

6 Fears of Foster Parenting



Becoming a foster parent is full of rewards and challenges. Bringing kids out of traumatic situations into your home isn't always easy, but it can bring incredible joy. Showing kids a different kind of family is fulfilling and will stretch you in new ways. Unfortunately, many people focus on the challenges and make excuses about why it's not the right opportunity for your family.

Here are 6 fears of foster parenting:

- 1 It's too hard**

Parenting is hard period- whether it's for your biological kids or not. Just because something is hard, doesn't mean you shouldn't do it. Going through difficulties helps people work through issues. It brings refinement that will help you grow as a person in all areas of your life.
- 2 My biological kids will hate it**

Most kids don't have a clue about the real world. Fostering can pop their bubble and make them realize what is positive in their own life. Fostering exposes them to real world issues in a safer way because you can help them process it right away. Biological kids often develop compassion for helping others and learn that the world does not revolve around them. It can be hard for your biological kids, but it will teach them some big life lessons.
- 3 My wife will be stressed out**

Fostering can bring stress to everyone in your family. But think about the influence you get to show a foster child that stress doesn't always destroy a family. You have a chance to be a husband that helps and supports his wife and kids during stress. Setting this example can create a paradigm shift for a foster child about how to cope with stress.
- 4 It limits what we can do as a family**

This used to be true, but many changes have been made to allow foster children to be treated like your own kids. The Normalcy Law now allows foster kids to participate in sports, sleepovers, and other typical kid activities. There are some restrictions, but not as many to keep you from operating like a typical family.
- 5 It's expensive**

All kids are expensive. But in Florida, all medical and dental needs of foster kids are fully paid by the state. There are even scholarships for foster kids to go to private schools. Foster parents also receive a daily stipend to offset any out of pocket expenses. It may not cover everything, but it helps. There are also countless organizations willing to donate items needed to help your family not have to feel the financial burden.
- 6 We are already too busy**

A busy family is exactly the kind of family that excels at fostering. Being busy usually means you are a multitasking family. Foster kids will be exposed to multiple opportunities to learn social skills, expectations, and real life situations.

Being foster parents isn't always easy, but it is life giving for a child to have a glimpse of what a safe and loving family can look like. Your influence could break old cycles and set a child on a new path.



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