



The *ART* of Family Building.

ADOPTIONS INC.

To Whom It May Concern:

Traveling can be challenging for those who don't have kids. When you add the dynamic of a volatile, impatient, and unpredictable child anything can happen. It is difficult to predict what might happen when you are trapped 10,000 feet above ground and typically you imagine the worst. Traveling is especially stressful for parents who are adopting internationally and traveling to meet their child for the first time and bring them home. However, with a little preparation, you can mitigate many of the biggest concerns. Brooke Randolph, Licenced Mental Health Counselor, has become very accustomed to the packing and preparation needed to travel many miles with a child in tow.

In the sixteenth hour of her 40+ hour journey home from New Zealand to Indianapolis, with her newly adopted six year old son asleep across her lap, while even the flight attendants remanded to their seats due to turbulence, she managed to get one of the biggest nose bleeds she had ever had. With only a beverage napkin at her disposal she managed not to bleed on or even wake her sleeping son.

As the Vice President of Social Services, at MLJ Adoptions, she is no stranger to traveling. She has travelled to many of the countries that MLJ serves such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico and Samoa. She has also escorted children home to the United States to meet their adoptive parents and she has completed home studies abroad. Brooke is asked to speak at conferences all over the United States and even Canada. This year she spoke at conferences put on by JCICS, NACAC and NCFA. She will also be speaking at Adoption Knowledges Associates conference, in Austin, TX in November. She just got back from speaking at the National Adoption Conference put on by NCFA, in Buena Vista, Florida, where she drove 15 or more hours with her son in the car overnight. The look on her son's face when he experienced Disney for the first time made it all worth it in the end.

Through these experiences and several others, she has learned some valuable tips that she would love to share with parents traveling to bring home their child for the first time through adoption. She believes that traveling to the child's birth place is very important for parents and she wants to offer practical advice to parents on how to make the trip a little less stressfull for everyone involved. We think your audience, will find Brooke's presentation beneficial and we hope you agree.

I'll be in touch soon.

Sincerely,

Angela Simpson
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