



Adoption and Children Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 38

PART 1

ADOPTION

CHAPTER 4

STATUS OF ADOPTED CHILDREN

68 Adoptive relatives

- (1) A relationship existing by virtue of section 67 may be referred to as an adoptive relationship, and—
 - (a) an adopter may be referred to as an adoptive parent or (as the case may be) as an adoptive father or adoptive mother,
 - (b) any other relative of any degree under an adoptive relationship may be referred to as an adoptive relative of that degree.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not affect the interpretation of any reference, not qualified by the word “adoptive”, to a relationship.
- (3) A reference (however expressed) to the adoptive mother and father of a child adopted by—
 - (a) a couple of the same sex, or
 - (b) a partner of the child’s parent, where the couple are of the same sex,is to be read as a reference to the child’s adoptive parents.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 68(3) applied (with modifications) (6.4.2010) by [The Human Fertilisation and Embryology \(Parental Orders\) Regulations 2010 \(S.I. 2010/985\)](#), regs. 1(1), 2, **Sch. 1**

Changes to legislation: *Adoption and Children Act 2002, Section 68 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

Commencement Information

- II** S. 68 in force at 30.12.2005 by [S.I. 2005/2213](#), [art. 2\(d\)](#) (with savings and transitional provisions in [S.I. 2005/2897](#), arts. 3-16)

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[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 4A inserted by [2014 c. 6 s. 5](#)
- s. 141(7) inserted by [2010 c. 26 Sch. 3 para. 13](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 3 Pt. 2 repealed (4.9.2013) without ever being in force by [2013 c. 22](#), s. 17(4) ; S.I. 2013/2200 art. 2(a))