

Welcome to the Resource Site for Jewish Adoption!

Approximately 40,000-50,000 children are adopted in the United States every year. It is difficult to find statistics about how many Jewish people choose to adopt, but according to the Council of Jewish Federations' 1990 National Jewish Population Survey (NJPS), three percent of all Jews in America were adopted. Twenty-five percent of the adopted children came from overseas.

(<http://library.adoption.com/Jewish-Adoption/Jewish-Adoptees/article/1813/1.html>)

More recent data from the 2000-1 NJPS found that just over 5% of Jewish households with children report that an adopted child resides in the home, accounting for approximately 35,000 children in total. In a strong majority of cases, just one child is reported as adopted, and in two-thirds of single-adoption households, the adopted child is the only child in the household.

(http://www.ujc.org/content_display.html?ArticleID=84256)

These numbers indicate that Jewish adoption is on the rise. Luckily, there are many resources for Jewish adoptees, their families and those who are considering adoption.

The most all-inclusive resources on Jewish adoption is Stars of David International, Inc., (www.starsordavid.org). A nonprofit organization, Stars of David provides information, education, support, and networking opportunities to Jewish families before, during and after the completion of the adoption process. In addition to working with adoptive families, Stars of David assists prospective parents, adult adoptees, and birth families. Stars of David has local chapters in 24 states

Some prospective Jewish parents want to adopt Jewish children. The Jewish Children's Adoption Network (<http://www.users.qwest.net/~jcan/>) helps connect Jewish people who are interested in adoption with Rabbis, social workers, agencies, attorneys, and birth families who know of a Jewish child in need of a home. JCAN strives to find a Jewish home for every Jewish child. For more information on JCAN go to <http://www.nacac.org/newsletters/faith/jewish.html>.

Ohel Children's Home and Family Services (www.ohelfamily.org) is a New York based organization that "serves children and adults, individuals and families who are touched by personal challenges". Ohel's services include outpatient family counseling, an adolescent residential program for children who have been abused and/or neglected, programming for victims of domestic violence, substance abuse counseling for teens and adults, and a foster care program that is devoted to finding Jewish foster parents for Jewish children that enters the New York child welfare system. For more information and stories from Ohel's foster care program please see http://www.ohelfamily.org/Articles_Drill.cfm?Art_ID=15 and http://www.ohelfamily.org/Articles_Drill.cfm?Art_ID=38.

The Adoption Information Directory is a product of the Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies. It provides lists of member agencies that offer adoption services. (<http://www.ajfca.org/aid.html>)

The mission of www.JewishAdoption.com, an outgrowth of www.adoption.com, is "To offer a Jewish forum to those touched by adoption that will include adoption education, fellowship, support, resources, and prayer. And to provide a safe place for anyone to share adoption experiences in an environment where prayers are honored and uplifted." JewishAdoption.com provides links to Jewish adoption agencies in the United States and Canada. JewishAdoption.com features articles on various topics surrounding Jewish adoption as well as an online library of adoption articles.

<http://Adoptionforums.com> has a Jewish adoption forum (<http://forums.adoption.com/f535.html>) that allows birth parents, adoptive families, and adoptees to discuss topics in Jewish adoption.

Many Jewish people consider adoption because of infertility. Yahoo.com provides a forum for Jewish individuals dealing with infertility (<http://groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/Jewishfertility>).

Merry Madway Eisenstadt, a staff writer for the Washington Jewish Week has written several articles on Jewish adoption. Topics include single parent adoption, (<http://hometown.aol.com/merryeee/witman.htm>), (<http://hometown.aol.com/merryeee/babykalia.htm>), transracial adoption, (<http://hometown.aol.com/merryeee/smerling.htm>), open adoption (<http://hometown.aol.com/merryeee/smiths.htm>), and adoption and the Jewish community (<http://hometown.aol.com/merryeee/adoption.htm>).

Adoption and the Jewish Family by Shelley Kapnek Rosenberg, is a recent book on Jewish Adoption. And Hannah Wept by Michael Gold discusses the Jewish perspectives on infertility and adoption. To see reviews or to purchase these books got to www.amazon.com.



Web site designer Kalany Rubin with son, Matan.