##### **[00:00:02.850] - Tim**

On this episode of The Infant Adoption Guide podcast, we talk with Terry Markroft about our new book, Pro Family, Pro Adoption.

##### **[00:00:16.580] - Tim**

Hey, everybody, welcome back to another episode of The Infant Adoption Guide podcast. My name is Tim Elder. This is the podcast all about domestic infant adoption. It's where we help you shorten the time and decrease the cost to go on your adoption journey, make it less stressful for you, reach the dream of becoming parents, as I have done three times. So thank you so much for joining me. Thank you for listening. I ask you please share the show with anybody that you may be thinking about domestic infant adoption and could get some use out of it. There's a lot of great stuff, great content that we got in this show.

##### **[00:00:48.390] - Tim**

This is a very special episode as we have Terry Marcroft. Her and I actually wrote a book called Pro Family, Pro Adoption. It's really the stories and facts and resources and call to action for Christians and really anybody, but specifically for Christians to really get the word out about adoption. Our personal stories are in there. There's personal stories from other people in this book.

##### **[00:01:12.290] - Tim**

It's just amazing content that we put together and wrapped up in this book that you can get on as an e-book or a hardcopy on Amazon. And it's available. You can just search for pro-family, pro-adoption, or you can go to my link at InfantAdoptionGuide.com/profamilybook. And I'll put the link in the show notes of the podcast. This is episode 107.

##### **[00:01:37.700] - Tim**

So if you do that and go to that link, you can actually get some bonus audio of Terry and I talking about the book because we share our personal stories and insights and how the book came together and what we've done and what was our favorite parts and what we've learned, a lot of great stuff and just some a bonus podcast episode just for you for buying that book through Amazon. All you have to do is if you go to InfantAdoptionGuide.com/profamilybook and you'll see how to get that bonus content when you purchase the book. InfantAdoptionGuide.com/profamilybook.

##### **[00:02:13.750] - Tim**

Let's get into that interview right now. We welcome back to the show today, Terry Marcroft. She's been our guest a couple of times on the show.

##### **[00:02:24.330] - Tim**

She's a mom through adoption and founder of UnplannedGood.Org, which is a wonderful nonprofit organization, encourages not all of us, really, to consider helping to support women to make an adoption plan when facing an unplanned pregnancy, which is exactly what we're going to talk about today, because Terry and I have been working on a book called Pro-Family Pro-Adoption: A Christian's Guide to Unplanned Pregnancy Options. Welcome back, Terry. How are you?

##### **[00:02:50.800] - Terri**

Thank you so much, Tim. It's always fun to team up with you and talk adoption.

##### **[00:02:55.780] - Tim**

Yeah, and it's been so much fun putting this book together. We're going to talk all about that and more. What's been so much fun for me, I guess, has just seen this all come together. It's been a dream of mine. Something I've always wanted to do was put a book together. Thankfully, I have not done this by myself. You, as an expert author—and I've done this several times before—invited me to join you on this journey, which has been fabulous and wonderful and certainly an honor of mine to help you with this. Let's talk about the book, Pro-Family, Pro-Adoption: A Christian's Guide to Unplanned Pregnancy Options. It's really a labor of love, I guess, really for you. I mean, it's embodies everything into your organization. But why this book? Why now? From your point of view.

##### **[00:03:49.650] - Terri**

Tim, I think it's important to talk about it now. We're a little bit more than a year beyond the overturning of Roe, and a lot of states clamped down on abortion following that decision because it was left to the states, as we all know. But when people are saying no to abortion, we were thinking that it's really important to say yes to some positive and constructive solution because you just can't say no. My dad always said bring a solution if you're going to complain about something. So we are bringing a solution and it's placing for adoption. And so the book is talking about why that is a viable option.

##### **[00:04:29.920] - Tim**

Yeah, absolutely. I mean, both of us being adoptive parents and both of us Christians, we believe this book is a wake-up call. It's also an information resource and it's also a guide and it's also a story about how we can all do better to support those around us who are going to go through or will go through an unplanned pregnancy. We can show her there's just a loving and life-giving choice in adoption. In open adoption, even, that may be something a lot of people in the US, I think we found out, a lot of people don't even understand what open adoption is. We also go through that in the book. I think that's what makes this just amazing, a resource and story. It's not just a resource, it's not just a story. It's not just a guide. It's all of that stuff packed into this book. It's a call as well, especially as us Christians, how we can reexamine ourselves and reexamine the church and how we respond to unplanned pregnancies in the US. Exactly. I guess some people might ask, and they've already asked me when I was just talking about the book and talking about writing it and putting it together and publishing it all out, and they're like, Well, why Christians?

##### **[00:05:39.970] - Tim**

Why are you specifically saying that this is a guide specifically for Christians? What would you say to that?

##### **[00:05:47.580] - Terri**

I did write a book targeted towards the pro-choice audience. It actually left God out of the conversation and just didn't appeal from a moral standpoint, but from an informational, factual standpoint. With this book, you and I had the freedom to incorporate our faith and to rely on the Bible and to refer to scripture. It just makes the whole thing so much richer and so much more powerful. At the same time, the other reason why it's a Christian's guide is because Christians, or you could say the church in particular, seems to shy away from this conversation and seems to just do what they can to avoid this conversation. It seems like instead of being judgmental about the woman who shows up with an unplanned pregnancy, because that's a lot of our first reaction, is to shame her or to talk about how she got there or what she did wrong or what we're all doing wrong to lead to this unplanned pregnancy epidemic in our country. If we were to just meet her where she is, which is what we hope the church will do in all difficult circumstances, meet her where she is and say, Okay, you're pregnant, and that wasn't the plan.

##### **[00:07:10.120] - Terri**

So where do we go from here? And to have the decision-making process enlightened by faith and underlined with scripture, it just makes us so much more capable of advising well, I think.

##### **[00:07:25.070] - Tim**

Absolutely agree. I mean, the first story in the book, other than that you wrote in the preface, but the first story of the book is from a birth mom, and she talks about being judged. She talks about, even from her own family, trying to get that acceptance and what do I do and how do I tell them. She goes through that process of how she did that. I think why this guide specifically for Christians is you're right. I mean, we even give statistics in the book of why and how the church does actually judge single women who are pregnant and can't handle or maybe are not prepared to help these women that are sitting in the pews next to us. That's not the problem. That's a big problem. That's why I feel like this is a wake-up call to us Christians and us, the church in general is, if those women are sitting next to you, what are you doing? How can you help them?

##### **[00:08:22.130] - Terri**

Right. I've heard so many women say that they would much rather go to confession than show up in church with an unplanned pregnancy because they do feel that they're shamed and they don't feel like their home church is going to be helpful or even be compassionate, much less helpful. That makes me sad that I think we could change that. That was part of the reason for calling this book. What we did is the call to action. We would love to see the church change its behavior in this topic and to reach out, be more helpful, be more compassionate, be less judgmental, and actually just meet these women where they are and figure out how we're going to protect life from there and then help her make the decisions that are best.

##### **[00:09:17.390] - Tim**

Yeah, and I think that's why this book also helps us with educating the church. The church is us. We are the church. We are the church. But educating us on what adoption really is in open adoption, specifically what that is, and open adoption specifically, what that is, and back to that same story from that birth mom, is she didn't know what open adoption was. She was like, I want to close. I was sure I wanted to close adoption. But she didn't know what an open adoption was. Then she learned about it and went, Oh, well, I don't want anything but an open adoption. Getting that information into the hands of us, we, the church, will help us be more sympathetic and empathetic and understanding and supportive of these women because we are armed with more information. That's a huge part of the book, in my opinion.

##### **[00:10:02.260] - Terri**

Right. Yeah. The other part of that, too, is that out of all the women who choose abortion, it's something like 70% of them feel that they are pressured into it. If they're pressured into it, then that means to me that they really actually do value the life and they would prefer to choose life, but they just can't parent right now. Right. If that feels like she's between a rock and a hard place, she wants to choose life, but she can't parent. It's just not happening in her life right now. So if she can't parent, this is the beautiful solution. Let someone else parent then, but go through with the pregnancy and then choose the parents. It can be very empowering when the woman finds out how many choices are actually up to her.

##### **[00:10:51.420] - Tim**

Absolutely. That comes to the main thought or an idea or message of the book is what we ask in there is called the Million dollar question, which is why do only 1% or so of the women facing unplanned pregnancy actually choose adoption? I mean, that statistic is shocking. Isn't it? 1%. Are you kidding me?

##### **[00:11:13.940] - Terri**

Yes. I always get a shocked reaction when I share that. Yes. One out of 100 of these women facing unplanned pregnancy will choose adoption. It's hard. We admit in the book that it's hard. There's a whole chapter called It's Hard, and we know that. The difference, though, is the long-term view versus the short-term view, because lots of things that are difficult in the short term turn out to be the best for you in the long term.

##### **[00:11:43.480] - Tim**

Yeah. Let's break down the book real quick. I'm not going to read out every chapter or anything like that because I want you, the listener, to go get the book and check it out for yourself. But I want to give you an idea with the book how it's laid out. We laid it out in four parts.

##### **[00:11:59.920] - Tim**

Part one is unplanned pregnancy, the core of the problem in the US. We break down what the problem is and how the million dollar question that we just talked about, the one %. Then we talk about what unplanned pregnancy looks like in the US. We talk about adoption in general. One chapter is really, I love this one, not your grandma's adoption, because that's talking about adoption today versus maybe what you, the listener, maybe know what adoption is from 40 years ago or from what Hollywood says it is. That's an important chapter because that also leads into open adoption and talking about that. Then like you said, adoption is hard. It's not easy. But what is it? What does adoption is? Then that's all about part one.

##### **[00:12:46.770] - Tim**

Part two is, can we talk? We're getting honest conversation about what the realities of the choices are. The abortion choice, single parenting choice, the truth about those options, and what they mean to women and mean to the children.

##### **[00:13:05.060] - Tim**

Then part three is getting to the heart of the adoption, which is the triad. We tell three different perspectives: the birth-parent perspective, adoptee perspective, and adoptive-parent perspective, which I get blessed to be able to put my perspective in there. That's the adoptive-parent part. You get to read a little bit of my story in there in part three.

##### **[00:13:22.360] - Tim**

Then part four, we get into the invitation part, the solution like you talked about. Not just providing a problem, but the solution. We have several chapters in there and just inviting different types of people, inviting men, inviting churches, inviting parents and grandparents, we're inviting educators. I'm going to ask about this in a little bit, but the last chapter of that part is calling for true sisterhood. I want to ask you about that in a minute, Terry, but that chapter is really, really powerful. We'll talk about that in a minute. Then we conclude the whole book with a birth mother's reflection. It starts out with a birth mother reflection and it ends with a birth mother reflection.

##### **[00:14:03.760] - Tim**

That's really, really powerful. The back of the book is one of my favorite parts too because it's just packed full of resources. Not only are we presenting what the issue is and educating you about adoption and helping you to invite you to suggest and influence and help the women around you, but then we're going to give you the resources on what to do with them. Anything you want to add to that, Terri?

##### **[00:14:31.970] - Terri**

Great summary, Tim. Nice job.

##### **[00:14:35.440] - Tim**

Well, I almost read through all the chapters, actually. It went a lot longer than I wanted to. But anyway, I wanted to give you guys, the listener, really an idea what the book is all about without actually being able to pick it up. So when you do, you'll know. You'll know. As we talk about the church, and one part in the book we ask, Well, what if the church, and I think you came up with this, Tarin, pretty sure you did. You said, What if the church was the first place a woman with unplanned pregnancy ran to, rather than running away? We talked about it a little bit about that, but can you explain that a little bit more? What does that mean? I don't know.

##### **[00:15:15.640] - Terri**

Isn't it a shocking thought, though? Yes. Absolutely. That if you're faced with a crisis pregnancy to be able to turn to the church. Yeah.

##### **[00:15:23.230] - Tim**

Because historically- It should be a no-brainer.

##### **[00:15:24.330] - Tim**

Sorry? It should be a no-brainer.

##### **[00:15:26.920] - Terri**

It should be, yeah. It should be a no-brainer because historically, the church has been so helpful to so many aspects of society. The church started the first schools, the church started the first hospitals, the church started the first soup kitchens or homeless shelters. The church has done so much to improve society when people were facing very difficult challenges. But somehow we haven't had it together when they're facing unplanned pregnancy. If we could just add that to the list that that's a place where the people need to need to rely on their faith and they need to rely on Christ and they need to pray to get them through it. The church should be such a natural place to go when that's the situation. Absolutely. You're saying, What does it look like? First, it starts with helping her think through the options so that she can choose life without that feeling of being so overwhelmed that her next 20 years are going to be devoted to parenting. Help her to choose life and make it manageable or make it less scary. Somehow make it something that doesn't just overwhelm her completely. Then after that, there's all the other ways that we help many, many families.

##### **[00:16:55.900] - Terri**

We help with food or shelter or clothing or babysitting or whatever. There's lots of ways that we help the families in our church communities. It seems odd to me when we talk through it that the church is absent from this conversation.

##### **[00:17:12.640] - Tim**

Yeah, it is odd. One thing, and I know, Terry, you probably not have heard me say this, but I'm going to... Recently I was talking about the book and this little story came out and it shocked me. It's not a very long story, but someone I know was a single woman that had an unplanned pregnancy and didn't know what to do. She was scared and frightened and didn't know where to turn and tried to turn to the church. The church didn't accept her. Not only did the church not accept her, but the church, and I say the church, and maybe this was an individual decision, I don't know, but the pastor of the church came to her house, and I guess, out of compassion, offered her money and said, don't come back to the church. To me, I mean, it just pains me to my core. Oh, yes. It's actually the opposite, everything opposite of what we as Christians and we as the church need to be about. That's the call of this book.

##### **[00:18:25.510] - Terri**

Yes. That breaks my heart to have the church say don't come back. Yes. That's the heartbreak.

##### **[00:18:34.180] - Tim**

That should never ever happen. Right.

##### **[00:18:37.830] - Tim**

It gets me to the point where I wanted to ask you about calling for the true sisterhood. That was one of our chapters, and you wrote it so beautifully and well. But I wanted you to explain it a little bit. What does the calling of true sisterhood mean and why it was important to put it in the book?

##### **[00:18:58.530] - Terri**

So true sisterhood, I grew up in a family with five sisters, so I have five sisters today. When I think about my love for my sisters, and you could take it figuratively or you could take it literally, but when I think about the love I have for my sisters, I want the very best for them in every aspect of their life in every way. When I think of one of them facing an unplanned pregnancy, now to be able to consider counseling her or advising her inside of the backdrop of the unintended consequences of abortion or the unintended outcomes of single parenting, to me, the whole prospect of choosing adoption has been elevated with everything that I've learned about the downsides of the other two. Does that make sense? Yes. Now that we know all the harm that abortion does to a woman's body, and we know all of the intense challenges of single parenting and how that compromises both the woman and the child, when we look at those two sets of downsides and then we look at the intense, beautiful upsides of adoption as it's practiced today, very unlike the past, as it's practiced today, that makes in my mind, adoption is elevated now to one of the best choices if you want to choose life, but you can't choose parenting.

##### **[00:20:33.180] - Terri**

It's elevated to a healthy, nurturing, natural, uplifting, empowering choice. That's what I want for my sisters. I want them to be able to take hold of their future and embrace their current situation, make all their decisions for themselves, be completely informed about the pros and cons of all of their choices, and with all of that information to walk alongside them as they choose a healthy option. That's why the sisterhood part was important, just because of that love means that we put the other person's wellbeing above our own, right? That's what adoption is all about, is putting the wellbeing of someone else above your own, but not just that, but to let them make these healthier decisions. It's really just wanting the best for my sisters. That's why having all of that other information uncovered empowers us through information.

##### **[00:21:38.930] - Tim**

Sisters, in this sense, is a lot more than just your blood-related sisters. It's your sisters and your church. Right. All those sisters in your church.

##### **[00:21:48.780] - Terri**

All those sisters. Yeah, the big picture of sisterhood. It could be all the women in the country. Right. Yeah.

##### **[00:21:56.880] - Tim**

I mean, the last sentence or a couple of sentences you wrote in that chapter says, show that you have got the back of the woman you love. Show her what true Christian sisterhood looks like. Protect her and love her. Pray for her. Help her understand what open adoption is today. That's what that chapter is about. I love that, how you put that in the book. That's a huge part of the calling of all of us to see and to actually do. Get some action out of the book. I love that. I appreciate you putting that in there. When we're talking about, I mentioned this before to one of the chapters called Not Your Grandma's Adoption. We alluded to it a little bit here with the open adoption concept. Just in case somebody's not listening to this and no idea what open adoption is, and I'm going, Well, yeah. What? So open, closed, two cares. What we're talking about here is open adoption is having some level of or even a relationship with the birth mom. What does that mean? After a baby is placed with a family, or a child is placed with a family, that adoptive family actually has some contact with the birth family.

##### **[00:23:14.750] - Tim**

Either it could be the birth mom, the birth dad, the birth grandma, but has some contact with that family, stays in contact with them. Not just for the adults in the situation, but the child, the center of this whole adoption. That's the beauty of the open adoption relationship and the reason for it is to help all involved, but especially the child. Anything you wanted to add to that, Terri?

##### **[00:23:43.020] - Terri**

I think you did a good job. I would only say that the way that I think about it tends to be that it's about possibility. There's no mandates on the relationship and there's no frequency directives about how often visits need to happen or any of that. It's more just that it's all possible. If the birth parents and the adoptive parents can agree on whatever they want that relationship to look like, they can make that happen. If they commit to some openness, then it's possible for them to just decide on all the parameters and whatever works for all the parties involved. But you can access then some information. It leaves a world of possibilities in terms of how it's structured. But the most important part is just that the truth is out there. It's transparent. People know what's going on, and the child, most important, understands what the circumstances were that his or her birth mother was facing. And so he knows more about his story than he otherwise would with a closed adoption. Absolutely. And that's very healthy.

##### **[00:24:55.780] - Tim**

Yeah, we've experienced that. Our three adoptions and just having different levels and different ways of having that relationship with our kids as birth parents. It's been huge, not just for us, but huge for our kids just to see and know where they came from and know what their story is. And then we share a little bit more of their stories with them as they get older. They don't know everything, but they will. Just when they get older, they keep getting to know some more and more and more. And they have that communication pretty much any time they want to.

##### **[00:25:29.640] - Terri**

So it's totally natural for a child to want to know where he came from.

##### **[00:25:34.390] - Terri**

It's an innate curiosity that all kids have. All kids want to know the story about when they were born and how all that happened.

##### **[00:25:42.380] - Tim**

Yeah. For adoptees, it really helps them process. What did that mean? Why did they do it? What happened? How did I end up with you? Those questions really do come out. We're seeing that even more and more as our kids get older. You're right, it's healthy. It's not easy. I wouldn't say everything's like hanky dory and, Oh, we just have all the answers and everything's fine and everybody processed it perfectly. That's not the case. I'm not saying it's easy, but it is so much more healthy than I can't even imagine our kids going, Oh, what happened? I have all these questions and you have no answers. I would be so paralyzed.

##### **[00:26:22.280] - Terri**

Right. Yeah, it's good to have those answers. It's good for the child to know. One of the things that's really good for them to know is that the birth mother had a difficult road, that it's a difficult choice to make. And if they realized that she made it anyway for the child's own good to place him with parents who were equipped to parent, then the child can understand better that he or she is loved, was loved, and is loved. Because otherwise, with no information, you can often think that the child did something. The child would say to himself, What did I do that made my mom give me up. That's not the scenario we want playing in a child's mind. That's very harmful. But if they realize that their first mom made that decision out of love, that's a whole different ball game. That's a really beautiful thing to know.

##### **[00:27:17.340] - Tim**

Yeah, absolutely. I mean, even in the stories that we put in the book, one of them is Ricky's birth-parent story. The very first thing he says in there is, "of two things I am certain that my daughter loves me and that I made the right choice. I am a birth-father, and 24 years ago, I chose to place my daughter, Sophie, in an open adoption." That's powerful, and his story is powerful. When you go to read it in the book, you will be just blown away about the emotions and the things that you read and hear and just pulling you through their stories as you read them.

##### **[00:28:02.480] - Terri**

Right. I'm glad you brought that up because one of the reasons that Ricky's story is very impactful and why we really wanted to include it was because it's the man in this scenario where the woman is facing an unplanned pregnancy. Often we think he has nothing to do with it or he doesn't have a right to chime in on the decision making for the unplanned pregnancy. But Ricky did. He did feel that he was very involved and he has remained involved now that Sophie is 24 years old. He was very much affected by the whole thing. His role as a birth father is something that he takes seriously still today. I thought that was pretty interesting.

##### **[00:28:45.690] - Tim**

Yeah, it is very interesting. We've talked a lot about the book and why we like the book and why we think that the book is powerful and all the things are in the book. But what we've done is also collect some quotes from various folks all in and around the adoption world about the book. I'll allow them to look at it. I'll allow them to say, Hey, what would you say about this book? We've included a lot of those quotes on the back of the book, on the inside of the book. I want to ask you, Terry, which one or two of your favorite and why? But while you think about that, I'm going to tell you or tell everybody what my favorite one, which is from Matt Burke. I don't know if you're not familiar with his name. He was a NFL player. He was a Super Bowl champion, but he's also a pro-life advocate. He's a dad of eight, and he knows adoption. Here's this quote, Because it calls out men. He says, "This book reminds us that God calls men to lead their families and their households."

##### **[00:29:53.970] - Tim**

Fathers and partners need to advocate for the women they love, especially when they face an unplanned pregnancy. Adoption is a loving, positive response, worth careful consideration. I love that because he certainly calls out men. As a guy, he's calling out men. We have a chapter all about that too, inviting men to lead. That's one of my favorite quotes. What about you, Terri?

##### **[00:30:19.260] - Terri**

I'm torn in figuring out who's my favorite, because Terry Froman is a pastor at a huge church in Tennessee, and she talks about the church's role and being ready to step up. Valerie Hill is the CEO of the Bay Area Network of Medical Clinics, Women's Clinics, and they are becoming more and more comfortable, I'd say, suggesting adoption to their patients. Historically, the medical clinics or the crisis pregnancy centers have been really focused on helping women to avoid abortions, but they're starting to talk more about adoption. I value her very highly for doing a rough job in a very liberal area. I appreciate Valerie Hills' quote in there as well.

##### **[00:31:13.730] - Tim**

Yeah, there's a lot of great quotes. The reason for that is not that we want to get everybody to help us promote the book, but to get other people's opinions. I think at least when I'm looking at the book, and especially looking at the back of the book, I'm going, Oh, why should I read this book? I'm reading the quotes going, Oh, that makes a lot of sense. That sparks a thought in my head or really a reason for me to pick up that book and go, Yeah, I need to dig into this and take a look at it. Hopefully, that does that for you, the listener, as well, because don't just take our word for it because we're in the middle of it. We're all about the book, but we definitely want you to get opinions from other people as well to hopefully spark your interest in the book. I wanted to talk about the resource section at the back of the book. There's so many things in there, not just websites, but books, podcasts, adoption agencies. There's just a ton of stuff in there. But one of my favorites is the Care for Pregnant Women section.

##### **[00:32:20.720] - Tim**

Now, I remember when you first shared this graphic with me, Terri, I was blown away by it because the graphic says Women have real choices. And the sentence at the top says, There are 14 women's health and pregnancy centers for every planned parenthood. And it just shows the dots all over the United States. That's just such a powerful graphic to me. And there's so many organizations that are spelled out in the resource sections that absolutely care for pregnant women in there. It's not something just to say, Okay, here's a book about adoption. Why adoption is important and how come we aren't considering it and what's the church doing about it? But here's where to go to help the women in their life.

##### **[00:33:05.090] - Terri**

Right. The resources section is extensive, as you point out. Part of the reason we thought that was extremely important was because the whole book is calling on people to suggest adoption and to encourage women to choose adoption and then to support them through the journey. In order to do that, maybe everybody doesn't feel capable about that until they get more immersed in the topic and understand how open adoption works. But also if they know that there are a whole ton of resources to draw on, they can lean on all those organizations. They can lean on their local adoption agency. They can lean on their local women's medical clinic or crisis pregnancy center. They can lean on all those resources and use them to help empower the advisor, the mentor, or the parent who's advocating for adoption. We're not in this alone because it might seem to be a little bit of an overwhelming task to take on that advocacy on your own without preparation, but that's why the resources are there to say there are a lot of people who can help along this journey.

##### **[00:34:19.550] - Tim**

Absolutely. It's very, very powerful and it's a great way to end the book because you have a call to action towards the end of the book with all those chapters talking about the call to action. But then here's something you can do. Here's where to go. Here's what you can do. That's a super great way to end the book. As we end this podcast, and I want to ask you, Terri, why... I mean, we talked about all throughout the book or throughout this podcast, but why should folks listening to this go get that book and share it or read it and share it?

##### **[00:34:59.830] - Terri**

I think to start with the part one, some of the data is just overwhelming. The United States leads the world, leads the Western world, especially where you would think we could be doing a better job. We lead in unplanned pregnancy, we lead in teen pregnancy, we lead in single-parent households. We could be doing so much better to care for both the young women of our society and the next generation. I think the data hits you over the head and says this is an actual problem that we could face and we could actually help to solve as well. That's one reason to get the book, is just to understand the data. But secondly, or I have my top 200 reasons for this, but secondly is understanding, especially the harm that abortion does to a woman's body, because nobody's talking about that and there's no way you'll ever hear that in a pro-choice society if you're only listening to the narrative that comes from Planned Parenthood. Understanding what it does to a woman's body, most of that information came from a huge variety of studies, but a lot of the studies were summarized by the American Association of Pro-Life GYNs, and they do some amazing work that documents from a medical standpoint because they're all gynecologists and obstetricians and they document all of the harms that's done to women's bodies.

##### **[00:36:41.880] - Terri**

And so that is not information that you can get anywhere else really summarized in this way so that it's talking points and you can take it to heart and then share it with somebody else. I think that's a pretty important section of the book. Then thirdly, I'm really in love with all of Allie Watson's work, where in the preface she talks about facing her unplanned pregnancy and how she made the adoption decision. Then in the afterward, at the very end, she has a story of hindsight, looking back 10 years later after placement of her daughter, Olivia, with the adoptive parents, Sean and Cheryl. She talks about her relationship with the adoptive parents so that all of it's in the interests of her child, Olivia, and she's just able to look back with the hindsight of 10 years and tell you how it is today. Those bookends, I think, are powerful as well.

##### **[00:37:41.330] - Tim**

Absolutely. I couldn't agree more with all that. I don't know if I could add to that. That was very well said and very well put out. Let's close here with, well, when the book is going to be available, which by the time you are listening to this, the book will be available, and you can get it on Amazon. First and foremost, that would be the easiest place to do it. And when this gets released initially, you, the listener, are going to have a special way to get it and a special price. I'm not going to tell you what that is because I want you to go to Amazon and look at it. But then you'll get it. You will get it as well through our connection, through email and through our social media. You will find out what that is. But we have a special... as this book gets released during National Adoption Month, which is November, you'll see that special and get it. You can connect with Terri at Unplannedgood.Org, and you can connect with me at InfantAdoptionGuide.Com. I just wanted to close with this very well-written dedication, very short, but the dedication at the front of the book.

##### **[00:38:50.790] - Tim**

It just says to the almost two million American couples out there, ready, willing, waiting, and hoping to adopt a baby. May God give you faith to persevere in your trials and wait patiently on the Lord. That is so true because Terry and I have lived it and we were there and we've adopted. To you, the listener, that are waiting and hoping to adopt a baby, you are in our prayers. We hope you get this book and share it because it really is a powerful calling and a powerful resource for all of us, but especially as Christians, to take out into the world, into our churches and support those women around us. It was a pleasure to work with you on this book. Certainly, the honor was mine as you asked me to join you on this. You're the expert author in this situation, and I was very happy to come along on this ride with you.

##### **[00:39:47.870] - Terri**

Glad to have done it with you.

##### **[00:39:49.550] - Tim**

All right. Take care, Terry. We'll talk to you soon.

##### **[00:39:51.800] - Terri**

Thank you, Tim. Take care.

##### **[00:39:54.870] - Tim**

All right. Awesome. Awesome episode with Terri. Love talking with her. Love this book. I hope you can get it and share it. Even buying an extra copy and giving it to some family or friends that don't know about adoption or maybe they need just to learn about it, maybe you're going through the adoption process and you want to help educate them, there's some great stuff in there too that will help educate people on adoption and the resources there. Like I said, Oh, man, that back of the book resources section is amazing. But just the stories and facts and figures and the call to action. I just love how this whole book came together. I'm glad we were able to do this podcast to help explain a little bit more about what the book is about. If you go want to go get the book, it's available on Amazon right now. You can just search for Pro-Family Pro-Adoption book. You can either search for Terri Marcroft's name or myself, or an even easier way to get it is through a link that I have, InfantAdoptionGuide.Com/profamilybook. Now, if you do that, we got an extra special bonus audio for you that we talk about our personal stories, our personal backstories, insights, what we learned about it and the book.

##### **[00:41:11.950] - Tim**

You can get this free extra audio an extension of this podcast. If you buy the book and tell us that you bought the book, and at that link, it'll show you exactly how to get that bonus audio. InfantAdoptionGuide.Com/profamilybook. And all the highlights and everything we talked about on today's show will be in the show notes, InfantAdoptionGuide.com/107. And if you would please help me get this podcast into the ears of more adoptive families just like you, more people that want to learn about adoption, don't know where to go. If you leave an honest review over at iTunes, it would really help us out. InfantAdoptionGuide.Com/itunes will get you there. Or if you just go into iTunes, you'll see, or your favorite podcast app, anyway, it doesn't have to be iTunes. But you can go to your favorite podcast app and just leave a review and rating. That would be great. I appreciate you. And until next time, you are in my peruse as you go on the journey to adopt your special little one. God bless.