

THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE OF TRANSRACIAL ADOPTION

Transracial adoption is a sensitive topic, evoking acrimonious debate Twila L. Perry, The Transracial Adoption Controversy: An Analysis of Discourse and.

Kirton found that "minority students were significantly more supportive of same race placements that were their Caucasian counterparts" References Abby, J. At 21, Stacey is thriving in college, well on her way to becoming an early-childhood educator and seamlessly moving between worlds. Race never mattered to the white couple when they set out to adopt, after it became clear they wouldn't be able to bear children on their own. It is not known how much mobility he will have in the future. She says the black community takes in "more children than the whole foster care system does," although Johnson adds that often these arrangements don't have the safeguards and protections legal adoptions provide. The legal requirement to match on race and ethnicity has been based on the premise that research evidence supports matching, though this is not necessarily the case. And this is not simply about black children. By Jessica Ravitz, CNN Impassioned readers weigh in on transracial adoption amid Sandra Bullock news White woman adopted by black mother wouldn't change a thing, despite challenges "Love is not enough," expert says; adoptive parents must make life changes When it comes to kids figuring out identity, "race is just part of it," father says CNN -- "White people adopt black kids to make themselves feel good Baden, A. Strengths of Transracial Adoptions In the field of transracial adoptions there are many strengths. When young teens become pregnant they must be educated on other alternatives. Transracial adoption, despite being successful in many cases, has been shown to be a panacea for other issues within the adoption and welfare systems, such as issues with recruitment of ethnic minority families. Numerous situations in which white parents who have successfully fostered mixed race or ethnic minority children from birth but were denied adoption based on race have been noted in the literature, ensuring lengthy court battles to keep the adoptive families intact. However, in order to prevent a return to a colour-blind approach, a more pragmatic approach is required, with a renewed focus on racial literacy. But that doesn't account for informal arrangements, when relatives take in other family members' children, which is much more common in the black community, says Toni Oliver, vice-president elect of the National Association of Black Social Workers. Though this paper will mainly focus on African American children being adopted by Caucasian parents, there will be some discussion on children of other ethnicities adopted by Caucasians. Racial literacy is defined as an understanding and appreciation of both racial and cultural differences, as well as the realities of racism and discrimination. It would be much more logical to spend money on preventive measures so that neglect would not be a cause to remove children from the household. Alternatives One alternative that social workers have is to become more proactive in the rights of children and biological parents. Seventy-three percent of official adoptions -- including those arranged through foster care, private domestic arrangements and internationally -- are done by whites, according to the survey of adoptive parents. Local authorities have been commendably brave in supporting the adoption of children by gay parents. Transracial adoptions: A 'feel good' act or no 'big deal'? But when, as is so often the case, there are not enough black adopters available, then to continue to emphasise race is cruelly disadvantageous to black children. Average timescales for white children were days, for mixed race children days, for Asian children days and for black children days, suggesting that delay is particularly affecting black children. Section II Project 21 states that social workers have two ways to deal with transracial adoption: 1 children may either remain in foster homes, or 2 the children may be adopted by non-minority couples Of all of the beliefs above stated, none of them have been validated through studies. The outcome of future studies will indicate whether or not if transracial adoptions have a positive or negative effect on children. A brief history of major national adoption trends and North Carolina adoption legislation: ancient history of adoption. This article focuses on transracial adoption but does not explicitly focus on the mixed race experience. However, this is not only something parents of transracially adopted parents must concern themselves with; this is something all parents should make a priority. And they are right to do so, because the evidence is clear that the disadvantage of a child growing up in a home where they are unlikely to share the sexuality of either of their parents is easily overcome. By speaking strongly, the organization helped jolt the system -- although more still needs to be done, she says. It is clear that TRA does produce additional challenges for adoptive parents around identity

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formation, cultural heritages and dealing with racism, therefore ethnicity, race and religion do matter and should be reflected in matching, however a balanced approach to matching is required which avoids reductive racial definitions. Another concern that people have about transracial adoptions is that a parent may not interact with other ethnicities Simon, That's what I mean when I talk sometimes about an obsession with ethnicity. It was not until that the rules governing any adoptions became more rigid in the U. They must also be willing to have their child interact with large groups of ethnicities.