

# OVERVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION

- Hague Training for Adoptive Parents

## Adoption Learning Partners:

### **Journeys of Attachment (2 hours)**

Attachment is an essential component of any healthy, happy family. Adoption, however, may present challenges to the attachment process. Designed for both first time adoptive parents and parents struggling with attachment issues with their adopted child, this course provides practical tips on how to form and sustain this important bond.

### **Conspicuous Families (1.5)**

Adopting a child of a different race or ethnicity presents challenges families may not expect. Sharing in the wisdom and collective experiences of adopted persons and adoptive parents with transracial families, this course will help parents considering adopting a child of a different race or ethnicity than their own

### **Finding the Missing Pieces (2.0)**

It is natural for adopted children to grieve the life and family they never knew, no matter how old they were when adopted, how open the adoption or how happy their life with the adoptive family.

It is important for families to understand the gains and losses of all members of the adoption circle

### **Medical Issues in International Adoption (2.5)**

This course provides an overview of the common medical issues, health risks and specific conditions internationally adopted children may face.

### **Adopting the older child (2.0)**

Adopting an older child presents a unique set of joy and challenges. From knowing what kind of information is important to have to anticipating potential stumbling blocks to a smooth transition, this course serves as a guide to anyone considering adopting a child older than an infant (whether internationally or from the US public welfare system)

Please visit Adoption Learning Partners to access this training: <http://www.adoptionlearningpartners.org/agency/holt-international/index.cfm>

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## Transracial Parenting Holt's Online Curriculum: Outline

### Objective:

to help you understand the unique aspects of transracial and transcultural adoptive parenting, to create an awareness of the racism your child will face, and to provide information and resources to help your child develop a positive racial identity. Holt has learned from research and speaking with adoptees of all ages that many adoptive parents lacked adequate preparation around issues of racism and the importance of adoptee

identity. We want you to be comfortable talking about tough issues with your child in order to wholeheartedly advocate for your child when he or she encounters issues of racism and adoption discrimination.

### 1. Things to consider when adopting transracially

A) Read: "Top 10 Pieces of Advice for White Parents Adopting Transracially" by Dr. Joy Hoffman

### 2. The Identity Project

A) View ALP's course: "The Identity project"

B) Review Discussion Guide

### 3. Privilege

A) Introduction

B) Of Dogs and Lizards Blog post

C) Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack

D) Discussion Questions on Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack

E) Racism

F) Mirrors of Privilege video series

G) Discussion questions on Mirrors of Privilege

H) Additional readings

### 4. Communication

A) "What Adoptees Wish Their Parents Knew About Being Adopted" webinar

B) Discussion questions and vignettes

C) Additional Holt webinar

recording on communication (optional)

This curriculum is accessible through the Holt country program handbook on Holt's website (password protected-Holt families receive at the beginning of their process) or through Holt's Post Adoption Services website:

<http://www.holtinternational.org/pas/adoptive-parent/transracial-parenting-curriculum/>

For more information, please contact Holt International at 541-687-2202 or [info@holtinternational.org](mailto:info@holtinternational.org)