

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Dear Adoptive Couple,

Greetings from Michigan State University. This letter has been sent to you on behalf of the School of Social Work. As researchers and advocates for adoptive families, we are inviting you to participate in a research study. The School of Social Work has funding from the federal government to develop pre- and post-adoption trainings for adoptive couples. To make sure these trainings are relevant for adoptive couples, we need your help. More and more adoption professionals believe adoptive families are the “experts” about their own children and their own relationships. We have learned that the most useful trainings contain information based on the day-to-day experiences of adoptive families.

We respectfully ask you to share your unique experiences as an adoptive couple and adoptive parent of one or more children. We would like both you and your partner to answer separately the enclosed questionnaires and mail each back separately. We are interested in hearing from both of you. We understand that only one of you may be interested or able to participate. A questionnaire from only one of you still will be useful. Hearing from both of you is especially important and valuable.

Parents who have adopted often ask us how we are planning to use the information we get. The study will help us decide on the content and focus of the trainings being developed. Trainings will be offered to adoptive couples to enhance their relationships and strengthen their families.



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To protect your privacy, only a summary of combined results from surveys will be published. Your participation is completely voluntary. There is no direct benefit for you if you choose to participate. Likewise, you may choose not to participate at all, or you may refuse to answer certain questions or stop your participation at any time. No harm will come to you if you choose not to participate. You indicate your voluntary agreement to participate in our research study by completing and returning our questionnaire.

We appreciate your time and thank you for your willingness to share some of your experiences as an adoptive couple.

Sincerely yours,

Gary Anderson, PhD, LMSW
Director

Enclosures:

- Two Post-Adoption Questionnaires for Couples
- Two Self-Addressed Return Envelopes