

Adopting a Teen or Tween: Things to Consider

Outline

1. The greatest need in both international and foster care adoption is to adopt kids 10 and older.
2. Adolescents have a bad reputation in general in our society and those in foster care or orphanages have an even worse reputation.
3. Challenging behaviors that will be hard to parent.
4. Tips for creating trust with the child.
5. How to establish secure relationships.
6. Challenging behaviors that will influence other children in the family.
7. Trying to establish rules with teens/tweens who have had too much freedom.
8. Failure to attach or become a full member of the family.
9. Helping kids catch up academically.
10. Special issues specific to older kids adopted internationally.
 - a. Lack of ability to communicate.
 - b. Cultural differences.
11. Safety concerns especially if there are younger children in the family.
 - a. Sexually acting out.
 - b. Physical abuse.