



**National Resource Center for
Permanency and Family Connections**
Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College



NRCPFC and T&TA Network Resources for Child Welfare Professionals Working with LGBT-Headed Resource Families

- **Recruiting and Retaining LGBT Foster, Adoptive, and Kinship Families**
This publication provides an introduction to the topic of LGBT people as a resource in the child welfare system, followed by a discussion of strategies for recruiting and engaging LGBT resource families. This resource outlines specific steps that agencies can take to be inclusive and affirming of LGBT resource families and provides additional resources. It was developed collaboratively by the National Resource Center for Adoption, the National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections, and the National Resource Center for Recruitment and Retention of Foster and Adoptive Parents at AdoptUSKids. (2012)
<http://adoptuskids.org/assets/files/NRCRRFAP/resources/recruiting-and-retaining-lgbt-foster-and-adoptive-families.pdf>
- **Working with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Families in Adoption**
This bulletin from Child Welfare Information Gateway helps child welfare professionals build their skills for working effectively and culturally competently with LGBT prospective adoptive parents. It examines issues, laws, and policies on LGBT families in adoption. (2011)
http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/f_profbulletin/f_profbulletin.pdf
- **Permanency Planning Today: Inclusive Practice with LGBT Resource Families**
This issue of NRCPFC's newsletter, Permanency Planning Today, focuses on inclusive practice with LGBT resource families. It features interviews with Ellen Kahn from the Human Rights Campaign's All Children—All Families Initiative; Terry Boggis from Center Kids, Center Families at New York City's LGBTQ Community Center; Joe, an adoptive father and member of the LGBTQ community; and, Diane Wagner, Division Chief, County of Los Angeles Department of Children & Family Services, Adoption & Permanency Resources. (2010)
<http://www.nrcpfc.org/newsletter/ppt-summer-2010.pdf>
- **NRCPFC Information Packet: LGBT Foster and Adoptive Parenting**
This NRCPFC information packet, by Teija Sudol, provides a summary of LGBT foster and adoptive parenting issues, facts and statistics, an overview of policies and legislation, best practices and promising approaches, and a listing of online resources. (2010)
http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/info_services/download/TSudol_LGBT%20Issues_InfoPacket.pdf
- **Assessing Lesbian and Gay Prospective Foster and Adoptive Families: A Focus on the Homestudy Process**
This article, by Dr. Gerald Mallon, draws on research literature, practice wisdom from 34 years of child welfare experience, and case examples. It offers child welfare professionals guidelines for competent assessment with gay and lesbian prospective foster or adoptive parents. (2007)
http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/info_services/LGBT%20homestudies.pdf

For additional resources on LGBTQ Issues and Child Welfare, visit the NRCPFC website at:
http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/info_services/lgbtq-issues-and-child-welfare.html



Resources for LGBT-Headed Resource Families and their Children

- **Frequently Asked Questions from Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Prospective Foster and Adoptive Parents**
This factsheet from the Child Welfare Information Gateway answers questions that many prospective lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT) parents ask. (2011)
http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/faq_lgbt.pdf
- **Let's Get This Straight: The Ultimate Handbook for Youth with LGBTQ Parents**
This resource from COLAGE reaches out to young people with one or more gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or queer parents to provide tools to combat homophobia, take pride in their alternative family structures, and speak out against injustice. This short book profiles 45 diverse youth and young adults, all of whom voice their opinions and provide advice for other youth living in LGBTQ households. This book also includes probing questions, fun activities, engaging quizzes, and reflective journal sections for youth to share their feelings and experiences about having a gay parent. (Available for purchase.)
<http://www.colage.org/featured/letsgetthisstraight/>
- **Coming Out to Your Kids**
This resource from COLAGE states that it is never too early or too late to come out to your children. It offers tips to help parents sensitively approach coming out to their children.
<http://www.colage.org/resources/coming-out-to-your-kids/>
- **Talking to Children About Our Families**
The Family Equality Council created this guide to help parents discuss their family structures with their child/children in an age-appropriate way. The information provided in this resource is divided into developmental stages based on the types of needs children have at different ages. It is intended to support parents in responding to their children's (spoken and unspoken) questions as they come to understand who they are in the context of their family and who their family is in the context of their community.
http://www.familyequality.org/_asset/x8mxv5/talkingtochildren.pdf
- **LGBTQ Family Friendly Children's Book List**
This book list is divided into sections according to children's ages, and also into categories (such as books featuring LGBTQ families, single fathers, or single mothers, as well as books about AIDS, sexual identity and positive self-image, and history). It is available on the Family Equality Council website.
http://www.familyequality.org/_asset/70xxn9/booklist.pdf