Published Books


Published Articles & Op Eds

Published in journals, magazines, newspapers and newsletters:

* Riben, M.. (2010). Facing the real issues in international adoption. Russia Beyond the Headlines. May 21
* Riben, M. (2010) "Who are the 143 Million Orphans?" Conducive magazine, Jan/Feb.

Self-Published Online:

* Childless Mother: Guilty Until proven Innocent. CounterCurrents, May 3.
* Riben, M. (2007). Adoption And The Role of The Religious Right, CounterCurrents, Nov. 4

**Published Book Reviews**


**Speaking Engagements**

**Radio:**

* "Speaking of Adoption" (2008) with Donna Montalbano, WOON Radio, Oct. 28

Television:

* RT-TV Russian American news network (2010). April 9 Interview regarding Artyem Savilliev, 7-year-old boy set back to Russia alone by Torry Hansen
* RT-TV Russian-American news network (2010). March 15 Interview regarding beating death of Nathaniel Craver, the latest in a series of Russian children adopted by Americans to be abused, many murdered.
* Morton Downey Junior Show (1989). Panel discussing open records with Joe Soll and Carol Gustavson
* Joan Rivers (1989). segment with Grace Anne Smiegel, grandmother of Lisa who was killed by Joel Steinberg
* Morton Downey Jr. Show (1988). The Dark Side of Adoption
* Geraldo Rivera Show (1988).“Private Adoption: White Knights or Flesh Peddlers”

Conference Presentations:

* Presented at countless other conferences including: Parents of Tomorrow, Adoption Forum, Council on Equal Rights in Adoption, Origins (NJ), and Concerned United Birthparents

**Teaching**

* Substitute taught at Staten Island College fro Phyllis Chelser, Women's Studies
* Guest lectured at Rutgers University, Women’s Studies.

**Recent Press**

* Murino, Chris (2007). Birth info not easily obtained by adoptees: RegDay serves to inform residents about adoption information hurdles, Sentinel (North Brunswick/ Brunswick). Nov. 15.

**Awards and Recogitions**

* Golden key National Honor Society, Rutgers University Chapter, recognition of outstanding undergraduate achievement
* 1998. University College Dean’s list.

**Volunteer History**

o Serves as chief spokesperson and strategist to develop and implement internal and external communications, covering the broad range of the organization's issues and initiatives.

o Oversees all media relations efforts, organization reputation management, and the creation and implementation of strategies to promote the organization's initiatives, visibility, growth, empowerment, uplift and education.

o Liaison to other adoption and non-adoption originations whose mission and goals overlap or are supportive of Origins-USA’s.

o This newly created position involves working directly with the president of this national nonprofit that advocates for mothers’ rights and keeping natural families together.

o Collaborates with officers, Board of Directors, and chairs of the Public Relations, Fundraising and Membership committees.

* August 2007- Aug 2008. Public Relations Chair and member of the Board of Directors, Origins-USA.

o Responsible for directing the Public Relations Committee in seeking opportunities to create and disperse Press Releases and to send Action Alerts to members and supporters when issues require letter writing and other outreach activities

o Identify opportunities for publicity

o Attend regular board meetings and report committee activities.

* 1999-2000. President, University College Literary Society, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

o Oversees publication of literary journal and “open mic” poetry readings.


o Oversees the selection of editing of poetry, short stories and essays for publication in the literary journal.

* 2000. Assistant Editor, The Podium: A Publication of University College Literary Society, Vol. II.

* 1999 - 2000. Secretary, University College Governing Association, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.


o Organized “Red Tape Ceremony” at the Hotel Roosevelt, New York, resulting in press coverage of the need to unseal adoption records

o Organized “Speak Out” and rally as part of March on Washington DC for Open Records

o One of five mothers who conceived the idea, developed a mission and plan of action, named the organization, and began delivering services
o Promoted our support groups in local newspapers and through self-help hotlines
o Edited monthly national newsletter
o Coordinated conferences, marches and demonstrations, including a candle light vigil in New York City after the tragic death of Lisa Steinberg
o Facilitated monthly support group meetings for mothers dealing with depression, denial guilt, PTSD, feelings of low self-esteem – all recognized consequences of having lost a child to adoption.
og Supported mothers who had never told anyone of their loss
o Helped mothers prepare for and deal with the myriad emotions of search and reunion or being found
o Comforted mothers who’s search ended with a grave or a child in a very bad situation
o Received referrals of mothers from social workers
o Helped two mothers keep their babies by offering them each temporary shelter in my home. One married her baby’s father and the mother of the other young lady relented and let her return home after seeing the baby


o Facilitated monthly meetings to help mothers learn the womanly art of breastfeeding
o Responded as needed to answer questions and provide support between meetings
o Attended national conferences and read to keep up-to-date on latest medical and emotional aspects of breastfeeding and mothering

**Employment**

* Advocate Publications. 2007 – present.

o President and CEO of sole proprietary publishing business
o Create, establish and run viable self-publishing company currently offering two titles and other items consistent with a dedicated philosophy of educating and advocating for families
o Locate, negotiate and coordinate with subcontractors such as editors and printers
o Obtain Library of Congress and ISBN numbers
o Design, maintain, and update website and content
o Oversee all media relations efforts, and promotional strategies, visibility, public relations and growth
o Establish distributors such as Amazon.com
o Maintain fiscal stability and oversee payment of appropriate taxes and fees
o Consult with and assist authors and aspiring authors with similar goals about various means of publishing today
o Evaluate new publishing projects

* Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. 1990 - 2003

o 2001-2003. Departmental Administrator, NJ EcoComplex,
- Provided administrative support to unit management by assisting with the coordination and administration of programs, projects, and/or processes and with the preparation and control of records, statistics, reports and documents. Schedules appointments, arranges and coordinates logistics for events and meetings. Processed various administrative documents and data. Created informational materials consistent with the mission, vision, role, and goals of the research unit.
- Managed a five-year $5M NASA grant to establish and maintain the NJ NASA Specialized center of research and training (NJ-NSCORT).
- Oversaw all secretarial, clerical, fiscal, purchasing, travel, payroll and reception duties of this off-campus high-tech research center in Burlington County, which includes six laboratories, a 120-seat auditorium, two classrooms, and a media room
- Set up arranged conferences and tours of the facility and adjacent greenhouse, liaison within and outside the unit, Rutgers, county and state

o 1997-2001 Administrative Assistant, NJ EcoComplex
o 1994-1997 Principal Secretary, Department of Plant Science
o 1992-1994 Secretary, Center for International Conflict Resolution and peace Studies
o 1990-1992 Secretary, Social Science Research Center

**Education**

Sociology Major, University College Honors Program, Rutgers, the State University of NJ. 1994 - 2001

**Organizational Memberships**

* Lifetime member Origins-USA.org
* Lifetime member Bastard Nation, Bastards.org
* Member American Adoption Congress (AAC)
* Member Adoptive Parents for Ethical Adoption Reform (aPEAR)