

Post-placement blues

In a recently conducted US survey by Harriet White McCarthy 65% of adoptive parents said they experienced post-adoption depression, yet only 8 people reported that they had been advised by their social workers or agencies that this phenomenon existed.

McCarthy concluded that post-adoption depression is 'dependent on the severity of a child's needs, not the age of the child, but as children who are adopted later may have experienced more difficulties and so have greater needs, their adoptive parents can be more susceptible.'

Six types of symptom have been identified for post-adoption depression: sleeping/eating disturbances; anxiety/insecurity; emotional instability; guilt/shame; inability to think straight and loss of identity (Adoption UK, 2009).

Facilitators: Maggie Rogers and Pavlina Georgiades

- Friday 11 March 2011
- 10am – 4.30pm
- North London

Benefits of attending

- Understand the little considered phenomenon of the post-placement blues
- Explore case material and pre-placement training suggestions
- Provide an opportunity to discuss social workers' own case experience of adopters and the blues.

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