

# **List of CHILDREN'S BOOKS dealing with Incarceration**

*(we do not condone or promote the following books, the list was compiled as we became aware of them)*

## **FOR CHILDREN WHO CANNOT LIVE WITH ONE OR BOTH OF THEIR PARENTS / DEALING WITH SEPARATION:**

- **Finding the Right Spot: When Kids Can't Live with Their Parents** by Janice Levy (American Psychological Association). A story for all children who can't live with their parents, emphasizing, loyalty, hope, disappointment, love, sadness and anger. Illustrated. Ages 4 - 8.
- **Do I Have a Daddy?** by Jeanne Warren Lindsay. This book is written from a mother's perspective to her son regarding his absentee dad. It helps a young child understand and cope with the reality of growing up in a single parent home.
- **Families Change: A Book for Children Experiencing Termination of Parental Rights (Kids Are Important Series)** by Julie Nelson, November 2006, All families change over time. Sometimes a baby is born, or a grown-up gets married. And sometimes a child gets a new foster parent or a new adopted mom or dad. Children need to know that when this happens, it's not their fault. They need to understand that they can remember and value their birth family and love their new family, too.
- **Let's Talk About Foster Home** by Elizabeth Weitzman. Answer common questions at an age-appropriate level. Filled with photos of real foster families. *For ages 6 – 10.*
- **Maybe Days: A Book for Children in Foster Care**, by Jennifer Wilgocki, Will I live with my parents again? Will I stay with my foster parents forever? For children in foster care, the answer to many questions is often "maybe." Maybe Days addresses the questions, feelings, and concerns these children most often face. Honest and reassuring, it also provides basic information that children want and need to know, including the roles of various people in the foster care system and whom to ask for help.
- **Murphy's Three Homes: A Story for Children in Foster Care** by Jan Levinson Gilman; illustrated by Kathy O'Malley. Murphy (a dog) copes with many feelings as he moves from home to home. *For ages 4 – 8.*
- **Into the Great Forest: A Story for Children Away from Parents for the FirstTime**, by Irene Wineman Marcus and Paul Marcus, PhD; illustrated by Susan Jeschke (Magination Press). Early separations—whether to go to school or camp—can be as upsetting as they are exciting for both children and parents.

How these events are handled can affect how children behave in similar situations throughout their lives. This story about a young prince's adventures away from home explores the insecurity and anger children may feel and suggests ways to resolve their conflicts by relying on their own strengths.

- **The Kissing Hand**, by Audrey Penn. This book is for any child who will be temporarily separated from home or loved ones, whether going to preschool or to camp. *Ages 4 - 8.*
- **The Invisible String**, by Patrice Karst, Publisher: DeVorss & Company; 10th Printing edition (September 1, 2000), "That's impossible", said twins Jeremy & Liza after their Mom told them they're all connected by this thing called an Invisible String. "What kind of string"? They asked with a puzzled look to which Mom replied, "An Invisible String made of love." This book is a very simple approach to overcoming the fear of loneliness or separation with an imaginative flair that children can easily identify with and remember. Specifically written to address children's fear of being apart from the ones they love, This book's message is that in today's uncertain times that though we may be separated from the ones we care for, whether through anger, or distance or even death, love is the unending connection that binds us all, and, by extension, ultimately binds every person on the planet to everyone else.