



Hello I am...



Beth



## My Hopes & Dreams

My greatest hopes and dreams are to be a mother, to give the best possible life to a child, and to provide a safe and loving environment that will surround the child with love daily. I will always be the shoulder to cry on, the cheerleader to never give up, the one to give a standing ovation, and the familiar hand to hold.

Adoption allows me the opportunity to share my life with a child and enjoy the unique experience of parenthood. I also believe adoption builds rewarding and meaningful relationships between adoptive and birth families.

My family is from the South. My parents and siblings love each other. We talk throughout the day and are together every holiday. We take vacations together and we celebrate family holidays. We know our family history because many of the elders share stories of what my great-great-grandparents had to go through to purchase land and vote. We are good humble people.

I understand that allowing your child to be raised by another family will be difficult. It's the realization of one dream and the loss of another. However, I want you to know you will forever be family. I know the adoption journey doesn't end when your child is placed with me; the journey is one that never ends. It is a journey filled with joy, heartache, and growth for us all. Your selflessness make you worthy of joy, humility, and peace. Your child will always know you and your strength.

You will forever be in my heart for allowing me the opportunity of motherhood.

Respectfully,

Beth

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# My Values & Beliefs as a Parent

**DIGNITY AND RESPECT** - As a child, I was raised to speak about how I feel about things. My parents empowered me and my sibling to treat everyone with dignity and respect. I believe that this is a pivotal role in parents. I have achieved much in my education and career, but I am not better than anyone else. I live by Grace and Mercy. That is why I volunteer at a women's shelter, and we talk about living life without judgement. We need to build each other up with dignity and respect and that will be a core value in my approach to parenting.



**LOVE AND AFFECTION** - I grew up in a household where our parents showed us affection daily and made sure we felt love. To this day before we get off the phone, we always tell each other I love you. As a principal of an elementary school as well as in my family relationships, I tell my students and family members that I love them and to make good choices. We have to give our children love and affection and that begins at home with hugs and cuddles, which I plan to give out regularly. I will speak life into them every morning that they are powerful, beautiful and can do anything.

**COMMUNICATIONS** - During the course of my career as an educator, I have learned that an important skill is to be an active listener when communicating with others. I give my full attention during conversations, showing the person that is speaking that I'm interested in what they have to say. I make eye contact with them and leave aside distracting things, like my cell phone. I plan to do the same things for my child. I want to ensure that we do everything we can to have clear communication with one another and that they feel heard and nurtured.



**PEACEFUL PARENTING** - I strongly believe in Peaceful parenting, also called calm caregiving, which emphasizes the importance of managing our emotions as a caregiver, especially in stressful moments. It can help us develop stronger relationships with our children as we're focused on coaching them through difficult moments, rather than forcing or controlling them. I hate yelling and don't yell in my house. We speak to each other with respect. I will make sure they know if they need a moment to calm down it's fine and that we can talk when they are ready.

**POSITIVE PARENTING** - I believe that positive parenting helps children do better in school, have fewer behavioral problems, and stronger mental health. My reason for positive parenting is to better help the child to develop as a well-rounded person. I want our child to have a solid foundation emotionally, cognitively and spiritually that will allow them to be the best version of themselves. As a child I was given positive parenting, and believe it works as my relationship with my parents is extremely close.



**STABILITY** - I believe a stable home, a stable school which enables children and young people to form positive trusting relationships so they can thrive, and stable, strong relationships with consistent professionals, all contribute towards helping children and young people to feel safe and ready to succeed. I own my home and have been working in my field since 2000. I will provide the most unconditional support, safety, encouragement and the best education.

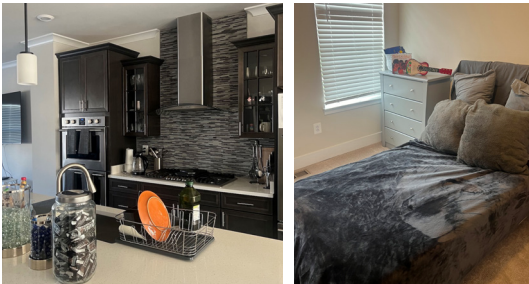
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# Home & Neighborhood



I live in a suburb of the nation's capital. It's not busy, just a normal place for a child to grow up. There are national parks, historic sites, playgrounds, athletic activities, pools, and amusement parks. The arenas close by offer experiences such as Disney on Ice, Cirque de Soleil, Coco Melon and other child-centric live performances, dancing, and plays. I enjoy the outdoors and spending time doing outside activities. I personally love to visit a nearby creek where we go swimming or fishing in the summertime and has nature trails for biking. I think nature's trails are a great outdoor playground designed for children's play to come full expression. Nature is where children can make a mess, run, jump, hide and where they can shout, whistle, and explore the world.



My home is welcoming and child friendly. Anyone who enters my home feels a welcomed spirit and relaxed. My home is filled with canvas artwork, fresh flowers every week, and modern appliances. I do not care if something gets broken because things can be replaced, I just want to make sure no one gets hurt in the process.

Once I bring a child home, my life will center around the child. I will take a leave of absence to bond with our child, and once I return to work I will have a flexible schedule to be hands-on. I will do everything to make the child feel that this is their new home and that it's filled with love. Our time together will be spent bonding, traveling, learning, and visiting family. I look forward to the games, swim lesson, and activities they will be involved in.



Their bedroom has a miniature recliner, shelves filled with books, a chest full of toys, a mounted TV on the wall, cable internet, iPad, and pictures on the wall about being kind and brave. There's a little guitar waiting to be played. The child's room is next to mine, and they will have their own bathroom with a child-friendly theme.

When family and friends come to visit, we will have a great time cooking, BBQing, playing games, going to the pool, watching outdoor movies and going to child-centric musicals. In the wintertime, we can watch deer in our backyard. The child will join us for our holidays and family reunions and be surrounded by unconditional love and laughter. We rotate cities and have T-shirts made. It's a three-day party for the kids and adults.

## HOBBIES:

**Adoptive Mother:** Spending time with family, attending festivals, plays, and concerts, volunteering in the community, dancing, art, and education

## PROFESSION:

**Adoptive Mother:** Educator

## EDUCATION LEVEL:

**Adoptive Mother:** Doctoral Degree

I look forward to sharing my favorite time of day, mornings, with our child. I wake up, exercise, meditate, prepare breakfast, and begin working. I work from home, so I have flexibility. I try to read scripture daily. I also look forward to teaching the child how to give back. I teach Sunday school at my church and donate my time and talents at a women's shelter. Sometimes I fix the ladies hair or nails and recently they have started asking for lashes. It may not sound like much, but when a woman has gone through a hard time these little things make her feel some joy. And, at the core, that is who I am. I arrive smiling and spread the cheer.

I hope to provide you and your child the same joy, love, and gratitude.

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# Family

I am a successful single woman. Being a principal of an elementary school and a special education teacher has provided me with the tools of patience and understanding. I never let negative energy consume me in any way and tend to live life on my own terms.

My family is huge, and we live and celebrate life together. Our family includes grandparents, aunts, uncles, godparents, and close friends. We are a close family, and we trust, love, and depend on each other. We have strong communication skills, provide mutual support, have shared values, and easily resolve conflicts. We live in an environment of honesty, integrity, and sensitivity to each other's needs. Our emotional connection helps reduce stress, improve our moods, and fosters a sense of belonging. We are all truly blessed.

Our time together offers a safe and non-judgmental space to share our thoughts, concerns, and joys. For fun, we enjoy watching TV, going to a movie, or to the mall, or playing a pick-up game of basketball or cards. We enjoy camping, fishing, biking, walking, and hiking together as a family.

We tend to travel together as well as celebrate holidays and birthdays together. Our traditions can be categorized as cultural, religious, family, and societal traditions. We have reunions that are amazing. It's a two- to three-day cultural event, held annually the third weekend of August, to "reinforce the historic strengths and traditional values of our family." We have picnics, fish fry's, BBQs, and we enjoy dancing and other activities together. Christmas is celebrated at my dad's; he is the best grill master. This New Year's we went to church for service then we all ate together on New Year's Day watching football, playing spades, dancing, laughing, and singing.

I enjoy traveling and cooking with my dad. I love hearing stories about the "old days." I want to share those stories with our child. We go on a family vacation each year and go to NBA and NFL games together.

I look forward to reinforcing the strength of family to our child. One of my favorite belongings in my home are pictures of my grandparents. I loved them so much. They took care of their grandchildren, provided love and affection, and nurtured and pampered us during our early years which was essential for my emotional growth. They gave us their time and undivided attention. The pictures are wonderful memories of the time in my life when we went fishing, walked on dirt roads talking, drinking soda while sitting on the porch, and singing together.

I want the same for our child. That is, to create a lifetime of memories to build emotional growth. Everyone is excited and ready to step in to provide support to me and for our child. We are ready to love this child unconditionally. This will be a new addition to the family, treated like all other children. Although, I do expect that they will be a little spoiled by me and their grandparents.



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