



OPEN ARMS  
ADOPTIONS

[info@openarmsadopt.com](mailto:info@openarmsadopt.com)

[openarmsadopt.com](http://openarmsadopt.com)



There is a lot of misinformation and many ill-conceived preconceptions surrounding adoption. Part of our work at Open Arms Adoptions is to dispel those myths. Adoption is about ensuring every child has a family and a permanent place to call home.

Our mission is to provide a loving, stable home to every child in need. We work tirelessly to create an environment that embraces the unique set of circumstances each of our birth parents, prospective adoptive parents and children bring to us. Our goal is to create families who can successfully meet the long term needs of our nation's unseen children.

Through educating the community not only about the need to adopt, but also about the facts of the adoption process, we work to fulfill our mission.



Northern Ohio  
11 River Street, Ste. B  
Kent OH 44240  
330-697-4751

Central Ohio  
11 North High Street  
Canal Winchester, OH 43110  
614-349-1510

[info@openarmsadopt.com](mailto:info@openarmsadopt.com)    [openarmsadopt.com](http://openarmsadopt.com)

## **MYTH 1. ADOPTION FROM FOSTER CARE IS EXPENSIVE**

While there are some upfront costs, overall, adopting from foster is not as expensive as many people think. Costs for training may be reimbursed to the adoptive families. Subsidies are also provided for most children until they are 18 or 21. Obtaining funding for college for older children is more accessible as well. Adoption is not just for the wealthy.

## **MYTH 2. FOSTER CARE KIDS ARE “BAD KIDS”**

Children end up in foster care because they have suffered a tragic loss. Whether their parents died, or were unable to retain custody due to abuse, neglect or other reasons, it is not the child's fault they are in foster care. These children have experienced the trauma of loss and fear that comes with having to start life over with strangers in a strange home. While adoptive parents will have some issues because of the resultant trauma with their children, all parents face behavioral or emotional issues with their children at some point. No child is unadoptable.

Many children go unadopted and age out of the system without ever having a permanent home or family to go back to for support. Sadly, research has shown that children who age out of the system rather than get adopted are at higher risk of committing crimes, being homeless, being unemployed, or end up parents at young ages themselves.

## **MYTH 3. ADOPTION TAKES FOREVER**

Adoption is a process, as it should be, to ensure the children are going to safe and secure homes. There are rules that have to be followed, home studies conducted, training hour requirements, and necessary waiting periods. However, there are things that can be done to speed up an adoption. If the adoptive parent(s) are open to adopting regardless of the age, gender, or race of the child, matching them to a child or children is a faster process. If the parents are very specific regarding age range, one gender over another, and/or the ethnicity of the child, then matching them with a child or children that fit all the criteria will take longer.

Infant adoption will take longer than adoption from foster care. The number of women that are choosing to place their child for adoption has been decreasing each year. Adoptive families can be on an infant adoption waiting list for 2-3 years, sometimes longer.

## **MYTH 4. I HAVE TO BE MARRIED TO ADOPT**

Nope! Single people are just as capable of adoption as married couples. As long as you are financially stable, complete the home study process, attend the trainings, and are willing to provide a safe and loving home for your adopted child, you do not have to be married. There are some agencies that may not choose to work with you, but there is no legal requirement of marriage. Open Arms Adoptions works with single people to make their dream of having a family a reality.

## **MYTH 5. GAY AND LESBIAN COUPLES CAN'T ADOPT**

Gay and lesbian couples can adopt. While there are agencies that are choosing not to work with gay and lesbian couples, there is no law saying that they are unable to adopt. Open Arms Adoptions has worked with gay and lesbian couples and we firmly believe that every family who wants to adopt and can, should be able to. As a nonprofit, we do not discriminate.

## **MYTH 6. ADOPTING WON'T BE THE SAME AS HAVING A BIOLOGICAL CHILD**

Different doesn't always mean better! Adopting a child is not the same as having a biological child, but is just as rewarding. You still have to love the child unconditionally, teach them responsibility, support their endeavors and dreams, and be there for them through good and bad times. You still get the baseball games or dance classes, family vacations, helping with homework, making sure they do their chores, and everything parenting entails. .

## **MYTH 7. I'M TOO OLD TO ADOPT**

Probably not. Many people in their 50s are adopting more and more today! Becoming pregnant later in life can be risky or may not even be an option. Adoption can help people have the family they want.

## **MYTH 8. THE BIOLOGICAL PARENTS CAN "RECLAIM" THEM**

The adoptable children in foster care have already had parental rights terminated. Once those rights are terminated, biological parents cannot come back and try to take the child. The law provides to adoptive parents the same rights of custody as biological parents would have. Adoption is permanent and it always should be viewed as a life-long commitment.

## **MYTH 9. FAMILIES THAT ADOPT SIBLINGS HAVE MORE PROBLEMS**

Adopting siblings together is in the best interest of the children. More problems will occur if the children are adopted separately, or if one is adopted and the others remain in foster care. It is best for the children to stay together. Children adopted separately are at greater risk of emotional and developmental problems.

## **MYTH 10. IF I WANT TO ADOPT SIBLINGS, I HAVE TO ADOPT 4 OR MORE**

This is not a requirement. There are many sibling groups of 2 and 3 available for adoption.

Are you ready to start your adoption journey?

Text or call 330-697-4751 or 614-349-1510

Visit [openarmsadopt.com](http://openarmsadopt.com)

Email [info@openarmsadopt.com](mailto:info@openarmsadopt.com)

