

Thurs. 11/7/02

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My name is Buddy Pruitt. I am an inmate at Limestone Correctional Facility in Copshaw Al. I have served 7 months on a 22 month sentence for a theft by deception case. I expect to be released Jan. 2004, unless I can get out earlier on parole or the S.I.R. program.

I am writing this letter because of a very urgent matter. Eight months ago in Birmingham Al, a woman and I conceived a child together. On or around Nov. 2001 this woman, Lisa Sadler, will give birth to a baby boy. He will be my first born child. Lisa and I are not married and have never lived together.

Well, she stayed in touch with me up until about four months ago. Since then my mother and I both have tried to locate Lisa, but we have had no luck in doing so. Then, on Oct. 18th, I received papers from The Adoption Center of Choice in Orem Utah. Enclosed was a letter stating that Lisa had informed the agency that I'm the father of her unborn child in which Lisa and I have known for eight months, and that she wants my support in placing my son up for adoption. Also enclosed were consent papers relinquishing my parental rights. I can not and will not sign these papers. This is my own son we're talking about here, my own flesh and blood. I can't conceive in my mind even the thought of giving away my son, to never see him again.

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the very first moment that she told me she was pregnant, there was never a time that I didn't want him. And she knows this because I told her. I've also assured her that my family would take care of her and my son until I'm released. This is why it's a shock to me that she would do this.

Well, since I've found out about this attempt by Lisa to give my son away, I've talked to my brother and his wife in Birmingham. They want to give their nephew a home until I'm released. They already have two wonderful children and they will love my son as their own child. And when I'm released, I vow to do everything in my power to provide a safe, loving and caring home for my child.

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of 4) Well anyway, a week after I received the consent papers from the agency, I called and talked to a social worker there and told her that I oppose this adoption and that I want custody of my son. The social worker said that Lisa can proceed against my will and that I need to obtain an attorney in the state of Utah.

My problem is that my family and I can't afford an attorney at this time, much less, one in Utah. I have written about twelve letters to different lawyers and agencies looking for help. One attorney in Birmingham suggested that I write

the judge's office in your jurisdiction and make my request for legal representation known regarding this situation. He also said that I have the right to be appointed an attorney in your jurisdiction to protect my rights. Can you please help me? I have never been so scared than I am now of losing my son. Believe me, I'm not a bad person and I deserve custody of my son.

I should also mention, that a clerk here in the library typed up for me a four page motion, denying my consent for adoption. I mailed your office and the adoption agency each a signed and notarized copy.

Will you please help me? I do not know what else I should do. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Buddy Pruitt

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