

Jon Hamm Explains Why He'd Be a 'Terrible Father'



Jon Hamm, currently starring *Friends with Kids*, says he doesn't want kids. The 41-year-old actor told UsMagazine.com, "I'd be a terrible father!" Hamm, a devoted actor, doesn't know how his friends can balance a demanding career and children. His girlfriend, Jennifer Westfeldt, 42, also recently spoke out about why she Hamm never started a family. She said that her life has gone in many unanticipated directions, and that she's happy the way things are. "The chance that we'll regret it doesn't seem like a compelling enough reason to do it," she said. "I may wake up tomorrow with that lighting bolt, and I'll have to scramble to make it happen."

How do you know if you're cut out to be a parent?

Cupid's Advice:

It's usually not about if you'd love and care for your child, but if you are ready to have one of your own. Here are some ways to tell if you're cut out to be a parent:

1. You're in a committed relationship: The most important factor when having a child is the state you're in with your significant other. You both need to be committed in the long run if you are going to have a child together.

2. You're both stable: The most important years of a child's life are when they first begin growing up. You need to make sure you're financially stable as well as able to settle down in one place for a while as your child grows up.

3. Family must come first: When you want to have a child, that should come before anything else. You need to be able to put your family above your career, because if you plan to be an absent parent, then you aren't ready to raise a child.

How do you think you know if you're ready to be a parent? Share your comments below.

Jennie Garth Says Her Personal Life is "Crazy" Amid Divorce





Jennie Garth

recently spoke out about her split from husband Peter Facinelli, according to [People](#). The former *90210* star said, “My life is a little hectic right now and my personal life is kind of crazy.” With three daughters to look after (Luca, Lola and Fiona), Garth is nothing if not busy dealing with the public scrutiny surrounding her separation. Despite that, however, she says her daughters are “doing great”. The family (sans Facinelli) are currently filming CMT’s *Jennie Garth: Little Bit Country* in farmland outside L.A.

How do you protect your children from public scrutiny post-divorce?

Cupid’s Advice:

Splitting from a spouse is not only hard on you, but it’s hard on your family as well, especially if you have kids.

Depending on how your family and friends (the public) reacts, it can seem like protecting your kids from the scrutiny is impossible. Cupid has some tips:

1. Remain positive: The worst thing you can do is to bad mouth your former other half in front of your children. It’s important to stay positive in front of your kids.

2. Explain: It can be confusing for kids as to why the subject of their parent's divorce is so popular. Discuss the concept of drama with your children, and advise them as to why they should ignore any scrutiny they witness.

3. Act normal: You may be torn up on the inside, but try to keep a normal facade on the outside for the benefit of your children. If they see that you're handling everything with grace, they will take your lead.

How did you protect your children amid your divorce? Share your comments below.

January Jones Said Returning to 'Mad Men' Post-Baby Was Tough





January Jones, made famous by her role as Betty Draper (now Betty Francis) on AMC's hit show *Mad Men*, described her feelings of coming back to work seven weeks after giving birth to her son, Xander, as first day of school nerves. According to [People](#), the long days on the set were tough for her, especially with her son being so little, but work did everything possible to make it comfortable for her. "The first episode I'm always finding my way back into my character's shoes. But, then after a few days, I'm able to fall pretty easily back into her, and find her voice and her body language and everything that I do for her," said Jones.

What are some ways to balance your career and your family?

Cupid's Advice:

Finding work and family balance is never easy, but it's not impossible. As long as you're getting equal support from your family and work, finding a work/life balance is completely possible. Here's how:

1. Be honest and open a work: Let your boss and co-workers know that though your life at home may have changed, your dedication and performance at work will not. Make arrangements in advance as to what to do if you have to leave

work at a moment's notice for your family.

2. Be supportive: Support your partner and co-workers with their careers and growing families, and they will in exchange do the same for you.

3. Be thankful: Take a moment every day to be thankful for everyone in your life and the support system they have formed.

What are some ways you can support a co-worker dealing with the stress of their job and a growing family? Share your thoughts below.

Lady Gaga Confesses Her Soccer Mom Dreams to Oprah



It seems Lady Gaga

is fed up with talking to people. According to UsMagazine.com, the pop star spoke with Oprah and said, "Other than this interview, Oprah, I do not intend to speak to anyone for a very long time." And in that final interview, Gaga also divulged her dreams for the future. "I want kids, I want a soccer team," she said about wanting a large family. "And I want a husband. Well, I'm being superfluous. I don't want to have one kid. I want to have a few." Now, all she has to do is find that dream guy!

If you're ready to settle down, but can't find the right partner, what do you do?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes your biological clock is telling you it's time to settle down and have those kids you always wanted, but you simply can't find the right person with whom to do it. Cupid has some advice:

- 1. Embrace independence:** Even if you don't have a partner, you should be able to have enough independence to be happy on your own. Coming to terms with who you are and learning how to satisfy yourself is the first step to finding a significant other. Confidence attracts.
- 2. Hold out:** If you absolutely do not want to embrace settling down alone, then hold tight for a couple more years. Utilize online dating, speed dating and other businesses set up just for matchmaking purposes. Get out there and meet your soul mate.
- 3. Analyze your expectations:** If it's been a while since you found someone you want to date and it seems like you've been sifting through partners quickly, it may be time to examine your expectations. Discuss these with a professional, as they may not be realistic. Do you really need a 6-foot-tall built redhead with freckles? Probably not.

What did you do when you couldn't find a partner? Share your ideas below.

Khloe Kardashian Reveals What Kris Humphries Said at First Meeting



Yes, Kim Kardashian and Kris Humphries are divorced, but little sister Khloe Kardashian Odom, revealed why she and Humphries never got along during her Tuesday night appearance on *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno*, according to [E! Online](#). Kardashian Odom told Leno that the first thing Humphries asked her during their first meeting was, “So, how much you gettin’ paid to fake your marriage? Like how long are you gonna keep this up for?” Was

Humphries trying to break the ice with a joke, or was he being down right shady? Kardashian wasn't sure, but she said, "[Humphries] just rubbed me the wrong way. So, ever since then, I had a very defensive wall brought up."

What do you do if your family doesn't like your significant other?

Cupid's Advice:

Introducing your family to your significant other is a big step. Between worrying about your family liking your partner and if your partner will leave a great first impression, it can be intimidating. Here are some things to do if your family doesn't like your partner:

- 1. Respect:** Understand that your family is free to have their own opinion. Give them time, and they may come around.
- 2. Meet, again:** Put a lot of thought into their next meeting. Pick a relaxed setting, because after all, you're trying to connect the people you love.
- 3. Take a step back:** Really take time to evaluate why your family doesn't like your partner. Could it be that he or she isn't right for you? If not, let your family know that your relationship is here to stay whether they like it or not. This may be just what they need to come to an acceptance.

What would you do if your family wasn't happy with your significant other? Share your thoughts below.

Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck Welcome a Baby Son



For the third time, Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck are proud parents. According to [People](#), their new son was welcomed in Santa Monica. After announcing they were expecting in August, but not sharing the sex of the baby, their new son joins big sisters, Seraphina, 3, and Violet, 6. “It would be so weird to have a boy,” Garner told Ellen DeGeneres, also saying that the experience would be “cool and different.” However, in 2010, Affleck said, “The three-against-one-female-to-male ratio in his house leaves me significantly outnumbered.”

Garner and Affleck are happy together. “Honestly, I would do anything for that man, because I know it’s not taken for granted,” said Garner.

Cupid’s Advice:

After having a house full of estrogen, adding another man to

the mix will no doubt bring changes. Cupid has a few:

1. Dad relaxes: This may not happen right away, but with time, the man of the house will have another guy on his team.

That's one more person to fight for the game to be on TV on Monday nights rather than *The Bachelor*, or someone to help cut the grass.

2. The last name carries on: Your family name may make it another generation. Having a son join the mix allows the opportunity for your last name to live on.

3. Male bonding: Father-daughter dates are very crucial, but there's nothing quite like father-son bonding. Going fishing, playing ice hockey and building tree houses are all things many sons experience with their fathers. So ladies, step aside and let boys be boys.

How did your family change when you had a son? Share your stories below.

Exes Kate Hudson and Owen Wilson Have Surprise Reunion at Oscars Bash





Kate Hudson and Owen

Wilson prove that exes can be friends after a breakup. The former couple who dated from 2006-2007 after working together on the set of *You, Me and Dupree*, had a surprise reunion at the *Vanity Fair* Oscar party on Sunday. A partygoer told UsMagazine.com that the two “totally had a moment” as they “hugged and kissed each other on both cheeks.” The source also revealed that the two stars talked about their kids and how old they are now (Hudson welcomed son Bingham in July 2011 with fiancé Matt Bellamy and Wilson and Jade Duell welcomed son Robert Ford in January 2011; Hudson also has son Ryder, 8, with ex-husband and Black Crowes front man Chris Robinson). “They pulled out their phones to show each other pictures,” the partygoer said. “They both oohed and ahhed over them.”

What are some ways to become friends with your ex after a split?

Cupid's Advice:

So you and your ex didn't make it to the altar like you thought would, but that doesn't mean the two of you still can't be friends. Don't know how to get over the awkwardness ? Cupid has some tips:

1. Give yourself some time: You may not be ready to

immediately come face-to-face after your relationship ends, which is understandable. Allow yourself time to heal after splitting, especially if it ended on bad terms.

2. Get over the grudge: The breakup might not have ended so well, but if it's been years since then, you shouldn't hold onto a grudge forever. Sometimes, not holding a grudge with your former flame can be what you need to move on to the next best thing.

3. Be friendly: If you have the same friends, you might run into each other often. When this happens, smile and make small talk. This may not reignite the spark in your old relationship, but it may lead into becoming friends again.

Were you able to become friends with your ex? How? Share your stories below.

Kate Gosselin Reveals She's Lonely on Dr. Drew





It's been two years, but Kate Gosselin still isn't ready to move on. Gosselin, 36, revealed that she is lonely and unhappy with her love life on *Dr. Drew* Wednesday, reports [RadarOnline](#). Gosselin separated from her now ex-husband Jon Gosselin two years ago, but doesn't feel the time is right to find the man who would be willing to take on eight kids yet. "I absolutely [want to find someone]!" said Gosselin. "The odds are so against me, one mom and eight kids...so it would be great. I mean, I'm so lonely. I clean up the house, put the kids to bed and there I sit. Ideally I would find that person...I don't know if I feel ready for that."

How do you get over the feeling of being lonely after a split?

Cupid's Advice:

Living the single life takes some adjusting to, especially if you're used to being in a relationship. Here are a few ways to help you get over your loneliness:

1. Keep busy: Loneliness really settles in during your extra time. Staying busy will help keep your mind off of your feelings. Also, getting out more may be a way for you to meet new people.

2. Call your friends: A romantic partner isn't the only person who can make you feel wanted. Your friends have been supporting you for years and will continue to do so. Call them up and organize a time to hang out.

3. Avoid routines: Having a scheduled, routine life will only make you feel lonelier. Shake things up, and be careful not to live on auto-pilot. Spontaneity can be a blessing.

How did you comfort yourself after a breakup? Feel free to leave a comment below.

Nicole Richie Motherhood Advice to Pregnant Jessica Simpson





Fashion Star mentor

Nicole Richie has some motherhood advice for her new coworker. The Winter Kate designer, 30, offered Jessica Simpson a crash course in parenting, reports UsMagazine.com. “I offered for her to take my kids up until she has hers,” joked Richie. “That didn’t really work, but the offer still stands because she hasn’t had her kid yet. If she wants to take [daughter Harlow, 4, and son Sparrow, 2], go ahead. I will go to Cabo, no problem.”

What are some ways to prepare yourself for parenthood?

Cupid’s Advice:

Parenthood gets easier with time, but the first few months with your newborn can be the most challenging part of your new role. Here are a few ways to prepare yourself:

1. Buy the essentials: It’s surprising how many things new parents leave for the last minute. Prepare in advance as much as you can. Buy a car seat, baby formula, diapers, a crib, etc. You’ll be too occupied with your newborn to be doing much shopping after the birth.

2. Find a doctor: Finding a pediatrician you’re comfortable with before the baby arrives can save a lot of time. Make appointments with several local doctors and talk to your

friends until you find one that suits your needs.

3. Organize a support system: The first few weeks will be tough on you and your partner. Arrange for a friend or family member to stay with you and help out. You'll be able to enjoy their company and a large load will be taken off of your shoulders.

How did you prepare yourself for parenthood? Feel free to leave a comment below!

Victoria Beckham Discusses Being a Working Mom



Former Spice

Girl Victoria Beckham presented a collection at the New York Fashion show, and critics said she looked a little disheveled

and unhappy. That said, they couldn't be more wrong. "Look, if people want to say I'm miserable, then so be it," she said, according to UsMagazine.com. "I'm really not. I have a lot on my plate. I'm not going to lie about it, I'm tired. I'm really tired, but I'm also very happy with my life." Victoria has four children with soccer star husband David Beckham and the newest addition to the family, Harper Beckham, is only seven months old. "I'm not getting much sleep at all," she added. "Harper's not sleeping that great, and I've been taking Skype business calls throughout the night, too, because of the collections. I'm up with the baby as all mums are, and I wouldn't have it any other way. There's not a team of people doing it for me."

What are the benefits of being a working parent?

Cupid's Advice:

Being a good parent and a good employee is a balancing act, but so is life in general. That said, being a working parent has some great benefits. Cupid has some tips:

- 1. Living standard:** By having a job with a steady income, you'll be able to provide your children with their basic needs without stress on yourself or your budget.
- 2. Role model:** Young children are always mimicking adults, so by showing them that you're a hard worker and goal-oriented, they will hopefully follow in your footsteps.
- 3. Balance:** Learning to balance everything on your plate as an employee and a parent will give you a sense of duty and accomplishment. You'll learn to prioritize what's important in your life, and hold on to things that are the most meaningful to your happiness.

How does having a job while being a parent benefit your life?
Share your comments below.

Beyonce and Jay-Z Skip Grammy's for Pizza Date



Beyonce and Jay-Z have something more important to focus on this year than awards. The new parents recently skipped the Grammy Awards to indulge in a quick pizza date before heading home to baby daughter Blue Ivy, according to UsMagazine.com. A witness said the superstar duo “were just like a regular couple talking and whatnot” while having dinner at their favorite pizza place in Brooklyn. “They were sitting in front of the place closer to where they make the pizza.”

What are some ways to keep romance intact after you have a child?

Cupid's Advice:

Having children is typically a joyful experience, but there's no doubt that romance in your relationship takes a hit as a result. Cupid has some tips:

1. Date night: You may not have had a specific night in the week where you always went on a date before you had a child. Now, however, it's necessary to schedule your alone time. That way you can coordinate a babysitter ahead of time.

2. Post-bedtime hangout: Although it may not seem like it at first, your child will eventually learn to sleep through the night. When that happens, their bedtime will probably be before you and your significant other's. Take the time after your son or daughter goes to bed to reconnect as a couple.

3. Mini-vacations: It's understandable that you'd be hesitant to leave your child behind on a trip, but sometimes you need a couple days to unwind. Leave your kid(s) with their grandparents or your siblings. Even if it's just a weekend getaway, it's important to spend some quality time alone every once in a while.

How do you keep the romance in your relationship alive? Share your ideas below.

Civil Wars' Joy Williams Announces She's Pregnant





It seems two trophies from the Grammy Awards isn't all The Civil Wars' Joy Williams has to celebrate these days. The singer-songwriter recently announced her pregnancy via Twitter. "Beyond elated to share that [husband] Nate [Yetton] and I are expecting our first child in late June!" she wrote. "My baby bump and I will see you on the red carpet." It hasn't been an easy pregnancy, though, according to UsMagazine.com. Williams struggled with "24-hour morning sickness for months" she shared, also via Twitter. Williams and her bandmate John Paul White won the Best Folk Album and Best Country Duo/Group trophies at the Grammy's.

How do you support your partner during a tough pregnancy?

Cupid's Advice:

Not all pregnancies involve a warm glow. In fact, some involve complications and sick feelings from the very beginning. Cupid has some ways to support your struggling partner:

1. Take over household chores: If your pregnant wife or girlfriend is the one who usually takes care of various household tasks, step up and take those over for her. She's carrying your child, so the least you can do is vacuum under

the bed.

2. Learn prenatal massage: If you really want to go above and beyond, learn how to give a mean massage. Take a class or read a book on how to use your hands to relieve some of your pregnant mate's stress.

3. Research: There is a lot of information out there about how to deal with pregnancy struggles. Take the initiative to read up on them, and apply your new found knowledge to help your partner[r](#).

What are other ways to help your partner with a tough pregnancy? Share your thoughts below.

J.R. Martinez Prepares His Dog for His Baby





Man's best friend?

Meet Daddy's little girl. Season 13 winner of *Dancing With The Stars*, J.R. Martinez, is preparing his black lab for the arrival of his baby girl in May. The actor and former U.S. Army soldier, told [People](#) that his lab, Romeo, is a loving pup and "totally human". Sounds like J.R. Martinez is going to be a great father.

How do you prepare your pet for the arrival of a new baby?

Cupid's Advice:

For most couples, getting a dog is a great learning experience before having a baby. Therefore, when the time comes to add a new bundle of joy to the family, couples need to prepare their child's future sibling and best friend. Here are some fun ways to get your pet ready for a new baby in the house:

- 1. Less attention is okay:** Pets are just like children, because they need a lot of attention. Try to practice minimizing that attention before the baby comes.
- 2. Consider a training class:** Take care of your pet's urges of possessiveness and mouthing/scratching.
- 3. Dress rehearsal:** Use a doll or ask friends to bring their

babies over so your dog can become comfortable around children.

How have you prepared your dog for the arrival of your new baby? Share your comments below.

Valentine's Day Advice: Romantic Home-Dates for Busy Parents



By Rebecca Garland

Forced to stay home for Valentine's Day with the hubby? You're not alone, as many celebrity families prefer to stay close rather than head out on romantic dates while dealing with the hassles of a babysitter or, in the celebrity case,

overtime pay for the nanny.

Can you imagine Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie turning up for a special with the paparazzi underfoot looking for clues about the latest celebrity plastic surgery? No – celebrity parents, especially in big families like the Jolie-Pitts, are looking for a bit more privacy when it comes to celebrating Valentine's Day. And you can enjoy romance at home, too. Here's how:

Cook Together

Often parents focus on getting food on the table rather than the simple joys that baking can bring. Feed the children early, and pack them off to bed. Then, come back to the kitchen for an evening with entrees and wine just for the grown-ups. Cooking together can be intimate by preparing the meal together, setting the table for two and feeding each other bites in exactly the same way you would if you were paying \$100 per plate.

Related: [Celebrity Couples With The Biggest Age Differences](#)

Dinner and a Movie

If the idea of cleaning the kitchen twice is overwhelming, take the easy road and send out for take-out. While one of you puts the kids to bed, the other drives to the local steakhouse or seafood restaurant for some delicious food to go. Those waiting for a table might realize you have the right idea as you hurry home with your fine dining. Set the table in the living room, and enjoy the meal by candle light. Then, with the leftovers put away, pop in your favorite romantic comedy and put your home theater to good use.

Related: [5 Ways to Reignite the Spark In Your Relationship](#)

Casual Romance

Valentine's Day deserves a bit of special treatment, but if setting tables and driving out for food doesn't put you in the mind for romance, why not keep it casual? Busy parents know that the most romantic thing you can do is simply spend time together without any obligations or interferences. Order a pizza with your favorite toppings – you don't need to make concessions for the kids this time – and kick back to watch an uninterrupted marathon of all of those shows the two of you have recorded on the DVR.

Picture the two of you on the couch, your feet in his lap while both of you hold a container of delivered Chinese food or pizza for dinner. If you think the evening needs a bit more of a kick, throw your normal sweatpants over some silky lingerie, and use those commercial breaks wisely...

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'The Vow' Actor Channing Tatum and Wife Plan on Having Kids





Channing Tatum's next big project may just be starting a family. *The Vow* actor and his wife, actress Jenna Dewan, told *Hollyscoop.com* that they are opting to have kids at some point in the future. "We're married, so it doesn't get any further than that," Tatum said. Although the couple plans to procreate, it won't be anytime soon, given that the two are busy working on other projects. Despite having a demanding schedule, the couple manages to keep their marriage fresh by being creative and communicating. Tatum admits that he loves leaving notes around for his wife to show how much he loves her, while Dewan states they make sure to see each other. "We have a like a two week rule. So we see each other every two weeks...If you want to make it work, you make it work."

How do you know when your relationship is ready for kids?

Cupid's Advice:

"First comes love, then comes marriage, then comes the baby in the baby carriage." That's how the saying goes, but how do you know when it's time to have children? Starting a family is the next big step after tying the knot in your relationship. Cupid has some tips:

1. Enjoy each other first: The first few years of your

marriage should be just about you and your lover. Take romantic vacations to tropical locations, surprise each other with “just because” gifts and go on spontaneous dates and trips. It’s definitely possible to do this with kids, but it may not be as easy.

2. Practice makes perfect: Before having a child, babysit for a family member or a friend to get an idea of what to expect if you haven’t been around kids in a long time. For the animal-loving couple, getting a dog wouldn’t be a bad choice as this can somewhat prepare you for the future as well.

3. You’re both ready: When you communicate to your spouse that you’re ready to have children and they agree, then you can anxiously start planning for offspring.

How did you know you were ready for kids? Share your thoughts below.

David Beckham Says Kids Are Competitive Like Him and Victoria





With parents like David and Victoria Beckham, it seems natural to say that Brooklyn, 12, Romeo, 9, and Cruz, 6, have been raised with a competitive spirit built in. “It would be easy for our kids to sit back and not work for anything, but they’re not like that,” David, 36, told [Men’s Health](#). “They’re as competitive as Victoria, 37, and me.” The couple plans to instill the same values into Harper Seven who was born in July 2011, according to [UsMagazine.com](#). “We’re very luck with our boys: They want to win. They want to work at something. They know their values. That’s the way we’ve brought them up so far, and that’s the way we’ll continue to bring them up,” said David. “Family is the most important thing to me.”

How do you teach your kids that being competitive can be a good thing?

Cupid’s Advice:

Instilling values in your children is important, and it has to be done early. Here are some tips on how to teach *healthy* competition:

1. It’s okay to lose: Teaching your child it is okay to lose is extremely important. Raising your child to win and always be right will be a huge disappointment when, someday, they are

not chosen first for kickball at recess.

2. Life isn't fair: Giving your kids everything they want will lead to them a lifetime of attitude. Showing your children that they have to work toward goals and then accomplish them in order to receive a prize is key.

3. Sportsmanship: Knowing how to keep from being a sore loser is just as important as not being an over-the-top winner. Winning is exciting, but children should know it's not okay to rub their glory in their friends' faces.

How did you teach your kids that being competitive is a good thing? Share your stories below.

Robert Downey Jr. and Wife Welcome a Baby Son





Robert Downey Jr. welcomed a son, Exton Elias Downey, into the world at 7:24am on Tuesday, Feb 7 in LA. Downey's wife, Susan, delivered her son at 7lbs 5oz. "Everyone is healthy and couldn't be happier," a friend said, according to [People](#).

The *Sherlock Holmes* star revealed the sex of the baby on national television back in August, which was unexpected for his wife. "I could never really stay mad at him, but I can tell you it genuinely wasn't something we planned to reveal," Susan later commented. The married couple is thrilled to have given Indio, Downey's 18 year-old son from his previous marriage, a little brother.

What are some reasons to keep the sex of your baby a secret?

Cupid's Advice:

Some people choose to keep the sex of their baby a secret. Cupid has some possible reasons:

- 1. Avoiding expectations:** The sex of your baby can be accompanied by expectations. You avoid comments like, "Since it's a boy, he's going to be a handful."
- 2. Avoid the pressure of choosing a baby name:** Once everyone knows the sex, everyone will be jumping in to give you ideas

for your child-to-be's name. Either that, or they'll be bugging you to find out what you've chosen.

3. Gender neutral gifts: Getting gifts that aren't specifically for one gender or the other is actually a blessing if you plan on having more children in the future. If you end up with all pink baby clothes, you can't hand them down to a future little boy.

**Do you think the sex of the baby should be kept a secret?
Share your opinions below.**

Christina Aguilera Parties in San Diego with Boyfriend and Son





Christina Aguilera and boyfriend Matthew Rutler took Aguilera's four-year-old son, Max, on a birthday trip to remember. According to [People](#), Aguilera and friends took her son to *Legoland* which served as one present, as well as "the Hard Rock Hotel San Diego, where she checked into a luxe Rock Star Suite" in which Max was "showered with gifts." He was later taken to a Japanese restaurant and a nightclub. Last time Aguilera was at the hotel was with Rutler last year for Valentine's Day.

How do you make your children comfortable around a new partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Children can often take time to adjust to a new special someone in your life. Cupid shares ways to help your child adjust:

1. The first introduction: Ease your way into the first meeting. Ask your child questions and let them ask you questions about this new significant other in your life. Give them time if they need it, but make sure it's within reason.

2. The first meeting: Don't make the first encounter entirely focused on the significant other. Take a page from Christina

Aguilera and have it coincide with another event. Not only does it say money, but this allows the child to associate good memories with your new partner.

3. Avoid conflict: You won't always be able to please both your partner and your children, but avoid situations where you have to choose between them. This is especially true if it's a highly tense situation which could lead to resentment.

How did you introduce your new partner to your children? Share your advice below.

'American Idol' Alum Brooke White Is Expecting Her First Child





Brooke White, who made her performing debut as a finalist on season 7 of *American Idol*, is expecting her first child in May with husband, Dave Ray. “By the time the baby’s born, we’ll have been married eight years. I met Dave when I was 19 years old – we’ve been together a really long time, and we’ve always wanted to be parents,” White told [People](#). Last January, the *Idol* alum showed off her acting skills in the FOX TV movie *Change of Plans* ironically about how the unexpected things in life end up being the best.

How do you prepare your relationship for a child?

Cupid’s Advice:

Having your first child is one of the most exciting and scary experiences you’ll have in your life. Here are some ways to embrace it:

1. Enjoy your alone time (while you still can): Welcoming a new baby into the world is a big responsibility that involves almost all of your time and energy. Spend as much quality alone time with your partner as you can before the baby is born.

2. Decide on how the child will be raised: Prior to bringing a

baby into the world, you need to make important decisions about issues such as what religion you will be raising your child with and what school they will attend.

3. Baby proof your home: Getting your home ready for a new baby can be a great bonding experience for you as a couple. It's a form of "nesting."

What are some other things to prepare for before having a child? Share your thoughts below.

'Felicity' Actress Keri Russell and Husband Welcome Baby Daughter



Former *Felicity*

star Keri Russell and husband Shane Dreary brought their second child into the world this past December. The couple's first child, River, has taken on the role of big brother to his new baby sister Willa Lou Dreary. According to *Celebrity Baby Scoop*, the actress mentioned that becoming a mother has transformed her. She also said that there's "just a whole new set of feelings that aren't as accessible to you before you have kids."

How does having a child change your priorities?

Cupid's Advice:

Once you have a child the world you once knew will no longer exist, and life will never be the same because you'll have different priorities. Cupid has some tips to help you prepare:

1. Focus: Remember when the world revolved around you? Well, those days are over. The majority of your energy and concentration will be about raising your child.

2. Flexibility: You can't just get up and go anymore. Going out and family trips have to be thoughtfully planned, and your wallet is going to tighten up as well. You're not going to have money to blow like you might have before.

3. Family: If you're already close with your family, you're in luck because everyone is going to want to take their turns babysitting and you'll have a great support system for advice. If you're not close with your family, a newborn in the family might be just the thing you needed to regain that connection.

How did having a child change your life? Share your comments below.

Beyonce and Jay-Z Welcome a Baby Girl



Beyonce and Jay-Z have just become Hollywood's newest parents! According to [People](#), they welcomed a new baby girl named Blue Ivy Carter in New York on Saturday. Both mom and the baby are in the best of health. Beyonce's sister, Solange Knowles, tweeted over the weekend that the new baby is the most beautiful girl in the world.

What are some factors to consider when you're naming your child?

Cupid's Advice:

Naming your child can sometimes be a difficult endeavor for

you and your partner. Not only must you find the perfect name, you also must agree on it. Here are the top factors to consider:

1. Family names: Maybe you want to use an old family name or name your child after a much-loved deceased relative.

2. Unique names: Your child is unique and their name should be, too. Just don't go overboard to the point where you name your child something completely weird. Keep in mind that he or she will have to live with the name you give them for the rest of their life.

3. Favorite names: Everyone has their favorite names that they've always wanted to name their child. Share your favorite baby names with your partner and have them share with you.

What do you want to name your child? Share your baby names in a comment below.

**Eva Mendes Meets Ryan
Gosling's Mom**





It seems as though Ryan Gosling brought in the New Year right with his two leading ladies by his side. After spending some quality time together earlier during the day on Sunday, Gosling and his mother, Donna, met up with Gosling's girlfriend, Eva Mendes at an AMC movie theater in uptown Manhattan. A source told [People](#) that Gosling and Mendes seemed very happy as the trio hung out and went to the movies together.

How do you prepare to meet your partner's parents?

Cupid's Advice:

Meeting your partner's parents is a big deal; sometimes their feelings about you can give your mate the final seal of approval ... or at worst, denial. Cupid has some advice:

1. Dress appropriately: When it comes to meeting your mate's parents, especially for the first time, it's always best to wear something respectable and not so revealing. You want them to focus on getting to know you instead of giving a bad first impression as soon as you set foot outside of the car. Think classy instead of tacky.

2. Be social: Sure, meeting the parents for the first time can cause you to become a bit nervous, but make sure to remain

calm and cool. Ask questions and casually keep the conversation going to show them that you're just as interested in getting to know them as they are in getting to know you.

3. Be you: There's nothing worse than being fake, and it's pretty obvious when you're doing it. The important thing parents want to know and see when they meet you is why their son or daughter fell in love with you. Be honest and confident.

How did you prepare when you met your partner's parents for the first time? Share your comments below.

Matthew McConaughey Proposes to Longtime Girlfriend Camila Alves





Matthew McConaughey

made sure his long-time girlfriend Camila Alves, had a very merry Christmas this year. After being together for nearly five years, the couple is finally getting married.

McConaughey proposed to the Brazilian model on Christmas Day and announced the engagement on his WhoSay account. "Just asked Camila to marry me...#Merry Christmas," he wrote in a post accompanied by a picture of the 42-year-old actor kissing a smiling Alves, 29, in front of the Christmas tree. The couple, who met in 2006, have two children together- Levi, three, and Vida, who turns two in January. The actor previously gushed to [People](#) "[Alves] is the love of my life. Everything is right."

What are some reasons to get married after you've already started a family together?

Cupid's Advice:

Just because you and your partner may have already moved in together and/or have kids before getting married, doesn't mean that your significant other is fine sticking with the boyfriend or girlfriend title. Here are some reasons to tie the knot even after you've already jumped a few steps ahead.

1. **Support:** Some people may think that your goals or dreams

are figments of your imagination, but when you have someone who believes in you and is your biggest cheerleader- that's marriage material right there. Finding someone who supports you is hard to come by.

2. Create a foundation: Kids tend to model after their parents and when they come from a strong, loving and committed family unit, it helps provide them with the best opportunity for success in their own love lives when they get older.

3. Enjoying life: There's nothing more enjoyable than marrying your partner or best friend. It's nice to have someone with whom you can grow and share intimate experience with together.

Is marriage important once you start a family with someone? Tell us your thoughts below.

Denise Richards and Charlie Sheen Bring Kids on a Winter Vacation





Charlie Sheen is spending the holiday season a little differently this year, reports [People](#). The actor and his ex, Denise Richards, are vacationing with their daughters at an unknown tropical location. Sheen posted a photo of the family on the social networking site WhoSay with the caption, "What's better than a modern family vacation!?! love spending winter break w/ @denise_richards & my kids!"

Is it unhealthy to take a vacation with your ex and the kids?

Cupid's Advice:

Though having the family together may seem beneficial, there are some downsides to a shared vacation. Here are a few things to consider before vacationing with your ex and the kids:

- 1. Payment:** Make sure that you and your ex come to an agreement about the cost of the trip. Decide if the two of you will split the cost of the hotel room, meals and outings ahead of time.
- 2. Living arrangements:** Before you invite your ex on vacation, make sure you review your living arrangements. If you are planning on staying in a hotel, make sure your room has enough

beds for your whole family to sleep comfortably (and separately).

3. Your feelings: If you and your ex still have a strained relationship, vacationing together is not the best idea. Your kids may love having the family together, but they will not enjoy it if you and your ex spend the getaway bickering.

Have you ever vacationed with your ex and the kids? Feel free to leave a comment below.