

THE POLARIS-AWAY

Talking 'Adoption' with Spouse/Partner

It's true that adoption and foster care aren't for every family. But it's also true that they're meant for more families than are currently showing up to do it. *The Polaris-Away* isn't the answer, and it certainly doesn't highlight all of the nuances and complexities of adoption. But our hope is that you would consider having one real conversation about adoption or foster care—just one. And maybe, just maybe, that one conversation will launch others.

Rules for Spouses/Partners:

1. Be open minded, and give your spouse/partner an honest listen.
2. Express your sincere fears about adoption/foster care.
3. Don't move forward unless you both feel like it's best for your family.

CONSIDER:

- There are different types of adoption: public, private, foster adoption, international, domestic, infant, embryo, etc. One may not be right for you, but another might be. The guidelines for these differ from state to state.
- Certain kinds of adoptions are expensive. Other kinds are very affordable.
- Kids in foster care are considered 'special needs' if they're older, of a particular racial/ethnic background, are part of a sibling group, or have medical conditions or disabilities.
- Oftentimes, the wait times for children who are considered 'special needs' is much shorter as prospective adoptive parents who are willing to consider these children are given priority.
- Our foster care system is in crisis with 400,000 kids currently in care and over 100,000 of those kids legally free for adoption at this very moment.
- To be 'legally free' means that the courts have not found anyone in that child's life to assume care. And so that child is available for adoption.
- At the end of the day, adopted kids and foster kids are just kids, and they need all of the same things that nonadopted kids do.



If your family is interested in learning more about adoption and foster care, visit ThePolarisAway.com.