



pact's

point of view

The newsletter for adoptive families with children of color

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Book Review

The Third Choice

By Leslie Foge & Gail Mosconi

Publisher: The Third Choice, 157 pages

\$15.95

Finally... an intelligent guide for adults facing the complexities of placing a child for adoption. There are few books in print for or about birth mothers that reflect a belief in the benefits of openness. This is the first book not directed primarily at teens that accurately details the predictable emotional steps in the journey of placement, from the initial decision through common events beyond the first year. What an illuminating addition! Written in a warm, conversational tone and filled with the personal thoughts and feelings of those who have been there, this book is engaging, respectful, and realistic. It is sure to provide answers and comfort to anyone facing the complex challenges inherent in the placement process.

Geared towards expectant parents, there are very practical guidelines and suggestions for how to plan for and accomplish an adoption plan. Chapter topics range from Choosing Adoption; Choosing the right Kind of Adoption; The pregnancy; Hospital and Birth; Grief, Loss and healing; The First Year; Beyond the First Year; and Birth Fathers and Family Members. Ideally every birth parent considering adoption could be given this information at the beginning of their consideration of the adoption option so that they might be better educated as to what is possible and what to expect. Written by therapists who worked in placement for many years, they do understand the process although some of their suggestions do not reflect the reality of rushed timing and the sense of overwhelm that is often part of the experience for birth parents.

If you are looking for something shorter that covers some of the basics for expectant parents considering adoption another great option is reviewed below.

