

Transracially Adopted Children's Bill of Rights

Adapted by Liza Steinberg Triggs from "A Bill of Rights for Mixed Folks," by Marilyn Dramé.

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- Every child is entitled to love and full membership in his or her family.
- Every child is entitled to have his or her heritage and culture embraced and valued.
- Every child is entitled to parents who value individuality and enjoy complexity.
- Every child is entitled to parents who understand that this is a race conscious society.
- Every child is entitled to parents who know their child will experience life in ways differently from theirs.
- Every child is entitled to parents who are not seeking to "save" a child or to make the world a better place by adopting.
- Every child is entitled to parents who know belonging to a family is not based on physical matching.
- Every child is entitled to parents who have significant relationships with people of other races.
- Every child is entitled to parents who know transracial adoption changes the family structure forever.
- Every child is entitled to be accepted by his or her extended family members.
- Every child is entitled to parents who know that if they are white they experience the benefits of racism because the country's system is organized that way.
- Every child is entitled to parents who know they cannot be the sole transmitter of the child's culture when it is not their own.
- Every child is entitled to grow up with items in their home environment created for and by people of their own race or ethnicity.
- Every child is entitled to have places available to make friends with people of his or her race or ethnicity.
- Every child is entitled to have opportunities in his or her environment to participate in positive experiences with his or her birth culture.
- Every child is entitled to opportunities to build racial pride within his or her own home, school, and neighborhood.