

# Welcome To



**Open Records Activism,  
Amusement,  
Education,  
Outrage**

*Bastards of the World, Unite!  
You Have Nothing to Lose  
but Your Shame...*

## Benefits of Membership

- Subscription to informative, inspiring and irreverent "Bastard Quarterly" newsletter.
- Access to the Members-only area of our website via The Secret Password.
- Action alerts for open records and adoptee dignity outreach.
- Advance notice of adoptee-related conferences and events.
- Discounts on events, conferences, and BN merchandise.
- Access to the Bastards Email Special Training (BEST) email list.
- Knowledge that you belong to the only adoptee-rights group dedicated to total equal rights for adult adoptees and the full spectrum of the adoptee experience.

*Find out how **you** can light a fire for Adoptee Rights by contributing to the **Who's Next? Adoptee Rights Fund**.*

**WHO'S NEXT?  
ADOPTEE RIGHTS FUND**  
P. O. Box 271672  
Houston, TX 77277-1672

*Please make checks out to Bastard Nation and be sure to list the **WHO'S NEXT FUND** in the memo portion of your check. Thank you!*

You can make your donation online using a credit card through our secure server at:

[www.plumsite.com/whosnext](http://www.plumsite.com/whosnext)

*Continued from other side*

7. Have you been reunited with a birthparent or relative? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, are you registered with the ISRR? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Affiliation:  Adoptee  Birth Parent  Adoptive Parent  Other \_\_\_\_\_
9. Skills: (e.g. language, research, legal, PR/media, graphics/film, medical, journalism, computer) \_\_\_\_\_

10. Did you find out that you were adopted as an adult? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Education (degree, field): \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date/Year of birth: \_\_\_\_\_
13. Your additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment may be made by check or money order to Bastard Nation or by credit card. Send your completed application to:

**Bastard Nation Membership • P. O. Box 271672 • Houston, TX 77277-1672**

You can register online using a credit card through our secure server at [www.bastards.org/members/memform.htm](http://www.bastards.org/members/memform.htm)

**Credit Card Information:**  American Express  Visa  MasterCard

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bastard Nation** is devoted to promoting adoptee dignity worldwide. In pursuit of that goal, we advocate for unconditional open records for adult adoptees, and provide a sounding board for the entire spectrum of the adoptee experience. We provide education and support through our website at [www.bastards.org](http://www.bastards.org), through the B.E.S.T. (Bastards Email Special Training) List, through national public awareness campaigns, and local meetings. Our newsletter, "The Bastard Quarterly," appears online and in print.

Bastard Nation has been involved in numerous campaigns to halt regressive legislation and to pass Adoptee Rights legislation. We initiated and campaigned for the successful Measure 58 in Oregon, which restored the right of Oregon's adult adoptees to access their original birth certificates. We have supported and worked with other state open records efforts around the country, including Alabama, which unsealed birth and adoption records to adult adoptees in 2000. We have fought successfully against the anti-adoptee provisions of the Uniform Adoption Act (UAA) in MD, PA, DE and WI. We campaigned against the anti-adoptee provisions of the Hague Intercountry Adoption Act, and for the Act's passage once they were removed. Among our many other projects is the BN X-Files, dedicated to exposing corrupt Adoption Industry practices which the sealed records system protects.

Bastard Nation has been featured in a wide range of national media, including *Time*, *Newsweek*, *USA Today*, NPR's *Talk of the Nation*, and the *Today Show*. We have raised awareness of adoptee issues through participation in the annual International Soundex Reunion Registry (ISRR) RegDay, adoption conferences, the T.I.E.S. (Terminal Illness Emergency Search) program, and more.

Membership is open to all who care about dignity and equal rights in adoption. Adoptees, adoptive and birth family members, adoption professionals, all belong to Bastard Nation. Opportunities exist for BN members to get involved in legal, artistic, educational, and special projects. To find out how you can get involved locally, call 415-704-3166, visit our website at [www.bastards.org](http://www.bastards.org), or email [bn@bastards.org](mailto:bn@bastards.org).

## Bastard Nation Mission Statement

Bastard Nation is dedicated to the recognition of the full human and civil rights of adult adoptees. Toward that end, we advocate the opening to adoptees, upon request at age of majority, of those government documents which pertain to the adoptee's historical, genetic, and legal identity, including the unaltered original birth certificate and adoption decree. Bastard Nation asserts that it is the right of people everywhere to have their official original birth records unaltered and free from falsification, and that the adoptive status of any person should not prohibit him or her from choosing to exercise that right. We have reclaimed the badge of bastardy placed on us by those who would attempt to shame us; we see nothing shameful in having been born out of wedlock or in being adopted.

Bastard Nation does not support mandated mutual consent registries or intermediary systems in place of unconditional open records, nor any other system that is less than access on demand to the adult adoptee, without condition, and without qualification.



### Bastard Nation Questionnaire & Application for Membership

The following information will be used to organize membership and coordinate future Bastard Nation activities such as legislative action, letter-writing campaigns, conferences, etc. The first four questions are required, the rest are optional, but very much appreciated. Please return your application and payment to the address on the other side of this form or fax it to 415-704-3166.

**Membership Category** (*Please check one, annual fee in parentheses*)

- Proud Bastard:**  Contributing (\$35)  Sponsor (\$100)  Patron (\$250)  Benefactor (\$500+)  Hardship/Student (\$15)
- Friend of Bastard Nation:**  Contributing (\$35)  Group/Family (\$75)  Sponsor (\$100)
- Patron (\$250)  Benefactor (\$500+)  Hardship/Student (\$15)

**Additional Donation:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_
3. City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip or Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Country: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province of birth/relinquishment: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Homepage URL: \_\_\_\_\_