

Fort Worth Genealogical Society

In Collaboration with the Fort Worth Library

Presents

“The History of Adoption and Birth Certificates in the State of Texas”

By Connie Gray

The History of Adoption in Texas is a lively discussion of past social mores and the evolution of adoption in our state. This month’s speaker has a personal stake in this issue. Adopted at the age of nine, Connie was determined to uncover her own genealogical truths. Upon turning 18 in 1976, she petitioned the Travis county court, obtained her original birth certificate, and within two years located her entire biological family. Connie will address historical documentation; adoption law; birth certificates, birth books, and adoption; political action to ensure accuracy of records.

DAY: **Tuesday, May 30, 2017**

TIME: **6:30 p.m. Tandy Auditorium**

Central Branch, FW Library, 500 W. 3rd St.

Parking meters are free after 6 p.m. The 3rd St. Garage is free for 2 ½ hours—just validate your ticket in the library. Come at 6 p.m. for coffee.



The satisfaction of knowing her own genetic history propelled Connie into becoming a Search Angel, someone who helps people reconnect who have been separated by adoption. In 2013, she founded the organization Texas Adoptee Rights, which has been the driving force to restore access to original birth certificates to adults who were adopted as minors in Texas. This session, SB329 and HB547 are working their way through the capitol and the board members are at the capitol daily to educate on the truth of adoption and how DNA has eroded privacy for everyone. For the first time, descendants of adoptees will be able to obtain their ancestors original birth certificates. She asks everyone to contact their own state senators and representatives to ensure that all Texans have access to their own genealogy records.

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