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## Are flu Shots for You?



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Parents Should Be Truthful With Children About Divorce

| Children of divorced parents can learn about caring rela tionships and see meaning in their lives if parents are truthful, according to a family life education specia list. <br> "Most psychiatrists agree that divorce itself doesn't necessarily cause phychiatric problems to develop in children," Agricultural Extension Service. Texas A\&MUniversity System, noted. <br> In fact, the child living with unhappily married parents mare often gets intoemotional difficulty than the one whose mismatched parents have been healthy and strong enough to sever their troubled relationship," she explained. <br> Disturbances which chuldren of divcrced parents do suffer result from the fact that parents aren't appropriately truthful with their children about | the divarce. <br> Parents often make this mistake with the best inten-tions--even supported by professional authority," Miss Taylor countered. <br> "Patents have a tendency to hide from their children things which they have a right to know--things that would be psychologically beneficial. <br> She added that anxieties associated with ignorance and parental secrecy are more difficult for children to handle. because in these cases fantasy runs free, and the children's wast anticipations can't be confirmed ar refuted. <br> "Half-truths produce confusion and distru st. <br> Truth--even if it's painful-engenders trust and gives the child the security of knowing exactly where he stands. Miss Taylor cited "two myths that often aggravate rather | than alleviate a child's difficulties retated to divarce. <br> One "myth" says to impress continuously upon the child that the absent parent (most often the father) still loves him despite the fact that he has left the home, the specialist remarked. <br> "It is important for the child to feel loved by the absent parent - -but if the father has a bandoned the family for years or the mother ran off and left the children, should these children be told that parent still loves them?" <br> "A child who is told such a person still loves him can't really believe it and loses trust in the parent who tells him what he knows is untrue. <br> "If a parent can allegedly love a child and yet never wish to see him again, the child then becomes confused about what love really is. | The second "myth" tells divorced parents not to criticize each other to the child. <br> "A gain, distrust and confusion are created. <br> "The child knows quite well that each of his parents believes the other to have serious persona lity flaws--for why else would they be divorced? "The child's picture of the praised person is further distorted when he observes his parents in everyday situations." Miss Taylor termed the "healthiest approach" to divorce as "giving the child an accurate picture of his parents and what they really are--their assets and liabilities, their strengths and weaknesses. <br> "He learns that like all humans, his parents are not perfect--and they earn his respect," she concluded. |
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Letters To The Editor

700 Species Of Plants In U.S.A. Are Poison



Post High School Education Grants Aviilable $\qquad$ $\begin{aligned} & \text { areas where poison plants are } \\ & \text { known to flourish. }\end{aligned}$ ang to further their education
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