



Appropriate Adoption and Foster Care Language Choices

Hurtful Choice	Wise Choice	Explanation
<p><i>Gave up</i></p> <p><i>Given up</i></p> <p><i>Put up</i></p> <p><i>Surrendered for adoption</i></p>	<p>Chose or made an adoption plan</p> <p>A child/youth for whom an adoption plan was made</p>	<p>The decision to make an adoption plan is extremely difficult and thoughtful.</p> <p>Children who were sent on the orphan trains from New York to the west during the mid-1800s were “put up” for display on a platform so that prospective adoptive parents would be able to see them to better decide which child would meet their needs.</p>
<p><i>Keep the child/youth</i></p>	<p>Parent the child/ youth</p>	<p>People who choose adoption are not discarding their children but are unable to parent them.</p>
<p><i>Is adopted</i></p> <p><i>Adoptee</i></p>	<p>Was adopted</p> <p>Person who was adopted</p>	<p>Adoption is an event, not an enduring quality of a person.</p> <p>Adoption is not a diagnosis or a condition.</p>
<p><i>Own children</i></p>	<p>Birth children or children who were adopted</p>	<p>All parents consider their children their own regardless of how they became a family.</p>
<p><i>Foster child</i></p> <p><i>Foster youth</i></p>	<p>Child or youth who is living with a foster family or who has experienced foster care</p>	<p>The emphasis should be on the child/youth and not the foster status.</p>

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