Positive Adoption Language

Terms to Avoid	Preferred Terminology
Real Parents Natural Parents	Pre-placement-Expectant Parents Post-placement- Birth Parents Biological Parents
Real Children Natural Children Children of Your Own	Biological Children
Give Up Adoption Put Up for Adoption Adopt Out	Placed for Adoption Made an Adoption Plan
Available Children	Children Awaiting Adoption
Foreign Adoption	International Adoption
Hard to Place Children	Waiting Children
Mixed	Biracial
Biracial Family	Transracial Family
Handicapped	Disabled
This child is adopted.	This child was adopted.
Adopted Child	Child