

## **Multiethnic Placement Act (MEPA) / Interethnic Placement Act (IEP)**

- Attempt to decrease the length of time that children wait to be adopted;
- Prevent discrimination in the placement of children based on race, color, or national origin;
- Facilitate the identification and recruitment of foster and adoptive parents who can meet children's needs;
- An amendment to MEPA;

## **Multiethnic Placement Act (MEPA) / Interethnic Placement Act (IEP) (continued)**

- Public and private agencies, which receive federal funding, are prohibited from delaying or denying placement of a child on the basis of race, color, or national origin of the child, foster or adoptive parents.
- Categorical decisions regarding placement based on the race, color or national origin of the child, foster or adoptive parents are prohibited.
- Agencies are allowed to consider race or ethnic background in making placement decisions only on an individualized basis connected to the best interests of the child.