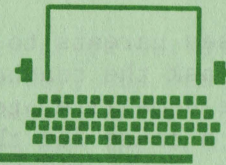


green sheet



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CHILDREN OF DIVORCE: PROBLEM FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Holidays -- and especially Christmas -- are times of family celebrations, family togetherness, family traditions, family projects, families pulling together. But some families are pulling apart. Parents are getting divorces and this often leaves the children out in the cold -- emotionally, behaviorally and psychologically.

A child facing such a traumatic disruption at home conveys his concern and trepidations outside the home, most often at school. And the teachers often face the fallout when parents fall out.

Consider Jeff, a normal four-year-old, according to his nursery school teacher. He was outgoing, independent, cooperative. Then his parents separated and Jeff's behavior changed dramatically. He became "clingy to his mother," the teacher said, and was afraid to be with children his own age.

To the untrained eye, the behavior changes could be attributed to children "just acting out, trying to get attention. But such marked changes in behavior are not unusual, especially when parents divorce," says Sandra Long, a visiting professor at the School of Education.

Long, an early childhood and elementary specialist, says that in about 80 percent of the families that face divorce, "the children learn their parents are having problems only when one moves out." It frequently happens, Long says, that the child comes home from school and is told by the remaining parent that Mom or Dad has moved out.

It is better to prepare a child for a pending separation, Long advises. "The child's needs are basic. Parents should tell their children who will be taking care of them, where they will live and how finances will be handled. Parents need not go into great detail about the arrangements but should strive to ensure the child's understanding that he is loved and wanted. The more parents tell their children about what to expect, the better off the children and parents are."

Teachers, too, play an important role in maintaining stability in the child's life. "Teachers have opportunities to see the child in different situations, and many times a teacher is the only person the child can talk to," Long says.

She advises parents to tell the child's teacher that there are problems at home and ask the teacher to note any behavior changes. "Without knowing about the home life, teachers sometimes discipline a child without realizing there is a cause for the misbehavior. It is only a fairly recent development," Long says, "that teachers are being taught about how home problems affect a child's school behavior."

"When a divorce occurs, a child loses part of his control over his environment," Long explains. "This can be replenished by giving the child choices about what to wear to school, how to spend his free time and what to do on weekends."

"Parents and teachers should continue to set limits for children and give them responsibility they can handle," Long says. Teachers should try to portray single-parent families in a positive light by group discussions about different family styles or getting various books from libraries that tell how other families live. During holiday periods, teachers can give examples of how celebrations are handled in single-parent or extended-family settings.

Long cautions teachers and school administrators to be sensitive to single-parent families when sending notes or letters from school. Correspondence may be addressed to "Dear Parent" rather than "Dear Mom and Dad," she suggests.

As hard as it may be for some parents, Long suggests that both parents work together at providing understanding and love for their children during a time that is difficult for all.

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WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE & SOMETIMES WHY

Biochemical -- "Antagonists of LH-RH as Inhibitors of Ovulation," Biochemistry Seminar by Dr. Roger W. Roeske, professor; Medical Science Building, Room 205, Monday at 4 p.m.

Research -- "Ultrasonic Diagnostic Techniques for Peripheral Vascular Disease," Ultrasound Research Division Seminar by Dr. Philip Bendick of the Department of Surgery at Wishard; University Hospital, Room C303, Tuesday at 3 p.m.

Genetic -- "Evidence for Genetic Variation for a-N-Acetyl-D-Glucosaminidase in Black and White Population: A New Polymorphism," Medical Genetics Seminar by Dr. Jeffery Vance, research fellow in neurology at the Duke University School of Medicine; Riley Research, Conference Room 138, Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Solar -- An open information meeting to discuss the upcoming spring workshops on solar energy will be held Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Room 1304 of the Engineering and Technology Building. Professors William Seibert and Jack Hammann will discuss the workshops, in which participants learn essentials of solar energy and construct a solar collector for installation on their own hot water system. All parts and instructions will be provided. The meeting Tuesday will deal with alternative dates for the workshops, costs, tax credits, fuel savings and results of previous installations. All interested persons are invited.

Seasonal -- The eighth annual hospital holiday party is scheduled for Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and from 10 p.m. to midnight in the lobbies of Riley and University hospitals. All hospital employees and volunteers are invited to partake of refreshments, entertainment, caroling and drawing for fruit baskets.

Abuse -- The third and final program in the three-part child abuse series on WAT 21's "Today's Medicine" program will be aired this Thursday, and again December 22 and December 23 -- at noon and 7:30 p.m. each day. This program focuses on the long-term effects of child abuse on the child and the family.

ISO -- Conductor Yoav Talmi and pianist James Tocco will make their Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra debuts in concerts Friday at 8:30 p.m. and Saturday at 5:30 p.m. in Clowes Hall. Works by Mozart and Bruckner are on the program.

Metros -- The IUPUI Metros will play the basketball five from Heidelberg College at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Indiana Central University. For ticket information, call Ext. 3764.

Family Music -- Two performances of the special holiday concert, "Yuletide Joy!", will be presented by the ISO and the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir next Sunday (December 21) and December 23 at 7:30 p.m. both days in Clowes Hall.

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NEWS 'N' NOTES FROM HERE 'N' THERE

Bell Ringers -- Representatives from IUPUI will brave the cold for a cause Wednesday and Thursday as they ring bells for the Salvation Army collections between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. each day on the Circle (in front of AFNB). If you're downtown, drop by and say hello and drop something in the kettle. If you don't get downtown and you normally make a holiday donation to the Salvation Army, you can send it or bring it to Scott Evenbeck in the Administration Building, Room 109. That way, it will be included in the university's contribution to the Salvation Army.

Hours (Part I) -- The Bursar Office will have the following schedule this month and next: closed December 25-January 1, regular hours on January 2, closed for registration January 12-13, closed for drop/add January 16 and January 19.

Hours (Part II) -- The Credit Union holiday schedule is: Closing at noon on December 24, closed on Christmas Day, December 26 and January 1. Regular hours will be maintained on all other days.

Hours (Part III) -- The Admissions Office (Cavanaugh 103) will be open December 26 and December 29-31 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Persons interested in admission information should enter Cavanaugh by using the east or west doors. For more information, call Ext. 4591.

Hours (Part IV) -- The School of Medicine Library holiday hours are:

December 19-20	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
December 21	1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
December 22-24	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
December 25	Closed
December 26-27	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
December 28	1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
December 29-31	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
January 1	Closed
January 2-3	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
January 4	1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
January 5	Resume normal schedule

Note: The medical library will be closed this Friday (December 19) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Attn. Grant Writers -- The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs will close for the Christmas holiday on December 24. Grant applications which have an agency receipt date of January 9 or earlier must be received by that office no later than this Wednesday (December 17). No arrangements will be available for processing applications during the holiday period, so anyone anticipating difficulty in meeting the deadline this Wednesday should contact Research and Sponsored Programs immediately (Ext. 8285).

Parking Changes -- Effective Monday (December 15), there'll be some changes in some parking lots. Here's what's happening: The South Garage (south of University Hospital) will convert to visitor and card holder parking. Lot 37 (Agnes Street pay lot east of University Hospital) will convert 361 spaces to green permit parking. Lot 44 (east of University Hospital) will convert 20 green parking spaces to blue spaces. Lot 75 (west of Cavanaugh) will convert 20 green parking spaces to blue spaces. And Lot 39 (north of Michigan and west of Blake) will convert 100 green parking spaces to red spaces.

Attn. Card Senders -- Please do not leave your personal Christmas cards for campus mail men to pick up for delivery. Business mail is all they are to pick up. Just use the drop boxes on campus for your own mailing.

Plan Ahead -- The next issue of the Green Sheet is the last one. . . for 1980. Deadline for information to the News Bureau is Tuesday at 5 p.m. (Administration Building, Room 139). The next deadline won't come until 5 p.m. January 6.

Wrong Number -- The campus telephone directory incorrectly lists Gretchen Wolfram's phone number as Ext. 7721 (in the News Bureau listing on page 80). The correct number is Ext. 7711.

Late Flash -- The IUPUI Staff Council will meet Wednesday in Room N436 of University Hospital from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Parlez Vous Anything? -- The Patient Education Committee is compiling a list of people fluent in any foreign language or sign language, people who are willing to interpret for patients. If interested, please call Ext. 8842.

Get the Spirit -- This holiday season you can relive holidays past with a visit to the home of Hoosier poet James Whitcomb Riley. Decorated with turn-of-the-century Christmas ornaments, this Victorian landmark at 528 Lockerbie Street is open each week, Tuesday through Sunday, till 4 p.m. The home's "Riley Boutique" also is open through December 31. Members of the home's alliance have made decorations and are selling crocheted snowflakes, pomander balls and sachets.

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(ARCH-800321)

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