## Sources Say Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner Are Facing Celebrity Marriage Troubles





y: Maria N. Capalbo

According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, right before their 10th year anniversary, sources say that Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner have hit a rocky road. They also say that their kids are the only reason they have remained a celebrity couple this long! Affleck and Garner have attended years of therapy and have endured long separations from each other to keep their celebrity marriage afloat. They both have come very far, and hopefully they keep things together!

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## We hope this celebrity marriage will last! What are some ways to work on fixing your marriage?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Once you say "I do", you promise to be there for your partner through sickness, health, and disagreement. Sometimes, those disagreements can escalate to bigger problems. Cupid has a few pieces of love advice to work on fixing your marriage:

1. Talk it out: In most cases, talking it out goes a long way instead of just remaining silent about your problems. Some people think it is okay to just keep quiet about their feelings thinking it will just disappear, but the longer you wait to express yourself, the more problems you run into!

Related Link: Ben Affleck Says Jennifer Garner's Love Helped Him Become a Hollywood Star

2. Counseling: It is nice to have a median between you and your partner. Seeking a counselor is not the end of your relationship, it just gives another outside ear to listen to the problems between you two. Marriage counselors can really help a great deal!

Related Link: <u>Ben Affleck Kisses Jennifer Garner in Rare PDA</u>
Moment

**3. Giving space:** Sometimes space is not a bad thing. Giving your partner time to think and calm down in tense situations may be the best option. Get some space, calm down, and return to the issue once you've both relaxed.

What are some ways you've fixed your marriage? Comment below!

### Celebrity Kids: They're Just Like Us





Page 1 of 20



Kim Kardashian with daughter North and niece Penelope

Even celebrity kids need hobbies! North and her cousin Penelope are ready for their dance class. Photo: 4CRNS/Dunkin D/FAMEFLYNET PICTURES

## Jennifer Garner Says 'It's My Turn' to Work After Supporting Celebrity Love Ben Affleck





y Rebecca White

It's time to get back to the old grind for Jennifer Garner. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, after several years of supporting her celebrity love Ben Affleck in his career, it is time for Garner to go back to focusing on her career once more. The famous couple has three children together and Garner revealed that Affleck supports her in her decision to go back to work.

Celebrity love birds Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck have a famously close and healthy relationship, especially when it comes to nurturing each other's careers. What are some ways to support your partner's career?

Cupid's Advice:

Whether you're a married celebrity couple or not, it is important to encourage and support your partner's career for the good of your relationship and love life. Cupid has some tips:

1. Figure out scheduling: Make sure that you schedule some alone time or time with the kids. You and your partner's schedules should align so you can spend time together as well as prioritize your work, just like celebrity love birds Affleck and Garner.

Related Link: Ben Affleck Says Jennifer Garner's Love Helped Him Become a Hollywood Star

2. Let them have it all: Don't discourage your partner from taking an amazing deal at work, even if it means relocating, or spending many hours at work. It is possible to have it all and maintain your love life as well as a career. Telling your love they can't do something for the sake of your relationship and love will cause resentment.

Related Link: Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck Celebrate 9th Wedding Anniversary

**3. Be there:** Be there when it counts and have their back at all times. You are their number one cheerleader, therapist, and organizer. Just showing up proves your dedication and love to your partner.

How do you support your partner's career? Comment below!

### Celebrity Exes Ben Affleck

## and Jennifer Lopez Reunite at the Oscars





В

#### y <u>Rebecca White</u>

Oscars buzz is beginning to die down, but of course, there is even more celebrity news and gossip that is making headlines. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, celebrity exes Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez reunited at the awards show during one of the commercial breaks, playfully joking around. We were all heartbroken when the famous couple had their celebrity breakup in 2004, but there's no need to worry: They've kept in touch via email for the last decade. If only all splits were this civil!

# It can be awkward for celebrity exes when they see one another again. How can you remain civil if you bump into your former flame?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Running in to an old flame may be awkward — but not for celebrity exes Affleck and Lopez. Try to model your uncomfortable experience after this Hollywood couple, and you'll be keeping in touch just like they do without any hard feelings.

1. Bring a friend: In the first few years after the relationship ends, it may be smart to bring a friend with you when you know you're going to interact with your ex. Having a wing woman or wing man will help you refocus the conversation if things turn sour.

Related Link: <u>Jennifer Lopez Reveals Ben Affleck Was Her</u> "First Big Heartbreak"

2. Don't compete: After a break-up, people often feel the need to compete with one another, bringing dates to parties and going places just to show your ex how happy you are. Don't use your relationship and love life as a competition; it will only leave you feeling upset and emotionally exhausted.

Related Link: Ben Affleck Says Jennifer Garner's Love Helped Him Become a Hollywood Star

3. Leave the past in the past: This is one of the best ways to remain civil with an ex. Focus all conversation on the present and the future: what you've been up to, how your family is, etc. That way, past feelings will be left in the past for both exes.

## Ben Affleck Says Jennifer Garner's Love Helped Him Become a Hollywood Star





y Maggie Manfredi

Love and fame can fit together. In fact, we have proof! According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner are a happy couple. The *Gone Girl* star said, "My wife is an amazing and strong woman, and I'm so happy to be here

supporting this work that she does." Both have continued to have amazing careers while raising their three children Violet, Seraphina, and Samuel. Garner stated, "We're boring parents. I'll usually cook a meal for everyone, help them with homework, that's usually our date night. Otherwise, he's an amazing husband."

What are three ways to inspire your partner to be successful in his/her career?

#### Cupid's Advice:

For a couple to be successful, you have to each follow your individual dreams while also setting goals together. Cupid has some tips:

1. Be honest: Share your vision for the future and everything you want to accomplish so that your partner is aware of your hopes and can help you achieve them. Honesty is key in any relationship, especially when it comes to your long-term partner.

Related Link: <u>Sofia Vergara Is Engaged to Joe Manganiello</u>
After Only 6 Months of Dating

2. Celebrate: When your partner gets a win, you get a win too! Celebrate your accomplishments to show that you're in it together.

Related Link: Mel. B Speaks Out About Husband Stephen Belafonte's Alleged Abuse

**3. Dream big:** You have a support system, so work off of this base and dream big. With the right mentality, you can do great things with your life!

How do you support your partner's career? Tell us in the comments below!

## Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner Take PDA-Filled Outing in L.A.





#### y <u>Katie Gray</u>

America's sweethearts, Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner, stepped out and got cozy on a stroll together with their three children in Los Angeles on December 11th. The perfect pair have been happily married for almost ten years. According to <a href="https://www.usmagazine.com">Usmagazine.com</a>, Garner said of their date nights, "We're boring parents, so we just play with the girls. "I'll usually cook a meal for everyone, help them with homework; that's

usually our date night. Otherwise, he's an amazing husband." To which Affleck said, "My wife is an amazing and strong woman."

What are three ways to keep the spark alive in your marriage?

#### Cupid's Advice:

It's important to continuously work on your marriage, and part of that means keeping the spark alive. Cupid has some tips:

1. Save the date: To keep the spark alive in your marriage, it's important to have date night! You need that time to enjoy the company of one another. During this special outing, you can talk without being preoccupied with everything else going on in life and just focus on each other.

Related Link: <u>Ben Affleck Kisses Jennifer Garner in Rare PDA</u>
Moment

2. Spontaneous surprises: Who doesn't love a good surprise. Spontaneity is an extremely attractive quality. Give your spouse a gift from time to time, write them a poem or love letter, bring them flowers, make them the type of food they like, and so forth. It doesn't have to be something that costs a lot of money; it's the thought that counts. They will know that you still care by these little but meaningful gestures.

Related Link: <u>Find Out Why Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck</u> <u>Weren't at George Clooney's Wedding</u>

**3. Sex sells:** In the world of advertising and media, the saying goes, "Sex sells." Well, relationship experts say this is too when it comes to passion in a marriage. Many claim that having routine intimacy is what keeps you connected to your spouse.

What are some ways that you keep the spark alive in your marriage? Share your thoughts below.

## Top 10 Most Loving Celebrity Husbands





y <u>Courtney Omernick</u>

It's no doubt that there are many celebrity men we adore and would love to be with. And, there are definitely a few celebrity wives that make us jealous. Below is a list of the most loving celebrity husbands. And, we'd like to remind their wives how lucky they are!

1. Tom Hanks: His marriage to Rita Wilson has set the record in Hollywood with the two being together for 25 years. Tom's

stated that it feels like he's been married to Rita for only two years because it's gone by so quickly and he's having so much fun with her.

Related: The First Official Look at Chris Soules on 'The Bachelor'

2. Tim McGraw: Is there a better love story than Tim McGraw and Faith Hill? The country duo has been making it work since 1996 by vowing to never spend more than three days away from each other, creating joint tours, and beautiful love duets.

Related: Ricki Lake Files for Divorce From Christian Evans

- 3. Barack Obama: Yes, being the President is the toughest job in the United States and puts a lot of pressure on the family. But, somehow, Barack makes keeping a marriage together look flawless. Barack always comments on how he couldn't do what he does without Michelle by his side, displays his affection in public, and makes time for his family.
- **4. Justin Timberlake:** It's still hard to believe that this guy is off the market, but he makes the best husband! It's been said that Justin's album that was released last year is full of love songs decided to his wife, Jessica, and that when she's at one of his concerts, he sings them right to her.
- **5. Keith Urban:** The country singer fell in love and married Nicole Kidman eight years ago and they have two lovely daughters together. In a recent interview, Nicole talked about how Keith is an amazing man, would do anything for her, and how he carried her physically and emotionally over the past few months while she was dealing with the passing of her father.
- **6. Michael J. Fox:** Being a star that has battled so much, Michael always lets the press know how much he adores his wife. Michael and Tracy started a foundation to raise money for Parkinson's research and they've been by each other's side

since the 80s. Michael was quoted in Redbook Magazine stating, "The best thing that ever happened to me was getting married."

- 7. Ben Affleck: Whenever Ben is on a talk show, you can always find him giving compliments to his wife, Jennifer Garner. And, when Ben accepted his Best Picture Oscar for Argo, he thanked her and openly talked about all of the hard work they'd put into their marriage.
- 8. Brad Pitt: Brad recently married Angelina, but they already have a wonderful history together. He's been by Angie's side through her scare of breast cancer, their multiple adopted children, and more. He's stated that she makes him a better person, and that he's lucky she's in his life.
- **9. Channing Tatum:** The actor met his wife on the set of Step Up, and the rest is history. Channing can't say enough nice things about his beautiful bride and always compliments her as a mom and all-around amazing human being.
- 10. David Bowie: Most people would be surprised that a marriage between a rock star and a supermodel would last two decades. But, in the case of David Bowie, it has. His wife, Iman has stated that David still takes her on date nights and makes her laugh like no one else does.

What celebrity husbands did we miss? Let us know in the comments!

### Jennifer Lopez Reveals Ben Affleck Was Her "First Big

#### Heartbreak"





y <u>Katie Gray</u>

Don't be fooled by the rocks that she got; she's still Jenny from the Block! Superstar, Jennifer Lopez, AKA JLo, has revealed in a recent interview that her first big heartbreak was her split with actor Ben Affleck. They had co-starred in the film *Gigli* together. She opened up about how she was devastated over the split in a recent interview with Maria Shriver that is set to air on November 3rd and 4th on *The Today Show*. Lopez is multi-talented; she's a singer, songwriter, actress, dancer, fashion designer, author, perfume creator, producer and judge on *American Idol* among a variety of other successful endeavors. According to *UsMagazine.com*, the lovely Lopez stated in her interview, "It was probably my first big heartbreak, and to have one of my best friends who

I'd known for years, who I actually love and did have chemistry with, come into my life and say, 'I'm here'...What you need to know is, nobody can save you or heal you," she continued. "Only you can do that for you."

What are three immediate ways to start getting over heartbreak?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Heartbreak is one of the most difficult things to deal with in life, so it's important to remember that there is always light at the end of the tunnel. Cupid has some ways to help you get over your heartbreak immediately:

1. Love, love; love: Directly after a split from a significant other, it's important to surround yourself with your loved ones. They will build you up, recharge your energy, give you hope for the future and inspire you to keep on going. Take a look around and realize that you are not in fact alone, and see how loved you truly are.

Related: Heartbreak: Heal and Move On

2. Personal bubble: Although you shouldn't completely close yourself off from the world forever, it's important to retreat into your own personal bubble and take time for yourself. Spend your time thinking, relaxing and doing things that YOU enjoy. Don't worry about everyone else for a change, this is the exception where being selfish is totally acceptable. Do something for yourself, reflect back on things and focus on resting because you are probably in desperate need of it.

Related: <u>Celebs Turn to 'Dancing With The Stars' to Heal</u> Heartbreak

**3. I'm a diva:** Pamper yourself! Even though you're feeling sad on the inside, you can look fabulous on the outside which will lead to feeling good inside too. The saying goes, 'If you look

good, then you feel good.' It's time to enjoy yourself and get back on the top of your game. Go to the hair salon and get your locks looking on point, get a fresh manicure/pedicure, go to the spa and enjoy a massage, do a facial, take a bubble bath, have your eyebrows waxed, do some shopping and treat yourself to your favorite foods and desserts. Like Teresa Giudice says, "Count your blessings. Not calories." Meditating and doing yoga are also ways to heal you on the inside and relax. Allow yourself to feel positive energy and be zen. There is so much to look forward too, remember that.

What are some ways you have healed your heartbreak immediately? Share your thoughts below.

# Find Out Why Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck Weren't At Clooney's Wedding





y Amanda Boyer

According to <u>F! Online</u>, George Clooney's wedding to Amal Amaluddin was the place to be for Hollywood. So, why were Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner not there? Garner recently cleared the air on the *Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*. In fact, she recounted a story involving meeting George Clooney for the first time right after getting rid of lice in her hair. She joked, "So anyway, people keep asking why we weren't at George's wedding and we were both 'working,' but I think he didn't want Licey there."

How do you decide who to invite to your wedding?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Your wedding is a time to share your vows to your partner with your loved ones surrounding you. Here are some tips for you on deciding who to invite:

1. Make a list: Make a list of everyone you would want at your wedding if you could afford it and had room. This will serve as a starting point before you start to narrow things down.

Related: <u>Find Out Details Behind George Clooney and Amal</u> <u>Alamuddin's Wedding Prep</u>

2. Start color coding: Separate your list into sections: primary family, distant relatives, close friends, etc. This will help you see who really needs to come versus who is optional.

**Related:** <u>Jessica Simpson Shares Five Wedding Vows For a Happy</u>
<u>Marriage</u>

**3. Question it:** Start going through the people that could be maybes and ask yourself a few questions. Have I talked to this person in the last 6 months? Would this person actually want to come?

Have any other tips for making a guest list? Comment below.

### Ben Affleck Kisses Jennifer Garner in Rare PDA Moment





y Amanda Boyer

Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner were spotted at a farmers' market on Sunday, Oct. 5, in L.A.'s Pacific Palisades neighborhood and were showing some rare affection in public. According to <u>USMagazine.com</u>, the duo spent a day away from their kids and picked up fresh food for their family. When they got to their car, Affleck leaned forward to plant a kiss on his wife's cheek.

How do you show you care in public?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Want to show your partner you care? Cupid has some tips:

1. Hold her hand: Instead of just walking next to your partner and talking, grab their hand and look into their eyes. This will make them feel like you could care less who else is around.

Related: <u>Ben Affleck Gets Playful with Jennifer Garner During</u>
<u>Ice Bucket Challenge</u>

2. Surprise them: If you are super busy and never get a chance to see your partner, send a gift or drop by just to say hi.

Related Link: <u>Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck Celebrate 9th</u>
<u>Wedding Anniversary</u>

**3. When you say goodbye:** Before you leave your partner, give them a hug and a kiss to keep them remembering you throughout their day.

Have another way to show you care in public? Share below!

# Ben Affleck Gets Playful with Jennifer Garner During Ice Bucket Challenge





y Ann Luther

Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner have set another crazy adorable relationship goal with the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. Affleck was challenged to support awareness for the cause by Tyler Perry. In the video, Affleck nominates four people who he knows "from firsthand experience look good in a wet T-shirt," chief among them being his wife. Upon finishing his list of nominations, Garner dumps the ice bucket over her husbands head who immediately grabs her by the waist and hurls the both of them, fully clothed, backwards into a pool. In the background, you can hear their children laughing boisterously. <code>UsMagazine.com</code> says Affleck's video may be "the best yet." We agree!

What are some ways to bond as a couple through charity?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Charity is a marvelous way to reflect and give thanks for what you have. If one of the things your grateful for is your happy relationship, then finding a way to give back to your

community can be twice the fun if you participate with your partner. Here are some ways to strengthen your bond as you strengthen a cause:

1. Pick a cause that's important to both of you: There are a million causes that need support: cures for cancers and other diseases, meals for the impoverished, youth literacy, ending animal cruelty, the list goes on and on... and on. So, there is going to be at least one cause that is special to both of you. Picking a cause and working together to aid it will bring you two closer on a spiritual level. You'll get to explore different sides of each other that can only be brought out through selfless acts like charity.

Related: <u>Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck Celebrate 9th Wedding</u>
Anniversary

2. Create your own event to help your cause: You can have so much fun with charity if you raise money the way you want to! Plan a 5k, a bicycle race, a dance, or even a classic cocktail party. The pair of you will get to spend extra time planning before the event, relish in the event itself, and be able to donate something together when it's all over with. It'll be a toss up as to who is benefiting more from your work!

Related: Lessons From Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck

3. Participate in your partner's charity of choice: If there is something truly special to your beau's heart, educate yourself on the cause and why exactly it is important to him. Then, find a way to get involved! Your guy will love the effort you put into something so close to him. Sign both of you up for an event and have fun with it. On the day of, embrace those special moments that you can't get out of your every day routine.

Have you bonded with your partner through charity? Share your stories in the comments below!

## Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck Celebrate 9th Wedding Anniversary





y Shannon Seibert

America's sweethearts Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck celebrated their 9th wedding anniversary this past weekend. The stars married back in 2005 and are now the proud parents of three beautiful children. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, the lovebirds enjoyed a romantic low-key dinner with red wine at Bistro 82 in Detroit, Michigan, where Affleck is currently filming <u>Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice</u>.

#### What are some ways to spice up a long-term marriage?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Marriage is a partnership, a love story, and, most importantly, a long-term commitment. To keep a marriage happy and healthy, it requires a lot of work on both ends. After a while, routine becomes inevitable, and couples can get too comfortable with one another. Sometimes, to get back on track, you have to make yourself uncomfortable and try new things. We've pulled together three ideas to keep your marriage feeling fresh and new.

1. Go on adventures: In many marriages, taking care of the kids, paying the bills, and going to work become the top priorities. Avoid neglecting your relationship by going out on spontaneous excursions together. Spending a weekend at a nearby bed and breakfast or going out for date night in another town can help rekindle those feelings from when you started dating.

Related Link: <u>Keith Urban Serenades Nicole Kidman on Stage for</u>
8th Anniversary

2. Flirt with each other: When you're married, you have to keep dating your spouse. The stolen glances, the suggestive comments, and the subtle hints may seem trivial at this point, but they are all key factors in keeping the spark alive. Men like feeling wanted as much as women do, so send a little wink his way every now and then! By courting your spouse, it reminds them that you still want them in the same way you did when you first got together.

**Related Link:** <u>Courteney Cox Is Engaged to Snow Patrol's Johnny</u> McDaid

3. Make plans without the kids: Yes, they are your pride and joy, but you and your man were together before children were even a thought. Splurge on that tropical vacay that you've

been saving for. It doesn't make you any less of a parent by spending a weekend on a cruise ship without them. If anything, by keeping your marriage healthy, you're setting an excellent example for the standards of your children's future relationships.

What are your secrets to a happy marriage? Share with us in the comments below!

## Jennifer Garner Says She and Ben Affleck Make Lives Work in 'Boring Way'





y Sanetra Richards

Ben and Jen have proved themselves to be a normal married couple, despite the title of "celebrity." According to <code>UsMagazine.com</code>, the actress talked about the busy life her and husband Ben Affleck lead, but how they manage to balance it all: "I'm pretty selective [over roles]," Garner shared with reporters at the premiere of <code>Draft Day</code> on Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. "Everything that comes my way — the first thing we do is talk schedule, location," she said. "I sit down with a calendar with my husband and in a very boring way, detail every single week.... and what's possible and if it can work out or not."

#### How do you keep your relationship stable and strong?

#### Cupid's Advice:

A relationship is similar to a full-time job: you constantly have to put in the work and not become lazy, or else the job's primary goal will not be done properly. Being able to progress with your significant other is all about whether or not the partnership is stable and strong enough. Cupid has a few tips

on how to keep these aspects between you and your honey:

1. Listen to each other: It is perfectly OK to just sit back and hear what your partner has to say . . . and then pitch in your suggestions or ideas. Beware of letting it go in one ear and out of the other — actually take in what they have to say and vice versa. Your partner will feel more at ease to come to you with any problems or issues they may find themselves running into.

Related: Ben Affleck Says Wife Jennifer Garner Is 'the Most Important Person to Me'

2. Be supportive: Constantly speak words of encouragement. It will give them (and you) that extra boost. If your partner has a huge project coming up and he or she is nearly pulling their hair out, be there to calm them and cheer them on. Consistently doing little things like this will make a ton of a difference in your relationship.

Related: <u>Ben Affleck Says He and Jennifer Garner Are Done</u> <u>Having Kids</u>

3. Address problems: You may think some issues are not worth talking about . . . WRONG! Be honest with your partner on what is bothering you or what is possibly setting the relationship back. Respectfully talk it out and hear each other's side. Then figure out a solution and act on it, as a team.

What are other ways to keep your relationship strong and stable? Share your suggestions below.

## Author Jennifer Buhl Talks About Her Time Spent 'Shooting Stars'





nterview and written by <u>Whitney Johnson</u>. Transcription by Louisa Gonzales.

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Jennifer Buhl spent three years in Los Angeles working as a paparazza (the word for a female singular paparazzi), and as a top-earning photographer, she was one of only five women in an industry dominated by men. Her work was published in *People* magazine, TMZ, and E! News, to name a few. Having since escaped the California lifestyle to move to Boulder, Colorado, and run a family photography business, she took the opportunity to reflect on her time in the field and wrote her new book, *Shooting Stars: My Unexpected Life Photographing* 

Hollywood's Most Famous. Read on for our exclusive interview with the author and find out more about her experiences with the rich and famous!

Related Link: Brian Austin Green and Megan Fox Are Accused of Assaulting a Paparazzo

You write about how paparazzi are often portrayed as being the villain, but in reality, they aren't the bad guy. Has this perspective affected the way your friends and family viewed your career?

I think everybody outside of Los Angeles kind of thought I had this cool new profession, but people in LA sort of have an attitude about *their* celebrities — like, "How dare you?" The people who are most offended by my profession are the people who follow celebrities the most…because they feel like they're friends with them. And, of course, it's kind of ironic because they know all about them because of the photographs that paparazzi take.

It's important for people to understand that, a lot of the time, celebrities actually want to be photographed. It's also good to note that paparazzi are just the photographers; we're not the buyers (magazines, blogs, etc.) or the consumers. Honestly, I don't really care that much about celebrities; I was just doing my job!

## You mentioned that your favorite experience as a paparazzi was one with David Beckham. Can you elaborate?

David is one of those celebrities that I put in a different category — like this mammoth, mammoth star. He's like Tom Cruise or Brangelina. They operate in their own world, and they always have a ton of security around them. They've really changed their lifestyle because of their fame, so it's hard to get a good shot of them. You rarely see pictures of David just out and about because he knows how to avoid us (which isn't

hard to do). So to have an encounter with him is a really special thing.

One day, I followed him to soccer practice knowing that I probably wouldn't get a photograph because it'd be on his terms. He had two security guards with him; he saw me following him and kind of waved at the car I was in. Then, he pulls up to a drive-thru Starbucks window — and I'm like, "Did he do that for me?!" We were both in line and had our windows down, so we started chatting.

He knew I was a paparazzi and I was following him, but I didn't pull my camera out because there was no shot. All he had to do was put his hand over his face, and his security would've come running. We just talked for a while, and at the end of the conversation, he let me have a picture. It wasn't an amazing photo — he was just grabbing his drink from the window — but for me, it was a really special moment.

#### Were there any celebrity couples that you enjoyed shooting?

I photographed the Beckham's on the soccer field or out as a family. But interestingly, the paparazzi rarely follow a man by himself. Unless he's with his partner or kids or has a big bouquet of flowers in his hand, we typically focus on women. It's women who mostly read magazines, and we really want to see what other women look like — what they're wearing, how they've done their hair, who they're dating.

As an example, I was sitting on Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck's house one day — that's a paparazzi term for "staking out" — along with several other paparazzi. Ben pulls out in his car, and nobody moves. We were all waiting for Jen.

#### Related Link: Lessons from Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck

To shift gears a bit, we wanted to ask your thoughts about the recent petition from couples like Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard who are trying to stop photographs of their kids from being

#### published.

Well, I think they are barking up the wrong tree when they are talking to paparazzi. But I actually think Kristen and Dax are going about it the right way; they're trying to target the people who print the pictures. Those are the deciders and consumers of what the paparazzi do. So if they want those pictures to stop printing, they need to talk to those people, and I think some of the media has agreed to it.

I don't think the paparazzi really care that much because, frankly, the publications and blogs are going to use our photos no matter what. Whether you buy the ones with Kristen and Dax's kid or you buy one with somebody else, it doesn't matter.

## And how has the insurgence of social media affected the paparazzi's careers?

Social media has given celebrities a lot of power. Our biggest competitors today are celebrities themselves. And that's because they're tweeting and Instagramming their own photos that the magazines and blogs can use for free. Publishers don't really care where the photos come from as long as they're good pictures, and the celebrities love it because they're able to drive their own media and their own look.

#### On a personal note, as a working mother, do you have any tips for our readers who are trying to balance parenthood with their careers?

I guess my biggest piece of advice is to look into attachment parenting — it really works for me. I would also say that, if possible, it's really important to have a flexible work schedule. It totally changed my life and just allows me to be a mother. If you read the book, then you know that motherhood is the most important thing in my life. So for me, it comes first. I still need to work, and I still love to work, so I put myself in a situation where I am able to be a working

mother.

For more information about Jennifer, check out jenniferbuhlphotography.com. You can order Shooting Stars from Amazon!

## Ben Affleck Says Wife Jennifer Garner Is 'the Most Important Person to Me'





y April Littleton

According to <u>People</u>, Ben Affleck only has one person to thank

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for all of his success — his wife, Jennifer Garner. "She is by leaps and bounds the most important person to me in that respect," Affleck said in an interview with *Playboy* of Garner's resolute support. "Over the past 10 years she has allowed me to have a stable home life while accomplishing my professional goals." The couple married in 2005 and have three children together, son, Samuel, 21 months and daughters Violet, 7 and Seraphina, 4.

What are some ways to show your appreciation for your partner?

#### Cupid's Advice:

After awhile, it can be hard to find different ways to show your partner you still love and care about them. Sometimes, the smallest gestures can make your loved one feel over the moon. Cupid has some tips:

1. Thank them: The simplest way to show your appreciation for your significant other is just by thanking them often. Does your partner take out the trash everyday? Does he/she cook and clean the most out of the two of you? Sure, a sweet "thank you" will do the trick, but think about giving your partner a nice gift. Surprise your love with a special meal or take them out for a night out.

**Related:** Newlyweds Ace Young and Diana DeGarmo Start Holiday <a href="Traditions">Traditions</a>

2. A day out: Plan out a day where you and your partner do everything he/she likes to do. Whether it be going swimming, seeing a movie or simply lounging at home all day — let them pick out the activities for the day. When the day is over, your honey will feel appreciated and know you care about their wants and desires.

Related: Adele and Boyfriend Flaunt PDA at Lady Gaga Concert

3. Physical contact: Make sure you shower your significant

other with hugs and kisses. When your partner does something nice for you, show your love with a sweet kiss and a hug. A little physical contact can mean the world to your love and it will also keep the spark between you and him/her alive.

What are some other ways to show appreciation for your partner? Comment below.

## Celebrity Couples that Work Great Together





y Kristyn Schwiep

Keeping up with Hollywood's most talked-about relationships can drive you crazy. From weddings, pregnancies and hook-ups gone wrong Cupid has come up with a list of our top celebrity couples who work great together amidst all the Hollywood fame:

1. Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert: Country music royalty, Shelton, 36, and Lambert, 29, have been happily married for two years. Recently the country stars have been in the middle of rumors regarding their shaky relationship, but Shelton has nothing to hide from Lambert. According to People, Shelton gives Lambert full access to his phone. "That's really the kind of trust we have. There are no secrets," Shelton says. Trust is the basis of all great relationships, and there is no doubt that these country starlets are doing it the right way.

Related: Celebrity Couples Where Opposites Attracted

- 2. Portia de Rossi and Ellen DeGeneres: DeGeneres, 55, and de Rossi, 40, married in 2008. They are one of Hollywood's favorite beloved gay couples due to the fact that they live their lives as honest and openly as possible. Though the couple doesn't want to have kids, de Rossi tells Rolling Out, "We are the best of friends and married life is blissful, it really is. I've never been happier than I am right now." Best friends make the best partners.
- 3. Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel: One year after their wedding, Timberlake, 32 and Biel, 31, are still happily in love. The happily married man dishes to DeGeneres that he still enjoys sneaking a peek at his beautiful wife. According to *People*, Timberlake gushes that if he only starts to make bad decisions for the rest of his life, he has made one really good decision and that was marrying his best friend. Apparently, they are even planning on having a baby.

Related: Celebrity Couples Who Cannot Wait to Become Parents

4. Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner: After 8 years of marriage

and three children, Affleck, 40 and Garner, 41, have managed to make their relationship work against the Hollywood odds. Even after thanking Garner for working on their marriage at the 2013 Oscars and throwing everyone into a tizzy, Garner wasn't worried. According to *E Online*, Garner said what he was trying to say was, "'Look, what we have is really real and I value it above all and I'm in it with you and I know you are in it with me." It's refreshing to see that these two Hollywood starlets have managed to make their marriage work and that they value each other.

What celebrity couple do you think work best together? Share your thoughts below.

# Lessons From Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck





By Tammy Greene for <a href="Hope After Divorce">Hope After Divorce</a>

There are few other couples that have amassed more attention in 2013 than celebrity power couple Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck. It has been a memorable year for them with Affleck's huge success and Oscar for his brilliant movie Argo. In the coming months, Garner will step back into the spotlight with the film adaptation of the popular book, Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day. With their stellar careers, three beautiful children and easy affection with each other, it seems like this Hollywood pair has it all.

But let's not forget the bumpy path these two heavyweights took before they found each other. No one can ignore Affleck's relationship with Jennifer Lopez, a love that the media referred to as "Bennifer." The couple called off their engagement after only 18 months of dating. And Garner isn't without her own, though certainly less notorious, relationship history: She married fellow actor Scott Foley in 2000 and found herself divorced in 2004. Though celebrity couples seem to live a fairytale, these two prove that happily ever after

#### does not come easily.

We often find ourselves looking to celebrities to guide us in our lives — from how to dress, what to eat and where to shop. Similarly, we look to them to guide us in our relationships. Here are three lessons that we can learn from this fan-favorite power couple.

Related Link: Celeb Couples: More Like Us Than We Want to Admit?

#### Keep your personal life personal.

It is hard to say exactly why, but the media bombed hard on Bennifer. Whether it was because of their rather embarrassing nickname or possibly their highly-criticized movie *Gigli*, this couple could do nothing to escape the jokes or harsh criticisms. What might have topped it all off was the music video that the pair filmed together for Lopez's song, "Jenny from the Block." The couple openly displayed their affection for each other in a way that many felt was unnecessary, leaving themselves open to severe criticism by critics and fans alike. It was no surprise, then, that they soon broke up.

There is something to be said for keeping your personal life personal. Publicly displaying arguments or overtly sexual displays of affection leave you open to criticism and opinions from third parties. Thanks to social media, many feel it's okay to air their dirty and sometimes very inappropriate laundry for the world to see. In truth, nobody really wants to hear all about how angry you are at your husband or know what your "dirty talk" sounds like. Keep the details of your relationship personal. Being in a relationship is hard enough; there is no need to invite the unnecessary opinions or criticisms of others.

Admit that marriage is work and work on it daily.

Upon winning the Oscar for Best Picture for *Argo*, Ben Affleck gave an acceptance speech that caught people's attention. He said to his wife, "I want to thank you for working on our marriage for ten Christmases. It's good. It is work but the best kind of work, and there's no one I'd rather work with." The actor was criticized for possibly alluding to the fact that his marriage was in trouble. According to the happily-married duo, though, his speech was totally misunderstood.

Why is it that our society struggles to admit that marriage is work? Anyone in a good and happy marriage knows that daily effort is required for a successful relationship. It seems that people would rather hear that all is rosy and perfect in the land of Hollywood. Affleck should be commended for reminding all of us that what you love is worth the work.

Related Link: What We Can Learn From "the Work" Celeb Couples

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#### Don't take things too seriously.

As a result of the media criticism for his acceptance speech, Affleck found himself having to clarify what he meant and took the opportunity to do so while hosting an episode of *Saturday Night Live*. During his monologue, with the help of his lovely wife, they showed fans that they were still in love and happy and could laugh and joke about the way the acceptance speech was construed.

Being able to laugh in a relationship is a vital part of happiness. It is important not to take things too seriously and to always try to find the humor in situations. There are endless factors that add stress to a relationship and can work cracks into any strong foundation. Laughter can often be the glue that keeps those cracks from splitting in half. There is something admirable about a couple who doesn't take themselves too seriously.

Garner and Affleck are a power couple who seem to have it all

together, but they remind us that the path to a happy ending can often be blocked with bumps and turns. Still, it is undoubtedly a path worth taking.

Tammy Greene is a graduate of the University of La Verne. She has worked as a Child Life Specialist and social worker assisting families who have children with illness or mental disabilities. Tammy is a producer of the national PBS children's television show, Curiosity Quest. She has a blog, Married and Naked, where she shares personal lessons learned from her own life, offering helpful ways to navigate through the challenges of marriage. Tammy is a contributing expert at HopeAfterDivorce.org, FamilyShare.com, LAFamily.com and CupidsPulse.com. She is happily married to her high school sweetheart and is the mother of two. See Tammy's Curiosity Quest website curiosityqueststore.com/ and follow her blog, married-and-naked.com/

### Celebrity Couples Who Met on Set





y Kerri Sheehan

Like many other people, Hollywood relationships are likely to form at the workplace. For them, this means on the set of their latest movie and television ventures. People tend to date who they're in close contact with, so if you're famous then your close contacts will most likely be other celebrities. Hollywood co-stars who become romantically involved are a common occurrence; still America can't help but to be fascinated by it. Here are six of our favorite celebrity couples who met on set:

1. Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson: Know affectionately as K-Stew and R-Pats, these two met on the set of their vampire flick, *Twilight*. Although they tried to make the relationship work after Stewart had an indiscretion with "Snow White and the Huntsman" director, Rupert Sanders, the duo has recently parted ways for good.

Related: Celebrities That Remained Friends After Dating

2. Andrew Garfield and Emma Stone: Andrew Garfield and Emma

Stone played love interests in last summers hit *The Amazing Spiderman*, but it seems they let the love stay after the cameras stopped rolling. The movie's sequel is currently under production and set to be released in 2014.

- 3. Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck: Many think the Oscar winner and his wife met on the set of their 2003 movie Daredevil, but they really met two years prior while filming Pearl Harbor. However, they didn't begin dating officially until 2004, as Affleck was previously part of another Bennifer, with Jennifer Lopez. Garner and Affleck tied the knot in 2005 and have three kids together.
- 4. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie: The start of this couple was a tad controversial as they met on the set of *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* when Pitt was still married to Jennifer Aniston. Pitt and Jolie claim they didn't start dating until after his divorce from Aniston. They are not yet married, but have six children together, three of which are adopted.

Related: How Can Jennifer Aniston Make Her Love Last?

5. Ashton Kutcher and Mila Kunis: That 70s Show co-stars, Mila Kunis and Ashton Kutcher were in close proximity while filming the show from 1998-2006; however, at the time Kunis was with Macaulay Culkin and Kutcher with Demi Moore. Fast forward to the summer of 2012 and the two single stars chose to give love a go. They've been happy and in love ever since.

Who are your favorite Hollywood couples? Share below.

# Celebrity Dads Who Are Doing It Right





y Kelly Rouba for GalTime.com

TV dads, like Cliff Huxtable and Ward Cleaver, often made fatherhood look easy. They effortlessly juggled their work schedules so they could spend quality time with their children and, of course, they were always around to set their kids straight if they stepped out of line. While we all know parenting isn't always as easy as it seems on TV, there are plenty of celebrity dads who've managed to set the bar pretty high when it comes to balancing fame and fatherhood as least as far as we can tell from the outside!

Sarah McKeever, a mother of three from New Jersey, thinks Will

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Smith is a great role model for fathers around the globe. "I adore him, and he seems like a great father and husband. I've seen a few interviews with him and his wife and kids. They seem to keep a healthy balance with all the fame," McKeever said. There may be a lot written about the Smith marriage and their parenting style (a la lack of punishment)" but Will is one dad who definitely focuses on his kids.

Dorothy Cascerceri, an on-air news, fashion, and celebrity trend expert for *In Touch Weekly*, agrees. "(Smith) loves his kids Trey, Jaden and Willow and has done everything possible to encourage all of their careers in the family business, Hollywood."

Since Smith isn't the only dedicated dad out there, GalTime asked Cascerceri to name the *Top 10 Celeb Dads Who Are Doing It Right*, and here's what she said (in no particular order):

- 1. David Beckham— This ultra-hot soccer star is more than dedicated to his four kids, Romeo, Brooklyn, Cruz and Harper. He even has the boys' names tattooed on his back!
- 2. Ben Affleck— Not only is this Oscar-winner an all-star dad to daughters Violet and Seraphina and son Samuel, but he's also a dedicated hubby. He even thanked wife Jennifer Garner is his Academy Awards acceptance speech.
- 3. Brad Pitt— In addition to being one of the sexiest men in the world, Brad is tirelessly dedicated to his clan 6 and works extra hard to make sure the entire crew is taken care of.
- **4. Liev Schrieber** Forget strollers! Liev is usually seen transporting sons Alexander and Samuel around on his back and shoulders.
- 5. Tony Hawk— He loves his daughter Kadence so much that he Instagramed a photo of the two of them with his nails painted with pink sparkly polish.

- **6. Taye Diggs** He shares everything with his son Walker, even ad campaigns! The duo flashed their milk mustache smiles for a Got Milk? campaign.
- 7. Gavin Rossdale— Gavin always pays close attention to the style of his kids Kingston and Zuma, and he always makes sure they have the same rocker look as their dad.
- **8. Jerry O'Connell** He"s a doting dad to his twin daughters Charlie and Dolly, and oftentimes brings them to the set of his latest projects so they can see their dad at work.
- 9. Jay-Z— This rap mogul is smitten by his daughter Blue Ivy and even wrote a heartfelt song about her when she was born.
- 10. J.R. Martinez— Last but certainly not least, GalTime couldn"t resist adding new father J.R. Martinez to the list. Even though his daughter Belle just turned one, he's got quite a handle on fatherhood and there's no denying how deeply devoted he is to his precious baby girl.
- "I believe I'm a great dad, thus far, because I don't shy away from getting my hands dirty, whether it be by changing her diaper (constantly), making the bottle or setting up for bath time. I believe these are great opportunities to bond with your child," Martinez said.

Martinez also has a piece of advice for all those dads out there who just might be reading this. "I know we're working hard to provide, but don't leave it up to the mom to be handson. Show them you're more than capable, because you are."

### Celebrity News: Ben Affleck Says He and Jennifer Garner Are Done Having Kids





y Marisa Spano

Ben Affleck told *Extra* that he is done having kids with his wife, Jennifer Garner. The couple, who got married in 2005, are parents to daughters Violet, 7, Seraphina, 4, and son Samuel, 15 months. Affleck spoke to *UsMagazine.com* and said, "Raising kids is the greatest thing I think a person, or at least I, could ever do in my life."

How do you decide how many kids to have?

Cupid's Advice:

Having children is a beautiful thing, but how do you know how many is right for you? Cupid has the advice:

- 1. Time: How much time do you have on your hands? Having more than one child requires each one to have the same amount of equal attention from you and your partner. One child means all of your attention can go to him or her.
- 2. Think of your child: More than yourself, think about how it will affect your children. Do you want your children to have siblings? Will you have the money you need to take care of more than one? The amount of kids you have will affect your children just as much as you.
- **3. Pregnancy:** Are you willing to get pregnant for a 2nd time, a 3rd time or so on and so on? Having a child is a lot of work before the actual kid is even born.

How would you decide on how many kids to have? Let us know below!

### 10 New Celebrity Dads





y Jennifer Harrington

Pregnancy, babies and parenting are always some of the hottest topics when it comes to celebrity news. Much of this news revolves around the mom and baby (think of how much time we spend on "bump" watch and anticipating Hollywood baby name choices), and an important part of the equation is often overshadowed: the celebrity dad. There are some great fathers in the celebrity world, and we wanted to shine a spotlight on them to celebrate their dedication to their children and fatherhood. Here is a list of our top 10 celebrity dads:

#### **Brad Pitt**

Hollywood heartthrob Brad Pitt is a father of six (Maddox, Zahara, Shiloh, Pax, Knox and Vivienne) with longtime love, Angelina Jolie. Often when Angelina is working, Brad plays the role of stay-at-home dad with the kids, and it seems to be a duty he relishes in. In a 2012 interview with *People* magazine, Brad revealed that fatherhood has made him a better man and explained that being a dad "takes you right off yourself."

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Related: Mario Lopez Wants "At Least 4 More" Children

#### David Beckham

Soccer superstar David Beckham is the dad of four (Brooklyn, Romeo, Cruz and Harper) with wife Victoria Beckham. David has confessed that he hopes his children will be independent and lead normal lives, despite their parents' star status. He is open about how challenging it is to spend time away from his family for his soccer commitments. He's also very proactive when he's with the little ones (he was recently spotted having some quality one-on-one time with Harper in Paris).

#### Chris Noth

Sex and the City star Chris Noth is the father of one child (Orion) with his wife, Tara. Despite a long list of acting accomplishments, Noth is emphatic about his favorite role. He said, "I love being a dad... being a dad is by far my favorite role!" It may be difficult for some to imagine Mr. Big as a devoted dad, but Noth is frequently photographed as a hands-on dad (we have even seen him sport matching Halloween costumes with his little one), and has even said the sound of his son crying is "music" to his ears.

#### Tom Cruise

Major movie star Tom Cruise is a dad of three (Isabella, Connor and Suri). While Isabella and Connor are grown and embarking on their adult lives, Tom is famously undertaking the role of single dad, in light of his recent divorce from Katie Holmes. While Suri calls New York City home with Katie, and Tom is frequently traveling for his movies, Tom remains committed to daddy duty for Suri. The duo has been photographed at Disney World together, and most recently, celebrating her 7<sup>th</sup> birthday together. Tom has also remarked that Suri can call him whenever she needs him!

#### Ben Affleck

Boston-native Ben Affleck has three kids (Violet, Seraphina and Sam). After a whirlwind year of work and accolades for Ben, his current focus now is parenting his children, so his wife, Jennifer Garner, can go back to work. The couple has agreed that while one is working, the other will stay at home with the kids. Of his summer plans, Ben has been quoted as saying, "There's going to be a little Mr. Mom action."

#### Matt Damon

Ben Affleck's best buddy, Matt Damon, is also a fantastic dad. Matt is a father to three daughters (Isabella, Gia and Stella) and a stepfather to Alexia, from wife Luciana's previous marriage. Matt has a simple rule that guides his life and establishes his commitment to his daughters: the family can't be separated for more than two weeks at a time. Matt is open about the fact that his feelings toward his family are much more than he ever expected, and has remarked that parenthood is "really quite something."

#### Will Smith

The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air star is a father of three (Trey, Jaden and Willow). Will famously rapped about fatherhood in the 1990's song "Just the Two of Us", and he's watched with admiration as Jaden and Willow, his children with wife Jada Pinkett Smith, have launched their own acting/music careers. Will is very involved and supportive of their blossoming careers, and is always available to provide them with counsel as they navigate Hollywood. He has remarked, "I love producing my kids and my wife's TV show and all that. I think that's my most natural space in the business."

#### Seal

The singer is father to four children (Leni, Henry, Johan and Lou) with ex-wife Heidi Klum. While Seal and Heidi are no longer married, Heidi knew that Seal would be a good dad the first time she met him because of his "kindness and

compassion." She has publically stated that he is a great father and always puts the needs of the children first (even Leni, who is not biologically Seal's child), noting that he "does everything in his power" to make sure the kids are happy and safe. Time will tell how Seal adjusts to fathering without Heidi by his side, but we have no doubt he will continue to be a fantastic papa.

#### Matthew McConaughey

Matthew is dad to three kids (Levi, Vida and Livingston) with wife Camila. His recent acting schedule has been packed, but when he's not on set, Matthew's favorite activity is story-time with his tots! Matthew shared with *People* magazine, "My favorite thing is reading a five-minute story that turns into a never-ending story. When it's story time and I get to the end, there's no the end. The kids hate the end!" Matthew also loves long phone chats with Levi, when he's away shooting movies!

Related: 10 New Celebrity Moms

#### Barack Obama

President Barack Obama has two daughters (Sasha and Malia) with wife Michelle. Despite his schedule loaded with meetings with world leaders and policy negotiation, Obama makes spending quality time with his teenage daughters a priority. Sasha and Malia absolutely know where they stand with their father; Obama told *Essence* magazine, "I want my girls to know that no matter what else is going on, they're my first priority."

What qualities make a terrific celebrity dad? Any other celebrity dads we should include on this list of Hollywood's finest?

# Celebrity News: Should We Be Worried About Ben and Jen's Marriage?





y Jared Sais

It all started during the Oscars when Ben Affleck stated his marriage to Jennifer Garner was "work." He recently hosted Saturday Night Live (SNL) and addressed his choice of words in his monologue. So after analyzing both speeches, there's something you all must know. There is no better place to start than by looking at the couple's non-verbal cues at the Oscars.

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Jen appeared to be genuinely touched and demonstrated loving support for her husband. Before he even spoke, the actress was already showing signs of joyful tears, the same emotion you would see at a wedding. These feelings get even stronger when Ben starts to speak about her.

First, her inner eyebrows are raised, indicating that she was very emotional. When her inner eyebrows are raised, you also see wrinkling on her forehead. This cue is just a side effect of her raised inner eyebrows, but it helps to indicate that she's truly feeling this emotion since deep wrinkles are hard to fake. Finally, she shows the trifecta of strong emotional feelings as her chin dimples and bulges.

You may think these three non-verbal cues indicate sadness, but don't be fooled! Jen was extremely happy and proud of Ben. In addition to the cues above, she showed the following cues of joyfulness: smiling with the addition of dimples and crow's feet (wrinkling at the corner of her eyes). Crow's feet is a powerful cue used to identify a sincere smile versus a fake smile, which only happens near the mouth. A true smile includes the mouth, cheeks and eyes — everything that Jen was showing.

Of course, we all want to know what Jen was thinking when Ben started talking about their relationship being "work." She showed three notable non-verbal cues. First, she titled her head to the side, which indicated that she was wondering a bit about where Ben was going with his speech. She was surprised but not offended by what he said.

She also sat up straight and slightly tilted her chin upwards, indicating that she was curious about what Ben was saying and perhaps getting a bit uncomfortable. You may have thought the Oscar winner was digging himself in a hole with his comments, but his wife didn't show any signs of anger. Instead, she appeared to just be pondering what he said.

Finally, Jen did a shoulder shrug when Ben said, "It's a lot of work, but it's the best kind of work." This shrug demonstrates complete agreement. She knows he's speaking the truth and saying it with all the <u>love</u> in the world. Relationships do require a bit of work, especially in the hectic celebrity world.

### Related Link: What We Can Learn from "the Work" Celeb Couples Do

Now, let's move on to Ben's non-verbal cues during his Oscar speech. First, you will see Ben do a double-take (look twice at Jen or at least in her direction), as if he was almost reminded to thank her in his speech. In this case, the spontaneous nature actually made his speech more from the heart rather than prepared or scripted.

When Ben mentions her name, his voice cracks slightly. As we all know, when we are very emotional, our voices will sometimes crack. Usually, it's in an effort to hold back further emotions like tears. We will see this happen again at the end of his speech when he thanks his kids.

One other thing worth mentioning is that Ben has open arms when he says, "There's no one I rather work with." This motion tells me that he truly means what he says. Open arms when talking is a clear sign of trustworthiness. We might not think of work meaning love, but for this celebrity couple, "work" means just that.

SNL is where we see that everything is okay between the twosome. Before Ben brings Jen out, he speaks about the public and media misunderstanding his statement that their marriage is work (around 2:00). When Ben says, "That's just not it," he also starts to shake his head no. His non-verbal cues are reinforcing his words, a clear sign that he's telling the truth. So I can immediately confirm that he didn't mean anything but love for Jen in his speech.

When his wife comes on stage (about 2:30), both of them show

strong eye contact right from the beginning — a primary sign of intimacy and romantic chemistry. If they weren't so connected, Ben would have been more involved with the audience. Instead, they both light up when they see each other. It almost seems like they're distracted by one another's presence — a sure sign of true love, especially when on television. When the duo hugs and kisses hello, Ben's right hand moves to Jen's lower back as he rubs her. People who are very attracted to each other usually show it by touching the lower back, and rubbing is a very <u>intimate</u> and comforting nonverbal gesture.

### Related Link: Ben Affleck Says Wife Jennifer Garner is "More Perfect Than I Am"

Jen returns the affection but putting her right hand on Ben's chest, which is also a very loving gesture that reveals an intimate relationship. Her left hand goes to Ben's lower back as well. Throughout all of these hand movements, they are maintaining eye contact and smiling very proudly and sincerely at each other.

The most important non-verbal cue of all occurs when you see Jen almost fall. This misstep happens because she is so secure with Ben that she puts all her weight on him. Once Ben moves, she has to regain her balance because she was using Ben as her pillar, something that only happens when you truly trust and love someone.

When they say goodbye to each other (about 4:00), the SNL host pulls his wife closer and whispers something along the lines of "I love you very much" in her ear. We see Jen's eyes roll towards Ben to give him her full attention. She then shows a real smile and says "I love you too" before she walks off stage.

So the only thing between Jen and Ben is love and lust. Yes, there is work involved in maintaining a long-term relationship

or a healthy marriage, but it's similar work to a stay-at-home mother or father. It's hard work, but it's work we put in to make something special last.

Jared Sais is co-author of the website <u>The Non-Verbal Game</u>, where you can find free downloadable content. He is an expert in non-verbal communication, who specializes in body language, micro-expressions and lie deception as they relate to life and love.

## American Romance Film, 'To The Wonder'





#### y Meghan Fitzgerald

In this new movie, 'To The Wonder,' Ben Affleck plays Neil, an American traveler who winds up falling in love with Marina (Olga Kurylenko). Marina is a Ukrainian divorcee raising her ten year old daughter Tatiana in Paris. The newlyweds take their romance to Mont St. Michel, with Neil making a firm commitment to his love, Marina. Marina and her daughter Tatiana move to Oklahoma for Neil's sake, and settle down as a family.

Should you see it: This is not some measly star actor here ... it's Ben Affleck ladies and gentleman. He's got scruffy facial hair, superb eye for producing, and is an all-in-all phenomenal actor. Plus, he's the director and actor of *Argo*, and *The Town*. If you are completely infatuated with Ben Affleck, or simply enjoy his impressive acting skill...see this movie.

Who to take: For this movie, take someone who thoroughly enjoys cinema. Someone who appreciates great acting, a strong romance story, and is willing to shed a few tears in the theaters. This is a great movie for a date night out. With warm weather rolling its' way in, take your partner to dinner somewhere outside. Than treat them to this tear-jerking, heart ache of a romance film.

Related: <a href="Maintenance-Film">Comedic Romance Film</a> 'Admission'

The relationships cools off as Marina and Tatiana go back to Paris because of visa expiration. Neil rekindles a past relationship, Jane. An old flame who he inevitably falls in love with again. Drama ensues with Marina and Neil is left to decide what to do. Who to love. Where to go. What is life supposed to be.

When should you get back together with an old flame?

#### Cupid's Advice:

There will usually come a time after a breakup when you'll want to get back together with your ex. You have to handle this situation carefully because you may get back into the relationship for the wrong reasons. Make sure your head it clear when you reconsider the two of you. Cupid has some more advice:

- 1. Soul mate: Many believe that there is a person out there in this enormous universe which is yours. Your other half, the person who keeps you sane, keeps you happy, and keeps you in love. If you know that your ex is your soul mate, make sure of it. Don't hop back into the relationship because you're lonely or jealous. If you know you two should be together, do something about it.
- 2. Responsibility: There are certain responsibilities attached to relationships. Especially if children are put into the equation. If your ex is suffering, both physically and financially. There comes a time where it may be your responsibility to rekindle the relationship for your partner's sake. Only you know what these situations are, and only you can determine if it is worth the risk.
- **3. Change:** Did you and your mate end things because they weren't what you thought they were? Have they now changed and you are considering getting back together? This is common throughout breakups everywhere. It is possible for a person to change. You may not want to believe it, however it is true. If your ex really has changed, rekindling is a superb idea.

# Celebrity Couples: More Like Us Than We Want To Admit?





y Marcus Osborne for Galtime.com

<u>Celebrity couples</u> have been the target of admonition and admiration for years. The Jekyll and Hyde reaction to whatever the latest or hottest pop culture pairing happens to be is as over the top as ever. I've always theorized that these couples' break-up rates aren't as dramatically different from the general population.

### Why Do We Love Celebrity Break-ups?

Most of these famous relationships end. But most relationships generally come to an end at some point, don't they? We pay so

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much attention to couples that split that we pay no attention to the ones that stick it out. And there seems to be a certain glee, an almost joyous countdown to celebrity break-ups. And each and every statement and action made by our Hollywood couples is parsed…just looking for a crack in the armor.

#### Related Link: The Simplest Tip to Save Your Relationship

The recent "controversy" is over actor/director Ben Affleck's comments about his marriage to celebrity love Jennifer Garner upon accepting this year's Academy Award for Best Picture. His quote: "I want to thank you for working on our marriage for 10 Christmases. It's good; it is work, but it's the best kind of work, and there's no one I'd rather work with."

In the minds of merry cynics and professional antagonists around the nation, this one statement was read as a subliminal confession of matrimonial strife. And that reaction is just silly.

What Affleck said was about as honest and realistic a statement as you'll ever hear any celebrity offer on a public stage. Marriage is work. Relationships and love in general are work. Once we get past the honeymoon stage in any coupling, we start the work. The hard work. So what message can we really take from Affleck's statements? I see the glass as half full. You've got a husband and wife who acknowledge that sustaining a long-term relationship requires dedication and diligence. It's not a fairy tale. There's a clear-eyed, beer-goggle free vision of relationships by this pair, which in all likelihood, has been the reason they've managed to stay together for ten years and two kids.

Related Link: 5 Things Men Want Women to Know

### What Celebrity Couples Can Teach Us

So can we learn anything from celebrity couples? From my

perspective, there's no more to be learned from them than from any other couple. The spotlight shines on their mistakes and break-ups so much brighter than on their successes that it would be easy to conclude that there's not a positive example among the bunch. Even in the face of overwhelming evidence, couples that have shown strength and staying power, we cast a jaundiced eye at them because they don't fit our established narrative; celebrity marriages don't last.

But in truth, if we're objective, we can use married celebrity couples' successes and failures as reminders and templates of what good relationship choices and a grounded perspective about what it takes to create a sustainable partnership can offer us. In other words, if you're basing your lifestyle on Taylor Swift and her boyfriend-of-the-week-club instead of Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner's brick-by-brick, love-is-work edict, you're pretty likely to be unfulfilled if your goal if something lasting and meaningful.

There are many, many examples of Hollywood couples that continue to roll on: Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson, Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen, and Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith; even Danny Devito and Rhea Pearlman in spite of their rocky times, have managed to hang on. Because they realize that Affleck was right: It's work..but it's the best kind of work.