

Eight Most Common Objections to Considering Adoption and Possible Responses

I could never give my baby away after carrying it for nine months.

- Why do you feel like adoption means you are giving your child away?
- Adoption can be a courageous and unselfish decision because you are putting the child above yourself.
- With adoption, birth parents are making a plan for their child's future, not abandoning or giving away.
- While 9 months seems like a long time now, parenting requires 18+ years.
- Adoption allows you to choose who will parent your child; you are not just "giving your child away."

I have to have an abortion instead because I know I can't parent and I know I'll change my mind once I see the baby.

- It sounds like you are afraid of being able to follow through with adoption... what is your greatest fear?
- Actually, most birth parents do revisit their decision about making an adoption plan for their baby after they give birth. It is important that you have your reasons for making an adoption plan written down and after birth honestly ask yourself: "Just because I have now actually 'seen' my baby, have any of the reasons I planned for adoption changed?"
- If you choose abortion no more choices to make. It is important that you don't make a decision based on fear... let's talk about your fears about adoption.
- Many women who have abortions end up with significant feelings of loss because their child is gone forever. With adoption, your child would still be alive and you can have ongoing contact through open adoption.

What if my baby ends up in a bad home, like the ones I see on TV?

- Adoptive parents are closely evaluated and educated during the home study process.
- Did you know that you could choose the family who will parent your child? This will allow you to see what the child's home will be like and if you want to, you can receive ongoing information about his/her future development. May I explain open adoption to you?

My family and friends don't want me to make an adoption plan.

- What are the concerns of your family and friends?
- Do you agree with their concerns?
- I could give you information that may help them understand why you are considering this option. Would you like to review it?
- Will your family and friends be committed to helping you care for your child for the next 18 years?

I am hoping to have a relationship with the father/mother of the baby.

- What is your relationship like with your child's other parent?
- Has he been helpful to you during your pregnancy?
- Does he/she have other children? Does he/she have a relationship with those children?
- Do you have plans to get married?

I want someone to love me and I want someone to love.

- Love is important, however, what else do you need to be a single parent?
- Can a child satisfy that need?

My child will hate me.

- What makes you think that your child would hate you?
- What could you do to make sure your child would know how much you care about him/her? What if your child could know the reasons you chose adoption?

If I give my baby away, it would hurt too much and I would always regret it.

- Do you think that adoption is the only option that is difficult?
- There may be consequences and difficult emotions to all of your options. Just because something hurts does not actually mean it is not the right thing to do.