

AIS is proud to have helped place more than 2,000 newborns with loving parents.



## Facing FEAR in the Adoption Process

We'd like to present a list of some of the thoughts you may be thinking as you begin your adoption process. They can include the relatively mild to the wild and crazy such as:

1. The birthmother will change her mind.
2. The birthparents will find you and want their baby back.
3. Is the birthmother telling the truth about the birthfather, or is there another one out there?
4. Is the background information given to us by the adoption agency 100% accurate?
5. Did the birthmother use drugs and/or smoke or drink throughout the pregnancy?
6. Will we pass the homestudy?
7. How can we afford this?

## The Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC)

The Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC) is a U.S. statutory law that applies to adoptions across state lines. Drafted in the 1950s, the ICPC has been enacted in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Essentially, the ICPC is each state's general review of all adoption paperwork and supporting documents to make sure it is in proper order. Once the paperwork is reviewed, both states must provide their approval of the ICPC paperwork before the adoptive family is allowed to take the baby out of the state where the baby was born. **It should be noted, however, that one spouse may return home while the other spouse stays in the baby's state with the baby until ICPC approval is granted.**

If ICPC is not followed or the family leaves before ICPC approval, the adoption could be jeopardized and the child may be returned to the state in which he/she was born.

ICPC paperwork cannot be filed until the birthmother's consent or relinquishment is valid. ICPC packets can only be filed during normal business days and hours, and ICPC offices process placements in the order the packets are received. Adoptive families are NOT allowed to contact the ICPC offices directly to request that their adoption be processed faster. Both the agency and the ICPC offices use the fastest means of communication whenever possible including phones, fax and express mail service. Have patience!



Often our fears try to immobilize us. Parenting through birth or adoption holds risks for the future for everyone. With education and guidance through AIS you learn to replace these fears with facts and work toward a positive outcome knowing you will have a safe and secure adoption.



*"After attending an AIS seminar, we came home...with the belief that adopting a child was a very possible dream."*

### ICPC Facts

- ✓ When receiving placement of a child from another state, expect to spend 7 to 10 business days in that state.
- ✓ One spouse may return home, while the other spouse stays in the baby's state with the baby until ICPC approval is granted.
- ✓ Adoptive families are NOT allowed to contact the ICPC offices directly to request that their adoption be processed faster.



Adoption Information Services  
1840 Old Norcross Road  
Suite 400  
Lawrenceville, GA 30044  
Tel: 770 339-7236  
aisteam@adoptioninfosvcs.com

For more information, visit our website at [www.adoptioninfosvcs.com](http://www.adoptioninfosvcs.com).

Request our educational DVD. A recording of one of our many seminars, it's packed with valuable information on the entire adoption process. It's free of charge, so get one for your friends, family, minister--anyone who might be interested in learning more about the adoption process