

## IS PARENTING FOR ME?

After reading each of the situations below, answer the following questions:

1. Why should this couple have a baby?
2. Why should this couple not have a baby?
3. What decision do you think the couple should make?
4. What reasons do you have for making this decision?

### Couple #1

Sue is 36 and Carlos is 40. They have been married for five years. They would like to begin a family. They are both in good health. They thoroughly enjoy their jobs and they make a comfortable income. They have enough savings that Sue could stay home with the baby for a year.

### Couple #2

Sam and Louise have been married five years and both are 26. Louise is a secretary and earns about \$1,500 a month. Sam has graduated from college and is working part time at the grocery store until he gets a full-time job. They have no savings.

### Couple #3

Tony and Janae have been married for three years. Janae has a daughter from a previous marriage. Tony was diagnosed with severe diabetes when he was 5 years old. He has learned how to manage this disease and is relatively healthy. The whole family would like to have a baby, but Tony is afraid he will pass the diabetes on to the baby. The doctor has told them that this could definitely happen.

### Couple #4

Sonya and Derrick are both successful personnel managers in different companies. They have both worked for the past ten years and have saved a large sum of money. They planned on having children after three years of marriage, but they both enjoyed work so much that they kept postponing having a baby. Sonya is now 39 and Derrick is 37. They both still love their jobs. Derrick is more anxious to have a baby than is Sonya.

### Couple #5

Doxie, 28, and Joe, 29, just got married. Doxie wants to have a baby. Joe says he does not want to have children for several years. This topic is becoming a source of contention in their marriage.

### Couple #6

Henry is 19 and manages his father's auto body shop. Sue is 19 and is a teller at the local bank. They were married six months ago. Their parents keep hinting that they would like to have a grandchild. They have no maternity insurance, and both want to attend the local applied technology center for some additional training in their jobs.

### Couple #7

Brenda has one year left at college. Bob just graduated. Neither are employed but are hopeful that Bob will land a high-paying job. They have been married for two years and are eager to have a baby. Most of their friends have at least one child and they are feeling left behind. They are both 26.