



Tips for Parents: Diverse Families

In the United States, there have never before been so many families that don't conform to the typical, "traditional" family than today. Divorces, deaths, changes in gender roles, remarriages, accidents, drug addiction, crime and a strengthening acceptance of homosexuality, among numerous other factors, all have contributed to a significant change in what constitutes an American family.

Public perception and long-time institutions have been slow to adjust, and as a result, millions of children across the country are experiencing a reality that isn't adequately provided for in homes, schools, religious organizations, medical care, and public programs. In addition to the children facing these new circumstances, many parents, guardians and caregivers find they haven't been taught how to handle the unique challenges these situations present.

There are actually a lot of resources out there to help, but knowing where to look can be daunting. So we're creating a series of Tips for Parents called Diverse Families. This series will discuss the challenges and benefits of many different types of families, offer tips for some of the most common issues, and provide links to credible, really helpful websites you can visit for more information.

Below are the Tips on Diverse Families that have been written or that will be added to The Learning Community over the next several weeks:

- Tips for Parents: Adoption
- Tips for Parents: Being an Only Child
- Tips for Parents: Death of a Spouse
- Tips for Parents: Divorced Parents
- Tips for Parents: Family Guardians
- Tips for Parents: Foster Parents
- Tips for Parents: Gay or Lesbian Parents
- Tips for Parents: Immigrant Families
- Tips for Parents: Interracial Families
- Tips for Parents: Large Families
- Tips for Parents: Later in Life Parents
- Tips for Parents: Military Families
- Tips for Parents: Single Parents
- Tips for Parents: Step Parents
- Tips for Parents: Teen Parents

Welcome your feedback on this series. To suggest more Tips or to send us comments, email us.