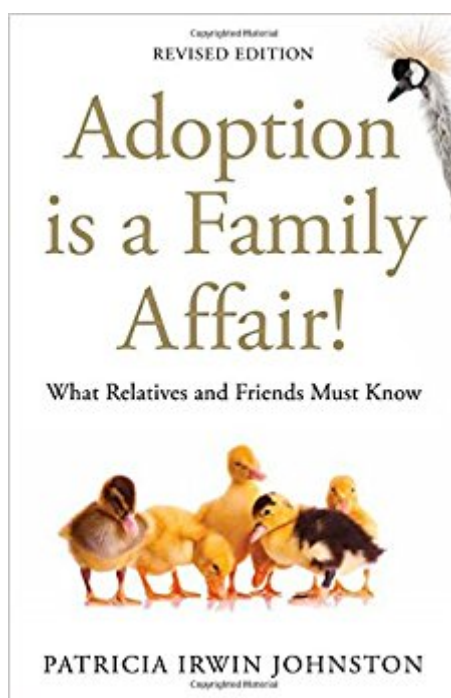


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# Adoption Is A Family Affair!: What Relatives And Friends Must Know, Revised Edition



## Synopsis

A child is coming – whether you approve or not it's time to get with the program! If someone you care about – a family member, co-worker, or close friend – has recently announced that their family will be growing through adoption, you may have questions. After all, unless you have personally experienced adoption, you may know very little about how adoption works and what it means. Are you worried that your loved one may face disappointment? Do you find yourself wondering exactly what your role is going to be in the child's life? Does the term "open adoption" confuse and concern you? Just what are the privacy boundaries for families built by adoption: what is it okay to ask about? *Adoption Is a Family Affair!* will answer all of these questions and more, offering you information about who can adopt, why people consider adopting, how kids understand adoption as they grow up, and more. This short book is crammed full of the 'need to know' information for friends and families that will help to encourage informed, happy and healthy family relationships.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Tired of foolish comments about adoption from your family and friends? If so, *Adoption is a Family Affair* by Pat Johnston was designed for you. This introduction to the pitfalls, misconceptions, and issues around adoption is intended to be a basic "Adoption 101" for your parents or for anyone else new to the idea of adoption. As prospective adoptive parents immerse themselves in the adoption process, they may not have time or patience to explain their new way of thinking and findings to their parents or friends. Sometimes it just feels too overwhelming to correct all of society's common

assumptions and misapprehensions. Pat's emphatic no-nonsense style can be a useful tool toward opening a dialog about these issues which are inherent in adoptive families in our society. Adoption is a Family Affair provides a basic education on the psychological aspects of adoption and the adoption process. ... Adoptive parents and prospective adoptive parents who are coping with "adoptism" (that is, the belief that adoption is a second best way to be a family) will find Adoption is a Family Affair a useful resource. -- Adoption Book Review Newsletter Don't you wish that there was an easy way to explain the how's and why's of adoption to your parents and the other members of your family? Adoption Is a Family Affair will make them feel like they've sat down with a close friend to have a coffee klatsch about adoption. This book's conversational tone and wealth of information will turn them into adoption experts! -- Nebraska Children's Home Society This is a great book covering the basics of adoption. It focuses heavily on discounting myths and misconceptions, and presenting clear explanations of often confusing concepts and practices. A wonderful book for those from whom we need support and encouragement. -- Adoption@About.com's Top Five Books About Adoption Adoption Is A Family Affair! What Relatives And Friends Must Know is specifically written to correct commonly held myths and misconceptions about adoption and adopters. One example is the wide spread myth that people often conceive after adopting because they then "relax" and things just happen naturally. The truth is that only 5% of those who adopt will spontaneously conceive after adopting - the same percentage figure as for those infertile couples who do not adopt! Adoption Is A Family Affair! is very highly recommended reading for prospective adopters, and for their friends and family as well! -- Midwest Book Review/Internet BookWatch This book is designed for grandparents and family members of people going through the process of adoption. It is a short but very helpful guide. Much of the practical information relates to processes in the US, but also briefly covers processes in the UK and other countries... written by people who have experienced the challenges of supporting their children as they go through the adoption process... Each section has recommended further reading, and this book would make an excellent resource as well as a useful gift for the grandparents to be. Youth in Mind

Tired of foolish comments about adoption from your family and friends? If so, Adoption is a Family Affair by Pat Johnston was designed for you. This introduction to the pitfalls, misconceptions, and issues around adoption is intended to be a basic "Adoption 101" for your parents or for anyone else new to the idea of adoption. As prospective adoptive parents immerse themselves in the adoption process, they may not have time or patience to explain their new way of thinking and findings to their parents or friends. Sometimes it just feels too overwhelming to correct all of

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If I could I would give this book less than 1 star. While this book has some good info it is poorly written and has a very negative and condescending tone that I don't think my relatives, who are already struggling to understand why we are adopting, would appreciate. Giving them this book would only make things worse! We are instead going to be sending them "In On It" by Elisabeth O'Toole which can also be found here on . It is a great book! "In on It" has a much more positive

approach and covers the adoption process, privacy issues surrounding adoption, and why positive adoption language is so important. It is an easy read, I read it in about 2 hours, and it covers a lot.

My husband and I are waiting to adopt a newborn domestically and bought this book to give to our parents. I read through it first and found it very negative and will not be giving it to our parents. It often talks down to the family member (intended reader) and was not the encouraging and helpful book I was hoping for. I did find a great book to give to our parents that I recommend - In on it: what adoptive parents would like you to know about adoption.

Great for families and friends of those adopting! I'll recommend it for our closest loved ones, although they can skip the sections about adoption since they don't need to know the whole process. The best part was telling them stupid things people say and what they shouldn't!

As others mentioned, the audience this book is intended for is more the reluctant family member who doesn't support your decision to adopt. Much of it does feel like it's chastizing and the message is "shame on you for not being supportive." That said, we gave it to our family and close friends with the preface that we know they support us but there is a lot of good info in the book, and they all enjoyed it. My mom said it's made her think about a lot of things she had never considered. I think as long as your intended readers know you don't think they need to be chastized, this is a really great short book packed with a lot of info that will get some conversations started.

I was very concerned about some of the reviews of this book, it was either loved or hated. I kept coming back to it and decided to give it a chance. I am so glad I did! This book was insightful not only to the recipient, but to ME! If taken in stride, it needs to be understood that we (the adopters) need to consider where/how and why the feedback is being presented. It might not be packaged nicely and we might be a little sensitive hearing it - but this book worked magic for us. It was just what I had been searching for and did the trick. Everyone is different - I suggest giving the book a try, with an open mind. The content is great, easy to read and contains many informative sections - not presented in only one format or style. If one method does not get through the other does. I loved the scenarios given at the end about the stupid comments people can make - so true! Bless all of you adopters and your family - this is just one more step in our paper pregnancy!!!! Enjoy.

I was a little nervous about giving this book to my mom. She gets offended easily and is hard to

approach about sensitive issues. When we've tried talking about differing views on adoptive parenting it seems to turn out poorly. I'm happy to say that she not only read the book but enjoyed it and passed it on to her sister. I can tell that it has made a difference to her by the way her adoption language has changed and how her method of supporting us during this adoption has changed so drastically from our first.

I read this book myself to see if I wanted to give it to any family to ready, because my husband and I are just beginning the process to become Foster Parents with the option to Adopt. With some of the questions I have received from our families already, I will gladly pass this book on to them to read to help them understand, and possibly see things more from our point of view. It's wonderful and great and covers many different situations.

we gave this book to my parents after we announced we were adopting. my parents voiced a lot of concerns/misinformation about adoption and i thought the book introduced verbage to them that was more sensitive and accurate. it brings family members up to speed in the adoption world. when we first announced we were adopting to family, they had a lot of hesitation and my husband and i were hurt. we then realized that they hadn't been doing months and months of research like we did. i really think this book helped my parents embrace adoption. it does not introduce any genius concepts, but like i said, it really helped introduce words/language that is more accurate and sensitive.

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