Quick Facts: Blended Families

How Common Are Blended Families Today?

- 1 out of every 3 Americans is either a step-parent, a step-child, or has some other form of a blended family in some way, which means almost 100 million people.
- It is estimated that more than half of all Americans either have been or will be included in a blended family during their lifetime.
- 40% of the married couples with children in the US are forming blended families right now.
- Step-dads are more common than step-moms.
- Americans get married, get divorced, and choose to cohabit more than any other Western society, which accounts for the inflation of many of these numbers.
- 10% of women in the US have had three or more marriages, divorces, or long-term cohabitation arrangements by the age of 35.
- By the age of 15, 3 out of every 10 US kids will have experienced at least two mother partnerships.
- 1300 new step families are forming every day

Military Blended Families:

Service members marry, divorce, and remarry earlier than the general population. And the proportions of divorced and remarried service members are greater, particularly among younger age groups and women.

- 42% of military service members in a remarriage had children from a previous marriage and formed stepfamilies.
- 49% of single service members reported having children.
- When spouses from military stepfamilies were questioned low satisfaction with military life.
  (Adler-Bader & Pittman, 2005)

These Families Take a Multitude of Forms:

- Divorced with children; the children reside with one parent and visit the other. Most are dating or looking for new partners.
- Remarried, re-coupled, living together, with his and/or her children; He/she is in the role of stepparent.
- Single Mothers; re-coupled, dating and alone.
- Divorced Dads; these dads generally visit their children. Often they are re-coupled, bringing a stepmother figure into their children’s lives.
- Lesbian and gay couples with children from a prior relationship.
  http://www.stepfamily.org/stepfamily-statistics.html