

My name is Kerri Young. I was adopted by my parents who were then 45 and 46 years old. I do not understand how the government at the time thought an older couple could look after me better than my own (biological) mother who was considered then, too young and therefore unfit to keep me.

I see my biological mother every few months but it traumatises her so much so that the mother/daughter bond and closeness will probably never happen.

I found my biological father a few years ago. He lived ten minutes away from me. He is a wonderful loving man who attempted to search for me back then, but he had no rights. I learnt that he was also adopted, and I have since found my maternal grandmother's side.

I have 4 x birth certificates when I should only have one

What is Kerri's surname?

Birth Name = O'Neill

Should have been = Davis (father's adopted name)

Adopted name = Young

Married Name = Harris (I have since reverted back to my maiden name)

Dad's adopted name = Davis

His birth name = Martin

His Father listed is unknown on his Original Birth Certificate (O.B.C) So what should our NAME be?

My dad asked me to change my surname to Davis, but I figured I would just be switching from one adopted name to another and as sad as I was about it, I said no.

I am very involved with genealogy which makes it difficult for me as I am listed on my adopted parent's Death Certificates (D.C) & I will also be listed on my biological parent's death certificates. In 80 plus years or so when family are doing family trees and find me on my adopted parents D.Cs they will never find my B.C or who am I. At the same time, my biological family might also be doing family genealogy and have copies of my biological mum's D.C and my biological Dad's D.C and see a 'Kerri Young' listed as the oldest child. They may assume 'Young' is my married name and try to find a marriage certificate of me as Kerri Davis marrying a Young. I will never be found as we as adoptees are untraceable either by birth name or adopted names.

My adopted parents have since died. My biological dad is only 70 years old and in my opinion, is very fit. My biological mum is only 67 years old and has always been broken from what happened.

Submitting DNA tests on sites such as Ancestry is a thing now in the adoption world in order to search and find biological fathers. It is a known fact that 99% of the time fathers were never listed on O.B.Cs. I found my dad's mums side via DNA and hard work trawling through papers.

When I thought I had found a family member of my dad's maternal side, I called and an old woman answered the phone:

Me: "Hello my name is Kerri and I'm looking for the family of [REDACTED]"

Great Aunt: "Yes I'm [REDACTED] & my sister was [REDACTED]"

Me: "Do you remember [REDACTED] being pregnant?"

Great Aunty: "Yes I do and are you the daughter of the baby boy?"

Me: "YES! YES! YES!" I went and met them that weekend and I still drive over there every six weeks.

At 87 years old she has never forgotten that she held my Dad and still does not know that her sister gave him up for adoption. I was lucky that my aunty & her husband have lived in the same house for 50 years. My grandmother's daughters do not believe that their mother had a child out of wedlock at 29 years old.

I have had trouble with trust my entire life and especially keeping and maintaining relationship bonds.

The question still remains.....WHO IS KERRI

Would I be a different person if I was Claire O'Neill

I definitely would have been a gentler & settled person if raised by my dad. LOVE HIS BEAR HUGS