

Adoptionis Interruptus: Essays in Adoption and Sexuality

Adoption & Culture publishes essays on any aspect of adoption's intersection with culture, including but not limited to scholarly examinations of adoption practice, law, art, literature, ethics, science, life experiences, film, or any other popular or academic representation of adoption. *Adoption & Culture* accepts submissions of previously unpublished essays for review.

Adoption & Culture is the journal of The Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture (ASAC). ASAC promotes understanding of the experience, institution, and cultural representation of domestic and transnational adoption and related practices such as fostering, assisted reproduction, LGBTQ+ families, and innovative kinship formations. ASAC considers adoptive kinship to include adoptees, first families, and adoptive kin. In its conferences, other gatherings, and publications ASAC provides a forum for discussion and knowledge creation about adoption and related topics through interdisciplinary, culture-based scholarly study and creative practice that consider many ways of perceiving, interpreting, and understanding adoption.

Adoption studies scholarship explores multiple aspects of adoption's intersection with culture including, but not limited to, scholarly examinations of adoption practice, law, art, literature, ethics, science, life experiences, and film. Adoption scholars examine discourses of adoption in all its various ways, complicating the ways adoption engages with normative ideologies of identity, family, culture, race, gender, nation, and citizenship.

Adoption interrupts meanings of family as biology and/or monoraciality (i.e., because meanings of biology and race so often coalesce) that are circumscribed by sexuality. It does so, because adoption undercuts bio-heteronormativity and the emphasis bio-heteronormativity places on sexuality as the *ideal* means through which the family is and should be reproduced. As biological and/or racial interruption, adoption frequently is and has been associated with negative connotations. Indeed, families “*touched* by adoption” in any form (i.e., be it a result of relinquishment, surrender, transracial or transnational adoption, step-parenting, foster-parenting, parenting by adoptees, LGBTQ2S parenting and/or even parenting via new reproductive technologies) are often made out derogatively to be queer, unintelligible, affectively suspect, and/or motley assemblages. Of course, adoption is not merely a biological, bio-racial, or bio-genealogical interruption – it is also a *sexual* interruption, although it remains largely unexamined as such. In this light, adoption studies and sexuality studies have important things to offer each other as critical lenses that can be brought to bear on each other.

This special volume of *Adoption & Culture* invites new and original essays that expressly examine adoption and sexuality in order to interrupt and elucidate the effects of bio-heteronormative and/or monoracial paradigms of family. Essays or proposals may address a range of critical questions that are elicited at the crossroads of adoption and sexuality, and should speak to the volume's main theme, *Adoptionis Interruptus: Essays in Adoption and Sexuality*, as it may relate to the following topics:

- Sexual cultures within/without family

- Bio-racial, transracial and/or transnational interruptions
- (A)sexual representations, narratives or discourses of adoption
- Adoption, (a)sexual identities, (a)sexual outsiders and/or outlaws.
- Adopted vs sexual genealogies
- Adopted desires, affects, or assemblages
- Bio-families as sexual colonies or colonization
- Adoption as (a)sexual attachment and grief
- Adoption as (a)sexual subjectivity
- (A)sexual pathologies or defects as adoption.
- Bio-genetic and/or monoracial family romances or fantasies
- Monoracial and/or bio-centric techno-families and reproductive ideals
- Family as incest, adoption as outcast/outcast
- The sexual exceptionalism(s) of biological and/or monoracial bonds
- Proposals or abstracts that vary on, or interrelate, these themes are welcome.
- Proposals or abstracts about other topics that speak directly and creatively to the volume's theme of adoption and sexuality are also welcome.

Please submit 500-word essay proposals or abstracts by: Feb. 1, 2019
 Completed manuscripts must be submitted by: Aug. 1, 2019

Submit all proposals and essays or direct questions to Frances J. Latchford:
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