

# Zac Efron's Night Out at the Strip Club



Actor Zac Efron spent a guy's night out at a local strip club in New York City, [People](#) reported last week. The *High School Musical* star told Jimmy Kimmel that the experience didn't live up to his expectations. "So I envisioned myself on a nice couch, stunna shades, with like T-Pain and Usher, you know, making it rain money," he said on the show. "And it just wasn't like that." But don't worry: before heading out, the 22-year-old called girlfriend Vanessa Hudgens to ask for permission.

**What are some possible responses you can give your boyfriend if he asks permission to go to a strip club?**

## **Cupid's Advice:**

Even Efron agrees that there is no way to ask the strip club question without a mutual feeling of awkwardness. Let Cupid give you some pointers on dealing with this uncomfortable

question:

**1. Yes:** This is probably the easiest answer. If he's asking for permission, it may benefit you to assume his intentions aren't bad, or that he is at least willing to admit to his bad intentions.

**2. Yes, and honey... I love you:** This answer may be the smartest answer. Just because he wants to indulge in this activity doesn't mean he loves you any less. The "I love you" at the end will hopefully keep you on his mind all night.

**3. No:** If no is your answer, you may be argued with. If you feel this answer is necessary to keep your dignity in tact, don't give in to his request.

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## 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 [OK! Magazine](#), the *Real Housewives of New Jersey* 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 [New York Post](#) 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.

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## Scott Disick: An Alcoholic “Vampire”



Scott Disick, baby daddy for Kourtney Kardashian's little boy, allegedly drinks

so often that Kardashian friend Jonathan Cheban called him a “vampire” in the above clip from [E! Online](#). The reality TV star simply added, “Alcohol is in his blood.” Despite this, Disick works nights at a club, with access to alcohol regularly.

**Addiction by half of a couple can be devastating to the relationship. How can you work together to beat the illness?**

Cupid’s Advice:

Many things in this world draw even the strongest willed people into a less than desirable situation. When you’re with someone, they too, are affected by your condition. Here are some ways you and your partner can reduce or eliminate your temptation together:

- 1. Stay away from your weakness:** If you have a taste for alcohol, don’t work in a place where you have easy access. Talk with your lover to find other jobs you can perform well in.
  - 2. Get help:** Acknowledging the problem is a great first step to getting your life back on track. Start small by attending an addiction group meeting, and work your way up. Ask your mate to attend for moral support.
  - 3. Nobody is perfect:** The fact that addiction is more common and openly spoken about these days makes it more important to accept your imperfections. If you’re the sober one, stand by your partner throughout their ordeal for a better chance at success.
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# Kim Kardashian Supports Ex Reggie Bush



After several breakups, Kim Kardashian and Reggie Bush seem to be on friendly terms these days. With the controversy surrounding Bush over his Heisman trophy and his USC career, his reality TV star-ex backs him up 100 percent. “Reggie worked hard for that Heisman and deserves it. He earned it!” Kardashian told [People](#) last week. The NCAA ruled that the 25-year-old New Orleans Saints player had violated the association’s rules by accepting expensive gifts during his stay with the USC. Kardashian added, “I really don’t think it’s fair to give it back.”

**When is it appropriate to defend your ex?**

**Cupid’s Advice:**

Whether you’re single or in the arms of another, an ex calling



for support should be answered with caution.

**1. Reciprocation:** Sometimes an ex isn't calling simply because they want someone to lean on. If your ex has a tendency to do this, ask yourself, "What's in it for me?" You don't need to listen to someone else's problems if this person isn't in your life anymore.

**2. Emergencies:** If your ex is calling because his or her car broke down and you're the only one available to turn to, then he or she probably doesn't have ill intentions. If *you* were in the same situation, would you reach out to your ex for help? If so, go ahead and lend a hand.

**3. Opinions:** Supporting an ex through a tough time may lead to misleading statements. If both of you are clear on where your relationship stands, then these comments, as seen with Kim Kardashian, can simply be considered an opinion.

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## Jesse James Wins Custody of Daughter





*Monster Garage* host and Sandra Bullock's ex, Jesse James, won physical custody of daughter Sunny on Tuesday, reported [E! Online](#). James and his ex-wife Janine Lindemulder have gone through a tug-of-war custody battle over their child, specifically because James wanted to take Sunny to his home in Austin, TX. The reason? James told the judge that he wanted Sunny to live close to Bullock, who has a positive influence on his daughter. Sunny will remain with her mother until the end of the summer, and will then head to Austin with James.

**How can you make a move a smooth transition for a child?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

A big move can be a very traumatic experience for a young child, particularly in the case of a family being split up. James has the right idea in taking Sunny to a spot where she already has roots – thanks to Bullock – but there are other key steps to help the child settle in and start a new life.

**1. Lay groundwork:** By keeping a child involved in the moving preparations, they will feel more in control of the move. This will enable them to not feel as if they are being forced



from their home, and make them more open to new arrangements.

**2. Make it quick:** Drawing out goodbyes before a move and the move itself can lead to a more upsetting experience for a kid. Plan the move so it runs smoothly before setting it in motion, and have a goodbye party to make leaving people seem a lighter affair.

**3. Nesting effect:** By nature, people are nesting creatures, who like to have their own space where they can create a home. Children have those same needs. Let them pick their room and have a say in how it's laid out, painted, and decorated. This will, again, give them a feeling of control.

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## Frank Dumps 'Bachelorette' Ali Fedotowsky for Ex-Girlfriend





This week on ABC's *The Bachelorette*, Ali Fedotowsky found herself dumped by Frank Neuschaefer, one of the final three bachelors competing for her heart and hand in marriage, reported [NJ.com](http://NJ.com). Prior to the show's trip to Tahiti, Neuschaefer stopped off in Chicago to visit Nicole, his ex-girlfriend, one last time. The moment he saw her, old feelings rushed back, and he realized he was still in love with her. Neuschaefer told Ali what happened, saying, "The second I saw her, all the old feelings kinda came rushing back. Ali, I'm sorry."

**What do you do if you think you still have feelings for an ex?"**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Love can be complicated and unrelenting. If you find yourself between a current love and a former flame, read Cupid's ways on how to choose between the two:

**1. Weigh your feelings:** Being in love with two people causes a lot of emotion that can cloud your instincts. Take a moment and write down your feelings for each, and then read through the list. Sometimes, the answer will be right in front of you.

**2. Physical vs. emotional:** Picture yourself with each of them separately, and figure out what draws you to them. You might find that while the physical attraction fades, the one you truly love will remain in your heart.

**3. Talk to others that know you:** If you still can't make up your mind about who you should be with, phone a friend and ask their opinion of your relationship with each. Do they see you as happy? Stressed? Bored? When you're with the one you truly love, you'll find positive attributes, such as contentment, happiness and bliss.

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## LeAnn Rimes' Ex Is Moving On!



Not only is he moving on, but he's moving in! With a rising career and a new girl in his arms, Dean Sheremet is ready to make some big

changes. The chef and his new girlfriend, Sarah Silver, are moving in together later this month. Sheremet confirmed the big move to [US Magazine](#) on Monday, and said, "It's true. We're moving in together and I'm really happy. Life is good." Sheremet and his ex, singer LeAnne Rimes, finalized their divorce last month, ending seven years of marriage.

## **Moving in with your partner is a big step – how do you know if you're ready?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

There are many things to consider before you consider moving in with a partner. Cupid has a simple guide to make the process easier:

**1. Time:** It's not about how long you've been together, but about how mature you are in your relationship. A year-long relationship between 23-year-olds is different from a year-long relationship between 33-year-olds. We mature and get more secure with who we are as age. It's important to know what kind of person you are, and what kind of things you expect and want from a partner, before combining households. Consider these issues to gauge your move-in readiness.

**2. Commitment level:** Make sure you're both aware of each other's expectations. Some people think moving in will lead to marriage, while others view cohabitation as a way to test the waters. "This type of miscommunication is all too common," says Nina Atwood, a relationship author, who was quoted in a MyLifetime.com article. "Moving in together is usually a step toward making a decision about marriage, so it's very important to discuss this openly."

**3. Money matters:** This issue is one of the top argument starters for couples. Make sure you're both aware of how your finances will be taken care of.

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# Brett Ratner's Flirty Date Night



Brett Ratner is apparently directing himself in a brand new role... major flirt. According to the [New York Post](#), while on a date, the *X-Men* director couldn't keep his attention away from four other women at a nearby table at Katsuyah in LA. A "spy" in the restaurant says he paid for the women's tab, and offered his phone number in front of his date so they could text-message him when he returns from London.

**What do you do if your partner has a wandering eye?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

The rules of dating are always open to interpretation, but

there are some basic guidelines you should keep in mind:

**1. A flirt is a flirt:** Being flirty is a personality trait, which, most of the time, is harmless. Just because your date is flirting with someone else, doesn't necessarily mean they will act on it. Be confident in yourself, and realize a flirt may just crave extra attention. If you get jealous easily, this type of person may not be the right match for you.

**2. Spot the red flags:** Make sure your date isn't crossing the line between innocent and inappropriate. Most of the time, being friendly, or watching an attractive person walk by isn't a cause for concern. However, if you notice physical interaction you should reconsider the relationship.

**3. Get it out in the open:** The best thing you can do is talk about it. Sometimes your partner may not even be aware he or she is such a flirt.

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## Kelly Osbourne Parties After Breakup







Hello Sin City! The newly single Kelly Osbourne hit up Las Vegas and partied with friends last week after her recent breakup with British model Luke Worrall. Osbourne spent Thursday night celebrating best friend Blake Wood's birthday. "She seemed really happy and not phased by the breakup," a source who saw her that night told [People](#). The 25-year-old and her friends did lemon drop shots and danced the night away at Haze Nightclub after a lobster, crab, and steak dinner at Union Restaurant.

### **How can you bounce back after a breakup?**

#### **Cupid's Advice:**

Finding out he wasn't your Prince Charming can be tough. Here are some of Cupid's ways to speed up the process:

**1. Take the high road:** Don't spread rumors or make negative comments about your ex behind his back. Remember, there was something about that person that made you fall head over heels for him or her at one point.

**2. Get your mind off the bad things:** Keep yourself preoccupied with work or hobbies to keep busy mentally. This will help you focus on the important stuff.

**3. Channel your energy:** Take whatever feelings of resentment or revenge you may have for your ex, and use it towards something productive, like exercising or staying in shape.

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## Oksana Grigorieva's Son to Be Questioned



The Los Angeles county sheriff's department is seeking Alexander Dalton, son of Oksana Grigorieva, for questioning on his mother's relationship with Mel Gibson, [TMZ](#) reported last week. The department believes that Dalton, Grigorieva's son with actor Tim Dalton, will be able to give critical evidence about the fights between Gibson and his mother.

**How can a child be protected from parental problems?**

## Cupid's Advice:

Grigorieva and Gibson's fights have been public due to the release of recordings by [RadarOnline.com](http://RadarOnline.com), but until now, the fight has not involved anyone outside the couple. It's important to separate the the legal issues for the benefit of the family, and the quality of life of the children.

**1. Keep it professional:** Even if a child gets involved in the legal matters, it's important that those matters are kept within a legal setting. Don't discuss them at home, or bring them up when talking about other things.

**2. Leverage:** As in, don't use it. Fights between parents should never be used as a bargaining tool to play the child against a mother or father. The kid isn't a pawn in the parents' problems and situations.

**3. Allow for distance:** If it looks like a child is being taken advantage of, or used to tip the scales in one person's favor over the other, it is up to another family member, or close friend who is aware of the situation, to step in and remove the child. Whether it's staying with grandparents for awhile, or just getting them out of the house, it's important that the kids have their own space.

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# Kelly Osbourne Calls Off Engagement





Kelly Osbourne and her fiancé, model Luke Worrall, have called off their engagement, [People](#) reported last Wednesday. The split comes on the heels of reports that Worrall cheated on Osbourne. That day, she tweeted that she would not comment on the split. The two got engaged in November 2008.

### **How can you deal with a breakup online?**

#### **Cupid's Advice:**

Osbourne used technology to communicate her feelings with her friends and fans. However, the web is a public forum that must be approached with care. Here are some of Cupid's tips on dealing with a breakup on the Internet:

- 1. Personal boundaries:** In an avenue that basically has no barriers, it's important to have your own limits for the amount and content of the information you put out on the web.
- 2. Censorship:** There are certain things that shouldn't be mentioned in a public setting. Avoid any of the "B" words: boys, breakups, bosses, bank accounts, and bodily functions. Add any others you feel necessary, but basically, if you wouldn't talk about a topic to a group of people you don't know, don't put it online.

**3. Be true to yourself:** You have the ability to create a whole image for yourself online. This means you also have the ability to recreate your online identity after the split. Revamp your profile, or tweet some inspirational quotes. Keep yourself positive and moving forward, even if it's just online.

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## Jesse James Wins First Round of Custody Battle



Jesse James, ex-husband of Sandra Bullock and West Coast Choppers CEO, won the first round of his custody battle with second wife, the [New York Post](#) reported Monday. James and ex-wife Janine Lindemulder, an ex-porn star, both provided statements against each other, including James claiming

Lindemulder told him she was on anti-depressant drugs. For now, James has sole custody of their daughter, Sunny.

## **Can a custody battle lead to a solid family life in the end?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

A custody battle should end up with the child placed in the best home possible. A messy fight between parents doesn't help an already hard situation, especially if the child(ren) aren't old enough to understand what's going on. Keep them away from the proceedings when you can.

- 1. Lips are sealed:** Don't talk about the custody issues outside of the courtroom unless lawyers are present. This protects both parties from bringing any private matters into the battle later on, and also protects the kid from becoming involved.
  - 2. No place likes homes:** Make both parents' living arrangements a real home for the child. Regardless of how the custody proceedings end, the youngster should feel comfortable living with either parent. A stable home environment for the child must be provided when all is said and done.
  - 3. No one new:** This is not the time to bring any new relationships into the child's life, especially a romantic one for either parent. In a time of uncertainty for a kid, including a new face in the home will only add to the confusion.
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# Kelsey Grammer Asks Seperated Wife to the Tonys



According to sources from the [New York Post](#), Kelsey Grammer asked wife Camille Donatucci to accompany him at this year's Tony Awards – even though he dumped her via telephone a month ago. Donatucci stayed at the London Hotel, and made public appearances with the *Frasier* star during her stay, but the actor would not let her into his apartment, or discuss any means of reconciliation, said the sources. Donatucci, Grammer's third wife, filed for divorce in June, citing "irreconcilable differences." She is seeking custody of their daughter, Mason, 8 and son Jude, 5.

**How do you face your ex in public?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Breakups can be painful – what happens if you run into your ex while you're out? Cupid has some tips on maintaining your grace:

**1. Expect it:** While you shouldn't be paranoid about seeing your ex, realize that it can happen, especially if you have the same circle of friends, or live in neighboring areas.

Acknowledge your feelings after the break-up – you don't want to lose your cool, especially in public.

**2. Talk smart:** It's always good to have a few conversation topics in mind in case you see your ex, so you don't start rehashing the past. Don't bring up inside jokes or shared past experiences; your ex might assume you aren't over your relationship.

**3. Go ahead – look good!** Be confident in yourself. If you appear happy and upbeat, your former partner will think you've moved on (and it won't look like you're still wallowing – even if you are). Seeing you smiling and carefree will only show your ex what he or she is missing.

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## Christina Milian & The Dream Announce Separation





On Monday, a rep for The Dream confirmed the separation of the producer from wife, singer Christina Milian, to [US Weekly](#). The confirmation of the split came shortly after the website released photos of The Dream playing on the beach with a mystery woman. The couple married this past September, and have a daughter, Violet, who is 5-months-old.

**How can you maintain the honeymoon stage through the first year of marriage?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

The first year of marriage can be the hardest, especially once the actual honeymoon is over. Even if it's rough, you can make it through as a couple and a family by keeping the spark alive, and keeping things special.

**1. Survive PHD (or 'post-honeymoon depression'):** It isn't easy to come back to the real world after spending a vacation in paradise with just you and your mate. Ease back into your routine, and remind yourselves that just because the trip has ended, doesn't mean the passion has to fizzle, too.

**2. Pick a date night:** You are getting settled into your new

life together, which often means doing a lot of tedious errand running and paper filing. Schedule dates together once a week. Get out of the house and be a couple on the town.

**3. Celebrate the small things:** Once you're married, everything can become a 'first' again – make each of those firsts count. Have friends over when you are completely moved into your new place. Start a new tradition for your first holiday season as a married couple. In short, start making new memories together.

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## Melissa Etheridge's Custody Battle



Melissa Etheridge is singing a different tune these days as

she and her ex, Tammy Lynn Michaels, are facing off in a custody battle. According to [RadarOnline](#), Michaels filed for full custody of the couple's 3-year old twins last week. The couple broke up after nearly nine years together, when Etheridge filed to officially dissolve their partnership earlier this month, citing irreconcilable differences. The singer asked for joint custody of the children, and that the court not award any financial support to Michaels. The actress has been verbal about her feelings concerning the issue.

## **What should you know before you engage in a custody battle?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

A custody battle may be one of the biggest fights of your life. Let Cupid help:

- 1. Why the fight?** Are you engaging in a custody battle for legitimate reasons, or are you fighting just to make your ex suffer? Regardless of what happens, you're both parents to the child, and his or her best interests should be put first.
  - 2. Remain civil:** As difficult as it may be, remain polite when it comes to the kids. You don't want the court to see you as a person who can't control their feelings.
  - 3. Become a record keeper:** Prove you are a good parent. Record all activities you do with the child, as well as any problems you have with your ex.
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# Levi Johnston Makes Nice with the Palins



After many months of a bitter war of words, Levi Johnston apologized to Bristol Palin and her parents last week. Talking exclusively with [People](#), Johnston said, “Last year, after Bristol and I broke up, I was unhappy and a little angry. Unfortunately, against my better judgment, I publicly said things about the Palins that were not completely true.” He continued, “I have already privately apologized to Todd and Sarah. Since my statements were public, I owe it to the Palins to publicly apologize.” Johnston is the father of Bristol Palin’s one-year old son, Tripp. The two called it quits in March 2009 after campaigning together during Sarah Palin’s 2008 vice presidential run. The two are making a conscious effort to reconcile and do what’s best for the baby.

**What’s the best way to mend a relationship with your ex and his or her family?**



## Cupid's Advice:

It's unfortunate that a breakup can sometimes lead to exchanging harsh words, not only between the couple, but by the entire family. Here's Cupid's advice on making amends:

**1. Accept responsibility:** Being aware that something you said or did was wrong makes your apology more genuine. Explain this, and reassure the family it won't happen again. No one is perfect, and everyone makes mistakes.

**2. It's really about you and your partner:** Before you can move onto the family, make sure both of you can forgive each other, and understand what you want out of the relationship. Trusting each other, despite being exes, should always come first.

**3. Children are key:** If children are involved, as is the case with the Palins, reconciliation is even more important. Everyone can agree that it's important to create a healthy environment for the child.

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# Melissa Etheridge's Ex Surprised by Divorce





Melissa Etheridge filed divorce papers to end her nine-year domestic relationship with actress Tammy Lynn Michaels on Saturday, [E! Online](#) reported. Michaels commented on the news that day on her blog, and wrote, "Gentle waves/ no noise for awhile/ or maybe gentle voices/and SMACK!!!!!! FILE FOR DIVORCE!!!!/ even though we both promised, agreed, handshook, pinkyswore/no filing until after tour/in the fall," Michaels wrote Saturday. "Her broken promises told to me by headlines....could you stop blind sighting me?/ Have a good concert." The 49-year-old singer filed on the grounds of irreconcilable differences, and requested that Michaels receive no financial support. The actress' response? "I know she doesn't want to give me money. trust. i'm borrowing cash left and right from people to get through this summer, and feed my kids, with a stomach full of ulcers, thank you. no stress here. :-)"

**How can you deal with the financial burden of divorce?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Divorce is typically a financial burden for both parties.

Read Cupid's suggestions for coping with a decreased cash flow.

- 1. Be mindful:** Before spending money, ask yourself whether the purchase will bring long-term enjoyment, or just temporary pleasure.
  - 2. Create a budget:** Creating a budget will provide the financial organization needed to save for future monetary needs.
  - 3. Allow others to help:** Let go of your pride and acceptance assistance. Help may come from friends, family, or even the government. If you need it, ask, before you dig yourself deep into debt.
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## Mel Gibson's Break-Up Takes a New Turn



Mel Gibson continues to draw attention regarding his break-up with baby mama, Oksana Grigorieva. [RadarOnline](#) reported last week that a taped phone conversation between the actor and his ex-girlfriend included less than flattering racial remarks directed towards her. Gibson has a history of potentially detrimental comments, and has a documented history of drunken misbehavior.

## **Are there more effective ways to break-up?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

When a relationship ends there are going to be hurt feelings, but if you deal with them properly, you'll have a better chance of coming to terms with your break-up. Read how Cupid deals with negative emotions:

- 1. Express yourself:** When you find yourself in the middle of a nasty break-up with, it's healthy to get those feelings out. Try to turn your feelings into positive energy – and don't direct the negativity to your ex. It won't solve anything.
  - 2. Talk to someone unbiased:** When you're going through an emotional upheaval, logic tends to be forgotten. Go to a trusted family member or friend to confide in, and listen to their suggestions. They'll tend to be more objective since they aren't directly involved in the situation.
  - 3. Be understanding:** You are not the only person feeling hurt. Consider your former partner's feelings before reacting.
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# Elin Nordegren's \$750 Million Divorce Settlement



Tiger Woods and Elin Nordegren's marriage is coming to an end... in a very pricey way. According to last week's *The Sun*, Nordegren will get \$750 million in exchange for keeping quiet about the golfer's affairs. Among the other deals, Woods is banned from bringing single women around his two children, and the two will split several properties. Nordegren will also get sole physical custody of the children, but they will split legal custody. A pal told the Sun, "Everything's signed. Elin is ready to file for divorce at Orlando County Court. She expects to in the next seven days."

**How should you best come to terms that your marriage is over when it's time to split the assets?**

## Cupid's Advice:

Most couples are not dealing with the dollar figures that Woods and Nordegren are, or dealing with the public eye. However, divorce is divorce, no matter how you slice it. Cupid is here to help:

- 1. Face reality:** Realize that the marriage didn't work out, and that life will now have new challenges. While there's no way to work through pain quickly, seek counseling, as well as help from family and friends during this difficult time.
- 2. Communicate:** Whatever the reason for divorce, it will be hard on the both of you. Talk with a lawyer to review the assets in question, though the process may be easier if you and your ex try to work out what is best first.
- 3. Don't put the children in the middle:** Speak with a lawyer to understand all custody options, including legal custody, child support, and visitation. As Cupid has mentioned in the past, it's important to try and maintain the lifestyle your child has become used to.

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# Divorce Finalized for Sandra Bullock & Jesse James







Sandra Bullock and Jesse James finalized their divorce last week, [People](#) reported. Though it's uncertain if the couple had filed a pre-nuptial agreement, the *Associated Press* confirmed that the papers cited "discord or conflict of personalities" as the reason for the split, and the proceedings were amicable.

### **Is it possible to have a cordial divorce?**

#### **Cupid's Advice:**

When it comes to divorce, the nature of the marriage often indicates how things will go after it ends. Despite the sticky nature of their split, Bullock and James seemed to have a mature and respectful marriage while they were in it.

**1. Over is over:** Make sure all of the issues of your marriage are resolved before you sit down at the table to negotiate a divorce. If not, any festering issues could come out at the table and affect the proceedings.

**2. Keep it private:** Other than you and your respective lawyers, there is no reason to get anyone else involved – even good friends. It only makes things more complicated after the

settlement.

**3. Take time:** After the divorce is finalized, separate yourself from your ex. No calls, emails, or other communication unless it's about the kids, or an emergency. It's important to heal the wounds and be alone. Once you have things figured out, maybe you can be a part of each other's lives again.

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## Landon Donovan's Possible Love Child



U.S. World Cup star Landon Donovan is playing defense these days after reports surfaced that he fathered a child out of wedlock. A source close to Donovan's wife and *Rules of Engagement* star, Bianca Kajlich, told [US Weekly](#) Monday that she wasn't "blindsided by this and isn't angry." The news came out during the United States'

World Cup run, and Donovan told *Sports Illustrated* that he will take responsibility if the claims are true. While the soccer star and his wife are currently separated, they have been trying to work on their relationship.

## **Can a marriage work if your spouse has a child with another person?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

There will be a lot of emotional turmoil but a marriage can survive if both parties want to make it work. Cupid has some suggestions:

**1. Demand a paternity test:** While most DNA tests happen after the baby is born, it's possible to get one beforehand.

Consider counseling when waiting for results to make sure all parties are prepared for whatever happens.

**2. Get finances in order:** In addition to the emotional pain this news can bring, there are financial implications as well. Whether you're planning a separation, divorce or trying to work it out with your spouse, you'll still want to contact an attorney. Shared assets need to be determined since financial questions will pop up once paying child support comes into the picture.

**3. Consider the child:** Whether you're a woman dealing with her husband's potential infidelity, or a man whose wife is pregnant with another man's baby, the anger and hurt can be overwhelming. Step back and consider the innocent child in the middle of this situation, as well as any children you already have with your spouse. Don't take the anger out on them.

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# Michael Douglas Goes to Court Over Earnings Dispute with Ex-Wife



It seems like Michael Douglas may never be rid of his ex-wife. The [New York Post](#) reported Monday that Diandra Douglas filed a lawsuit in June against the actor, stating she has rights to half of his earnings from *Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps*. When the couple divorced 10 years ago, the decree gave her rights to future earnings from spin-offs, residuals, and merchandising off Micheal's films made when they were married. The judge will determine whether or not Diandra is entitled to any money, as the new movie is a sequel, not a spin-off.

**What's the best way to deal with an ex years down the road?**

## **Cupid's Advice:**

Divorce is typically a messy business, and can sometimes be more stressful than the marriage was. See Cupid's ways to help you out when dealing with an ex-spouse:

- 1. Try to see their perspective:** After your divorce is finalized you may think you'll never have to deal your ex again. Unfortunately, this is almost never the case. When you are faced with an issue involving that person, put yourself in their shoes before immediately arguing against them.
- 2. You loved them once:** Keep in mind that there was once love shared between you two. At the very least, establish some ground rules, such as basic respect when you need to communicate.
- 3. Move on with your life:** Even though you are no longer a couple – especially if you have children together – your ex-spouse will need a place in your new life. Accept this as a fact of life, so you can get past this.

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# **Mark-Paul Gosselaar & Lisa Ann Russell Split After 14 Years!**





After 14 years of marriage and two children together, Mark-Paul Gosselaar (better known as Zack Morris from *Saved By the Bell*) filed for divorce on June 18 from Lisa Ann Russell. [TMZ](#) confirmed the split on Friday. The couple's rep told [UsMagazine.com](#) that they will remain "focused on their family and are jointly committed to their children."

**How can you focus on the kids when you dissolve a marriage?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

No one wants to end a relationship, but there are times when parents find themselves sitting with lawyers to divide their assets – and figure out what to do about their children. Here are some ways to help alleviate stress when the kids are involved:

- 1. Let the older kids speak:** When dealing with something as permanent as divorce, always put the kids first. If they're old enough, talk with them and ask if they have any questions. If they're too young to understand, ensure that you spend positive quality time together as frequently as possible.
- 2. Play nice with your ex:** You may think this an easy task, but when a relationship ends, you're bound to strike an



occasional sour note. Try to keep tempers and attitudes in check, especially if the kids are within earshot.

**3. Separate the issues:** Ending your marriage shouldn't be a nasty fight to the finish. Work things out amicably and make sure you work out child custody arrangements. When the kids see that the two of you get along better now that you're apart, they may feel that the divorce was a better choice versus seeing their parents fighting constantly.

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## Martina Navratilova's Off-Court Financial Battle



This is no love match. Tennis legend Martina Navratilova has

found herself fighting an off-court battle with her ex, Toni Layton, reported the [Telegraph](#) last week. Now, Navratilova is trying to put an end to this messy breakup by settling and paying Layton an estimated \$3 million. Layton sued Navratilova two years ago for alimony, saying Navratilova suddenly dumped her after an eight year relationship, and caused her “emotional, mental and physical trauma.” Layton also apparently threatened Navratilova, saying she would air all of the couple’s dirty laundry if the tennis legend didn’t pay up.

**What should you do if you’re being threatened in some way by a jilted ex?**

**Cupid’s Advice:**

It should never have to come to this, but being able to protect yourself from any threat is essential. Let Cupid help:

- 1. A threat is a threat:** First and foremost, understand that if someone threatens you it should be taken seriously. Whether it’s verbal, as in the case of Navratilova, or physical, it should not be ignored. Any form of domestic abuse, which includes threats against you or a family member, is against the law!
- 2. You’re never alone:** Calling 911 is a good first course of action if you feel threatened. Laws vary from state-to-state; you’ll want to understand your options. Don’t worry about making things worse by involving the authorities; they’re there to help and protect you. If you’re a minor, inform your parents of the situation and let them help you figure out the best course of action. There is also the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE.
- 3. The ABC’s of AVOs and TROs:** There are special court orders that can be put in place if your ex, or even your current spouse, is threatening you. These are called injunctions, and

can force someone to refrain from doing certain acts. These come in the form of a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO), or an Apprehended Violence Order (AVO) if you feel your harasser is becoming violent.