

Never leave a young child unattended. Always keep some form of identification in your child's pocket in case you accidentally become separated.

For emergency identification purposes, take along several recent photographs of your child. You may also wish to leave extra copies of those photographs with a family member.

Teach your child never to open the door of your hotel room to anybody.

When entering or leaving a hotel elevator, keep your child right beside you. If the doors close too quickly, he or she could be stranded.

If your offspring is under 16 and is not listed on your passport, you must have a notarized document from the child's father giving permission for the child to travel.

If you're travelling to another country with your child and there

is a possibility of a custody dispute developing in Canada or abroad while you're away, talk to a lawyer before leaving home. A special publication, *International Child Abductions: A Manual for Parents*, is available from DFAIT.

Please refer to the References, Resources and Recommended Reading section for details on how to order this publication.

"I've been travelling with my kids since the youngest was three months old. When she fussed, I went into a larger than life singing or dancing routine to distract her. Often, this made fellow travellers laugh and sympathize instead of trying to get as far away as possible from an upset mother and child."

*Kathy Kastner, Vice President,  
The Parent Channel*

## International Adoptions

If you are thinking of adopting a child from another country, you must first contact the authorities of the province or territory in which the child will reside. While adoption

is a provincial/territorial responsibility, Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) is responsible for allowing an adoptive child into Canada. Entry into Canada can be