

I am a birth mother in support of SB113 giving all adult adoptees the right to a copy of their original birth certificate at age 18. This is a human right and one adoptees are entitled to. Because I was reunited with my son by the director of the agency that handled his adoption, I can relate to adoptees and birth parents and, understand the importance for them to have this long overdue right.

Yes, there was a shroud of secrecy surrounding adoption. However, unwed mothers like myself were not given confidentiality. The focus of agency social workers was to make certain a child was placed without interference from birth mothers who were often told, they were not to disrupt the home of the adoptive parents, Social workers met with unwed mothers in a confidential setting. However, confidentiality could not be given legally. Also, this is why there is no mention of it on the surrender paper unwed mothers signed.

Because my mother was present when I signed the surrender paper she met privately with the social worker. the outcome of their meeting was that there would be a chance I could see my son when he turned 18 which is the age custody ends. Fortunately I reunited with him when he was 19 and, have had a good relationship with him and his adoptive parents.

Please make this the year for adoptee rights in Connecticut..

Joyce Bahr, President

New York Statewide Adoption Reform's Unsealed Initiative

cell 646 789-8083

Address: 319 E. 88th St. Apt. 17

New York, NY 10128

