

As the percentage of marriages from multiple cultures has continued to rise, so have the percentages of multiple religions in a single household. Raising children under this scenario presents challenges. Read more below for some personal experiences.

Your Spouse and Religion-Do Your Differing Views Matter to Your Child



Two of my best friends, Amanda and Brian, are tying the knot in less than two weeks. I couldn't be happier for them. They love each other very much and probably are going to have a million babies. Maybe more.

In the midst of all the hype and jitters surrounding the wedding preparations, I've been able to share a lot of marital advice with Amanda when she wanted it-heck, I even gave her some when she didn't want it, for that matter. I'm like that.

For the record, Amanda was raised Lutheran. Brian, on the other hand, has been a practicing Mormon for almost a decade. Now, also for the record, they could believe lizards were the key to the universe and I would respect their right to their own religion. Nevertheless, things got really awkward when the subject of religion and kids came up in one of my well-meaning rants.

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Since I knew that the Lutheran doctrine and the Mormon doctrine are quite different (even contradictory), I asked Amanda if she and Brian were going to raise their kids Lutheran, Mormon, or Religion-Not-Otherwise-Specified-Chosen-By-the-Child. Amanda said that she and Brian, despite the fact the wedding is drawing nearer, never once have discussed the issue. She said it wasn't important right now and that they'd cross that bridge when they came to it.



"Online shopping is a diamond in the rough. The longer someone has been online is one of the best predictors of whether they'll shop online or not."

Still, online retail sales figures add up to only a fraction of figures for offline sales. This year, analysts expect online figures to reach just 3 percent of the \$217.4 billion seen in offline sales, according to the National Retail Federation. Online figures are up about 1 percentage point from last year, compared with an expected increase of about 5.7 percent in offline sales, according to the NRF.

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