

“Adoption is seen as a happy event, which calls for celebration. It is also true that there is loss involved, loss which needs to be mourned.”

(Verrier, 1993)

Have You Seen My Childhood? Understanding Grief in Adopted Children

with a focus on transracial adoptions

With Karmen R. Smith, CRC, RMHCI, RMFTI

Saturday, May 6, 2017

10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Doors open at 9:45

First Congregational Church, 43 Silver St., Greenfield MA

Adoptees and foster children struggle with grief and loss throughout their lives. In this workshop, family, friends, and helping professionals will increase their understanding of the intersectionality of adoption, human development, and grief; identify ways to reduce the suffering of children in this population; and explore ways to honor ethnic identities while fostering resiliency and recovery in the family.



Karmen R. Smith, CRC, is a Ph.D. student in the Marriage and Family Therapy program at Antioch University New England; a Registered Marriage and Family Therapist Intern (RMFTI) in Florida; and is currently engaged in supervision mentorship to become an AAMFT Approved Supervisor. Her specialized training areas include adoption and foster care, vocational assessments, and rehabilitation counseling.

As a researcher, she is interested in studies that promote awareness of the intersectionality of mental illness, substance abuse, and social injustice and in research that explores how the lack of permanency, continued displacements, and loss of cultural identity relate to the mental health of minorities. Karmen intends to use her experience and advanced education to effect change in laws and policies that appear unsupportive of the family system and other under-represented populations.

FREE ~ Donations Welcome

For childcare, RSVP with number & ages of children

For more information or to reserve childcare:

email@racialjusticerising.org



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Racial Justice Rising ~ Mass Slavery Apology

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