

**QUESTIONNAIRE: Questions for Birth Parents to Consider
Before Making an Adoption Plan**

Adoption attorneys can advise not just prospective adoptive parents, but also the birth parents. It is important that each set of parents has separate and independent counsel, however, to avoid the possibility of a conflict of interest. Birth parents have important rights and legitimate concerns, and an experienced adoption attorney can help ensure that those rights are protected, that all questions are answered, and that the birth parents make an informed decision about the placement of their child. The following questions can help birth parents start thinking about some of the important issues. Reviewing the answers with an attorney is an important next step in the process of making an adoption plan for the child.

Why do I want to place this child for adoption? _____

Is this my own, free-will decision or is someone else (like my parent or significant other) influencing me or forcing me to make this choice? _____

Does the other parent agree with the decision to place this child for adoption? _____

Do I want to choose the parent(s) for my child? _____

What kind of parents would I like for my child?

Race/ethnicity _____

Religion _____

Age _____

Married or single _____

Gay or straight _____

Number of other children in the family _____

Education _____

Dual-career or one parent at home _____

Other characteristics _____

Their reasons for wanting to adopt _____

Do I want a relationship with the adoptive parents during the pregnancy? _____

Do I want the adoptive parents to be in the delivery room? _____

Do I want a relationship with my child after the adoption? _____

How often do I want to make contact? _____

Phone _____

Mail or e-mail _____

In person _____

Do I want the adoptive parents to keep me informed, without my initiating any involvement?

Other questions to ask prospective adoptive parents:

Questions to ask my attorney:
