

Newsday, Jan 4, 1987

## A D V I C E

### DEAR ABBY

**DEAR ABBY:** I recently became friendly with a very dear and wonderful lady I'll call Betty. Betty told me that she had given her twin boys — who were 3-years-old at the time — to a minister and his wife who put them up for adoption. Betty now wants more than anything in the world to see her twin boys just once in her lifetime. (The boys are now 29.)

The minister has been dead for a number of years, and his wife, who lives in the Philadelphia area, is still in touch with Betty, but she refuses to give her any information about the twins' whereabouts.

I seem to recall that you wrote about an agency that puts adopted children and their natural parents in touch with each other. If there is any cost involved, please advise and I will forward the fee immediately.

— A Friend in Philadelphia

**DEAR FRIEND:** Because I am opposed to natural parents intruding on the lives of children they have placed for adoption, as well as adopted children "finding" their natural parents, unless all parties are agreeable to a reunion, I recommend the International Soundex Reunion Registry (ISRR), P.O. Box 2312, Carson City, Nev. 89702. Please enclose a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope when writing.

Persons who have been adopted and want to find their natural parents may register with the above agency. And a birth parent who has placed a child for adoption and wishes to locate that child may also register. If a match is made, a reunion takes place. There is no registration fee, but because this is a not-for-profit agency, contributions are welcome. I have dealt with ISRR for many years and have found the people there to be efficient, honest and in total agreement with my feeling that neither the natural parents nor the child shall be "found" unless they want to be.



DEAR ABBY: I had never heard of