

Subject: Identity and Race - Resources & Free Booklet

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Race and Identity Resources for Adoptive Families

The following collection of resources was originally compiled by Allison Branscombe, Newsletter Editor for FCC Northern California.

For our Spring 2008 FCC newsletter, I put together some resources on identity and race. For those who will not be receiving the newsletter, here is a summary. You may forward this email, with attribution. Thanks.

Allison Branscombe
Families with Children from China
Northern California
Newsletter Editor

The first four resources were recommended to me by Deborah Johnson, Korean adoptee and therapist.

"Children Who Care, Educating Your Children About Human Rights"

A terrific booklet for teachers and parents; beautifully illustrated by kids. Give a copy to your child's teachers. **You can download it for free**. It is 30 pages (last 5 pages are sources, recommended reading for adults and kids, etc.)

Showing how to teach children about kindness, fairness, tolerance, empathy, prejudice, stereotypes, discrimination, the adverse impacts of discrimination, and more. Includes teaching techniques, curricula basics, and more. [Download and Print Here](#)

"Racism Explained to My Daughter"Tahar Ben Jelloun.

This international best seller has been translated into 20 languages, written in a simple question and answer format for having dialogue with our kids. [View More Here](#)

Hate Hurts: How Children Learn and Unlearn Prejudice

Anti-Defamation League, Caryl Stern-LaRosa, and Ellen Hofheimer-Bettmann. 2000. The book includes true stories that show how to respond to children of all ages who have been the initiator or the object of hateful words and actions. Barbara Mackoff says: Parents and teachers could not wish for a wiser guide to confront and conquer prejudice in our children and ourselves. [View More Here](#)

Is Lighter Better? Skin-Tone Discrimination Among Asian Americans

2006 - Joanne L. Rondilla and Paul Spickard, editors. Deborah Johnson, Korean adoptee and therapist, ranks this book highly for our parents to gain insight into what our children will face. [View More Here](#)

Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?

A Psychologist Explains the Development of Racial Identity. Beverly Tatum. 2003. Recommended by PACT, this book explains ways kids develop positive racial identity and racial pride. [View More Here](#)

Books for kids:

All the Colors We Are: The Story of How We Get Our Skin Color

Kate Kissinger and Wernher Krutein. 1994. Explains why people have different skin (pigmentation) colors in a kid-friendly, scientific way that is developmentally appropriate. Ages 4-8. 32 pgs. [View More Here](#) - Related: [Lesson Plan Ideas](#)

Happy Babies

Jan Palmer. 1994. A board book with a sweet sing song poem, introducing babies of all races delightedly interacting in their daily activities of eating, playing, having a bath, and more. Ages 0-3. 12 pgs. ISBN 9780307061454 (We were unable to locate this at an online retailer, but suggest checking with your local library

.)

Let's Talk About Race

Julius Lester. 2005. With stunningly imaginative drawings, this book draws kids in to think and talk about what makes us different and what makes us the same. Ages 4-9. 32 pgs. [View More Here](#)

Under Our Skin: Kids Talk About Race

Debbie Holsclaw Birdseye and Tom Birdseye. Six middle schoolers of different ethnicities (including Chinese) share their thoughts on what role race has played in their lives. Great for discussion starters. Ages 9-14. 32 pgs. [View More Here](#)

For Parents of Asian/non-Euroamerican Kids

Adult Adoptees Share

In Their Own Voices: Transracial Adoptees Tell Their Stories

Rita J. Simon and Rhonda M. Roorda, Editors. 2000. Interviews with 25 adult adoptees sharing their experiences around identity, culture, race and more. Recommended as THE book all adoptive parents of kids of color must have on their bookshelf. [View More Here](#)

Outsiders Within: Writing on Transracial Adoption.

Jane Jeong Trenka, Julia Oparah and Sun Yung Shin, Editors. 2006 30 personal essays by transracial adoptees offer an eye-opening

perspective on the "power differences between white people and people of color, the rich and the poor, the more or less empowered in adoption circles" and the sense of loss and limbo that individual adoptees may feel. [View More Here](#)

Adoptive Parents Share

A Euro-American on a Korean Tour at a Thai Restaurant in China

Chris Winston. 2006. All about each person's perspective, explored from an adoptive parent's view, with intensely revealing insights from her children about racism, identity, and connecting to Korea, their birth country. [View More Here](#)

Inside Transracial Adoption

Gail Steinberg and Beth Hall. 2000. Great insight, tools and information on parenting strategies for families that don't match. How race matters to kids; how to talk with your kids, other people's kids and adults about this topic. [View More Here](#)

Asian American Identity

Asian American Dreams

Helen Zia. 2001. Of journalist and activist Zia, PACT writes: "This is the best book we have found to give an overview of the Asian American experience." [View More Here](#)

Fifth Chinese Daughter

Jade Snow Wong. 1945, 1989. For teens and adults, a very readable coming of age autobiography by a Chinese American woman. With lots of insight into racial and cultural identity, discrimination, and strategies for gaining success in a white dominated culture. [View More Here](#)

Yell-Oh Girls: Emerging Voices Explore Culture, Identity and Growing Up Asian American

Vickie Nam, editor. In this amazing and memorable anthology, Asian American teens and young adults share their insights, challenges and emotions about on growing up. [View More Here](#)

Yellow: Race in America, Beyond Black and White

Frank H. Wu. 2002. Wu examines societal assumptions about race and being Asian American in this highly recommended, cogent, articulate and insightful volume. [View More Here](#)

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