



— OUR ADOPTION PROFILE —

STEPHEN AND SORAYA



Dear Birth Parents,
We are **Stephen and Soraya** from New York and we want to thank you for choosing to view our profile to learn a little more about us. We are honored beyond measure to be considered by you for the important task of caring for your child. We are in awe of your courage and sacrifice for us to become a family and you will forever be an integral part of your child's story. Ensuring your child is placed with the right family is not an easy task, but we hope getting to know us a little through viewing our profile will help you understand who we are as human beings, the families we came from, and the kind of loving family we want to provide for your child. Your child will forever be loved, protected, embraced, accepted, and raised to be who they were meant to be. This is our promise to you.



ABOUT US

I am an Italian American and my wife is of Haitian ethnicity. We've been together for eight loving years and our bond only deepens with the passage of time. We come from the most ethnically diverse place on planet earth (actually a true fact!), so being an interracial couple is quite the norm and our differences only make us stronger with more to share. Soraya is really good at keeping me grounded. She's the voice of reason resounding inside my head, my true magnetic north always leading me back home. This is why I married her; because with her I always know when I'm home.

Soraya and I struggled for a long time with infertility. We got pregnant once and were overjoyed, but unfortunately there was a miscarriage. I remember Soraya sobbing when we heard the news; telling me she really wanted to give me this child which might have been due around my mother's birthday. Our hearts were broken and fractured that day, but I held her in my arms and told her that I loved her no matter what. After several more unsuccessful In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) attempts, we realized that God had another plan for us. It was like He had been trying to tell us that He had something much better in store for us.... which led us to this moment.



FAMILY

Our families get together often; especially on Sunday's for big Italian dinners at my parents with my 3 older siblings and my nieces and nephews. We're very loud, often sarcastic, but always loving and extremely passionate about our loyalty to one another. Soraya's family is no different except for the Haitian cuisine, which is just as exquisite. At the dinner table we are a multicultural and multigenerational family united by our common love.

We very much want to become parents and in many ways we've been preparing for this our entire lives without even realizing it. Soraya and I have many nieces, nephews and godchildren. We are very close with them and they have enriched our lives in ways we cannot begin to describe. We want very much to become parents and be an intimate part of someone's life from birth to adulthood.



TOP: FAMILY BBQ WITH NIECE
& NEPHEW

LEFT: FAMILY/FRIENDS OUTING

RIGHT: NIECE'S COMMUNION
WITH COUSIN

STEPHEN'S CAREER

I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), which means I have a Master's degree in clinical social work and a State license to practice. I am the co-owner of a mental health clinic, which I helped found and I am also a full time, self- employed psychotherapist. It is an occupation I am most proud of and I am honored to serve my clients who every day entrust me with their struggles. They show me how incredibly resilient people can be and reveal the unbelievable importance of every human life.

SUNDAY DINNER WITH THE FAMILY



SORAYA'S CAREER

Soraya has two years of college and is a customs entry clerk at an international import/export company. She takes pride in her work and is a part of the process of getting research materials in the right hands, which in my eyes makes her a part of the cure.

We discussed the issue of child care and agreed that Soraya will more than likely remain home once we adopt.

APPLE PICKING





CHRISTMAS EVE



STEVE PARASAILING

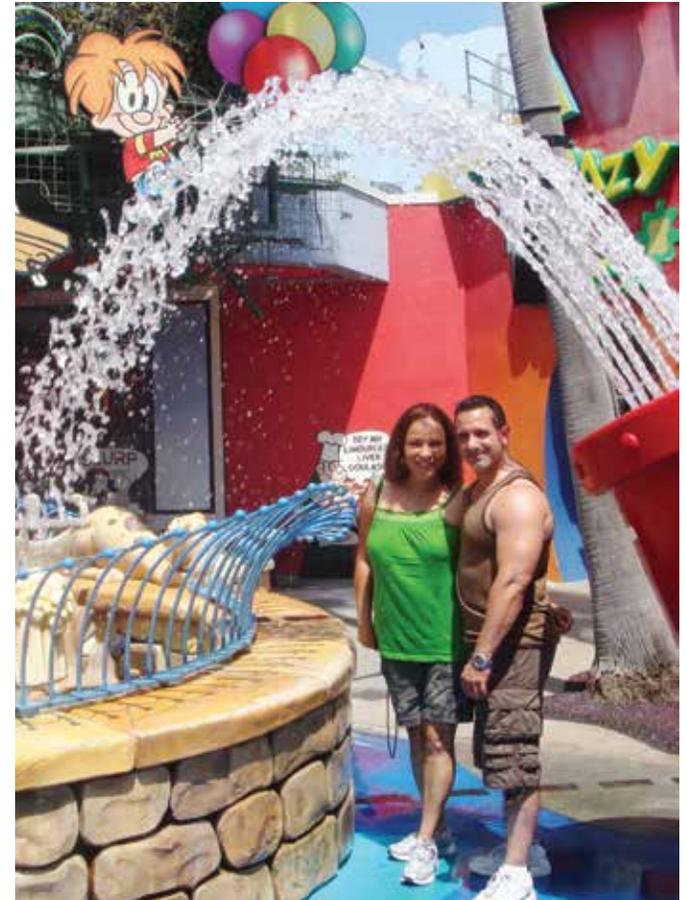


SORAYA AND STEVE SCUBA DIVING

SORAYA AS MINNIE MOUSE



STEVE'S GODDAUGHTER'S CHRISTENING (FRIEND'S DAUGHTER)



UNIVERSAL STUDIOS- ISLAND OF ADVENTURE

OUR HOBBIES

I'm a bit of gym rat working out 4-5 times per week. I love working out because I always walk away feeling accomplished, healthy and strong for life. Soraya is a bit more of a homebody, but stays in shape with our brand new elliptical machine. She enjoys homemaking, decorating for holidays and always gets me in the holiday spirit. We're always around family and friends either barbecuing, hanging out watching our TV shows or going to the movies.



SORAYA AND STEVE IN ARUBA

STEVE

SORAYA

TV SHOW

THE WALKING DEAD

MODERN FAMILY

FOOD

MOM'S SPAGHETTI

HAITIAN, CHINESE & ITALIAN

ICE CREAM

VANILLA

CHOCOLATE OR VANILLA

HOLIDAY

THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS

THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS

PLACE

HOME WITH MY WIFE OR ARUBA

ARUBA

PARENTING PHILOSOPHY

Soraya and I were both raised Catholic and would raise a child in our faith. We are not overly conservative, and in fact, are very liberal and progressive in our thinking. We believe faith should be nurtured but that each individual comes to God in their own way. We do not believe in corporal punishment. There will be discipline and structure, but without violence. We strongly believe in the value of education. We want our child to learn dignity and self-respect, which will extend to those around. It would also be our hope to raise this child in a climate of understanding to embrace people's differences while being very secure about his or her own identity.



SORAYA AND STEVE IN THEIR NEW HOUSE



STEVE GRILLING IN THE BACKYARD



OUR HOME



THANK YOU!

Thank you for allowing us to tell you a bit about ourselves. We look forward to learning more about you as well. We are very comfortable providing updates and photos of your child if you wish to receive them. Your child will always know of your love and sacrifice. We will be forever grateful if you decide that we are the right parents for your child. If you would like to contact us, please call The Adoption Alliance at 1-800-626-4324.

Take care,

STEPHEN & SORAYA