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TRANSMITTAL: 98 INF-10

TO: Commissioners of
 Social Services
 Directors of
 Authorized Agencies

OFFICE: Strategic Planning
 and Policy
 Development

DATE: June 24, 1998

SUBJECT: Multiethnic/Interethnic Adoption Provisions

SUGGESTED

DISTRIBUTION: Adoption Staff
 Foster Care Staff
 Child Welfare Executive and Supervisor Staff
 Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: Any questions concerning this release should be directed
 to the appropriate Regional Office of the Office of
 Family and Children Services.

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ATTACHMENTS: Log No: ACYF-IM-CB-98-03 (not available on-line)

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
96 ADM -2		421.18			Multiethnic
98 INF -8					Placement
					Act of 1994
					The Small
					Business
					Job
					Protection
					Act of 1996

The purpose of this release is to inform you that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has published an Information Memorandum on questions and answers related to the implementation of the Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994 (MEPA), as amended by the Interethnic Adoption Provisions of The Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996. The attached DHHS Information Memorandum includes questions dealing primarily with whether public agencies can routinely consider race, color or national origin in any part of the foster care/adoption process, and in what context race, color or nation origin can be considered in individualized placement decisions.

Please note that the Office of Children and Family Services recently published release 98 INF-8, which summarizes the amendments to MEPA as provided by the Interethnic Adoption Provisions of The Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 and the requirements for implementation of the changes in New York State.

William F. Baccaglioni
Director
Strategic Planning
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