

Kim Kardashian Chooses Wedding Dress Designer Vera Wang



Bride-to-be Kim Kardashian has been in the media a lot lately, due to her recent engagement to Kris Humphries. Well, she's now being examined for what her wedding dress will look like. Kardashian revealed Monday that Vera Wang will be designing her wedding gown, according to UsMagazine.com. "Vera has been a close family friend for a long time and we had talked about this moment for years," Kardashian, 30, wrote on her blog. "So when it came to picking my wedding dress designer, she was the first person I thought of. No one designs gowns the way she does!"

How do you make choosing a wedding dress a special occasion?

Cupid's Advice:

Just have fun with it! Here are three ways to make shopping for your wedding gown an unforgettable experience:

1. Don't go by yourself: Everything always seems more fun if the ones you love are involved. Nothing is different about shopping for your wedding dress. You want the people that you cherish to come help you along the way. They don't necessarily have to make the ultimate decision for you, but if you value them, you value their opinion.

2. Keep your big day in mind: It may get very stressful, but if you constantly keep your big day in mind, you have no choice but to smile. Think about the reason you're shopping, because the happiest day of your life is soon to come. Don't let minor things spoil this special occasion.

3. Take pictures: Take pictures? Of you in the dress shops making a decision? Yes! Memories last a lifetime, and if you can look back on those photos, you'll know that you made gown shopping an unforgettable experience.

How did you make choosing a wedding dress a special experience? Share below in a comment.

Alexis Knapp Gives Her Baby Ryan Phillippe's Last Name





Evidence is piling up! Alexis Knapp's baby girl just turned one month old, and the name of the child, born July 1st, is Kailani Merizalde Phillippe Knapp. Her middle name is the same as her mom's. Phillippe's last name is included on her birth certificate, suggesting the actor is most likely the father. That said, the father section on the certificate is left blank. According to [People](#), Phillippe was in the waiting room at the time of the delivery.

What are some ways to compromise with your partner on a baby name?

Cupid's Pulse:

One of the first sources of disagreements between you and your partner may be your first baby's name. It's okay to have disagreements in a relationship, but it's important to approach them in the right way. Cupid has some ideas on how to come to an agreement about your newborn child's name:

1. Pick a theme: Your partner loves the name Joseph. You

adore the name Adam. If you're having trouble agreeing on a baby name, try coming up with a theme that you both like. For example, you may find that both of you want a long name or a religious name. Once you've found a mutual theme, you can begin to narrow down your choices.

2. Use pen and paper: You may find it helpful for you and your spouse to write down all the names you would be willing to consider for your child and then share them with each other. Chances are that you will find common ground.

3. Combine: If you're both set on a name, why not be creative and combine the two? If they go well together, one can be the first name and the other can be the middle.

Do you have any advice on how to agree on a baby name? Don't be shy! Share your thoughts below.

Hollywood: Portrayals of Domestic Violence





By LaVonya Reeves

As a survivor of domestic violence, this is a subject close to my heart, and it leads me to asks questions like:

- **What responsibility does Hollywood have for depicting healthy relationships?**
- **Do they accurately represent abusive relationships?**

You've undoubtedly seen the headlines and read the stories, as there are cases upon cases of such violence. One relatively recent example has to do with the controversy surrounding Eminem and Rihanna's music video for "Love The Way you Lie," which depicts the emotional highs and lows, resentment and lies, and even physical altercations in one specific abusive relationship. In the video, actress Megan Fox and the former hobbit guy from *Lost* (Dominic Monaghan) show us an unhealthy relationships filled with sex, tender moments, fights, violence, and fire.

And let's not forget the highly publicized domestic violence

incident between R&B singers Rihanna and Chris Brown. Rihanna (whose unhealthy relationship with Chris Brown was made public when he hit her) also sings the chorus and is shown throughout the video.

Abuse and domestic violence does not discriminate, as there are as many men who fall victim to domestic violence as women.

Look at MTV's Teen Mom reality star Amber Portwood who was arrested and charged with felony domestic battery and child neglect stemming from her behavior on the reality TV series.

Portwood, 20, while in a tumultuous relationship with her on-and-off fiancé, punched him in the face. Gary Shirley, 24, is the father of Portwood's daughter, Leah. He subsequently filed charges against her for assaulting Shirley in front of their child.

What is Dating and Domestic Violence?

Dating or domestic violence is not a disagreement; it represents a violation of trust.

Pre-battering violence:

Verbal abuse, hitting objects, throwing objects & making threats.

Beginning Levels:

Slapping, pinching, kicking, and pulling of hair.

Severe levels:

Choking, beating-with objects (sticks, ball bats, etc...), use of weapons, and sexual assault.

One in 3 women in battering relationships is sexually assaulted. While drinking and drug use do not cause battering, these elements can create a violent situation. When chemical dependency is involved, both the injuries and lethality of abuse may increase.

An estimated 1.3 million women/men are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year. Some studies say the numbers are even greater – up to 5.3 million – since most

assaults go unreported.

If you or someone you know is a victim or have been a victim to domestic violence, please tell someone, because help is available.

Call 911

The National Domestic Violence Hotline

<http://www.ndvh.org/>

(TTY) ANONYMOUS & CONFIDENTIAL HELP 24/7

1.800.799. SAFE

(7233) 1.800.787.3224

National Sexual Assault Hotline

RAINN RAPE ABUSE & INCEST NATIONAL NETWORK

<http://www.rainn.org/>

1.800. 656-HOPE

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Jennifer Lopez Says She Walked Away Because She Loves Herself



Jennifer Lopez decided to open up about her decision to end her seven year marriage to Marc Anthony. According to [People](#), she said she loved herself too much to continue living in the marriage. Lopez told Vanity Fair, "It's not that I didn't love myself before. Sometimes we don't realize that we are compromising ourselves. To understand that a person is not good for you, or that that person is not treating you in the right way, or that he is not doing the right thing for himself – if I stay, then I am not doing the right thing for me." Looks like she's definitely come to terms with the split!

How do you know when it's time to walk away from a marriage?

Cupid's Advice:

It's difficult to come to grips with the end of a marriage or to know when it's time for you to walk away. Cupid has some advice:

1. You're losing yourself: If you feel like you're losing your sense of self in your marriage, it's a sign that maybe the marriage was never meant to be. Just like Jennifer Lopez, you should stay true to who you are.

2. You're no longer happy: If you no longer feel that happy spark you originally felt for your partner, it may mean it's time to call it quits. If you're not excited to see him or her after you've been apart, it's time to start re-evaluating.

3. You start making excuses: If you find yourself coming up with reasons you should stay in your marriage instead of just taking it for what it is, that's a bad sign. It's most likely the beginning of the end.

A chicken wing gets hot when you turn it on

How did you know it was time to end your marriage? Share your experiences below.

Jersey Shore Creator SallyAnn Salsano Dishes about Love in Italy and Her New Weight Loss Show, "Love Handles"





By [Lori Bizzoco](#)

When it comes to the topic of love, ABC's *The Bachelor*, MTV's *Disaster Date*, and *Shot of Love with Tila Tequila* certainly have that in common. But, finding your amore isn't the only thing that bonds these shows together. They've also had the fortune of being produced by SallyAnn Salsano, a 37-year-old, fist-pumping dynamo, who is best known for creating the pop culture phenomenon, *Jersey Shore*.

SallyAnn's newest reality television endeavor, *Love Handles* airs on Lifetime Television this weekend. The show is an hour-long docu-series featuring a dual transformation of overweight couples as they attempt to save their lives and relationships by confronting what lies at the core of the emotional, dietary and physical issues deeply affecting their well-being. Think *Biggest Loser* meets *Dr. Phil*. Whether it's a couple who gained weight together and are trying to get the spice back in their love life, or the woman who feels overly self-conscious because her man is thinner than her.

We had the chance to catch up with SallyAnn and she gave us

the scoop on what we can expect to see this season:

What can you tell us about *Love Handles*? What makes the show different from other shows of its type?

It's about couples who feel like they're stuck, and we show their transformation. I mean, you have to go to work, raise your kids, go to the gym, cook for yourself, and deal with your life. That's the situation most people are in when they have to lose weight. Some people are granted the opportunity to shut down their life and dedicate themselves to losing weight, but in *Love Handles* people have to fend for themselves and just do it.

The other thing about *Love Handles* is that it's not just about losing the weight. It's a show about therapy, and what's really going on inside. It gives you a rare look at couples that are in complete, raw therapy sessions. For most of these people, they have never been to individual therapy, so forget about couple's therapy. For the first time, they talk about what's bothering them, not only about themselves, but about the person they love the most. So sometimes they're just like, "Well, I don't know if I love this guy. I don't know if I could see myself with him." You should see their partner's reactions; it looks like their eyeballs pop right out of their heads because it's the first time they've ever heard that.

What are the relationships like on the show? Is everyone married?

They're all in different stages. Some of them are in a relationship, but will not get married until they lose weight. Others won't get married to their partner because they don't want a fat bride or groom. Some of the contestants are engaged, but can't buy the wedding dress because they're overweight. There are also newlyweds who are in the first year of marriage and gained 80 pounds. Some couples have been married for ten years and gained hundreds of pounds along the

way and lost the intimacy they once had with each other. Every couple has their own unique story. Or, it could be that he's skinny and she's fat -it's all stuff everyone deals with and it's not only women who are self-conscious about their weight, it is men too. So you put that together – two people who are not feeling good about themselves – and the word toxic doesn't even do it justice. They're in a position where they don't even love themselves. They need to figure out what's going on inside before they can figure out if they want to be with this other person.

How does *Love Handles* parallel your own life?

Well, I'm 37, in a relationship, and I'm really happy. But, I was in a previous relationship for seven years. We had a great time, a great house, and all the bullshit. He loved me, I loved him. But, I just wasn't happy. I was so overweight, and I think that I blamed my unhappiness on anything but that. It wasn't until I got my stuff together and lost the weight that I realized I had to move on. I threw out everything I owned and gutted my house. I did a drastic, crazy person clean out, and started over. I've never been happier. I won't say that the relationship was bad, because it wasn't bad at all. It was really me and that's kind of where *Love Handles* came from.

I think a lot of girls want to get married and have a family. And, they're looking for one guy who says yes. It doesn't even have to be the right person. For me, it's not the first person you find to say, "yes." It's the person you want to grow old with, rich or poor, the person you want next to you.

What is it about love that makes these shows so popular?

Well, I think everyone is on the endless search for love. I think even if you find someone, and you get married, you're always wondering if this is the greatest love of your life. Is this what love is supposed to feel like? I think it's all anyone ever wants. Everyone equates love with happiness.

Every girl, every guy, every adult, even if you're married or single, it doesn't matter. You watch these shows, and you fantasize right along with them. Everyone wants a fairy tale.

Before we go, we need to ask some Jersey Shore "LOVE" questions! First, will we see a good love story in Italy?

Well, there are people falling in and out of love in Italy. I would say that it's hot and cold in that house. I love this season. Every season I do the same thing. I come back, and I'm like, "What if nothing happens? What if nothing goes on?"

Let me tell you something. I got all the way to Italy, and I was like, "Are you guys kidding me?" I was sitting there and would not leave the control room for 20 hours a day. That's when you know it's good. This particular season is interesting, because they were away. They didn't have all the comforts of home, and all the interactions with their friends and family that they usually do, so there was a bit more conflict than you've seen before.

What's the status of Sammi and Ronnie this season? Can you give us a little hint?

Well, the status depends on what episode (chuckle)! You're going to see a little bit of the Sammi and Ron you knew before, and then the Sammi and Ron who takes a turn. It's really interesting. I think they finally come into their own. Sometimes, I think you grow up when you're apart.

Whether it is the crazy, fist-pumping nights out at Karma, the quacking duck phone or Snooki's ridiculous antics that have you hooked, everyone loves to watch the drama. Jersey Shore Season 4 will premiere August 4th t at 10pm ET/PT on MTV.

And, don't forget to tune into *Love Handles* on Lifetime Television August 6th at 7pm and August 7th at 3PM & 4PM.

Cupid's Pulse sends a thankful fist-pump to Sally Ann for taking the time to talk with us.

'The Bachelorette' Contestant Constantine Says He Did Not Want to Marry Ashley Hebert



One of Ashley Hebert's final three suitors walked away during last week's episode of *The Bachelorette* in Fiji. Although it was clear that there was no spark between Constantine Tzortzis and Hebert, it was still shocking to find out that he wanted to call it quits. The 30-year-old restaurant owner openly admitted to [People](#) in an exclusive *Men Tell All* taping that he wasn't ready to get married to Hebert. He said, "You either have a feeling or you don't... My feelings were not strong

enough at that point to justify sticking around and possibly going through with that next step of getting engaged.” Tzortzis’ family fully supported his decision.

How do you know when your relationship is headed toward marriage?

Cupid’s Advice:

You and your partner both hold very strong feelings of love for one another, but how do you know he or she is the one? Cupid has some ideas:

1. Clarity about the future: A good indicator that your relationship is moving toward that next serious step is that you talk about your plans for the future together. So, for example, you might discuss the intention to move to a new city and then have children together. You should both be able to paint a vivid picture of the future and see yourselves together in it.

2. Part of the family: Perhaps you’ve heard the saying, ‘When you marry someone, you marry into his or her family.’ Before you move onto marriage, you should feel a sense of belonging to your partner’s family and vice versa.

3. In the friend circle: Not only is it important to be well integrated into each others’ families, but it’s also essential to share your buddies. It’s okay if you don’t get along with a few of your partner’s friends, but it’s important that the majority of them consider you a part of the pack. This will prevent you from having to make compromises about friendships during marriage.

What are some indicators that you’re moving toward being more than boyfriend and girlfriend? Share your ideas below.

Oliver Martinez Spends Time with Halle Berry's Daughter



Though actress Halle Berry was nowhere in sight, she allowed her beau Oliver Martinez to have his very own bonding time with her 3 -year old daughter, Nahla, according to UsMagazine.com. Nahla is actually the daughter of Berry's ex-husband, Gabriel Aubrey. However, one would never guess with the way little Nahla and Martinez got along. Their bonding time consisted of swinging across the sand and innocent little laughs and giggles amongst the scenery of a picturesque Malibu beach. It's safe to say that the two enjoyed each others' company.

How do you know when to trust your new partner with you child?

Cupid's Advice:

Many mothers have a difficult time letting their little ones leave their sight. So, how do you know whether or not your partner is trustworthy enough for your child? He or she might be just right for you, but not right for the care of your baby. Cupid has some advice:

1. If your partner has children: Observe how well your other half treats his or her kids. This may be your determining factor when it comes to allowing him or her to spend time with yours.

2. Kid-friendly: Does your beau even like children? This may simply be a direct question you can ask, or you can observe him come in contact with children and how he reacts.

3. Responsibility overall: Look for tiny clues as to whether your partner ranks high on the responsibility scale. If not, you know your answer. When it comes to kids, being responsible is key.

Have some extra tips to add to add? Share your comments below.

Exclusive Interview: 'Bachelorette' Winner **Celebrity Former Winner Jesse**

Csincsak Gives His Take on the Season Finale



In the season 7 finale of the reality TV show *The Bachelorette*, we saw [Ashley Hebert](#) choose between the remaining two bachelors, Ben Flajnik and [J.P. Rosenbaum](#), and watched as she celebrated her [celebrity engagement](#) with Rosenbaum. From the looks of things on the *After the Final Rose* special, our bachelorette is indeed blissfully in love and will be moving to New York City in the coming months to join her man! Following the episode, we checked in with our *Bachelorette* expert Jesse Csincsak to get his thoughts on the last chapter of this reality TV love story.

Former *Bachelorette* Winner Shares Thoughts On Season 7 Finale

Meeting Ashley's family didn't go so well for J.P. Were you surprised by Ashley's sister's reaction to J.P.?

I am still wondering how much of Ashley's sister's reaction was actually production talking.

We heard over and over again that family approval was very important to Ashley. Do you suspect Ashley and her sister were able to talk about her relationship and love before she decided to give the final rose to J.P.?

I think production had her sister say those things but behind closed doors – her sister told her, “Hey, it's not me; it's for TV.” Then, Ashley was just so pumped that her sister didn't feel that way anymore!

Related Link: [Celebrity Video Interview: Meryl Davis and Charlie White Dish About Their Love Lives!](#)

Should Ashley have let Ben know her decision before he got down on one knee?

All of those calls are made by production for good television; Ashley didn't want to do that.

What did you think about Ben's reaction when he found out he wasn't The One? Do you agree with his assessment that “good things don't end unless they end badly”?

I have mad respect for Ben after last night and agree with his actions and words 100 percent.

Ben and Ashley had a very strong friendship. Given their foundation as friends, did you expect his strong reaction to being dumped?

Yes, he got down on one knee in front of 15 million people before realizing production got the best of him!

Any shock from you when you found out that J.P. was her true celebrity love? We did see a lot of J.P. throughout the season, and usually a guy who gets a lot of camera time doesn't always end up with the final rose.

This is the first time the celebrity love story was in the edit from the beginning. But as long as they are happy, who are we to judge them!

As a viewer, what do you think makes J.P. and Ashley's relationship and love work?

Love is going to be the key factor. When the crap hits the fans, in the end, all you will have is love!

Related Link: ['The Bachelorette' Season 7, Episode 9: Final Two Men Remaining](#)

So, what do you think the future holds for J.P. and Ashley? Do you think there will be a celebrity wedding and many more chapters to their love story?

If they can stay out of Los Angeles and New York City, I think they will be just fine.

Still looking for more rose action? Be sure to set your DVR for next Monday night and the season premiere of Bachelor Pad 2!

Marla Martenson Talks 'Diary of a Beverly Hills Matchmaker'



By Tanni Deb

Finding love doesn't come easy, especially when you have unrealistic expectations of your partner. If you don't believe me, just ask professional matchmaker **Marla Martenson**, the author of *Diary of a Beverly Hills Matchmaker*. Martenson gives readers an inside scoop of what really goes on behind the scenes when it comes to matchmaking. Featuring real letters from clients where elite men search for supermodel look-alikes and women are on a quest to find a wealthy soul mate in one of the richest cities in California, the book is

sure to shock and entertain readers.

Cupid had a chance to interview Martenson via phone about her book. Take a look at what she had to say:

Why did you become a matchmaker?

It was really a fluke that turned into a career. I got a job as a videographer at a video dating company back in 2001. I had been an actress and a waitress for 20 years in Los Angeles and Chicago, and I didn't want to be in the restaurant business anymore. I was still acting, but I never could make a living out of it. When I was offered the position at the video dating company, I jumped at the chance. I loved it and felt like I was the director doing these videos for the people. While working there, I thought about writing a dating book from talking to all these people. After that job, I moved over to an upscale matchmaking service in Beverly Hills where I became the vice president of matchmaking. I was there for seven years.

What challenges do you face as a matchmaker?

The challenges would be the people who are so picky. They're very selective here in Southern California. The guys want the girls to look like models and the girls hope the guys are super wealthy. So I think the initial challenge is that everybody has on their wish list their prince charming. It's really about what you want in a partner and getting them to see that it's not always about that first superficial wish that they might think they want.

Your book review in Amazon said that you've had clients who were very unrealistic. For example, "old, nerdy, overweight, and balding man" who is searching for a "supermodel look-alike who has to have an Ivy League education but prefers to be a 1950's housewife." How do you handle people with unrealistic expectations?

A lot of times I will do some coaching. A woman has come to me recently for some coaching, but sometimes people are not open to changing; they want what they want. I try to deliver and if I can't, I can't. But I tell them that I'm a matchmaker, not a magician.

Is it possible to find them someone who matches their criteria?

I have to say I really love my clients; they're great people. But a lot of them have unrealistic expectations. Luckily, in Los Angeles there are a lot of beautiful women so I'm able to match the guys. And there are a lot of guys who are doing very well and are successful. It's understandable that a woman wants a man with something going on. She wants to get married and have a family. She wants somebody who has a good career and who can take care of her. I can see where some of it comes from.

Have you had clients who return continuously because they aren't satisfied with who they were matched with?

I do show them photos, so they'll see the pictures first. Now when they get on a date, there might not be any chemistry or their personalities might not match. But, generally, they won't say that the person didn't look good at all because they've seen the photo. So they're not too disappointed that way.

What do most men and women search for in a significant other?

It's interesting because women's top desires that they tell me in a man is sense of humor, honesty, loyalty, looks and healthy lifestyle. The men want what they see first. They say they want a woman who is attractive, they love a great sense of humor and someone who is easy going.

What advice do you have for those who have been single for quite some time now because they have unrealistic expectations

of the opposite sex?

Be a little more open-minded and try dating someone who maybe doesn't fit the exact picture in your mind. If you go out with somebody, it doesn't mean you have to marry him or you're going to spend your life with him. It's just a cup of coffee or lunch or dinner. So give the guy a try if he has a lot of great qualities you're looking for.

Cupid thanks Marla Martenson for her time! To get a look into the world of matchmaking, visit **Amazon** to purchase *Diary of a Beverly Hills Matchmaker*.

'The Bachelorette' Season 7 Finale: It's Love or Nothing!





By Jennifer Harrington

Last Monday on [The Bachelorette season 7](#), the final chapter of [Ashley Hebert's](#) celebrity love story was written: She chose her Prince Charming and gave out her final rose. After a very rocky road to find a relationship and love, our bachelorette ended her journey by accepting a marriage proposal. In case you missed the ending to this very dramatic season of the show, here's a recap of what happened!

The Bachelorette's Family Reaction

Ashley's family flew to Fiji to meet her remaining two guys: [J.P. Rosenbaum](#) and Ben Flajnik. It was revealed that the bubbly brunette is very influenced by her family and looks for their approval on major life decisions. Rosenbaum was up first to meet the Hebert family, including her mother, stepfather, brother, and sister Chrystie. Chrystie immediately voiced concerns about the celebrity romance. Repeatedly, she said he was not the one for her sister and even went so far to ask Rosenbaum – who is a few years older – why he hadn't found love in his life yet. The lovebirds talked about Chrystie's

tough analysis, and Rosenbaum walked away from the day feeling flustered.

Flajnik was next to meet the family. The winemaker quickly received Chrystie's seal of approval as she noticed a "natural connection" between the duo. During the day Flajnik spends with the Heberts, we learned more about the friendship that was the foundation of their relationship and love, and there was a "shared passion" that united the couple. After impressing her family, the California-native concluded the day with a helicopter ride with the bachelorette, time together in the mud pit, and some serious, quality conversation. During this chat, he confessed that he was in love with Hebert!

Related Link: ['The Bachelorette' Contestant Constantine Says He Did Not Want to Marry Ashley Hebert](#)

Rosenbaum had one last chance to spend time with his celebrity love. The couple used this time to tackle the "tough questions" from Chrystie. The conversation gave the bachelorette the confidence she needed, and she remarked that he had "proven himself" by answering her tough questions. The New York native makes his final plea for her heart with a heartfelt note and collection of photos and closed the evening by saying "she may love both of us, but she can only be in love with one of us. It's love or nothing!"

Picking The Rings For A Celebrity Engagement

Before the final decision, both men had the opportunity to meet with jeweler Neil Lane to choose a celebrity engagement ring for Hebert. Both men selected stunning diamond rings before it was time for the bachelorette to make her final decision. Flajnik arrived to the scene of the final beachside rose ceremony first. Before Hebert had the chance to speak, Ben professed his love to her and got down on one knee to ask

for her hand in marriage. Our bachelorette broke the tough news to him that she would not be giving him the final rose. Given the confidence he felt as he arrived at the beach, it's no surprise this decision was unexpected for him. He begged her not to "sugarcoat" her words to him, and left with a closing remark: "Good things don't end unless they end badly."

Related Link: [Exclusive Interview: Former Bachelorette Winner Jesse Csincsak Gives His Take on The Season Finale](#)

Fresh off her celebrity break-up from Flajnik, the bachelorette regained her composure as Rosenbaum arrived on the beach. She professed her love to him. He shared it was time for them to take a "leap of faith" together and that she was The One for him. He proposed, and she gladly accepted. It was a fairy tale proposal for Hebert's storybook celebrity romance!

What did you think about the final decision – and what do you think the future holds for these lovebirds? Be sure to check back later today to read Bachelorette expert Jesse Csincsak's thoughts on the series finale – and don't forget about the premiere of Bachelor Pad 2 next Monday evening!

5 Celebrity Couples That Are Playing It Safe In The Sun





By Melissa Tierney

Whether it's running through Central Park or hitting the beach, celebrities everywhere are embracing the summertime and loving their naturally sun-kissed or porcelain skin. But despite the fact that it's now August the cast of *Jersey Shore* is getting their "GTL" on, these five celebrity couples are determined to love the skin they are in without fake and baking at a tanning salon. If you think you're pale and were considering getting a faux glow, think again! Take a look at these five celebrity couples, because they're sure to make you feel comfortable and confident in the skin you're in!

1. Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson: Having pale skin isn't just perfectly acceptable in Stephanie Meyer's *Twilight* world, but in Hollywood as well. Stars like these vamped up hotties are embracing the sun, but in a healthy way. While traveling the world to promote their upcoming movie, *Breaking Dawn Part I*, Stewart and Pattinson have kept to their porcelain roots even though the bronze trend is becoming a huge sensation.

2. Natalie Portman and Benjamin Millepied: This adorable

couple has that new parents glow after welcoming their baby boy into the world this month. Portman, who is known for her light skin, looks ravishing everywhere she goes without having that orange tint that so many celebrities are after this season. Maybe it's time for us to take a tip from Portman and realize a natural glow is much better than a fake one. Fiance and baby daddy, Benjamin Millepied, seems to agree, as he's adored Portman ever since they met on the set of their film, *Black Swan*.

3. Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban: It looks like this couple knows just how to play it safe in the sun! The two Aussie's are no strangers to the sun, but when they hit the clear waters and beaches of Sydney, like they did for their 2006 wedding ceremony in North Sydney, they are careful to put on some SPF and cute shades. What better way can these two love birds embrace their culture, than in a conscious and healthy way?

4. Dita Von Teese and Louis-Marie de Castelbajac: The sexy pin up girl and French aristocrat have caused quite a stir since they started dating in 2010, but one thing these two don't have to worry about is damage from the sun's harmful rays. Being the ex of vampire-esque Marilyn Manson may have rubbed off on Von Teese, and she'd rather be fair-skinned than brown, which we love. Who knows – maybe this is the season to give pale skin a shot.

5. Cate Blanchett and Andrew Upton: The Hollywood starlet is certainly gorgeous and breathtaking, and one of her claims to fame is her porcelain-like complexion. While having healthy skin is most certainly in, knowing how to carry it makes all the difference. Blanchett's clear complexion makes her a stand out on the red carpet, and husband Andrew Upton definitely seems to approve.

What celebrity couples do you think practice safe skin? Share

your thoughts below!

Fantasia Announces Her Pregnancy On Stage



After struggling through depression, a suicide attempt, and a relationship on the rocks, former *American Idol* star Fantasia Barrino has much to look forward to after all. According to [People](#), on Sunday, Barrino announced that she's expecting. She blazoned the good news for the first time during a charity concert in Jacksonville, Fla: "And I share this with you because I can relate to you. And for a while, I walked around figuring out what they will say and what will they think about

me. But now I tell you, I don't live my life for folk." Barrino made no mention of the father, but we know that she was seeing Antwaun Cook and that their affair was associated with Cook's divorce from wife Paula Cook.

What are some ways to make a bang with your pregnancy announcement?

Cupid's Advice:

Not all of us may have the opportunity to make the big announcement after a live performance on stage. But that doesn't mean your pregnancy news can't make a bang. Cupid has some creative ideas:

1. Throw a party: Invite your friends and family to a casual party without informing them about the reason behind it. At some point, propose a toast and then break the news. A gathering with all the people that matter in your life is a great occasion to celebrate.

2. At a sports game: If your partner, friends, and family are into football, why not take them to a local game and have the announcer make a public announcement? That'll certainly stir up some commotion.

3. In the news: If you're going for high impact, but a want to tone down the drama, create your own announcement with paper and pen, then insert it in between the pages of the daily newspaper. When your friends and family flip through the pages, they'll be surprised to find your story.

Can you think of creative ways to announce the arrival of a baby? Share your ideas below.

Maria Shriver Spends Arnold Schwarzenegger's Birthday With Him



For Maria Shriver and Arnold Schwarzenegger, the children come first. A source close to the family told [People](#) that the two were seen getting lunch at Casa Roma in Beverly Hills Saturday as well as indulging in a day of shopping in celebration for the former California governor's 64th birthday. A second source said that despite the divorce Shriver filed last month, the two will take care of their children first. "Arnold and Maria will always come together when it comes to supporting and loving their children," the source said. Their son Christopher was released from the hospital Monday following a boogie boarding accident resulting in a collapsed lung and two

broken bones.

How do you establish independence after a divorce?

Cupid's Advice:

Moving forward after a divorce can be tough, but it's not impossible. Cupid has a few suggestions:

1. Family: There's an old saying that blood runs thicker than water and never runs dry. Your family can be a great way to help provide support until you get past the toughest points in your life.

2. Friends: Take some time to rekindle old friendships while solidifying your current ones. Surrounding yourself with true friends can help keep you moving forward.

3. Yourself: Whether it's going out with friends or moving into a new place, what's most important is to take some time for yourself to heal. Relax, reflect and move on.

How did you move on after your divorce? Share your advice below.

Why Kourtney Kardashian and Scott Disick Don't Need to Get Married





By Brea Gunn

Okay, okay...I'll admit it. I'm a reality TV junkie. I LOVE watching the train wrecks, drama, and outright ridiculousness that has become entertainment. Sometimes, though, a show truly hits a chord. I was watching Keeping Up With the Kardashians and stumbled upon the episode where Kris is pushing Kourtney and Scott to get married ... But they don't want to tie the knot.

This may seem strange to you, but it really irked me that their mom, Kris, was pushing the issue. Now, I'm all about weddings. It's what I love to write about, talk about and blog about, but sometimes weddings are not the best thing. Take Kourtney and Scott, for example. If her mom wants a commitment, why not have a commitment ceremony instead of a wedding? You can still have the dress, the big bash and the DJ without ending up with a legally binding piece of paper.

Take a look at some other celebs that have kids and aren't married ... Johnny Depp (together with his partner for more than 10 years, he has 2 kids) and Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie

(together for more than 5 years and they have six (right?) kids) ... And both couples are very comfortable in their relationships.

And then there are the celebrities that have gotten married after they have kids, like Ashlee Simpson and Pete Wentz, and Britney Spears and Kevin Federline. Now, they're separated or divorced.

So where's the middle ground? And more importantly, what does any of this have to do with us 'normal' people? I think that weddings are fantastic, and I love every single one of them, but they're truly not for everyone, as I think the Kardashians (among others) have shown us. So when do you know it's right?

If you can't imagine the rest of your life without your love's best and WORST features, then (more than likely) you're probably on the right track with the wedding plans. But if you're happy being your semi-single self, consider a commitment ceremony or party to celebrate a milestone year in your relationship instead.

Sure, Mom may be upset (even famous moms want to plan their daughter's weddings), but I think that if you sit down with her (do not take a page from Kourtney on this one) and calmly explain your choice, then chances are she'll be on board ... especially if you let her plan a party.

Brea Gunn is a monthly contributor for Cupid's Pulse and writes for a Hudson Valley weddings site for real weddings, reviews and inspiration from local wedding business resources.

Amy Smart Says Her Fiancé Has Been Very Hands On With Wedding



Here comes the bride! Amy Smart has been engaged to fiancé, hunky HGTV carpenter, Carter Oosterhouse, since April. The couple was engaged after only a few months of dating. According to [Hollyscoop](#), the blonde bride-to-be is being very traditional, especially when it comes to the wedding dress. Though the TV handyman has an impeccable eye for design and is very involved in the wedding planning process, Smart insists he not see the dress until the big day. Aside from the detail of the dress, the two are all in this together as they prepare for their wedding on September 10th in Northern Michigan. “[He’s] very hands on,” said Smart, “He has definitely been my

co-pilot with this.”

How do you get your beau involved in the wedding planning process?

Cupid’s Advice:

Traditionally, it has been the woman’s responsibility to plan the wedding. However, that has not been the case with modern day festivities. If your beau is skeptical about getting involved, here are some ways to make him into a wedding planning extraordinaire:

- 1. Cake tasting:** Everyone has a sweet tooth. Take your beau along to the bakery for a special wedding treat that you will share with your guests.
- 2. Get his friends on the guest list:** Half of the guest list will be made up of your partner’s friends and family. Make sure to sit down with him to make sure everyone he wants to be there will get an invite.
- 3. Have a jam session:** The music at your wedding should reflect both of your personalities. Set some time aside to listen to music together and pick out the perfect tunes.

What is your favorite part of planning a wedding? Share your thoughts below.

Prince William’s Cousin Zara Phillips Ties the Knot



It's the year of royal weddings. First Prince William and Kate Middleton walked down the aisle, and now Prince William's cousin Zara Phillips has tied the knot with Mike Tindall, the captain of England's rugby team. The wedding took place in Edinburgh this past Saturday, according to [People](#), and it was absolutely breathtaking. The wedding was straight out of a story book with a royal guest list and a fabulous reception at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the Queen's residence. The pair met through Prince Harry, who introduced the two at a bar in Sydney during the Rugby World Cup back in 2003.

What are some ways to tell your partner loves you for the right reasons?

Cupid's Advice:

It's tough to tell if your partner really loves you for you and that he or she has good intentions. Cupid has some tips:

1. They accept you at your worst: If your mate is able to put up with you when you're having a bad day or are in a bad mood, it shows that he or she is truly there for you.

2. They remember the little things: If your partner remembers things like your favorite dessert and what kind of perfume you wear, it shows that he or she pays attention to you and wants to make you happy.

3. They are open and honest: Being open and truthful shows that your mate has nothing to hide. If he didn't love you for the right reasons, he'd avoid certain topics.

How can you tell if your partner loves you for the right reasons? Share your thoughts below!

Blake Fielder-Civil Is Heartbroken Over Amy Winehouse's Death





Although an incarcerated Blake Fielder-Civil and Amy Winehouse split in 2009, that does not make him any less heartbroken over her death. According to UsMagazine.com, Blake's now girlfriend Sarah Aspin relayed a message from Fielder-Civil: "I will never ever again feel the love I felt for her. Everybody who knew me and knew Amy knew the depth of our love. I can't believe she's dead." She also states that, "He just can't take it in that she's dead and he'll never see her again. Blake rang me on Saturday after the prison authorities told him she'd died. I just couldn't console him. He was in total shock." Employees at the Leeds' Armley Jail where Blake is being held have been told to pay extra attention to him at this hard time in his life.

How do you rebuild after the death of a significant other?

Cupid's Advice:

Death of a loved one is one of the most difficult events to overcome, and it can be difficult with which to come to terms.

Cupid has some tips on how to rebuild:

1. Take the time to grieve: This is an important component of healing and moving on. Take a sufficient amount of time to grieve before you go back to your regular routine. This may be different for everyone, but is essential to avoid an emotional breakdown later on.

2. Talk: Your loved ones are there to support you. Don't direct your anger toward those who care about your well-being, and don't tune them out. Talk to them and listen to what they have to say. They may be able to help you cope in ways you can't on your own.

3. Join a support group: Spending time with people who are going through the same thing as you is a great way to better cope with your loss.

Have you dealt with the loss of a significant other? How did you cope? Share your comments below.

Grey's Anatomy Star Sarah Drew Is Expecting Her First Child





Sarah Drew, who plays Dr. April Kepner on ABC's hit television hospital drama, *Grey's Anatomy*, is expecting her first child with husband, Peter Lanfer. Dr. McSteamy's co-star is thrilled to be starting a family of her own. She follows many of her other co-stars who are already parents, like Eric Dane, Ellen Pompeo and Chyler Leigh. According to [People](#), Drew is the second of the show's stars to have recently announced she is expecting. Less than a month ago, Dane announced that he is expecting another child with wife Rebecca Gayheart.

How do you rationalize being behind all of your peers when it comes to having kids?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes it can be tough to watch all of your friends get married and have kids before you. You're happy for them, but you're jealous at the same time. Here are some benefits to the situation:

1. Learn from their experience: Perhaps one of the best things about being behind your peers when it comes to having kids is

that you can learn from their mistakes. Keep a journal or make a list on your computer of things to keep in mind based on the things your friends go through. You'll look like a pro when it's your turn!

2. More time for freedom: Once you have a family, there's no doubt that it ties you down to some extent. Most people view this as a good thing and not a sacrifice, but why not live it up while you still can?

3. It's just not time: The easiest way to rationalize not having kids yet is that it's simply not time for you to do so. If your not in a relationship where you're both ready to make that type of commitment, then it's for the best that you wait for that to happen.

What are some other positives about being behind your friends when it comes to having kids? Share your thoughts below.

'Bachelor' Star Elizabeth Kitt's New BF Is Spotted on Cheating Website





Elizabeth Kitt seems to be unlucky in love, to say the least. After being dumped by Jake Pavelka on *The Bachelor* and splitting from ladies' man Jesse Kovacs after dating him on *Bachelor Pad*, it looks like Kitt has found another winner. Her current squeeze, Joshua Rowley, has been spotted on Cheaternville.com, where he is listed under the headline, "Cheater is looking for easy girls online". Rowley denied the accusations of infidelity, telling [RadarOnline](#), "This is hilarious. I was only on-line dating for a week before I met Elizabeth, then I logged off. To whomever the woman is who posted this, thanks, it is a good picture. Elizabeth and I had a good laugh over this!"

What do you do if you keep ending up in dead-end relationships?

Cupid's Advice:

Some of us seem to be doomed to end up in relationships that go nowhere. Cupid has some tips on how to avoid those dead-end affairs:

1. Date outside your comfort zone: Like bad boys? Try dating nice guys. If you start dating people who aren't your usual type, you might get different results.

2. Change your behavior: Love is a two way street, and after every breakup, you need to think about what you could have changed. Take what you learned to make the next relationship better.

3. Ask for help: Your friends have been with you through all the ups and downs in your love life. Find out their opinions about your next boyfriend or girlfriend to see if they think you're going down the wrong path again.

How do you break the cycle of bad relationships? Share your comments below.

Kardashian Women Throw Kim a Racy Bridal Shower





Khloe Kardashian and Lamar Odom sealed the deal, and it's almost time for Kim Kardashian and Khris Humphries to do the same. On Saturday, the engaged couple took one step closer to taking their wedding vows at their bridal shower, according to [E! Online](#). With a classy touch of wine, party favors wrapped in small pink boxes, and an atmosphere of Kardashian fever, this bridal shower was everything, but a fail. Guests did their part to keep it interesting as well. As Kardashian and Humphries opened up their gifts, they were shocked to pull out a pair of fuzzy handcuffs! Can we say classy, raunchy, and oh-so-Kardashian?

What are some ways to spice up a generic bridal shower?

Cupid's Advice:

So you have the gifts, the guests, the decorations, the wine... the usual. But how about we throw something innovative in there? Spruce it up a bit! Cupid has some ways to make your bridal shower far from the usual:

1. Games: No one can pass up a second chance at being a kid

again, and what better way to have fun like a child than by playing games? Bridal showers don't have to be a "thanks for attending, thanks for the gifts, see you at my wedding, goodbye" type affair. Keep the vibe bumpin' with some fun games to fit your theme.

2.Tradition? Scratch that: Who says you have to do what everyone else does? If you feel the urge to step out of traditional boundaries, then by all means, do so. Instead of renting out a banquet room, throw your bridal shower at a movie theater. Rent out the "birthday room" and check out a romantic comedy after the festivities have died down.

3.Unexpected party favor: Don't give your guest a picture frame or gift bag full of candy. Instead, make your shower favors appropriate to you and your partner's personality. If you're both obsessed with Trivial Pursuit, give them each a few cards from the game (or the game itself!).

What are your ideas to spice up a generic bridal shower? Share your comments below.

Gene Simmons: I Proposed Months Ago





After sharing 28 years in a relationship together and two children with girlfriend Shannon Tweed, Gene Simmons finally mustered up the courage to get down on one knee. In Tuesday night's finale of A&E's reality show [Gene Simmons Family Jewels](#), Simmons told Tweed, "You're the only friend I've got. You're the only one I love ... and you're the only one I ever will love" before proposing. An insider recently revealed to [People](#) that the proposal scene was shot "several months ago" and that the couple's relationship has been on the rocks ever since. The couple once described themselves as "happily unmarried" and we're waiting to find out if there will be an "I do" to seal the deal.

What are the advantages of tying the knot over simply living together?

Cupid's Pulse:

Marriage is a big responsibility. As a result, the rate of cohabitation among couples has increased drastically in the last few decades. Sometimes, however, there are perks to tying the knot. Cupid has a few:

1. Commitment: Marriage is a profession of two people's commitment to one another. You and your partner will both feel more secure about the future of the relationship if you've made the commitment to spend the rest of your lives together. Marriage increases people's trust in each other.

2. Quality: It's not just about your thoughts about what the future might bring. It's also about the current state of the your relationship. Husbands and wives report greater satisfaction and fairness in their relationships.

3. Together: Couples who simply live together have a higher chance of splitting than those who are married. There are no definitive explanations for this difference, but we just know that it's one more reason why it may be better to take a walk down the aisle!

What are other benefits experienced by married couples? Share your thoughts below.

Former 'Jersey Shore' Star Angelina Pivarnick Blames Media and Boyfriend for Miscarriage





Former *Jersey Shore* star Angelina Pivarnick says she suffered a miscarriage and opened up to Father Albert on his show about it, according to RadarOnline. Pivarnick was engaged to ex-boyfriend Dave Kovacs for a short time in February, and then she announced her pregnancy in April. Pivarnick admits that Kovacs wasn't the father, but instead it was a random guy she was with who tormented her. Pivarnick says the tabloids were constantly in her business and wouldn't leave her alone about her partying habits. "It was really hard and I went through a lot of stress and I ended up losing the baby."

How do you help your partner come to terms with a miscarriage?

Cupid's Advice:

The best thing you can do to support your partner in this situation is to simply be there. Here are three ways to do so:

1. Let her vent: Assure your partner that you're there to listen to every feeling they have about the miscarriage. Let her know that it's OK to express her feelings to you and that

you'll be her shoulder to cry on.

2. Now it's your turn: Once you've let her vent, it's your turn to let everything out to her. Most importantly, make sure that nobody is playing the blame game. Miscarriages happen unexpectedly and they're hurtful for both people in the relationship.

3. Seek help: If talking it out amongst each other isn't working, seek further help. This is indeed a tragic situation and you might need a psychiatrist to help you overcome it. Don't be afraid to go further, because everyone heals differently.

How did you help your partner come to terms with a miscarriage? Share in a comment below.

Five Tips to Help Your Partner Feel Comfortable Around Your Friends





By Ashya Hill

You've managed to make a romantic spark turn into a comfortable relationship, and now you want to bring your new partner around to meet your friends. Meeting your closest friends and family could be a make-or-break moment—especially if he doesn't connect with them or even like them for that matter. Thankfully, there are steps you can take to help make your lover feel more relaxed about the meet and greet. In fact, many of these tactics are ones that we see celebrities using in their relationships. So, let's take a cue from a few famous couples with the following five steps:

1. Don't force your friends on your partner

Some independence in a relationship is healthy. AskMen.com put together a profile of Tom Brady and Gisele Bündchen's relationship that shows how the celebrity power couple has maintained independent careers that take them all over the world, while still cultivating a sizzling relationship. This independence can also be applied to your friendships. One way to do that is by scheduling time to meet up with your friends separately. That way, when it's time to

plan a get-together, you can focus on helping your partner feel at ease instead of trying to catch up on your friends' lives.

2. Give them talking points

Just as celebrities prepare for their TV and magazine interviews, you can help your sweetie feel a little more prepared around your pals with a little prep time. Give them some background on the people they'll meet and match up any commonalities they may have with your friends. Another idea is to provide them with some fun factoids that will help get the conversations rolling and break the ice.

3. Plan a double date

Arrange a double date with another couple you know. This way, your honey can socialize one-on-one and get to know your friends better. Of course, you'll want to steer clear of double dates with friends whose partners you don't care for or you think your significant other won't get along with!

4. Take a trip together

You see celebs doing this all the time. Of course, you don't need to fly off on a private jet to a world-class resort to get the same effect but a weekend away can bond people immediately. If you're tight on budget, keep it close to home.

5. Steer clear of friendly exes

Tabloids often publish pictures of celebrities remaining friendly with their exes. But getting your current flame together with a fizzled out one isn't the best idea. Instead, focus on life-long friends who have always been and will forever remain platonic.

How do you make your partner feel comfortable around your

friends? Leave a comment with your perspective.

Ashya Hill is a social media advocate at the cash back credit card website, CreditDonkey.

Jesse James and Kat Von D Split Due to Distance



The rumors are rolling once again about Jesse James and Kat Von D, as they recently announced that they are calling off their wedding. This time it's official. Not only did they call off the engagement, but they've also broken up. They were in a long distance relationship, with James in Austin and

Von D in LA. When [People](#) asked Von D whether she would relocate to be with her boyfriend, she responded, "If only it were that easy. Having two places we call home will be good for now. In the end, home is where the heart is, and my heart's with him. " Unfortunately, the couple couldn't keep doing the long distance thing.

What are some ways to keep a long distance relationship strong?

Cupid's Advice:

Surviving a long distance relationship can be tough. Cupid has some tips on how to prevent letting distance loosen the bond:

1. Communicate: Make an effort to frequently communicate. You're probably both caught up in your daily routines, but make sure to schedule a regular time to talk to your loved one via skype or phone. You can also keep each other up-to-date via email and text, but it's important that you hear each other's voices.

2. Visit: Of course the sound of your partner's voice isn't always going to be enough. You'll need some physical contact in order for the relationship to persevere. Take turns making trips to see one another, and make sure that you share the responsibility equitably.

3. Trust: Starting a long distance relationship means unforeseeable changes and challenges in both of your lives. If your partner starts forming new circles of friends or engaging in new activities, don't assume the worst. Just take a breather and have faith that your partner will remain loyal to you.

Have you ever been in a long distance relationship? Share your experiences below.