

## **ADOPTION – FINDING BIRTH PARENTS**

### **I was adopted – how can I find my birth parents?**

As an adopted person you are entitled to information about your birth family, and information about your adoption, as soon as you reach the age of sixteen.

You should contact the Registrar General for Scotland, who is obliged to provide you with information which will allow you to trace your original Birth Certificate.

You should also visit the Adoption Search Reunion website at :

<http://www.adoptionsearchreunion.org.uk>

The Registrar General will advise you of the availability of counselling services from your local authority or any adoption agency which was involved in your adoption. If you arrange to receive counselling, the Registrar General will send your local authority or the adoption agency an extract of your original birth certificate.

Adoption agencies and local authorities are obliged to keep their records for at least 75 years.

The court record of your adoption is kept sealed but, as the adopted person, you are entitled to see it. If you wish to see it you should apply to the Sheriff Clerk at the court where your adoption was granted.