

**Adoptive Families**  
"What a difference it makes to come home to a child"



**Adoption Expert Q&A Webinar**

# **Parenting After Transracial Adoption**

***Beth Hall***

**Type your questions in the box to the right >>**

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pact's

**point of view**

serving adopted children of color

# **Parenting After *Transracial Adoption***

Beth Hall, Director  
Pact, An Adoption Alliance  
[www.pactadopt.org](http://www.pactadopt.org)



**pact**  
**Adoption Process & Placement**  
*Pre-Adoptive Services*




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**Educational Programs**  
*Workshops, Webinars & Conferences*



**PACT FAMILY CAMP**  
*Adoption, Race & Family*



a **pact**  
program



**pact**  
**Community Building**  
*Family Events & Regional Gatherings*



*Adoptive Parents of Color Circle*



an affiliate of  
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an adoption alliance

**SUPPORT FOR ADOPTIVE PARENTS OF COLOR AND THEIR FAMILIES**



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**TWEEN +  
TEEN CLUB**



**KALEIDOSCOPE**  
*a community for SoCal adopted  
children of color and their families*



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**pact**  
**Member News**  
*A monthly update for our Pact family*

# Meet Beth and her family



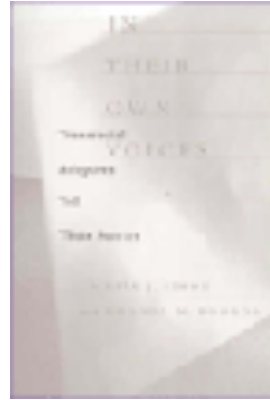
# Adoption Landscape

- ❖ Too often in the adoption field, the adoptee perspective is subordinated to that of the adoptive parent.
- ❖ First/birth parents are part of the story
- ❖ Adult adoptees are the truest experts on their own experience.
- ❖ Adopted people deserve to know their full heritage and should have access to all of their records and birth history.
- ❖ Adoption includes loss

# Racial Landscape

- ❖ Are we postracial?
- ❖ People of color are not obligated to educate white folks
- ❖ Race & culture are not the same thing
- ❖ Strengthen your racial awareness muscles daily
- ❖ Why #BlackLivesMatter instead of #AllLivesMatter?
- ❖ Becoming an interrupter (ally)

# Books by Adopted Adults



- Parenting As Adoptees
- In Their Own Voices
- Red Dust Road
- Outsiders Within
- This Many Miles From Desire
- Lucky Girl



By  
Beth  
Hall  
&  
Gail  
Steinberg

# What Worked/What Didn't

## Talking About Adoption





# Strategies: Talking About Adoption



- **0-5:** Using words, include being born and first/birth parents
- **6-10:** Focus on other people's stories, books, movies
- **11 and up:** Focus on ethics, fairness and more complex details

# What Worked/What Didn't

## Matching Siblings



# Strategies:

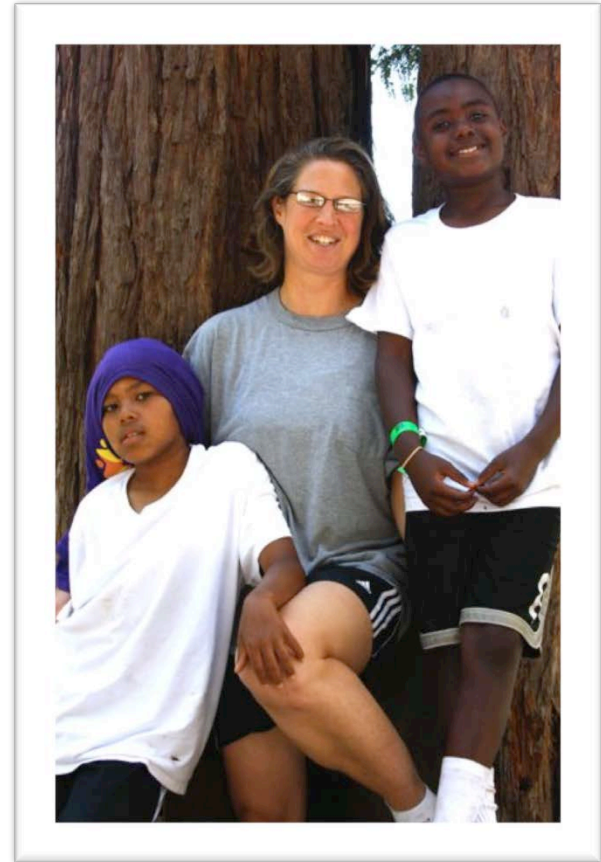
## Matching Siblings



- **0-5:** Matching, claiming race/ethnicity
- **6-10:** Shared experiences in cultural community
- **11 and up:** Trusting members of their heritage community

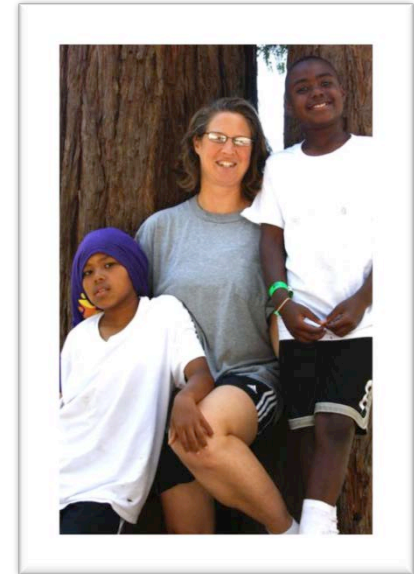
# What Worked/What Didn't

## Talking About Race



# Strategies:

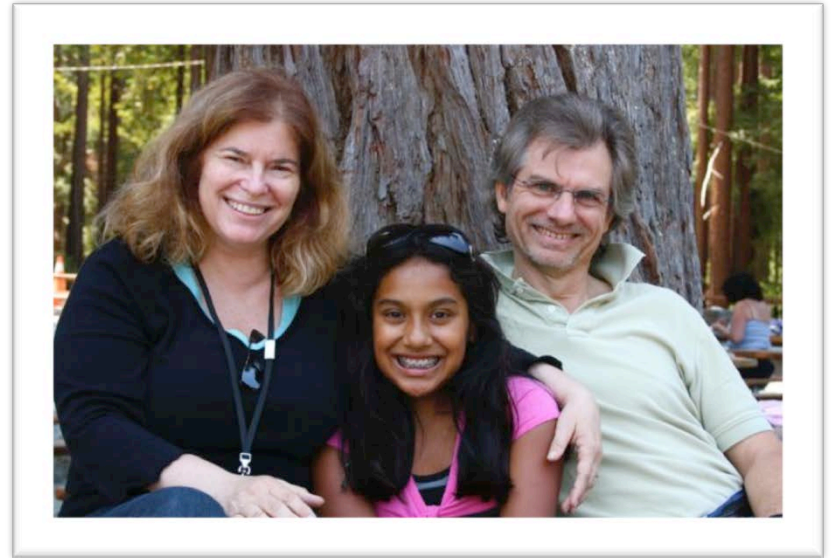
## Talking About Race



- **0-5:** Words, language and values statements
- **6-10:** Shared experiences in cultural community
- **11 and up:** Trusting members of their heritage community

# What Worked/What Didn't

**Cultural  
Currency  
&  
Language**



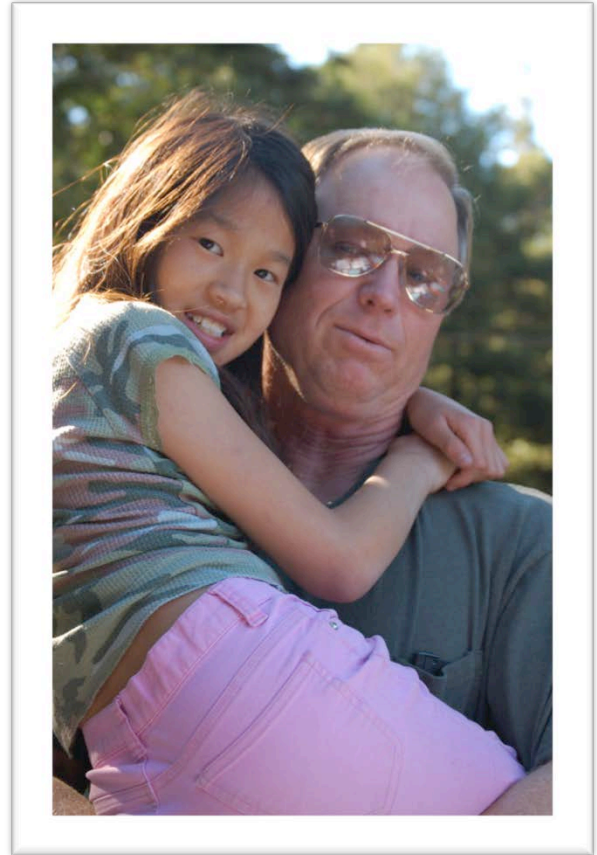
# Strategies: Cultural Currency & Language



- **0-5:** Exposure
- **6-10:** Teams, social groups, values
- **11 and up:** Social justice from within the community

# What Worked/What Didn't

## Heritage & Adoption Mentors





# Strategies: Heritage & Adoption Mentors



- **0-5:** Grown ups & children
- **6-10:** Learning about social justice issues within communities
- **11 and up:** Trusting members heritage & adoptee community (without parents)



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**Pact, An Adoption Alliance**

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# Questions?

Please enter your questions for Beth Hall  
in the box to your right.



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