



In domestic infant adoption usually the expectant mom (or expectant parents) will select adoptive parents while she is pregnant. Even though she has chosen the adoptive parents that she wants to raise her child, it is still her child and she can still change her mind until she has relinquished her parental right and the revocation period is over (if the state has a revocation period).

The time from when an adoptive family and an expectant mother or couple is matched until the revocation period is a strange kind of limbo for the adoptive family.

On the one hand they are getting ready to become parents, with all the excitement and preparation that entails. On the other hand, they know that the child they are preparing for is not theirs yet and may never be theirs. The child is still firmly and fully the child of his biological parents. This is how it should be.

Adoptive parents may fully know and accept this, but still hope wildly in their hearts that this child will eventually become their child. They don't want to put undue pressure on the expectant mom, but they also don't want their heart broken. They are looking for any sign that they need to guard their heart.

Adoption attorney [Jim Thompson](#) has been practicing adoption law for more than 25 years. He shares the top 5 warning signs that an expectant mom will change her mind.

## Top 5 Red Flags that Expectant Mom Will Change Her Mind

1. **Stage of Pregnancy.** Women who match with adoptive families early in their pregnancy are more likely to change their mind. Matches made before the 5<sup>th</sup> month of pregnancy are a red flag.
2. **Focus on money.** It is a major warning sign if the expectant mom is more focused on money and living expenses than on forming a connection with the family she has chosen to raise her child.
3. **Age and maturity of the expectant mom.** Younger moms are less likely to ultimately go through with the adoption plan.
4. **First baby.** If this is the expectant mom's first baby, she is less likely to follow through on the adoption plan.
5. **Support system.** If the expectant mom's family either does not know about the pregnancy or is not supportive of the adoption, the mother is less likely to place her child.