

HOW TO TELL IF YOUR CHILD WAS SWITCHED AT BIRTH

1 Compare a photograph of yourself or your spouse as teenagers to a photograph of your child.

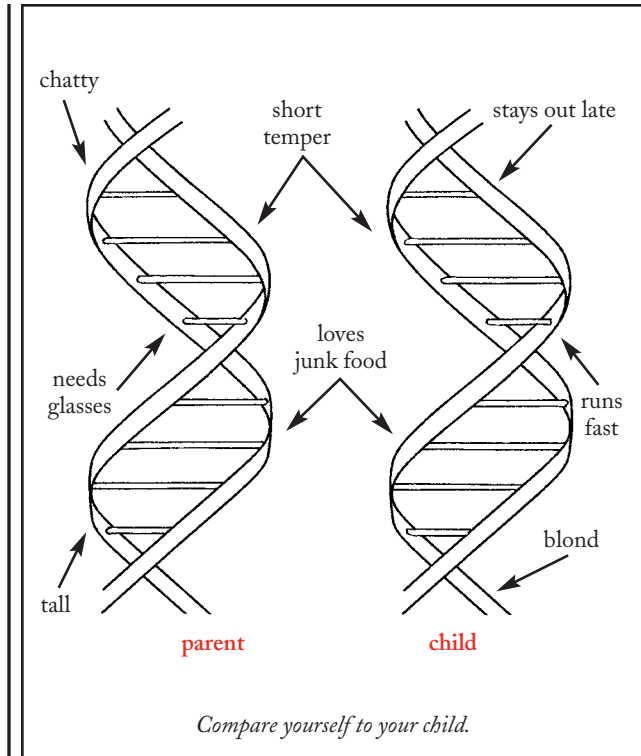
Look particularly at facial features—eyes, nose, mouth—and at body shape. If there are absolutely no similarities and your child was not adopted, you might be right: This strangely behaving person may not be your biological child. Proceed to step 2.

2 Compare personality traits.

Look for common tendencies and habits that are signs of a genetic connection. Allow for generation-specific differences such as musical taste and fashion sense.

3 Examine what happened immediately after your child's birth.

- Did you actually see the doctor place the ID band on your child's arm or leg in the hospital room?
 - Was your child out of your immediate view for more than a few seconds?
 - Did you notice any marked similarities between yourself and any other children in the nursery?
- If the answer to any of the above questions is “yes” or “I don't know,” look for further evidence of a long-ago error.



Be Aware

- Your child's difficult and dissimilar traits might be attributable to your spouse.
- DNA testing is expensive, and by now you're a family anyway.