

## What is a Stepfamily?

A stepfamily is a family in which one of the adults has a child or children from a previous relationship. The children may still be living at home or they might be on their own.

In the United States, thousands of new stepfamilies are formed each week. These stepparents have a ready-made family from the beginning. The new family members generally must make many changes in order to live together. It takes time. There are many “stepping stones” to creating a successful family.

*These materials were written by:*

Charlotte Shoup Olsen, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist,  
Family Systems,  
School of Family Studies and Human Services

M. Gayle Price, M.S.  
Associate Professor and  
Area Extension Specialist,  
Family and Consumer Sciences

Joyce E. Jones, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist,  
Family Financial Management,  
School of Family Studies and Human Services

M. Betsy Bergen, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor,  
Human Development and Family Studies,  
School of Family Studies and Human Services

**This program is supported by  
a grant from the  
United Methodist Health Ministry fund,  
Hutchinson, KS.**

*Contact your local  
family and consumer sciences  
extension agent for more information.*

**Kansas State University  
Agricultural Experiment Station and  
Cooperative Extension Service, Manhattan**

MF-2238i

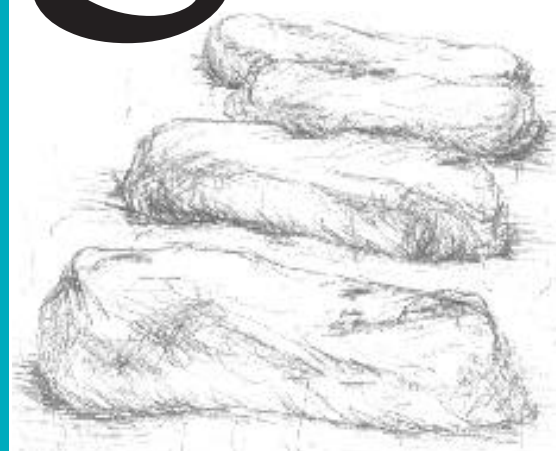
August 1997

It is the policy of Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service that all persons shall have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and materials without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or other nonmerit reasons. Kansas State University is an Affirmative Action employer. These materials may be available in alternative formats.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, as amended. Kansas State University, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Richard D. Wootton, Associate Director.

File Code: Human Devel. & Family Relations—5 CS 8/97-10M

# Stepping & Stones



## for Stepfamilies

- Home Study Course
- Teaching Guide
- Fact Sheets
- Videotape
- Audio Cassette
- Training Manual

**AK-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION PROGRAM  
to strengthen stepfamilies**



# Stepping & Stones for Stepfamilies

..... is a program developed by K-State Research and Extension to assist persons and communities in creating successful stepfamily living. What are the stepping stones featured in this program?

- **Building a strong couple relationship.**
- **Maintaining strong parent and child relationships.**
- **Developing stepparent and stepchild relationships.**
- **Understanding financial and legal issues.**
- **Working with the absent parent and other persons outside the stepfamily.**
- **Nourishing the stepfamily in everyday living.**

## Resources:

- The **Home Study Course** is designed for parents and stepparents who have children under 18. The six-lesson packet also includes an evaluation survey.
- The **Teaching Guide** provides a script and suggested group activities for a one-hour presentation. An evaluation form is included.
- The **Parent Fact Sheet** gives information and suggestions for handling parenting in a stepfamily.
- The **Grandparent Fact Sheet** provides information that can be useful to persons who have a son or daughter living in a stepfamily.
- The **Financial and Legal Issues Fact Sheet** summarizes the financial and legal issues that need to be addressed in stepfamilies.
- The **Videotape** features key points of stepfamily living using a variety of approaches. This 35-minute video is useful for stepfamilies and communities who are seeking to be more supportive and knowledgeable of stepfamilies.
- The **Audiocassette** is an adapted version of the teaching guide and the parent and grandparent fact sheets.
- The **Training Manual** includes all of the above, as well as other program resources and suggestions for using the home study course to conduct a workshop series.

## Ordering Information:

- Home Study Course (MF2238 - \$2.00 ea.)
- Teaching Guide (MF2232 - 45¢ ea.) and Evaluation Form (MF2232c - 15¢ ea.)  
*Above items must be purchased as a set. Please request both numbers when ordering.*
- Parent Fact Sheet (MF2238j - 5¢ ea.)
- Grandparent Fact Sheet (MF2238k - 5¢ ea.)
- Financial and Legal Issues Fact Sheet (MF2238l - 5¢ ea.)
- Video (SV409 - \$25.00 ea.)
- Audiocassette (AUD1 - \$2.50 ea.)
- Training Manual (\$100.00 ea.)  
*Order direct from the KSU School of Family Studies and Human Services: (785) 532-5773.*

## To Place an Order:

**If you reside in Kansas,** contact:  
your local family and consumer sciences extension agent.

**If you live outside Kansas,** contact:  
Production Services/Distribution  
16 Umberger Hall  
Kansas State University  
Manhattan, KS 66506-3402  
Telephone: 785-532-1150  
FAX: 785-532-7938  
E-mail: [orderpub@oz.oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:orderpub@oz.oznet.ksu.edu)