Parenting Tips: Should You Circumcise Your Baby?





By Noelle Downey

There's no doubt about it — parenting can be a minefield. There are so many decisions to make and questions that don't seem to have a clear right answer. While every good parent does everything they can to make sure that their child is safe, happy, and healthy, sometimes even the experts have conflicting parenting tips on the best ways to accomplish that goal. One of the most hot-button topics when it comes to parenting advice is circumcision. While some experts argue that circumcision has health benefits like decreased risk of urinary tract infections, penile cancer or STI's, others contend that the reduction of the risk is actually so small

that it doesn't warrant a corrective procedure, especially for infants who have no say in what some consider to be an invasive surgery. Differing cultural and religious views also tend to influence parents when it comes to whether or not they choose to have their children circumcised. Although circumcision is a medical procedure many take for granted, even some celebrity parents argue against it. Cupid is here with a list of the top five most vocal celebrity protestors of circumcision.

Whether or not you believe circumcision is right for your children, there are plenty of famous parents who say their top parenting tip for their celebrity babies is to avoid the cut altogether!

- 1. Alicia Silverstone: Alicia Silverstone is a celebrity mom to six-year-old son Bear Blu Jarecki, and she and her husband, Christopher Jarecki, made the personal decision not to circumcise Bear despite the fact that Silverstone had a Jewish upbringing. Silverstone confronted the complicated decision she and her husband made in her book, 'The Kind Mama' and later said that her fans reactions to it touched her deeply. "One [fan] said that 17 years ago she had her son, and she made this choice," Silverstone shared in a celebrity interview with *The Stir*, "and she was crying, because she was remembering her experience. It was moving to me."
- 2. Ben Affleck: Ben Affleck, celebrity ex of Jennifer Garner and dad to children Violet, Seraphina, and Samuel, has said in the past that despite some reports from experts that state

that being uncircumcised can lead to an increased risk of frequent urinary tract infections, he himself doesn't approve of the practice. He once confessed to Jon Stewart in an interview, "I hate circumcisions! Get enough in me, and I'll tell you how much I hate them!"

Related Link: Celebrity Divorce: Ben Affleck Still Living at Family Home with Jennifer Garner

- 3. Russell Crowe: Famed actor and father to two sons, Charles and Tennyson, Russell Crowe took to Twitter to slam circumcision in a series of controversial tweets. The actor steamed, "Circumcision is barbaric and stupid. Who are you to correct nature? Babies are perfect." While many responded negatively to his tweets, citing a lack of sensitivity to the nuanced reasons that many choose to circumcise their children, others firmly supported his declarations, sparking a dramatic social media storm.
- 4. Mario Lopez: On a 2010 episode of this cute star's hit reality TV show, 'Saved By the Baby', Mario Lopez pushed his then-girlfriend (now wife) Courtney Mazza to consider not circumcising their future son, and the discussion quickly got heated for the celebrity couple. "That's not up for discussion," Lopez insisted firmly, "News flash, this is the way all men are born." Lopez and Mazza are now celebrity parents to two children, Gia Francesca Lopez and Dominic Lopez.

Related Link: Mario and Courtney Lopez Welcome a Baby Boy

5. Cameron Diaz: It's not just celebrity parents who have their opinions on circumcision. Forty-four year old actress Cameron Diaz has made it clear in the past that if she and her husband Benji Madden ever have a son, that circumcision will not be for them. She spoke in an interview with *The Stir* about her film 'What to Expect When You're Expecting' and some changes that had to be made to the script to achieve a PG-13

rating, claiming, "they made us cut out a bunch about circumcision. To get a PG-13 rating we had to cut out the actual description of circumcision. So apparently it is very uncomfortable for people to hear how it works." Diaz added, "America is the same way about their beef — they just want it delivered in a styrofoam package with saran wrap over it. They don't want to know how it got to you. Same thing with circumcision."

What do you think about the practice of circumcision? Do the alleged health benefits or personal concerns outweigh these celebrity opinions? Or do you think they have a point? Let us know in the comments!

Russell Crowe, Danielle Spencer Reunite For Dinner With Kids





By April Littleton

The Australian couple who are rumored to have split last fall spent the evening with their sons and friends at the Polo Lounge in Beverly Hills Thursday, June 27. "Russell and Danielle were sitting next to each other and seemed to get along well — but were never affectionate," an eyewitness told <code>UsMagazine.com</code>. Later in the evening, after the children left the table, the pair continued to hold a discussion with another couple with Crowe "smoking a cigarette and talking very animately, [seemingly] about politics."

How can you stay friends with an ex?

Cupid's Advice:

You've parted ways with your significant other, but the two of you still hope to become friends one day. Sometimes, two people just aren't right for each other romantically, but they make the best of friends. If the breakup was amicable and you still find yourself being able to freely talk to your ex about anything, you might be able to turn your old relationship

until a new friendship. Cupid has some advice:

- 1. Be kind to each other: If you really want this new friendship to work, you have to be there for each other. Listen to each other's problems and try to lend a helping hand. Good friends support each other's needs. When communicating with your ex, don't bring up the past or anything that could cause tension. After all, the two of you are friends now, not lovers. So, keep the relationship strictly platonic.
- 2. Don't talk about new lovers: The last thing you want to do is bring up a new romance, especially if the breakup with your ex is still mildly fresh. If you have someone new in your life, don't talk about it. Bringing up your love life can cause confusion and feelings of jealousy, which can ruin the friendship you and you ex are attempting to have. After awhile, talking about new love with your former boo may be the right thing to do, but put it off until you're sure he or she will be able to handle it.
- 3. Time and space: Before you can embark on a friendship, take some time apart first. Staying connected with your ex will be impossible if you still have feelings for each other. You need to move on from the breakup. Plan some fun events with old friends, and do some activities on your own before you start hanging out with your old flame again.

Are you friends with your ex? How did you make the transition from being a couple to being friends? Share your experience below.

Sources Say Russell Crowe and Danielle Spencer Have Split





By Nic Baird

Oscar winner Russell Crowe and musician Danielle Spencer have split after an eight year marriage, according to the <u>Sydney Morning Herald</u>. The relationship blossomed after the two were cast as lovers in the 1990 movie <u>The Crossing</u>. The New Zealand-born actor married Spencer in her native Australia April 7, 2003. Spencer is currently in Sydney with their two children, while Crowe is on a N.Y.C. stage with Alan Doyle, Sting, and upcoming <u>Les Misérables</u> co-star Emma Watson. Crowe's rep did not respond to <u>People</u>'s request for comment, Sunday.

What are some ways to get through a rocky patch in your

relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

Getting past the hurdles in a relationship is easy. Every couple has problems, but all it takes is a bit of effort to move on. Before you go wasting your money on therapists and bartenders, check that you're both completely invested in making it work. It only takes a spark to get the fire going again.

- 1. Clear the air: Don't tiptoe around ongoing issues. Find out what burdens your relationship. Tell your partner what makes you unhappy, and listen to your their problems as well. Think about the times when you worked well as a couple, and examine why relations are suddenly different.
- 2. Compromise: Someone's needs are being neglected in your relationship. Trying to push past a rocky patch means resolving to make the necessary adjustments. Talk with your partner about the needs you both have. Figure out what structural tweaks will keep your twosome blissful.
- **3. Change:** Resolving to improve means nothing without action. As a couple, you move forward together. Half the pair can't be crushed by all the relationship maintenance, while the other shows no interest. Obviously your relationship changed once before when it slid into this rut, now something has to change again. Follow through on the changes you discussed with your partner.

How did you get past a rocky patch in your relationship? Share your experiences below!

Celebrity Breakups: Who Burned Who?





By Tanni Deb

Celebrities might seem like they have it all — a successful career, beautiful looks and a significant other who everyone runs after. Though their lives may appear perfect, don't be fooled by the glitz and glamour of Hollywood's shine. We all know that some romances don't last, and the following pairs are no exception. Here are five celebrities who were bitten by the cheating bug — and then burned by their former flame:

1. Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake: Timberlake admitted to falling in love with Spears when they first met on the set of *The Mickey Mouse Club* in 1993. "I was infatuated with her

from the moment I saw her," he told CBS News. The couple started dating five years later, but ended their relationship in 2002 when Spears allegedly cheated on Timberlake with choreographer Wade Robson. Shortly after their split, Timberlake released 'Cry Me A River,' a revenge song for Spears. However, the N'Sync singer later told MTV, "The song is not about her. The video is about me."

- 2. Meg Ryan and Dennis Quaid: This actor pair divorced after she was caught cheating with Russell Crowe while filming Proof of Life in 2000. She used Quaid's infidelity to explain her own actions and accused him of adultery throughout their marriage. Quaid fought back and said, "It was eight years ago, and I find it unbelievable that Meg continues publicly to rehash and rewrite the story of our relationship." Although Quaid and Crowe both have new loves in their lives, the You've Got Mail star remains single.
- 3. Valerie Bertinelli and Eddie Van Halen: Bertinelli revealed to Oprah Winfrey in 2008 that she and her ex-husband cheated on each other. "He claims to this day that I cheated first, but I don't know," she said. "I don't know about the timing." Although their 25-year marriage ended in 2006, they remain friends. Bertinelli even attended Van Halen's wedding to Janie Liszewski in 2009.
- 4. Elizabeth Edwards and John Edwards: When John Edwards admitted to having an affair, his wife Elizabeth Edwards got the ultimate revenge. In her will, which was released on January 2011, she left all of her possessions to her children. Well, can you really blame her? After all, who bothers leaving something to their cheating spouse?
- **5. LeAnn Rimes and Eddie Cibrian:** This couple is a double whammy. Rimes not only ruined her own marriage, but also Cibrian's, as the couple cheated on their spouses with each other while filming *Northern Lights*. They eventually tied the knot this year, despite rumors about Cibrian cheating on Rimes

with his estranged wife. The saying "once a cheater, always a cheater" comes to mind in this situation.

Have a couple in mind who didn't make this list? Let us know in a comment below!

Russell Crowe's Wife Calls Him 'Volatile'





Russell Crowe has a reputation for being brash, egotistical and even violent. And now for the first time, his wife even admits he can be "volatile," according to DigitalSpy. Danielle Spencer, an Australian musician and mother to Charlie

and Tennyson, said the media have turned her husband into a "caricature." Spencer said, "He's quite a volatile person, sure, but he also has a very warm and soft and funny side to him, too. He's multi-faceted, as most people are, but the media doesn't allow for shades of grey."

How do you deal with your partner's temper?

Cupid's Advice:

Everyone gets angry sometimes, but some of us have a hard time controlling our temper. If your partner has that problem, here are some ways to deal:

- 1. Anger equals passion: If your partner has a temper, it means he is a passionate person who feels deeply. Keep that in mind before you judge.
- 2. Seek help: If your mate's anger gets out of control, suggest therapy or anger management. Tell them you care about them and want them to be healthy and happy.
- **3. Get away:** You can only live with your partner's anger issues up to a certain point. If he becomes violent, leave immediately and call the police.