality #1




- Developing racial or cultural identity is not necessary to function as a member of a family or society.

Myth vs. Reality #2

▪ Positive Racial and cultural identity is key to a healthy future



Group Activity




Who is in your circle?

Favorite Author
Amazon delivery driver
My dentist
I am
My best friend
Favorite Actor
My neighbors
CHILD
My Doctor
My co-workers
Favorite Music Artist
Hairdresser/Barber

- We are related, we're family (kinship) so she/he is part [my race] too why focus on their skin color?

Myth vs. Reality #3


▪ Children carry all of who they are with them, but they experience the world as the world sees them.



- Anyone can foster or adopt transracially. No special resources, capabilities, skills or knowledge are necessary.

Myth vs. Reality #4


▪ There is no "one size fits all" when it comes to parenting children



- Love is Enough.

Myth vs. Reality #5

▪ Adoption/Foster Care/Kinship still involves loss and grief.



Video

#% DIGITAL DOC

FINDING IDENTITY

GROWING UP A TRANSRACIAL ADOPTEE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxHSzmk0GM>

Tools & Strategies

Educate yourself first

Start talking early!

Admit your mistakes & it is OK to ask for help

Tools & Strategies

Talking about race does NOT make you a racist.

Remember your experience is different from the child's

Acknowledge current events as they happen

Tools & Strategies

Discuss the historical context of racism in this country & celebrate accomplishments

Zero tolerance policy for racist comments/jokes

Find role models for the child

Tools & Strategies

Books! Books! Books!

Representation (media, toys/dolls etc.)

The power of community

- Bilal G. Morris. 2021. *Why are Black Families Pretending to Be White to Sell Their Homes?* NewsOne.
- Branco, Kim, Newton, Lewter, O'Loughlin. (2022) *Out of the Fog into Consciousness: A model of adoptee awareness*. St. Bonaventure University, NY
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Contact us


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KIN KONNECT


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