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Please click on the following link to fill out the workshop proposal review form:

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Title Parental Understanding of Transracial Adoption:

Format Workshop

Length of Time 90 minute session

Primary Track Direct Practice

Level Intermediate

Audience Social Workers

Abstract Most studies dealing with trans-racial adoption focus the adoptees. Many studies have focused on international adoption. This qualitative study focused on the concepts of "race" and "culture" Caucasian couples carry with them when they domestically adopt children of a different race and how their understanding changes over time as they parent their children. Insights regarding the nature of privilege and the ideals of parenting are illuminated.

Description DESCRIPTION: Many Christians believe that adoption is a critical component to assisting at risk children. Many of the children in need of adoptive homes are not of the same race as parents who desire to adopt. As trans racial adoption becomes increasingly common, there is an increasing need to understand parental understandings of race and culture and how those concepts change over time. The workshop will describe a two year qualitative study of trans racially adopting parents, and tentative findings of the study. OUTLINE: I. Why this topic? a. nature of the issue b. how the researchers elected this topic c. why we selected the method we did. II. The study a. basic demographics of the couples b. basic demographics of the children III. Findings a. how white privilege affects trans racial parents and their children . how trans racial adoption is "the same" as other a! options c. how trans racial adoption is "different"

than other adoptions d.parenting for the "future"
rather than the "present" e.ways that social workers
can assist families to discuss and discern issues

Objectives participants will increase their understanding of the
nature of domestic trans racial adoption
participants will increase their understanding of the
challenges both trans racially adopting parents and
their children face within the community and church
participants will learn specific strategies that can
assist trans racially adopting parents and their
children to grow in their cultural competence