

Adoption Issues in the Admissions Process

This workshop provides adoption competency training to school counselors, college admissions officers, and/or independent educational consultants.

Students who joined their families through adoption may find that the college process brings adoption-related issues to the surface.

Admissions professionals with little or no personal experience with adoption are invited to learn about respectful adoption language and an overview of developmental adoption theory, with an emphasis on the ways to support adoptees through this journey.

We will talk about:

- the value of respectful adoption language and examples of appropriate adoption terminology
- developmental stages of adoption as they relate to adolescents and young adults and the transition from home to college
- areas of the admissions process that might be triggers for students who joined their families through adoption
- why and in what context students might choose to disclose adoption in the college process - and why and when NOT to disclose

Speaker/Moderator: Debbie Schwartz is an Independent Educational Consultant advising students and families on the college admissions process. She is also the founder/director of Forever Families Weekend, a program for Jewish families touched by adoption. She was the Program Coordinator for Adoption Connection at Jewish Family Service of Greenwich (CT) and has served on the board of the Adoptive Parents Committee, Inc. Debbie was a 2010 recipient of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Angel in Adoption Award for her work with pre- and post-adoptive families. While working in admissions for Yale, Debbie interviewed both U.S. and international applicants, reviewed applications, and participated in admissions committee meetings. She and her husband are parents to a college student and a high school student, both of whom joined their family through adoption.

For more information or to schedule a workshop for your organization, please email debbie.schwartz@dscollegeconsulting.com or phone (914) 768-3722.