

Adoption

Activity 1

Discuss the following questions with your partner.

1. In what different types of circumstances do people consider adopting a child?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of single people adopting a child?
3. In your opinion, should same-sex couples be allowed to adopt children? Why/not?
4. What do you think of celebrities who adopt children from various countries?
5. Should there be a limit on the number of children someone can adopt? If so, what should it be?

Activity 2

Fill the gaps in the sentences below with the following words.

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1. In the past, an unmarried woman who had a baby would often put the child up for
2. When he was twelve his mother and father told him that he was and that they weren't his birth parents.
3. Despite the fact that he was very fond of his parents, he wanted to find his birth parents and learn more about them.
4. If an orphan has no documents, such as a birth certificate, or his/her parents' death certificates, it can be difficult to ascertain if he or she is in the legal sense.
5. Stubborn and inflexible people find it hard to new ideas.

Activity 3

Use the following questions to begin a conversation with your partner.

1. What do you think is the right age to tell a child that s/he is adopted? Or should it stay a secret?
2. Should siblings always be adopted together? Why/not?
3. How important is it for the religion, culture and ethnic origin of the adopting family to be the same as that of the adopted child?
4. Is it necessary for a child to have no surviving family whatsoever (grandparents, aunts and uncles, etc.) in order to be considered adoptable or is it enough simply to have no mother or father?
5. Should people who wish to adopt be non-smokers, well-off, under 30, etc? What criteria should they have to meet?
6. How easy or difficult is it to adopt a child in your country? Do you think the procedure is too easy/difficult? How long, on average, does it take?
7. Should couples who already have children of their own be allowed to adopt?
8. How easy or difficult is it for an adopted person to find their birth parents in your country? What are the risks involved in finding one's birth parents?
9. What alternatives are there to adoption in your country? (E.g. fostering, long-distance adoption).
10. What are the advantages and disadvantages of long-distance adoption?

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Activity 4

Go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Homework' icon. Use the information you find there to answer the questions below.

1. Which famous celebrities are mentioned in the TP Homework apart from Angelina Jolie, Brad Pitt and Madonna?
2. According to the TP Homework, how many differences are there between adoptions in general and celebrity adoptions in particular?
3. What is the answer to the Quick Quiz?

Activity 5

Should orphaned children be adopted by people of the same ethnic origins?'

If you would like to express your opinion on this subject go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Discussion' icon to take part in the forum discussion there.

N.B. Netiquette! PLEASE CHANGE THE DEFAULT SUBJECT LINE TO INDICATE THE OPINIONS IN YOUR POST BECAUSE IN A BUSY THREAD IT HELPS PEOPLE DECIDE WHICH POSTS TO READ!

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