

81. (Petition.) Every petition filed for the adoption of a minor under 21 years of age shall be under oath or affirmation of the petitioner and the titling thereof shall be substantially as follows: "Ex parte in the matter of the petition of.....for the adoption of a minor". The petition or the exhibits annexed [hereto] *thereto* shall contain the following information:

(a) The name, sex, date and place of birth of the person to be adopted, and the names and addresses and residences of the natural parents, if known to the petitioner;

(b) The name, address, age, business or employment of the petitioner, and the name of the employer, if any, of the petitioner;

(c) The names and relationship of the petitioner [of] to any members of the immediate family of the petitioner, and the relationship, if any, of the person to be adopted to the petitioner;

(d) The race and religious affiliation, if any, of the person to be adopted, or of his natural parent or parents;

(e) The race and religious affiliation, if any, of the petitioner;

(f) The names and addresses of the natural persons, and the institutions which have had physical or legal care and custody of the child since its birth, and the period of time during which such natural persons and institutions have had such care and custody and whether the homes of such natural persons and institutions were duly [registered or] licensed under the laws of the State with reference to foster homes;

(g) Any change of name which may be desired.

If any of the above facts are unknown to the petitioner, the petition shall state this fact. If any of the above facts are known to a child care or child placement agency, which as a matter of social policy declines to disclose them to the petitioner, the facts may be disclosed to the court in an exhibit filed with the petition by the agency in question. If more than one petitioner joins in a petition, the requirements of this section shall be applicable to each petitioner.

82. (Consent.) Every petition for adoption shall be accompanied by written statements of consent, subscribed and sworn to before a person authorized by law to administer an oath, as specified in this section, except that the court may in its discretion permit any petition to be filed without a necessary consent if such consent is added to the petition before the time set for hearings [;]. [but in no event shall an interlocutory or final decree of adoption be made without having the consent required by this section unless for reasons satisfactory to the court, it shall appear proper to dispense therewith.] *However, the court may grant a petition for adoption without any of the consents hereinafter specified, if, after a hearing the court finds that such consent or consents are withheld contrary to the best interests of the child.*

Consent to any proposed adoption shall be obtained from:

(a) the person to be adopted, if he is ten years of age or over; and also,

(b) both the natural parents, if married, if they are alive and have not lost their [paternal] *parental* rights through court action or voluntary relinquishment or abandonment; or

(c) one natural parent, if the other is not alive or has lost his parental rights as mentioned in (b) above; or