

Adoption and Networking
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- 1) Adoption networking: when prospective adoptive-family comes into contact with birth-parents by telling others of their plans to adopt.
- 2) Sources to network with;
 - a) Family, friends and co-workers
 - b) Email
 - c) Web sites
 - d) Newspaper
 - e) Church or community groups
 - f) Hospitals/doctors
 - g) Social workers
 - h) Book-of-letters
 - i) School guidance counselors
 - j) Etc...
- 3) Decide how widespread information should reach.
 - a) The more comprehensive the list, the better the odds.
 - b) The farther-reaching, the less interest will be encountered and the less control is retained, but odds are dramatically increased.
 - c) Only you can decide how much you want to "bare the soul".
- 4) Write the letter of introduction.
 - a) Should be mini bio of all family members.
 - b) Recommend 1-2 page letter. Longer letters run risk of losing readers attention.
 - c) "1 picture is worth 1000 words". Include a casual photo to give the prospective birth-parent a starting point.
- 5) Send out letter to all networking contacts.
 - a) Email is great tool.
 - b) Numerous web sites available to assist in letter writing.
 - c) Request all contacts to forward letter to their RELIABLE contacts.
 - d) Be alert for phishing responses.
- 6) Remember, networking is only one tool. Don't omit this step, but also don't rely solely on this method.

Adoption networking card
<http://networking.adoption.com/>