Celebrity Exes: Teresa Giudice Honors Estranged Husband Joe on Father's Day





By Alycia Williams

In latest <u>celebrity news</u>, <u>reality tv star</u> Teresa Giudice honored her estranged husband Joe Giudice on Instagram for Father's Fay. According to *UsMagazine.com*, Teresa's post was of Joe and their four daughters captioned, "Happy Father's Day, the girls miss you today & everyday!" Joe commented under the post and said, "Thank you for being my angels, for showing the world you are superstar."

These celebrity exes may be estranged, but they're keeping their parental duties front and center. What are some ways to keep things civil with your ex for your kids?

Cupid's Advice:

A break-up is never an easy thing, and a lot of the times you never want to see your ex again, but if there are kids involved, then that's out of the question. If you are looking for ways to keep things civil with your ex for your kids, Cupid has some advice for you:

1. Only talk when you have to: If you and your ex ended things badly and you have kids together make sure that the only reason that you both are communicating is the kids. Keep every conversation, phone call, or text message pertaining to the children. Don't talk about what went wrong in your relationship, it'll just create bad blood between you two.

Related Link: Celebrity Break-Up: Jordana Brewster & Andrew Form 'Quietly Separated' Earlier This Year

2. Set your hurt/anger aside: Wearing your emotion on your sleeve won't benefit anyone and especially not your kids. It's ok to be hurt, but separate your feelings from your behavior because you don't want to put your kids in the middle of your drama.

Related Link: Celebrity News: Kylie Jenner & Travis Scott Will Spend Christmas Together for Daughter Stormi

3. Don't try to be in control: Walking all over your ex when

it comes to decisions about the kids is not helpful, and it won't be good for your co-parenting relationship. Keep the communication gate open when it comes to the kids and make sure that you both make decisions for the kids together.

What are some more ways to keep things civil with your ex for your kids? Start a conversation in the comments below!

Celebrity News: Joe Giudice Says He 'Can't Wait' to Celebrate Christmas with His Daughters in Italy





By <u>Meghan Khameraj</u>

In <u>celebrity news</u>, Joe Giudice revealed that his children will spend Christmas with him in Italy. The reality star has been living in Italy since he was released from prison after serving 41 months for mail, wire and bankruptcy fraud. His wife and *Real Housewives of New Jersey* star Teresa Giudice, who he has been in a <u>celebrity relationship</u> with for over 20 years, also served time in prison. Giudice was held by ICE after his release due to the fact that, even though he lived in the United States since he was a child, he never held citizenship. Giudice asked to be moved to Italy due to harsh conditions at the ICE facilities. The family seems to be excited about the holidays, but Teresa Giudice may not be able to join her family as she may have work obligations.

In celebrity news, Joe Giudice is looking forward to the holidays

with his family. What are some ways to celebrate the holidays with family who are far away?

Cupid's Advice:

Famous couple, Teresa and Joe Giudice, have been dealing with distance as a result of Joe's criminal history. Teresa admits that the holidays have been hard for her and her kids since he moved to Italy. Cupid has some advice to help you celebrate the holidays with family who are far away:

1. Video chat: FaceTime and Skype have made it easier than ever to connect with people who live down the block or across the globe. Take advantage of this by scheduling a call with your family members to catch up and celebrate the holidays!

Related Link: Travel Tips: <u>Celebrity News: Tristan Thompson</u>
'Isn't Giving Up' On a Future with Khloe Kardashian

2. Exchange gifts: Even if your family lives in a different country, you can still exchange gifts. You can organize a Secret Santa exchange for you and your family so you can avoid having to ship a gift for each of your family members. It is also a great way to show your family that you're thinking of them.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity News: Queen Elizabeth Is</u> '<u>Disappointed</u>' <u>Prince Harry & Duchess Meghan Won't Be at</u> Christmas Festivities

3. Visit: Though it may be difficult, the best way to celebrate with your family is by being with them! Plan a trip for the holidays so you can spend quality time with your loved ones while also escaping the hassles of your everyday life.

How do you celebrate the holidays away from your family? Let

Celebrity Interview: 'RHONJ' Star Teresa Giudice Opens Up About New Book, 'Standing Strong'





Interview by <u>Lori Bizzoco</u>. Written by <u>Karley Kemble</u>. In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, <u>Teresa Giudice</u> candidly discusses her new book, her four daughters, and her

controversial past. Standing Strong is all about finding strength during tough times — something that the Real Housewives of New Jersey star knows the importance of from firsthand experience. Ultimately, she hopes to use her celebrity status as a platform to help women struggling with financial infidelity. Her words of advice to the masses? "Stand strong — nothing bad lasts forever," she shares. "Even though you feel like you're going through a rough time, you're gonna get through it."

As for the future, expect to see more from this bestselling author. "The sky's the limit, and I'm all about empowering women," the <u>reality TV</u> star says in our celebrity interview. "So, you know, we'll see what comes my way in the future."

You can follow Teresa on Instagram at <u>@teresagiudice</u> and purchase her book on <u>Amazon</u>.

Reality TV Star & Cookbook Author Kathy Wakile Hosts Book Signing at Cabo in Rockville Centre





By Whitney Johnson

On Thursday, March 23rd, *The Real Housewives of New Jersey* star Kathy Wakile will be doing an exclusive book signing of her best-selling dessert cookbook *Indulge: Delicious Little Desserts That Keep Life Real Sweet*. You can meet the <u>reality TV</u> star at Cabo — A Taste of Mexico in Rockville Centre, New York, at 7 p.m. EST.

Dessert Cookbook Signing with Reality TV Star Kathy Wakile

We had the pleasure of interviewing Wakile when her cookbook was first released, and she opened up about her favorite sweet treat for date night. She recommends baking her Chocolate Volcanoes. As she mentioned after our celebrity interview, "It should be served hot — and it'll make your man feel hot too!" It's no surprise that it's her husband Richard's favorite dessert.

Related Link: 'RHONJ' Star Kathy Wakile Talks Desserts in

<u>Celebrity Video Interview: "Indulge. It's Not Going to Kill</u> You!"

The reality TV star also opened up about the inspiration for the name of her cookbook. As fans may know, the title of her cookbook came from something she said on *RHONJ*: "We were talking about my desserts, and I mentioned how I see really, really skinny girls who deprive themselves of everything and who aren't happy. So I said, "Honey, have a cupcake. Indulge. It's not going to kill you!'" With that thought in mind, Wakile focused on mini desserts, so people can enjoy something sweet without feeling guilty afterwards. Happy baking!

For more details about the book signing event, check out Cabo on <u>Facebook</u>, Twitter <u>@caborvc</u>, and Instagram <u>@caborvc</u>.

Family Insiders Says There's an 'Icy Distance' in Joe and Teresa Giudice's Marriage





By Amanda Boyer

Real Housewives of New Jersey stars Teresa and Joe Giudice are having a tough year. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, both recently received separate jail sentences. Teresa will be going to jail for 15 months, and Joe will go in for 41 months after Teresa completes her time. The duo has four daughters, and an inside source says that Teresa doesn't trust Joe to take care of the kids while she's away.

Cupid's Advice:

What are some ways to keep your relationship strong through a crisis?

For some tips on how to keep your relationship strong during a tough time, check it out:

1. Memories: Remember what made you fall for your partner in the first place. Look through photo albums, notes, and more. Cling to what makes your relationship solid.

Related: Teresa and Joe Giudice Ask Judge for Separate Trials

2. Honesty: During a rough patch, be honest about your feelings 100 percent of the time. You both deserve to know how the other feels. Being on the same page will allow you to bond.

Related: RHONJ's Teresa Giudice Debunks Divorce Rumors

3. Seek help: If needed, do not be afraid to get the help you need to hold your relationship together. This will allow you a safe forum to discuss what you're each going through and come to terms with it.

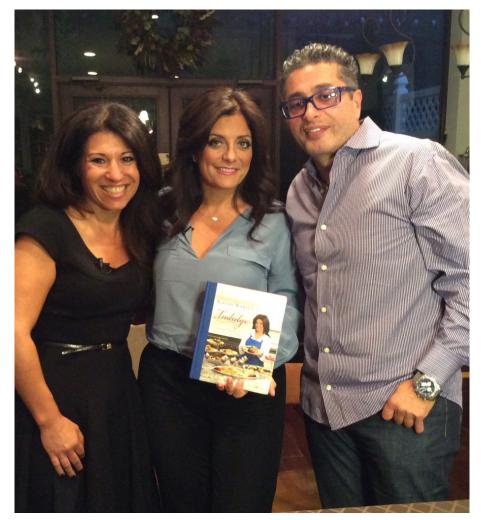
Have any other tips for couples that might be in crisis right now? Share below!

'RHONJ' Star Kathy Wakile Talks Desserts in Celebrity Video Interview: "Indulge. It's Not Going to Kill You!"





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Video by Damian Kolodiy. Kathy Wakile first captured our hearts as a cast member of Real Housewives of New Jersey (RHONJ), and now, she's enchanting our taste buds with her dessert line Dolci Della Dea and her cookbook Indulge: Delicious Little Desserts That Keep Life Real Sweet, which was released on September 2nd. Earlier this week, the reality TV star did a book signing at the Boulevard Books & Cafe in Brooklyn. In our celebrity video interview, we got the latest scoop on her decadent desserts, the upcoming season of RHONJ, and life at home with her family.



Lori Bizzoco with Kathy Wakile and her husband Richard.

Reality TV Star Dishes on New Cookbook

As fans may know, the title of her cookbook came from something she said on *RHONJ*: "We were talking about my desserts, and I mentioned how I see really, really skinny girls who deprive themselves of everything and who aren't happy. So I said, "Honey, have a cupcake. Indulge. It's not going to kill you!'" With that thought in mind, Wakile focused on mini desserts, so people can enjoy something sweet without feeling guilty afterwards. She adds, "We want them to look good and taste good, but we don't have to have

such large portions."

Related Link: 'RHONJ' Star Jacqueline Laurita: "I Try My Best to Get Along with Everyone"

When it comes to impressing your partner, her best love advice is simple: She recommends baking her Chocolate Volcanoes. As she mentioned after our interview, "It should be served hot — and it'll make your man feel hot too!" It's no surprise that it's her husband Richard's favorite dessert. Another great date night dessert is the Almond Joyous Cheesecake Cuties (recipe below) — perfect for sharing with your cutie!



Almond Joyous Cheesecake Cuties. Photo: Andrei

Jackamets

Almond Joyous Cheesecake Cuties — makes 2 dozen CRUST

2 large egg whites

½ cup granulated sugar

2 cups sweetened flaked coconut

TOPPING

- ½ cup sour cream
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon almond extract

FILLING

Two 8-ounce packages cream cheese, at room temperature

- ½ cup granulated sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 3 tablespoons sour cream
- 3 tablespoons heavy cream
- 1 teaspoon almond extract
- 2 teaspoons coconut extract
- ¹/₄ cup almonds, toasted and finely chopped

Ganache (page 181)

Sliced almonds, for garnish

EQUIPMENT

Two 12-cavity mini cheesecake pans

Food processor

Electric mixer

Small pastry tamper, optional

2 large rimmed baking sheets

- Preheat the oven to 350°F with one rack positioned in the center of the oven and another rack positioned at the bottom of the oven. Fill a broiler pan or roasting pan with about 2 inches of water and set it on the bottom rack.
- To make the crust, combine the egg whites with the sugar in a medium bowl and use an electric mixer to beat to very stiff peaks. Use a rubber spatula to fold in the coconut until well combined.
- Scoop about 1 tablespoon of the mixture into each cavity in the mini cheesecake pan and use the back of the measuring spoon to firmly compress the mixture into an even layer about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick.
- Set aside.
- To make the almond topping, in a small bowl stir together the sour cream, sugar, and almond extract. Set aside. To make the filling, in a separate bowl beat together the cream cheese and sugar with an electric mixer at medium speed until smooth and creamy. Beat in each egg separately and scrape down the bowl after each addition. Continue to mix at medium speed and add the sour cream, heavy cream, almond extract, and coconut extract.
- Set the cheesecake pans on rimmed baking sheets (this will make it easier to get them in and out of the oven). Press the crust down again to ensure that it is well packed.
- Transfer the filling to a large measuring cup with a spout and pour enough filling into each cavity of the pans to fill a bit more than three-quarters of the way up to the rim.
- Bake for 7 minutes at 350°F then lower the temperature to 250°F and bake 10 to 12 more minutes, or just until the surfaces of the cuties are set at the outer edges but still wobbly in the center. (Keep a close eye on them!
- Take the pans out of the oven and divide the almond

topping among the cakes, spooning an even layer onto each and smoothing the tops with the back of the spoon. Top with the chopped almonds, then return the pans to the oven and bake for an additional 7 minutes. (They'll still look wet, but they will set as they cool.)

- Let the cakes cool in the pans for 3 to 5 minutes, then run the tip of a very sharp knife around the top edge of each cake (this will unstick any topping that has adhered to the side of the pan and help the cake come out of the pan easily and flawlessly once they are cool.) Don't try to add the chocolate ganache or unmold the cakes while they are still warm!
- Let the cuties cool in the pans all the way to room temperature, at least 30 minutes. Then chill in pans for 2 hours before unmolding and topping with ganache.
- Carefully unmold the cuties by pressing the little round disk underneath each cake upward to raise the cake so that its bottom is level with the pan rim, then slide a small spatula underneath the cake.
- To cover the cuties with ganache, arrange the unmolded cheesecakes on a wire rack that's sitting on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Use an offset spatula or butter knife to carefully apply a thin layer of ganache to the tops and sides of each cutie. Let dry, then go over the cheesecakes again to smooth out any spots you may have missed, working from the top first and then down around the sides (dipping the spatula or knife in hot water and wiping dry periodically will also help keep the ganache smooth).
- Garnish with sliced almonds and refrigerate 6 hours or overnight before serving. (You could chill the cuties overnight before adding ganache, then chill more briefly just to set the ganache. The cuties can be kept in the refrigerator for 3 days and are also freezable.)

- 8 ounces bittersweet or semisweet chocolate, chopped
- ½ cup heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
 - Combine the chocolate, cream, and butter in a small heatproof bowl. Set the bowl over a saucepan of barely simmering water. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the chocolate is melted and the mixture is very smooth.
 - Let the ganache cool to room temperature before using.

From Indulge by Kathy Wakile with Miriam Harris. Copyright 2014 by the authors and reprinted by permission of St. Martin's Griffin, an imprint of St. Martin's Press, LLC.

Celebrity Video Interview: Kathy Wakile Opens Up About Her Family

Although the mom of two focused on her cookbook over the past few months, she will be gracing the small screen towards the end of season six of *RHONJ*. "You'll see what's happening with my family and see how my children have grown. You'll see what's happening with our everyday lives," she explains.



Kathy Wakile at her book signing at Boulevard Books & Cafe.

Speaking of her family, the reality TV star reveals that her daughter Victoria is doing well after battling her second benign brain tumor. "She's a strong, brave girl, and she's just more motivated than ever," she says with a smile. Of how she got through such a difficult time, she credits the power of prayer. "I don't feel like it was me doing everything. I feel like God was carrying me through."

Related Link: RHONJ's Teresa Giudice Debunks Divorce Rumors

Of course, the New Jersey native isn't done expanding her empire just yet. Next up is a cookbook of Mediterranean-based appetizers and small plates. As she explains, "I get a chance to show my love through my cooking!"

Keep up with Kathy on Twitter @KathyWakile. You can purchase her cookbook Indulge: Delicious Little Desserts That Keep Life Real Sweet at your local bookstore or on Amazon.

'Real Housewives of New Jersey' Star Lauren Manzo Is Engaged to Longtime Boyfriend





By Kristyn Schwiep

'Real Housewives of New Jersey' Star Lauren Manzo is engaged to longtime boyfriend, Vito Scalia. Manzo told <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, "I'm so incredibly happy!! I'm in shock. I'm so excited to spend the rest of my life with my best friend." The couple got engaged on Nov.12.

How do you know when you're ready to tie the knot?

Cupid's Advice:

Getting engaged is a big step in any relationship. You want to make sure you are making the right decision when you decide to tie the knot. So how do you know when you're ready to tie the knot? Cupid has some advice for you:

1. Support: If your friends and family support your relationship and like the person you are with that is a big indication that things can and should go to the next level. Having support from the people that have always been there for you should guide you in the right direction with your relationship. Getting engaged is an exciting time and having

the support from family and friends makes this exciting time even better.

Related: RHONJ's Teresa Giudice Debunks Divorce Rumors

2. Living situation: If you've been living together and your relationship is going strong that is a good sign that you are ready to take things to the next level. Living together is one of the hardest parts of being married so if you have been living together and are enjoying it you are ready to get engaged and be fully committed.

Related: <u>5 Celebrity Couples Who Got Engaged Over the Holidays</u>

3. Adding to the family: Starting a family is a huge deal. If you and your partner have been talking about your future together and starting a family you should definitely take the next steps in becoming a family by tying the knots.

When did you know you were ready to tie the know? Share your thoughts below.

Teresa and Joe Giudice Say 'We Have Never Lived Beyond Our Means'





By Kerri Sheehan

Teresa and Joe Giudice have finally broken their silence after last month's fraud indictment left them facing fifty years in jail. The Real Housewives of New Jersey couple opened up to Andy Cohen on Sunday night's episode of Watch What Happens Live. The Giudice's are being accused of lying about multiple income sources, bankruptcy fraud, and bank fraud. People reported that Joe, 43, defended his family's spending saying, "We have never lived beyond our means. Whatever I could afford to buy I would buy. We work hard, so what, we are allowed to make money. It's part of what we do, I'm a businessman and I make money." The couple will appear on the next Housewives reunion on October 6th.

How do you keep money issues from causing drama in your relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

Money problems can drive a hole in any relationship. Let Cupid help you stick together in rough times:

- 1. Stick together: When it comes to finances you and your hubby are in this together. If you come across any financial problems you should work through them together rather than placing the load on one person's shoulders.
- 2. Keep track: The easiest way to keep money issues from causing drama in your relationship is not to have money issues at all! Watch closely where your money is going so you know whether or not you can cut costs in certain areas. This will keep you and your partner from falling into a financial hole
- **3. Find free fun:** It's likely most of your fun activities cost a lot of money. Finding way to have fun without breaking the bank will help you save money in the long-term.

How do you keep money issues from causing drama in your relationship? Share below.

'RHONJ' Star Jacqueline Laurita: "I Try My Best to Get Along With Everyone"





By Kerri Sheehan

You may know the sassy and fiercely protective Jacqueline Laurita from Bravo's hit reality show *The Real Housewives of New Jersey*, but that's not her only claim to fame.

Before we delve into this season's drama and last night's episode, let's focus on a few things you may not know about Laurita, starting with the fact that this 43-year-old mother of three has her own beauty website, AltruisticBeauty.com, with publicist Suzanne Summers. The two began working on the site together after first developing a friendship. "I told her about my idea, and we decided to turn our love affair for beauty into a business. Since I am a licensed cosmetologist with years of experience and Suzanne is a beauty publicist, we make a great pair. We bring our years of knowledge to the site and also handpicked a team of other beauty and health professionals to blog with us."

Inspiration for Laurita's company came from her days as a cosmetologist. "I had this vision for a beauty website a long time ago. I've spent several years educating people about

cosmetics, skincare and everything beauty. I have literally tried it all." Real Housewives viewers were an impetus as well. "Fans of my show would tweet me beauty questions constantly, so I created a platform to get all of their beauty questions answered. I get all sorts of questions from what plastic surgery procedures I recommend to how to make treatments from items in your refrigerator. I love sharing beauty secrets!" she exclaims.

Related Link: RHONJ's Teresa Giudice Debunks Divorce Rumors

Inner beauty is just as important as outer beauty, and one thing that shines most about Laurita is her dedication to raising awareness about autism. She has become a strong voice in the community since her youngest son, Nicholas, was diagnosed. On one episode, viewers saw Laurita encourage Nicholas to try out a hyperbaric oxygen chamber, which is thought to help children on the autism spectrum. Family is the most important thing to Laurita and she says that she stays on the show (despite the drama) because it gives her a platform to bring attention to the cause.

If you tuned into the *The Real Housewives of New Jersey* last night, you know that things didn't go as planned during Laurita's reunion with Teresa. "I try my best to get along with everyone," she says. "I really don't need the extra aggravation of fighting over nonsense when I'm fighting for my child's recovery at home. I really don't like fighting." At the same time, this Jersey mom is not afraid to hold her own when challenged. "If a certain situation presents itself to me, I just roll with it by responding organically, and I always have hope for a resolution in the future. This season you may see more "mysteries from last season reveal themselves," she says.

Related Link: 10 New Celebrity Moms

Despite the fighting and feuding, the beauty

guru's relationship with her husband has remained as strong as ever. She says that their secret is acting as though they just met each other and adds, "We always make sure we schedule in regular date nights. We like to go out with other couples too. It's fun and entertaining." Their typical date night involves good food, good conversation and a glass of good wine.

You can catch Jacqueline and the other Real Housewives of New Jersey every Sunday at 8/7c on Bravo. To keep up with Laurita, follow her on Twitter @JacLaurita or facebook.com/jacquelinelaurita. Head over to AltruisticBeauty.com for some beauty tips and tricks.

Melissa Gorga Tells Sisterin-Law to Stay Out of Her Marriage





On Sunday's episode of *The Real Housewives of New Jersey*, Teresa Giudice couldn't keep quiet any longer about her sister-in-law, Melissa Gorga's relationship. The tension boiled into an ugly confrontation. According to *UsMagazine.com*, the main issue was that Gorga said she'd leave her husband if a richer man came along. Giudice then accused her sister-in-law of ruining her relationship with her brother, Joe Gorga.

What do you do if family members start to come in between you and your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

As much as we love them, family members tend to get over involved in our relationships. Here are some ways to get them to back off a bit:

1. Don't give out too much information: Though lying to your family is never a good idea, if you don't want them to get too involved with your love life, only tell them what they need to know.

- 2. Tell them you can take care of yourself: When your family tries to get too involved in your business, it's okay to say, "Thanks, but no thanks."
- 3. Get them to see the situation from your point of view: Chances are the family members getting too close for comfort into your love life would want you to get into theirs. Politely remind them of that.

What are the negative consequences of getting too involved in someone else's relationship? Share your stories below.

RHONJ's Teresa Giudice Debunks Divorce Rumors





The Kardashian's aren't the only one's who've been hit hard with rumors this month, as Teresa Giudice of *Real Housewives of New Jersey* also found herself on the gossip train yesterday. The author confronted the media about her marriage with Joe in a statement to <u>Celebuzz</u>. Here's what the reality star said:

"Joe and I are not getting a divorce. We aren't separated; never have been. We are happily married. I love him as much as the day we got married. My kids are wonderful. Yes, Gia cried in school one day, but everyone's been really sweet to her since then and she's tough, like her mom. I'm so blessed to have my beautiful family!

"Even Perez Hilton wrote about me being nice to a person on Twitter who was making fun of me, wondering if did it on purpose of if I'm just stupid. Sorry, Perez, I knew they were making fun of me (I read people's Twitter streams before I respond to them so I know where they're coming from. And that person makes fun of everyone!) And I was still nice. That's how I am. I just think you can catch more flies with honey... I have never once in over 6,000 tweets engaged with a hater on

Twitter (or Facebook). I know my other cast mates get into online wars with people, but I just don't. Never have. Never will. You have the right to your opinion, and I have the right to hit the delete button and not read it. Done, done, done."

On a positive note, Giudice has a reason to celebrate, as *Fabulicious* recently made it on the New York Times bestseller list. For more, including her response regarding her brother's actions on Monday night's episode, check out Celebuzz.

How do you handle public conflicts with your partner? Share your thoughts with us below!

Danielle Staub's Ex-Housewife Drama





A defamation suit between Danielle Staub from *The Real Housewives of New Jersey* has become a he-said-she-said fight to the death. Even after a mediation session with ex-husband Kevin Maher that lasted over nine hours, no settlement has been made. As reported by *E! Online*, Maher is suing Staub for \$5 million and is claiming she damaged his reputation by accusing him of being a rapist, cocaine user and dog killer. Staub denies ever saying those things and claims that no one could damage his reputation more than his tell-all *Cop Without a Badge*.

How do you deal with bad blood after a divorce?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes marriage isn't forever. When a separation happens, sometimes there's bad blood between the two parties involved. These issues can stem from emotional or material conflicts and can get extremely heated. Cupid has some ways to deal:

1. Cut the drama: If you are angry about something at the end of a relationship, first ask yourself, "Is this really so

important that I need to address it?" If the answer is no, move on with your life and save your money and energy.

- 2. Keep the kids out of it: A divorce can be hard enough on the children, so don't air your post-divorce issues on them. The split should most likely have nothing to do with them, so do the right thing and stay civil in their presence.
- 3. Try to come to an agreement: If the issue is big enough that you do pursue legal action, remember that no one is going to get 100-percent of what they want. Try to compromise in order to end your ordeal as efficiently as possible. The earlier it's settled, the faster you can move on with your life.

Financial Woes Strike Teresa & Joe Giudice





Reality star Teresa Giudice and her husband Joe are facing the reality that they have money problems. According to <u>OK!</u> <u>Magazine</u>, the <u>Real Housewives of New Jersey</u> couple is planning to sell their personal belongings in a public auction on August 22. The two filed for bankruptcy last October. A recent article in the <u>New York Post</u> claims the couple owes nearly \$11 million in debts, including over \$100,000 in credit cards.

What should you do if money problems are weighing on your relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

Relationships can be hard enough without the added stress of financial failure. In fact, several studies say money is the number one reason couples fight. While handling this situation is often easier said than done, Cupid has some advice to help ease the burden:

1. Money talks: Money is often a subject couples shy away from. While we all know the saying "money talks," it's important that you and your partner actually talk about it.

Understand the numbers you are dealing with so you can spend responsibly and make financial decisions together.

- 2. Watch the spending: This step may sound like the most obvious, but it's often the most difficult. Make decisions on how much you can allocate each month to daily expenses and towards non-essential spending. Here are some interesting stats from a 2004 study commissioned by *SmartMoney* and *Redbook* to help put things in perspective.
- **3. Turn to a financial planner:** It never hurts to talk to a professional who can lay out your expenses and help set up a spending plan. Speak to friends and family for references, or contact the Financial Planning Association to find a qualified planner.