

FOR KIDS ONLY... How to tell if your parents are about to divorce!

By VICKIE YORK / Weekly World News

KIDS, if your parents get divorced, it can have a serious negative impact on your life. Your financial situation may suffer, you may have to move to a smaller home and of course, you'll be separated from one of your folks.

Here are eight warning signs that mom and dad are heading for Splitsville:

- 1 They stop kissing and cuddling. Sure, it may be gross to see your parents grope like teenagers. But if they suddenly stop showing their usual affection, you can bet trouble is brewing.

- 2 Arguing escalates to throwing things or name-calling. All married couples have spats. But when you hear terms like "stupid" or cuss words, as in "you fat *ass*ing cow," watch out.

- 3 One partner starts to bad-mouth the other to you behind the other's back. When mom starts snapping, "Don't do that — you're acting just like your father," she may already be drafting divorce papers.

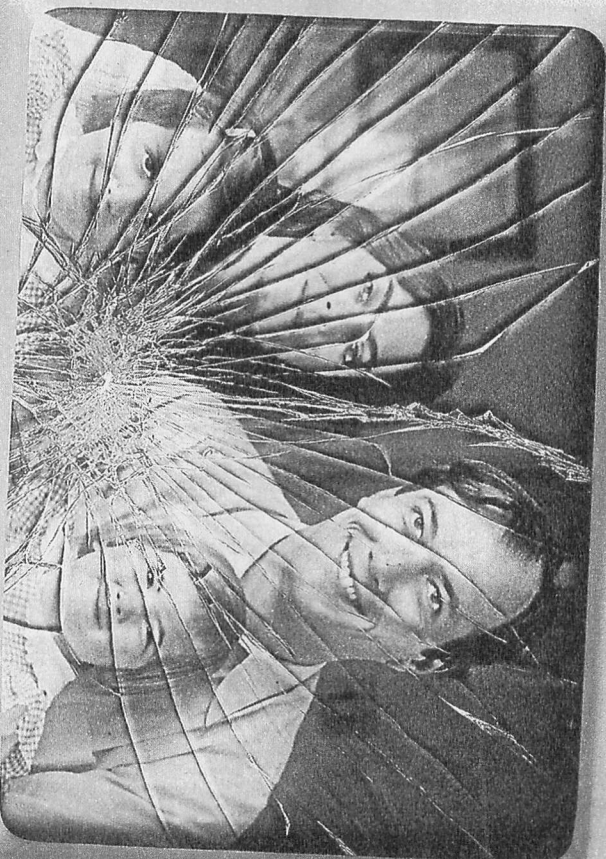
- 4 Mysterious absences. Beware if dad suddenly starts "working late" at the office or

if mom repeatedly leaves him behind to "visit relatives."

- 5 "Preparing" you and your siblings, with vague statements such as "There are going to be some big changes in this house soon, and you're going to be a lot more responsible."

- 6 One parent shows a sudden new interest in his or her appearance. If your slobby, couch-potato dad goes on an exercise binge and begins slathering himself in cologne, he may already be lining up a new stepmom for you.

- 7 You start hearing negative comments about the entire opposite sex — such as "Men are so bossy" or "Women are all gold-diggers." On the other hand, "positive" comments, such as



MOST divorces follow a predictable pattern of relationship breakdown.

- 8 "Hey, look at the hooters on that waitress, son," can also be a red flag. They stop arguing. Don't breathe a sigh of relief

when mom and dad quit bickering and they barely say a thing to each other. It can just mean they've both resigned themselves to the fact that the relationship is over — so there's no more point in fighting.