Curriculum Standards for Adoption Education, Family Life Curriculum HB 40/SB 46

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Submitted to: Tennessee Department of Education

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Decisions, Choices & Options, Inc.

K-8 Health Standards:

*Family Life Domain, Standards 6, 7

*Emotional, Social and Mental Health Domain, Standard 8

New Standards:

- 1. Students will comprehend the positive nature of family structure created by adoption
- 2. Students will discover the reasons families choose to adopt children: domestically (newborn, foster care), and/or internationally
- 3. Students will identify types of adoptions: open, semi-open, confidential
- 4. Students will analyze the factors involved in the adoption process
- 5. Students will demonstrate understanding of positive adoption language (strike all references to unwanted baby/children from current language)
- 6. Students will analyze the impact of adoption on our nation's cultural diversity
- 7. Students will comprehend the decision making process of women making plans to choose adoption for their children/newborn
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of the impact of peer understanding on children who were adopted
- 9. Students will identify resource agencies available to assist families with adoption

9-12 Family Life Education Standards:

Standard: Sexuality and Family Life

New Checks for Understanding:

6.2 , 6.11, 6.12, 6.13

6.2

*examine the influence of family formation (*biological, step parent, or adoptive*) cultural traditions and economic factors on human development;

* describe the steps involved in the adoption process, both international and domestic *compare and contrast domestic infant adoption and domestic foster care adoption *describe how children of adoptive families process social, emotional and cultural influences of the level of acceptance of adoption

*analyze the stereotypical language surrounding adoption and implement positive adoption language

6.11

* examine the benefits of choosing adoption for a pregnant teen

*identify common misconceptions associated with adoption

*analyze the outcomes for children raised from infancy in a stable home

*analyze the educational/ financial outcomes and goal accomplishments for teens who choose adoption in unplanned pregnancies

*examine the decision making process of a teen making and adoption plan in an unplanned pregnancy

*develop and attitude of support rather than criticism for teens who choose adoption rather than single parenting

*discover the steps of adoption for prospective adoptive families

*research the outcome of adoption for teen parents as well as the children placed with adoptive families

*research local, state and national agencies providing adoption services

**identify adoption laws regarding the surrender and termination of parental rights in the state of Tennessee*

6.12

*assess the impact of teen parenting on local, state and national economic health

*analyze the educational/financial outcomes for teens who choose parenting in unplanned pregnancies

*examine the impact of family instability on children

**identify the repercussions of teen parenting on the educational outcomes for the child of a teen mother*

*analyze the impact of parenting on a teen's social and extra-curricular activiites

6.13

*analyze the costs associated with raising a child from infancy to age 18 and contrast with the resources available to teen parents

**identify stages of child growth and development*

*assess emotional, financial and educational resources needed at various stages of child development

*compare the outcomes for children parented by teenage parents and those parented by married adults