

# 2021 PACT WEBINARS

Learn more about every aspect of adoption and its intersection with race and family from proven leaders in the field as part of **Pact's child-centered, race-conscious, honesty-based Webinar series.** Pact hosts 90- and 120-minute webinars on the topics of adoption, family, parenting and race specifically designed for members of the adoption constellation along with additional programming

for pre-adopters, professionals, adoptees, and first/birth parents. Unless otherwise noted, webinars are led by a Pact staff member.

*Webinars can be used to fulfill Foster Care & Adoption educational requirements, and are appropriate for both domestic and international placements. Additionally, all registrants will receive a recording of the webinar along with handouts to keep. CEU Eligible webinars meet the qualifications for 2 hours of continuing education credits.*

**Become a Pact member for \$75 per year** to receive a 25% discount on the cost (\$36/general webinar) allowing you to participate for only \$27 per webinar or a 15% discount (\$38.25) for CEU Eligible webinars (\$45/CEU-eligible webinar). **To register: [www.pactadopt.org/events](http://www.pactadopt.org/events)**

**January 13, 2021**

## **Attachment – Preparing for a Baby/Toddler Through Adoption: The Welcoming Process •**

Whether a child's placement is direct from the hospital, from an orphanage or foster care or after having been parented by first/birth parents for a period of time, your child's origins impact who they are with you. We'll address a continuum of attachment issues and offer strategies that promote secure attachment for children from infancy through toddlerhood. *Appropriate for pre-adoptive parents, new adoptive parents and professionals.*

**January 24, 2021**

## **How Educators Can Create Adoption Inclusive Classrooms •**

A webinar for educators that will provide a road map for how to support adopted children and their families in school. This webinar will focus on societal contexts for adoption, curriculum concerns and developmental frames for how children process adoption. *Appropriate for teachers, educators and other professionals.*

**February 10, 2021**

**Adoptee Voices •** Hear from adopted adults of color about their adoption journeys including the role their first/birth parents and families have had in shaping their lives and in understanding their own identity. Featured speakers were adopted both domestically and internationally into both transracial and same-race placements. *Appropriate for pre- and post- adoptive parents, first/birth parents, adoptees and professionals.*

**February 24, 2021**

## **Adoptive Parents of Color: Conversations About Adoption in Communities of Color •**

This webinar will explore the history and traditions of adoption in communities of color and offer context for forming families through adoption today. We will unpack common scenarios and help build a deeper understanding of how to support children throughout their adoption journey. *This webinar is for people of color parenting through adoption.*

**March 10, 2021**

## **What Adopted Tweens and Teens Need from Adults Who Love Them •**

In this webinar, parents and caregivers will gain better understanding of developmental stages of adopted tweens/teens and learn tools to support them in their journey of becoming whole adults. We'll discuss how tweens and teens move through their development as they understand their adoption, racial, gender and overall identity issues on a deeper level as they travel the road toward independence. *Appropriate for adoptive, foster and first/birth parents and professionals.*

**March 24, 2021**

## **Real Talk About Child Welfare Reform And The Calls To Abolish It — CEU Workshop •**

*Guest Speakers: Christina Feliciano & Katarina Sayally •* Title IVE Project Coordinator from UC Berkeley, Christina Feliciano, and advocate, Katarina Sayally, present a candid and critical discussion of child welfare reform in this unprecedented year of racial reckoning. Join us as we radically imagine a different way forward for families. *Appropriate for child welfare professionals and all community members who care about the well-being of children.*

**April 4, 2021**

## **Should We or Shouldn't We? Considering Open Adoption as You Prepare to Become a Parent •**

Many, perhaps most, adoptions now begin with the possibility of some amount of openness and contact between birth and adoptive parents. How do you determine what is right for you and your child? How do you know what to expect long term? This workshop will guide you toward a child-centered path that considers everyone's needs and offers research-based information about why open adoption came to be and how it impacts children. *Appropriate for pre-adoptive parents, new adoptive parents and professionals.*

**April 21, 2021**

## **Adoption Orientation for Families of Color •**

Join us for a **FREE** orientation to learn about the adoption process and Pact's placement program which supports adoptive parents of color. Participants will learn about Pact's ethical and child-centered approach to adoption placement, our sliding scale fee structure and other services and programs we offer. *Appropriate for pre-adoptive parents of color.*

**May 5, 2021**

## **First/Birth Parent Voices •**

First/birth parents are the truest expert on their own experience. In this webinar, participants will hear from a panel of first/birth parents as they discuss the many complexities of adoption. This diverse and interactive panel will address topics such as pregnancy and childbirth, interactions with professionals, relationships with their child/ren and relationships with their child/ren's adoptive parents. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents, adoptees and professionals.*

**May 19, 2021**

## **Talking with Children About Adoption •**

Participants will learn: understanding how children experience adoption; why the words we use matter, strategies that match children's developmental stages, why beginning with a child's birth makes sense; how to talk about first/birth parents; and how to answer and anticipate children's questions whether they ask them or not. *Appropriate for pre-adoptive parents, expectant parents considering an adoption plan and both birth and adoptive parents.*

**June 2, 2021**

## **What Adopted Preschoolers & School-Age Kids Need From Adults Who Love Them •**

Parents and caregivers will gain better understanding of developmental stages for toddlers and school-age kids and learn the tools needed to support and promote their journey of becoming. We will address how to help children understand their own story including their multiple families as they compare themselves to peers and grasp the deeper meanings of adoption and identity. *Appropriate for adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents and professionals.*

June 16, 2021

**Life After Placement—Open Adoption for Professionals — CEU Workshop** • Adoption, mental health and social work professionals will increase their competency and skills at supporting all adoption constellation members as they navigate openness and contact. Relationships evolve as people grow. Professionals must be able to help all members of the constellation navigate openness and contact for a lifetime. *Appropriate for triad members and professionals.*

June 23, 2021

**Life After Placement — The Adult Adoptee Journey** • Led by adult adoptees, who are also mental health specialists, this workshop offers compassionate support and concrete guidance to adult adoptees as they navigate the continuous and ongoing journey of being adopted. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents, adoptees and professionals.*

July 14, 2021

**Creating your Dear Expectant Parent(s) Profile** • This webinar will guide pre-adoptive parents through the process of creating their Dear Expectant Parent(s) letter and profile. We will focus on specific topics/points that are important to expectant/birth parents as they look at profiles. *Appropriate for pre-adoptive parent and professionals.*

July 28, 2021

**Dear White People: Antiracist Adoptive Parenting** • The opposite of being racist is to be antiracist. For those of us who are white, talking about race is often scary and doesn't feel easy, but you can get more comfortable with practice. Learn steps you can take that will help you feel better prepared to have these difficult conversations—and to have them frequently. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents, adoptees and professionals.*

August 5, 2021

**Life After Placement — Navigating Openness for First/Birth Families** • Adoption starts with placement or removal, and first/birth families are too often left navigating it for the rest of their lives with very little support. This workshop for first/birth families, led by therapists specializing in open adoption and first/birth family issues, will offer compassionate support and concrete guidance. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents, adoptees and professionals.*

August 25, 2021

**Schools and Adoption: Strategies for Parents** • Children spend half of their lives in school, and one of the ways they're taught about the world and people around them is through assignments that focus on family. When these assignments are broadened purposefully to be inclusive and respectful of many diverse family models, children growing up in "non-standard" families can relax and learn. Learn strategies for navigating school and supporting children who join their families through adoption. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents, adoptees and professionals.*

September 8, 2021

**Newborns, Money, Competition, Desperation: Promoting Ethics in Infant Adoption — CEU Workshop** • As the landscape of adoption providers continues to be dominated by for-profit entities and do-it-yourself online matching services, solid ethics become all the more critical. This workshop will raise questions about current practices in voluntary placements, especially as they impact interactions with expectant parents and pre-adoptive parents. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents, adoptees, adoptees and professionals.*

September 22, 2021

**Adoption Sensitive Language & Rituals** • Words and rituals are important methods of human communication through which we tell our stories and underscore our values. Words not only convey facts; they also evoke feelings. Rituals send powerful messages of validation to children and adults and all of those around us. Participants will learn about and understand the importance of adoption sensitive language and rituals in the context of adoption. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents, adoptees and professionals.*

October 6, 2021

**Talking about Race with Our Children as Parents of Color** • Join other parents of color for a practical discussion about how to talk to children of color about race. We will look at developmental milestones, cultural context, social narratives and strategies for maintaining joy and pride despite it all. Our focus will include strategies we like that support our children. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents and professionals.*

October 20, 2021

**Should We Adopt Transracially? Are We Ready? What Should We Do to Prepare?** • Transracially adopting parents (parents adopting across racial lines) are better prepared to be successful if they are educated in advance about race, racism and how these issues will play out in the context of a family in which children and parents do not share the same racial identity. Participants will learn how to calculate their own Transracial Adoption Suitability Index. *Appropriate for pre-, newly post- adoptive and foster/resource parents and professionals.*

November 9, 2021

**Adoption Orientation for Families of Color** • Join us for a **FREE** orientation to learn about the adoption process and Pact's placement program which supports adoptive parents of color. Participants will learn about Pact's ethical and child-centered approach to adoption placement, our sliding scale fee structure and other services and programs we offer. *Appropriate for pre-adoptive parents of color.*

November 17, 2021

**Adoption Activism** • When a child joins a family through adoption, that event happens within the context of a larger system, whether it's private, international or child welfare placement. Learn about adoption activism to support the transformation of the narratives, practices and policies of these systems to make them truly child-centered. When you know better, you can do better. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents, adoptees and professionals.*

December 1, 2021

**Transracial Adoption Panel** • Are you planning a transracial adoption, or are you already parenting across racial lines? Are you ready to talk about race, white privilege, white fragility, racism, and interrogate your whiteness and biases? This webinar will feature the voices of lived experience and openly talk about the challenges and journey of transracial adoption. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource and first/birth parents, adoptees and professionals.*

December 15, 2021

**Life After Placement — Adoptive Parent Focus — Navigating Openness** • Advocates of open adoption often talk about a relationship between birth and adoptive families as a choice to be made for the sake of the adopted child. But not discussed is how to navigate relationships that are often not yet established and yet involve emotional power dynamics. Join us to explore the challenges, dynamics and strength of open adoption in order live the pledge to keep children connected to all of their family identities. *Appropriate for pre- and post-adoptive, foster/resource parents.*



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