

# ASK SUPERNANNY: WHAT EVERY PARENT WANTS TO KNOW Read Free



- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Jo Frost  
224 pages  
19 Sep 2006  
Hyperion  
9781401308643  
English  
New York, United States



Horrible mornings followed by magical afternoons followed by so-so evenings. All the coffee. This post was originally published on raisemagazine. Learn more and join us! Because we're all in this together. [Log in](#) [Edit Profile](#) [Log Out](#). On her best day, any woman whose child is in the hospital is shitty. If you're an adoptive parent, chances are you've heard all or some of these questions. Neighbors, strangers, friends, and yes, even family, may mean well, but their remarks can really grate on adoptive families.

Often, non-adoptive parents don't even realize they're asking intrusive questions. The answers to your questions are going to be framed using these basic points about adoption. Unless you are part of an adoptive family yourself or know adoptive parents, you probably aren't familiar with words that connote positive adoption feelings. Certain phrases and questions can imply that an adoptive family is inferior. So that you can tell which statements might be considered mettlesome to an adoptive parent, here's an adoption etiquette primer. Foremost, details about adoption belong to the family. When talking to adoptive families, respect their privacy. Be careful what you ask, especially if the adopted child is nearby. You don't have the right to know how much the parents paid for the child, the circumstances leading up to the adoption, or the names of the biological parents. You can ask what country the child was adopted from, how old he is, for example.

Remember that sometimes an adoptive parent doesn't divulge information with his child about the adoption of his sibling until the children are old enough to grasp the family history. Accept that doctors, family members, baby-sitters, and teachers all deserve and will require more detailed information than you will or might receive. Ninety-two percent of adoptive parents have been called "saints," says author David A. Even such praise can be unsettling. If parents are "special" for adopting, it implies that it takes an extraordinary person to take on an unlovable child, a charity case. Use what the experts call "positive adoption language."

Isn't the real mother the one who changes diapers, cares for an ill child, and drives him to school? If the biological mother is called "real," then is the adoptive mother "fake"? To ensure a loving home for a child she could not bring up herself. You may think this is a compliment, but it can put an unreasonable burden on a child: Because she was chosen, she has to be perfect to be worthy. Besides, it's not truthful -- the adoptive parents were chosen over other applicants. Be careful that you don't insinuate that adoptive families aren't as good as other families.

Realize that the media often portrays birth mothers as teenage runaways and regards adoption as "second-best" parenting. Perhaps if I had opened up sooner, I could have accepted some help a lot sooner too. But I felt barriers that only slowly went away -- at least in my situation. Today, none of us have to go through any of that because help is readily available. Help is really just a click away, no matter who you are and where you live and work. The only barrier is you willing to accept it. Open up and accept help. I appreciate the help. Latest Video Start A Business. Work-Life Balance. Next Article -- [shares link](#) [Add to Queue](#). Image credit: Pexels. Jim Joseph. September 2, 4 min read. Opinions expressed by Entrepreneur contributors are their own.

[Van fan tot fanclub](#)  
[PMC Next](#)  
[Puur Italiaans](#)  
[Software Engineering](#)