



• LESSON FROM MY LITTLE ONE

My Son Handles Bias Better Than I Do

BEFORE I got pregnant, I wondered what my future child would make of the fact that my husband has had one arm missing since birth. Would he or she even notice? Do our kids really see us at all? Does your little one know what color eyes you have? Does she care? Aren't we just Mom and Dad?

At first, my son didn't notice—and then all of a sudden, at around age 3, he did. He would ask where Daddy's other arm was and tuck his own precious little hand up inside his sleeve and squeal, "Look, I have a stub

like Daddy!" Giggling, he would hang and swing off the stub as his dad lifted him clear up in the air. He gave it a name and talked sweetly to it as my husband teased and tickled him.

When he started preschool, I silently worried that the other kids might make fun of his dad's disability. I fretted that this would change my boy's superhuman view of his father, that other people's prejudice would seep into his worldview.

That day came during a family trip to the park after preschool, when he was 3½ years old. Two other boys were playing in the sandbox. They were older by a few years, and they openly gawked at my husband.

Even after more than a decade of marriage, I'm still bothered by these stares, but my husband is so used to them he barely notices. Our son noticed, and the three boys had a quick, huddled conversation.

My overprotectiveness for both the guys in my life took over, and I walked closer to listen in. As I approached, I heard my spirited little boy exclaim, "Yeah, one arm. Don't worry, your dad is cool too. Just in a different way."

I had been hoping my son wouldn't see his father's disability. I never realized that he would, in fact, regard it as a positive, and that he could help others—including me—see it that way too.

—Fiona Tapp



An 83-year-old man in Georgia dubbed The ICU Grandpa has been volunteering in the NICU and PICU units at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta for 12 years, cuddling babies when their parents can't be there to give them TLC.



Cardi B hid her bump for months!

• TRENDING

Moms Keep Mum

TIME WAS, we'd know everything about a baby on the way, from the social-media pic of the positive pregnancy test (ahem, Busy Philipps) to the labor live-tweets (like Kevin Jonas's #babyjonas updates).

Now it seems privacy is all the rage. Kylie Jenner never confirmed her pregnancy and waited for days to announce her daughter's birth. Alexis Bledel kept her secret even longer—it wasn't until a *Gilmore Girls* costar spilled the beans that her rep admitted she had a months-old baby at home. And rapper Cardi B had the best response when rumors swirled she was pregnant: She begged her fans to just let her "fat in peace."

So what about nonceleb moms? Are they, too, being shy about their bump or their baby? According to a survey of 2,000 new parents by kids' clothing retailer Mac & Mia, the answer is, not quite: **73 percent of parents post a photo on social media the day their baby is born** and follow up with those cute monthly progress pictures. However, only **56 percent of parents are posting sonogram photos** and **even fewer (36 percent) are doing online gender reveals**, so maybe there's room for some pregnancy privacy after all. —Marisa LaScala



Amanda Seyfried is keeping her baby's name a secret.



Mindy Kaling has not identified the father of her baby.



U.K. singer Paloma Faith won't confirm her toddler's name or gender and refers to her child as "they" in interviews.

TOP LEFT: COURTESY OF FIONA TAPP; RIGHT: FROM TOP: TELEMUNDO/GETTY; MATT WINKELMEYER/GETTY; JOHN SHEARER/GETTY; DAVID M BENNETT/GETTY.