



PO Box 43092 00100 GPO Nairobi  
Email: [info@littleangelsnetwork.org](mailto:info@littleangelsnetwork.org)

Tel: [+254 20] 3866442 / 2013760

Fax: +254 20 3866443  
Website: [www.littleangelsnetwork.org](http://www.littleangelsnetwork.org)

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## **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM FOR PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS**

1. Once the court makes an adoption order in your favor you shall acquire all the rights duties, obligations and liabilities of a parent over the child permanently as if the child were born to you.
2. All such rights, duties, obligations and liabilities of the natural parent shall be extinguished permanently.
3. The adoption order is absolute and irreversible.
4. For the purpose of the jurisdiction of any court to make orders as to the legal custody, maintenance of and the right of contact with the child both and your spouse stand to each other and to the child in the same relation as the lawful father and mother of the child and the child shall stand to you in the same relation as to a lawful mother and father respectively.
5. An adopted child has all the inheritance rights as if he or she was born to you.
6. For the purpose of any written law relating to marriage for the time being in Kenya you, your children (If any) and the adopted child shall be deemed to be within the prohibited degree of consanguinity and therefore can not enter into a marriage relationship.
7. Often the child may have been through traumatic experiences and will need you to provide a caring and secure family environment.
8. The child has a right to know that he or she is adopted, and has a right to know about his origin as soon as the child is able to understand.
9. You may also be asked to provide other forms such as medical forms, marriage and divorce certificate, citizenship certificate, police record authorization and previous assessment for placement of children, birth certificate and other information. You shall be required to furnish the adoption society with a full size photograph taken three months prior to the making of the application. For joint applicants, photograph of the couple will be required.
10. An application to the adoption society does not guarantee placement.
11. The child placed with you pending an adoption order may be withdrawn from you.
12. That periodic home visits and supervision will be carried out by a representative of the adoption society while the child is placed with you pending an adoption order and that you shall inform the adoption society incase of change of address, serious illness or death of the child within 24 hours.
13. You shall inform the adoption society in the event death of a spouse of change of marital status incase of joint application.

**You may not change the whole world but you can change the world for one person**