

## Suggested Media Questions

### *20 Things Adoptive Parents Need to Succeed*

Author: Sherrie Eldridge

1. Your publisher, Random House Publishing Group, tells me that this is a sequel and companion book to your first book about adoption, *Twenty Things Adopted Kids Wish Their Adoptive Parents Knew*. What prompted you to write the companion book?
2. What is the title of the new book and who would be interested in reading it? Is it strictly for parents?
3. What is the purpose of this book? What do you hope your audience will gain?
4. You say in your book that adoptive parents often wonder what is normal for adoptive family living. How can they know what is normal for parents, and children?
5. It is interesting to see that at the last of every chapter is a section called “Listen to Your Child’s Heart.” This is an interesting concept. Can you explain the idea behind it and the benefit to parents?
4. What are the three most important things, out of the twenty, that you believe adoptive parents need to know in order to be successful?
5. You redefine success in adoption terms. Can you explain that for our audience?
6. The first chapter mentions “the sweet spot of success” and tells parents how they can find peace, rest, as well as their greatest strength in parenting if they can find the sweet spot. Can you give some clues about how parents can find this place?
7. Your book is based on interviews with nearly 100 adoptive parents and on the latest adoption research. Can you share something encouraging that adoptive parents might not know from research?
8. Parents often struggle with what some call “the real parent question.” They may struggle with it secretly themselves. Am I the real parent? But, when their children come home saying that children have asked them the “real” question, what is the best answer parents can teach their children for responding?
9. In one chapter, you put on a coaching cap and instruct parents about the importance of confidence in parenting. What is the effect on adopted children if parents don’t live out confidence before their children?

10. You talk about another word that can be upsetting to adoptive families—the word “different.” Why is it sometimes upsetting and how can parents reframe this word for their children?

11. One chapter deals with insensitive remarks that the nonadopted world often unintentionally makes about adopted children. You say that families can use these as opportunities to teach character development by using the “ten gifts of adoption.” Can you tell us more about the gifts?

12. In another chapter, you talk about the propensity most people have to “fix” the wounds of others. You say your audience of adoptive parents may struggle more than normal with this because their children came to them after being separated from their first families. You counsel parents to give a gift their children can receive, that will comfort them? You call it “the gift of what is so.” Can you explain it for us?