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# In On It: What Adoptive Parents Would Like You To Know About Adoption. A Guide For Relatives And Friends. (Momâ€™s Choice Award Winner)





## Synopsis

One adoption social worker called *In On It* "the adoption book for everyone else": the grandparents and friends, neighbors and colleagues, aunts and uncles, teachers and caregivers of adoptive families. *In On It* contains helpful advice and instructive anecdotes from adoptive parents, adult adoptees, adoption professionals, and the friends and relatives of already established adoptive families. The author, an adoptive parent herself, has written an informative, friendly and very useful adoption guide that informs and enlightens readers even as it offers them a warm welcome into adoption.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Grandparents, siblings, friends, and so many others play vital roles in all families. But we haven't always recognized how significant they can be – in special ways – when the family is formed through adoption. *In On It* is important because it affirms that significance, and celebrates it, even as the book offers valuable insights and practical advice. Adoptive parents will want to read it – and the people close to them really should. Adam Pertman, Executive Director of the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute and author of *Adoption Nation* "A guide for those who love the parents of adopted kids that is wise, embracing, comforting and useful. It sees beyond the natural defensiveness of those of us who've learned so very much through our adoption journey, and helps our friends and families, the ones who will love our children along with us, let go of what poignantly is not and take the hand of what gloriously is - Jacquelyn Mitchard, author of *The Deep End of the Ocean* and *No Time to Wave Goodbye* Thoughtful and engaging, O'Toole here offers up

easy-to-read practical advice for close friends and loved ones of a newly adoptive family. Her insights brilliantly compile the extensive current literature and thinking on adoption, yet all the while O'Toole maintains a supportive, conversant style. Adoptive parents will want a copy for every grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin and friend who are about to be "in on it." - Kate St. Vincent Vogl, speaker at national and international adoption conventions, author of *Lost & Found: A Memoir of Mothers* Excellent. Practical and sensitive wisdom for anyone supporting a loved one's adoption process. --- Corrie L. Wold, MSW, LISW, Information and Education Director, Children's Home Society and Family Services, Minneapolis Elisabeth O'Toole addresses the complex and emotional experience of adoption with humor and respect, opening a path for friends and relatives to become insiders to the process. *In On It* is a well-written resource for people who want to support their loved ones, but aren't always sure what to do or say. This book will remain on my recommended reading list for adoptive families and their friends. --- Janna Annest, adoptive parent and adoption law columnist, *Adoptive Families Magazine* Elisabeth O'Toole's clear, insightful, and comprehensive guide to adoption is written expressly for and to a readership generally overlooked: the extended family and friends of new adoptive parents. Grandparents and neighbors anxious about what to say or do will be heartened by this fine book's conversational tone and generous spirit. They'd be wise to accept the welcome into "the adoption circle" that *In On It* extends. And adoptive families will be glad they cared enough to read it.---- Cheri Register, author of "Are Those Kids Yours?" *American Families with Children Adopted from Other Countries* and *Beyond Good Intentions: A Mother Reflects on Raising Internationally Adopted Children*. "When someone you care about decides to adopt, you become part of the circle, too." With that perspective, this warm guide for friends and family sheds light on what the process is like for your loved ones, and how you can support them along the way. This is a great resource to offer when you share the news that you're adopting. -- *Adoptive Families Magazine*. This is THE GIFT for your friends and family so they can understand and support your adoption journey. All I can say is that we are very lucky that Elisabeth O'Toole wrote this book because she really gets what this experience is all about, and coaches those you love to get it too. -- Joni Mantell, Executive Director, The Infertility and Adoption Counseling Center *In On It* is a great way to help friends and family better support and understand the adoption process. I love it. If you have someone in your life who is adopting, you should read it. -- Kristin Howerton, blogger, *Rage Against The Minivan*.

Elisabeth O Toole is a writer and mother of three children through adoption. She holds degrees from

Northwestern University and Colorado State University and her professional experience includes roles in business, education, and with non-profit organizations.

We are in the process of adopting a child from foster care, and bought this book for both sets of our parents. They have been excited for us, but a little overwhelmed and not quite sure how to "get their heads around" the issues, process and considerations. It was hard for us to know how much to share without scaring them. This book was perfect! My Dad said he read it in one sitting and it clarified a lot of generational differences in adoption for him. We also have a common base of knowledge and it has opened up some lines of discussion that we just didn't know how to broach before. I really recommend this for anyone adopting that wants to keep their family "positively excited but aware." :)

As a pre-adoptive parent, I bought this thinking I'd preview it before giving it to some family members. I found that I got a lot out of it myself! I think I will be a better support to other adoptive families, and be much more articulate with my extended family regarding our own adoption. I thought this was really well written and offered many viewpoints I hadn't considered.

Immediate family members are in the process of an international adoption and I was looking for some concrete suggestions from someone who has "been there, done that" with respect to ways to support them. This book was full of a lot of common sense ideas phrased in ways that I hadn't previously thought of. There were some great suggestions on how to support a family member or friend going through the adoption process. It also is beneficial to validate some feelings expressed by our family. Lastly, I really liked the list of additional resources available at the back of the book for more specific info pertaining to individual circumstances. This book is being passed around to our other family members.

Love this book. It's a quick read with lots of useful information. My husband and I are adopting, and looking for a good resource for our family (especially the grandparents). This book presents several different perspectives, and offers families real advice (allow time to grieve just like the adoptive parents may have, specific questions to ask to be involved, and pragmatic info about different adoption processes). I think this is a must read if your family or friends are adopting and you are looking to learn more about the process. Also good for adoptive parents to read to understand what their family might be feeling or wondering.

I've never written an review before and I'm an Prime fanatic! I just have to say this book was incredibly eye opening for us at the beginning of our journey (we read it as perspective adoptive parents). I ended up getting copies for my parents and my in-laws as well. If you're trying to decide whether to buy this book, just do it! It's a quick and easy read, really informative, and overall helpful for those in the adoption process and family. Can't speak of it highly enough!

Great book. My husband and I are adopting, so we read it first ourselves and then bought a couple of copies to give to friends and family. My mother-in-law read it and said she had no clue some of the things she'd want to ask are inappropriate. Now she doesn't have an excuse.

This book is an easy read and is fantastic. It is great for the adoptive parents to read and for family and friends. It has great insite on what is ok to say and what is not. Many things stated in this book were things that I had gone through. I am encouraging all my close friends and family to read it. It will help so that some of the questions that should not be asked of you will not be. This book should be on the shelf of every adoptive family.

We gave copies of this book to out family and friends when we began thinking about adoption. It helped us to have an open discussion about what the process is like. We all felt more comfortable with the process thanks to this book. Highly recommend it!

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