

# Adoption Expert Q&A Webinar

## Creating Your Adoption Profile



February 10, 2016

EXPERT:  
**Madeleine Melcher**

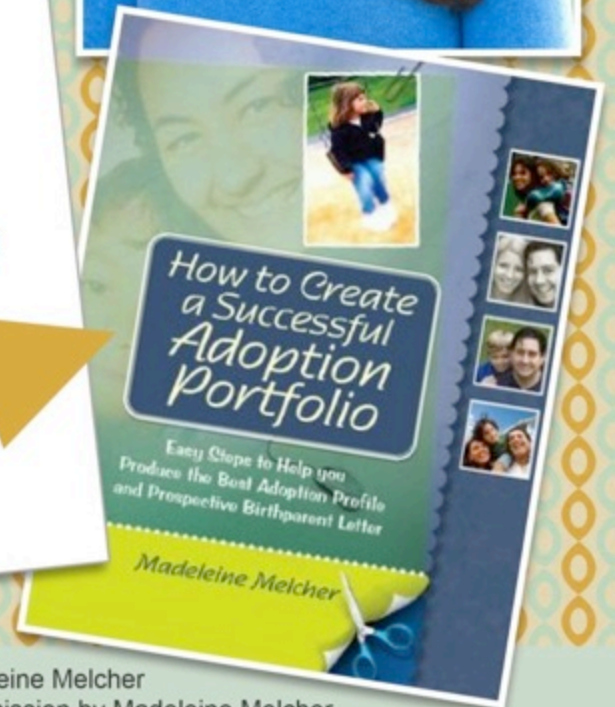
Type your questions in the box to the right >>

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Creating an honest,  
authentic & ethical  
adoption  
profile/portfolio

**PRESENTER:**

- *Madeleine Melcher*  
author of





# I am

an adoptee who  
found my forever family as a toddler



author to 3 adoption related books, including-  
**HOW TO CREATE A SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION PORTFOLIO**



owner and creator at Our Journey to You where I am  
committed to creating honest, ethical and authentic  
adoption portfolios for families hoping to adopt



blogger who has been featured on numerous blogs, including  
the Huffington Post, Portrait of Adoption &  
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption Guest Blog






# What is an adoption portfolio/profile?



{Portfolio samples included in HOW TO CREATE A SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION PORTFOLIO}



# What do you need?

-  - great photos that SHOW something about you and the life you hope to share
-  - meaningful, honest, authentic text
-  - a way to create the profile/portfolio

## deciding what sections/pages to include

- look closely at your agency / attorney guidelines
- think about the things that make up your life and the things you are excited to share with the child you hope to welcome into your family
- remember pages can be everything from home & extended family pages to Disney trip pages and sections for Disney die-hards. Make it YOU!
- check out an extensive list of section examples and how they apply to you in my book,  
**HOW TO CREATE A SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION PORTFOLIO**





*You are the expert!*

No one knows you and all you  
hope to share with a child better  
than you do!

# "Do's" when Choosing photos

- choose a great, real photo for your cover- it IS your 1<sup>st</sup> "hello, nice to meet you"
- choose pictures that show something about you
- choose pictures that evoke a feeling or emotion
- if you do not have pictures of things you do often or hope to share with a child then go take some!



# "Don'ts" when Choosing photos

- avoid using too many pictures with sunglasses
- avoid too many head and shoulder shots that are showing nothing about you
- avoid being someone you are not in an effort to impress
- avoid getting lazy and just throwing things on the page because you already have them

Things to remember when  
writing your portfolio text





HONEST, ETHICAL PROFILE  
CREATION is important-

"Because your adoption  
portfolio/adoption profile should  
show you, with the love and  
honesty that you and the  
expectant parents reading it,  
deserve!"

- madeleine melcher

# HONEST, ETHICAL PROFILE CREATION is important-

“You have to be YOU. You ARE good enough and will be exactly what someone is looking for. If you are not yourself in your profile, you do yourself and all who read it an injustice and begin things with a lie. If we are to make matches with families that REALLY want the same things (which is SO IMPORTANT) then this part is key.”



“All of your story matters...  
honesty and ethics matter...  
you will answer to your child one day.”

*m. melcher*

*You CAN do this!*

No one is a better  
expert on you-  
than you!



Ways to put things together for a print portfolio

**1** by hand

*Ways to put things together for a print portfolio*



using a digital  
scrapbooking  
program



*Ways to put things together for a print portfolio*



have someone like  
me, custom create  
your pages for you

*Ways to put things together for a print portfolio*



4

on-line book creation  
(if you know how to  
make it a portfolio  
and not just a book)



*Ways to put things together for a print portfolio*



Coming:  
Summer 2016,  
my collaboration  
with Shutterfly

One of the questions I get most often-

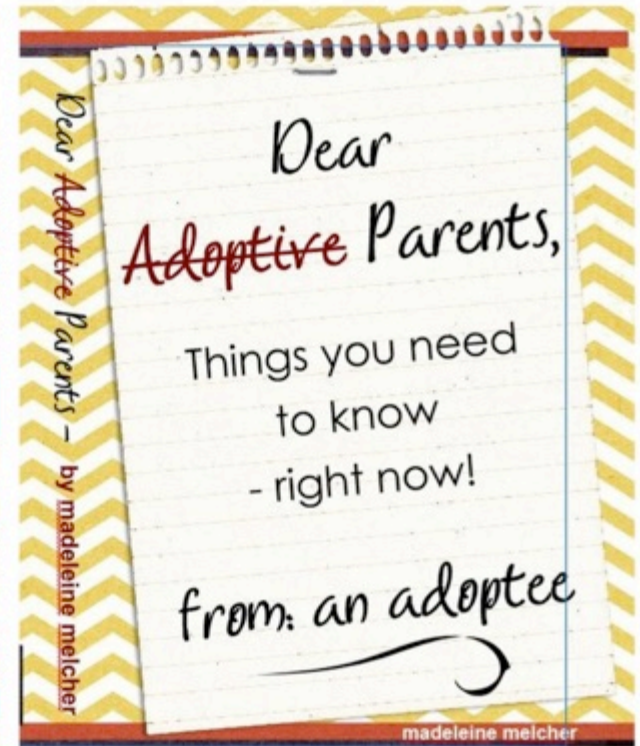
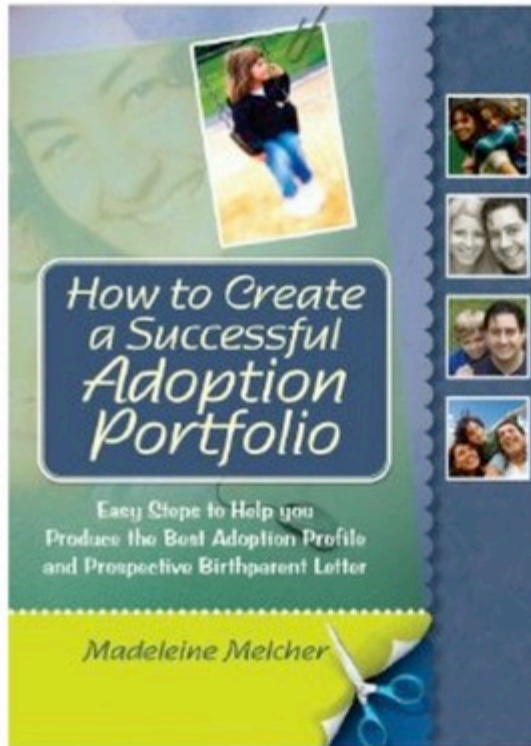


*"What colors should I use?*

*What will expectant parents like best?"*



# Want to hear more? Find my books on amazon today



Q & A





**{ Thank you! }**

**Hope you keep in touch~**

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**Facebook:**

**[www.facebook.com/DearAdoptiveParentsFromAnAdoptee/](http://www.facebook.com/DearAdoptiveParentsFromAnAdoptee/)**

*Digital Elements used in this webinar can be found on SCRAPVINE.com in the "Journal It" collection*



# Questions?

Please enter your questions for Madeleine Melcher in the box to your right.



Please note: Attendance and all questions are confidential.  
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