



# THE GIRL CONNECTION

SATURDAY

12:30-4 PM

AUGUST 28, 2010

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## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

- \* GUIDANCE ON INTEGRATING THE MEANING OF ADOPTION
- \* CONNECT WITH OTHERS "LIKE US"
- \* EXPLORE IDENTITY ISSUES
- \* VALIDATE FEELINGS
- \* CREATE ONGOING SUPPORT NETWORK

OVER THE COURSE OF THEIR LIVES, ADOPTED CHILDREN AND ADULTS FACE THE CHALLENGE OF EXPLORING THE MEANING OF ADOPTION, AND INTEGRATING IT, INTO THEIR OWN IDENTITIES. A CHILD'S UNDERSTANDING OF BEING ADOPTED GROWS AT A PROFOUND RATE BETWEEN 9-14. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE IS SOMETIMES A DECLINE IN POSITIVE ATTITUDES RELATED TO ADOPTION. OCCASIONALLY, THERE IS AN INCREASE IN BEHAVIORAL ISSUES.



**Leslie Pate Mackinnon, LCSW**, has over 35 years experience as a psychotherapist. An expert on the complex issues of families created by alternative means, Leslie is an in-demand international speaker and educator who was drawn to the field of adoption by her own experience placing two sons in “closed adoptions” during her late teens.

AS CHILDREN WORK TO INCORPORATE THE MEANING OF ADOPTION IN THEIR LIVES, ONE OF THE MOST HELPFUL RESOURCES IS INTERACTING WITH OTHER ADOPTED CHILDREN, OLDER TEENS OR YOUNG ADULTS. CONNECTING WITH OTHERS LIKE THEMSELVES IS HIGHLY THERAPEUTIC. IT STIMULATES THE EXPLORATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR OWN ADOPTION ISSUES.

THIS ONE-DAY WORKSHOP IS FOR GIRLS BETWEEN 9 AND 14. A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES WILL FOSTER COMMUNICATION AROUND THE FRUSTRATIONS, JOYS, AND FEELINGS THAT OFTEN GO UNEXPRESSED IN RELATION TO ADOPTION.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SPACE IS LIMITED. MAIL CHECK FOR \$90 TO:  
Leslie Pate Mackinnon, 1836 Walthall Drive, Atlanta, GA 30318