

# Josh Duhamel Wants To Be a Dad!



In the romantic comedy *Life As We Know It*, Josh Duhamel plays a new dad, a role he says he'd love to have in real life. According to [People](#), Josh says that getting the chance to play a father is what "initially drew me to" the role. During the New York premiere at the Ziegfeld, he opened up even more saying, that he has "always had a real fondness for kids." In terms of his wife, he says, "She'll be a great mom ... She got to meet [costar Katherine Heigl's daughter] Naleigh on set. It was great." Maybe this is a hint of what's to come for him and Fergie in the very near future!

**How do you know if your partner is parent material?**

## Cupid's Advice:

Not everyone is as eager to be a parent as Josh Duhamel. Cupid has some ideas on how to find out whether your partner will make a good dad one day:

**1. Ask him:** The best way to determine if your mate is father material is to talk to him about it. Or, try asking him general questions like how many children he wants and at what age. If he gives you an answer right away, he's probably considered it before and is open to the idea. If he gets a little freaked out, well that should be a clear sign that he's not quite ready.

**2. Watch and learn:** See how he behaves around your other kids. If being around children comes natural to him he'll most likely make a good daddy to his own. If he seems uncomfortable or indifferent around youngsters, it may be something you should further explore.

**3. Meet the parents:** Find out if he gets along with his parents. If he's had a bad relationship with his mom or dad, he may need to work out some issues first before he can think about becoming a parent himself.

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**'Life As We Know It' Starring  
Katherine Heigl & Josh  
Duhamel**



For a story about romance cropping up in the most unexpected places (with often hilarious results), check out the new comedy *Life As We Know It*. In the film, two single adults are forced to raise a baby together after their mutual friends die in an accident and leave their daughter in their friends' care. The situation is complicated even more by the fact that Holly (Katherine Heigl) and Eric (Josh Duhamel) don't exactly get along. But for the sake of Sophie, their new baby girl, they must learn to live together. In the end, after going through all the challenges that new parents face together, their relationship goes from outright hostility to mutual respect ... and eventually, maybe even love.

**How can having a baby bring you together as a couple?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Raising a child is the hardest job in the world, and children often change relationships forever. Cupid has some insight on what to expect after bringing home a baby, and how to make sure the bond between you and your partner stays strong:

**1. Take a break:** The chaos that a new baby brings leaves little time to focus on your partner (or yourself, for that matter). Make sure to take a night off once in awhile to de-stress. It'll also help you realize that you couldn't do it without your mate.

**2. Learn new things:** Becoming a parent can bring out a whole new side of a person. You might learn that your partner is more caring and responsible than you'd ever imagined. Don't forget to tell him how much you appreciate his new soft side.

**3. Grow stronger:** Raising a child presents so many new challenges to a couple that it can't help but strengthen a relationship. Every time you feel so tired and stressed out that you want to give up, remember that you are in this together.

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## **David Beckham Fires Back at Tabloid for Prostitute Accusations**



Soccer pro David Beckham has proven that actions speak louder than words after he officially denied prostitute accusations by suing the tabloid that published them. [PopEater](#) reports that Beckham is suing *In Touch Weekly* for featuring quotes from former call girl Irma Nici suggesting that the two slept together in 2007. The suit alleges libel, slander and intentional infliction of emotional distress. Beckham has been married to former Spice Girls singer Victoria Beckham for 11 years, and the two have three boys together, ages 11, 8, and 5.

**If you're falsely accused of cheating, what do you do?**

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes someone close to you might hear or see something that gives them the wrong idea about your faithfulness. Cupid has some tips on how to clear up the situation:

**1. Ask why:** If someone started a rumor, talk to that person one-on-one to find out why. They might just be angry about something, and talking to them will help clear the air and stop them from spreading more false rumors.

**2. Reassure him:** If you can, get your supposed cheating partner to tell your partner that the accusations are false. When he gets reassurance from both you and the other person involved, he'll be more likely to believe that nothing is going on.

**3. Show proof:** There's nothing like cold, hard evidence to prove you're telling the truth. If the rumors say you went out with your mystery boy on Friday night, but you were with your best friend the whole time, the piece of gossip is officially dead.

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## 'American Idol' Star Crystal Bowersox Is Engaged





Congratulations are in order for *American Idol* runner-up Crystal Bowersox. [E! News](#) reports that the folk-pop singer is engaged to fellow musician Brian Walker, with plans to tie the knot next month. Bowersox, 25, broke up with long-time boyfriend and father of her 1-year-old son near the end of her stint on *American Idol*. She used her heartbreak to deliver some emotionally powerful performances, earning her the second place spot after crooner Lee DeWyze won last season. **How can a breakup be a positive thing?**

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

It's hard to see the light at the end of the tunnel when you're in the midst of a painful breakup. But Cupid has some ideas on why ending a relationship can actually be good for you:

- 1. Express yourself:** Crystal Bowersox did it, and so can you. Use your heartbreak to make beautiful poetry, music, or art. So many musicians have recorded their biggest and best hits after their hearts were recently broken. It's a great form of therapy, too.

**2. Reconnect with friends:** You should never go through a breakup alone, so let your friends cheer you up (with the help of lots of ice cream and romantic comedies, of course). Plus, you can make up for all the times you decided to go out with your ex-beau instead of chill with your girls.

**3. Start fresh:** Splitting from a partner gives you the perfect opportunity to think about what you want (and don't want) in future relationships. Use the time to sort out your priorities and goals.

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**Balthazar                      Getty                      Gets  
Understanding              From                      Wife  
Rosetta**







After a scandalous affair with actress Sienna Miller in 2008, Balthazar Getty is slowly getting back on track with his wife, Rosetta, according to [Huffington Post](#). “Here’s the bottom line: It was a very challenging time for everybody involved,” said Balthazar to *Harper’s Bazaar* via Page Six, “but I loved and missed my family too much not to make it work. Rosetta is understanding enough and spiritual enough to let us try.”

Rosetta continued explaining by saying, “I’m going to have to explain this to my daughters one day. I chose not to act from ego because I just felt like it would be too crushing for my children.”

**Are there ways to make forgiving a partner easier?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Forgiving your partner can be a tough task, especially when they’ve tested your trust. Cupid has some tips for easing the process:

**1. Remember the kids:** If it’s your spouse that has been disloyal, sometimes you should consider taking the road Rosetta has taken and stay together for your family. It can

be more important to stay strong for the sake of children involved than to allow your hurt emotions to take control.

**2. Think about the commitment:** When it comes time to forgive, it's important to assess how committed you are to your beau. If in the end you are truly still in love with him, then working it out might be worth a shot.

**3. Be selfish:** When deciding whether to forgive someone who has betrayed your trust, it's important to still put yourself first. Decide what's best for you, and what will make you happiest. If forgiving your mate will take away from your happiness, maybe it's time to move on.

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## Mira Sorvino & Family 'Get Up and Go'





Balancing your personal life, family and job can be tricky, especially if you're in Hollywood. But even in the midst of shooting a movie, actress Mira Sorvino makes sure her family knows they come first. The actress told [People](#) that she only works on films with short shooting schedules, and often brings her children to set with "quilts and colored Christmas lights and art supplies and books to help make it a home away from home." Sorvino's three children and husband Christopher Backus not only kept her company on the set of her most recent film, *Like Dandelion Dust*, but became her inspiration for it.

The film tells the story of a woman trying to reclaim the child she gave up for adoption. "I have three beautiful children who I love more than anything else in the whole world, so anything having to do with your children and potentially losing them is very, very personal to me," said Sorvino. "I didn't have to do much to get to the emotional place [of my character]."

**How can you keep your spouse and kids happy at the same time?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Keeping all your relationships healthy can be tricky, but Cupid has some ideas on how to keep everyone, including yourself, happy:

**1. Make the time:** It sounds simple, but between finances, chores, personal projects and work, it's easy to forget to take the time to show your loved ones you care. Set aside at least 30 minutes per day for each person, and worry about other distractions later.

**2. Focus on your bond:** Do something with each family member that's important to both of you. Whether it's as simple as watching a show you both like, or chatting together about a shared interest, activities done together will strengthen what makes your relationship unique.

**3. Plan group time:** Your connection with you family is just as important as your individual relationships with each family member. Take the time to plan weekly events, no matter how simple – it will bring the whole family together doing something you all love.

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## Jesse James' Ex Says He Turned Their Daughter Against Her





Jesse James' awful summer got even worse recently when his ex-wife Janine Lindemulder filed a motion against him over their daughter, 6-year-old Sunny. Lindemulder, a former porn star, lost custody of her daughter last year after being jailed for tax evasion. Now, she claims that James, host of *Monster Garage* and ex-husband of Sandra Bullock, is trying to turn Sunny against her. In the filing obtained by [Us Weekly](#), Lindemulder claimed that since James moved himself and Sunny to Austin, Texas, she hasn't spoken to her daughter in seventeen days. She claims that before the move, her daughter "was distant, confrontational, disrespectful and accusatory."

James has disputed his ex's claims, saying that he has not interfered with Sunny and her mother's relationship.

"[Janine] is not stable, and acts impulsively and contradictory," said James in his response. "[She] sounds ...as if she is drinking or taking drugs again."

**How do you keep children out of a messy breakup?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Breakups are hard on everyone, especially those closest to the

pair involved. Keeping the rest of your relationships healthy is essential after a messy breakup. Cupid has some tips on how to keep children out of the heartbreak:

**1. Find an outlet:** Choose a close friend whom you can confide in, rather than saying something you'll regret to your children. You can also try a stress-relieving hobby or activity to take out your negative emotions on, so that you can avoid dumping negativity on your kids.

**2. Be honest:** Once you have gotten your negative feelings out elsewhere and are in a thoughtful place, keep your kids informed. Don't say anything you might regret, and be mindful of their ages. That way, they will be able to make their own informed decisions and opinions on the matter without feeling trapped in between you and your ex.

**3. Be watchful:** If it's still safe and healthy for your child to be around your ex, let their relationship continue. If there are any signs that your ex has become unstable or the relationship is souring, as with Lindemulder's erratic behavior, seek professional counsel and slowly transition your child out of your former flame's life.

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**Katie Holmes On Having More Kids: "Maybe In A Couple Of Years..."**



Are Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise making plans to add to their brood? “Maybe in a couple of years, but right now I want to make sure I’m really there for Suri,” says Holmes recently, according to [Us Magazine](#). While there are no immediate plans for expansion, Holmes is still young at 31, and plans to keep her baby options open for the future.

**How can parents prevent an only child from being spoiled on the road?**

**Cupid’s Advice:**

When a couple only has one child, all of their attention naturally focuses on him or her. When you add traveling for work into the picture, it becomes easy to spoil the child. Cupid has some ways to help keep that from happening:

**1. Have a consistent schedule:** No matter where you lay your head at night, keeping a regular schedule for your little one

will help to give him or her a sense of normalcy.

**2. Plan activities to share:** You can treat your children and your spouse while traveling to experiences by taking in the sights in your free time. This will cement the family bond and perhaps ignite a spark between parents.

**3. Don't give them everything they want:** The most important way to keep from spoiling your only child is to refrain from giving them everything they want. Explain to them why they can't have what they are asking for, and don't cave when they ask again.

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## **Lauren Graham and Peter Krause: Friends First**







Former *Gilmore Girl*, Lauren Graham, recently revealed that her low-profile relationship with *Parenthood* co-star Peter Krause started as a friendship. The two met 15 years ago when the actress first moved to Los Angeles. Instead of playing the “dating game” like most couples do when they’re first attracted to each other, Graham and Krause got acquainted over board games. As the actress told [People](#), “I think we liked each other [but] he asked me over to his house to play a board game – and that’s exactly what we ended up doing. So I was like, ‘This guy doesn’t like me. Who actually *plays* a board game?’ ... The timing wasn’t right. I don’t think either of us was ready.”

**Does starting out as friends make you a better couple?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Your significant other is usually also your best friend. It’s very important for couples to not only to share a physical relationship, but also to be able to relate to one another on an intellectual level. The best relationships tend to have a healthy balance between both physical and emotional

attraction.

**1. The friend zone:** Anyone who has seen the film *Just Friends* starring Ryan Reynolds knows just how frustrating it is when one party is interested in pursuing a relationship, while the other is content with the “status quo.” This proves that being good friends doesn’t necessarily mean that more than that is possible.

**2. Getting to know each other:** To have a serious relationship, you really have to get to know your partner. Hanging out as friends at first is a lot less pressure than going out on a date. People tend to open up more in a relaxed environment.

**3. Staying friends after a breakup:** Many find it hard to stay friends with their exes. However, if you were friends with them before a relationship bloomed, it could be easier to stay on good terms after a breakup.

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## Cannon-Carey Baby Buzz





Nick Cannon is speaking out about the rampant rumors surrounding wife Mariah Carey, and the possibility that she is pregnant. Cannon, a self-proclaimed "big kid," denies any bouncing bundles of joy in the near future, but he did attest to her mothering potential, nurturing nature, and mean waffle-making skills, according to [OK! Magazine](#). "She's very nurturing, you know, nurturing and private. She makes me breakfast, and that's my favorite food," Cannon said. "It will be like 3:00 in the morning, and she'll still make me breakfast. [She makes me] Waffles. I'm a waffle guy. With like the iron, she's talented."

**Does the way you behave in a relationship dictate your parenting style?**

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

The way someone behaves in any relationship is an indicator of how they relate to others. If a person is helpful, loving and giving, chances are they'll be just as loving as a parent. The one thing no woman needs is having a big kid for a boyfriend/hubby. Cupid has some suggestions to help you avoid

becoming your spouse's second mom:

**1. Choose to be serious:** Fun and games are part of what keeps a relationship exhilarating and are essential parts of any lasting romance. When push comes to shove though, sometimes you have to put on a grown up face and get down to business. When it comes to big issues like parenting, you need to know that your spouse is a man, not a boy.

**2. Nurturing is a two-way street:** There's nothing wrong with giving your spouse a little TLC now and again. However, you shouldn't always be the one making breakfast in bed. Remember that once in awhile you deserve pampering.

**3. Let them handle their business:** As much as you may want to pick up after your partner, don't. It's always a plus to help your spouse out periodically, but you have to remember that he is an adult, too, and should be able to take care of himself. If you "mother" him now, you could risk having another kid instead of a partner.

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## Tiger Woods & Elin Nordegren Finalize Their Divorce





After months of rumors and scandals surrounding Tiger Woods and his wife Elin Nordegren, the two have called it quits. “Elin Nordegren and Tiger Woods confirmed today that they have divorced,” Nordegren’s Virginia-based law firm, McGuireWoods, confirmed last Monday in a statement to [Access Hollywood](#). “The Judgment provides for shared parenting of their two children.” The former couple released a joint statement to the public reinforcing that their children are their primary concern. They also added, “We are sad that our marriage is over, and we wish each other the very best for the future.”

## **How can you find love again after a divorce?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Moving on from a commitment like marriage can be a slow transition. Once you’re back in the dating world, the idea of love can finally start to take form again. Cupid has some tips to help you along:

**1. Over it:** Before venturing into the dating world, make sure you aren’t still licking old wounds. If the divorce papers or breakup discussions are finalized, then treat whatever is left

of the relationship the same way. Otherwise, you might be setting yourself up for future pain.

**2. Don't rush:** There's no need to hurry into a new relationship. Many people rebound quickly and become deeply involved too soon after their divorce or breakup. Sometimes it can lead to dating someone similar to your ex. Make sure it feels right before becoming too committed.

**3. Changes:** If you're dipping your feet back into the waters of dating, chances are you have a new outlook on life and a new attitude to go along with it. This might be a good time to submit to a makeover, too! During a serious relationship, many people have a tendency to let themselves go. Now is a great time to fit and try out new fashions. Have fun with it!

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## Maci Bookout & Ryan Edwards in a Parenting Battle





Ouch! If being a teenage mom wasn't hard enough, things just got harder for the MTV's *16 and Pregnant* star, Maci Bookout. After splitting up with her baby daddy Ryan Edwards, the devoted *Teen Mom* star tells [US Weekly](#) that she and her ex-beau have a hard time agreeing on how their son Bentley should be raised. She talks about how she struggled to ween her 22-month-old son off his pacifier, and learned that Edwards gives Bentley his pacifier whenever the child is with him. Bookout says, "I think Ryan spoils Bentley and really has no boundaries as far as discipline. With me, I don't want Bentley to grow up and be a brat when he's 4 years old."

**What do you do when you and your ex can't agree on how to raise your child?**

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

Raising a child can be very difficult. Co-parenting with different views can make things even worse. Cupid has some tips to make things easier:

**1. Compromise:** If you and your ex can't agree on something, then it's best if both parties relinquish a little control and

find middle ground that will ultimately benefit your child.

**2. Communicate:** It's important that both parents put their differences aside and talk things out with one another. Poor communication opens the door for children to manipulate situations to his or her benefit. If your child can't have dessert this week, then your ex needs to know that, too! Worst-case scenarios can lead to a child not being picked up after school or missing important medical treatments.

**3. Equality:** Don't throw all responsibility at one parent. It makes for a more civil atmosphere and better upbringing for your child if you and your ex share an equal amount of the responsibility.

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# Michael Douglas Battling Tumor







Actor Michael Douglas was diagnosed with a tumor in his throat, [E! Online](#) reported Monday. The 65-year-old actor said he is “optimistic” about his health in a statement, though it has not been released whether the tumor is cancerous or benign. Douglas has a wife, actress Catherine Zeta-Jones, and three children, two of them with Zeta-Jones.

### **How can you get past a large health setback as a couple?**

#### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Though the disease is in its early stages, this is a crucial time for Douglas and Zeta-Jones. Strong family and spousal support in a time of sickness can often make a large difference in a patient’s chance for recovery, as well as for the success of the relationship through this difficult time.

**1. Stay private:** Whether or not the couple dealing with illness is a celebrity or an everyday couple, it’s necessary to keep the matter within only those who need to know. Personal friends and family are the only ones who need to be brought in.

**2. Be involved:** It's important that those dealing with the illness, especially the patient's partner, are as involved as possible. Stay up-to-date on doctor's findings, appointments, and your partner's needs. Make the illness and healing as easy to deal with as possible.

**3. Prepare for the aftershock:** Even after an illness has been treated, there is the potential for the patient to feel vulnerable or angry afterward. Be ready for this, and understand that it's a natural reaction. Be supportive.

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## **Beyoncé Knowles: Pregnancy "When I Am Ready"**





Superstar Beyoncé Knowles has a broad range of issues on her plate, but pregnancy isn't one of them. The singer has previously acknowledged her wish for a baby, and assures U.K.'s [YOU](#) magazine that her plans have not changed. However, she says she is determined "to continue to learn about the world and to eventually have a family." This attitude allows for the *Dreamgirls* actress to continue work on her acting, singing, songwriting, and her new perfume, Heat. Knowles adds that isn't on any schedule: "It will happen when I am ready."

**How can you deal with the pressure to start a family?**

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

**1. Analyze:** You need to be sure of you and your partner's maturity, financial stability, and ambitions. Only commit to pregnancy when you and your partner are ready to devote 100 percent of your time to a new baby. Don't sacrifice your dreams of traveling the world just to please the in-laws.

**2. Reality check:** Not everybody is ready for a baby at 25. Your best friend who has been playing with dolls and babysitting since the age of 12 is probably more eager to

start a family than you are. Follow Beyoncé's advice and only try for pregnancy when you are ready.

**3. Don't rush:** New advances in medicines and procedures, like in vitro fertilization, have made it easier for women to become pregnant later in life. Your doctor will help you to become pregnant whenever you wish for it. Don't race against any biological clock.

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## Katherine Heigl & Josh Kelley Move to Utah



As reported on [Us Weekly](#), Hollywood couple Katherine Heigl and Josh Kelley have left sunny L.A. in favor of the mountains of Utah. Heigl and Kelley married in Utah and are psyched to be moving there with their one-year-old daughter, Naleigh, who they adopted from Korea. The couple plans to spend their time between Nashville and Utah.

**When couples have children, should they move out of the city in favor of a more suburban or rural area?**

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

When it comes to married life, everyone seems to think of the picturesque house in the suburbs surrounded by a white picket fence. Though this has its benefits, it's not a requirement for a happy family:

**1. More space:** If your small apartment in the heart of the city has no room for a nursery, it may be a good idea to get a bigger place where space is more affordable. A larger living area can provide you with a smoother transition from married to family life.

**2. Make an educated decision:** For this move to work, both people must be on the same page. If one wants to make the move while the other does not, there will be problems. Spend a sufficient amount of the time talking, thinking, and doing research about it before taking out your next mortgage or signing a new lease.

**3. There's no place like home:** If you decide that it's better for you to stay where you are, that's also a great option. If you feel secure where you live, your family should, too.

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# Jesse James' Ex Janine Lindemulder is Following Along!



Jesse James' ex-wife Janine Lindemulder is heading south to Austin to be with her daughter, [E! News](#) reported this week. After a court battle, Lindemulder was granted joint legal custody of daughter Sunny, but the celebration was cut short when James received physical custody, deciding to move down to Austin, TX with their child. The former adult film actress was originally uncertain about the move because she wasn't sure if she could provide a lifestyle of equal standards for the child like James and former step-mom, Sandra Bullock, had given her. In addition, E! News reports that Lindemulder requested additional funds. Sunny's parents deliberated the \$6,500 increase in support in court Monday.

**Would you move near your ex to be closer to your children?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

If your divorcee is moving away with the kids and you plan to follow, Cupid has some things you should consider first:

**1. Reason:** Make sure you understand the reasons for the move. He or she may not be doing it to hurt you, especially if there are financial reasons involved. The move may be what's best for your children, so don't simply follow along because you think your ex is trying to keep you away from the kids.

**2. Move along:** Any move is life-altering. You'll need to change your address, house, and possibly your career and friends. Before making such a big step, consider your financial resources, and ask yourself if you're really willing to make this change.

**3. Awkwardness:** Maybe your ex moving away is a good thing. Have you considered all the possibilities? How would you react if your ex started dating again? Being nearby with so many mutual connections outside of your children (like teachers and doctors) might spur up some awkward meetings and conversations.

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## **John Travolta & Kelly Preston Look Forward to New Baby**





It was all smiles last weekend for a pregnant Kelly Preston and husband, John Travolta, who partied at the Celebrity Centre of Scientology. The couple attended the centre's annual bash with their daughter, Ella. As reported on [E! Online](#), Travolta and Preston are now looking toward a bright future with a new baby a year after the devastating loss of their son.

### **How can a couple survive the loss of a child?**

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

The loss of a child is one of the most devastating things anyone can possibly go through. Many marriages have ended soon after such a tragedy. Cupid has some insight on how to survive such a loss and build a stronger relationship through it:

**1. Support each other:** At a time like this, you need to be a couple more than ever. No one can go through losing someone close to them alone. However, remember that everyone grieves differently. When one person may feel angry, the other may be



deeply saddened. Pay attention to and respect the way your partner wants to grieve.

**2. Kids come first:** If you have other children, they are certainly feeling this loss, as well. Both partners must be strong for the other children and make them feel as secure as possible.

**3. Moving on:** Though the sadness surrounding the loss of a child never really goes away, it's important to celebrate and remember your child's life together as a family. A small memorial can be a wonderful reminder of the life they led, and the act of building a memorial can also be a great way to reconnect with your partner and family.

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## Amy Poehler & Will Arnett Welcome Another Son





Amy Poehler and Will Arnett welcomed their second son, Abel James Arnett, weighing 7 lbs., 13 oz. on Friday morning, adding to their growing family. Their first son, Archie, will be turning two this October. Their rep told [People](#), “Amy, Will, Abel and Archie are all healthy and resting comfortably.”

**How do you prepare your older children for a new baby in the family?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

There are several ways to make your current child(ren) comfortable around new arrivals, starting while you’re still pregnant, or thinking of becoming pregnant. Read what Cupid has to say:

**1. Talk to your kids:** Early in the pregnancy, or if possible, before you become pregnant, sit down with your family and explain the coming changes. Be prepared for questions by checking out sites like Kid’s Health.

**2. Classes:** Many hospitals and birthing centers offer free or

low cost big brother/sister classes. They'll help your little ones learn how to interact with the new baby. Your children can even learn how to change a diaper!

**3. Spend time with older kids:** If you don't have much time to give, focus on the quality of that time. Make sure they know that you still love them.

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## Sean Penn & Robin Wright Divorce Finalized



After a messy road towards divorce, Sean Penn and Robin Wright

have at last signed papers, finalizing their divorce, figuring out all questions relating to child support, spousal support, and child custody. [People](#) reported that Wright hopes to remain friends with her ex, despite their history.

## **Can you stay friends with an ex after a nasty split?**

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

Penn and Wright have an interesting marriage to say the least, but the fact that they have a child together means they will always have to be a part of each other's lives. In order for exes to have a relationship post-split, both people have to work at it.

**1. Be adults:** It takes a lot to look past a difficult and angry history with someone, but it can be done so long as both people commit to looking forward. Don't hold grudges, or bring up old ills.

**2. Think of others:** Whether it's children, or even just mutual friends – if you and your ex are committing to starting a friendship, then it should just be between you two. Don't get angry if your friends are also buddies with your ex. Think of how your relationship, both past and future, will affect those close to you.

**3. Expect the worst:** Very few people who were in a serious relationship together can then turn around and become friends. Understand that it might not work. If it does fail, move on, and find the best compromise for you both.

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# Lamar Odom on Kids with Khloé – “We Would Love To”



Lamar Odom is definitely interested in having with with wife Khloé Kardashian, [People](#) reported last week. “Hopefully it’ll happen soon,” he told the magazine. The NBA star has two children from a previous relationship, which definitely helps provide great parenting tips – as does baby Mason, Kardashian’s nephew.

**How do you know when your relationship is ready to take on parenting?**

**Cupid’s Advice:**

Being a parent is a lifelong commitment – it’s best to plan

ahead. Even if you have a surprise pregnancy, you have enough time to get ready before the big day arrives. Cupid shares some important tips:

1. Evaluate your relationship: If you're considering an addition to your family, determine the strength of your bond with each other first. Are you both mentally, emotionally, and financially ready to take care of another life? Consider these questions before going ahead.
  2. Parent plans: Pregnant or not, couples don't always share the same goals when it comes to parenting. Discuss your approaches to raising children to find a common ground you can both agree to.
  3. Go with the flow: Keep in mind that all the planning in the world can never fully prepare you for becoming a parent. Learn to accommodate – to both your partner and yourself – as new issues arise.
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## Palin & Johnston Split... Again





Bristol Palin and Levi Johnston have split up again, [People](#) magazine reported Tuesday. Palin, daughter of former Alaska governor Sarah Palin, and Johnston announced their second attempt at an engagement only weeks ago in the hopes of starting a real family for their 19-month old son Tripp. Palin told *People* that the breakup occurred after rumors surfaced about Johnston fathering another child with an as-yet-unnamed woman.

**How do you know it's finally time to cut a bad guy loose?**

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

There comes a time when a reunion is just impossible, no matter how much you wish someone can change. Dalmatians can't change their spots, and it's up to you to know when its time to quit.

**1. One-sided attempts:** If you're the only one in the relationship trying to make it work, then perhaps it just isn't going to. This lack of effort shows your partner isn't fully invested in the relationship – or you.

**2. Repeated mistakes:** There are some characteristics a person

just can't change. If your mate makes the same mistakes repeatedly, it might be due to a character difference that will always keep you two apart.

**3. Hurting others:** As in Palin's case, her son Tripp's happiness is also at stake in the relationship. If other people, children or otherwise, are being negatively affected by your attempts at reconciliation, it's time to pull the plug.

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## Russell Brand is Daddy Material





Comedian Russell Brand has the faith of fiancée Katy Perry when it comes to his abilities as a future father. [People](#) reported last week that the pop singer thinks Brand will “be perfect” as a baby daddy, a quality she says was key for her in looking for a potential husband. The two have been engaged since January.

**Is being a good parent the most important trait in a future spouse?**

### **Cupid’s Advice:**

Perry knew what she was looking for when it came to a future husband. If you want to have children, then yes, it’s important to find someone you think will be a good parent. However, it’s a good idea to talk about your goals before thinking about getting hitched:

**1. Prioritize:** If having children is not something you’re considering, the potential to be a good parent – while a good characteristic to have in general – isn’t necessary. Figure out what your future plans are before you looking for your ideal mate.

**2. Break the ice:** If you decide that being a parent is something you want, make sure you broach the subject with your mate carefully. This can be a touchy and intimidating subject for people, so tread delicately.

**3. Make plans:** If having a child is something you both want, and marriage is already in the works, then go ahead and plan for a family. This is a life change that should be addressed ahead of time.

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# Melissa Rycroft Turns in Her Tap Shoes for Baby Booties



Reality TV star Melissa Rycroft is expecting her first baby with husband Tye Strickland. Rycroft told [US Weekly](#) that while they are thrilled, the baby news was a shock, and they weren't trying to get pregnant. Meanwhile, Rycroft and Strickland are quite the busy couple. Talking with [Good Morning America](#) earlier this week, Rycroft said, "Apparently Tye and I wanted to see how many life-changing events we could fit into one calendar year... from getting engaged, married, new job, and we are now pregnant." The former *Dancing with the Stars* and *Bachelor* contestant tied the knot with the insurance agent in December.

**What's the best way to juggle parenthood and a busy career?**

## **Cupid's Advice:**

Nowadays, it's not uncommon to see a couple juggling work, a family, and everyday life. With more women in the workplace, finding that balance can be a challenge. Let Cupid help:

**1. Get a routine down:** If you and your spouse both need to work, make sure to set up daily schedules. This will get you into a rhythm, and will help your child adjust to a routine, which can cut down on behavioral issues.

**2. Set priorities:** While it's good to try to get a lot accomplished in one day, set priorities so you don't burn yourself out, or miss out on opportunities. One working mother [said](#), "When deciding between attending a meeting or a school event, for example, use the five-year test. In five years, will I look back and say, 'I wish I'd gone to a school play or that meeting?' You may decide you have to go to that meeting but give yourself a little bit of a time perspective about what your priorities are." Also, when you set priorities, you will become more productive at work and parenting.

**3. Explore all options:** It's not a bad idea to look for help in the form of a housekeeper, nanny, or daycare program. This will take some of the burden off of you, and with a reputable daycare your child is in good hands. To find a good one, talk to friends, family, or go online for resources. If you have questions on what to do when leaving your child with a new sitter, check out these tips from Bright Horizons.

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# Angelina Jolie On Brad Pitt: We Have Each Other's Backs



With six kids at home and the paparazzi waiting outside, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie depend on each other more than ever. The 35-year-old *Salt* actress tells [People](#) in last week's issue, "We have each other's backs." This can come in handy when the kids are fighting.

**How can you make co-parenting more effective?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Parenting is a difficult job, but if you share the responsibilities equally with your partner, it will be a lot less challenging.

- 1. Power struggle:** A major parenting problem is who's going to play the bad guy, but neither of you have to play that role. Establish a balance of power by agreeing to issues before they happen. One rule is to never undermine your spouse in front of your kids.
- 2. Ask for help:** Don't take things out on your partner if you're having a hard time with the children. Instead, tell him or her what you're struggling with, and ask for their help and input. Your spouse is more likely to be there for you when their opinions are being accounted for.
- 3. Savor the moments:** Keep in mind that your children learn by watching you, so don't let parenting be a burden that makes you irritable and angry towards your partner or others. Set aside some time for R&R each day or week to enjoy each other's company.