Maternal Instinct

We have all known from high school biology on how strong the maternal instinct is. Never separating baby animals from their mothers has become a common theme in many movies. Just a few months ago on that cute sitcom *Dharma & Greg*, we find Dharma pleading with the bear cub not to tell about the chocolate candy she gave it to eat as she and her family run madly through the woods to escape the wrath of mother bear.

And so it is with the female sex. We are very protective of our children (in most cases) and would do almost anything to prevent harm and disappointment. We will many times put our children's interests and good above our own if we feel that is for the best. We are also grateful for those of the male sex who do show concern and care.

That is why it is so interesting that some transgendered who so much want to be women and may even claim they are really women do not seem to feel the same consideration about their children as their wives or partners. It is fairly obvious that the maternal instinct is not at work in those cases where the crossdresser does not care if his children know or not, that his only concern is for himself. Some, once out of the closet, are reluctant to even discuss the issue of when and how to tell the children. They may fear being restricted and don't want this.

This is not to say that children should not be told. But all the repercussions involved in telling the children MUST be considered. Are they old enough to understand? Will they be discreet if that is what the significant other or the crossdresser or both may want? Might it be a burden? So many variables, no easy answers.

I have met significant others whose crossdressing husbands did NOT want their children to know and were very cautious and concerned. In some of these instances even the significant other may not have been as restrictive as her husband.

But in other cases we hear that the crossdresser crossdresses freely and without concern around the children, may start crossdressing at work without discussing it with his wife and or children first, and continues with his agenda without real concern for his family members. We hope these cases are rare, but they do exist.

It seems that perhaps we need to find a way to ignite the maternal instinct in those non-genetic women so that significant others do not have to say, "I still love my husband, but I fear he is out of control. He has no concern about our children and I must leave because I must protect my children." Discussion about the children must take place so that the needs of both the crossdresser and his significant other's concerns for the children can be met.

© 1999, Julie Freeman