

Furloughing with Children



International CHED

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Reprints of this brochure are available from the address above.

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Introduction

Furlough...a word that can evoke a range of confusing emotions and expectations for each member of your family: from anticipation to anxiety, from separation to reunion, from obligations to privileges.

Parents raising children overseas often are distressed to hear or read about difficult struggles teenagers sometimes experience when they return to their passport country after high school. If teenagers feel abruptly dropped into the world without prior experiences or familiar people to support them, they can feel abandoned in a place foreign to them.

Like good news, the stories of positive adjustments after high school are not told as frequently as the troubling ones. Healthy adjustments do occur, and those who transition successfully often credit furlough experiences as being a key contributor to later adjustments during difficult teenage years or to the independent transition they must make after high school.

To consider future benefits for your children while planning for furloughs is a challenge. It takes vision, energy, forethought, open communication, and a healthy degree of self-denial to consider both your ministry and each family member when it comes time for your family to experience furlough together.

Openly sharing your concern regarding long-term benefits for your children will help administrators and ministry partners understand your furlough decisions. This understanding will help them share with you the celebration of God's purposes accomplished during the time you spend in your furlough country.

Parenting always includes a long process of letting go. Furlough relationships and experiences, even difficult ones, can help children grow in the faith, hope, and wisdom that will sustain them when they are on their own. Experiences your children have in your furlough country at different ages can provide a way for you to encourage a process of bonding them to that country and to people important to their heritage and to their future.

Keeping Children in Mind

Long-Range Planning

Because of the pace and the urgency an approaching furlough can add to family life, it is wise to consider your children's needs well before you begin to plan for a specific furlough. Long-range furlough planning provides a wonderful opportunity to assess or reassess goals and priorities you have for your children.

Making a family and ministry time line is a good way to start. This will allow you to see the number of opportunities each child might have to become familiar with your furlough country before making an independent transition to life after high school.

	Fur.					Fur.					Fur.		
C1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
C2	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

C = Child

Fur. = Furlough

Number = Grade

Duration

Short furloughs are usually characterized by travel and frequent change, including different people, beds, schedules, restaurants, entertainment stops, and lots of shopping. Although this might seem convenient for some purposes and can be fun for children, a short furlough usually orients children to your furlough country as temporary tourists.

Longer, traditional furloughs do involve a complex transitional process. While avoiding transition might seem preferable in the short term, giving children the opportunity—and time—to go through a period of adjustment is more likely to help them develop a sense of home. They need time to let go, to recognize where they are, to settle into a routine, and to develop close relationships in your furlough country.

Place

Spending the major part of each furlough in a single location, near family or where your children will most likely settle after high school, will help children build satisfying relationships and a more realistic picture of life in your furlough country.

Familiarity and deeper roots in early childhood will help minimize future unknowns. The prospect of returning can encourage children to invest effort in new relationships and experiences. This investment can help minimize the difficulty of later adjustments, especially those in junior high or early high school years.

Respectfully explaining your reasons for locating in one place, or even sending a copy of this brochure to administrators and/or ministry partners, can foster understanding and support for the decisions you make for the long-term well-being of your children.

Timing

If at all possible when timing your departure, avoid special exits and entrances as well as difficult mid-year transitions between schools. If you are tempted to leave before the end of the school year, remember that last days include cleaning out spaces, down time with classmates, celebrations, and being released to freedom—all natural and important opportunities to bring closure and say good-bye to friends who are moving through the transition at the same time.

It is never a good idea to ask children to make a major transition to a new school and not have them enrolled for the first day of school. Although missing a few days might not impact academic progress, children will miss the start-of-school routines that are key to smooth transition—orientation to buildings, introduction to schedules, explanation of grading, learning teacher expectations, and making friends while everyone is new.

Some schools or districts require enrollment for a certain number of days in order to receive credit for a semester. Leaving early or entering late may jeopardize a student's academic credit. This is often due to a legal requirement which does not allow schools to be flexible.

Do whatever you can to settle into your new home well before school begins. It is helpful for children to feel a degree of security in their new location before adding other transition factors, especially if they have not had a school experience before. For older children interested in athletics or music-related activities, check well ahead of time for when practice begins. Both practice and tryouts often occur before the first day of school.

People

It takes creativity and forethought to find ways to build and nurture relationships with faraway family members and friends well before furlough, but it is worth the effort. If children are young and memories are dim or absent, display pictures of family members on the wall or in a special book children can refer to as you tell stories and make plans to be reunited.

As furlough approaches, bring out maps and more pictures and watch videos that will help older children visit memories that include familiar people and places. Having your children exchange written stories and pictures about daily life with cousins, grandparents, and/or aunts and uncles can help prepare the way for understanding and meaningful relationships when they meet face to face during furlough.

Other sensitive and caring adults outside of family, preferably with children the same age, can also help bridge the gap between your ministry country and your furlough country. These relationships may become assets, both during furlough and when children return as young adults.

Values and Beliefs

Because of lack of experience, some children assume everyone in their furlough country will share their values. Other children think that those who do not share their values should be avoided or feared, despite their respect and concern for those who believe differently in your ministry location.

It is natural to want to protect children from negative influences, but it is impossible to do so. Exposure to consequences, good and bad, of the choices other children make can be a good learning experience. If you carefully prepare your children to encounter other value systems and then discuss those with them when they do, you can help them own their individual beliefs and values apart from yours.

Children come to own values through making decisions, so it can be wonderful to find opportunities in your furlough country that allow them to develop their own sense of ministry. Be sure even young children understand ministry as something beyond belonging to your family and encourage the development of personal ministry interests as your children learn to be salt and light in your furlough country.

Social Skills

Children growing up in cultural isolation often lack experience in appropriately relating to and respecting authority figures other than their parents. If this is true for your children, your choices during furlough can help fill this gap with new exposure to a range of ways others might respond to requirements and authority in social settings.

Social skills include learning how to participate in a group, working together with peers toward a shared goal. Your children may need group experiences to help them learn to listen, to encourage, and to resolve conflict in socially and culturally appropriate ways. These kinds of participation skills are important factors to consider in decisions about the educational option you will use during furlough, especially if you do not have a school option available to you in your ministry country.

The range of educational options within your home country will probably offer good opportunities for your children to acculturate in a social environment. If you need to travel or if your children continue to have most of their experiences within your home during furlough, you will need to invest extra effort in providing opportunities for children to belong, to contribute, and to respond to authorities other than yourself.

Educational Options

Available educational options have expanded in recent years. Each option has strengths and weaknesses. It is helpful to invest time to research your options and to prayerfully choose the one that will best help develop the specifics you want to nurture in each child during your furlough year. If your decision is really open to input and if it is age-appropriate, include your children in your decision process. Share the goals and reasons that influence your decision whether they participate in the process or not.

Academic potential or curriculum continuity are not primary concerns, especially for children not yet in high school. Consider an educational option that provides experiences and learning opportunities not available in your ministry setting. Taking advantage of advanced or specialized courses, including athletics, drama, choir, or orchestra, can launch lifelong interests.

If you have questions about possible learning challenges your child may be facing, furlough is a good time to benefit from professional advice. This might be available informally through experienced teachers with a “range yardstick” for a given age or through learning and diagnostic specialists who can help. However, it is important that those who work with your child understand the environment and the transition and language challenges that are a part of your lifestyle.

If you are concerned over test results or interpretation, seek educational counsel with those more familiar with overseas ministry settings to help you or those working with your child interpret what they may mean and plan supportive intervention.

The advice of well-meaning friends during furlough can be helpful or it can create unintended pressure that is not helpful at all. Whether your decisions are about children’s education, the way you spend your time, or the

experiences you choose or don't choose for your children, help those who advise you understand the reason for your choices. Seek their prayers in support of your children's growth through experiences that have the potential to help them function with confidence as young adults.

High School Credits

For teenagers using correspondence options in your ministry country, furlough can provide the opportunity to take courses at school that are not available on the field due, for example, to lack of equipment, lack of teachers with specialized training, or absence of group interaction. These courses can help spark a special interest in your child, develop a new skill, or provide essential course credits for further studies.

Become well informed of requirements on both ends of a high school student's transition. This includes a need to understand what might be expected at school after returning from furlough. This will help your teen select courses during furlough with the best potential for meeting requirements. Courses offered only in alternate years can mean missing a course completely when furlough intervenes. Mid-year transitions also have potential to result in unmatched halves of courses and lost credits.

Home schooling high school students has gained popularity in recent years. Although this may seem convenient during furlough in some cases, it may not be the most effective way to help your children become familiar with their furlough country or to prepare them for college entrance and scholarship eligibility. Be aware, also, that some foreign countries require verification that school-aged children are attending school before granting visas or work permits.

Plan your furloughs first with the long view in mind. Consider the value of investing in experiences and skills that will help your children transplant their roots to support growth wherever they might be planted in their future.

On Your Mark

Talking About Furlough

If your children do not have personal memories of your furlough country, their image of what it is like depends largely on what they hear. Consider what children are hearing from you or other adults and peers. Intentionally communicate with them, encourage their questions, and check their understanding. Otherwise, children's perceptions of your furlough country can range from thinking danger is lurking around every corner to expecting it to be a perpetual amusement park.

Encourage positive attitudes toward your furlough country and help your children understand that you value the time you will spend there. Explain why furlough is important and help them look forward to special opportunities that are available to them there. Be sure what they hear will help them develop a balanced, realistic picture that includes positives along with appropriate cautions about the negatives.

Planning Your Trip

Children will feel they have some control over what is happening if you offer appropriate choices and include them in discussions about almost anything related to your trip: timing, budget, activity breaks, rest, emotions, personal items to carry, or even clothing needs for a different climate.

Including children in planning your trip can help get your furlough off on the right foot. Try to build expectations that help children look forward to it: think about optional routes, consider people or sites you can either visit or pick up picture postcards from on your way, and plan some simple activities spaced en route to help divide the trip into more manageable chunks.

Practicing Furlough Skills

As furlough is approaching, try to think of some fun furlough-preparation parties or celebrations to have together as a family. Involve friends with you as you wish, especially those who might have recently returned from a furlough.

Include manners and have some silly consequences if family members forget. Help children practice how they want to answer complicated questions such as, “Where are you from?” and, “What is it like there?” Practice skills in cultural awareness, asking children to wait and watch to pick up cues about expected behavior. Role play how to approach new friends and ask questions to determine their interests.

As a family, reflect on your preparation afterwards or when you actually use the skills in your furlough country. Through both building skills and later reflection, you have opportunity to model positive trust in God in the midst of new experiences.

Have Paperwork in Hand

Travel documents: Make sure you have the essential passports, visas, and other travel documents. There is also other paperwork below to think about before leaving for furlough.

Health Records: US schools are required by law to be very strict about childhood immunizations. Without complete records in hand, students may not be allowed to start school. You can sometimes obtain a health form from your field school or clinic that includes room for a complete immunization record. Requesting it well in advance will allow time to update it and may prevent delays and extra frustration. It is also a wise precaution to have current health records for every family member in hand, including immunizations, prescription drugs, and any allergies, in case of an emergency while traveling.

Academic Records: Settling children into school can be frustrating unless you research requirements and make plans to have the necessary paperwork in hand. Schools in your furlough country will want academic records to help place your children in the appropriate grade. While official records may be mailed directly from your previous school, it is wise to hand-carry some kind of backup. This could include a schedule of subjects, a folder of student work samples, or a report card. If home-schooled, provide portfolios of sample work, teaching logs, and achievement test scores.

Get Set

Time to Pack!

- ☐ documents
- ☐ passport
- ☐ health records
- ☐ tickets
- ☐ itinerary
- ☐ transcripts
- ☐ immunizations
- ☐ emergency supplies
- ☐ clothing change
- ☐ water
- ☐ currency
- ☐ things to do

Rather than packing each family member's items in a separate bag, you might want to pack checked-in bags with "miscellaneous." Then a missing bag will not mean total loss for one person as one family experienced when a bag containing all their son's shorts and trousers was lost. It makes things harder to find, but keeping a detailed bag inventory on hand helps and is a good idea anyway.

In your carry-on items, include small toys and nutritional, nonperishable snacks. Water containers for each child are also very important, and frequent reminders to drink can provide a quick cure for crabby little ones who aren't sure just what is wrong.

Plan to bring some entertainment items, such as books, small toys, and cassette tapes. Children tend to be more content if they are allowed some choices of what they can put into a limited space. (e.g. "After we put in a change of clothes, you may fill the rest of the space in your backpack with the toys and books you would like to take along.")

Carry every family member's current medical records with you, including immunization records, prescription drugs and dosages, allergy alerts and treatments, and basics to help you cope with scrapes, bruises, or sniffles. Being prepared for possible emergencies can help reduce the stress of coping with the unexpected. It will also facilitate prompt and appropriate medical treatment if necessary.

If one of your family members has a special medical need, traveling can be an additional challenge for everyone. Plan to invest in extra time for rest to avoid excessive fatigue and increased health risks.

Go!

Your plans are made, your documents are in hand, and your bags are packed. You find yourselves leaning forward.

Where are your Children?

Living overseas has already acquainted you with grief tied to the inevitable and frequent separations you and your children experience in moving between places. Take care that your furlough excitement and pressure does not unintentionally intensify that grief for your children. They may need support as they look back before they can turn around and face what is ahead.

It is important to remember that your children's relationship to your home country is not the same as yours. For children, furlough may mean little beyond moving to another new place with new people and new ways of doing things.

You are probably bringing with you pictures of life in your ministry country to familiarize family and friends with life there. Pictures of life in your furlough country can provide the same sort of support for your children after you leave. Plan to begin taking pictures early that will show your children involved in daily life and special activities with those who will become special to them in a new way on furlough. This will help root them in memories that include experiences and people special to them in your furlough country.

Transition Challenges

It is wise for anyone dealing with children in transition to remember that they have built-in emotional thermometers that respond to what is happening around them. They can experience a variety of feelings which are often influenced by their perception of other family members' responses and may switch between those feelings without warning or obvious reason. Granting your children permission to express their personal feelings and being understanding when negative feelings occur can help them to move past emotions into an adjustment to the changes facing them.

Easing Good-byes

Children often experience difficulty with confusing and conflicting feelings about leaving your ministry country for a furlough year. The confusion between regret and excitement is to be expected, and just knowing that can help. Consider your children and whatever each one may need to help say good-bye, whether a celebration, photograph session, or sleep-over. What works for one may not work for another. Children need support to help them reach that closure in their own way.

Easing Travel Stress

As you experience waiting time during the trip, consider having each family member contribute (verbally and in writing) their personal memories and highlights of whatever happened earlier in the day or trip. Not only will this help family members understand one another during the trip, it will preserve treasured family memories to revisit later.

Easing Arrival Stress

The jet lag or transition stress of children can be difficult to recognize, but their needs are just as real. Allowing them time to recover and change gears can contribute to their positive adjustment to the furlough experience.

Staying with family members until you have time to settle into a place of your own can add its own challenges. The speed of air travel does not allow much time to process the loss of friends and “home” before being surrounded by excited relatives and friends who expect you to share their excitement. Try to help your hosts be understanding if your children don’t conform to those expectations.

As long as you articulate your needs, most family members or friends who have you in their home after your journey are happy to help you meet the needs of your children by giving them space when they want it, by allowing time for you to be alone with them if things seem too strange and confusing, and by supporting your maintenance of comforting routines such as those you use at bedtime.

Although it may be necessary to give your children a little slack until they have had some initial time and space to recover, you can help reestablish their security by returning to your usual expectations for behavior as soon as possible.

It is sometimes difficult for exhausted parents to recognize that children often need activity to rest more than they need to rest from activity. When you need to collapse before your children do, hosts can be a great help by involving your children in activities that demand physical exercise.

Your children have had different experiences than their furlough-country peers. Their knowledge and perspective will also be different. In spite of those differences, most children don’t want to be set apart from the rest. Include them in decisions that involve them and try to prepare them for times when they might feel on display. By simply alerting others to a child’s need to be seen as a regular kid, you can help them to love and accept your children as they are without always calling attention to how they might be different.

Furlough Opportunities

Travel

Once you arrive, travel in your furlough country can provide wonderful opportunities to visit sites that have national and historical significance. When crossing lines between states or territories, take time to stop at tourist or welcome centers and pick up brochures about the area that you can read and learn from. Make trip budgets for each child or the family and require a record of how it is used. A trip journal can record memories and show progress in map skills, financial planning, new vocabulary, and historical and cultural knowledge.

Host Families

If you are traveling between and staying at the homes of friends and family members, you want to make the memory of your time together special for everyone. Make an effort to compare notes with host parents about rules, responsibilities, and schedules.

It can be helpful for children to see and adjust to how other families function and to see examples of how responsibilities and privileges in other families affect each other. You can also ask for ideas from other parents on how they adjust and manage boundaries that define responsibilities and privileges, especially if you are favorably impressed with how their children respond.

When you return to your ministry country, these experiences will help your children understand the reasons for what you require of them when you no longer have the benefit of being in a setting where other children also have to “endure” similar expectations and boundaries.

Being appropriately dressed is important to children, especially in their teens. Parents as well as children often don’t know what is “in,” so same-age cousins or friends can be enlisted to help bring you up to date. Allowing children to choose several mix and match items of up-to-date clothing, within a set budget, can help build confidence as your child ventures out to build relationships with furlough-country peers.

Visit the Future

If your children will turn old enough to drive during your next term, a study manual for the permit test from your local license bureau can provide an appreciated and free birthday gift. For teenagers who are driving, help them develop responsibility by involving them in car maintenance, including practicing tire changes, using jumper cables safely, and refilling the gas tank after using your vehicle for their own purposes.

High schoolers can benefit from thinking ahead to college during furlough, especially if they will be graduating from high school before the end of your next field term. They may not have a particular college in mind, or it may not be convenient to visit the college of their choice. Just visiting any college campus with you, however, can give them ideas of what to expect and can go a long way toward relieving anxiety when the time comes for them to do it for real.

Furloughs are a great time for students to start investigating career possibilities:

- Look for opportunities for older teens to “job shadow” in an area of special interest.
- Gather information about education or training requirements for different careers.
- Encourage teenagers to do volunteer work to get direct exposure to careers.
- Look for opportunities, even brief ones, to include children in local ministries in your furlough country.
- Look into community service opportunities that welcome volunteers.
- Look into employment or apprenticeship opportunities.
- Investigate classes in the community and instruction in special skills provided by individuals, especially if older children haven’t had school experiences to broaden their interests.

These suggestions are not intended to imply in-depth involvement taking up lots of time. Just researching potential careers can help motivate students in their studies and provide direction for possible majors when it comes time to make decisions about later training or advanced education.

One of the most practical things you can do to support teenagers’ independent adjustment later is to give them realistic practice in handling finances: opening a checking account, giving firm instruction in your family’s financial boundaries (i.e. living within a budget), practicing tithing, providing an awareness of advertising pressures, and offering vivid experience that promotes real understanding of the pitfalls of credit. If you feel ill-prepared to offer this yourself, enlist the help of someone who understands the challenges of the current financial world.

Reflection

If you add church youth activities to the interests of each child, you can end up spending your furlough in the car even if your furlough location stays the same. Making the most of furlough opportunities includes guarding your schedule to include down time for you and your children to spend together.

Given all the opportunities that are available to children, it is essential to carefully evaluate and limit extra activities. Furlough experiences will be difficult to benefit from unless children have time with you to reflect on their experiences and replenish their energy for more.

Bless your children by making opportunities to affirm the strength and wisdom you see them developing as a result of their adjustment to new experiences. This kind of support and reflection can develop furlough memories that root children in courage and hope for the challenges and adjustments in their future.

Growth

As you experience your own readjustment during furlough, you can often help your children by telling them about your struggles to adjust and how you are attempting to solve or overcome them. This often makes it easier for children to be open about their struggles and can be key to helping them recover from initial adjustment stress. Build times into your daily routines that offer opportunities for family members to share feelings related to their new experiences.

Although the adjustment process may be difficult for your children to experience and for you as you support them, it also provides them with an opportunity to learn to be persistent and hopeful when life isn't pleasant or easy. Facing difficult situations with courage can help them feel more capable when they face the inevitable hard times that always come with life.

Saying Good-Bye Again

As you near time to return to your ministry country, prepare to do so as carefully as you prepared for furlough. Give your children opportunities for closure and good-byes, and give them time to prepare for returning.

Find ways of maintaining ties with your home country when you return to the field after furlough. Continue to practice some family traditions and celebrations, and record and report them to family members in your furlough country.

You want grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and special friends to remain as fresh and alive to your family as they were on furlough, growing and changing along with your children. Encourage children to maintain relationships with family and friends through regular communication. A little maintenance will help strengthen the ties and ease the next transition.

Children who look forward to returning to the field can be particularly affected by unexpected losses when they get there, such as a close friend being on furlough or becoming close friends with someone else in your child's absence. Help your children have realistic expectations of what it will be like by talking about the possible changes that may have taken place while you were away and how those changes might affect them.

Brochure in a Nutshell (Summary)

To become healthy adults, children need to learn to adjust to change, have experiences with people beyond their immediate family, and face difficulties or challenges with hope and courage. Furlough provides special opportunities to benefit from these learning experiences with the nurturing support of parents.

Although the struggles of teenagers adjusting to young adulthood in a less familiar country are real, the great majority of them do eventually make a good adjustment. Positive furlough experiences can help build a good foundation for a smoother transition process after high school.

Jim and Ruth Lauer have ministered to hundreds of post high school students through CHED FS and Barnabas International. From their experience over the years they learned that:

Furloughs provide tremendous opportunities for parents to teach their children how to integrate into the society to which they will probably one day return. By taking advantage of furloughs, this can be done in small steps with the support of family around them.

Furloughs that address your children's needs are important in achieving balance between all of the factors that affect you as a family in ministry. Spaced through childhood, furloughs can provide valuable opportunities to build skills and background that will help prepare your children to live positively and effectively as young adults.

Resources to Help Families with Transitions

Following are a few of the resources available to help families prepare for and move through the transition experience, whether leaving the home country for a field assignment or leaving the field for the home country. For a more complete list, please contact CHED FS Dallas at the address on the back.

Games/Activities

Transitions, a conversation-starter card game developed by CHED FS and Barnabas International to help families communicate about their transition experience. One version is meant to be used in preparation for leaving and the other after you are in the new location. It was developed with furlough in mind, but the questions can be applied or adapted to fit other transitions as well. Available through the CHED FS office in Dallas. May be duplicated for nonprofit use.

Books for Children

A Country Far Away, Nigel Gray & Philippe Dupasquier, Orchard Books, 1991. \$5.56 A children's book with dual illustrations on each page for a one-line text about typical childhood experiences. One illustration is set in North America and the other in a third- world village. The vocabulary is simple enough for young readers. It can be used as an effective tool to discuss how life may be different in the new environment. In its simplicity the book is a powerful illustration of how much our experience influences the meaning we ascribe to words and can help us understand how easy it is to miscommunicate when interacting with those who have had different experiences.

Alexander, Who's Not (Do you hear me? I mean it!) *Going to Move*, Judith Viorst, Alladin Paperbacks, 1980. \$3.99 This book takes Alexander from not wanting to move to being willing to leave. Recommended only if a child is resistant to moving.

Good-bye, House: A Kid's Guide to Moving, Ann Banks, Nancy Evans, and True Kelley, Harmony Books, 1999. \$9.95 This book supplies children with a place to write personal feelings and information about their move. There are pages for remembering the old, tracing the move, and recording the new. It includes a brief parents' guide in the back of the book.

Where in the World Are You Going?, Judith M. Blohm, Intercultural Press, 1996. \$9.95 An entertaining activity book that helps young children, ages five to ten, through the process of moving abroad. Older

children can do some of the activities independently but will benefit more from them if there is interaction with parents and other family members.

Books/Resources for Parents

Transitions Packet, A packet produced by CHED FS, available to SIL members through the Dallas CHED FS office for \$1.60 plus shipping. It contains reprints of articles on transitions, this furlough brochure, a more comprehensive listing of transition resources, and the transitions game mentioned above.

Good Friends are Hard to Find—Help Your Child Find, Make, and Keep Friends, Frank Frankel, PhD, ISBN 0-9622036-7-X, Perspective Publishing, Inc., 1996. \$13.95 This user-friendly book is an extremely valuable resource for those supporting children through major transitions and enables parents to help their children build essential social skills with peers.

Sojourners: The Family on the Move—A Book of Resources, Ruth & Samuel Rowen. Assoc. of Urbanus, 1990. \$15.95 The authors are parents of three adult children. This book is not merely to be read but to be worked through as a whole family. Though written for those planning to move overseas, many of the exercises provide practical suggestions for developing a healthy family, whether moving or not. E-mail: SamRowen@compuserve.com.

Strangers at Home, Carolyn D. Smith, Editor, Aletheia Publications, 1996. \$15.95 Essays on the effects of living overseas and coming “home” to a strange land. This anthology presents varied perspectives on the effects of living overseas and coming “home” to a country that seems just as strange as the one left behind. It includes useful advice for parents seeking to help their children—especially teenagers—cope with reentry to their passport country. Order through Aletheia Publications, 46 Bell Hollow Rd., Putnam Valley, NY 10579, Attn. Guy J. Smith. E-mail: alethpub@aol.com.

Most books can be ordered through the Internet at www.amazon.com unless otherwise noted. (There is a minimum of \$3.95 shipping and handling charge for U.S. orders.) Δ