



pact's

point of view

The newsletter for adoptive families with children of color

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Teen Corner

Adopted Teens Speak Out Members of the Pact Teen Club respond to questions.

What do you wish people would not ask or say about being adopted?

They don't ask cuz I don't tell.
–14-year-old boy

How come your mother didn't want you?
–12-year-old girl

Is that your Mom? And: at least I'm not adopted.
–11-year-old boy

What people say is: why is your mom white and why are you brown? But just because I'm a adoptee doesn't mean I hate my real mom. I still love my real mom. I do miss her. Although I don't know where she is.
–10-year-old girl

What race are you? Race is a social construct, but we must come to terms with the fact that it's real. I am human, but people don't see human, they see color.
–16-year-old girl

It makes me feel rejected and different.
–11-year-old boy

I hate it when they say "you're adopted."
–10-year-old boy

Being told I am a loser because I am black or that adopted people are retards.
–11-year-old boy

What do you wish they knew or understood better?

That adoption is stupid, but it's not. It's okay to be different.
–10-year-old girl

I have two dads and two moms.
–16-year-old girl

That my parents aren't my parents because of their skin color.
–13-year-old girl

I wish everyone knew that I still love my real parents.
–10-year-old girl

I wish my first parents knew that I want to see them and I love them.
–11-year-old boy

Why? [I want to know why but I am afraid to ask.]
–14-year-old girl

I feel sad and mad and sometimes I just don't want to think about it.
–17-year-old girl

You know, adoption doesn't always feel that great.
–15-year-old boy

I hate it when people want me to choose who I love the most – geez, how am I supposed to know?
–12-year-old boy

So many people have acted so confused after they've learned that my father is a surgeon. But once I tell them I'm adopted into a white family they seem to understand all of a sudden. My father's job has nothing to do with the color of his skin. Many ignorant teens also assume that I'm rich because my family is white. They make immature jokes that are easily forgiven at first then they just turn immature and stupid after a while. These jokes and comments don't hurt me, it just makes me sad that there are so many kids my age who are not aware of what being adopted means, especially being transracially adopted.
–15-year-old girl