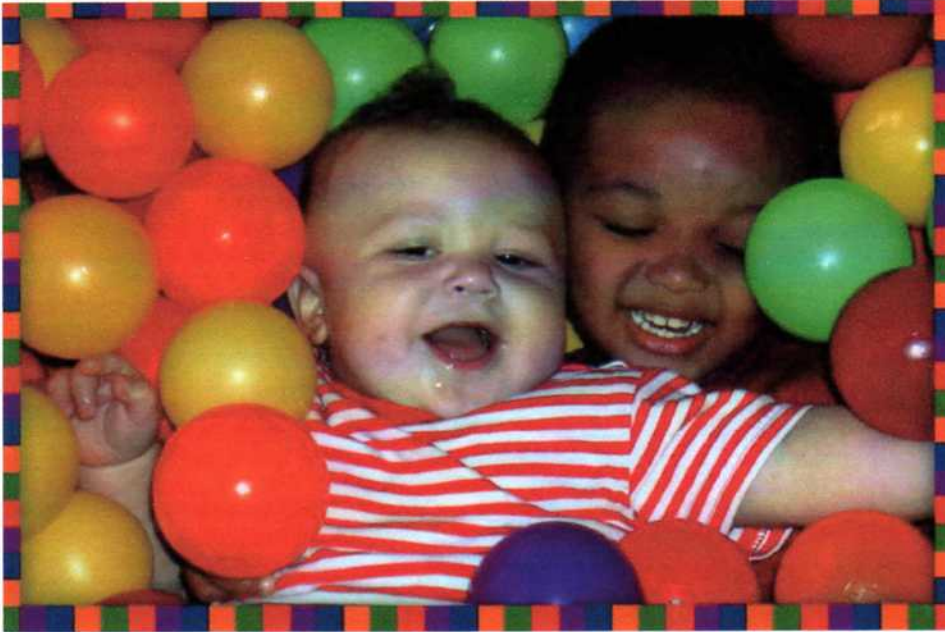




Transitions' Newsletter



Our Survey Results!

Thank you very much for participating in last year's survey!

We have gathered and compiled the results, and found some very interesting information. We are happy to present the results to you here, based upon your answers to our survey:

62% of potential birth mothers go through with an adoption.

48% of the time, a social worker is the first person to talk with a woman about adoption.

77% of survey responders and **21%** are 19-21. saw the same number of adoptions in 2004 and 2005.

80% of responders see zero to five adoptions per year.

38% of birthmothers are aged 22-25. **24%** of birth mothers are 16-18,



92% of the time birth mothers want to see their baby after birth.

76% of the time birth mothers choose to have an open adoption.

73% of responders said that birthfathers are involved zero to twenty-five percent of the time. .

Transitions Adoption Agency

Director: Debra Fox

Counselor:
Whitney Huston

Social Workers:
Debbie Meloni
Cathy McNally

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Transitions' Philosophy

We believe that all birth mothers regardless of the color of their skin, their background, or circumstances, should have access to the adoption process if that is their desire. We believe that all birth mothers deserve respect, privacy and counseling that is non-judgmental. We maintain strict confidentiality in all matters pertaining to adoption.

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A Letter from the Director

Dear Friends,,

When a birth mother who recently placed her baby for adoption asked us to help her investigate obtaining a protection from abuse order against her boyfriend, she had questions that went beyond adoption. By the same token, when a prospective adoptive mother told us she was curious about the possibility of breast feeding her adopted child, and wanted to know where to turn, we realized our adoption expertise alone could not help her answer these questions. Every day birth mothers, adoptive parents, and social workers struggle with issues that can be difficult to navigate. That is one of the reasons we decided to create a website for our agency. We wanted to direct people to a user-

friendly site that could help them find answers to some of the issues they were contending with.

Our website is "Transitionsadoption.com" and we hope that all of you who receive this newsletter will pay us a visit, if only to see the resources we have put together on our links site. You will see that we can link you to everything from domestic violence programs, to medical insurance assistance, to shelters, women's health centers and drug addiction assistance.

We know that the social workers we come into contact with are aware of many of these resources, but we hope that they can view our website as a single trusted place where much of what they need is at their fingertips. And, if it isn't, we would welcome them to suggest areas that need development, or share with us sites that they have

found particularly useful.

Recently we placed for adoption a child born with spina bifida. The adoptive mother was able to use our website to quickly provide her with the number of a person who could help her find a physical therapist for her child.

We at Transitions feel that if we simply give adoptive related information, we are not doing enough. If a birth mother has made an adoption plan, but has no place to live during her pregnancy, then we are of little help to her. We want to feel that the job we are doing is complete. We want the people we work with to know that we are on their team.

Stay well,

Debbie Fox
Director

Statistics and Figures

The National Adoption Clearing House is an amazing resource for adoption information. The graph below can be found on their website (www.naic.acf.hhs.gov), in an article that describes the trends and statistics of women who place babies for adoption in the

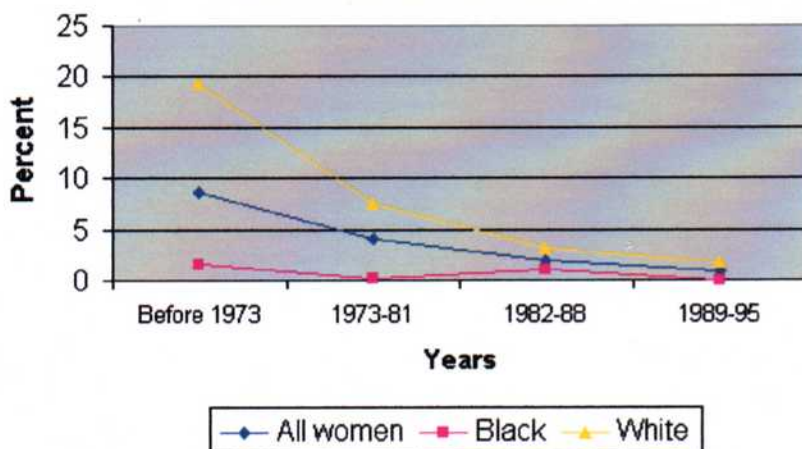
United States. This article states that approximately 1% of women who have never been married place babies for adoption. Statistics are not available for women who are married, or who were married, because they place babies even less frequently.

The chart below is very



Figure 1.
Percent of Infants Relinquished for Adoption by Never-Married Women Under 45 Years

Source: Chandra et al. (1999)



interesting. It shows adoption placement trends over a twenty year span. Black women have placed children for adoption about 1% of the time, until recently when the number has dropped to almost zero. The incidence of white women placing babies for adoption has dramatically decreased. Where thirty years ago, never married women placed 20 % of the time, now they place about 1.7% of the time.

