

## Making New Families

It is always gratifying to help clients with the adoption of a child, but I never cease to be amazed at the love, generosity and patience of those who take the tremendous risk of adopting older children from our foster care system. Recently I was able to help a client negotiate with the parents of a sibling group of four children for their consent to my client's adoption of the children. This avoided a long drawn out proceeding to terminate their parental rights that could delay adoption for more than a year. The children were in dire need of stability and assurances of the permanency of their new home after several failed placements. My client and the parents were able to meet face to face and come to a true understanding of the mutual sacrifices of all involved to reach a result that was truly in the best interests of the children. A new family is being formed, but the children will be able to maintain contact with their birth parents. It's looking like a happy ending for all involved.

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