## Jessica Alba: My Husband & I Are "Kindred Spirits"





By Jenny Schafer for

Celebrity Baby Scoop

Mom-of-two Jessica Alba, 31, covers the February issue of InStyle and opens up about life with husband **Cash Warren** and their two daughters **Honor**,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , and **Haven**, 16 months.

On her connection with Cash: "I just knew when I met him that I was going to know him forever. It was weird; he instantly felt like family. I'd never felt like that with anyone. We got each other. We're kindred spirits. On a weekend Cash might say, 'Go get your nails done with a girlfriend. Haven is down for a nap and Honor and I will play. I know you work hard. You deserve some time for yourself.' That, to me, is romantic. He's saying, 'You matter,' and that I'm more than just the mother of the kids or the wife who goes out to events with him."

On celebrating their ancestry: "When Cash and I moved into our family house, we collected hundreds of pictures of our aunties, great aunties, moms and dads, grandmas and grandpas, and sisters and brothers. Then we mounted them in the foyer of our home, covering the wall from top to bottom. Our daughters are continually reminded of where they come from."

**On multitasking**: "Sometimes I can take multitasking to a level of insanity. Then all of a sudden the bath is too high and I've forgotten to give my daughter the thing she needs for school."

On being a perfectionist: "Before I had kids, I was very responsible and serious. I used to be all about controlling my environment; Everything had to be just so. Now my idea of perfection is different. You can label bins and have a place for stuff, but when the kids go into the playroom, you're not going to say, 'We can't paint because how are we going to clean it up?'"

## Mario Lopez Wants "At Least 4 More" Children





By Jenny Schafer for

Celebrity Baby Scoop

Newlyweds Mario Lopez and **Courtney Mazza** teamed up with NIVEA for its "Kiss of the Year" contest on Facebook in search for America's greatest love story. The winning couple rang in the new year with Mario and Courtney — parents to 2-year-old daughter **Gia** — in New York City's Times Square.

The *Extra* hunk opens up to Celebrity Baby Scoop about his favorite family recipe at the holidays and his hopes for "at least 4 more" children.

CBS: Did you practice your kiss for your recent nuptials?

ML: "No, we've had plenty of practice."

CBS: Are you hoping to have a big family? How many children are you planning on? Do you want a mix of boys and girls?

ML: "Yes, at least 4 more. Either boys or girls would be great."

CBS: Happy Holidays! Do you have a favorite family recipes you can share with us?

ML: "My nana's tamales....they're a secret family recipe though."

# Matthew and Camila McConaughey Name Their Son Livingston





By Jessica DeRubbo

Matthew and Camila McConaughey have officially welcomed their third child, son Livingston Alves McConaughey, according to <u>People</u>. The baby boy was born on 12/28/12 at 7:43 a.m. On his Whosay page, Matthew wrote, "He greeted the world at 9 lbs., and 21 inches. Bless up and thank you for your well wishes."

What are some creative ways to compromise on naming your child?

#### Cupid's Advice:

It can be hard to come to a mutual agreement on what to name your child, but here are some tips and tricks:

- 1. Pros and cons list: There are distinct disadvantages to naming your child certain things. For instance, perhaps the initials would not be ideal (i.e. E.E.W.). Make a list of pros and cons for your top three names, and choose the one with the most pros and least cons.
- 2. Draw it out of a hat: If it comes down to two names and you absolutely can't make a decision, it probably means that you really love both names. So, you can't go wrong! Just choose one out of a hat and let randomness determine it.
- **3. Decide on a theme:** A great way to narrow your name choices together is to choose a theme. Different categories may be traditional names, exotic names, short names, etc.

What are some other ways to compromise on baby names? Share your ideas below.

# Hugh Jackman On Wife's Miscarriages, The Joys Of Adoption





By Jenny Schafer for

Celebrity Baby Scoop

The road to parenthood wasn't easy for Wolverine star Hugh Jackman and wife **Deborra-Lee Furness**.

During a Tuesday appearance on <u>Katie</u>, the <u>Les Miserables</u> star opened up about adopting their two children — son **Oscar**, 12, and daughter **Ava**, 7.

"To be clear, Deb and I always wanted to adopt. So that was always in our plan," the Australian actor, 44, said.

"We didn't know where in the process that would happen but biologically obviously we tried and it was not happening for us and it is a difficult time," he added. "We did IVF and Deb had a couple of miscarriages. I'll never forget it the miscarriage thing — it happens to one in three pregnancies, but it's very very rarely talked about."

"It's almost secretive, so I hope Deb doesn't mind me bringing it up now," he continued. "It's a good thing to talk about it. It's more common, and it is tough. There's a grieving that you have to go through."

But as soon as Oscar was born, "all the heartache just melted away," the proud papa said.

"Many of you are parents, you guys know you can't prepare for that moment. Nothing can prepare you," he shared. "You can't even explain how incredible it is and that avalanche of emotion that comes and how it opens up your heart, how it frustrates you, how it angers you, how everything is just all the sudden how alive you are as a parent."

## Jane Krakowski Talks Motherhood, Christmas Plans, "Sad Goodbye" on 30 Rock





By Jenny Schafer for

Celebrity Baby Scoop

30 Rock star Jane Krakowski recently partnered with Bank Of America to raise thousands for Feeding America. The mom-of-one

says that "giving back is such a big part of the holidays and Christmas."

Jane opens up to Celebrity Baby Scoop about her son **Bennett**, 20 months, and hosting Christmas this year in his honor. She goes on to talk about the "sad goodbye" on 30 Rock that will finish just days before Christmas. "They did a really great job" with the series finale and gave the "characters a beautiful send-off," she says.

#### CBS: How is Bennett doing?

JK: "He is doing really well. It is so awesome to be a new mom; it's absolutely great. Obviously this holiday time is a crazy time, because we're juggling getting Christmas ready and wrapping up 30 Rock, and being a new mom and wanting to make it all special for Bennett."

## CBS: Can you tell us all about the recent charity event you attended for Bank of America?

JK: "I'm was happy to work at Bank of America and have access to all these mobile apps and online tools that help me get everything done, and also make donations to charity as well. It's a great time to be giving to people who are in need.

Bank of America very generously donated a lot of money to the charity Feeding America. Through the very easy mobile app and online banking system, we had people come to the Bank of America, put a Christmas ornament on the tree, and by the touch of a button on their iPhone, iPad, or tablet, donate \$250 each.

Bank of America donated \$25,000 just on the day of the event, which was a larger part of a \$2.5 million dollar donation to Feeding America over the whole holiday season."

#### CBS: How do you juggle your busy career and family life?

JK: "I do it through organization, multi-tasking, being able

to do a lot of things at once. It takes a village with lots of friends and family to help along the way. We're really lucky; Bennett is a great kid and he brings us so much joy every single day. We feel blessed every day that we have all these things to juggle at the moment."

## CBS: What are your upcoming holiday plans? Is Bennett showing signs of excitement for the holidays?

JK: "This holiday season, we are hosting Christmas at our house for the first time in Bennett's honor. He is the youngest child now, and I figured that the person who has the youngest child gets to throw the holiday get-together, because that is where all of the spirit of Christmas is. Christmas is, like, three days after we finish wrapping 30 Rock, so it is all a bit crazy right now.

We had fun getting the Christmas tree and we recently brought Bennett to Santa and got the classic screaming photo on Santa's lap [laughs]. I also plan to get all of my Christmas shopping done. I am very excited about the mobile transfers, because I have nephews who at this point really just want cash. I am excited that I can just send them cash wherever they are, because they are all grown and at college or touring America with bands. There comes a point where they really don't want the pajamas anymore, or the perfume they haven't worn since they were twelve [laughs]. They would really just like to receive cash.

In regard to whether Bennett is showing signs of excitement for the holidays, I think he is. I think he is not sure what all the festive decorations in the house mean."

## Gwen Stefani Says Raising Kids with Gavin Rossdale Is the 'Ultimate Collaboration'





By Jennifer Ross

With her long list of accomplishments, Gwen Stefani claims her biggest moment is having a family with husband Gavin Rossdale. The couple just celebrated their 10-year anniversary, a huge accomplishment in the music industry. In an interview with Vogue, published in the January 2013 issue, the No Doubt lead singer describes her lasting marriage as, "It's pride. You feel proud. There are just so many rewards that come with it… It's like these wars that go on and then you kind of get through to the other side, and it's like, 'Wow.'" The glue to their marriage — their two children, sons Kingston James McGregor,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ , and Zuma Nesta Rock, 4. "Having kids takes the whole relationship to another place. It is the ultimate collaboration." From success at work to at home, Stafani, 43,

sometimes can't believe anyone can be this lucky in life. Every day I'm like, 'Really? Are you serious? Thank you, God. This is too good.'"

How does raising children bring you closer together as a couple?

#### Cupid's Advice:

It may seem like adding a child into your relationship will deplete everything your and your partner cherish — your love, money and time. On the contrary, children bring the lessons of unity and unconditional love for someone else. Have doubts about this? Here are a few ways children will bring closeness:

- 1. More than two: As a couple, you two will have a loving bond for each other. However, when children are added, your relationship literally transitions into something more significant and even greater than before. It transitions into a family.
- 2. Common life goal: Although you and your mate definitely love each other, it's nothing compared to the love you two will feel for your children. Even better, the ability to share that common goal of loving and nurturing your children is what will bring you two even closer as a couple.
- 3. Symbiosis: Because raising children requires so much more than just love, you and your partner will immediately learn to cooperate with each other simply to get through the daily stresses of a family. Working together repeatedly is what teaches you both to live in harmony and togetherness.

How did raising children bring you and your partner closer together? Tell us below.

## Alicia Keys: Motherhood Has Made Me A Better Person





By Jenny Schafer for

Celebrity Baby Scoop

Grammy Award-winner Alicia Keys opens up to *Scholastic Parent & Child's* December/January issue about her 2-year-old son **Egypt**, the joys of motherhood and balancing work and family life with husband Swizz Beatz.

On being a new mom: "Being a parent has made me more open, more connected to myself, more happy, and more creative. I'm more discerning in what I do and how I do it. It's just made me a better person all the way around."

On balancing work and family life: "What's been surprisingly hard about becoming a mom is being away from him and trying to

find that magical balance for everything, which I kind of expected. But on the flip side, what's been surprisingly easy is just how natural parenthood feels. I feel great about how easily I've fallen into the role. I love it!

**On family time:** "We love to go to art galleries and to the park. We love to do painting days and to visit our family—and we also love to run around our house and just go nuts!"

## Giuliana Rancic Faces End of Maternity Leave: "It's Hard"





By Jenny Schafer for

Celebrity Baby Scoop

After three months of a blissful maternity leave with her newborn son **Duke**, E! News host Giuliana Rancic is returning to

work.

"I could give you the Hollywood answer and just say it's been great going back to work," she tells <u>Life & Style</u>. "But the real answer is, it's hard. What's important now is different from what was important a few months ago."

"The other morning, I was having the best time with Duke, and he was making faces that I had never seen before, and he was being so cute. Then I looked at the clock and I had to go to work," the new mom, 37, adds. "So I keep thinking, am I going to miss something?"

To help calm her nerves, doting hubby **Bill Rancic** regularly sends smartphone videos of their son throughout the day. "It's one thing to look at pictures," she says. "But when I see video, I feel like I'm with him."

Bill, 41, says he's never seen this side of Giuliana before. "It's remarkable to see how the baby has changed her," he shares. "Just the devotion the little guy evoked and the motherly instincts that kicked in."

But the self-professed workaholic says she'll work hard at balancing work and family life.

"I'll make it work," she says. "I'm going to make sure I don't sacrifice anything."

## Michael Bublé: My Children Will Be My Priority





By Kirstin Mirtich

for Celebrity Baby Scoop

Although Michael Bublé has enjoyed a successful singing career, the Canadian crooner has no qualms about putting aside his busy schedule to raise a family one day.

"It can't always be like that; I won't allow it to be like that," the Grammy Award-winner explains. "When I do have children, my priority will be my family."

"I'll continue for a couple more years, and then it's not that I'm going to stop," he adds. "But I'll definitely probably slow down the pace, so that I can not have to hate myself for not being there for the family."

The 37-year-old star says that married life to Argentine actress **Luisana Lopilato** is wonderful but admits their busy careers sometimes kept them apart.

"Yes, we are definitely apart quite a bit, but I try to hang out with her as much as possible," he reveals. "We try to get together, and when she's on set making her movies, I go down there, and my job is to rub her feet and bring her coffee basically."

In the meantime, Michael is excited about the possibility of collaborating with actress **Reese Witherspoon** on his next album.

"By all accounts it would be true. I just really am a big fan, and so myself and my camp, we wanted to do this with her, and we were thrilled that she was excited about it too."

## Melissa Joan Hart Tweets Her Travelin' Tots





By Carolyn Robertson

for Celebrity Baby Scoop

Melissa Joan Hart packed up the kids and headed to Alabama,

where her husband **Mark Wilkerson** is from, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The *Melissa & Joey* star took to Twitter to share a couple of photos from the trip, including this cute one of her middle son **Brady**: "Ready for our flight. ALabama here we come!" she wrote.

A huge fan of the University of Alabama Crimson Tide football team, Melissa was also busy Tweeting about this year's Iron Bowl. It sounds like her boys are already inheriting her team pride.

"Brady (4yr old) saw an Auburn clad car pass us and exclaimed 'we're gonna beat the hell outta them!' #rammerjammer #pottymouth," she wrote.

She and her musician hubby are also parents to sons **Mason** and **Tucker**.

### Giuliana Rancic: I Want Duke To Be A Mini-Bill





By Kirsten Mirtich

for Celebrity Baby Scoop

When it came to choosing a name for her first born son **Edward Duke**, mama and reality television star <u>Giuliana Rancic</u> wanted to name him after his proud papa **Bill Rancic**. However, her hubby wasn't as keen on the idea as she was.

"I've never been a fan of the 'junior.' I want to give him his own identity," the 41-year-old father reasons in a clip from the November 13th episode of *Giuliana & Bill* — which was filmed just prior to Duke's August 2012 arrival. "If he wants to name his son after me, then I've earned it."

Although the couple considered names such as Luke and Zach, they ended up agreeing on a name that paid tribute to their own fathers.

"Our fathers are great men — your dad is Edward and mine's Eduardo. We could name him Edward," Giuliana comments in the preview clip as the couple finally settle on what to name their son.

Since his arrival, the couple have taken to calling him Duke — his middle name — which they chose because it means leader.

After they decide on the name, Giuliana reveals that she most

looks forward to having a constant reminder of the greatest man in her life — her hubby of five years.

"I want to look at him and see you. I want him to be a 'mini Bill,'" she says on Tuesday's *Giuliana & Bill*. "Honestly, I want him to be just like you."

"He'll be better!" replies Bill.

Giuliana & Bill airs Tuesday at 8 p.m. (EST) on STYLE.

# Jennie Garth and Peter Facinelli Reunite for Daughter's Soccer Game





By Nic Baird

Despite announcing their split in March, actress Jennie Garth and actor Peter Facinelli came together Saturday to support their daughter at a soccer game, *People* reports. After 11 years of marriage, they could still cheer together for their 6-year-old daughter Fiona. The former couple were joined by their other daughters, Luca, 15, and Lola, 9. Both have said the other is a great parent. "Co-parenting takes two great parents to put their differences aside and focus on the children," Facinelli, the former *Twilight* star, said last month.

How do you remain civil post-divorce for the sake of your children?

#### Cupid's Advice:

"Monkey see, monkey do" is the ancient mantra for child rearing. If you want to protect your children from painful endings to their relationships, it's crucial you put your best foot forward. Here are some tips:

- 1. Never show children aggression towards your ex: Regardless of how badly your partner messed up, there's no reason your children should be further victims of the situation. Never show hostility or bitterness towards their other parent. If they have two parents at each others' throats, then what was the point of the divorce? You're setting them up to think that this broken family is the model for their future.
- 2. Maintain parenting partnership: Your kids will understand that family is forever, and parents have to prioritize their children, only if you keep a united front with your ex. This means that you discuss parenting issues together, and always bring back the same ruling to your child. If there are different rules home to home, favouritism and confusion will plague your family. It's important your kids have both parents active in their life. Don't try and push your ex away from their children.

3. Discuss emotional subjects in private: Emotions are irrational, and your feelings can spill out within earshot of your offspring if you're not careful. Make sure you avoid topics that can trigger confrontation when your children are around. Maybe these subjects do warrant discussion with your ex, but make sure you know the right time and place. Turning up the radio is not a solution.

How have you accomodated your children in your divorce? Share your experiences below!

## Former '90210' Star Ian Ziering Prepares to Welcome Baby #2





By Nic Baird

Beverly Hills, 90210 alum Ian Ziering is expecting his second child with wife Erin, according to <u>People</u>. The actor called this new addition to the family a "dream come true." They've taught their 18 month old daughter, Mia Loren, to point to Erin's belly and say 'baby,' Ziering said. The couple married in May 2010, and though their family is growing, Ziering continues to act, direct, produce and pitch TV shows. "I have a lot of irons in the fire," Ziering said. Erin is in her second trimester, the baby is due in May, and its sex is unknown.

How does the dynamic change when you add a second child to your family?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Nuclear families have two children, because the consequences can be explosive! One child is hard enough, but two? Before you start doubting your sanity, remember how rewarding it is to have your first child. You've pretty much got this parenting thing down anyway, but in case you had any doubts, here's some little ways the family dynamic can change.

- 1. Less time, more parenting: A second child means twice as much attention. Make sure you and your significant other have talked about ways to divide tasks and manage your time. If your career was challenged when raising the first child, expect more challenges in tending to your young family's needs now.
- 2. Buying in bulk: Two children means you have to consider feeding a whole family. Meal time will be more regulated. Your brood's collective socks and toothbrushes will be identical. Having enough for everyone will be hard to manage, and noticing if one family member's needs are different will be even harder.
- 3. Playmates: Your first child is now blessed with a friend

and playmate. Your children can play together now, and entertain each other. Find activities that involve multiple family members. Sadly, this usually means more supervision, not less.

What changes to your family have you noticed with a second child? Share your experiences below!

### Adele Welcomes a Baby Boy





By Nic Baird

British singer-songwriter Adele Adkins had a baby boy on Friday, according to <u>People</u>. Right now she's avoiding the spotlight to spend time with her newborn and the child's father, boyfriend Simon Konecki. "Obviously we're over the moon and very excited but please respect our privacy at this precious time," the Grammy winner wrote on her website when

she announced the pregnancy in June. The new mother disappears as fans are treated to her theme for the upcoming James Bond film, *Skyfall*.

#### How does having a child affect your relationship?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Whether you and your partner have been working towards a child or you get suddenly surprised, having a baby opens up new challenges and joys. Expect change, but comfort yourself with the love and support you share with your partner on this new adventure:

- 1. Meaning: Your relationship is now physically represented by your offspring. Procreating and raising a child is the most tangible purpose human beings can find. Together you will be rewarded by deep unconditional love. Make sure to spread the it among all three of you. Instead of revelling in the potential of your love, you can celebrate the product.
- 2. Identity: No matter how you feel about it, you're no longer simply a couple, but a family. This will influence your career, friendships, and any future relationships. Your partner is now cemented with a fixed level of importance as the co-parent of your child. This shift is a major escalation of your relationship. Realize this new dynamic must change your relationship, but find stability in the aspects that stay the same.
- 3. Sacrifice: As a couple you've hopefully gotten used to compromise and martyrdom. Having a child will really test how you've developed these areas. Keep in mind that you and your partner are caring for this child as a team. You're giving up independence. No matter the future of your relationship, you have a duty your child.

What are some other ways that having a child can affect your

## Mariah Carey and Nick Cannon Spend a Family Day with Their Twins





By Nicole Weintraub

Mariah Carey and husband Nick Cannon enjoyed a bonding family day at the Santa Monica Pier in Los Angeles, according to <u>People</u>. The couple posted for photos along with their eighteen-month twins — Moroccan and Monroe. Recently, Carey has been in the news regarding her feud with Nicki Minaj as the two are fellow judges on <u>American Idol</u>. Despite recent rumors regarding the fighting between the two, <u>Idol's</u> producers commented that the two are, "one of the best, most

passionate, dynamic and invested judging panels". Regardless of whether or not the feud is all it is hyped up to be in the tabloids, the family seemed at ease as they enjoyed cotton candy, roller coasters and balloons.

What are some ways to keep the spark alive in your relationship when you have kids?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Kids are a precious addition to the family, but sometimes the romance in your relationship can be negatively impacted by the latest additions. Here are some ways to keep that spark alive even with kids:

- 1. Date night: Just because the two of you are parents now does not mean that date night needs to end! Invest in a babysitter that you trust and go out for a night on the town once every few weeks. That way, your relationship with your partner is not neglected.
- 2. Family outings: Going out as a family can also be a bonding experience for you and your beau. The two of you can bond while your kids get their faces painted, stuff their faces with cotton candy or run around at the park. The more time you spend together, the more memories you will create together.
- 3. Love letters: If the two of you are busy at work and come home late at night, too exhausted for romance, try little notes. Whether it be through text messages, e-mails or old-fashioned handwritten love letters. Just let your partner know that you are thinking of them.

How have you kept your relationship alive with kids? Share your stories with us!

## Celebrity Couples That Have a Kid-Free Marriage





By Jessica Smith

Parenthood, that is, bringing a child into this world with your own DNA, is a miracle. Sure, it's an extraordinary undertaking and a definite blessing, but it can also be one giant pain in the butt. As a result, deciding to have children as a married couple is a gargantuan step that will forever change your lives. Although you can expect to lose your privacy and most likely your mind, you can also expect to feel love and gratitude beyond anything you've ever experienced. However great these rewards, and perhaps because of the many potential troubles, these Hollywood couples remain kid-free:

Related Link: Best Celebrity Dads (Who Also Make Great Husbands)

- 1. Prince William and Kate Middleton: As a royal couple, there's undoubtedly a lot of pressure on Prince William and Kate. The whole world is waiting for the confirmation on a baby bump—which despite rumors, still doesn't exist—but no one is anticipating it more than the lovebirds themselves. Although they've only been married for a little more than a year and have been busy on tour for most of that time, they have pregnancy plans to bring a little prince or princess into this world soon. We suspect that the Duke and Duchess will announce their pregnancy by New Year's Eve.
- 2. Channing Tatum and Jenna Dewan-Tatum: Could this couple be more beautiful? After Channing Tatum and Jenna Dewan-Tatum first made their debut together in the movie *Step Up*, they've been married for three years. This dancing couple is in their young thirties, and although they do plan on having children in the future, they're still not sure when. With their hectic lives and crazy schedules, their main focus is on having enough time for each other.
- 3. Fergie and Josh Duhamel: Let's forget about the fact that Josh Duhamel was accused of cheating on Fergie, since she has decided to forget about the matter herself, and instead focus on the dream-fulfilling marriage these two now have—literally. Nine years ago, Fergie read a tabloid about a dream that Duhamel had about her, and she later asked him if it was a good dream. His answer eventually led them to a marriage. Though they've been married for four years now and want to start a family, they still remain kid-free. Time's ticking away, so they'd better hurry before it's too late!
- 4. Rachel Ray and John Cusimano: Lately, the only coverage Rachel Ray and John Cusimano have been getting isn't so happy. Though you can't always believe everything you hear, the rumor mill has been churning up reports of a potential

split for this couple. Even before these rumors, however, the two had no plans of parenthood. Ray says that she puts too many hours into her career to even consider having time to raise a child. Parenthood just isn't in the cards for this couple, and if the rumors are true it might be for the better!

Related Link: Best Celebrity Moms (Who Also Make Great Wives)

5. Jay Leno and Mavis Leno: It only took Jay Leno three days after meeting Mavis to know that he wanted to marry her, but she wasn't even sure she ever wanted to marry anyone. After falling in love, she married Leno on the same day his parents were married. In the thirty years they've been married, they have always been sure about keeping their marriage child-free. The couple admits that they simply have zero interest in being parents.

In what ways have children affected your marriage? Share your comments below!

## Giuliana and Bill Rancic Welcome a Baby Boy





By Nicole Weintraub

Edward Duke Rancic was welcomed into the world on Wednesday by parents Bill and Giuliana Rancic, according to <u>People</u>. This is the first child for the couple who have had difficulties with infertility. Following a miscarriage and breast cancer, Guiliana was able to announce her pregnancy via gestational surrogate and shared the baby's sex this past June. The newest addition to the Rancic family weighed in at 7 lbs, 4 oz. The couple is ecstatic to be gifted with a little one.

What are some ways having a child can bring you closer as a couple?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Deciding to have a child is a decision that should be made when both partners feel they are ready. Although children are a large responsibility, it can bring you and your partner closer together:

1. Working together: The responsibility of raising your child rests on both you and your partner. Decisions and choices must be made together which means communication is key. Working together as a team is a vital element in having children. When a couple is blessed with a child, they have another commonality in their lives and the relationship with your

child's other parent is an important one. Making decisions together will also bring you closer as a couple.

- 2. Adding to the family: One of the most rewarding things you can do with a person is start a family with them. Feelings continue to grow since you have shared this experience with your partner. The two of you will be sharing new experiences and memories that neither of you have had before, especially if this is your first child. Sharing these new feelings and experiences with one another will further to develop your feelings for each other.
- 3. Leaning on one another: You cannot do this alone and that is what your partner is there for. There will be wonderful days and there will be rough days. They are there to support you and to hold your hand through not only the good days, but the bad days as well. Knowing that you have someone to lean on and supporting you will help to push you through the difficult days. Through working together and supporting one another on the difficult days, your relationship will grow stronger.

How has having a child brought you closer to your partner? Share your thoughts below.

## Kristin Cavallari Can't Wait to Put on Heels Post-Birth





By Nicole Weintraub

Former reality star Kristin Cavallari has decided to take on designing a shoe collection with the brand Chinese Laundry. According to <u>People</u>, the new mom has toned down her wardrobe since welcoming her son with Jay Cutler. She stopped wearing heels in the latter part of her pregnancy but in reference to being reunited with her pumps she announces, "I'm looking forward to the first time." This designer isn't just stopping at a shoe line though as she has a jewelry line coming out in February and hopes for a maternity line in the future.

#### What are some ways to feel attractive after having a baby?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Having a baby is a huge ordeal, as caring for a newborn is a lot of responsibility and pressure. Here are some tips on how to feel more attractive after having a baby:

1. Go out: Just because you have a baby, doesn't mean you can't enjoy a night out on the town. Have a date night with your partner or a girls' night out to raise your spirits and give you something for which to look forward. The more fun you're having, the less you'll feel self-conscious. Having a baby does not change your identity — you're still the same beautiful person you were before your pregnancy.

- 2. Pamper yourself: You feel your best when you look your best. If you've been feeling a little low, treat yourself. Perhaps go for a nice relaxing massage or go for that pedicure you've been putting off because you can't find the time. Schedule some alone time in so that you can enjoy a little relaxation time. You deserve to indulge every now and then.
- 3. Be productive: Sometimes we feel unattractive when we feel unproductive and have nothing to do. Go to the gym, put the baby in the stroller and go for a walk around the park. A little movement and change of scenery does a lot, especially if you've been stuck in the house between the later stages of pregnancy and caring for a new baby.

What are some ways to raise your self esteem after you have a baby? Share your thoughts below.

## Anna Faris And Chris Pratt Welcome Child





Anna Faris and Chris Pratt have welcomed their son Jack into the family on Saturday according to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>. Anna went into labor prior to her due date leading Jack to spend some time in the NICU. The couple has asked the public for privacy while their son remains in the hospital. Faris and Pratt have been planning to have a child, having decided that the time had come to add a little bundle of joy to their family.

new parents

How do you know if your partner will make a good parent?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Taking the next step of welcoming a child into your family is not a lighthearted decision to make. Here are some steps to keep in mind when figuring if your partner will be a good parent:

- 1. Trust and communication: The most important factor in a successful relationship is trust. You need to be able to properly co-parent with your partner. In order to successfully accomplish this, you must be able to trust your partner, especially in their choices.
- 2. Responsibility: A child should not be raising a child. Is your partner ready to step it up and care for another life? Being able to take responsibility and to maintain a level head

in emergencies is always a good quality to have when being a parent. Children need to be taken care of from the moment they enter this world until they move out when they are adults themselves. Can your partner be mature and rational?

3. Stability: If you have a rocky relationship, it may not be the right time to have a child. A solid foundation is needed in order to grow as a couple to embrace parenthood. Not only should you and your partner be economically stable but also emotionally stable with one another. The two of you are partners — a team — that your child will need to lean on as he or she grows.

How did you know your partner was the right one to start a family with? What are some qualities you would look for in a partner? Tell us!

## Céline Dion On Motherhood: "I'm More Grounded Now Than Ever Before"





y Carolyn

Robertson for Celebrity Baby Scoop

Mom-of-three Céline Dion bares just about all in the pages of the September issue of V magazine. Posing for a series of sultry pics for photographer Sebastian Faena, the Canadian songstress, who has sons **René-Charles**, **Nelson** and **Eddy** with her husband **René Angélil**, opens up about music and motherhood.

Related Link: Celine Dion Pregnant with Twins

On being an open book: "I've been an open book all my life, and I think that's why people like me. I've been criticized for it, but I'm not forcing myself to be the person that you see.... For me to tell someone that my husband had cancer, that we were struggling to have kids, or whatever we've gone through, talking about my life lets people know the real me. I've shared everything with them. They come for the whole package. I don't think they just come for the songs."

On motherhood: "I thought I had a life before, but until I was a mom, I had no idea. Why would I want a hit? Why would I want to win awards? There is nothing I can hope and wish for my career: I can just hope to be blessed as a mother for the rest of my life the way I am now."

On her legacy: "Motherhood. Without a doubt. I did not lose

myself to try to realize a dream. Everyone thinks that now I've climbed this ladder and I'm at the top of the top of the top. I really see the opposite. When I was five and nine and twelve, I was on the top of the ladder and I was looking down. My head was in the clouds. In time I came down the ladder. I'm a mother now. I'm more grounded now than ever before."

## Maggie Gyllenhaal: I'm Less Judgmental Now That I'm A Mom





By Jenny Schafer for

Celebrity Baby Scoop

Academy Award-nominated actress Maggie Gyllenhaal appears in Scholastic Parent & Child's August/September Back-to-School issue discussing her new film 'Won't Back Down,' mommy politics, and her two daughters Ramona, 5, and Gloria, 4

months.

On mommy wars: "I used to be judgmental of the way other people would parent. I would look at someone talking on a cell phone while her baby was asleep in a stroller and think, 'How can that mother have her cell phone out?' Then you actually have a baby and you're like, she's sleeping; I have 10 minutes; I'll make three phone calls. I think so much of my judgement—not only about how people parent, but about people in general— went away when I became a mom."

On mommy perfection: "I was 28 when Ramona was born, and I had this idea that I think a lot of people in their twenties have, that I was supposed to do it perfectly. At least, if not perfectly, then exceptionally well. I've realized that that isn't possible and that part of being a human is making mistakes—and making lots of them."

**Related Link:** <u>Maggie Gyllenhaal and Peter Sarsgaard Welcome</u> Second Child

On the joys of motherhood: "Now that Ramona is older, I enjoy hanging out with her as a friend. I know there's the element of parenting where you have to be a mom and say no and do all the things that are not fun. But the fun part is being with this little person and learning about the world and listening to her questions. She comes and runs errands with me and we make it fun. When we talk, she talks like a person. She knows the words that she needs. She'll ask me if she doesn't. I like that."

For more with Maggie, pick up *Scholastic Parent & Child* August/September issue, hitting newsstands August 20.

## Rachel Weisz Opens Up About Her Marriage to Daniel Craig





Bourne Legacy star

Rachel Weisz has never truly been open about her secretive year-long marriage with Daniel Craig...until now. <u>UsMagazine.com</u> reports that in the September issue of <u>Marie Claire UK</u> Weisz shares how their relationship evolved and what it's like balancing motherhood, her career and Craig's career. When asked if it was love at first sight, Weisz said, "It wasn't really like that; we'd been friends for ages." Without delving into too many details, Weisz felt more comfortable talking about her career rather than her love life. "You both understand you've got to be flexible," she says. "Every few months you start a new job." It sounds like this acting duo has found the perfect balancing act between overexposure and privacy.

What details of your marriage should you keep to yourself?

#### Cupid's Advice:

Talking about your relationship is a healthy habit, but you do not want to expose every little detail. Here's how to know you've gone too far:

- 1. Fights: As angry as you may be, spilling all of the details about your fights is never a good idea. You can tell friends and family why you're fighting, but do not delve into 'he said, she said,' details, because it will only cause more drama.
- 2. Intimate moments: There are certain moments in your marriage that are only meant for the two of you, and the two of you alone. Intimate moments like cuddling and talking about how much you love each other should only be for your memory, not anyone else's.
- 3. What you do not like about your counterpart: I'm sure you can make an entire list expressing everything you love about your partner, but one negative comment will erase the entire positive. Only share the good details of your marriage, or it will come back to bite you.

What details of your marriage do you think you should you keep to yourself? Tell us below.

## Jennifer Lopez: I Want To Be A Great Parent





By Jenny Schafer for

Celebrity Baby Scoop

Jennifer Lopez gets gorgeous in Givenchy on the cover of <u>InStyle</u>'s September 2012 issue, on newsstands August 17. In the interview, J.Lo, 43, opens up about being mom to 4-year-old twins **Max** and **Emme** and "believing in love."

On motherhood: "Of course, I'm the same as any parent. I feel the pressures of wanting to be a great parent and of wanting to do right by my children. I feel the pressure of knowing you can't be perfect even though you want to be. One thing I've learned: Being a mom, or a dad, is the most important job there is. It doesn't matter who you are. You have to embrace it for everything that it is."

**On love**: "The most important quality the man in my life should have is that he is sweet. I like the good guys and the hard part is that you never stop believing in love. You never stop. But that's also the best part. You never stop believing, and you never, ever give up."

Related Link: Jennifer Lopez Isn't Giving Up on Marriage

On surviving tough times: "I live by the mantra that God doesn't give you anything you can't handle. It's not until something bad or difficult happens that you really get to

grow. And then you realize that those difficult moments, the times when you feel pain, are when you do a lot of your growing. You realize: There's no reason to be terrified of things. Either way I'm going to be OK. At this point in my life, I've learned I can really survive things."

### Kristin Cavallari Gushes About Motherhood





Kristin Cavallari is

officially a mom! The Hills star gave birth to her first son, Camden Jack Cutler, with Chicago Bears quarterback Jay Cutler on Wednesday. According to <u>People</u>, the 25-year old tweeted, "Being a mom is the most incredible feeling. I am so in love with this little boy!" Now that the couple has welcomed the new addition to their family, their wedding plans can go into full swing. The stars have been engaged since January after a

short split.

How do you know if your partner will be a good parent?

#### Cupid's Advice:

There are many qualities that go into being an excellent parent. Although no one is expected to have mastered parenting in nine months, here are some qualities that are a must when choosing the person you want to spend your life with:

- 1. Responsible: Responsibility is the most important attribute of a parent. There is a life that is now dependent on you, and it's the one person you don't want to let down.
- 2. Sense of humor: Children are full of energy and love to have fun. Good parents should love having fun with their kids and should never take themselves too seriously.
- **3. Good communicator:** Communication is the key to any functioning relationship, especially with your children. Your role is not to only talk, but to listen as well.

What qualities do you expect when searching for the mother/father of your children? Share your thoughts with us.