



How our story began...

Dear birth parent(s),

First we would like to thank you for reading our profile book and taking the time to learn a little bit more about us.

Our Story began in 2003 at university where we both enrolled in Medical School. We already knew each other briefly from an earlier course in Health Sciences but at the party celebrating the new academic year we suddenly clicked and have been inseparable ever since.



this is one of the first pictures of us as a couple. It was taken on a day trip for University.

We were only 19 back then!

We met many of our closest friends during this time. Some of them even wrote our recommendation letters. This picture was taken on a vacation in Vienna, Austria



As our love grew...

As the years went by we grew as a couple and started to think about the life we want to lead.

During our internships we travelled to India and Nepal, a country we would visit again together with Wilco, Heiko's brother. On this special occasion Heiko proposed to me at Mount Everest base camp.





We were married on June 1st 2013.
It was a perfect day celebrated with friends, family and Vera's nieces
Fleur and Merel as flower girls...



Our adoption journey.... an American journey!

Early on in our relationship we decided we wanted to have children someday. After the wedding it appeared not to be that simple. As we couldn't conceive naturally we sought after other options.

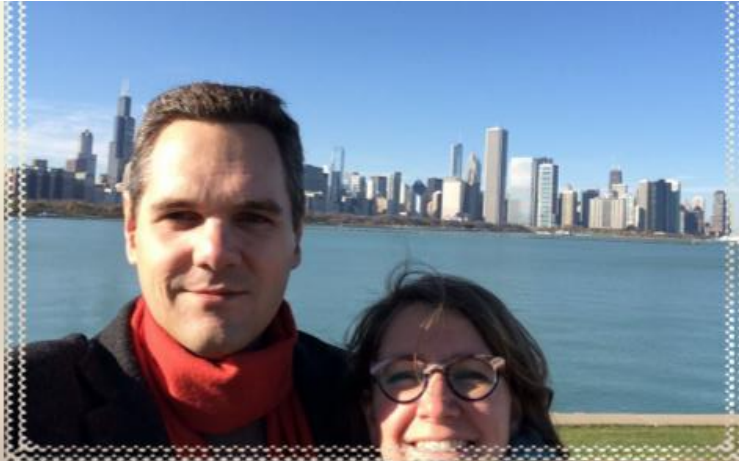
Five years ago we started our journey to adopt a child. During this time we specifically chose the USA. We have visited your country a couple of times and the idea of an open adoption appeals to us both. We cherish the fact that you are known to us and that your child will know where they came from and hopefully will get to know you as they grow.

Returning to the USA for visits is certainly an option for us too!



Dinner with a selection of our 'adoption group'.
A little boy from China has joined the group now too.

beautiful Chicago
skyline



hiking in Arcadia
NP, New England



lava flowing into
the ocean in the
background,
Big Island,
Hawaii



Our promise to you...

We understand how difficult it must be to make an adoption plan for your baby. If you were to choose us to parent your child we promise to love and support your child unconditionally for the rest of our lives.

We want to raise your child in the best way possible in a nurturing, loving environment. We would teach them all about honesty, trust and respect.

You will always stay a part of our lives and we will fully respect your choice regarding the openness of the adoption.

We have a very supportive family, with emotionally involved grandparents, aunts & uncles. We know for a fact that Fleur and Merel (our nieces) cannot wait to meet your baby and they are wondering whether it's going to be a boy or a girl.

We have a collection of all the drawings we have received over the last 9 years (background picture).

Fleur and Merel made another drawing especially for the baby. That is why they have a special place in this book :)



Welcome into our Family Little one



About us...



Heiko works as a kidney specialist and a doctor in internal medicine at a hospital nearby, four days a week.

Vera works as a general physician three days a week in a small village not far from our home.

As for child care we have two sets of loving grandparents who are excited to babysit.



On the weekends we love to go hiking in a national park near our home or go running together. We also like to go geocaching. A kind of GPS-controlled treasure hunt. This is also fun for kids when they get a little bit older.

When the sun shines...we love to go to the beach.

And last but not least...

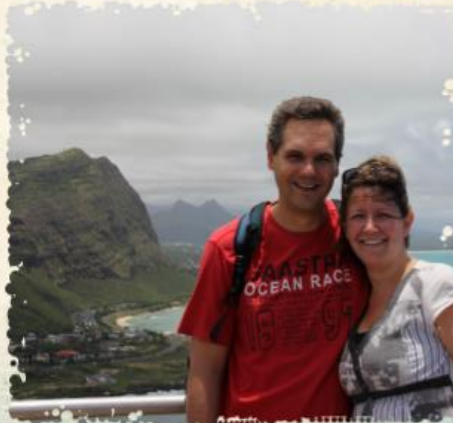
...we also love to travel.

We have traveled far and wide, visiting many places. If you would choose us to parent your child we will do everything in our power to share our experiences that this world has to offer.



top left: Norway, family holiday
top right: Chichen Itza, Mexico
bottom left: Warsaw, palace of lights
bottom right: Machu Picchu, Peru

top left: Goto lake, Bonaire
top right: Cliffs of Moher, Ireland
bottom left: beautiful waterfall in Jamaica
bottom right: Makapu'u Point, O'ahu, Hawaii



High Tea in a real castle with Fleur



at the zoo with Fleur as an infant



Vera & Fleur,
a dear friend



Vera and her
mom in London



Vera with
newborn Rivan



fun at an ABBA tribute concert
with my mom, sister and aunts.

Heiko about Vera:

Vera is a loving, caring person. She is full of energy and likes to spend time with family and friends whether its a day of shopping, drinking tea or just chatting.

She will be a great loving, caring mother who will make sure everything around the house and in our lives will stay organized.

She is very committed and will do everything in her power to provide a warm and welcome home for your baby.

Vera is a true bookworm, she absolutely loves to read... so bedtime stories will surely be taken care of :)



top to bottom left to right: Heiko with Merel on a day trip to a theme park, Heiko with three week old baby Rivan. Joking around with Wilco on his wedding day and picknick @ the parc on a beautiful sunny sunday afternoon.

Vera about Heiko:

Heiko is a very loving, trustworthy and calm person with a great sense of humor. He is my rock. Someone you can always count on.

He will be such a fun dad. He loves to hang out with our nieces and little nephew. Teach them to play chess, soccer or help them with their homework with all the patience of the world.

Fun Facts



We have a little budgerian called whisky, she has been with us for almost a decade now. We got her when she was only five weeks old and she is very tame and affectionate. She loves to take showers in the sink.

The radio is always playing in our house. We love music; especially when performed by Bryan Adams. We always try to go to his concerts



Heiko likes to play chess... whether live or online. I think we have maybe six or more chessboards in the house...



Many years later our group of friends still likes to hang out together. Whether we spend New Years Eve together or play an escape room :)



Vera absolutely loves chocolates! A trip to Belgium resulted in lots of tasting. Luckily Vera's mom doesn't mind this at all...

She also likes to embroider...
She has painstakingly made the framed pictures for the nursery



Vera has always had dogs back home. Now only Ollie comes to stay once in a while; Inge & Wijnands' dog

On birthdays and other celebrations we get a custom made cake from my sister Inge. For instance Heiko's specialisation as a kidney doctor...



Vera's family

Vera is the youngest daughter of Henk and Mia, She has one sister: Inge, who is married to Wijnand. They have two daughters; Fleur (almost 10 yrs old) and Merel (8 yrs old). Vera's father unfortunately died 9 years ago, but Vera's mom has found love again with Peter.



fancy dinner @ Da Vinci, one of Mia's favourite restaurants



top left: Wijnand, dad, Inge and mom at Inge & Wijnands' wedding

top middle: selfie with grandma

bottom left: weekend in Brugge, Belgium with Mia and Peter

bottom middle: Ollie as a puppy with Fleur and Merel

right: Saturday afternoon playing boardgames with the girls



Last year we got to take the girls to the island of Bonaire as Heiko was working there at the time. That was a very special journey.

Vera's grandma (92 yrs old) is still alive and well. We like to include her in our lives as much as possible. We even took her to Berlin, Germany a couple of years ago.



Heiko's family

Heiko is the eldest son of Jaap and Janneke. He has one younger brother Wilco, who is married to Laura. On the 8th June 2019 we became aunt and uncle again when Wilco and Laura had their son Rivan. So your baby will allways have a playmate.



top right picture: taken from Wilco & Laura the day before their wedding
top left and bottom right foto are taken at the beach
bottom left foto is taken at a museum dedicated to Dutch culture (the mill in the background).



We went on holiday together to Norway in 2016 as a celebration for Jaap and Janneke's 40th wedding anniversary. There we visited the Northcape.



left: Family picture of Wilco and Laura with their baby boy Rivan and their dog Bodhi.

right: The whole family together in the backyard @ Jaap and Janneke's house

A photograph of a man and a woman standing in front of a large, traditional Dutch windmill. The man is wearing a light blue polo shirt and the woman is wearing a dark sleeveless top. The windmill has a dark body and large, lattice-like sails. The background shows some greenery and a clear sky.

The Netherlands & traditions

The Netherlands is a very safe country. The crime rate is low and we have a very good social security system. Dutch people are very tolerant and open toward all ethnicities. We speak many languages including English, German, French and little Spanish. Vera speaks the local dialect, as well. Our health care system provides health insurance coverage for everyone.



In the Netherlands we are famous for our canals and waterworks. And of course our beautiful windmills, tulips and wooden shoes you see everywhere as souvenirs (the real wooden shoes are only still worn by farmers). You might have heard from Van Gogh or Rembrandt; famous Dutch painters. Or Johan Cruyff, one of the most famous soccer players in history.

On the 27th of April we celebrate Kingsday. It is the birthday of our king Willem Alexander. The day is filled with fun, sports and games in every primary school in the country. Especially in the larger cities all the streets are decorated in orange and celebrations go on all night.

We have some 'fun' traditions in The Netherlands, especially in the south of the country. For instance: we celebrate Carnaval, just not exactly the same as in Rio de Janeiro

Halloween is becoming more and more popular as well. In the town Vera grew up, the neighbours organize a ghost tour through the woods. We always try to go back and help with the organization. Last year Heiko enjoyed himself playing the scary magician as Vera, Inge and their mom Mia were handing out drinks to passers-by dressed up as witches.



They also organize an easter hunt every year for the little ones...

Our own family traditions...

The last couple of years we have also started some new traditions...

As we chose to adopt from the USA we started the tradition to celebrate thanksgiving with our family and friends.

Now Vera can do what she likes best... stuffing the turkey and cooking dinner



Of course Heiko doesn't mind this at all... as long as he can help eat the scraps the next day...as there are always some leftovers :)



Christmas is all about family!

We allways celebrate christmas eve with grandma, Vera's mom, Peter, Inge, Wijnand and the kids including an aunty Greetje and uncle Wim. We sometimes go to church beforehand, but we don't attend on a regular basis.

Christmas day we usually spend with Heiko's family.



Our extended family...

Your child will always be a part of a very special family, our extended family from A New Way adoption agency.

They organise meetings, activities for the kids and of course the annual picnic from the photograph.

Here all the children who are adopted from the USA can come together for a day filled with fun and laughter.



Our whole community, family and friends are very excited to meet your baby regardless of race or background. Your child will be accepted into a very loving and open community with plenty of opportunities to reach their full potential or goals in life.

Our home & neighbourhood

We live in a very green, child friendly neighbourhood in the south of the country. The primary school is just about 500 mtrs away and there are many small playareas throughout as you can see in the pictures.





Inge has saved a lot of baby-items in the attic for your baby, including the family crib! Together with her mom Vera has renovated a couple of cabinets. Their next project will be sanding and painting the nursery. It is coming together nicely...





We would like to say thank you once again for taking the time to read our personal story.

If you have any questions about us or the adoption process you can call our adoption agency Forever Families Through Adoption at their Toll-Free Number 1-866-922-3678 or directly at 1-914-939-1180.

With love and utmost respect,

Heiko & Veeva

and a little  from Whisky