

Advice

Dear
Abby



Adoptee-parent reunions

Dear Abby: Recently you printed a letter from a 14-year-old adoptee, asking how to contact one's birth parents. You advised him to register with International Soundex Reunion Registry in Carson City, Nev.

Until I read it in your column, I never knew such a service existed. I have often had a desire to contact the daughter I placed for adoption 21 years ago.

I filed my application, and within *days*, a match was made! (My daughter had filed with Soundex Registry, too.) I have spoken with her on the phone, and we made plans to meet in the near future. I am still recovering from the incredible experience. Thank you for making it possible!

— Katherine C.
in San Francisco

DEAR KATHERINE: I share your joy. I want to repeat, however, that minors may register with Soundex, but until they are 18, they may not be matched with their birth parents. And only if their parents have also registered with Soundex can a match be made. I am in full agreement that birth parents and adoptees should be able to meet, but only when it is mutually agreeable.