

**ADOPTION HORIZONS  
PERSONAL STATEMENT GUIDELINES**

**Fill out a cover sheet for EACH PERSON**

Each adoptive parent should complete the personal statement questions and attach the appropriate cover sheet to the section returned. Section A should be completed and turned in 1 week before the homestudy begins. Section B is to be turned in at the first visit. The next sections are to be turned in, in order at the following visits.

Responses are to be in narrative form, expressing your feelings, impressions and reactions to people and events. It is important that there be completeness to your responses. If there is an event or part of your life that is important and/or relevant which is not elicited by this guide, please include it.

The purposes of sharing this personal information about yourself are two-fold. One, it will open dialogue as to how you were raised and what your values and experiences are, and two, it will help your social worker to know you better and to better be able to understand what it is really like to be a part of your family. This will be useful in finding the child who best fits your family. At the same time, you may also find that these topics are thought provoking and may be of help to you in clarifying what now seems important to you as you consider adoption. There are no right or wrong answers.

This is your opportunity to impact your own homestudy because many of these topics are addressed in the study and may be discussed with you later. If you have any difficulty writing about any particular item or are limited from writing, you have the option of using a tape recorder or setting a personal meeting above the regular homestudy contacts.

This personal statement is divided into 4 sections. Staple the cover sheet to the section you are turning in. Please title the section you're writing about. If you hand write, please use black ink and make sure the text is both readable and copies clearly. Make a copy of each section of your personal statement for your own records.

Please make a note of the dates you turn in your personal statements to your social worker to Adoption Horizons and keep for your records.

Male Applicant

Female Applicant

Section A Turned in On: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Section B Turned in On: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Section C Turned in On: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Section D Turned in On: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PERSONAL STATEMENTS  
SECTION COVERSHEET

Section:  A       C       D

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Worker: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*NOTE\*\***

See the following page for the Section B coversheet

## SECTION A

### 1. Motivation to Adopt:

Describe the following:

- a. How did you first become interested in adoption? What are your reasons for adopting?
- b. Why have you decided to work with Adoption Horizons?
- c. If you have children in your family, how do the children now feel about your plans to adopt? How do your children and extended family feel about your plans to adopt a special needs child or foreign-born child?
- d. How do you expect your family, friends, neighbors, community to receive this new child? What kind of advance preparation are you doing?
- e. What do you and your family feel that you can contribute to the new child in your family? How will you develop an awareness and appreciation of his or her uniqueness?
- f. After doing your preliminary work with Adoption Horizons, do you view adoption differently?
- g. Could you be an adoptive parent to a child of any race? Why or why not?
- h. If you want a foreign or special needs child, why?
- i. If adopting a foreign born child, how important is preserving the child's cultural heritage, and how would you plan to do so?
- j. What contact have you had with persons of other backgrounds from your own?
- k. What contact have you had with persons who have either adopted for are adopted?
- l. Describe the hopes and dreams you have for your child.

### 2. Your Child's View on Adoption:

- a. Do you think adopted children feel differently?
- b. How will you help your child adjust with their adoption issues?
- c. Do you think children of different ethnicity from their families have a harder time with adoption or racial issues?
- d. How will you tell your child about adoption?
- e. How will you tell them about their background information?