

Conspicuous Families: Race, Culture and Adoption

A Discussion Guide

1. Facing Society's Racial Stereotypes

- a. What thought had you given to how society's racial stereotypes will affect you and your adopted child?
- b. This lesson talks about the importance of not being "color blind" but "color aware."
 - i. What do you see as the difference between the two?
 - ii. How do you think you will make your child "color aware" and not have her be hurt by negative cultural stereotypes?

2. Handling Intrusive Comments

- a. This lesson offers three different types of answers to intrusive questions: Informational; Humorous; and Privacy Guarding.
 - i. What type of answer did you choose most often? Why?
- b. When you answer intrusive questions, it's important to consider what your child hears.
 - i. How do you plan to protect your child while still giving the kind of answer that feels most comfortable for you?

3. Becoming a Multiracial Family

- a. Prior to taking this lesson, what importance did you place on the diversity (or lack of it) in your everyday life?
- b. How do you plan to embrace your child's racial/ethnic identity as well as your own?

